

MAG DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 19, 2001
Maricopa Association of Governments
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Tom Ambrose, Phoenix Suns
Tracy Bame, Phelps Dodge Corp.
Elizabeth Reich, Governor's Division of Domestic Violence Prevention
*Peggy Bilsten, Councilmember of Phoenix
*Dr. Mary Ellen Bradshaw, Az Public Health Assoc.
Donna Marcum for Mike Branham, Criminal Justice Commission
*Jan Brewer, Maricopa County Supervisor
*Michael Carey, Buckeye Police Dept.
*Maggie Cathey, Vice Mayor, Town of Gilbert
*Dean Coonrod, Maricopa Integrated Health Systems/Medpro
Gene D'Adamo, The Arizona Republic
*Sheila Day-Geary, John C. Lincoln Hospital
*David Easchief, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
*Hon. Susan Ehrlich, Arizona Supreme Court of Appeals
*Dr. Paul Eppinger, Arizona Ecumenical Council
Jill Faver, Arizona Foundation for Women
Kathleen Ferraro, ASU
*David Goulet, Councilmember of Glendale
*Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, Az. Regional Community Policing Inst.
*Roger Illingworth, Dept. Of Public Safety
Dianne Greer, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
*Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging
Loren Kirkeide, SRP
John Leach, City of Goodyear
Rev. Deborah Lerner, Paradise Valley United Methodist
Marie Lopez-Rogers, Councilmember of Avondale
Cynthia Lukas, Councilmember of Scottsdale
JoEllen Lyn, American Express
Preston McMurry, McMurry Publishing
*Carolyn McBurney, 3TV/KTVK
Laura Miller, Attorney Generals Office
*Rick Miller, Violence Prevention Initiative
*Stephanie Orr, Center Against Sexual Abuse
*Paul Oves, Tosco Marketing Company
*Rev. Fran Park, NW Valley Community Council
Janice Parker, Save the Family Foundation
*David Petersen, Arizona State Senate

*Don Peyton, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.
Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
*Angie Rodgers, Children's Action Alliance
Dr. Lawrence Sands, Maricopa Cnty Dept. of Public Health
*Joan Shafer, Mayor of Surprise
*Marie Sullivan, AZ Womens Education and Employment
*Lt. Louie Tovar, Domestic Violence Unit, Phoenix, P.D.
*Roberta Voss, Arizona House of Representatives
John Pombier for Kerry G. Wangberg, Law Department/ Criminal Division
*Phillip Westbrooks, Councilmember of Chandler

**Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.*

OTHERS PRESENT

Jackie Anderson
Vicki Bourne, City of Phoenix
Shelly Hornback, CASA
Danae Dotola, ACADV
Catherine Drezak, AOC
Laura Guild, DES/CSA
Melodee Jackson, Attorney General's Office
Mike Parascandola, City of Goodyear
Sammy Lazarus, Northwest Community Council
Marcie McDougall, Attorney General's Office
Linda Martin, Religious Response to Domestic Violence
Judy Mattingly, Justice Services
Robert Mills, SRP
Doreen Nicholas, ACADV
Karen O'Connor, Maricopa County Superior Court
Dorita Peyton
Lynn Potts, City of Mesa
Mary Thomson, MAG
Brande Mead, MAG
Chris Shipley, MAG

1. Call to Order

The Domestic Violence Council meeting was called to order at 9:12 am by Gene D'Adamo with the Arizona Republic whom is sitting in for Councilwoman Peggy Pilsten. Mr. D'Adamo welcomed everyone and introductions ensued.

2. Approval of the April 17, 2001 Council meeting minutes

Mr. D'Adamo asked the council if they have had a chance to review the minutes from the

Domestic Violence Council meeting which took place on April 17, 2001. A motion was made by Donna Marcum and seconded, the minutes were approved.

