

STATE OF ALASKA
COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

MINUTES OF THE FIRST QUARTER FY2012 MEETING
November 29-30, 2011

Dept. of Corrections/Probation and Parole Office
411 4th Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Patricia Owen called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Five Council members were present at roll call to form a quorum. Ms. Owen assumed the chair duties, in the absence of Chair Susan Cushing, who was ill.

Council members present: Commissioner Joseph Masters (Department of Public Safety) by telephone on November 29 only; Richard Svobodny (Department of Law); Patricia Owen (Department of Education & Early Development); Melissa Stone (Department of Health & Social Services); Richard Irwin (public member); Dr. De Anna Hellwich (Department of Corrections) on November 30 only.

Council members absent: Susan Cushing, Jackie Hill, and Stephanie McFadden-Evans

Council staff present: Lauree Morton (executive director); Angie Wells (office assistant); Freda Westman (program coordinator) by telephone; Annie Whittey (program coordinator) by telephone; Ann Rausch (program coordinator) by telephone; Debbie Leamer (administrative assistant) by telephone; Bahiyyih Parish (research analyst) by telephone

Others present (in person or by telephone): Peggy Brown (ANDVSA); Judy Bockman (Department of Law); Jim Gurke and Kathy Stone (Alaska Housing Finance Corporation); Brittany Ludington (Interior Alaska Center For Non-Violent Living, Fairbanks); Glenn Bacon (Department of Corrections, Probation/Parole); Cheri Smith (The LeeShore Center, Kenai)

CHAIR COMMENTS - None.

COUNCIL CONFLICT INQUIRY

Chair Owen asked for statements of a potential conflict of interest with items on the agenda. No one made any disclosures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 28-30, 2011

One reference to Mr. Owen was corrected to Ms. Owen.
On page one, Martin Boozer was changed to Carlos Boozer.

Ms. Stone moved to approve the September 28-30, 2011 meeting minutes, as amended. Mr. Svobodny seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda. Executive Director Lauree Morton said the Council would be touring the Interior Alaska Center For Non-Violent Living (IAC) building and different programs at the end of today's agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Morton reported on the following items:

- The CDVSA office was fully staffed. A new CDVSA administrative officer in the Division of Finance was to start on December 8. A staff retreat was planned for December or early January.
- No budget report due to the administrative officer vacancy.
- All the grant awards were distributed.
- Two RSAs (reimbursable service agreements) were expected to be finalized soon.
- She distributed a list of federal grants available to CDVSA for state fiscal year 2012 (per Dr. Hellwich's request at the last meeting).
- She would be working with the Division of Finance, Commissioner Masters and the Council Chair about several open S*T*O*P VAWA grants to see if the Council could have some administrative control over that source of grant dollars. The Executive Committee would bring a recommendation forward at the February meeting.
- Staff was working to finalize a draft report that looks at all the grant administrative dollars for a year. In February, they should have projections of administrative funds available for the last six months of FY12.
- 63 people attended the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training in Ketchikan. The evaluations were generally positive, and she would provide copies to Council members. Based on feedback, the March and November 2012 trainings will expand from four days to five days.
- She intended to set up appointments with people at the legislature to reintroduce herself and convey the Council's priorities.
- The FY12 Alaska research surveys are tentatively slated for late winter and early spring of next year.

Ms. Stone asked how CDVSA was monitoring SART groups in the various communities. Ms. Morton said the SART Workgroup would be meeting next week to review the draft guidelines; the SART model is structured to have some common-based features and also to be flexible for local communities. Next year's focus will be working in communities and getting a better handle on how SARTs are working. The Violent Crimes Compensation Board submitted draft legislation to the Governor's Office regarding the need for a single payer for SART examinations in the state and to cap the exam cost.

Ms. Morton drew attention to the first quarter 2012 victim services program statistics and narrative reports included in the meeting packet (*on file*). The statistics and narratives for the batterers intervention community based programs and prison programs were also in the packet

(on file). She said staff would be working on developing consistent definitions used in the reports.

Ms. Stone remarked on the increased reporting of interaction between the victim services providers and the behavioral health agencies. She requested that when CDVSA staff communicates with any agency that is in trouble that the executive director contact the Council so the members are aware of what is going on.

