Maryland State Board of Victim Services  
Staffed by the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County  
1517 Ritchie Highway, #201  
Arnold, MD 21012  
October 4, 2017  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:
Steve Kelly, Esq., Chair  
Barbara Bond, Vice Chair  
Bonnie Ariano  
Scott Beard  
Jessica Dickerson  
Glenn Fueston  
Molly Knipe  
Steven Levin, Esq.  
Jill Ritter  
Alonzo Robertson  
Lisa Spicknall-Horner  
Jeanne Yeager

Guests:
Michaele Cohen, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence  
Lisae Jordan, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Cara Sullivan, Office of the Governor  
Lydia Williams, Maryland Department on Aging

Staff:
Rebecca Allyn, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
Don Hogan, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
Sabraya Knight, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
Vanessa Lyon, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
Megan McDermott, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention  
Jessica Wheeler, Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Mr. Fueston introduced and welcomed Mr. Levin to the Maryland State Board of Victim Services. Mr. Levin is the Chair of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. The Board
welcomed another new member, Lynn Davis, Director of the Child Advocacy Center of Frederick County.

II. GOCCP Updates

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

III. Consent Agenda

The Board is beginning to use the consent agenda format. Ms. Knipe informed members of this format for easily approving items such as past meeting minutes, subcommittee reports, general updates, etc. The consent agenda will be sent out at least a week before the upcoming meeting. Board members who would like to make edits or have a discussion about an item within the consent agenda should contact Ms. Allyn three days prior to the meeting in order for it to be discussed at the meeting.

The consent agenda contained the July 2017 Board meeting minutes, updates to the Victim Rights brochures, Family Violence Council Updates and Children's Justice Act Committee updates. Ms. Ariano made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

IV. Legislative Updates

- **Victim Services Unit Bill**

  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.

- *Maryland Electronic Courts Information in Brochures*

Ms. Rebecca Allyn informed members that HB 1163/ Ch. 643 (2017) - Criminal Procedure - Conditional Release - Electronic Monitoring (Amber’s Law) states that victim pamphlets should include information related to the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) system protocol registration process. Currently, about half of Maryland counties are using the MDEC system. Members discussed getting more information on the intent of including MDEC information in the victim's brochures. The Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention will review the bill to gather more information on the intent of the legislation.

**V. Strategic Initiatives Subcommittee Update**

Ms. Knipe discussed the current membership of the five Goal teams:

1. Infrastructure (Priority Level 1)
2. Staff (Priority Level 3)
3. Training (Priority Level 1)
4. Technology (Priority Level 2)
5. Victim Compensation (Priority Level 1)

Ms. Knipe strongly encouraged members to sign up for one of the teams if they have not already done so. Ms. Knipe asked members to serve as a lead for Goal Team 1 and 5. Ms. Ritter volunteered to be the Goal Team Lead for Goal Team 1 (Infrastructure). Mr. Levin volunteered to be the Goal Team Lead for Goal Team 5 (Victim Compensation).

Members provided updates for the goal teams. Ms. Knipe emphasized that it is important to meet with goal teams between Board meetings to continue the work of the Board’s strategic plan.
211 Maryland is an online and phone resource that connects people to health and human service resources. Members will review the 211 Maryland system at the next meeting as part of the Infrastructure Goal.

VI. 2018 Crime Victims’ Rights Events

The 2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week is April 8th - 14th, 2018. Ms. Allyn informed Board members that a date has not been scheduled for the Annual Maryland Crime Victims’ Rights Conference, but the conference will take place during National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. Ms. Allyn asked members to provide workshop suggestions for the conference. Workshop suggestions discussed were: economic empowerment for victims, the intersection of domestic violence, mental health and substance use disorder, and victimization in the world of social media. The Office has submitted a request through the Office of Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center for national-level speaker support at the conference.

On Sunday, April 8, 2018, four regional Memorial Services will be held for crime victims and their families. The Office is coordinating with the hosts of the memorial sites. In regards to feedback received after last year’s memorial services, Board members agreed that hardcopy invitations will be sent to families without an email address on file to ensure all are aware of the events.

VII. Old/New Business

- **2018 MSBVS Meetings**
  
  Ms. Allyn will disseminate the meeting calendar for 2018.

- **QR Code**
  
  Ms. Allyn informed the group of a past proposal regarding the use of QR barcodes for the Crime Victims’ brochures. Ms. Allyn informed members that the brochures are online in an electronic format on the Office’s website. Members agreed that there is no need for a QR code at this time.

  Ms. Allyn also informed the Board of a request from the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division to provide contact information for the Civil Rights Division, pertaining to Harassment in Housing, in the Victim's Rights brochures. Members decided that it is not feasible to include this information at this time as the State’s local resources can refer victims to other entities when necessary.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.
NEXT MEETING:
Wednesday, January 17, 2018
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention
Main Conference Room, 1st Floor - Side A
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032