

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County

www.co.monterey.ca.us/dvcc

Summary of Meeting 1/26/11

Members/Alternates and Working Group Chairs Present: J. Adams, K. Adamson, L. Bejarano, S. Brunk, J. Garcia, N. Hatton, E. McCleaf, C. Mounteer, C. Summers, D. Engles, R. Rodriguez, R. Soto, J. Teeter

Excused Absences: P. Patterson, L. Schneider, M. Uppman

Unexcused Absences: D. Acosta, V. Barnes, C. De Seguirant, M. Donnelly, B. Glick, B. Shaw,

Guest: Kathy Burrola, Door to Hope/Santa Lucia Program / private practice; Petra Robles, Diocese of Monterey; Eladia Romero, DSES; Alma Sanchez and Estella Sanchez, DA Victim/Witness Unit; Julia Foster, YWCA

Vacant: Business Community, BOS District 1

DATE: January 26, 2011
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Lombardo & Gilles
318 Cayuga St.
Salinas, CA 93901

3:00-3:30

- 1. Call to Order & Introductions:** Meeting was called to order by R. Soto at 3:05 p.m.
- 2. Amendments to the Agenda:** E. McCleaf informed the members that she would like to add to the agenda a discussion about a new policy adopted by the Courts. Discussion was added as Item 5.
- 3. Approval of Minutes for November 17, 2010:** Motion by J. Adams. Second by E. McCleaf
- 4. Public Comments and Oral Communications:** None
- 5. Education & Information (20 minutes):** E. McCleaf stated that in 1997, Judge Phillips, along with the presiding at that time, Judge Price, created a conditional release order that was imposed on inmates in custody for a new domestic violence arrest at the time of their release. This order prohibited any contact with the victim and was valid until the defendant appeared in court. E. McCleaf then stated that this policy is now being changed. Beginning February 1, 2011, the jail will no longer be issuing these orders on every case. The Court reportedly has determined that these conditional release orders imposed on every case is not legal and they must be approved on a case by case basis that is initiated by the arresting officer. Law enforcement will now need to call an on-call judge to get an emergency protective order, which will last 5-7 days. Victims will now have 5 days to get a restraining order. They will need to complete the application themselves or seek help from one of our local agencies. L. Bejarano stated that the YWCA has 3 advocates available to help with restraining orders. Another concern is that victims must file the restraining order at the Monterey Courthouse. They can pick up an application in Salinas but it must be filed in Monterey. After discussion, C. Mounteer and J. Adams suggested a letter be submitted to the Superior Courts from the DVCC explaining our concerns about victims not being able to file restraining orders in Salinas. R. Soto stated she will work on the letter and then send it out for all to review on email before it is submitted.

3:30-4:30

6. Working Group Reports:

a) **Executive Committee - R. Soto** - R. Soto reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed the Agenda, Meeting Minutes and Financial Report.

b) **Annual Conference Committee - S. Goldman** - No Report

c) **Membership Committee** – No report. Although there was no report, N. Hatton did share that Pam Patterson had mentioned that she may have determined the best way to complete the board report to submit to the BOS to update the appointed seats on the DVCC council. R. Rodriguez led a small discussion with the group to share that she previously recommended that a representative join from CSUMB because they have dorms on campus where there are dv incidents. She stated that when the bylaws were created CSUMB did not exist. J. Teeter also asked about the possibility of having representatives for the community colleges or the hospitals.

7. Reports:

a) **Batterer Intervention Programs - J. Adams** - J. Adams reported that the providers met on 12/16/10 at the Probation Department. New PO's assigned to the DV Unit were introduced. The conference, the victim waiting room, and the DVCC goals were discussed. Providers had a discussion about difficulty with out of county clients and challenges when providing services.

b) **Victim Waiting Room - P. Patterson** – No report presented but immediately after the meeting anyone wanting to see the room may walk over with advocates Estella Sanchez and Alma Sanchez from the Victim Witness Unit of the DA's Office.

c) **Victim Services - B. Glick** – K. Adamson stated that Bob Glick is no longer working with SOP. The new Executive Director is Tom Melville, who also works with Central Coast HIV Services. L. Bejarano stated that if he is not interested in chairing the Victim Services Report, she may be willing. It was explained that the reason this report was under SOP was because this is where the Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT) Program was operating. The DVCC had previously supported the program and was apprised of the program regularly. R. Soto stated that she will contact Tom Melville and explain our council to him.

d) **Medical Services - S. Goldman** - S. Goldman not present.

e) **DV Ombudsman – D. Engles** – Pacific Grove Police Department Chief Darius Engles is the new Ombudsman. He was present and was welcomed to the group. No issues were reported.

