

**Regional Domestic Violence Council
December 5, 2002
Meeting Minutes**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

*Tom Ambrose, Phoenix Suns
Srt Aguirre for Lonnie Sanders, Phoenix Police Department
*Maria Armijo, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
*Tracy Bame, Phelps Dodge Corp.
Peggy Bilsten, Council member of Phoenix
*Cmdr Jim Brad, Town of Gilbert
Jerry Boone for David Dube, Division Community Services
*Dr. Mary Ellen Bradshaw, Arizona Public Health Assoc.
Mike Branham, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
Jane Conder for Roger Illingworth, Dept. Of Public Safety
*Dean Coonrod, Maricopa Integrated Health Systems/MedPro
Gene D'Adamo, The Arizona Republic
*Hon. Susan Ehrlich, Arizona Supreme Court of Appeals
*Dr. Paul Eppinger, Arizona Ecumenical Council
*Jill Faver, Arizona Foundation for Women
*Kathleen Ferraro, ASU
*Martha Fraser Harman, Men's Anti Violence Network
Susan Glawe, Blue Cross Blue Shield
*Lisa Glow, Arizona Attorney General's Office
*David Goulet, Council member of Glendale
Barbara Parascandola for Vicki Hill, City of Phoenix
*Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, Arizona Regional Community Policing Inst.
Donna Irwin, Governor's Office for Prevention of Family Violence
Loren Kirkeide, SRP
Iva Klippel for Chief Dan Hughes, City of Surprise
Stephanie Knox for Leticia D'Amore, Value Options
Sue Linney, Council member of Goodyear
*Marie Lopez-Rogers, Council member of

Stephanie Orr, CASA
Michael Parascandola, City of Goodyear
Francis Park, NW Valley Community Council
*Janice Parker, Save the Family Foundation
*Karyn Parker-Reichert, John C. Lincoln
Sandi Perez, BHHS Legacy Foundation
Keith Perkins, Never Again Foundation
*David Petersen, Arizona State Senate
*Don Peyton, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.
Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
*John Pombier, Governor's Office
Dianne Post, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Lynn Potts, City of Mesa
Angela Rodgers, Children's Action Alliance
Joanne Samora, ConocoPhillips
*Joan Shafer, Mayor of Surprise
Wally Sjolander for Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging, Region One
Mary Jo Swartz for Mary Lou Hanley, Arizona Department of Economic Security
*Marie Sullivan, AZ Women's Education and Employment
*Roberta Voss, Arizona House of Representatives
*Kerry G. Wangberg, Law Department/Criminal Division
Phillip Westbrooks, Council member of Chandler
*Greg Shaw Williams, Avondale City Prosecutor's Office
*Max Wilson, Maricopa County

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ginger Bealer, Family Advocacy Center
Danielle Bedient, Maxims
Jaci Christenson, City of Tempe
Ann Flra, Volunteer Center
Kristie Leshinskie, MAG
Martha Harman, MAN
Terri Leveton, Halo of Hope Foundation
Caroly McBurney, MAG
Mario Panlagva, City of Phoenix
Bruce Raden, US Congressman John Shadegg

Avondale

*Cynthia Lukas, Council member of Scottsdale

*JoEllen Lynn, American Express

*Linda Martin, Religious Response to Domestic Violence

*Judy Mattingly, Justice Services, Inc.

Preston McMurry, McMurry Publishing

*Rick Miller, Violence Prevention Initiative

*Robert Mills, Salt River Indian Community

*Karen O'Connor, Maricopa County

Office

Linda Snidear, City of Goodyear

Judy Tapscott, City of Tempe

Lynn Timmons, City of Phoenix

Mary Thomson, MAG

Tom Zawarski, City of Chandler

* Those not present or represented by proxy

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:19 p.m.
2. Approval of the September 12, 2002 Council Meeting Minutes
Sue Linney moved and Gene D'Adamo seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Never Again Foundation Presentation
Mr. Keith Perkins, Executive Director of the Never Again Foundation, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to share his agency's perspective. Mr. Perkins is an attorney, and his foundation provides free and low-cost civil representation to victims of domestic violence.

