

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 10, 2005

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

- \*Tracy Bame, Phelps Dodge Corp.
- \*John A. Blackburn, Jr., AZ Criminal Justice Commission
- \*Jerry Boone, Maricopa County Department of Public Health
- \*Jennifer Casaletto, Maricopa Medical Center
- \*Chris Christy, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Gene D'Adamo, The Arizona Republic
- \*Susan Glawe, Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Gina Grappone for Governor's Office
- Juan Aristizabal for Gabriella Guerra, Value Options
- Laura Guild, DES
- \*Cindy Hallman, Marley House
- Vicki Hill, City of Phoenix Law Department
- \*Dan Hughes, City of Surprise
- \*Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, City of Phoenix, Public Affairs Bureau, Vice Chair
- Linda Dickerson for Roger Illingworth, Dept. Of Public Safety
- Alice Ghareib for Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging
- Sharon Rauch for Patricia Klahr, Chrysalis Shelter
- \*Phil Lieberman, Councilmember of Glendale
- Fred Scott for Sue Linney, Councilmember of Goodyear
- \*Marie Lopez-Rogers, Councilmember of Avondale
- \*JoEllen Lynn, American Express
- Carolyn McBurney, Envision Project Management
- Lisa Melton, Community Legal Services
- +Craig Mills, PPA
- \*Marna McClendon, Office of the Attorney General
- \*Michael Parascandola, City of Goodyear
- Celeste Adams for Janice Parker, Save the Family Foundation
- \*Keith Perkins, Never Again Foundation
- Karla Houston for Don Peyton, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.
- Katie Hobbs for Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
- \*John Pombier, City of Mesa
- Lynn Potts, City of Mesa
- Wallace Kemp for Lonetta Sanders, Phoenix Police Department
- Ginger Spencer, Phoenix Family Advocacy Center
- \*Mike Stedman, City of El Mirage
- Bernita Clark for Patricia Stevens, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
- Kristen Scharlau for Judy Tapscott, City of Tempe
- \*Kerry G. Wangberg, City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office
- Phillip Westbrook, Councilmember of Chandler, Chairman
- Dale Wiebusch, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Teresa Franquiz, MAG
- DeDe Gaisthea, MAG
- Bill Hart, Arizona State University
- Lindsey Higginson, MAG
- Coy Johnson, Mesa Police Department
- Anna Maria Leff, DES/DCYF
- Karen O'Connor for Maricopa County
- Chris Parks, Phoenix Police Department
- Bruce Raden, Congress John Shadegg
- Sandy Reagan, SCN
- Amy St. Peter, MAG
- Andrea Sierra, Mesa Police Department
- Lynn Timmons, City of Phoenix
- Martha Yoakam, My Sister's Place

- \* Those not present or represented by proxy
- + Those attending by video/audio conference.

1. Call to Order  
Chairman Westbrooks opened the meeting and called the Council to order at 9:10am. He welcomed everyone and introductions ensued.
2. Call to the Audience  
No comments were made at this time.
3. Approval of the March 1, 2005 Council Meeting Minutes  
Chairman Westbrooks called for a motion to approve the March 1, 2005 meeting minutes. Gene D'Adamo, Arizona Republic moved to approve, Dale Wiebusch, ACADV, seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
4. Working Group Progress Reports  
Chairman Westbrooks, first thanked Gene D'Adamo and Arizona Republic saying this was the best walk yet. He noted all of the hard work contributed by all of the other sponsors.

#### EADV

Gene D'Adamo reported that the DV Walk was on April 23. There were over 4,200 participants, a record for the Walk so far. They will be distributing \$250,000 in grants to local domestic violence shelter, effectively reaching their goal for this year. This is a 47% increase over the amount distributed last year. They are also gaining ground in the number of teams participating, which demonstrates the gains in awareness and community spirit. Mr. D'Adamo said that the Walk committee would be meeting with the shelter directors to make sure they are still fulfilling the original goal, which was to find a new funding source for shelters. He stressed the need to make sure they are always connecting with the shelters.

Carolyn McBurney passed around a handout that recapped the stats of the Walk over the last three years. It tracked the number of teams and team size. She noted the total increase at the bottom. She said there were lots of little teams in 2005, mostly coming in unknown and starting on their own. The handout also showed the percentage of teams that were members of EADV. She suggested EADV as a whole might want to look to see if the Walk is a good recruiting tool, and further analyze if those companies that are already members are participating. She said overall it is a positive picture. She noted the giant learning curve with the online registration capability, but it is a great tool that they hope to continue to use for future Walks and other purposes.

Mr. Wiebusch asked if the asterisks on the handout indicated EADV members. Ms. McBurney said yes and asked Ms. Franquiz to double-check the accuracy, in case more organizations have joined EADV recently.

