

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County

www.co.monterey.ca.us/dvcc

Summary of Meeting 1.27.10

Members/Alternates and Working Group Chairs Present: D. Acosta, J. Adams, L. Bejarano, M. Donnelly, J. Garcia, B. Glick, E. McCleaf, P. Miller, C. Munteer, P. Patterson, R. Rodriguez, D. Smith, R. Soto, J. Teeter, S. Brunk, N. Shumpert
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Excused Absences: S. Goldman, N. Hatton, P. Jimenez, L. Nichols, M. Donnelly, D. Jacroux

Unexcused Absences: V. Barnes, M. Uppman, B. Shaw
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Guest: Mario Aguilar- Charis Ed., Maria Echavarria, Deborah Ingram- Solutions Educational Services

DATE: January 27, 2010

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Salinas District Attorney's Office

3:30-3:45

- 1. Call to Order & Introductions:** Meeting was called to order by P. Patterson at 3:08pm
- 2. Amendments to the Agenda:** None
- 3. Approval of Minutes for November 18, 2009:** Minutes approved with the following corrections: E. Rodriguez was present and S. Brunk was present M/S/C Munteer/McCleaf
- 4. Public Comments and Oral Communications:** None
- 5. Education & Information (20 minutes): "Serving female perpetrators and male victims"
J. Adams and Deborah Ingram**

J. Adams: explained that the dynamics with women's groups are very different from that of men's groups. The emotional and social development for men is at the 4th-6th grade level. There are few sociopaths that are considered to be helpless and few referrals are made to CHS or are mentally ill. A common thread in the men's group is the mentality – "this is not fair" and temper tantrums, whereas in the women's group the common thread is that most were victims to begin with and got caught up in repeated abuse and/or abusive relationships and eventually become aggressors.

D. Ingram: described her experience as a former therapist at the Women's Crisis Center and has worked with perpetrators, women and children. Agreed that the common thread for women is most if not all, are abused. This is not true for men. Most men claim to have decent parents and almost perfect childhoods. Women are more likely and willing to blame themselves for the abuse. For most women abuse is more of a reactive act than a proactive action. Women have a lack of boundaries whereas men are slower to bonding and disclosure. Women are more passive-aggressive while men are more head on with abuse. Women often display anxiety and depressive disorders and some of the more hardcore perpetrators display anti-social disorders. In younger generations more females identify with male perpetrators growing up because they see that this is where the power is. While there is not much research on female dynamics, older generations may have better identified with other females. The Duluth model may not be a great fit for female perpetrators.

Possible solutions: group attendees need a minimum of 12 sessions for significant impact. Regular practice and applying the knowledge gained in the sessions will cause change in behavior.

6. 3:45-4:30

Working Group Reports:

a) **Executive Committee**

Met and prepared agenda/minutes.

P. Patterson

b) Offender Intervention & Accountability

J. Adams

J. Adams reported the group met and discussed offering the new DV Judge an invitation to attend the next DVCC meeting. In the past, judges Scott, Kingsley, Phillips, and Villareal would attend on occasion.

c) Victim Waiting Room Ad Hoc Committee

B. Shaw

B. Shaw was not present to report.

d) Victims Services

B. Glick

B. Glick asked if committee members will change along with the change in the executive committee members. P. Patterson responded that it does not usually happen but the change is welcomed if there are other individuals interested in joining the committee. D. Acosta expressed interest in joining the Victim Services committee. B. Glick stated that he will speak with D. Jacroux about growing the committee.

e) Medical Services

S. Goldman

S. Goldman was not present to report.

f) Annual Conference Committee

S. Goldman

S. Goldman was not present to report. P. Patterson mentioned a possible topic for the 2010 conference would be pet abuse and the link to domestic violence.

g) DV Ombudsman

Chief P. Miller

Chief P. Miller reported on the issue concerning the release of crime report information. Miller confirmed with the District Attorney's Office that release of reports does conflict with family law, government and penal codes. Victims of domestic violence will often need a crime report to process their request for a U-Visa. M. Echavarría explained that a U-Visa is a protective immigration status but not permanent legal residency. Currently the Victim Witness program will obtain the crime report and submit it directly to the immigration programs and not directly to the victim. Per L. Nichols, a crime report is not required for a temporary restraining order.

h) Finance

N. Hatton

N. Hatton provided a 4th quarter financial report.

7. Action Items:

a) Approve addition of Past Chair position to the Executive Committee; E. McCleaf explained the position of a Past Chair as it may provide for a more effective transition for the incoming chairperson. The motion was made to approve the addition of a Past Chair position to the executive committee: McCleaf/Adams M/S/C

b) Approve Executive Committee: Chair; D. Jacroux, Vice-Chair: R. Soto, Secretary: N. Hatton, Treasurer: J. Teeter, Past Chair: P. Patterson. A motion was made to approve the stated executive committee: McCleaf/Adams M/S/C

8. New Business:

a) Verification of brochure use by Monterey County's 15 law enforcement agencies. Hatton explained that a letter is usually sent to law enforcement agencies informing chiefs that a member of the DVCC will visit their site to ensure that the correct brochures are distributed by patrol officers and are available in the office lobbies. Chief Miller volunteered to visit the law enforcement agencies.

b) Acknowledgement of Appointed Alternate for Board of Supervisor Jane Parker, District 4: Noah Schumpert. The appointment was acknowledged and N. Schumpert was welcomed.

9. Old Business:

- a) Update: Sin by Silence events hosted by the Commission on the Status of Women: the event was moved to March.
- b) Media Campaign: (Mike Uppman) Report on CSUMB film dept. – are they interested in assisting us with a DV PSA. Uppman was not present to report. B. Glick spoke to CSUMB president who has an interest in this potential project. Glick indicated that he will follow up.
- c) Update: First Impressions DVD status. (P. Patterson): Conversion of the film is in progress.

10. Information Sharing/Discussion: C. Mounteer announced the MCRCC’s annual Run/Walk “Together with Love” on February 14, 2010.

D. Acosta announced a DVRT Advocate training will begin soon.

D. Acosta announced that the South County Crisis Center is no longer in operation. A new board of directors may establish a new organization with similar services and will be known as the Southern Monterey County Resource Center. Acosta is now working for Sun Street Centers.

J. Teeter shared a story about his son’s 19 year old college roommate at CSU Long Beach, whose abusive boyfriend is a Marine Iraqi war veteran. Teeter’s advice to his son was that he be supportive of the roommate and explain her options. She chose to continue to date him. Three weeks ago the roommate did not report to work and the boyfriend had murdered her and committed suicide. The story was appreciated by all as a reminder to keep working towards progress in the field.

D. Acosta announced that the indigenous community in Greenfield has established a safe house for their own community. The safe house is periodically relocated and its location is kept confidential.

11. Correspondence:

12. Next Meeting: February 24, 2010

13. Adjournment: 4:26pm

Respectfully submitted by Rosemary Soto