

DV CCRT - Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team
November 30, 2006
Meeting Minutes

Updates/Announcements

- a. Domestic Violence Orientation at Safe Haven Ministries – January 16th from 6-9 PM. Please call 452-6664 to sign up & further details.
- b. Congratulations to the YWCA for obtaining funding to begin the Safe Place program – a supervised visitation and safe exchange program for children. Eileen McKeever updated the group on this program. It is scheduled to start at the end of January. The Domestic Violence Prevention Board recently shared how other similar programs operate. This program will be based on referrals from the Circuit Court/FOC and there will be an advisory council.
- c. Permanent Supportive Housing through the YWCA is ready to go! Eileen asked all members to begin referring the community by calling the Domestic Crisis Center (451-2744 – DCC). They are still in the process of purchasing duplexes.
- d. YWCA, Degage, Goodwill, etc. met with Wolverine Worldwide Reps. The Merrill shoe line has begun a new program that offers ALL returned Merrill shoes (children, women and men shoes) to agencies in the West Michigan Area. In fact, there was a recent large donation and if any agency knows of a need, please contact Eileen McKeever at DCC (451-2744). How exciting!
- e. Child & Family Resource Council is bringing in Dave Pelzer on Saturday, April 14, 2007. Dave Pelzer (Author of A Boy Called It) will speak at Fountain Street. More details to come! Please save the date!
- f. Heartside Mens Group (Homeless Men) – Refunded for 2007 (through downtown churches such as Lagrave)

Financial Report

- a. Expenditures and Balance
- b. Report to Nokomis – will be completed and submitted by Dec. 31, 2006
- c. Unsure of the balance at this time. We will likely have extra money to overflow into 2007. The CCRT will need to make a decision as a group in January 2007 as to what we will do with this overflow.

Sub-committee Reports

- a. **Media sub-committee**
 - The subcommittee still needs to meet to discuss follow up plans.
 - Rosalynn indicated Wood TV 8 did use the Media Pack on their website and also for a few recent stories (stats, etc).
 - Thank you to the subcommittee and Jennifer Marcum for all your hard work and the event success in September.
 - Who would like to participate in this ongoing subcommittee next year – discuss at January meeting.

- b. **Public Awareness Campaign**
 - Billboards – four were purchased which concluded November 30th. Members who saw them indicated they looked great!
 - Bus Ads – four were purchased and will be around the community for the next few months. Suggestion made to display them on the back of the bus the next time.

- Johnny Ads – purchased for 8 months.
- Safe Haven Ministries has seen a large increase in calls recently!
- Thank you subcommittee members!

c. DV Awareness Month

- Ideas and thoughts for October 2007 – The Tony Porter event was very successful! If possible, bring Tony Porter back to speak for future events!
- Members indicated they saw a diverse audience (men, students, etc) and that the Loosemore Auditorium was a perfect place for the event.
- *Suggestions for next year:* cap the amount of time (2 hours); pull all agency events into one location – we worked well at complimenting community events (posters, postcards, etc.); start planning earlier for next year (to let people know about community events); contact and ask more agencies (colleges, churches, etc.) to become a part of dv awareness month in the community – more active outreach; ask to do presentations within the schools and target the education system – violence prevention (possibly a visual presentation such as “Respect” a drama with teens who perform; contact a young survivor to speak about dating violence in the schools; Prevention Education Piece – Peer education, collect things an agency needs (crisis shelters);.
- Thank you to the subcommittee, Annie Funke and Ashley Nickels for all your hard work!!! We appreciate the GVSU Women’s Center!
- Keep it simple – prioritize the goals for October (too many ideas last year).

d. Plans for 2007

- Review projects outlined in grant – how do we want to meet our goals for the Nokomis Grant for 2007?
- Update and copies of the Healing Path
- Update website

Discussion - DV concerns/cases

a. Survivors are being threatened from CPS/DHS about having their children taken away – What is current policy? There is a need for better domestic violence education & training for the workers. Safe Haven Ministries or YWCA to possibly coordinate training/education. Safe Haven Ministries has a three hour orientation that agencies can schedule. They will come to your agency and train employees, case workers, advocates, etc.

b. Domestic Violence Court - 59th District Court in Holland to begin this in the next year. Any talk about a Domestic Violence Court in Kent County? Any insight?

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR WORK IN MAKING 2006 SUCH A SUCCESS!!

**Next Meeting – January 25, 2007 - noon at the Kent County Courthouse
5th Floor Conference Room**