

**Governor's Family Violence Council**  
**Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention**  
**Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention**  
**100 Community Place, 1st Floor, Conference Room, Side B**  
**Crownsville, MD 21032**  
**Wednesday, January 9, 2019**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Participating Members:**

Jeanne Yeager, Chair  
Dorothy Lennig, Esq., Vice-Chair  
Lillian Agbeyegbe  
Barbara Darley for V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.  
Debbie Feinstein, Esq.  
Lisae Jordan, Esq. for Delegate Kriselda Valderrama  
Michael Lore for Senator Susan Lee  
V. Renee McKee for Secretary Lourdes Padilla  
Manuel Ruiz  
David Shultie  
Toni St. John for Laure Ruth, Esq.  
Neshanna Turner  
Carrie Williams for Attorney General Brian E. Frosh  
David Wolinski for Secretary Stephen Moyer

**Guests:**

Stuart Campbell, Department of Housing and Community Development  
Jessica Staskal, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

**Staff:**

Rebecca Allyn, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention  
Heather Amador, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention  
Kelly Gorman, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention  
Sabraya Knight, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:08 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**II. GOCCP Updates**

Ms. Darley, Deputy Director of the Victim Services Unit at the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (the Office), introduced herself to the Council and provided a brief background of her work experience and her vision for the Victim Services Unit within the Office. Two priorities of the Victim Services Unit are to address gaps in services and focus on victims of elder abuse. Ms. Darley also informed members of the merger between the Office and

the Governor's Office for Children and introduced members to Heather Amador, Program and Policy Administrator of Victim Services at the Office.

Ms. Allyn provided members with a list of grant opportunities that are currently accepting applications, such as Legal Services for Crime Victims Fund and Maryland Victims of Crime Fund. These opportunities can be found at <http://goccp.maryland.gov/grants/>.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the October 18, 2018 meeting were provided to members and guests. Mr. Shultie made a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Yeager seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

### **IV. Membership Updates**

Ms. Allyn informed members that Ms. Ruth has been appointed to the Governor's Family Violence Council as an interest member.

### **V. DHCD Homeless Data System**

During past Council meetings, members discussed a data system through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for domestic violence providers who receive homelessness funding. Members were concerned that the data system would not be compliant with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) due to the confidentiality of client information. Mr. Campbell was invited to the meeting to discuss this data system.

Mr. Campbell informed members that through the Homelessness Solutions Program (HSP), DHCD provides federal and state funding to the 16 local Continuums of Care (CoCs) to support shelters and homeless services. Service providers are eligible to receive sub-grants from the CoC to support their shelter and homeless services programs. Several comprehensive domestic violence providers are sub-grantees of the HSP. DHCD uses a data warehouse that compiles all of the data reported by grantees, which is pulled from a system required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). There is currently a data system, Homeless Management Information System (HIMS), from HUD that pulls data that already exists. 14 of the 16 CoCs use the same vendor for this data system and DHCD is working with them to create a separate module for domestic violence providers, which they believe is VAWA compliant. The data will be directly reported to HUD. The system will not be collecting confidential information but aggregate numbers. It is the same information that HUD requires. The Council recommended DHCD speak with the Department of Justice to ensure that the data warehouse is VAWA compliant.

### **VI. Presentation on Stalking**

Jessica Staskal with the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV), provided members with a presentation on the intersection of domestic violence and stalking in Maryland. Ms. Staskal discussed the risk and lethality of stalking within the criminal justice system. Ms. Staskal stated that Maryland is not utilizing the current stalking statutes because of the components that are required and police don't know how to identify it. Ms. Staskal also highlighted the New York City CAPS Model. The CAPS, Coordinated Approach to Preventing Stalking, Model is a training program for the New York City Police Department and other

agencies including Assistant District Attorneys and judicial employees. The New York City CAPS model launched in Staten Island of June 2014 and expanded to Queens in July 2015-April 2016. During the first year, the CAPS program showed a significant increase in the number of misdemeanor stalking offenses identified by NYPD officers.

## **VII. Workgroup Updates**

### *a. Healthy Teen Dating*

Ms. Feinstein informed members that the Healthy Teen Dating workgroup has come to an end after holding their final meeting on January 9, 2019. The infographics were disseminated to about 900 stakeholders within varying sectors of the state including, public and private education, religious organizations, youth organizations, summer camps, social work, and others. The workgroup recommends continuing to share the resource guide and the infographics within the community. The infographics will be posted on the GOCCP website. Ms. Feinstein encouraged members to continue to share the infographics and the resource guide and asked members to post them on their agency website and social media. The workgroup recommends keeping healthy teen dating education and awareness a priority of the Family Violence Council and recommends to follow up annually with stakeholders.

