

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

MEMBERS ATTENDING

President Diane Enos, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Chair
Lt. Robert Bates, Phoenix Police Dept.
Kristen Scharlau for Kathy Berzins, City of Tempe
Tony Vidale for John A. Blackburn, Jr., AZ Criminal Justice Commission
Allie Bones, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence
*Grace Carrillo, Neighborhood and Family Services Commission
*Chris Christy, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Suzanne Cohen, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
*Councilmember William Conner, City of El Mirage
JoAnn Del-Colle, Phoenix Family Advocacy Center
Will Gonzalez, City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office
Laura Guild, Arizona Dept. of Economic Security
*Cindy Hallman, Marley House
+Linda Melendez for Dan Hughes, City of Surprise
*Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, City of Phoenix Police Dept., Vice Chair
Karla Houston for Lynette Jelinek, Glendale Fire Dept.
Alice Ghareib for Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging
*Patricia Klahr, Chrysalis Shelter Inc.
Councilmember Phil Lieberman, City of Glendale

*Jodi Beckley Liggett, Arizona Foundation for Women
Jeremy Arp for Maria-Elena Ochoa, Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families
Dottie O'Connell, Chicanos Por la Causa
*Stephanie Olohan, City of Goodyear
Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
Lynn Potts for John Pombier, City of Mesa
Kerry Ramella, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.
Sarah Youngblood, Community Legal Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Robert Armijo, Community Information & Referral
David Barnhouse, Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families
Mike Bell, St. Vincent de Paul
John Blackburn, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
Robert Duvall, Community Information & Referral
Jon Eliason, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Kristen Krey, City of Glendale
+Nancy Marion, House of Refuge
Linda Scott, JFCS
Gary Zeck, UMOM
Yvonne Taylor, Catholic Charities

+ Those attending by video/audio conference

* Those not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order

President Diane Enos, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Introductions ensued.

2. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the audience to address the Council on non-agenda items that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on agenda items for discussion but not for action.

Jon Eliason, Maricopa County Attorney's Office (MCAO), addressed the Council regarding comments made during the August 24, 2009, meeting indicating MCAO had violated a victim's rights in a recent domestic violence case. Mr. Eliason informed the Committee he reviewed the case and found no violations were made. Mr. Eliason stated he and MCAO take each case seriously and as such, he wished to clarify comments made and report back to the Council. He shared the outcome of the case and added MCAO did speak with the victim before a plea bargain was offered.

3. Approval of the June 4, 2009, Meeting Minutes

Chair Enos called for approval of the August 24, 2009, Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting minutes. Councilman Phil Lieberman, City of Glendale, motioned to approve the minutes. Kerry Ramella, Phoenix Fire Department, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Next Steps for Legal Assistance Study

Chair Enos introduced Renae Tenney to lead a discussion on next steps for implementing findings of the Legal Assistance Study. Ms. Tenney said the findings of the Legal Assistance Study were approved by the Council on August 24, 2009. Since that time, Ms. Tenney met with Allie Bones, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence (AzCADV), to discuss collaborating to address areas of need brought forward by the study. She said the AzCADV already has a legal committee in place. Ms. Tenney proposed working with AzCADV to coordinate efforts such as creating a resource guide for legal representation and a manual for organizing free legal clinics. Ms. Tenney asked for other suggestions from the Committee. No further suggestions were made. Chair Enos asked for a motion to approve the next step of partnering with AzCADV for the purpose of developing a resource guide and a manual for organizing free legal clinics. Ms. Bones motioned to approve the next step as presented. Alice Ghareib, Area Agency on Aging, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence

Chair Enos asked Ms. Tenney to lead a discussion on strategies for developing the next Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence.

Ms. Tenney said development of the next 10-year plan was approved by the Regional Council and included in the MAG FY2010 Unified Planning Work Program. The goal is to launch the next 10-year plan at the September 29, 2009, MAG Domestic Violence

News Conference. Ms. Tenney discussed using Appreciative Inquiry (AI) as one tool for gathering data and engaging the community. She said the AI approach has proven to be a successful tool and was recently used in development of the Regional Plan to End Homelessness. Chair Enos requested more information about the use of AI during the development of the homeless plan.