Mr. Svobodny questioned the low percentage (one-third) of domestic violence and stalking protective orders that judges granted of those applied for. Ms. Morton said the "orders filed" numbers included orders dropped or people not following through. Ms. Stone said the legal advocates have a role in helping protective orders happen, and she believed some victim services agencies knew how to do it better than other agencies. Peggy Brown indicated that the Network's Legal Advocacy Project tracked a lot more data that might be helpful for the Council to see.

ETHICS TRAINING

Assistant Attorney General Judy Bockman of the Department of Law conducted "Ethics Training for Alaska's Executive Branch" for the Council by teleconference (*slides on file at CDVSA office*). Her presentation addressed the players, the rules and definitions under the Ethics Act, disclosure reporting requirements and forms, restrictions after leaving state service, disclosure procedures and complaint process, serious possible remedies and penalties for violating the Act, and extra cautions.

Employment restrictions on board members after leaving Council service engendered some questions and discussion between Council members and Ms. Bockman.

Ms. Bockman encouraged people to contact her with questions and to access the resources on the Department of Law's ethics web page.

After a 10-minute break, the Council was ready to hear the Network Report at 3:10 p.m.

NETWORK REPORT

Peggy Brown, Executive Director of the Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Network), gave an update on the organization's activities, as follows:

- The Network's fall meeting was last week in Anchorage. Speakers were Jeff Jessee from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Sammy Pokryfki from the Rasmuson Foundation, Aleesha Towns-Bain from the Alaska Children's Trust, Jim Gurke from Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), and CDVSA's Lauree Morton. Seaview Community Services of Seward was there as part of the Network again, and other programs are helping out with training curricula for Seaview. A topic that engendered a lot of discussion was about Akeela having a behavioral health/domestic violence prevention grant and going into a few communities without speaking with the local victim services agencies until after the fact.

- Another topic that arose at the Network meeting was housing. The Network's inquiry shows that the domestic violence victim preference at AHFC to get housing is not working in Anchorage, and it is debatable whether the preference is working in Fairbanks or Juneau. The Network programs indicate the public housing preference is working in other parts of the state, albeit hit-and-miss. AHFC wants to create a set-aside with State General Fund dollars for X amount of vouchers. The Network has several concerns with that idea and is researching the possible ramifications further. One alternative is to pilot a set-aside in Anchorage where the biggest problem seems to be.
- A federal bill has been introduced for re-authorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The Network opposed a number of provisions and worked with the national folks to get some of them removed. One of the provisions in the new authorization would give more authority over the S*T*O*P grants to the VAWA administrator because some components have not spent their allocations. A controversial provision is a 25% set-aside for sexual assault-related services through S*T*O*P grants. The definition of rural areas is being expanded to include any federally recognized Indian tribe, at the same time that \$5 million is being cut from the rural grant. Other provisions the Network finds troublesome relate to perpetrator HIV testing, and capping legal assistance to victims.
- Also federally, Senator Begich introduced the Alaska Safe Families and Villages Act. The other piece of legislation that could be significant is the Housing Rights for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Act, introduced by Senator Al Franken. The Network is exploring how that bill would affect housing in Alaska.
- Brittany Luddington will be the new director of Training Projects at the Network, replacing Patti Bland, who is leaving in January to be part of the National Center for Mental Health and Trauma Services. The director of the Legal Advocacy Project, Kari Robinson, will be opening a new Juneau branch of the Alaska Immigration Justice Project, leaving a vacancy at the Network.
- In November, the Network did a training for behavioral health aides, in partnership with the Native Tribal Health Consortium and the Native Justice Center. In October, there was a training for the dentist association at their annual conference. A legal advocacy training is scheduled for December, and the continuing legal education training for pro bono attorneys will be held in February.
- There are tentative plans to hold a Prevention Summit in the Fall 2012.
- The Grants to Encourage Arrest funding from the CDVSA was used to hire Ann Bennett, a seasoned legal advocate at AWARE in Juneau. She has been working on complicated issues with program staff around the state who are not legal advocates but who are trying to do legal advocacy.
- The Lead On! Conference was a huge success, with 114 kids attending.
- Filming has taken place in Bethel for the "When I Am an Elder" ads. The other public ad campaigns are going well.
- The "Stand Up, Speak Up" campaigns were evaluated. Many comments were positive, but they learned that they have to update the web site and make it so that kids keep coming back, including an opportunity for kids to post what they are doing.
- The Network had a table at this year's Alaska Federation of Natives Convention in October.

