

## **DHS DV COUNCIL - NOTES**

**June 20, 2006**

**Facilitator: Rhonda Culley**

**Present:** Carol Krager; Jayne Downing; Ardy Birkmeyer; Rhonda Culley; Theresa Guerrero; Carri Ramsey; Sarah McDowell; Allison Wilson; Lorena Navarez; Carolyn Palacios; Mary Oschwald; Rebecca Nesbit; Chris Mallette; Betsy Hoag; and Julie Davie.

**Absent:** Bonnie Braeutigam; Stephanie Merhib; Kate Blackman; Dave Flock; Clyde Saiki; Michele Eberle; Susan Hughes; and Naomi Steenson.

### **Council Assignments:**

- Carol will send out Governor's DV Council minutes when received.
- Carol will check with OIS regarding donation of retired blackberries for victims from the deaf and hard of hearing communities.
- Please email thoughts on what to discuss at this Employee Development Team meeting.

### **Committee Assignments:**

Training:

- Follow-up related to Diversity Council session
- Follow-up on review of CW training plan by first week of July
- Follow-up related to Employee Development Team meeting

Communication:

- Follow-up on communication plan with Patricia Feeney

Standards:

- Identify strategic planning pieces from current standards document
- Which of the standards apply to specific disciplines

### **Team Building**

- Carol read an article from DV Prevention magazine regarding how advocates can suffer from attacks internally.
- This is difficult work...take care of yourself...don't give up

### **Follow up on Assignments:**

**Discuss Meth Policy and procedure – Julie Davie**

- Julie Davie distributed the hazard communication program policy. P3 #6 is new. She also distributed the Employee Safety for clandestine drug-manufacturing labs—Be aware that these policies are written for DHS staff. This policy will be finalized in about a month.

### **Meeting with Clyde; Louise and Marita followup:**

- Kate Blackman, Dave Flock, and Carol met with the group to discuss ideas for implementation of DV standards based on their experience with the Diversity Standards. Dave distributed notes from meeting.
- They recommended we develop a one page document as a strategic plan that explains how this impacts peoples' jobs. They had other ideas on communication with managers (Getting Results).
- Other ideas included meeting with cabinet a couple of times a year, having a session at the diversity conference and a communication plan.

### **Roundtable:**

- Governor's DV Council Update: The Public hearing in Lakeview was well attended. Carol will send out minutes from this later. There is a new liaison to the Governor's Council from the Governor's office and several new members.
- Address of confidentiality program—they will come to EWT on Thursday to speak on potential impact on self-sufficiency. Carol and Bonnie are the liaisons for CAF related to implementation of this statute. Other clusters contacts are the legislative analyst for that cluster/office. If you can think of any potential impacts, please send those to Carol.
- Americorps did not get federal funding. They are hoping to get funding on the state level. This program will end at the end of August.
- Mary Oschwald put in for federal DOJ moneys for various new grants for PSU.
- Bonnie requested that the training committee look at the new CW training outline and offer comments and suggestions. Please respond by the first week of July.
- The Funders commissioned an Equity study that is almost completed that will make recommendations about distribution of funding for DV and sexual assault service providers.
- Bonnie is hoping to have a database in place to track statistics. Here are her comments:
  - The domestic and sexual violence service providers identified the need for a data base that they can use to track statistics. They face a variety of funders who require a variety of reports all with different ways to count people and statistics. The programs need a way to make grant reporting simpler.
  - DHS, along with other state funding agencies, looked at purchasing or adapting databases. We were ready to partner with Housing and Community Services on a web-based database. This format would have allowed programs to enter de-identified but still client level data with built-in report functions. It could have also given DHS and other state funders ability to get the aggregate data from the database, rather than having programs submit separate reports.

- Unfortunately, a web-based database, even without any client identifiers, does raise concerns about confidentiality of data. We have determined we cannot do the database with HCS. We are still exploring what are the options, both for programs to have to report and for DHS to keep aggregate data on a web site that can be accessed by other state funders.
- July 17<sup>th</sup>, the Council is scheduled to go to the employee development team regarding training.
- Julie Davie will have another person in HR in her position.
- Carol asked Clyde about recruitment. Clyde will get back to us after he hears from Health.
- Teresa reminded us about the OCADSV conference starts July 31<sup>st</sup>. They are trying to work out ways to help more people attend.
- Rockwood CW branch opening on 7/3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Presentation on Working with Survivors who are Deaf: Shelly Oshi and Damara Paris.**

- Shelly Oshi is an advocate for DART and is on the core accessibility task force.
  - They are looking to expand their program in Multnomah county. She used to work with the Connections program in Salem.
- Damara now works for Sprint but worked with PUC in the past.