### *b. Fingerprinting in Domestic Violence Cases*

Ms. Lennig informed members that the workgroup held its second meeting on November 28, 2018. The workgroup reviewed the Virginia State Commission Report on the Fingerprinting of Defendants. The Report summarized fingerprinting data of defendants in Virginia, provided thirteen recommendations and two policy decision options. The workgroup is currently working on how to gather data to get understand of how big the issue is. The workgroup plans to move forward with a data request to the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and the courts.

### *c. Abuse Intervention Program (AIP) Certification Review Process*

Ms. Agbeyegbe informed members that the workgroup held their second meeting on December 18, 2018. The workgroup adjusted the score for each section on the AIP Certification Review Form. The workgroup plans to meet again in February to look at each section individually and determine the minimum threshold for each section in order for AIPs to obtain certification.

Ms. Allyn presented members will three additions to the *Operational Guidelines for Abuse Interventions Programs in Maryland* that the workgroup identified. The first addition is in section 3.1 *Victim Confidentiality* which is to include vulnerable adult and elder abuse reporting. The second addition is in section 3.2 *Intake Process*, including that the AIP must have written policies about filing a grievance. The final addition is in section 3.4 *Program Formant*, to include that AIP group members must be given the opportunity to provide participant feedback. Ms. Yeager made a motion to approve the additions; Ms. Feinstein seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the additions to the *Operational Guidelines for Abuse Intervention Programs in Maryland* were approved. Ms. Allyn provided members with the 2019 AIP Site Visit Schedule and asked members to volunteer to assist with conducting the site visits.

## **VIII. Legislative Updates**

Ms. Lennig provided members with several legislative updates pertaining to victims of crime.

### *1. Protective Orders - Relief Eligibility - Rape and Sexual Offenses*

This bill changes the definition of “person eligible for relief” in a protective order (PO) to include anyone who alleges s/he is a victim of a rape or sexual offense, clarifying that they are eligible to receive a protective order rather than a peace order.

For many years, domestic violence and sexual assault advocates have worked to have the PO cover victims who were in dating relationships and victims of sexual assault. One of their first attempts to add this resulted in the creation of the peace order. While the PO covered these acts, many victims were not eligible for a PO because of their relationship to the abuser. In 2015, the law changed to include victims of sexual relationships. Since then there have been a number of judges who believe date rape victims do not qualify for a PO because the parties were not in a “relationship.” By clarifying that this group of victims is eligible for a PO, it provides them with the special protections of a protective order that are not included in peace orders, e.g. longer order, removal of firearms, more robust response by law enforcement. Ms. Lennig will provide members with the draft copy of this bill to review and asks that the Council consider supporting this bill.

### *2. SB 130 – Criminal Procedure – Charge by Citation – Violation of Condition of Release*

Last year the Council supported a bill to allow the arrest of a defendant who violates a pretrial order to have no contact with the victim. Unfortunately, there was not a change with the corresponding section of Criminal Procedure 4-101 which defines when law enforcement shall charge by citation. Unless the citation section of the code is amended, violating the conditions of a pretrial no-contact order would result in law enforcement issuing a citation to the defendant rather than making an arrest, defeating the purpose of the changes made last year.

Ms. Lennig also discussed two domestic violence bills that Delegate Valentino-Smith plans to introduce:

1. Legislation which will allow persons with a protective order to renegotiate their cell phone contract with no financial penalties.
2. An Incentive Housing Program for homeless veterans or homeless victims of domestic violence. The program would create a \$2 million program for new housing vouchers with preference granted to counties applying who have 1) Set aside vouchers for these populations; 2) Established a Housing First policy; or 3) Enacted a Source of Income statute for housing within that County.

## **IX. Old/New Business**

Ms. Jordan informed members that the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) 2019 Legislative Reception will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2019, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Harry Browne's Restaurant Gallery Room in Annapolis.

Ms. Agbeyegbe informed members that her daughter wrote a children’s book, True Keys to Friendship, which is about bullying and it is available for purchase on Amazon.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:47 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention  
Main Conference Room, 1st Floor - Side B  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032