

**Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse
July 13, 2022**

Present: Susan Sippel, Susan Perry, Tammie Xiong, Milly Gonzales, Senator Melissa Agard's office – Aaron Collins, Senator Andre Jacque, Alena Taylor, Nela Kalpic, Rosalind McClain, Virginia Gittens Escudero, Dr. Abdul Shour, Representative Sue Conley

Excused: Melissa Baldauff

Guests: Jenna Gormal (End Domestic Abuse WI), Marianne Rosen (DCF), Amber Peterson (Wisconsin Courts), Maria Konecke (Conley's Office), Courtney Olson (Rainbow House), Lucy Johnson (Rainbow House), Tegan Swanson (End Abuse), Dr. Neil Websdale (presenter)

Staff: Stacey Cicero, DCF

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Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Sue Sippel, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. This meeting was conducted virtually due to coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions. The minutes of the April 2022 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Gonzales to accept the April minutes, second by Perry. All aye.

Discussion of moving the Council meeting to in person or a combination of virtual/in person for October. The 2022 Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Domestic Abuse Issues will take place in person immediately after the Council meeting. Sippel explained the different categories and encouraged Council members to make a nomination for the award.

Presentation by Dr. Neil Websdale; Fatality Review Initiative.

Dr. Neil Websdale works out of Arizona State University, Family Violence Center. Discussion of how to start a Fatality Review Team; who to include, purpose, outcome, interview process and funding. Courtney Olson from Rainbow House will continue to facilitate this discussion at the committee level. More information can be obtained at www.ndvfri.org.

Review/Discussion of Constituent Comments:

In February 2022, an email was forwarded to Governor's Council staff from a constituent. Staff spoke with the constituent about their concerns and presented these concerns to the Council. The constituent attended the April Council meeting and voiced their concerns. Council staff was directed to draft a response letter to the constituent. Council Co-Chairs will review and sign the letter. Motion by Sippel, second by Taylor to have staff draft the letter. All aye.

Committee Reports

Access Committee:

Melissa Baldauff, Co-Chair (report given by Sue Perry)

The Access Committee is working on a review and update of a statewide list of culturally specific organizations. The list will be sent to DV programs and included in the Anti-Oppression manual. The committee has begun reviewing the Anti-Oppression Manual. It will be reviewed in pieces. The manual will be restructured to make it more user friendly and interactive.

Budget Committee:

Sue Sippel, Co-Chair

The Long Range Plan is still in process and should be done August 1. This five year plan will include sexual assault and the need for increased funding for programming. Programs are at a critical juncture with the DCF Basic Services grant going away and the process becoming competitive with the new Statewide Funding for DV Programs. The committee is also working on updating the Fair Minimum and a companion piece to address the "why" the fair minimum is needed. The goal is to have this completed in 2024.

Legislative and Policy Committee:

Alena Taylor, Co-Chair

This Legislative and Policy committee is forming three subcommittees to address: Batterer's Treatment Standards review and updates; Fatality Review Commission initiative; and children who witness abuse. The committee is looking for others to join the subcommittees. Council members are welcome to join.

Legislative Update

Jenna Gormal from End Abuse provided a legislative update. No major updates, quiet period of the session.

DCF Domestic Abuse Grant Program Update

Kaitlin Tolliver has left her position with DCF and moved to a new role with DSP. The position will be posted soon with a potential fill date of October. The job description has been updated and will now be 100% domestic violence. The new RFP for statewide domestic violence program funding was released with a due date of July 20, 2022. The review process will take place in August with award notices going out in the Fall. There is representation from the Council on the review committees.

Open Forum for Council Members

None

Public Comments

Jenna Gormal (End Abuse): discussion related to guardian ad litem requirements and training. Guardian ad litem needs to be an attorney in WI, but not in other states. This has been a topic of conversation among other agencies.

Concluding Remarks

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.