

ARKANSAS COMMISSION ON CHILD ABUSE, RAPE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2016

Meeting called to order: 2:05 p.m.

Members Present: Dorinda Edmisten, Lisa Channell, Karl Mounger, Charles Ellis, Laura Abbott, Karen Worley, Carol Maxwell, Dr. Sondra Bedwell, Dr. Karen Farst, Gracie Giles Gonner, Christi McQueen, Robert Parker, Larry Robert Combs, Eddie Schmeckenbecher, Dr. Patricia Scott

Members Absent: Lott Rolfe IV, Debbie Roark, Lt. Corey Sanders, Dr. Suzanne Jessup, Stacey Mckeown, Judge David Reynolds, Susan Waggener, Kristin Pawlik, Susan Bradshaw, Cecile Bluker

Others Present: (ACCARDV) Max Snowden, Candy Garland, Stasia Burk-McDonald, Michelle Cline, Sherry Williamson, Sara Rudolph-Pollard and Gwen Johnson

The meeting was held in the Freeway Medical Building @ 5800 West 10th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, Suite 906

- Dorinda Edmisten read proxies: Kristin Pawlik designated Eddie Schmeckenbecher, Susan Waggener designated Dr. Patricia Scott, Suzanne Jessup designated Dr. Karen Worley, Susan Bradshaw designated Rob Combs and Debbie Roark designated Dorinda Edmisten
- Review of last meeting's minutes - motion was granted to approve minutes; Karl Mounger, seconded.

Mr. Max Snowden provided an update about the UAMS Website - www.accardv.uams.edu - Our website is currently in the process of being reconfigured/updated by our UAMS IT Division.

- Child Abuse Project Report - Sherry Williamson
Provided a quarterly report summary for meetings, trainings and activities for the 3rd quarter, January 1st - March 31st, 2016. There were 4 in-person trainings with a total of 28 persons. Online training was provided for 4,112 individuals and 3,856 licensed educators, totaling 7,968. Also, attended various meetings (DCFS External Child Death Review, Children and Youth Committee, Children's Justice Act Webinar, etc). Meetings went well and received good feedback.

- Rape Project Report – Michelle Cline

Noted that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Provided 4th quarter reports for trainings and seminars; all had good progress. Educational Seminars (1121) Participants (8130) Professional Trainings (52) Participants (629) Under the PHBC (Preventive Health Block Grant) everyone met their objective. The Attorney General's office is in the process of writing a BJA grant to purchase software for the sexual assault kit tracking system. Participated in 2 CDC conference calls.

Trainings provided: Higher Education Forum on Campus Violence (University of the Ozarks) and Improving Support for Sexual Assault Survivors on Campus (University of Arkansas @ Little Rock) Both were quite productive. Candlelight Vigil and Arkansas Recognition and Victims' Rights Ceremony went well and was quite a success.

Lisa Channell and Michelle Cline entertained various questions in regard to ACT 1168 (an act concerning a statewide accounting of all un-submitted rape and sexual assault kits).

- Domestic Violence Report – Sara Rudolph – Pollard

Provided a brief summary of training and meetings conducted and attended:

Conducted an ongoing training with Hoover Treatment Center Domestic Violence (14 Attendees).

Training is held 1st Tuesday of each month. Attended Pulaski County Disabilities and Violence Collaborative Meeting, Crime Victims Assistance Association of Arkansas (CVAAA), State Disabilities and Violence Collaborative Meeting and Veterans Hospital Domestic Violence Committee. Special activities attended: Crime Victims' Rights Week Awards Ceremony and Candlelight Vigil. Both were a big success. SSBG funding has been processed.

- MDT Project – Stasia Burk - McDonald

Provided brief summary of county updates; new MDT in Woodruff County. Robin Connell (currently, Child Advocacy Center Director, White County) will serve as the new MDT coordinator. Stasia continues to serve on Child Abuse Conference Planning Committee and Governor's DCFS oversight committee. Child Abuse Conference is August 30th – September 1st. Presented statistics report for 2015; numbers reflect counties where there are MDTs. Provided detailed definitions and information from chart; breakdown from database. Directed attention to summary of 2015 report; over 1100 criminal actions taken for MDT cases called into hotline, over 9300 cases of severe child maltreatment discussed by MDT's in 2015 and over 44% of the sexual abuse investigations interviews (including underage juvenile offenders) were conducted at Children's Advocacy Centers. There were about 1750 professionals trained through programs, Commission scholarships and MDT members.

