

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF MONTEREY COUNTY

Minutes

DATE: August 26, 2020

TIME: 3:30 - 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Join Zoom Meeting - <https://zoom.us/j/5646607570>

Meeting ID: 564 660 7570

Dial in:

+16699006833,,5646607570# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,5646607570# US (Tacoma)

In Attendance: Linda McGlone, Ashley Walden, Elaine McCleaf, Al Vicent, Christine Duncan, Kenya Burton, Marlene Ramirez, Becky Pimentel, Kathy Palazzolo, Amber Wasson, Deacon Warren Hoy, Jillian Santillanez, Dr. Valerie Barnes, Sheree Goldman, Karlette Anderson, Ann Wasson, Carla Strobbridge-Stewart, Joan Crenshaw

Excused Absences: Mariela Arreola, Jeffrey Hoyne, Lauren DaSilva, and Pam Patterson

1. Opening 3:30 - 3:40

- a. Call to order and Introductions – 3:35pm
- b. Quorum is 9 of 16 Seated members - Met
- c. Approval of minutes for July 22, 2020 – 2 spelling corrections needed. Motion Dr. Valerie Barnes, 2nd Deacon Warren Hoy, Approved
- d. Treasurer’s Report (quarterly) – Due in September
- e. Public comments and oral communications – No members of public in attendance

2. Updates and Announcements 3:40 - 3:45

None

3. Education and Information 3:45 – 4:15

Presentation by Sheree Goldman, NP, on the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART),

Coordinator (20 minutes & QA)

- Sheree Goldman has been the program coordinator since 2000, Monterey County Department of Public Health has been overseeing the program since 2007
- Large number of patients have been teenagers recently (12-15 year old age group)
 - Runaways, met someone online, etc.
 - There is larger number of exams on adolescents in August each year, thought to be due to less supervision while out of school
- Comprised of a multi-disciplinary program to serve children and adults
- Pediatric exams are done at the Child Advocacy center
- Program was started by District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni
- 24hr response community-based program
- Exams are completed at CHOMP & Natividad for adults
- Currently offering evidence collection at home via zoom w/ nurse direction for patients with no physical injuries
- Follow a “Start by believing” outlook, patient centered
- Will examine the suspect and victim, treat all individuals as patients
- Head to toe exam
 - Completed with an advocate present
 - Room lighting and alternative lighting to find visible evidence as well as non-visible fluids
 - Collect clothing, and take photos of injuries
 - Officers are present for interviews, so the patient doesn’t have to repeat their story
 - Lengthy process takes 5-6 hours. Take history -> body exam -> genital exam, both include a camera to take pictures of any injuries, for the internal exam the patient is able to move the small camera around themselves and offered to see their pictures -> offered prophylaxis medication to prevent STI’s & pregnancy.
 - The program is funded through Cal Safe to test for many diseases, hospitals write off the costs of other testing, police and MCPHD also finances part of the exams and evidence processing.
 - Each patient is looked at for strangulation
- Exams are given up to 5 days after
 - Sometimes there are still injuries, but less likely to find DNA, 5 days is farthest out for medications to be effective; except HIV which is only effective up to 72 hours later
- Nurses are wearing highly protective PPE for safety in COVID time, patients are asked to wear masks as well
- Often involved with domestic violence situations. Sexual violence is a crime when married.
- Examiners can go into the court to provide expert info on DV and strangulation
 - Sent to regular trainings on the danger of strangulation even without visible injuries

- Will ask “Did they put anything across your neck?” rather than using the word strangulation
- Language services are offered at Natividad to help minimize the language barrier to assist in completing the exam process clearly and effectively
- Exam cannot be completed without consent, will need to wait if person is under the influence
- Linda: How are services accessed?
 - Many paths of entry: Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, hospital (hospital staff are mandated reporters even for a competent adult so they must call the police, police will do their due diligence with the information they receive, but exam will be completed whether the person wants to cooperate with law enforcement or not. The hospital point of entry is the least efficient and can take the longest.)
 - Exams without police involvement are called a Non-Investigative Reports. Patients can set up an appointment with a nurse without calling the police.
- Kenya: Question regarding advocate training?
 - Advocates through the MCRCC for advocates include a 40-hour training and continuing monthly trainings
- Linda: Question regarding any connection between Monterey County SART program and the military?
 - Jillian: Every military branch has their own 24/7 programs for sexual assault and they also provide advocacy for every part of the reporting process
 - Jillian: If her Domestic Violence cases have a sexual assault component they will work with the client in her program. Strictly sexual assault clients will be referred to a different program.
- Christine: Part of the 40-hour DV training includes sexual assault. Similar to sexual assault it is important to believe their story.

4. Policy/Advocacy (open discussion)

4:15 – 4:25

None

5. New Business

4:25 – 4:40

COVID Updates and Challenges

- Sheree described the difficulty with teens and maximum screen time. Teens are not wanting to meet with advocates via screen, watch tv, etc. What types of behavioral health services are offered in the school system? Deneen stated that not many schools have a full behavioral health therapist on site, strictly school counselor. Will meet later to

discuss some way to connect behavioral health to schools for students in need of mental health services.

- Deneen reported that yesterday MCHD released guidance and FAQ for small learning pods informing on how many students can participate per pod. Finding safe way for how small groups of students can stay in small cohorts, have PPE, etc. to minimize exposure. This would not be for opening schools to regular instruction; but instead for language therapy, small tutoring session, etc. for students with higher needs. The schools are working on how to apply the guidance and begin offering services to those who need them. Will not be approved in the immediate future due to current COVID metrics, but other counties have started to. Some schools have begun distance learning and had difficulties, then have had to close again due to the fires (teachers being displaced, internet connection issues, etc.). Districts are ordering hotspots but are having delays.

6. Old Business

4:40 – 5:00

a. 2020 DVCC Virtual Conference Report (Lauren DaSilva)

If an updated report becomes available, it will be sent out via e-mail to members

b. 2021 DVCC Goals – Tabled

i. Housing

ii. Data collection for grants

7. Adjourn – 4:41 pm

5:00

Next Meeting is scheduled for [September 23, 2020 through Zoom](#) at 3:30 p.m.

FYI: Quorum: Fifty (50%) plus one of the seated Council members, in attendance, shall constitute a quorum, but in no case shall a legally constituted meeting be held without a quorum.

Missing meetings: Three unexcused absences within a twelve-month period will constitute an automatic resignation.