PUBLIC COMMENT

At the appointed time on the agenda, Chair Owen asked if there was anyone on line who wished to comment.

Jim Gurke, Director of the Public Housing Division at Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), indicated that he and Kathy Stone, Director of Housing Operations, wished to make a prepared statement on behalf of the Executive Director, Dan Fauske. He said the work of the CDVSA, the Network and its membership, and AHFC intersect when domestic violence threatens victims' rights to decent, safe housing. He and Ms. Stone had recently addressed the Network membership, and he expected to participate at the Council's February meeting that would likely deal with housing-related agenda items.

Mr. Gurke, said AHFC witnesses daily the difficulties that families in various situations face as they try to secure affordable housing. The characteristics of minimum wage income, homelessness, families attempting to reunite with children in foster care, disabilities, the elderly, and veterans all relate to a complex preference system that oftentimes forces AHFC into making value judgments about who is most at harm as a result of a housing-related crisis. Waiting lists statewide surged this past year to more than 7,000 families. In Anchorage, the list grew to more than 4,000 families. After a series of focus group meetings that AHFC held with partner agencies, AHFC closed the Anchorage waiting list on June 1, 2011 — something that is common in other states, but it was the first time it has occurred in Alaska.

Mr. Gurke, said they need solutions to serve more Alaskans with the limited dollars that are now available. In the last decade, the average time a family retains housing assistance has grown from about 3-1/2 years to more than eight years. Turnover of vouchers, in particular, has slowed to an average of just about 150 units per year across the state. Almost one-quarter of the waiting list statewide is composed of families that have applied for assistance more than two years ago. In spite of the many excellent programs funded by AHFC, rental assistance and its associated administrative costs are all federally funded. Congress has not authorized any new voucher increments in almost ten years, and the public housing inventory nationwide has not grown by a single unit since the 1990s. Administrative fees to run the voucher program are rapidly shrinking.

Mr. Gurke, said the information he provided was important because victims of domestic violence already experience the impact of the discrepancy between supply and demand. With the closed waiting list in Anchorage, no recent domestic violence victims are being placed. The current preference system adopted almost ten years ago also requires that the victim be displaced due to domestic violence within the past six months. The preference system itself is fraught with complexity. Virtually every family the Public Housing Division serves is well below the poverty line. The AHFC staff is asked to make decisions based on documentation that oftentimes is incomplete, outdated, or just simply questionable.

AHFC feels a responsible plan forward is to devise a simpler and fairer system to cope with Alaska's diverse populations in need. In the next few months, AHFC will continue a dialogue

with the public, advocacy groups, and its board of directors to examine alternatives. They hope to devise a new intake process that accounts for current realities.

Mr. Gurke, stated that AHFC is taking a very proactive strategy to address displaced victims of domestic violence. At the last board of directors meeting, the board approved an FY13 budget that includes a funding increment for rental assistance. It is premature to say whether the program will be funded or what it will look like. The requested sum of \$1.4 million is based on the average annual number of domestic violence victims that AHFC has served over several years, or about 150 families. AHFC wants the Council to understand how important the strategy is to the families that CDVSA serves. The opportunity to match State general funds with federal voucher receipts is virtually unprecedented. AHFC is targeting this particular group because of the obvious need and its complementary relationship to Governor Parnell's Initiative to Choose Respect.

Chair Owen took Mr. Gurke, up on his offer to provide a written copy of his statement to the Council. *[on file at CDVSA office]* No one else indicated a wish to speak, and the Chair closed public comment.