Mr. D'Adamo thanked the sponsors, including Version, American Express, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Phelps Dodge, Bank One, the Republic and 12 News. These were all sponsors that came in with at least \$10,000-15,000 cash sponsorships.

Chairman Westbrook and Ms. Burney also commented that the coverage received from the Republic was amazing. The entire Council concurred and thanked Mr. D'Adamo and Ms. McBurney for their efforts on the Walk and the report.

### Victim Services

Laura Guild reported the subcommittee formed about a year ago. The purpose was to try to establish the real need for additional DV services, and how to grow and direct the resources that we already have for shelters. Almost immediately, the subcommittee found the need for more reliable data.

The gathering of data began by doing a one-month survey of callers to emergency DV shelters who were seeking beds. The purpose was to try to get more conclusive turn-away numbers by using a reliable methodology. The survey started on March 15. All DV shelters in Maricopa County participated and surveyed all incoming calls until April 15. If the caller was asking for shelter, the staff person would ask specific questions about how challenging it was for them to get services. For example, if this was their first call and if not, how times had they tried to find shelter space previously. Professors from ASU West will do the analysis of the numbers. Ms. Guild mentioned that the shelter survey has also led to a partnership with the Morrison Institute to work on a broader survey of the general public about DV issues.

Ms. St. Peter thanked the members of the Victim Services group, which includes representatives from DES, ACADV, Sojourner Center, the Governor's Office, and Drs. Richard Knopf and John Burke from ASU West. Ms. St. Peter met with the shelter directors to get an idea of the content of the questions that would be asked to callers seeking shelter, then the group met with the professors to put the questions into a structure that they could get reliable data from. She said they are currently waiting on survey results from just one more shelter, then the group can start on the analysis. She also noted that ACADV gave a written version of the survey to several survivors during the same week as the conference, and thanked them for their support and participation. With their help, the subcommittee has an additional 100 surveys. She said this shelter survey is just one component of other public input strategies and ways to get meaningful data that people can trust and use. She asked for questions. There were none at this time.

Ms. St. Peter continued by referring the Council to a handout titled Data for Mapping Project. She stressed that this is a draft document. As part of the Victim Services project to accurately determine the level of need for DV services, they are also attempting to map out the resources that currently exist in the County. This will then be overlaid with information identifying the geographic locations in greatest need of more services. This will help to identify the need for DV shelter and other services in Maricopa County and where those additional services should be located. The document she referred to is a rough draft of a list of all service provider agencies that target their services toward victims and survivors of domestic violence, as well as those who provide services for batterers. She asked the

members of the Council to check and see if there are other agencies that are missing from the draft list. She stressed that the scope of this piece of the project is very defined and that they are seeking to map only those agencies that serve mainly DV clients. If addresses can be provided for any additional agencies, that would be great; however, she will need at least a zip code and/or city that the agency is located in. The GIS department at MAG will start coding the data, and shelters will be only identified by zip code. Any other providers should be identified by address. This mapping project will help the Council to know where resources are located and where they are not. Also noted earlier, they are also going to show the need on a regional basis in a bar chart format. The Victim Services subcommittee hopes this will be a powerful tool to advocate for more funding and support.

5. Update on Domestic Violence Legislative Issues

Mr. Wiebusch provided a brief summary update on legislative issues pertaining to domestic violence. He stated that overall, domestic violence did well this year at the legislature. On the 25th of April, the repeal of the spousal rape exemption got signed into law, which has been a two-year battle.

Also, confidentiality of records for stalking victims was passed, allowing those victims the same protection as judges.

Legislation passed allowing for the formation of fatality review teams; local jurisdictions can now set up their own teams. ACADV will be part of the teams. He noted that this piece of legislation was primarily shepherded by the Governor's Office and thanked them for their work on the issue.

An anti-bullying measure was also passed, requiring school districts to come up with policies and procedures to deal with bullying; however, the law doesn't specify what exactly those policies and procedures should be.

A smaller bill that was worked on this year (called small because it was relatively simple) provides for additional protection to rental tenants who are victims of DV - in the case that someone else in the neighborhood or complex calls 911, the DV victim will not get evicted. This bill got stalled during budget talks, but will be filed again next session.

He said that they were happy to report there is an additional \$1.5 million dollars for new beds in the budget. This measure got into the budget again after the Governor vetoed the first budget, which did not contain the measure.