3. Offender Treatment and Accountability

Mr. D'Adamo introduced Karl Heckart, Director of Information Technology for the Administrative Office of the Arizona Supreme Court. Mr. Heckart spoke of the statewide database project. He said that when studying the Legislative process, they have discovered that there are many "black holes" in the process. Many times, orders of protections end up being a false sense of security to the people who have them. The Arizona court system is slow in the automation endeavor within the court system. Mr. Heckart showed a slide indicating that from 1998 to 2000 they were able to consolidate most of the state with a database system. Maricopa county is still operating on their own systems. The initiative known as "Justice" was started, which looks into Statewide information, web access, and statistical information. Ideally, there would be a project devised that will take the systems that are currently being used and have them integrated, so the systems will be able to work together. For example, child support needed a central registry and the NDI was created based on that. They want to build a central repository for all systems in the State that will link together.

Currently, in Phase 1, 150 courts are participating in ACAP. The second part of the phase will be the non ACAP courts. The third phase will be to automate the service aspect of the order of protections. Right now, there is not any consistency in the equipment used or systems used in orders of protection.. There are a number of processes that can be changed though. The last part of the implementation is the reporting to the Federal repository. Data quality and timeliness of the system will need to be improved upon greatly in the future. The deadline for Phase 1 to be complete is January 2002. There are risks involved in the project, such as the data capture quality. The data may not always be good, limited use due to missing jurisdictions, and service indicators are also factors. Mr. Heckart said they are trying to gather information and all of the data by Christmas time.

It is predicted that Phase 2 should be completed by July 2002. The risks involved in Phase 2 will more than likely be lack of automated information, funding and setting a service indicator.

Phase 3 is expected to be completed by December 2002. The risks involved in this phase would be with the document process and the private service.

It is thought that the database will cut down on paperwork and double entry. Some issues left on the table would be code standardization, order service lag time, no law enforcement service, foreign orders of protection, and "holder of record" responsibility. Ms. Martha Fraser Harmon of M.A.N. asked if this project will handle Domestic Violence convictions as well. "No", Mr. John Pombier answered, the system is just for orders of protection. Ms. Fraser Harmon asked what the cost is and what people in the community could do to support the issue. Mr. Heckart said they are investing 1/4 of a

million dollars for the first piece of the puzzle. They are not sure yet how much the next piece will cost, it is all dependant on what type of computers they have. Mr. Heckart said that local funding should be prioritized. Mr. Loren Kirkeide or SRP asked if what they are trying to do should relate to the Domestic Violence convictions aspect. It was said that CIDVIC bred this project. He said that he is not aware of this issue relating to Domestic Violence convictions.

Ms. ?? asked about the affidavits of the Central repository. She also asked if there was going to be an electronic way of getting the information out. Ms. Sue Glawe asked if there is a link that could be attached for a warrant or if they could check for other related reports. Ms. Shelley Hornback asked if the Sexual Assault database relates to the Domestic Violence database. Mr. Heckart said that he doesn't think that the two would work well together. This summer they are going to meet with the other organization and discuss the information gathered for the database. Mr. D'Adamo thanked Mr. Heckart for the presentation.

Work Group Progress

Mr. D'Adamo introduced Ms. Doreta Peyton to report on the progress of the work group. It was explained that Mrs. Peyton is on the crisis response team work group. Mrs. Peyton stated that a training Manuel is being put together and should be printed by early July and is expected to be used at the training in September. She explained that they are partnering with Arizona Post. She indicated that they will be asking agencies to provide people to assist in the training as well. This will promote collaboration with treatment of all victims and are hoping the response times should be improved. Mrs. Peyton asked if anyone on the Council had any questions, they did not.

Mr. D'Adamo introduced Linda Martin whom spoke of the Faith based efforts. Ms. Martin said they are currently stuck on funding issues for the upcoming conference. She also stated that there is a typo in the report, it should read 350 people attended last year, not 250. So far, they have just under \$2000 in donations for the conference. One of the topics of the conference will be to educate those in religious communities, whether they be leaders or not, how to identify victims of Domestic Violence and how to handle the situation. Many times, religious leaders are more concerned with the family unit rather than the individual, and this can lead to continued violence in the home. Linda Martin asked the Council for their help in the conference. Mr. D'Adamo said that at this point in the year, it is difficult to have a sum budgeted in, but that the private companies would do all that they could to make sure that the conference would get to the amount of funding that they. It was noted that MAG has already helped send out the first save-the-date postcards and several other council members and organizations represented by the council have also added some funding and resources. Ms. Martin noted that the conference touches so many people and that a great deal of the people who come are not even religious leaders. Mr. D'Adamo talked about finding a Challenge Grant that might help with expenses. Martin noted that this is a grass-roots group that doesn't always have the opportunity or time to write grants or look for funding.

