

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County

www.co.monterey.ca.us/dvcc

Summary of Meeting 4.22.09

Guests Present: Brooke Ashley- YWCA of Monterey County, David Maradei- CAPC, Kathi Speller- Community of Caring, Julia Garcia- DSES

Members/Alternates and Working Group Chairs Present: J. Adams, S. Goldman, B. Glick, N. Hatton, D. Jacroux, C. Munteer, P. Patterson, E. Robinson, E. Rodriguez, R. Rodriguez, B. Shaw, D. Smith, R. Soto, M. Uppman, A. Wheelus

Excused Absences: P. Jimenez, E. McCleaf, L. Nichols,

Unexcused Absences (not present): V. Barnes, A. Camacho

DATE: April 22, 2009

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Salinas Quadrangle Building, Room 110
1000 S. Main Street

3:00-3:30

- 1. Call to Order & Introductions:** Meeting was called to order by P. Patterson at 3:07pm
- 2. Amendments to the Agenda:** Add presentation by Kathi Speller and David Maradei.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2009 and February 25, 2009:** Minutes approved. M/S/C Munteer/J. Adams
- 4. Public Comments and Oral Communications:** None
- 5. Education & Information (20 minutes):** David Maradei/Kathi Speller: *G3- Growing Great Guys*
Brooke Ashley *CSUMB Capstone-DV Brochures*

G3- Growing Great Guys (Boys Inc.): David Maradei described the history and development of G3. A new leadership council in Castroville was formed in partnership with other community organizations. The need for a mentorship program has been identified, most especially as a survey indicated that 26.4% of 6th graders have been exposed to violence. The council has developed the plan for implementation of G3. The planning phase includes a community input process. The purpose of the program is to provide a peer mentorship for young men and give them the opportunity to develop life skills that will make a lifetime impact. The program goals will meet the needs of adolescent men at an early stage and will primarily serve boys ages 11-13. G3 will initially be implemented in a small community where students attend the same elementary, middle and high school.

The council offered Maradei and Speller support as the planning phase and implementation phase proceeds.

M. Uppman recommended the need for a program that serves boys older than 13 years old. My Strength is a helpful program but the need is much greater than the program can meet. There is a need for a formal anger management program that will be specifically geared for young men and prevent domestic violence. Maradei indicated that he will explore ways in which to provide responsive primary prevention services.

Recommended educational videos are: First Impressions, and PBS Raising Cain.

CAPC offers child abuse and domestic violence community education to families in both Spanish and English.

Community of Caring has worked with North Monterey County Unified School District in reducing teen pregnancy.

CSUMB Capstone-DV Brochures: Brooke Ashley described her role as an intern with the YWCA Shelter. A few of her findings in working with battered women are:

- Several have had poor/negative experiences with law enforcement. Due to these experiences, some women have expressed that they will not call the police in future incidences due to officer's rudeness or for fear that the officer will take the perpetrator's side.
- Law enforcement agencies are in need of specified training on working with victims of abuse. Some agencies have not had training since 2003. Specific training needs include; victim's rights, homosexual relationship dynamics and the effects of violence on children. Trainings need to be continuous due to high turnover in staffing.
- Law enforcement agencies are in need of current and updated information about domestic violence services available.

A shelter manager or legal advocate will begin to provide training for law enforcement agencies.

Commander Wheelus explained the vantage point of a law enforcement officer responding to a domestic violence call. The officer may come across as rude but is really trying to be aware of the crime and ensure the safety of the victim as well as him/herself.

Council discussion included: the need to educate the community about the role of the Ombudsman. Having the information on the website may be useful. Descriptions of the District Attorney's victim advocates and DVRT advocates would also be helpful. It is important to consider that law enforcement agencies in small communities may not have dedicated training officers. A pocket sized laminated check off list may be extremely helpful for officers to refer to when responding to a domestic violence call. The concern was raised that the victim may potentially lose confidence in the officer's capacity if he/she is using a check list. The perception would be that the officer is ensuring that the victim receives the best possible service if the check list is presented in a positive manner.