He noted that domestic violence issues did well this year, possibly because there were a number of events going on during the session, like the STOP Violence Against Women rally, the anti-stalking press conference, and others. He thanked all those who showed their support by calling and writing letters to their legislators. Chairman Westbrook thanked him for the update and for staying on the legislature and keeping them aware on what's going on with DV. Chairman Westbrook asked

what's generally the most effective way to educate legislators or garner their support for DV issues. Mr. Wiebusch replied that the Coalition frequently meets with legislators one on one whenever possible, though there are many effective methods. He stressed that the Coalition does not lobby, but educates. They try to meet with as many legislators as they can at the beginning or before the session. Some are already tuned in to the issue, while some will never be. They typically make judgment calls on how to broach each legislator by working with the legislative committee at the Coalition. They try to see as many as they can, even for a couple minutes. The recognizability factor is important, as is the legislative alert email list, which allows people to know what's going on and when they need to make calls.

The votes pertaining to DV were overwhelming in the positive sense. The worst case was the anti-bullying legislation, which passed with only 8-10 no's in the House, and only 5 no's in the Senate. He joked that most bills go a lot faster if no money is attached. Ms. McBurney said that she was encouraged by the number of elected officials who participated in the Walk this year, and that she sees growth in the number of people willing to step out there in support of the issue; for example, Mayor Keno Hawker of Mesa was the City of Mesa's team captain. Mr. Wiebusch added that he has issued a challenge to Senator Verschoor to have a team next year. The Senator accepted the challenge and Mr. Wiebusch assured the Council that he would follow-up.

6. Community Input Strategies on Domestic Violence

Chairman Westbrook stated that at the past couple meetings there has been discussion on ways that we might go about getting public input to help guide us in our activities. It was suggested at the March meeting that the Council contact the Morrison Institute about possibly working together on some public input strategies. We are happy to report that we have been working with the Morrison Institute to put together some questions for a public opinion phone survey that will provide us with more information about how the public here in Maricopa County views domestic violence. It is always good to get reliable valid data to use when we're out trying to garner support. Mr. Bill Hart, Morrison Institute, will provide us with an update on the status of the survey.

Mr. Hart stated that the survey is going out through the Behavior Resource Center quarterly MetroTRACK random digit dialing phone survey. It has been out in field last weekend and still is now. We should have the results in a couple of weeks, but definitely before the Council's next meeting. He referred the Council to the handout they received with the list of questions put together by Morrison, Ms. St. Peter, Ms. Franquiz, Chairman Westbrook, Commander Humphrey, and others on the committee. He said that the main purpose of the survey is to try to get a general idea of what the public's feelings are about DV. They hope to get information about the perception of the legal definition of DV, as well as other DV issues that are not criminal activities. He specifically referred to question number three on the handout, which is part of a separate study of law enforcement opinions that

Morrison is doing with the Governor's Office, DES and AZPOST. For that statewide law enforcement study, they are in the early stages and intend to do interviews and surveys of patrol officers. They hope to ascertain major challenges facing first responding police officers, how they see their role, how they view current law enforcement policies related to DV, and their suggestions for improving things. With both studies, they hope to see the degree to which attitudes of first responders and police officers are the same as the general public.

Vicky Hill referenced the language in the first question on the list and asked if these DV questions would be tacked onto a larger survey with other questions involved. Mr. Hart replied yes, that these questions would be part of the MetroTRACK, which is done four times per year. These questions will be part of a longer interview that talks about other topics as well. Mr. D'Adamo asked who will be surveyed and how big the sample size is. Mr. Hart stated that it was a random digit-dial phone survey of a representative sample, though he was not sure about the size. He said the surveying would be done at different times of day to catch those with various schedules. In total, it should be about a ten-fifteen minute conversation. The results will go to Morrison and to MAG. Ms. Spencer commended all those involved and said this is going to be great because it will tell us what the sentiment is in the community. Chairman Westbrook agreed and that he is very excited about different types of surveys that will be taking place.

Ms. Franquiz commented that the survey with the Morrison Institute is the first step in gathering data. Over the summer, focus groups will be conducted at shelters and other locations to gather information from people who have been directly impacted by DV. For example, the West Side Family Advocacy Center has volunteered to hold a session, and My Sister's Place in Chandler may be able to hold one as well. Last October a focus group was conducted at the Sojourner Center. These sessions will add qualitative data to the quantitative data that will be gathered through the phone survey.

Chairman Westbrook called for a motion to approve the random phone survey. Ms. Spencer moved and Ms. McBurney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 7. Regional Domestic Violence Council Evaluation

Chairman Westbrook commented that for rest of time, it might be helpful to reevaluate where we are, where we've been and where we're going. He thanked the staff for their work and said the Council has been very aggressive this year. He stated that the subcommittees are the link between the Council and the community. Chairman Westbrook also thanked those Council members who have been participating, and hoped that they have seen the progress that we're making. The energy and excitement that we are seeing now will help us to be more effective in the future. However, even though we are making progress, rapid population growth means that incidences are quite likely going to rise.