Chair Owen welcomed Freda Westman and Annie Whittey as new program coordinators at the CDVSA office. Both were listening by telephone and spent a few minutes describing their backgrounds and experience.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Ms. Morton informed the Council that the Offender Management Subgroup of the DV/SA Initiative Big Workgroup was to meet Friday, December 2, to hear a report on the Judicial Council's review of batterers intervention programs (BIPS) and the initial data report from Dr. Rosay, and to talk about the current status and next steps. She said staff intended to take the information from that meeting, along with the work product from the workgroup that met the year before last and reviewed the regulations under the Department of Corrections and made recommendations about regulation revisions, and call together some people to synthesize that information and move things forward on BIPS. The CDVSA office is gearing up to receive data from all approved BIPS, whether or not they are funded through CDVSA. Staff is working with Dr. Rosay and a colleague, who are developing two survey instruments, one for participants of the programs, and one for the person against whom the participant committed the crime that got them referred to the program — and over various time periods. The hope is to be able to trend and make sound assumptions about how helpful the intervention was. Ms. Morton said the goal is to get everything done and implement the new [measuring process] by July 1, 2012.

There was a brief discussion about the \$35,000 funding (out of a total of \$100,000) that went back to the Governor's Office, which had been to pay for the BIPS interviewing that the Judicial Council ended up doing for the Department of Corrections at no charge (\$65,000 went to Dr. Rosay to do the data collection research and survey development).

Mr. Svobodny said he was disappointed in the Judicial Council's BIPS review product. He asked if the CDVSA has some oversight of data collection or survey services it pays for. Ms. Morton assured him that it does.

Ms. Stone said it was an important area to pay attention to because the three-year-old legislative audit was very straightforward in expecting the CDVSA to review and make changes [to BIPS]. She wanted to have more detail about what is being reviewed and what some of the characteristics are; the Council could not afford to have this not succeed.

Ms. Stone requested that at the next meeting the Council get the annual self-evaluation that BIPS are required by regulation to do every year. Ms. Morton agreed to do that. Ms. Stone also asked that the Council spend some time on this topic relative to the information that should be gathered by the February meeting date.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT - IAC

Brittany Ludington, the outreach director with the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC) in Fairbanks, joined the meeting to talk about the agency and the donation of a new building, which the program completed on the interior with two elevators. She thanked the Council for the funds for furnishings and finishing touches that allow people to begin their healing process in a nice location. She explained the five levels of housing: (1) the emergency shelter for an initial maximum three-week stay; (2) the pre-transitional program that is two to four months of counselors working with people on substance abuse issues or mental health issues, in conjunction with their domestic violence or sexual assaults, and on independent life skills; (3) the two-year program that is considered transitional living in a secure building off-site with seven furnished apartments, where the clients work on independency (90% success rate); (4) scattered site funding of up to two years' rent assistance for people who have high independent living skills but have a financial gap; and (5) permanent supportive housing in apartments for people who need a safe place long term.

Mr. Irwin asked about the source of funding for housing. Ms. Ludington said IAC is a United Way agency locally, and they also have federal and state funding.

Ms. Ludington said another big component of IAC is the prevention program, which she currently runs. That includes a youth educator working at the schools and with youth organizations, and, at times, a rural educator (currently vacant). In March 2011, IAC had its five-year strategic planning meeting, and the prevention program was highlighted as something to focus on expanding. The community component that she does is wide ranging and focuses on helping adults understand the ripple effects of domestic violence and sexual assault on the community. She does education and training and provides technical assistance with the police department, the legal system, the medical system, the public health system, and educators. The rural program works closely with Our Grandmother's House and the Alaska Native Women's Coalition, and there are 42 villages in IAC's catchment area. There is a 24-hour hotline for assistance to villages as well.

Council members had questions for Ms. Ludington on the specifics of IAC's services. Ms. Stone mentioned EILP, a section of the Office of Children's Services, that has expertise in child development from zero to three and early intervention, which she suggested that IAC connect with. Ms. Ludington said it was possible that IAC's client services director knew what people were connected to, but she would follow up on that.

Mr. Irwin asked for Ms. Ludington's narrative in writing, if possible. Ms. Ludington said she could work with the executive director and get one done for the Council.

TOUR OF IAC

After the meeting recessed for the day at 4:42 p.m., IAC hosted the Council members on a tour of the program facilities.