Ms. Deborah Lerner noted that the faith community is sometimes the worst community to give for such a cause and while she hopes to get them into the door and ten years down the road see some funding from these groups, most churches simply don't see domestic violence as a problem in their communities. Ms. Martin noted that 1 in 4 people is a victim of Domestic Violence and that they do not attend their churches for help because religious leaders are so interested in the family unit instead of helping the individual.

Ms. Sammy Lazarus gave a brief presentation on local coordinating councils in the Northwest. Someone else talked about their first meeting and that they are still in the initial stages of getting their council up off the ground. Ms. Vicki Bourne talked about the second meeting of their local coordinating council and it was another good meeting with a lot of interesting things to look at. Mike Parascandola from the Southwest Valley Coordinating Council noted that their council has met three or four times and is trying to focus in on the organization and people that can be brought to the table. The first meeting will talk about issues and then after incorporating these people, they will be brought up to speed on what is happening in the Southwest Valley.

4. Employers Against Domestic Violence (EADV)

Tracy Bame made a report on the state of the EADV (Employers Against Domestic Violence). It was stated that 110 representatives from the business committee attended the breakfast that was started by Jerry Colangelo from the Phoenix Suns. It was noted that there was a moving presentation from a Domestic Violence survivor who spoke of how her employer had helped her out of the rut of Domestic Violence. The breakfast was a great success and got some great publicity from different news stations. Total membership for the Council right now is at 40 employers. Right now they are focusing on getting the people who attended the breakfast to become members of EADV.

A video tape taken at the EADV breakfast was shown, which was featured on Channel 5. Follow-up work will include letters, encouraging the attendees to come on board, and there will be quarterly forums to help business leaders.

5. Legislative Update

A brief overview of what happened at the legislature was provided by Danae Dotolo.

Last year, a bill passed that would have changed the Domestic Violence relationship test to include same sex couples. However, last year, another bill passed that continued to exclude same sex relationships and that led to more concern. This year, a bill passed that included language to include same sex couples.

One other thing that the ACADV is doing, the Coalition got together with the basic needs coalition to discuss a fact book for candidates. When a bill would come up, everyone in the coalition would fill out a slip of support (for instance for a food bank funding bill). The ACADV will do a day with all of the candidates. HB2211 is a incentive bill for

schools not providing breakfast, is one of these bills. There were a couple of bills that dealt with divorce that also meant that couples would get to 50-50 split time with the child. This could be dangerous for domestic violence victims. The ACADV would also like to compile the input of the people they represent to find out just what it is that people would like to hear about.

It became aware that the Maricopa County Attorney's Office has a policy about when someone should be charged with violating orders of protection. A great deal of information was compiled of information on what it is that other counties do and then how that differs in Maricopa County. In most other counties, a person is charged if they violate an order of protection. In Maricopa County, there is a mixed result that is sometimes taken on a case by case violation. In some cases, if the person with the order was not touched then the person would not be charged. It is difficult to determine the reason that victims have contact with a perpetrator of Domestic Violence, but that information still needs to be gathered as to whether or not anything can be done to see that victims are no longer put at risk by the offenders

6. Call to the Public

Tuesday, September 11th will be the next meeting. The Governor's Office has funded the council for a third year. It was also noted that the Domestic Violence Council was put up for a Desert Peaks Award and the results will be announced on Thursday.

The council was told that Carol Kratz, Human Services Manager will be leaving her position with MAG.

Connie Phillips, of Sojourner Center noted that the US Department of Justice has awarded the Domestic Violence Council a certificate of appreciation that comes from the President.

7. Announcements

There were no announcements to be made.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 p.m.