**Presentation:**

- Because of the close relationships within families, deaf children may not be able to communicate with anyone regarding abuse. In the deaf community the abuser is often known and the victim may not be able to communicate the issues. The deaf community is more likely to be beneath the poverty line. 70% of this community is receiving SSI. In rural areas, there is limited availability of interpreters. There are other issues. Deaf persons may write like they sign. In a shelter, because of the communication issues, they can be very isolated. If they have hearing children, they may be used as interpreters.
- Additional barriers:
  - Re-traumatization issues: Children may be re-traumatized by being used as interpreters.
  - When the police are called, the police may use the abuser as the interpreter for the victim.
- New Technologies:
  - Phone access: TTY's are very expensive, but the state has a contract that will offer access to a TTY for \$299. Government surplus sells used TTYs for \$25-\$50. You need to have an analog line for this.
  - If shelter has a TV/cable hookup; you can go through the video relay service. A video relay service works with a webcam. It's connected to your

- computer. You make a call and an interpreter shows up on the screen. The deaf person signs and can be heard. There are very strong rules from the FCC.
- A deaf person trying to escape may not have access to phones. They encourage people to ask for funds in their grants to provide pagers for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. The one used by Damara is a Sidekick. They can IM and make relay calls on these. They cost \$300 plus \$40/month. Other options include Blackberries.
  - In the connections program, they receive funds from VOCA. The funds are used to support specifically deaf and hard of hearing people.
  - People who are deaf often have difficulty in hearings and other court proceedings. The courts are a behind in dealing with interpreting services. We cannot assume people are fluent in American Sign Language (ASL). Sometimes people need more than an interpreter. They may need Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI). They may also have multiple disabilities.
  - There are multiple language modes and selections. Because of this, it is important to get an advocate to help deaf clients with these needs.
  - Shelly makes referrals to other areas for deaf and hard of hearing clients.

The Connections program in Salem:

- Staff: BJ Rosenblad; Brad Houck; Camille Atkins
- They also have VOCA funds.
- All of the staff are fluent in ASL.
- Connections serves these counties: Yamhill; Tillamook; Marion; Polk; Linn
- [Connection@nwhumanservices.org](mailto:Connection@nwhumanservices.org)

Shelly serves Portland; Multnomah Cty.; and Washington Cty.

- Shelley Oishi: Portland [Voca@comcast.net](mailto:Voca@comcast.net)

ADWIS: Abuse of deaf women in Seattle at [www.adwis.org](http://www.adwis.org)

- Damara works with the tribal groups: they often have little access to technology. They need more culturally sensitive resources for this community.
- Please be sure and contact them with ANY issues, even interpreting issues.
- Mary will send out the contact information for these two folks.
- They would be happy to help with an accessibility check in a shelter.

### **Point Person Follow up**

- There was positive feedback about the meeting. Is the Council looking for someone who might want to come to the council meetings?
- There may be some local communication issues.
- There are more field issues there in the group. Try to have as many council members attend the Point Person Meetings.

- Allison distributed the newer CW brochure for home-visits.

### **Training Committee:**

- **Brainstorm for DV session at Diversity Conference:**

- Maybe a panel taking about culturally challenges related to domestic violence.
- The intersection of DV and diversity. Perhaps DV 101.
- Because of the ODOT connection:
  - Workplace violence
- 90 minute session
- Strengths for non-violence in cultures, for example Tawna's groups.
- Men as allies to stop violence.
- Maybe use a broad topic that could be used to encompass many topics in the actual.
- Broader than workplace violence.
- **Possible title:** Domestic Violence Across Cultures

- **Include learning objectives:**

In an interactive setting, participants will:

- Learn how domestic violence impacts different cultures throughout our society.
- Leave with ways to support family members; coworkers; and friends dealing with violent situations.
- Understand how to help keep self and others safe in the workplace.
- Learn cultural challenges related to domestic violence.
- Understand how to access community resources.

6/22/06: Contact Marita and find out if we could do this via teleconference. She can call Carol on Friday.

### **7/17/06:**

We have been invited to the DHS Employee Development and Training Team on July 17<sup>th</sup>. It would be from 10 to noon. Jayne and Rhonda can go. Please email thoughts on what to discuss at this meeting.

### **Committee Report Outs:**

Due to limited time...there were no report outs for this meeting and will report out next month.

**Next Meeting:**

**July 18, 2006 – 9:00-4:00**

**Jayne’s house – 1085 Church St. NE – Salem, OR**

Facilitator	Rhonda Culley
Team building	
Education/guests	
Snacks	Jayne
Handouts	Carol will bring “101 stress relievers”.

**Agenda Items:**

Max \$5 generic gift The gift should be a self-care/pampering item.

Report out from today’s committee meetings.

Draft beginning strategic plan.

Clyde Saiki update.