

Governor's Family Violence Council
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
100 Community Place, 1st Floor
Crownsville, MD 21032
Wednesday, October 11, 2017
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Jeanne Yeager, Chair
Lillian Agbeyegbe
Captain Holly Barrett for Colonel William M. Palozzi
Michael D. Cohen
Kara Contino for Senator Bryan Simonaire
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Sam Abed
Debbie Feinstein, Esq.
V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Lisae Jordan, Esq. for Delegate Kriselda Valderrama
Dorothy Lennig, Esq.
Michael Lore for Senator Susan Lee
John McGinnis for Superintendent Karen B. Salmon
V. Renee McKee for Secretary Lourdes Padilla
Lisa Nitsch
Kathleen O'Brien
Manuel Ruiz
David Shultie
Carrie Williams for Attorney General Brian E. Frosh
Delegate Brett Wilson
David Wolinski for Secretary Stephen Moyer
S. Lee Woods for Secretary Dennis Schrader

Guests:

Lorenzo Bellamy, The Bellamy Genn Group, LLC
LaTisha Carter, My Covenant Place
Nakita Long, TurnAround, Inc.

Staff:

Rebecca Allyn, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Lashonde Beasley, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Ellen Blonder, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Kimberly Herndon, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Erica Hiner, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Don Hogan, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Quentin Jones, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Tamara McDonald, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Justice Schisler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Jessica Wheeler, Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome, Introductions, and GOCCP Updates

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Mr. Fueston informed the Council that Rebecca Allyn will now be staffing the Family Violence Council in addition to the Maryland State Board of Victim Services.

Mr. Fueston informed Board members of three specialized Notices of Funding Availabilities (NOFAs) that the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (Office) recently announced through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) federal grant, highlighting three priority areas: Child Advocacy Center Accreditation and/or Adverse Childhood Experiences, Law Enforcement-Based Victim Advocates, Elder Abuse, and Victims with Disabilities. These priority areas were identified through the 2016 Statewide Victims Needs Assessment and the Office's ongoing strategic planning.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the July 12, 2017 meeting were provided to members and guests. David Shultie made a motion to approve the minutes; Dorothy Lennig seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Membership Updates

Ms. Allyn announced that Neshanna Turner has been appointed to the Council. Also, Manuel Ruiz was re-appointed to a second term. There are currently no vacancies on the Council.

IV. Legislative Updates

Mr. Hogan informed Board members of the roundtable discussions that took place as part of the development of the Justice Reinvestment Act in 2016, specifically in regards to restitution.

Mr. Hogan provided an overview of House/Senate Bill Criminal Procedure - Victim Services Unit - Victims' Compensation that will be reintroduced during the next legislative session to: (1) bring the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board under the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention; (2) move the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Program to make it part of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, thereby allowing the SAFE program to bring an additional \$860,000 through the federal VOCA fund for victim services; and (3) establish a new unit that will focus on restitution collection. Mr. Hogan informed members that while the

new unit would focus on coordinating and improving the collection of restitution, that the actual collection would remain with the existing entities. The new unit will be housed in Crownsville with a new satellite office opening in the Mitchell Courthouse in Baltimore City to serve walk in clients in the City, who represent over one-half of all claimants. Mr. Hogan stated that the support of the Board members would be important and said he would coordinate with the Board on how the members could help.

Mr. Scott Beard shared with Board members a new law requiring 25% of an incarcerated individual's wage earning income to apply to restitution immediately, regardless of the specific language in the individual's restitution order.

Ms. Lennig provided information on three bills that the House of Ruth is supporting during the legislative session.

- **Pretrial Violation Crime** – This bill would make a violation of a pretrial no contact order a crime. Under current law, if a defendant violates a condition of pre-trial release, the remedy is for the state's attorney to file to revoke the release conditions. By making violation of release conditions a separate crime, it would enable law enforcement to arrest a defendant for violating his/her conditions of release, including to have no contact with the victim. As the criminal justice system implements bail reform, more and more defendants are receiving pretrial release with conditions to have no contact with the victim. This change would add an important means of protection for victims of domestic violence and other crime victims.
- **Expansion of Permanent Protective Order** – Under the current law, in order to be eligible for a permanent protective order the respondent must be convicted and served a term of imprisonment of at least 5 years, the crime must be one of a list of enumerated crimes, and the respondent must serve at least 12 months of the sentence. In addition, the current statute requires that the crime must be the act of abuse that led to the issuance of the final protective order. This bill would expand the current permanent protective order statute to include any crime, not just one of the enumerated crimes and apply even if the crime was not the act of abuse that led to the issuing of the final protective order.
- **Expansion of the Address Confidentiality Program to Allow Victim to Purchase a Home** – In 2016, the General Assembly passed a bill creating a Task Force to study and make recommendations about how to protect the identity and address of a participant in the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) when recording a deed transferring real property to an ACP participant. This bill would amend the ACP statute and create a system for recording deeds and protecting the confidentiality of an ACP's participant's address.

