

DHS Domestic Violence Council

Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2004

Members Present: Carol Krager, Ruth Scofield, Jenene Hinson, Jayne Downing, Jennifer Holland, LeAnn Mederios, Donalda Dodson, Kym Lamb, Susan Hughes, Stephanie Merhib, Maggie Jordan, Pam Haan for Julia Olsen, Mary Oschwald, Theresa Gueirero

Assignments: 1) Carol will ask Ramona for feedback on the DV standards; 2) Look at Gary's five goals. Distribute to members before the next meeting; 3) Donalda will follow-up with Debbie Cargneigh/Una Swanson regarding DV policy awareness for CW case managers; 4) Structures Committee will track attendance of members and do what is necessary to remove a person if necessary; 5) Carol will develop strategies why Council needs to meet each month and schedule with Barry for approval; 6) Jennifer will give a one-hour presentation on 40 Assets at the next meeting.

Ice-Breaker: (Ardy)

Explain the history behind your name.

How Communication Happens

How do the various groups connect and communicate? Defer to Communication Subcommittee.

Field Recommendations (handout/matrix)

Handout is a synopsis of field communication structure regarding DV issues. Carol reviewed the matrix with the group. In SDA-8, Ardy explained their delivery area is working toward monthly DV meetings in each branch and they are working towards specialized DV case managers in each branch. (Each SS SDA office has a DV plan) Ardy believes it is beneficial to have a DV point person in each branch)

Subcommittee Breakouts to Finish Updating Action Plans

Subcommittees were given 30 minutes to complete updating their action plans.

DHS Abuse Prevention Group (Carol)

This group is to identify various abuses and our (Department's) response to different forms of abuse. Carol will report more on this at a future meeting.

Update on Governor's Domestic Violence Council (Minutes distributed)

Updated membership list distributed. DHS did not fare well during the public hearing in Klamath Falls. DHS field responded quickly to the issues. Dialog and training will continue. Next Governor's Council meeting is scheduled in July for Baker City. Council is developing strategic plans for next year. Carol will share these with the group when they are finalized.

Status of the DV Standards (Barry)

Barry shared with us the feedback from DHS Cabinet regarding the DV standards we submitted to them for their approval. Their concern with the standards were: (1) perception of creating liability that the department can't support. (Less mandatory—guidelines instead?) (2) Integration of standards with other DHS programs. (3) Department deals with risks—introduce language that recognizes applicability of approach in other areas noting the cross-cutting nature of DV. (4) Cultural competence that DV may be perceived differently in various populations. We believe that safety trumps all issues. (5) Interest: Violence and relationship between caregiver and client in various disciplines. (6) Measures are soft measures—need to be more quantifiable. (7) Cost of implementation. **Barry proposes** that adjustments be made and bring back to Barry who will take back to the cabinet. Donalda recommends we keep principles and develop implementation plan (incremental steps) that would address the concerns.

To who or what do these standards apply? Two issues: Resources/people to do the work. **Suggestion:** (Talk to Ramona to get more input on how to get this document to be acceptable) Gary needs to feel comfortable with this—it will be good to have him at our August meeting. Ask Gary what are his expectations for this council? Are there any standards that have been adopted that we could imitate? Should we mention statutory requirements? “Even in times of budget constraint, these values need to be elevated to the highest priorities for the department”—it is something that has to be done no matter what—it is our responsibility (changes in language) Barry wants to attend next month along with Gary. Barry would like to take several council members with him the next time he presents the standards to the cabinet.

Debrief: Carol will ask Ramona for feedback on this. Do we want to stand pat on standards or go to guidelines? Members wanted to stay with standards. Give reasons for wanting to keep as standards. How do we address accountability if we don't have a clear path to be accountable for? **Assignment:** “Look at Gary's five goals.” Distribute to members before the next meeting. We already get free training from DV providers. This is a community response. Identify what is already being done—give more concrete guidance to managers that this is what puts it together.

Team Decision Meeting Training Report-Out (Carol)

Reinforced that we have work to do across the department regarding how we work with victims. (Susan Kelley, Michigan, was the presenter for this training. One of the insights was that CW case managers need better awareness of their own policies/exceptions around DV. Could we ask Bonnie what steps are being taken to resolve this issue? Follow-up? Cc: Debbie Cargneigh/Una Swanson **Assignment:** (Donalda agreed to do this)

Committee Reports

- T** *Communication Subcommittee* - Migrating all DHS web page information to the DAS website. Includes DV information. Need to follow up on what information we want migrated to DAS.
 - T** *Policy Subcommittee* - Work on information to give to Gary.
 - T** *Practice Subcommittee* - Goals on what the steps are.
 - T** *Enhancement Subcommittee* - Only 8 surveys came back. Most are feeling like we are moving along but moving very slowly. Most people that responded think we should meet every month. Is anyone here opposed to meeting once a month? All felt that we will meet once a month. We will meet 10 times a year, excluding December of this year, if we can meet once a month. If we can't change this meeting to once a month, we will still need to meet in December. Should the Council make a decision on removing someone or should a subcommittee? **Assignment:** Structures Committee will track attendance of members and do what is necessary to remove a person if necessary.
- T** **Agenda Item:** Jennifer will do a 1 hour presentation on 40 Assets at the next meeting.

Presentation: MVWCS (Kate Sorem)

Discussed the services provided by MVWCS. Some of these services are 24/7 hotline, a shelter, support groups, security deposit program, transitional housing, 911 cell phone, and a nice website. The shelter is not limited to a time frame for the client. As long as safety is an issue, the women and children can stay. The shelter will also never turn away anyone, even if all the beds are full.

DV Awareness Month

How does the council want to be involved with this? The Communications Committee has taken the lead on this and will come up with some ideas on how to approach DV awareness month. One suggestion is to have pledges to help raise awareness. Another suggestion is to create a quiz for people to take to find out how much they really know about DV. **Agenda:** At the next meeting, we should take about a half an hour to brain storm about ideas for DV awareness month. All members are encouraged to e-mail Susan with ideas. Jayne will talk to her web master to try to get the quiz on their web site.

Questions to ask Gary Weeks

What do we want to ask Gary?

- T** What is his vision for the DV Council?
- T** What are his expectations for us in working with the DV Governors Council?
- T** How do we get the values and principals of the standards to move forward?
- T** Are their political barriers?
- T** Is their any other support we can give you and how would you like us to communicate with you?

Announcements

- T** Carol received a card from a circuit judge by the name of Maureen. A client had written that she had received TADVS and how it changed her life for the better.
- T** The annual conference is coming the first week of August. Theresa has information about this conference, so you can e-mail her with any questions.

Next Meeting

Ice Breaker: Home and Garden Tour at Jayne's

Food: Snacks and lunch provided by Jayne

Agenda Items

Education Piece-Jennifer 40 Assets

Addressing negativity

Jayne to talk to her web master

DV Awareness Month

Gary Weeks (Barry wants to be present for this part)