6. 3:30-4:30

Working Group Reports:

a) Executive Committee

P. Patterson

Met and prepared agenda/minutes.

b) Offender Intervention & Accountability

J. Adams

J. Adams reported that the work group met last week. New forms were presented, indicating Probation's new process for providing referrals. Specific referrals will not be made and instead will provide a list of agencies that the offender may choose from. The group also intends to meet with the domestic violence judges.

c) Victim Waiting Room Ad Hoc Committee

M. Hostetler

B. Shaw reported there is no new information and has attempted to contact Felipe to no avail.

d) Victims Services

B. Glick

The volunteer program has now expanded and operates 7 days a week. The council requests a report of the number of calls the DVRT responds to. Glick indicated that he has had difficulty in obtaining statistics for the number of domestic violence incidences in Monterey County. The jail may provide arrests although the statistics may not clearly indicate domestic violence due to the type of charges. The Attorney General website may be a valuable source, although the annual statistics may not be available until after a certain period of time. There is no central database for local statistics.

This is an opportunity for the council to take a more active role and address the identified problems. The council in San Diego may be a pristine example of how to do that. A need for interoperability- communication between agencies, officers and dispatch was identified as well. The Family Justice Center in San Diego has invested \$24 million in a system that provides this communication.

e) Medical Services

S. Goldman

S. Goldman reported that the committee is currently recruiting for a coordinator.

f) Annual Conference Committee

S. Goldman

S. Goldman reported that the committee met with Casa Munras in Monterey. A great deal was offered and secured for the conference site. The capacity of the venue is 120 with limited parking. A tentative date has been set for October 9, 2009. The keynote speaker will be a domestic violence survivor who will describe a 20 year experience, the escape of the relationship and trial for the crimes committed. Other speakers will include supporting agencies.

g) DV Ombudsman

Chief Rodriguez

Not present.

h) Finance

N. Hatton

N. Hatton provided a report of recent expenses. .

7. Action Items

- a) Approved 2009 Conference theme, venue and conference fee: M/S/C J. Adams/E. Robinson

8. New Business:

- a) Discussion Point: the link between veterans, domestic violence and PTSD: local service providers have not identified an increase in domestic violence due to veterans experiencing PTSD. Veterans are debriefed, screened and treated in Germany for 4-6 weeks before returning to the US. Veterans and their families may be accessing services through military.
- b) DVCC endorses council members as applicants for domestic violence grants: the council may provide a letter of support or endorsement for agencies applying for grants. The executive committee would have the authority to act and request council ratification in requests that are identified as low risk. The council will approve the executive committee’s authorization on next month’s agenda.
- c) Media campaign activities to raise community awareness about domestic violence: the council discussed possible media campaign activities such as MCRCC has held for Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the PSA shown at the Maya Cinemas. The council will continue the discussion and plan for a campaign in October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- d) Domestic violence community education: There is a need for an inventory or brochure of domestic violence community education programs available through various service providers. The information can be posted on the DVCC website.

9. Old Business:

- a) Update: a thank you letter sent to Maya Cinemas for their services.

10. Information Sharing/Discussion:

The annual Victim’s Ceremony was announced.

Behavioral Health upcoming events were announced: 5th Annual Fiesta of Hope on May 7th and Family Fun Day at Toro Park on May 31st.

The Commission on the Status of Women announced the upcoming women’s networking luncheon at Tarpy’s.

A joint grant application for the transitional housing fund made available by the stimulus package has been submitted by Shelter Outreach Plus and the South County Crisis Center. The grant is a 3 year grant for \$515,000.

11. Correspondence: None

12. Next Meeting: May 27, 2009-Suite 110

13. Adjournment: 4:55pm

Respectfully submitted by Rosemary Soto