

**DV CCRT - Domestic Violence Community Coordinated Response Team
February 24, 2005 Meeting
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Meghan Kirby – Victim Witness, Rosalynn Bliss -DVCH, Ruth Schoff - SHM, Micki White – FIA/CPS, Eileen McKeever – YWCA, William Edwards – YWCA, Casey Bond – GVSU, Julie Haveman – FOC, Rogelio Rodriguez – Christian Counseling Center, Cavan Berry – WMLS, Jennifer Bahr – KCHD, Amy Clough – SHM, Linda Satchfield, Sue Abbring – Calvin College, Don Uken – Calvin, Sara Ohlsson – Calvin, Jack Stewart – KCSD, Jim Benison – Pros. Office, Al Heystek – MRC, Amy Mitosinka – Victim Witness, Carla Blinkhorn – YWCA, Dara Orellana – MOMS, Faith Shotts –Fikkema – Forest Hills Northern HS, Randy Flood – MRC, Amy Vangunst – FHC, Anita Droog – Victim Witness

NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR March 24th AT NOON AT THE KENT COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT DOWNTOWN AT 180 OTTAWA IN THE 5TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM.

Introduction and Welcome

Updates/Announcements

- a. Panel discussion for Strong Beginnings – Rosalynn Bliss, Jack Stewart, William Edwards and Jennifer Marcum participated in a panel discussion on domestic violence on February 16th, 2005
- b. Children and Media Film Series – see flyer
- c. Share article that was written by Randy Flood and printed in the GR Press – “Gender –not race – is the biggest factor in violent behavior
- d. International Women’s Day Event – March 18th from 4-9pm with a speaker, Ninotchka Rosca, at 7pm. Loosemoore Auditorium
- e. Safe Haven Ministries fund-raising dinner – Thursday, March 10th at 6pm – contact information 452-6664
- f. Understanding the Intersection between Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence - April 22nd in Adrian Michigan – sponsored by BISCMI. For additional information, go to www.biscmi.org
- g. 10th Annual BISCMI Conference – Nov. 2-4th, 2005. Go to www.biscmi.org for additional information.
- h. Jim Benison shared that Robin Eslinger joined the Domestic Assault Prosecuting Team.

Treasurer’s Report

- a. Thank you to the cast and crew of the Conduct of Life performance – they gave \$200 in proceeds from their show to the CCRT

MSU Research Request

- a. MSU is presently working on a study of CCRT’s in the state. Their request: a list of CCRT members that they can send a survey to and ask each member to complete. If 75% of our team responds, Kent County CCRT will be entered into a drawing for \$1000. Information gathered from the surveys will be confidential.
- b. The team agreed to participate in this research. Rosalynn will contact MSU and give a copy of the mailing list to them. Rosalynn sent around a copy of the list to be updated by members who were present.

- c. Team asked that they receive information on the history of the CCRT – Rosalynn asked Eileen to help with this.

Website – Update from Cavan Berry

- a. Shared what has been done so far – there will be a sight available for the team to look at and review before going public.
- b. Requests to all team members: please send Cavan a brief description of your agencies programs along with contact information. Please send Cavan any announcements or events that you know of/have planned as he will be creating and updating a calendar for the web-site. Deadline for submission is March 15th, 2005.**
- c. Launch of site: Site will be available to CCRT members to review throughout the month of April. Will plan to go public/do a press release during the second week of May. This will be after the media training.
- d. Needs for the content:
 - a. Randy Flood & William Edwards – please provide information that you think would be helpful under the section titled “Men”.
 - b. Team recommended there be a link for “Medical” – Randy agreed to ask his wife Stephanie Flood to pull together helpful information for this section.
 - c. Rogelio Rodriguez recommended that there be information/resources available in Spanish – a Spanish link. He offered to help work on this piece of the site.
 - d. Still in need of information pertaining to drugs and alcohol – BISCMI site was recommended.
 - e. Team recommended that there be a quick-escape link, for the safety of victims. Also information about how to clear one’s web-browser and history.
 - f. Cavan continues to work on pulling information from the Healing Path to post onto site.

Healing Path (Translation to Spanish)

- a. Deisy Madrigal has secured a volunteer who is working on the translation

Investigation & Prosecution in DV Cases with Herb Tanner

- a. Jim is still working on getting this training coordinated. Is working with Captain Belk. KCSD is on board and waiting to hear from Jim about GRPD. Jim is hoping to have this training planned for this spring.
- b. Question was asked to Lt. Jack Stewart about training for KCSD officers, Jack explained that all officers are required to go through initial training on domestic violence. The last comprehensive training was completed in 2002.

Vision to End Homelessness – Carla Blinkhorn

- a. Vision to End Homelessness Committee is a collaborative group looking at housing and reducing the need for shelters (such as qualifications for entering shelters, how qualifications are barriers, etc.). There is a policy within HUD to look at developing solutions to homelessness – DV has its own unique features with regards to homelessness. Other issues that this group is looking at include prostitution, sexual assault, veterans, & people getting out of jail. This committee is open to participation from community members – they meet every two weeks – next meeting is scheduled for March 22 from 2-4pm at the YWCA.
- b. Other YWCA initiatives include:
 - a. Examining the impact of DV on older adults (60 years and older) – looking at transitional housing for specific older adults and immigrants

- b. The YWCA is presently collaborating with the Hispanic Center – wrote a grant that would provide funds to translate materials into Spanish
- c. Nurturing a New Start – through a Nokomis grant, the YWCA is working with the Sober Living Unit Women's Program within the KCCF to offer classes on relationships, finances, employment issues.
- d. The YWCA is presently examining the prospect of expanding the Nurse Examiners Program to include DV services. Linda Rossman will be trained through the DOVE program.

Media Training

- a. May 5th from 12:00 to 4:30pm – flyer will be emailed to the CCRT list.
- b. Wealthy Street Theater – which has parking in the rear
- c. Must register with Rosalynn as there is a cap of 20 people
- d. Rosalynn will start working on the creation of media packets

ADT AWARE Program

- a. Web address: www.adt.com
- b. There is support for this program from the Prosecutor's Office. Rosalyn will follow up with ADT to set up an initial meeting.

Next Meeting – March 24, 2005 - noon at the Kent County Courthouse