V. Domestic Violence Central Repository

The Office certifies victim service providers to have online access to records of shielded peace and protective orders through the Domestic Violence Central Repository (DVCR). Ms. Lennig explained that effective August 1, 2017, changes to Rule 16-907 took effect, altering the process through which temporary protective orders are unsealed. The revised version of Rule 16-907(c)

now provides that domestic violence case records are to be sealed until the earlier of service or denial of the petition. The sealing is automatically lifted once service or denial is entered. Domestic violence cases may not show up in the DVCR as early as they have in the past.

Mr. Fueston asked if law enforcement were having trouble with delayed access as well. Captain Barrett will look into this issue and see if law enforcement are being affected.

Ms. Lennig and Ms. Yeager explained that this delay in access is a concern for victim service providers in order to provide efficient services for victims. After gathering the information regarding law enforcement, the next step is to send a letter to the Administrative Office of the Courts explaining the issue and the need for access for domestic violence providers.

VI. Abuse Intervention Programs

Ms. Allyn announced that Project Chesapeake is a newly certified abuse intervention program. There are currently 30 certified Abuse Intervention Programs in Maryland.

Ms. Allyn informed members that audits may be conducted at any time during the three year certification period to ensure that programs are in compliance with the guidelines set forth by the Governor's Family Violence Council. Ms. Allyn invited Council members to join her on these audits. If anyone is interested in participating on an abuse intervention program audit, please contact Ms. Allyn.

Members asked if there will be a training for those going to audit the programs. Ms. Allyn will provide an orientation for Council members prior to completing abuse intervention program audits.

VII. Workgroup Updates

a. Healthy Teen Dating

Debbie Feinstein, Chair of the Healthy Teen Dating Workgroup, reflected on the progress and discussed the continuation of the workgroup. Ms. Feinstein informed members of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) Regional Health Educator meeting in September that she, Ms. Allyn, and Mr. McGinnis attended and presented on the workgroup. This meeting was important for the workgroup to increase visibility and strengthen contacts with MSDE and the local health educators. Many of the health educators at the meeting were interested in the resource guide the workgroup is putting together.

The plan for the resource guide is to incorporate programs and curriculum on healthy teen dating and local victim service provider resources. The goal is to have a draft of the resource guide completed in January 2018 to provide to schools at the end of the 2018 school year. The hope is to have the resource guide as a living document on the MSDE website.

Ms. Cohen informed the workgroup and the Council that the TJX Foundation has donated \$20,000 to the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) to develop a project focusing on preventing domestic violence and assisting victims and their families. MNADV submitted a proposal to the TJX Foundation to work with the Healthy Teen Dating Workgroup to pilot prevention efforts in schools. Ms. Feinstein is excited to work with MNDV and the workgroup on these prevention efforts.

b. Strategic Planning

Ms. Yeager updated the Council on the progress of the Strategic Planning Workgroup. Since the last meeting, the workgroup has begun working on applying the logic model process and three goals for victims to state's attorney's and victim assistants within state's attorney's offices, and law enforcement. Members are currently working with their local state's attorney's offices and law enforcement to gather outcomes and feedback for these specific entities as they apply to the three goals for victims. The goal is to have these disciplines logic models completed by the next Council meeting in January.

Leslye Orloff of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project at American University provided the workgroup with outcomes specific to immigrant and non-English speaking victims. Ms. Orloff's feedback will be applied to the logic model for the workgroup members to review.

c. Fingerprinting Procedure

Ms. Lennig informed the Council that there are other committees focusing on the fingerprinting issue. At this time, the Council will not move forward with this workgroup but will monitor the progress of the committees to ensure the issue is being followed up on. Ms. Lennig will keep the Office and the Council apprised of any changes or if assistance is needed to resolve this issue.

VIII. Old/New Business

Ms. Allyn provided members with the schedule of Council meetings for 2018.

Ms. Jordan informed Council members that the drink coasters provided at the last meeting, designed to test for the presence of date rape drugs in beverages, does not work on certain drinks that contain fruit juice, brown liquors or drinks containing cream. Members are reminded that these drink coasters were part of a pilot program and there are disclaimers on the back of the coasters explaining the types of drinks that may render a false positive. Based on the disclaimers and Ms. Jordan's feedback, the Office will not be purchasing additional coasters or recommending to other agencies.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Main Conference Room, 1st Floor - Side B

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032