

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County

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Summary of Meeting 3/28/12

Members/Alternates and Working Group Chairs Present: J. Adams, K. Adamson, J. Foster, P. Lerma, E. McCleaf, C. Munteer, P. Patterson, N. Hatton, E. Romero, R. Rodriguez, S. Goldman

Excused Absences: K.Thoeni, J. Teeter, R. Soto

Date: March 28, 2012

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: DSES, Ste 110
1000 S. Main
Salinas, CA 93901

1. **Call to order and introductions :** The meeting was called to order by S. Goldman at 3:05 p.m.
2. **Amendments to the Agenda:** none
3. **Approval of Minutes for 2/22/12:** Tabled due to no quorum.
4. **Public Comment and Oral Communication:** None
5. **Education and Information:** Sheree Goldman gave a presentation on the "Cut It Out" program for hairdressers. The DVCC of Monterey County has been approved as a presenter for this program. The program is very well-organized and all of the course materials, including invitations, press releases, and thank you letters are provided. The course comes with a DVD that contains a PowerPoint presentation as well as two videos. The council had an opportunity to look at the materials and view both videos. A brief discussion followed, reviewing possible venues for presenting the seminar. Pamela Patterson, Nancy Hatton, and Sheree Goldman expressed an interest in forming a committee and potentially presenting the seminar.
6. **Working Group Reports:**
 - a. **Executive Committee:** Did not meet.
 - b. **Conference Committee:** Sheree Goldman stated that the conference committee has received confirmation that both Dr. Lisa Murray (teen violence) and Attorney Ted Farley (LGBTQ) have agreed to speak at the conference. Jerry Teeter, treasurer will provide the committee with a financial analysis of the feasibility of paying Dr. Murray, as she is quite expensive. In view of the fact that the conference will be held at CSUMB,

however, and we are only inviting two speakers, it may be affordable.

- c. **Membership Committee:**
- d. **AB 2405, DV additional fee:** Did not meet.
- e. **Batterer Intervention Programs:** Did not meet
- f. **Victim Services:** did not meet. May need new membership. Jennifer Empasis volunteered to become a member.
- g. **Medical Services:** S. Goldman stated that she is recruiting a new chair for this committee.
- h. **DV Ombudsman:** no report.

6. Action Items:

- 7. **New Business :** Robin Rodriguez announced that she will be leaving the council as she will no longer be working for DSES and will instead be working for the probation department. Robin has been an active member on the council for many years and we thank her for her service. Jennifer Empasis, from the Public Guardian's office, will be taking Robin's place, along with Heather Molitor, from DSES as her alternate.
- 8. **Old Business:** P. Patterson led a discussion regarding non-compliance in formal probation and lack of accountability, especially if this places a victim in danger. Nancy Hatton described the process for providers to fax progress and termination reports to a dedicated number, and these faxes show up for the judge to see in the clients' files. Nancy stated that it is a court issue to hold the client responsible.

If the client is non-compliant, but it does not place the victim in danger, it is noted on a "hot sheet." If the client is endangered, the issue receives immediate attention, according to Elaine Mc Cleaf.

John Adams remarked that at a CCVI meeting, it was noted that the volume of people in the programs is diminishing; classes are smaller and in some cases they are required to close groups. He inquired as to where the clients are. Nancy responded that the numbers are down, and that since the advent of Homeland Security, there is an increased rate of deportation and an early stage, therefore there are new cases, but no persons to attend the classes.

Elaine Mc Cleaf offered another explanation that there has been inconsistent sentencing because there has been no judge assigned to department 8 since last July. Instead, visiting judges have presided over this courtroom. Judge Hayes will be returning to the department, and there should be more consistency.

Pamela Patterson stated that another concern that was expressed at the last meeting by Noah Shumpert was that the providers need to notify the PO of outstanding debt. Nancy Hatton agreed, and said that providers should not allow attendees to become more than four payments delinquent. She said that the PO should be notified and then the client will be returned to court out of custody for review and

accountability purposes. Of course the PO will return the clients for termination, but the goal is to keep them in the program. Nancy recommended that if a provider has notified a specific PO numerous times and there has been no recourse, then the provider should contact Kathy Foxworthy regarding that officer.

Elaine McCleaf suggested that if the client is on informal probation, the provider may find it more effective to promote accountability by faxing the DA instead of the court. The DA may then file a petition to revoke. The DA has no access to the court files (the normal destination of the faxes). If the client is in violation, the provider might consider faxing the report to the DA. Conversely, if the client is compliant, those faxes can go to the court.

John Adams stated that this information may be communicated to the providers at a meeting or distributed electronically by Kathy Foxworthy.

Pam Patterson also brought of the concern that the referral list to the anger management courses is outdated and that the system is such that no authorities are aware if a defendant made contact with a provider or if enrollment actually occurred.

Nancy Hatton responded that this is not an issue for formal cases, because the PO will follow up. She also stated that Kathy Foxworthy is updating the provider list of classes.

Elaine McCleaf stated that during the three years of probation, all clients are given a 2 month proof date to show that they enrolled in the class and a one year date to show completion.

9. Information Sharing/Discussion: J. Adams announced that Linda Chamberlain will be presenting a 6 hour seminar on May 22 about the teen brain. Continuing education units will be provided. John encouraged all county employees to register for this event. K. Adamson remarked that there is recent research linking literacy problems to children who have been exposed to domestic violence.

10. Correspondence: No report.

11. Next Meeting: April 25

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sheree Goldman