

Minutes of the National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women Spring Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday, October 8, 2003, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Thursday, October 9, 2003, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Location

The Madison Hotel

15th and M Street

Washington, DC

Meeting Participants (in attendance)

(1) Advisory Committee Members

Rhonda Arena

Michael Bedke

Barbara Black

Sheriff Michael Bouchard

Hon. Michael Brennan

Lydia Chassaniol

Hon. Sharon Cooper

Anne Crichton Crews

Barbara Dehl

Rosemary Elebash

Pamela Galbraith

Dr. Joxel Garcia

Peter Garza

Casey Gwinn

Lt. Det. Margot Hill

Det. Gerald Lee Issacs

Mary Lauby

Dianna Lightfoot

Dr. Elizabeth McCord

Rev. Aldean Miles

Dr. Beverly Nuckols

Nancy Pfothauer

Vernadette Ramirez Broyles

Delilah Rumburg

Noelle Sampson

Greer Saunders

Hon. Abbi Silver

Sherolyn Smith-De Santis

Oliver Williams

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(II) Federal Employees

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Cristina V. Beato
Frances Ashe-Goins
Dr. Wanda Jones
Josephine Robinson
Diedra Henry
Pat Weir

U.S. Department of Justice

Diane M. Stuart
Margaret Davis
Catherine Pierce
Kristina Rose
Jana Sinclair White

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

Oral Statements

Stanley Green, Stop Abuse for Everyone

Written Statements

No written statements were submitted.

Other

There were approximately 10 members of the general public in attendance.

Matters Discussed

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

1. Diane M. Stuart, Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, opened the meeting with welcoming remarks. Wanda Jones, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, welcomed the NAC members on behalf of Dr. Cristina V. Beato, M.D. Acting Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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2. The National Advisory Committee (Committee) discussed the intended audience of the report it is preparing in response to the charge. Ms. Stuart clarified that the intended audience for the report is the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services. She further explained that the report should address the seven questions set forth in the charge and add any extra information as appropriate.

3. Consideration of the Prevention Subcommittee Report (Attachment A) - The Committee discussed the role of faith-based organizations in preventing domestic violence and the need for education and training of clergy on the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Committee further discussed the need for advocates to work with faith based organizations. The Committee then considered sustainability and the need for funding practices that promote sustainability. The Committee members further discussed the need for grant recipients to be held accountable for the effectiveness of their programs.

4. Public Comment Session

Stanley Green, representing Stop Abuse for Everyone, asked the Committee to use inclusive language in its report. He stated that young men do not report incidences of sexual harassment because they may not identify it as such and because they do not feel safe reporting to a place that identifies men primarily as perpetrators.

The Committee Adjourned for a 10 minute break

5. Consideration of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee Report (Attachment B) - The members of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee presented an oral summary of their report. The Criminal Justice Subcommittee stated that it could not reach agreement regarding the issuance of no-contact orders. The Committee discussed the merits of no-contact orders and determined that the Drafting Subcommittee should address the issue by recognizing the difficulties surrounding the issuance of no-contact orders and identifying the elements that a judge should consider when deciding whether to issue a no-contact order.

6. Report by Dr. Elizabeth McCord

Dr. McCord reported on her research concerning batterers intervention programs. Dr. McCord is studying (1) how men who batter present to a physician, and (2) what problems or health issues they have. She found that there appeared to be a pattern of physical consequences to men who batter. They had higher than normal rates of several health problems, including mental-health problems, orthopedic injuries, cardiovascular disease, musculoskeletal diseases, and respiratory diseases. Dr. McCord agreed to provide the Committee with updates as her research moves forward.

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The Committee adjourned at 1:30 pm, October 8, 2003.

Thursday, October 9, 2003

1. Margaret Davis, Principal Deputy Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, opened the meeting.
2. Consideration of the Community Education Subcommittee Report (Attachment C) - The Subcommittee provided an update of its work and outlined the recommendations contained in its report. The Committee discussed the need to enlist the voices and actions of men and boys in addressing the incidence of violence against women. The Committee also discussed the need for journalism schools to include in their curriculums training regarding quality reporting on domestic violence and sexual assault cases. In addition, the Committee discussed ways to incorporate domestic violence education for young people into existing education programs within schools. The Committee acknowledged the lack of government resources and commented that their ideas should not be implemented through unfunded mandates. The Committee discussed the need to think creatively and to bring new partners, especially corporate partners, into the effort to prevent violence against women.

The Committee took a break at 10:53 am.

3. The meeting reconvened with a discussion about the previous day's event at the White House. The Committee considered how to get the President's message into the media and methods to promote the awareness of October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.
4. The Committee watched a Public Service Announcement (PSA) developed by the Office on Violence Against Women. The Committee members discussed the method of distribution for the PSA and how they could help the PSA receive air time.
5. Tracy Bahm, Director of the Stalking Resource Center at the National Center For Victims of Crime, spoke about the work of the Stalking Resource Center. She presented history surrounding the development of stalking laws, put forth statistics regarding stalking, and shared new methods that perpetrators are using to stalk their victims. A short question and answer session followed.

The Committee took a break at 1:20 pm.

6. The Committee discussed the procedure by which it would produce a final report. The Committee established a drafting committee comprised of at least one member of each subcommittee. The members selected were Judge Michael Brennan (Chairman), Ms. Delilah Rumberg, Dr. Elizabeth McCord, Ms. Sherolyn Smith-DeSantis, Ms. Mary Lauby, and Ms. Margot Hill. The drafting committee was charged with answering the seven questions in the

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charge based on information provided in the three Subcommittee reports. The Committee determined that information that does not fit into one of the seven answers should be included as additional recommendations. The Committee also determined that the drafting committee will send the report to all Committee members for their comment for a limited period of time. The drafting committee will then prepare a final report which will be voted on at the next NAC meeting.

8. The Committee adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Reports or Other Documents Received, Issued, or Approved by the Committee

1. Received and Considered:

- (A) Report of the Prevention Subcommittee of the National Advisory Committee
- (B) Report of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the National Advisory Committee
- (C) Report of the Education Subcommittee of the National Advisory Committee

2. Issued: None

3. Approved: None

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