8. Action Items

a) **Approve spending \$1500 for the repair and creation of Silent Witness silhouettes:** R. Soto and N. Hatton explained that the existing 20 silhouettes need various repairs and the base of each will be painted in gloss black. Additionally, we need 7 silhouettes made to accommodate past victims; 5 male and 2 female. Motion made by J. Teeter and Second by J. Adams. Motion approved.

b) **Approve increasing the amount previously approved to furnish the Victim Waiting Room at the courthouse from \$2000 to \$2500.** R. Soto and J. Teeter, along with the help of Alma Sanchez, explained the current contents of the room and what items were still needed. K. Adamson

made a motion to approve spending \$2500 for the Victim Waiting Room. Second by S. Brunk. Motion approved.

- c) **Approve the current Executive Committee** (Chair- Rosemary Soto, Vice Chair- Shandell Brunk, Treasurer- Jerry Teeter, Secretary- Nancy Hatton, Past Chair- Pam Patterson) **as the 2011 Executive Committee.** Motion made by E. McCleaf and second by J. Adams. Motion approved.

9. **New Business:**

a) In an effort to keep the Silent Witness program alive, we have discussed different ways we can keep the number of silhouettes to a manageable number while continuing to honor victims. Discuss capping the number of silhouettes at 30. Different options could be to combine years and to use one side only per victim for each silhouette. Group discussed the options. K. Adamson suggested we remove the plates and place them on some sort of standard. R. Rodriguez stated she liked the idea of giving the plates and silhouettes to new victims. J. Adams stated that it is important though to show that the problem is still here. J. Adams asked if each family is asked before their member is memorialized. It was explained that approval is obtained from each family prior to identifying them on a name plate. C. Mounteer asked about the possibility of creating silhouettes in child size. After much more discussion of the necessity to limit the number of silhouettes, K. Adamson suggested that we place the English and Spanish version for each victim on the same side and then place a second victim on the opposite side, thus two victims with each silhouette.

b) Welcome to our four newest board members:

- 1) Sheriff Scott Miller is our appointed member for the Sheriff's Office
- 2) Ray Bullick is our appointed member for the Health Department
- 3) Sr. Lydia Schneider of the Diocese of Monterey has become the appointed member to represent the Faith Community on the board. Petra Robles was present for Sr. Lydia.
- 4) Chenoa Summers has replaced Le Mans Nichols as our alternate for Superior Court and
- 5) Chief Darius Engles of the PGPD were all welcomed the DVCC council.

10. **Old Business**

- a) Follow-up on remaining funding from Victim's Waiting Room funds for other possible assistance needed. When the new courthouse in South County is completed, we may also furnish a victim waiting room there. Additionally, we will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the items already furnished.
- b) A draft of the guidelines for the silhouettes was passed around. If anyone has any comments on the guidelines for the DVCC silhouettes please share them with Pam Patterson.
- c) It was discussed how money collected pursuant to AB 2405 should be recommended for disbursement. Before any work is done to submit our request to BOS to authorize an additional fee the matter will be further investigated to measure the likelihood that the fee would be imposed locally. Due to the state of the economy and the financial status of many of the defendant's at sentencing, judges may be hesitant to impose an additional fee. E. McCleaf will try and get an assessment of any opinion the court may have regarding additional fines.

11. Information Sharing/Discussion – K. Adamson stated that beginning Monday, the YWCA will be at the new site located at 236 Monterey Street, Salinas. They will still have their office at Webster St. in Monterey but they are relocating their Salinas location from the S. Main St location (next to Star Market) to the Monterey St. address. They will notify us of the phone number changes once AT&T provides them. They will be having an open house, and will let us know the date. It is expected to be in April. They will be using the silhouettes at the open house.

C. Mounteer announced the 25th Annual Together with Love Run/Walk will be held on February 13, 2011. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Registration is online at the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center.

R. Rodriguez announced that she will be updating the DVCC brochure online, but will wait to get the new phone numbers for the YWCA.

12. Correspondence - None

13. Next Meeting – February 23, 2011 at Lombardo & Gilles, 318 Cayuga Street

14. Adjournment - 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Hatton