He asked the Council members to participate for the rest of the meeting in an evaluation of the Council and its work over the last few years. He asked Ms. St. Peter to lead the discussion from here.

Ms. St. Peter thanked the Chairman and began by explaining how the discussion would be structured. She stated that there would be three ground rules: be honest because if we want to improve, we need to know what the problems are; be open, even though others might disagree; be constructive in delivery. She stressed that the discussion won't necessarily end today. For those who might not be comfortable in a large group, MAG staff will send out a survey by email. If anyone wants to provide any additional comments, please call her on 602/452-5049 or email [astpeter@mag.maricopa.gov](mailto:astpeter@mag.maricopa.gov).

For the first segment of the discussion, Ms. St. Peter asked the group what has worked well in the past.

What's worked well?

- Council has been inclusive and historically had participation from power structures/policy makers/ those who can get things done. People at all levels have been welcome to participate.
- Communication: emails, phone calls
- Subcommittee structure
- Measurable, positive results.
- New staff
- Personal visits from MAG staff to other DV practitioners
- Consistent commitment from Council over last 5 years- enthusiasm, passion.
- New membership structure is good, had a quorum easily today
- Resources MAG brings, provides research capabilities
- Public input drove the formation of the Council, drives the issues, provides foundation
- More successes recently, i.e. Walk
- Report card last year, good gauge of outcomes
- Great media coverage generated through Walk, report card, etc.
- Council relies on experts in field, supports them in accomplishing their goals
- Kickoff in October.
- Everyone educates everyone else; MAG as a resource for this.
- Excellent leadership by the Chair

What has not worked well?

- Reporting only at meetings, no action or engagement. Too passive.
- Sporadic attendance, lack of quorum
- Ambiguity between this Council and Governor's Commission.
- Progress on 41 initiatives unclear; too many to focus on clearly; no strategic plan; unclear fit with Governor's Commission
- High-level official participation has lessened over time.
- Weak relationship with MAG Regional Council

- Lack of funding to support staff
- Lack of commitment on MAG's part towards DV and staffing the Council.
- Need to be specific about help needed on subcommittees
- Need to pay more attention to immigrant communities; i.e. phone survey
- Not enough focus on prevention; i.e. stopping the abuser
- Standardize reporting practices for medical and law enforcement
- Need more training for professionals.

What should we do in the future?

- Work on prevention, young men, bullies, junior high age
- Improve membership: include faith community; look twice per year at membership to recruit strategically; include educators/schools, AZ Board of Cosmetology & ER docs (AZ Chapter of American College of Emergency Physicians)
- More surveys to measure accomplishments
- Stay focused on clear role
- No duplication with other committees
- Don't take on too much
- Develop strategic plan
- Revisit 41 recommendations, maybe condense
- First define strategy, then talk about structure and meeting schedules
- Ensure sustainability.
- Agenda dictates frequency of meetings, don't cancel
- Develop membership matrix
- Two-way communication between Council and community
- Updates from Local Coordinating Councils and Governor's Commission
- Succession plan for leadership
- Develop bylaws/policies
- Exit strategies, have peers call non-attendees when attendance low
- Develop mission and vision statement.
- Have specific, achievable goals with deliverables attached

Ms. St. Peter and Chairman Westbrook thanked the members for their participation and constructive feedback. Ms. St. Peter ensured the Council that the discussion will continue and that she wants to maintain an open-door policy on the Council. We've made a lot of progress, but by working together we can do even more. By being here, it shows each member's dedication and commitment. She said that they have been looking to have a more formal, strategic planning meeting towards the end of the year. By next November, the Council should know how and why they were successful. She thanked everyone for being here, and for their attention and support.

MAG staff will send out a survey by email for more feedback. For any questions please contact Ms. St. Peter or Ms. Franquiz. Chairman Westbrook thanked Ms. St. Peter and the Council for their input.

8. Announcements

No announcements were made at this time

9. Adjourn

Chairman Westbrook stated that he and the staff have discussed using the November 1 meeting date for strategic planning in order to allow for time to receive results from all of the surveys that will be done throughout the summer and early fall. He noted that it is a regular meeting date and should already be on everyone's calendars. The Council would meet off-site and go through the strategic planning process; it likely would be from about 8:30am until noon. He requested that staff look into having someone there who can facilitate the process. It was mentioned that at DES they have professional strategic planners who can come out and assist with planning for free. Staff will confirm the date, time and location and get the information to the Council.

Chairman Westbrook also noted that the next meeting is July 5, right after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holidays and asked the Council if this was a good time. The Council agreed to look for an alternate date. Ms. Franquiz suggested the following Tuesday, which is July 12. The Council concurred.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

Next Meeting:

The next MAG Domestic Violence Council meeting will be on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 from 9:00a.m. - 11a.m here at the MAG Offices, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Saguaro Room