



MCEDV.

The Maine Coalition
to End Domestic Violence

Guidance re: Consistent Rates for Suggested Donations for DV Training

Background:

Most of us have grants that support & require us to provide training for various audiences, and we typically offer that free of charge, since our efforts are paid for by grant funds.

However, as new licensure requirements direct folks to get training in DV/IPV, we are receiving requests to provide training that this audience would typically pay for in order to obtain/keep their license.

We cannot charge a fee for these trainings, since it would be considered “program income” (and federal funders reduce federal grants in equal measure to offset program income), but we can suggest a donation to our organizations to help offset training costs. Since we are working so frequently from shared curricula, we - MCEDV and the Wabanaki Women’s Coalition - have worked together to establish consistent starting rates for suggested donations.

All donations are optional and negotiable. This framework allows us all to come from a consistent starting place with our suggested donations. It is essential that our communications with trainees are clear that this is a suggestion donation as a courtesy for the training – NOT a required fee/program income. *If someone cannot provide a donation, we will still provide training.*

Suggested Donations:

MCEDV’s Program Standards Committee agreed to the following as starting places for suggested donations *when delivering training for professionals within our communities organized by a larger entity* (for example, a hospital asks you to come and train their staff), including if a partner organization is sending a staffer who does not plan on working the hotline through the CAIRET in order to satisfy a training requirement:

- **\$500 per trainer for each full training day** (6-8 hours)
- **\$250 per trainer for a half day** (3-4 hours)

When offering a training that we organize and that trainees attend on an individual basis, we agreed to the following:

- **\$80 per person for a full day** (6-8 hours)
- **\$40 for a half day** (3-4 hours)

Again – this is a donation, NOT an entrance fee, and as such is negotiable and totally optional.

Any donation of any amount that comes in should be split evenly between the training organizations.

How could this look in practice?

Scenario 1:

MCEDV and WWC are asked to provide the first two modules of the MH training for Statewide Group X on a single day. Since one trainer each from MCEDV and WWC will be involved, we start with suggesting a donation of \$1000, since 1 day x \$500 per day x 2 trainers = \$1000. Statewide Group X says, “Land sakes! We cannot possibly afford that! Will you take 10% of what we bring in through registrations, instead?” They register 100 people at \$75 each, and provide us with a donation of \$750, which we split evenly between our two organizations.

Scenario 2:

DVRC 1 is offering the CAIRET, and a local CADRES mediator badly needs to get in their 8 hours of DV training, so their organization sends them to complete the first 3 Modules (9 hours) of CAIRET. They do not plan to ever actually work on the helpline for the DVRC. The DVRC suggests a donation of \$1500 (3 half-days x \$250 x 2 trainers). The mediator’s organization says, “I am sorry but that is above my budget. I can pay \$400.” The DVRC graciously accepts that amount.

Scenario 3:

DVRC 2 is working with Local College to offer the full mental health training for their social work students. The college asks what we charge, and DVRC 2 says there is no training fee, but we do suggest a donation of \$2000 to deliver the full curriculum (2 days x \$500 per day x 2 trainers). Local College has it in their budget, and the DVRC gets a donation of \$2000.

Scenario 4:

DVRC 3 is offering the complete mental health training for LCSWs and LCPCs in their community. They plan the event for a back-to-back Thursday/Friday, and can accommodate up to 20 people. They advertise the training and include that there is a suggested donation of \$160 for the two days. Most attendees are happy to donate that amount, which is consistent with what they would pay elsewhere for continuing education credits. However, some of the participants contact the DVRC to say they “can't pay the fee.” DVRC 3 clarifies with them that it is actually a suggested donation, not a required fee, so they should still sign up and make a donation of any size they can afford.