

Batterers Intervention Programs provide education about domestic violence. Each program offers 48 1.5 hour sessions. These three programs are certified by the State of Maine Department of Corrections to operate in Cumberland County.

A Different Choice Domestic Violence Education Program

A Different Choice is an educational component in a coordinated community response to end domestic violence. The curriculum, derived from three nationally accepted intervention models, offers a comprehensive, easily understood representation of the beliefs that generate and support men's violence against women. Our ultimate goal is a learning environment in which men can make the choice to change.

All program intakes (initial registration) carry a cost of \$40 and must be scheduled in advance. The fee for the program is based on a sliding scale between \$25 and \$40 per week. A fee determination is made based on income and the number of children being financially supported. Classes are held on Mondays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Episcopal Church, River Road, Windham.

FMI, call Program Co-director Shawn LaGrega, 207-632-1886

Opportunity for Change

Opportunity for Change is part of Cumberland County's coordinated community response to the crime of domestic violence. Classes examine the ideas of power and control in intimate relationships that are often used to justify domestic violence. The material is presented in such a way as to raise awareness and promote active participation.

Fees are based on a sliding scale, between \$30 and \$40 per week; there is no charge for registration. Participants may choose to attend one of the scheduled weekly classes. Classes are held at 98 Chestnut Street, Portland, ME on Tuesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 7:30-9:00 a.m.; and Thursday, 4:45-6:15 p.m. and 6:30-8:00 p.m.

FMI, contact Mary Campbell at 207-774-4603.

Choices

Cumberland & Sagadahoc Counties

"Choices" is a 48 week educational group that offers a sliding scale fee \$20.00 + based upon income. The goal of the program is to break the cycle of violence through education, using the national recognized Emerge curriculum, which teaches that domestic violence is a learned behavior- not a disease- and that it can be unlearned. All classes are held at the VOA office in Bath, 1328 Washington St. Classes are held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. to 8:30 pm. FMI, call 442-018.