He began his presentation by explaining the division between the criminal, domestic relations, and civil court systems. He discussed that the civil court system focuses on justice, and the financial health for victims that stems from it. He then discussed the value to society that each court system provides, including protection of future victims, and prevention and deterrence.

Mr. Perkins then discussed the tremendous costs of domestic violence, and explained that the civil system provides an opportunity to ensure perpetrators bear the financial brunt of their crimes. Of the three court systems, cases under the civil court system are the easiest to prove. In addition, the statute of limitations in domestic violence civil cases is only 2 years, whereas the statute in criminal cases is 7 years. Mr. Perkins expressed his belief that the civil system hasn't yet caught up with the other systems, and that the criminal and civil systems need to work together more.

He also explained the victim's accessibility to the three court systems, and said the expenses for a victim to secure civil representation can range from \$20,000-40,000. Therefore, the Never Again Foundation will assist victims with understanding their rights, and will represent those cases that will have the most impact on the highest number of people. In some cases, damage awards in civil cases can then be used in domestic relations cases. Mr. Perkins mentioned the Patty Lumpkins case, where the victim filed a civil lawsuit, and the civil jury

awarded the largest civil judgment ever in Arizona. From this case, society learned this process aids the victims, and gives them closure and healing in a safe environment.

The Never Again Foundation serves the entire state, and is looking for a new physical location. Sue Glawe then asked how Ms. Lumpkins found the Never Again Foundation, and Mr. Perkins responded that the domestic violence shelter in Holbrook had referred her. The group then inquired about the status of pending legislation, and Mr. Perkins relayed that some states have enacted legislation giving a 10-year statute of limitations for civil action in domestic violence cases. Mr. Perkins is currently working to enact similar legislation in Arizona. He also explained that funding comes from the Department of Health Services, Conoco-Phillips, and fees paid in cases by convicted perpetrators. Mr. Perkins also answered that legislation in this area would have to be enacted on a state-by-state level, as opposed to federal. Mr. Perkins can be reached at (480) 539-9111.

4. STOP Grant Award

Mary Thomson mentioned that MAG received coordination funds through the Governor's Division for the Prevention of Family Violence. These coordination responsibilities will be addressed by Carolyn McBurney, who will look at the effects of domestic violence on children, and will assist cities with evaluating their criminal justice systems in terms of domestic violence. Ms. Thomson thanked Donna Irwin and the Governor's Office for this award.

5. Work Group Progress

Healthcares About Domestic Violence Update

Dr. Dean Coonrod from Maricopa Integrated Health Systems (MIHS) shared the following statistics from Emergency Rooms in California:

- 14-30% were victims of DV, but only 70% presented with violence related injuries
- Victims were asked who they would go to for help; the 1st response was police, and the 2nd response was healthcare

He then thanked several members of the Domestic Violence Council for their participation in the MIHS Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and then explained the two grants currently funding the Center for Healthcare Against Family Violence planning and the Healthcares About Family Violence initiative. The Center is internal, and may be modeled somewhat after a similar facility at Parkland Hospital in Texas. He also mentioned that the Healthcares kit is a tremendous opportunity, and includes the production and dissemination of training protocols to local hospital systems.

Employers Against Domestic Violence Update

Carolyn McBurney described the November 15 "Workplace Violence Prevention and Preparedness" training. The Forum had 45 participants, 27 of whom were new EADV members. The Forum was facilitated by Doreen Nicholas from the

Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence; other speakers included Lorel Stevens, a domestic violence survivor, and Sgt. Mark Yoshimura from the Arizona Police Officers Standards and Training.

She also mentioned the next training is scheduled for Friday, February 21, with location and other details to be determined. It will be an update on the state of domestic violence.

