

Domestic Violence Council of San Mateo County
Thursday, March 20, 2014
455 County Center, Room 402 Redwood City

Present: Melissa Lukin, Claire Cunningham, Rev. Kristi Denham, Carrie Gann, Marci Dragun, Brian Zamora, Karen Guidotti, Sylvia Baez, Ed Barberini, Linda Giibbons, Jessica Dayton, Al Serrato, Honora Miller, Lisa Macias, Tulin Acikalin, Leslie Shin, Diana Emerson.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Melissa Lukin, Vice Chair at 3:04 PM. Melissa introduced two members of the Coordinated Community Response data collection panel, Amanda Velazquez (Daly City PD) and Jackie Pace (Redwood City PD) who were present to observe the Domestic Violence Council meeting.

2. Adoption/Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve and adopt the agenda by Carrie Gann and seconded by Brian Zamora. Motion Approved.

3. Approval of January 2014 minutes

A motion was made by Jessica Dayton and seconded by Brian Zamora to approve the minutes with a correction that adds Jessica Dayton to the list of those present. Motion Approved.

4. Update on the Domestic Violence Coordinated Community Response Project

The question that is being considered for the project is: How does police documentation impact subsequent interveners who respond to domestic violence? Melissa indicated that she is now looking for funding to implement the findings since other Counties who have undertaken this work have kept a coordinator position in place.

A February two day training was held with Rhonda Martinson of the Duluth Project (40 attendees on the first day which was an overview, 20 attendees on the second day which focused on data collection.) There was representation from the District Attorney, Probation Department and the Police Chiefs on the first day to get the big picture overview of the project. A data collection team has been assembled and a system map was developed on March 4th. Rhonda Martinson will be in town on April 7th and April 21st to assist with the collect data by interviewing the police chiefs and providing technical assistance. The project is currently on target to have data collection completed by the end of May. Report writing will occur in June/July. Melissa thanked the advisory group for their work in launching the project.

5. Next Steps in Brown Act Compliance

Claire Cunningham, Deputy County Counsel reminded everyone of the Committees' obligation to post meeting agendas 72 hours prior to the meeting in order to comply with the Brown Act. County Counsel has meeting agenda templates for their use. It was agreed that she should

provide technical assistance to the Committees directly rather than having the legal information shared through Honora, but that Honora would be kept in the loop. There was a brief discussion about the Batterers Intervention Program not being a committee that was formed by the DV Council, but rather a committee that is under the supervision of the Probation Department and is not subject to the Brown Act. It will therefore no longer be included on the agenda as a Committee of the DV Council. If Rhonda has something to share, she may request a specific agenda item or share an announcement during that section of the agenda.

6. Update on the Planning of A High Risk Assessment Team

No report as the ad hoc committee has not met since the last meeting of the DV Council.

7. Committee Reports

- a) **Coordinated Response Committee** – Sylvia Baez reported that the February 27th CRC evening outreach event at Juvenile Hall on the topic of healthy relationships was a success. Fourteen of the 22 incarcerated young men ages 15 to 18 who participated completed a pre-assessment survey that was confidential and anonymous. Judge Elizabeth Lee and Deputy Chief Larry Silver both addressed the youth as part of the presentation. The keynote speaker, Ismael Llamas de Guzman from SFSU delivered a program that engaged and motivated the youth to participate. His, Men Can Stop Violence Program model allows him to be able to support men in better understanding themselves as positive members of society by addressing violence from a male-ally perspective. The event included an interactive activity that analyzed the role that rap music plays in promoting violence against women. CRC members Rhonda Collins and Tequila Webb from Probation addressed legal consequences with the youth. Post evaluations were completed by all youth participants and 90% of respondents want the CRC to return to the Juvenile Hall to present the two-hour workshop to other teens. Judge Lee encouraged the CRC to continue bringing workshops to the youth. Probation covered the cost of food. Sylvia personally donated writing pads for the participants.
- b) **Legal Process Committee** – Jessica Dayton provided follow up to the court safety issues that she and Brenda Adams reported on at the last DV Council meeting. About 4-5 weeks ago, the courtroom was changed to Courtroom 4 B and Commissioner Susan Jakubowski is now handling the DV calendar. The Legal Process Committee minutes are attached to the agenda.
- c) **Death Review Team** – Linda Gibbons reported that the Sandra Padgett death/suicide was reviewed by the DV Death Review Team and the facts ultimately did not show any predictors of the homicide. There was no domestic violence history, no mental health history. The perpetrator had failing health issues and believed that his wife would not be able to go on without him. This belief was in contrast to evidence that Ms. Padgett was looking forward to moving to Southern California. He purchased the gun legally. Due to being in chronic pain he had numerous prescription medications and was in despair about financial issues that resulted in a move from Portola Valley to Redwood City. There was no history of domestic violence.

8. Announcements

- a) Next DV Council meeting will be held on 5/15
- b) Diana Emerson announced that she will be leaving the Keller Center as of June 1st and will no longer be involved in an administrative role but will work in the emergency room. She will therefore be unavailable for involvement with the Domestic Violence Council or its committees.
- c) Melissa Lukin announced that the CORA fundraiser will be held on May 8th.
- d) Carrie Gann announced that the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame will be held on March 21st at the San Mateo County History Museum and will include a keynote by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor who started her legal career in San Mateo County as a Deputy County Attorney after being unable to get a law firm to hire her in 1952. She is one of the top ten most powerful women in America.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Melissa Lukin, Vice Chair at 3:41 PM.