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

CALL BACK TO ORDER

Melissa Stone, Patricia Owen, Richard Irwin, and Rick Svobodny were present when the meeting reconvened at 9:04 a.m. on Wednesday, November 30. The Council lacked a quorum but proceeded with informational items on the agenda.

Chair Owen praised the tour of IAC the evening before. She amended the agenda slightly to hear from Glenn Bacon next.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Glenn Bacon from the Department of Corrections thanked the Council for holding a meeting in Fairbanks. He said that more than 15 years ago he did not know very much about sexual assault and domestic violence. That has changed in the intervening years, and, working with IAC and its predecessors and other folks in the community who are involved in one way or another with domestic violence, he has developed a keen passion for the topics and has worked to figure out ways that Probation and Parole can serve a larger role in working particularly with domestic violence offenders. He thought Fairbanks was the first probation office in the state to develop a dedicated specialized caseload for DV offenders, and they started with felony offenders first. Beginning December 1, they have a pilot project, promoted by the Governor's Office, for supervision of misdemeanor high-risk DV offenders. He wanted the Council to know that some of the theoretical work CDVSA does may take years to get there, but ultimately it is turning some corners in Fairbanks, and he deeply appreciated it.

He answered several questions on the pilot program.

POTENTIAL PEC MEMBERS

Ms. Morton said the Council decided to have a Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) and wanted to look at a list of people who potentially would serve on that committee. Staff had provided a list of eight names in the meeting packet (pages 43-45) for the Council's

consideration. She said Chair Susan Cushing was going to assign herself to the PEC, and Patti Owen had volunteered as well. Therefore, three others would be needed.

RFP PROCESS

Ms. Morton stated that staff and the Network agreed that it was important to have the outcome measures included in the Request For Proposal (RFP), so the original schedule was pushed out. She expected that draft outcome measures would be available from that workgroup to present at the Council's February meeting. She anticipated letting the RFP at the first of March, with a six-week response time and a deadline in mid April. The application process could be streamlined by moving some of the boilerplate type submissions into a list of assurances. The last couple of weeks of April will be for the PEC members to review the applications and make recommendations. The Council's funding meeting will be toward the second week of May, where final decisions will be made on two-year grant awards. Staff has developed a scoring sheet that assigns weights to concentration areas of crisis intervention, prevention, management, the budget, and an abstract — instead of going into detail about individual services.

Ms. Morton reported that a draft revision of the bylaws regarding the advance payments of the CDVSA grant awards would be on the February agenda. The point is to give a larger advance payment upfront and ease some of the financial burden on the programs, while keeping enough structure in place to make sure the funds are being adequately used.

POTENTIAL BYLAW CHANGES

Chair Owen said the meeting was ahead of schedule, and so the Council had time to return to a discussion from the last meeting on potential bylaw changes. She introduced the topic of public members who now serve three-year terms on the Council and the possibility of changing the one-year term for the chair and vice chair to a two-year term or longer.

Mr. Svobodny said he had brought up allowing delegation so a Council member could send a substitute to sit in for them at a meeting.

Ms. Morton explained the process for amending the bylaws. Council members discussed alternatives for extending the chair and vice chair terms, as well as the pros and cons of having a substitute act in a Council member's absence. Also raised was the question of delegation for Council members who are designees for the commissioners, and required notification of such delegation on the Lieutenant Governor's web page.

Chair Owen called a 15-minute break and reconvened the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Dr. De Anna Hellwich joined the meeting during the break, and the meeting then had a quorum.

COUNCIL STAFF MEMBER

Ann Rausch addressed the Council by teleconference and had a slide presentation of partnership work happening around prevention in the state [*on file at the CDVSA office*]. Her new role at CDVSA is prevention coordinator, and she described her experience and work history, including three years at CDVSA as a program coordinator. The ACYS federal grant (SAFTEE grant) is administered through the Network, and she serves under contract as the coordinator for the

project. She represents CDVSA on the Pathways Statewide Steering Committee and attends biennial planning meetings, quarterly teleconferences, and participates on numerous subcommittees.

Ms. Rausch is working to produce a comprehensive eight-year plan to prevent intimate partner violence, teen dating violence, and sexual violence. For the past two years, she has overseen the universal and public education and primary prevention campaigns funded by CDVSA through a grant to the Network.