6. Walk To End Domestic Violence

Gene D'Adamo briefed the committee that the official date is April 26, 2003 for the 1st annual "Walk To End Domestic Violence". It is a 5K walk and run, and \$75,000 worth of sponsorship has already been secured. Title sponsors include the *Arizona Republic* and Channel 12; other sponsors include Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Bank One, and APS. Sponsors are paying all the operational costs. The goals include 6,000 walkers and \$250,000 raised. The Walk will take place at the Capitol Mall, with educational materials distributed at the end. Bank One will be the distribution point for brochures, which will be available at the end of January. Corporate challenges will be included and awarded. The *Arizona Republic* will also publish articles on domestic violence shortly before the Walk.

7. Legislative Update

Dianne Post from the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence (AzCADV) presented an overview of the Arizona State Domestic Violence Statutes as compared to model code created by the Domestic and Family Violence, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Ms. Post distributed a document that details the state plan for injury prevention, and explained that prevention, protection, accountability, and rebuilding lives of survivors are included in each chapter. The document also details criminal penalties and procedures. Ms. Post stated that Arizona falls short in these areas, and also doesn't meet the standard by failing to have the ability to confiscate firearms. Similarly, Arizona falls short by having unsupervised probation and allowing repeated trips to Batterer Intervention.

She also detailed the Civil Orders of Protection, and that Arizona does meet the model code. She then said Arizona laws on Family and Children meet the model code, although implementation of the laws does not. In addition, mediation is not recommended, but should be according to the model code. Similarly, courts fail to award attorney's fees or divide the liquid assets, meaning lower income parties cannot afford litigation. This, too, fails to meet the model.

Further, a parent can be charged with "failing to protect" or prevent child abuse when Child Protective Services (CPS) is called in, thereby causing that parent to lose custody, even if they weren't involved in the abuse. This is a disincentive for victims to call CPS for assistance in abuse cases.

Arizona also was found to be most lacking in prevention and treatment. For instance, Arizona lacks mandatory training in all systems impacted by domestic violence. Arizona also doesn't meet the model code in batterer's intervention programs, as there are no standard protocols or curriculum.

In terms of confidentiality, much progress has been made. However, a state law on confidentiality is needed. Confidentiality to protect voter registration and driver's license information is also still needed. Other outstanding issues include problems with public assistance, public and private housing, shelter licensing, fingerprinting, legal representation, credit, and outcomes based evaluations.

In response, Councilwoman Bilsten recommended creation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Education for newly elected officials. Lynn Timmons and Dianne Post were recommended. A motion was made and seconded, and the group unanimously approved.

8. Sexual Assault Hotline

Donna Irwin, Director of the Governor's Division for the Prevention of Family Violence, reviewed that there are 2 separate crisis lines serving Arizona for sexual assault crisis calls. Between July and September, the average number of calls for Northern Arizona and Maricopa County was 450 per month, while the Southern Arizona hotline (Pima and other counties) receives 225 calls per month. The maintenance of these hotlines was made possible by several agencies and individuals, and Governor Hull designated crisis funding for these programs. Ms. Irwin asked group members to convene after January 1 to meet and discuss this issue, and find a permanent funding solution. Ms. Bilsten asked for regular updates, to which Ms. Irwin responded she could provide quarterly. Ms. Irwin also stated the annual maintenance of the hotlines cannot be estimated, but rather cost effectiveness and volume must be considered.

9. Public Comment

Judy Tapscot from the City of Tempe announced the John F. Kennedy School of Government has made Tempe's Crisis Response Team a semi-finalist for recognition. Tempe is able to provide information on their Crisis Response Team to other communities interested in starting similar programs.

Tom Zowarski, Chandler City Prosecutor, updated the group on his city's protocols for facilitation and solicitation. He assured the group that the policies are under review, and that his office is dedicated to protecting victims of violence. He has since ordered police not to make arrests in these cases, but to take a report and ensure proper channels are followed. Councilwoman Bilsten then invited Mr. Zowarski to participate in the Domestic Violence Council meetings, and expressed her concern that victims of violence should not be arrested in the majority of cases where orders of protection are being violated.

10. Announcements

Councilwoman Bilsten reminded the group the next meeting is **Thursday, February 13, 2003, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.