

Minutes of the National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women

Date and Time

April 25 – 26, 2006

Location

The Westin City Center
650 North Pearl Street
Dallas, TX 75201

Meeting Participants (in attendance)

(I) Advisory Committee Members

Scott Wyatt
Casey Gwinn
Bill Shuler
Tiffany Carr
Cordelia Clapp
Margot Hill
Susan Howley
Jane Root-Sylvain
Esther Bearden
Scott Berkowitz
Harriet O'Neill
Bruce Kittle
Renee Schulte
Ludy Green
Larry Tackman
Mike Brennan

(II) Federal Employees

U.S. Department of Justice

Diane M. Stuart
Andrea Bottner
Sandy Lonick
Gordon Todd
Julie Warren
Amy Mathers

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Francis Ashe-Goins

(III) Members of the Public Who Presented Oral or Written Statements

Oral Statements

Roy Getting, Fathers for Equal Rights and Men's Health Network
Charlotte Gish, Office of Women's Health, Region 6
Stanley Green, SAFE: Stop Abuse for Everyone, Inc.

Written Statements

Lee Newman, NH Chapter of SAFE: Stop Abuse for Everyone, Inc.

Mark Rosenthal, RADAR: Respecting Advocacy in Domestic Abuse Reporting

Other

Tina Hageman, The Family Place

Matters Discussed

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

1. Diane Stuart, Director of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) welcomed the committee members, thanked them for their time and dedication, and began member introductions.
2. Francis Ashe-Goins, Deputy Director and Director of Division Policy and Program Development, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) welcomed the participants.
3. The National Advisory Committee members took turns introducing themselves to the committee.
4. Director Stuart introduced Gordon Todd, Deputy Associate Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice. Gordon made remarks about priorities of the Attorney General and the critical work ahead.
5. Director Stuart introduced Amy Mathers, Event Management Specialist, Justice Management Division, U.S. Department of Justice. She provided a new member orientation and information about travel management procedures.
6. Director Stuart introduced Julie Warren, Associate Director, Office of Intergovernmental and Public Liaison, U.S. Department of Justice. Julie made remarks about her role at the department, crime victims' rights and the Victims' Rights Roundtable.
7. Public Comment Period
 - Three individuals presented public comments: Mr. Roy Getting from Fathers for Equal Rights made brief remarks, Mr. Lee Norman from the NH Chapter of SAFE: Stop Abuse for Everyone submitted written comments, and Mark Rosenthal from RADAR: Respecting Advocacy in Domestic Abuse Reporting, submitted written comments.
8. Andrea Bottner, Deputy Director of OVW, discussed violence against women activities at the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

9. Frances Ashe-Goins discussed the role of HHS in violence against women issues, Office on Women's Health and DOJ, Office on Violence Against Women.

10. Working Luncheon

- A working luncheon was held in which committee members held small-group introductory discussions about issues related to violence against women and the vision of the committee. Plans for the afternoon site visits were also discussed and finalized.

11. Members participated in three guided site visits of local women's shelters.

- Genesis Women's Shelter, Dallas, TX (Domestic Violence Shelter)
- Faith and Liberty's Place, Dallas, TX (Supervised Visitation Center)
- The Family Place, Dallas, TX (Domestic Violence Shelter and Transitional Housing Facility)

The Committee adjourned for the day at approximately 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

1. Director Stuart welcomed the committee members and presented the Charge to the committee and described its purpose. The Director began a dialogue about the committee's role and described examples of how the committee could address the Charge.
2. Director Stuart then described how the committee would be divided up into subcommittees. The subcommittees are set up to mirror Coordinated Community Response (CCR) teams. She explained that the multi-disciplinary collaboration of a CCR has been shown to be an effective way to approach violence against women issues.
3. The committee broke into subgroups, designated sub-committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, and discussed how they will address the Charge.
4. The committee reconvened as a whole and announced designated Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs. Members also presented which portion of the Charge they will focus on and how they will work on it.
5. Public Comment Period
 - One individual presented public comments: Mr. Stanley Green from SAFE: Stop Abuse for Everyone, Inc.

6. Diane Stuart asked panel members for their final comments before the meeting adjourned.

The Committee adjourned at approximately 11:30 am.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Diane M. Stuart
Director
Office on Violence Against Women

National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women
Designated Federal Official