Ms. Rausch reported that several key prevention campaigns and committees are underway in the state. The slides listed all the prevention projects that have been accomplished or are ongoing. She also explained the responsibilities and duties of her new position. In FY12, the CDVSA is continuing its partnership with the Network and other state and nonprofit agencies on the prevention campaigns. In addition to supporting existing strategies, CDVSA is proposing adapting Green Dot, an evidence-based bystander intervention program, and developing a train-the-trainer module for Alaska. Green Dot is currently being engaged as a strategy by South Central Foundation and the community of Kodiak; and Bethel, Dillingham, and Sitka are also examining how to incorporate Green Dot into their community prevention strategies. CDVSA's goal is to coordinate the Green Dot efforts in Alaska. She described Girls On the Run, and the new companion program, Let Me Run, for boys.

CDVSA is proposing funding a 2012 statewide community prevention teambuilding conference. Community teams will receive the resources and technical assistance necessary for developing and implementing prevention strategies. Also in FY12, Ms. Rausch said they are working to develop the social networking page on Facebook and to develop other social media to carry the message for prevention forward.

SAFTEE PROJECTS

Ms. Rausch gave a history of the SAFTEE project and an update on its current status. It was an effort started in 2007 by the CDVSA, the Network, the Office of Children's Services, and the University of Alaska Anchorage, to bridge Alaska's divergent response to child maltreatment and domestic violence and improve the capacity of the two systems to work collaboratively to better serve Alaskan families directly impacted. Safety was identified as the common goal across all the programs and services. The committee expanded to include the Alaska Native Women's Coalition and local family tribal services, and it adopted the Safe Alaska Family Toolbox Team in 2010. They applied for federal funding, and the Network serves as the administrator for the award. The four pilot communities for the SAFTEE project are Dillingham, Fairbanks, Kodiak, and Juneau. The first year was for planning, the second year is to implement the new ideas, and the third year (and all the years) will be evaluation.

Ms. Rausch said the siloed system responses to child welfare and domestic violence often mask the complexity of the issues for policymakers and service providers. Adult victims and their children impacted by violence, who are seeking assistance or who are ordered into involuntary programs, often experience their lives becoming fragmented by the multiple service delivery

programs that have been set up to help them. The SAFTEE Project recognizes the need to work closely, collaboratively and holistically with parents, primary caregivers, and the children.

In each pilot community, a tribal family service member, a representative of a domestic violence shelter, and a representative of the Office of Children's Services meet monthly to discuss opportunities for collaborative work. Ms. Rausch talked about specific project activities in each community during the planning year of the SAFTEE award, as well as statewide activities to date that include training for the four pilot communities. She also reported on enhanced training for child welfare workers, and the data collection from community groups.

Council members had several questions for Ms. Rausch.

COUNCIL REPORTS: DV/SA INITIATIVE, HOUSING

Ms. Morton said staff had sent out the DV/SA Initiative Big Workgroup report from its two-day meeting, and she had printed out a chart for the Council members to refer to at the meeting [*both on file*]. The Workgroup had discussed housing, adult services, children's services, and legal representation. Ms. Morton summarized the discussions, as follows:

- Housing was a broader discussion than vouchers or preferences. More available and affordable housing is needed in the state. There were ideas about working with tribal housing authorities and Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and finding ways for them to interact with victim service providers to increase supportive transitional housing.
- In the civil legal realm there needs to be more attorneys. The Council had asked the commissioner to include funding in the FY13 department budget for civil legal representation. The ideas were around some acknowledgement that every community is not going to be able to have the number of attorneys necessary to meet the needs, so what can be done instead — itinerant attorneys, traveling attorneys, or videoconferencing. There is also a continuing need for legal advocacy to explain the process to victims, help with the paperwork, be available for trials, and accompany victims as they interact with law enforcement.
- Regarding services for adults, the discussion was that there should be no wrong door; so if a person discloses domestic violence or sexual assault to any agency or has inquiries on same, the service provider there should be able to provide the resource or refer them to the appropriate resource. Cross-training was discussed to enhance understanding, making it easier for victims to work their way through the process. The concept of pro bono mental health services was brought forward. There was a lot of talk about parenting and skills building, how adults interact with their children, and about family wellness warriors.
- Regarding services for children, the discussion covered parenting, fathering, and the need to have all the services accessible (disabilities, language accommodation, or cultural differences). There was talk about different evidence-based practices that work at shelters. The Council discussed in August putting forward a possible increment for residential services to children in shelters, realizing that it is an opportunity to interact with children who have been exposed to violence.