- CAC Project – Max Snowden

Provided brief update of CAC operations. RFQ sent out on the special funding supplement that was approved by the Commission October, 2015. \$15,000 was approved for each center; funds used to enhance the effectiveness of services. New CAC looking to open in El Dorado, Arkansas. RFP issued to CAC's will go out in May; approved an increase to \$70,000 a year to accredited CACs and \$65,000 for associate centers. Interviews for the vacant Child Advocacy Center Project Coordinator positions are being held.

- Financial Update - Candy Garland

Funding listed below reflects financial activity since the Jan 20, 2016 meeting:

STATE FUNDING UPDATE

2015 - 2016 DOMESTIC PEACE FUND STATE APPROPRIATION
 Since July 1, 2015, we have distributed a total of \$462,034.32 to 31 domestic violence shelters. Each shelter received a total of \$14,904.33. Shelter payments for April 2016 were down by \$1,461.69, due to a decline in overall revenue each shelter received \$3,225.81. Normal payout per shelter each quarter is \$4,687.50. It is hoped that we will be able to recoup those funds that were left off of their January and April payments by the end of June. If not, we will give programs what we have available. Remainder of funds still outstanding to shelters is \$119,215.68. Total payout to shelters is estimated at \$581,250. Note: Bail Bond funding (\$161,341.58) is down \$69,807.21 from previous year.

2016 - 2017 LEGISLATIVE FUNDING UPDATES:
 Domestic Peace Fund - New Appropriation Bill - Senate Bill 65, Page 14, Line 18, Section 12, Item 1 (\$6,100,000) and Item 2 (\$1,050,000).
 Children's Advocacy Center Fund - New Appropriation Bill - Senate Bill 65, Pages 14 and 15, Line 32, Section 13, Item 1 (\$5,041,918).

2015 - 2016 DIVISION ON AGING GRANT STATE DHS
 Since July 1, 2015, ACCARDV dispensed a total of \$128,773.42 to 10 domestic violence shelters funded by the Commission to provide client services. Total anticipated disbursement thru June 30, 2016 is \$144,959.

2016 - 2017 DIVISION ON AGING GRANT STATE DHS
 On March 21, 2016, ACCARDV received official notification of award for our 2016-2017 Division on Aging and Adult Services Grant from DHS. Total award is \$149,253. Funds will be used to support 10 domestic violence shelters for client services (\$144,959) and salary/fringe of staff (\$4,294). The new fiscal year starts July 1, 2016.

FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATE

2015 - 2017 PREVENTIVE HEALTH BLOCK GRANT FEDERAL CDC
 On March 28, 2016, ACCARDV received official notification from ADH that our 2015-2017 Preventive Health Block Grant had been approved in the amount of \$65,198. Funds will be used for a portion of the Rape Prevention Project Coordinator's salary and fringe along with supporting rape prevention and education program activities such as: conference requests by programs, in-state trainings, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner trainings, purchase of curricula along with the purchase of sexual assault evidence collection kits for the State Crime Lab.

2016 – 2017 RAPE PREVENTION EDUCATION GRANT FEDERAL CDC

On Feb 1, 2016, ACCARDV received official notification from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) that our 2016-2017 Rape Prevention Education Grant has been awarded in the amount of \$375,261. This notice of award covers the entire grant year from February 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017. This grant funds five rape prevention grantees and their activities, travel for staff and ADH project officer to attend the National Sexual Assault Conference, as well as a portion of salaries/fringe of staff working on the project.

- **Other Business**

Max Snowden provided reports on risk for alcohol-exposed pregnancy, 2014 Child Maltreatment (website included) and The Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities (CECANF); website included.

Next quarterly Commission meeting, tentatively July 20th, 2016.

Meeting adjourned: 3:05 p.m.