

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 4, 2007

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale, Chairperson
Tony Vidale for John A. Blackburn, Jr., AZ
Criminal Justice Commission
*Dr. Jennifer Casaletto, Maricopa Medical
Center
* Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Janine Letellier for Suzanne Cohen, MC
Attorney's Office
+ Councilmember William Conner, El Mirage
JoAnn Del-Colle, Phoenix Family Advocacy
Center
Councilmember Trinity Donovan, Chandler
Laura Guild, DES
Shannon Cotton for Cindy Hallman, Marley
House
Mel Williams for Office of the Attorney
General
Councilmember Brenda Holland, Goodyear
* Dan Hughes, City of Surprise
*Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, City of Phoenix Police
Department, Vice Chair
Karla Houston for Lynette Jelinek, Glendale
Fire Department
*Candace Johnson, Prehab of Arizona
Elizabeth Goodman for Lillian Johnson,
Community Legal Services
Alice Gharieb for Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area
Agency on Aging
*Patricia Klahr, Chrysalis Shelter
Councilmember Phil Lieberman, Glendale
Jodi Beckley Liggett, AZ Foundation for
Women
Councilmember Betty Lynch, Avondale
*JoEllen Lynn, American Express
Kendra Leiby for Arizona Coalition Against
Domestic Violence

Albert Crespo for Maria-Elena Ochoa,
Governor's Office
Stephanie Olohan for City of Goodyear
* Janice Parker, Save the Family Foundation
Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
Lynn Potts for John Pombier, City of Mesa
Kerry Ramella, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.
*Sandra Renteria, Phoenix Police Department
Tina Solomon, City of Phoenix Prosecutor's
Office
Kristen Scharlau for Judy Tapscott, City of
Tempe

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bobby, notMYkid
Nancy Barkley, MAG
Paul Denial, New Life Center
DeDe Gaisthea, MAG
Chris Groninger, Arizona Foundation for
Legal Services and Education
Laura Horsley, Eve's Place
Louise Johnson, Eve's Place
Kristen Kennedy, City of Glendale
Joyce Lopez-Powell, Valley of the Sun United
Way
Robert Roll, AZ Supreme Court
John Rowan, Goodyear Police Dept
Rose Rubio, Glendale Fire Dept
Wendy Shepherd, Childhelp
Lindsay Simmons, Arizona Coalition Against
Domestic Violence
Amy St. Peter, MAG
Rena Tenney, MAG
Shelley Vasquez, City of Goodyear
Terri Woodmansee, Goodyear Police Dept

+ Those attending by video/audio conference

* Those not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order

Chair Manross called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. She welcomed everyone and introductions ensued.

2. Call to the Audience

No comments were made at this time.

3. Approval of the August 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Chair Manross asked if there were any revisions to the August 16, 2007 meeting minutes. Councilmember Betty Lynch, Avondale, commented that agenda item eight had a misspelled name. Mr. Wires should be changed to the correct spelling of Mr. Jim Wieres. Kendra Leiby, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence, noted a change to \$300 million for the Governor's budget, not \$200 million.

Chair Manross called for a motion to approve the August 16, 2007 meeting minutes with revisions. Councilmember Betty Lynch, Avondale, made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Phil Lieberman, Glendale, seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Presentation on Arizona Supreme Court's Protective Order Repository

Chair Manross introduced Robert Roll, Arizona Supreme Court, who conducted a presentation on the efforts to streamline tracking of protective orders in the Court and Law Enforcement Protective Order Repositories. Mr. Roll began by giving an overview of the present system for tracking protective orders and the need to modify the current system. Mr. Roll stated that the project goals are to enhance the level of public safety granted to victims of domestic violence, and to develop statistical information on incidents of domestic violence processed through the courts. Project benefits include better protection for victims of domestic violence, more detailed information to law enforcement, and enhanced data quality. Mr. Roll added that this is a major step toward the integration of Arizona Criminal Justice information.

Mr. Roll explained that this new system will allow police officers in the field to be able to check whether a protective order has been issued and served. Chair Manross inquired about the timeframe for getting the information to the officers in the field. Mr. Roll stated that it is dependant on the timely input of data but that it can be within 24 hours. Chair Manross commented on time being of the essence. Mr. Roll added that timely data entry of the protective orders is crucial. The target date for implementation of this system is January 2008.

Chair Manross commented they have done a great job and she is really impressed by the streamlining that has taken place. Lynn Potts, City of Mesa, asked if police officers will know whether an order has been served. Kristen Scharlau, City of Tempe, inquired about the timeliness of the process and what happens if the information doesn't get to the police officer in time. Mr. Roll remarked that timely data entry is the key and police officers will be able to view when an order has been issued. Ms. Potts asked about orders in limbo and if police officers will know if they

have been served. Mr. Roll stated police officers will have the capability to see where, when, and if an order was transferred. Councilmember Brenda Holland, Goodyear, commented that it is vital to have real time updates available for police officers in the field so they can act quickly. Councilmember Holland asked if there were plans to address this and what the timeframe is for implementation. Mr. Roll reported plans for various entities to enter data twice a day to update the system with new protective orders by the end of 2008 or early in 2009.

JoAnn Del-Colle, Phoenix Family Advocacy Center, asked if the justice courts are involved and if police officers will know if a protective order was issued in another state. Mr. Roll stated that the courts are involved and police officers will have access to this information. Ms. Potts inquired about how many orders are accepted into the system. Mr. Roll stated that there has been an issue with getting some data into the system because date of birth is a required field on the form. All entities have agreed to enter a date as close as possible to the actual date of birth by a span of three years. Mr. Roll added that the system will also show if an order has been modified or quashed.

5. Presentation by a Domestic Violence Survivor

Chair Manross introduced Bobby, notMYKID, who shared how domestic violence touched his life and why he has decided to use his experience to reach out to others. Bobby shared with the committee an insight into his daily life as a child living in a home overcome with acts of domestic violence. As a young child, Bobby experienced horrendous acts of violence from his sister. Later, he suffered abuse not only from his sister but from his father too.

Bobby stated that each day he felt fear and anxiety at the mere thought of going home. As a teenager he didn't want to leave home but he knew he was endangering his life by staying. With the help of his friends, he found a safe place to live and rebuild his life. Bobby then obtained a job and finished his education.

Bobby now uses his experiences to reach out to others and to advocate for domestic violence victims. Bobby thanked the committee for all their hard work and stated he appreciates all they have done for victims of domestic violence. Chair Manross thanked Bobby for sharing his story with the committee.

6. Presentation on Delivering Culturally Appropriate Services

Chair Manross introduced Joyce Lopez-Powell, Valley of the Sun United Way, who provided an overview of a workshop series focusing on delivering culturally appropriate services. Ms. Lopez-Powell began by sharing information from VSUW's Community Impact Agenda. The agenda includes providing children, youth and adults with opportunities for quality learning and skill development, helping families and individuals achieve greater self-sufficiency by empowering them with skills and knowledge, and assisting people in crisis with vital basic services to help them get back on their feet.

Ms. Lopez-Powell stated the background for the Delivering Culturally Appropriate Services in Domestic Violence series began when funders asked VSUW to assess a situation with a local domestic violence shelter. A consultant was hired to provide direction. The consultant recommended providing a primary community service provider for monolingual Spanish clients, improve management practices at the shelter, and increase funding opportunities.

Ms. Lopez-Powell commented that some of the questions included what would happen if a shelter was to close, and where do persons from other cultures or who speak other languages seek and obtain services? VSUW used these questions to ask how they could help deliver culturally appropriate services. Partnerships were formed with the Arizona Department of Economic Security, Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Victim Services, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Valley of the Sun United Way. She added the community was surveyed for best practices.

Ms. Lopez-Powell stated that from the initial findings, VSUW designed a four-series program with 80-90 participants attending each series. Session I addressed why culturally appropriate services are important and provided an assessment of agency practices. The session defined cultural competency, discussed targeted marketing for the Hispanic community, and presented information about the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement programs. Ms. Lopez-Powell added the session included interactive activities with a cultural competency roundtable.

Ms. Lopez-Powell explained Session II was titled, “A Framework for Understanding Poverty”. This session explored whether poverty is perpetuated culturally or economically. Examples included discussion on the differing views of food and money by individuals in low, middle and high socio-economic status. Low socio-economic groups focus on taking care of each other by having large quantities of food and group ownership of money. Middle income groups are concerned with the food quality and take care of their own families before providing financial assistance to others. High socio-economic groups focus on food presentation and may contribute financially with instructions on how the money should be spent.

Ms. Lopez-Powell added Session III was titled, “Our Native American Neighbors: An-Ye-Awthum”. This session was lead and hosted by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. The session began with an opening prayer and blessing song. The session went into the history of the community located east of Scottsdale, explained their traditions and provided a traditional lunch. Participants also toured the Ho-Hoogam Ki Museum.

Ms. Lopez-Powell stated Session IV focused on “Putting it all Together”. This session included discussion on how to build a support network for providers and staff in the field. Ms. Lopez-Powell added that along with increasing physical capacity for women seeking shelter comes the need to ensure that their cultural needs are also met.

Women need to feel welcomed into shelter programs for them to stay and ensure the future well being and safety of their families.

Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center, asked if the series will be continued. Ms. Lopez-Powell commented that they hope to find another agency who will continue to offer the training. Chair Manross thanked Ms. Lopez-Powell for the overview of the VSUW workshop series.

7. Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month Press Conference

Chair Manross introduced Renae Tenney, MAG, who provided a report on the Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month Press Conference. Ms. Tenney stated nearly 200 teens and adults participated in the region's first Text-a-Thon on September 27, 2007 for the fourth annual MAG news conference. The event at Coronado High School included presentations by Mayor Mary Manross, Principal John Biera, DJ James Rivas from MEGA 104.3 and teen Leshay Relf.

Ms. Tenney reported the news conference was held to raise awareness of teen dating violence and announced the launch of the public service announcement competition. Teens participated in the event by text messaging their friends encouraging them to speak out and be heard, and visit the Web of Friends Web site. Ms. Tenney thanked Mayor Manross for her leadership in the conference, and the Governor's Office for their continued support of the Youth Empowerment Project.

Ms. Tenney stated the news conference received tremendous media coverage. The event was covered by TV channels 3, 10, 12, Telemundo and Univision, print media including La Voz, East Valley Tribune, and Arizona Republic, and KTAR and KFYY radio. The following day, Mayor Manross and Leshay Relf were interviewed on the Pat McMahon Show on AZTV.

Ms. Tenney thanked the event sponsors for donating raffle prizes. Contributions of tickets to events, food coupons and T-shirts were provided by MEGA 104.3. Verizon donated an orange EnV cell phone and \$75 gift card for activation charges. Waterbird Studios donated a pair of Phoenix Suns Tickets. MAG also provided mini digital voice recorders.

8. Update from the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women

Chair Manross introduced Albert Crespo, Governor's Office, who gave an update from the Governor's Office and the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women. Mr. Crespo noted the Commission is reorganizing. Discussions are underway on streamlining the process by moving to a subcommittee or ad hoc format. These changes would help to remedy recent problems with reaching quorum and maintaining open meeting laws. Mr. Crespo added Councilmember Peggy Bilsten, Chair of the Commission, has resigned. The reorganization of the Commission is an on-going process to necessary to maintaining the quality of outcomes achieved by the Commission.

9. Stakeholder Groups Updates

Human Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC) Youth Policy Stakeholder Group

Renaë Tenney, MAG, provided an update on the Youth Empowerment Project's Public Service Announcement Competition. Radio personality James Rivas, the "Manic Hispanic", of MEGA 104.3 launched the PSA competition at the Youth Empowerment News Conference at Coronado High School on Sept. 27, 2007. The video created from last year's competition was also shown to more than 200 teens at the event.

Ms. Tenney reported that efforts have been underway to develop partnerships with youth organizations to promote the PSA competition. The competition was highlighted on a segment of Chandler in Focus on Chandler's Cable Channel 11. Ms. Tenney thanked Councilmember Donovan for the invitation. Mesa Public Schools Educational TV will tape a segment of Counselor's Corner focusing on teen dating violence and promoting the competition. Contacts have also been made with the Phoenix Police Department's Wake Up! Program, Coronado High School, Sun-Diamondbacks Education Academy, Aguila Youth Leadership Institute, and AZ Call-A-Teen. Ms. Tenney added she is scheduled to speak at the City of Avondale's Teen Summit and is trying to connect with organizers of the City of Phoenix Teen Conference. Information about the competition was also included in a recent presentation to the AZ Supreme Court's Committee on the Impact of Domestic Violence and the Courts.

Ms. Tenney stated approval has been received internally to advertise the Youth Empowerment Project on MySpace. Plans are under development to create a Group Home Page on MySpace that would act as a billboard advertising the Web of Friends and providing a link to the Web site.

Ms. Tenney reported that materials for the PSA competition are now available, in English and Spanish, on the Web of Friends Web site. Committee members were encouraged to contact Ms. Tenney if any problems are encountered while trying to download these materials, or with suggestions for further promotion of the competition.

10. Announcements

Councilmember Holland, announced that Avondale and Buckeye will be holding a Casino Night at the Wigwam on November 3, 2007. She invited everyone to attend.

Jodi Beckley Liggett, AZ Foundation for Women, introduced Abigail Avila. Ms. Avila is an AmeriCorp volunteer who will be working with EADV. She has experience working with KAET. She will be developing online and video training materials.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m. The next MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Flinn Foundation, 1802 N. Central Ave.