Ms. St. Peter said the Regional Plan to End Homelessness was completed and approved by the MAG Regional Council in February 2009. The plan, which focuses on five basic areas including community leadership and support, permanent housing, and prevention, identified 30 different action steps. It was first launched with an AI summit looking at strengths and successes and how those things could be applied to other areas. Ms. St. Peter said 80 interviews were conducted with homeless individuals, former homeless individuals, and people working in the field. She said these efforts gathered data, showed the strengths and resources, and energized the community. Ms. St. Peter said there were 80 people in attendance at the first workshop; however 100 people attended the implementation workshop – a testament to the energy created through AI. She said the plan is now in the implementation phase, with some of the action steps already having been completed. Ms. St. Peter said AI is a great way to energize the community, to move forward, and to build partnerships. Chair Enos summarized the AI process used for the Regional Plan to End Homelessness will serve as a template for the Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence. She asked for other suggestions from the Committee.

Ms. Bones cautioned the Council on undergoing another process that would spend time trying to identify the issues. She said a lot of research has been done and the issues are known. She suggested AI can be helpful in identifying what works in terms of understanding how the system needs to move forward as a whole. Ms. St. Peter agreed stating the Domestic Violence News Conference will highlight accomplishments over the last 10 years, as well as what additional work needs to be done and how to move forward in those areas.

Chair Enos asked how the community will be engaged to help develop the plan. Ms. Tenney said using AI, interviews will be scheduled with a broad base of people from the community including law enforcement, medical professionals, and those working in the domestic violence prevention community. Ms. Guild asked if planning groups will be developed to work toward the plan. Ms. Tenney confirmed. She stated the first planning meeting will be held on October 1, 2009, replacing the regular Domestic Violence Council meeting for that month. Chair Enos asked for a motion to approve the use of AI interviews as one strategy for developing the next Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence. Ms. Bones made a motion to approve. Laura Guild, Arizona Department of Economic Security, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

6. Request for Future Agenda Items

The Committee was given an opportunity to identify topics or issues of interest for consideration at future Regional Domestic Violence Council meetings.

- Chair Enos asked for clarification on whether the plan will include gay, cross-gender populations and non-English speaking individuals. Ms. Tenney confirmed.
- Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center, asked that topics suggested at the August 24, 2009, meeting be added to the agenda for future discussion.
- Ms. Bones recommended a presentation on Friends of O'Connor House, the Avon Foundation Grant Planning Committee. She said this is a domestic violence project headed by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor in which the Coalition and others are involved.
- Chair Enos recommended future discussion on illegal immigrants and domestic violence as they relate to fear of law enforcement.
- Ms. Phillips asked for a presentation from local police departments regarding domestic violence statistics. She inquired whether or not this information is still gathered by the Governor's Office. Lt. Robbie Bates, Phoenix Police Department, volunteered to provide information. Jeremy Arp, Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families, advised statistics related to calls for service are no longer maintained. He said the survey changed in 2004 and only captures police reports generated for certain statutes. Ms. Phillips asked if information gathered by the Governor's Office can be shared with the Council. She suggested that the Council consider working on data collection of domestic violence information, including why certain statistics are no longer being collected.
- Ms. Bones noted two separate reports in the Arizona Republic noting an increase in domestic violence related calls in Mesa and Scottsdale. She clarified the Mesa article erroneously reported the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence had stated the increase was due to the economy. Ms. Tenney suggested asking the Mesa and Scottsdale Police Departments to present statistics at a future meeting.
- Kerry Ramella, Phoenix Fire Department, asked for an update on the Domestic Violence News Conference. Ms. Tenney reported Sojourner Center will host the news conference on September 29, 2009. The celebration will include recognition of all shelters assisting in efforts to end domestic violence.
- Ms. Guild asked if the Council would be voting on topics suggested for future meetings. Ms. Tenney clarified an opportunity for future agenda items will now be offered during every meeting. Chair Enos requested staff work on adding the topics recommended to future agendas and report back to the Council if any difficulties are encountered.

7. Comments from the Council

An opportunity was provided to Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. There were no comments from the Committee. Ms. Tenney invited everyone to stay for the Joint Regional Domestic Violence Council and Continuum of

Care Regional Committee on Homelessness meeting following the Domestic Violence Council meeting.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m. The next MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the Saguaro Room at the MAG offices.