Ms. Morton said Chair Susan Cushing had thought the Council might want to talk more about housing. The DV/SA Workgroup has mentioned it as a huge barrier to getting people out and safe. She hoped the Council would agree to have the public hearing be on housing issues in February, where it would be a statewide forum for communities to provide information about the effects of scarce housing or about any creative solutions out there.

Ms. Morton said that Patti Owen, Richard Irwin, Melissa Stone, and Dr. Hellwich were at the Big Workgroup meeting and might have things to add about what was discussed.

Ms. Stone inquired if there was data on the housing problem around which to build a strategy. She wondered how many women victims were dispossessed of their own homes, because part of the strategy should be to get them back into their own homes, if it was safe. It might be worthwhile to ask the service providers to gather key data for a certain period so CDVSA could characterize what the housing problem is.

Ms. Brown said the Network has a Housing Policy Workgroup that has culled certain data from the programs already. The Network has requested data from AHFC, and they want to see how the two sets of data match or do not match.

Council members discussed the problems with returning women victims to their homes; and about maximizing partnerships, such as learning from the Corrections model that has used seed money to start a small business and get people into shared housing in exchange for working in the business.

Chair Owen called a lunch break at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:55 p.m. Council members Owen, Hellwich, Stone and Irwin were present, and Svobodny rejoined the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS: DV/SA INITIATIVE, HOUSING (Continued)

Questions and comments continued on the DV/SA Initiative Workgroup report of its two-day meeting.

Dr. Hellwich talked about services for homeless crossover youth (ages 13-20), an age group that is at huge risk of being victims and perpetrators. The Covenant House in Anchorage sees this group in and out and sees a significant need for a program of primary and secondary prevention groups and someone on site who could do counseling for crisis intervention. The other piece is that these youth return consistently to the Covenant House, so having a group therapy environment that addresses the symptoms and results of sexual assault and domestic violence, along with ongoing groups that do education and prevention, is important.

Ms. Stone mentioned the importance of systematically dealing with childhood trauma and reaching children when they are younger and in a shelter with their mother. Mr. Irwin had a similar comment about front-loading on prevention and helping with parenting.

Ms. Morton stated that the Council had asked for a specific funding stream in the FY13 budget for new projects. If that stays in the budget, it would be one avenue for new projects to apply for CDVSA funding. Also, when CDVSA applies for competitive grants at the federal level and is awarded money, it is open to any nonprofit to apply. Staff will be looking at funding streams and trying to come to some agreement on which agencies are going to apply for what pots of money in the next year. A couple of pots of money have been added focused on youth through the Department of Justice. Currently, there is a very small grant of sexual assault prevention money that can go to projects that are dealing with youth aged 13-18.

The Council discussed two Strengthening Families grants at the Department of Health and Social Services, as well as federal money available to Head Start programs. Ms. Morton said Head Start was an area where CDVSA could reach out for partnership, because there are some evidence-based practices through Head Start about preventing domestic violence. Ms. Stone said Women & Children's Services, through Public Health, just got a grant approved for a home visitation model.

Mr. Irwin used the analogy of CDVSA primarily "buying fire trucks" to deal with problems that already exist, while either CDVSA or some other group should maybe have as its priority to front-load to address the problems further upstream. Chair Owen replied that the Governor's DV/SA Initiative Big Workgroup has broken out the primary prevention and recommendations for parenting programs and other prevention programs, and balanced that with the secondary and tertiary prevention and care. She added that it is all the agencies' responsibility to pick up those recommendations and fund them. The CDVSA now has a prevention coordinator and a prevention program to help in that effort.

Dr. Hellwich mentioned the [March 2011] presentation by Jayne Andreen of Public Health, where she laid out a public health model of different levels of prevention and intervention, as a good resource for Mr. Irwin.

Council members and the executive director discussed the need to prioritize and focus on three or four of the strategies from the matrix of prevention strategy ideas that came out of the Governor's Initiative Big Workgroup. Ms. Morton explained that the Governor's Office had directed department commissioners to look at the information and take the parts that fit the priorities that their departments are working on and could do, and try to get those things implemented. She suggested that the Council could consider that view, as well, in its task of selecting strategies. She recommended also looking at how the strategies fit within the goals and objectives of the CDVSA Strategic Plan.

Chair Owen assigned the task of identifying three strategies that CDVSA could work on to the Council's DV/SA Initiative Committee. Dr. Hellwich volunteered to also serve on the committee for this assignment. The committee was to report back at the February meeting.

"HEART OF THE GRIZZLY" TRAINING VIDEO

The Council watched a training video that dealt with sexual assault survivors in the Dillingham region [*on file*]. They discussed it briefly afterward, and Mr. Svobodny explained the backlog in getting the forensic exam lab work done.

Ms. Morton stated that one project for Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to gather these great in-state videos and run them on public broadcasting to a wider audience than just their communities.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Svobodny said the budget will be out December 15 so people will know what the Governor proposes funding the DV/SA Initiative at. Also, March 29, 2012 has been set for the marches against domestic violence in as many as 100 communities.

Mr. Irwin commented that he recently had opportunities to talk about CDVSA, and he looked forward to having an official presentation to share with varied groups that he meets with. He said the focus is on women victims, but many males abusers were victims of abuse themselves when they were younger, and there is not much said about addressing those issues. He was concerned about that part and wanted the Council to give more thought to it and not lose sight of discovering or developing programs to come alongside to redeem the lives of young boys who have suffered domestic violence, sexual abuse, or both. It is a front-loading issue, from his perspective, in order to really stop the harm in society.

Chair Owen said she liked the idea of having a slide presentation on the CDVSA, and she passed the responsibility on to the executive director.

Ms. Stone reported that the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) at DHSS continues working to make the connections between DV/SA issues and what they do in the division. With the trauma-informed care training money from the Governor's Council, they have conducted trainings in Anchorage and Juneau. The Governor's budget has some opportunities that will hopefully move some of the Council's concerns forward. She has asked that site reviews of DBH agencies include asking how the agencies are communicating and engaging with the DV/SA agencies, particularly in the areas that have the rural provider grants.

Ms. Stone said there will be a big potential for Behavioral Health in 2014, if the part of Federal Healthcare Reform about Medicaid coverage at 133% of poverty goes through, because the option for Medicaid eligibility will open up to people needing and requesting substance abuse services that are not currently Medicaid eligible. It is an opportunity to think about in terms of focusing workforce on these people.

Dr. Hellwich gave a Department of Corrections update. She has been traveling, evaluating the inmate rehabilitation programs in prisons. She intended to add and change components related to domestic violence to help bring about awareness in males about their own potential victimology, as well as the potential for being perpetrators. The second piece is to also offer the exact same education program to the women in a short-term capacity. The two other components are offering

parenting programs for men and for women. She intends to look at better parenting programs that will incorporate more domestic violence issues and appropriate healthy relationships within the entire family. She will see what the outcomes are and how they play into other variables in helping to reduce re-arrests for domestic violence or assaults.

From the Department of Education and Early Development, Chair Owen reported that the efforts have been predominantly around the Fourth R curriculum. The CDVSA supported the evaluation of that. She described the Fourth R curriculum training at the School Health and Wellness Institute in October: there were about 30 people at the one-day training, and then the Institute had school staff from about 25 school districts. They covered bullying prevention and suicide prevention, and Linda Chamberlain did a couple of sessions that were very popular.

Ms. Brown remarked that the depth of what the Council is discussing and doing has expanded quite a bit compared to what she found recently when browsing through packets from roughly 2000 to 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m., on a motion made by Mr. Svobodny and seconded by Dr. Hellwich.

Note: An outside contractor prepared the summary minutes. For more details, please refer to the recording of the meeting that is on file at the CDVSA offices.

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