

Domestic Violence Moral Reconciliation Therapy (DV MRT)

Facilitated by Edmonds Municipal Court Probation

An estimated 2 million Americans are assaulted each year by an intimate partner, which often leads to lifetime trauma and disorder for victims. Rehabilitation for those who perpetrate domestic violence is an important tool in reducing this immense problem.

Correctional Counseling, Inc., offers evidence-based programming that can help perpetrators be accountable for their actions, understand why they have acted violently and confront those tendencies in current situations. The programs are founded on a cognitive behavioral programming developed by Correctional Counseling called Moral Reconciliation Therapy™ (MRT).

The domestic violence program is divided in 24 modules with each module completed in a group session. Clients complete homework for each module prior to coming to a session. In group each client presents his or her homework and the facilitator passes the client to the next module or has the client redo the homework based on objective criteria. All domestic violence MRT groups are open-ended, meaning that new clients can enter an ongoing group at any time. Each group session will usually have new clients as well as some finishing the program.

Edmonds Municipal Court Probation is now facilitating a DV MRT program. This does not qualify as a Washington state-certified DV Batterer's Treatment program. MRT has been designated as an "Evidence Based Practice" by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and research has shown that it is effective in reducing recidivism.¹

The Judge may order a client to take this course. If so, the client is to report to the probation department immediately after court to set up an intake appointment. If in custody, the client is to report to the probation department the first Wednesday after release to make an appointment for intake.

Where: Edmonds Municipal Court Probation, 250 5th Ave N, Edmonds WA 98020

When: Wednesdays from 3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Duration of course: 6 month MINIMUM

Cost: \$100 and \$125 for out of jurisdiction cases.

Questions: Edmonds Municipal Court Probation – Omar Gamez 425-672-5752

¹ Ferguson, L. Myles, Wormith, J. Stephen. (2012). "A Meta-Analysis of Moral Reconciliation Therapy", International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology.