

approved

**VAWA Implementation Committee
Summary Minutes
April 30th, 2013
2:00PM
Supreme Court Conference Room
11th Floor
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French St.
Wilmington, DE 19801**

Committee Members Present: Josephine MacLaine; Maria Knoll, Esq.
Stephanie Hamilton

CJC Staff Present: Maureen Monagle, VAWA Coordinator; Andrew Spruill,
VAWA Grant Monitor; Angelique Maravelias, SASP Grant Monitor

Attendees: Randall Williams (Children's Advocacy Center, Inc); Cherelyn
Homlish (ContactLifeline, Inc); Carol Post (DCADV); Kay Preston (SOAR, Inc);
Valerie Marek (SOAR, Inc); Bridget Poulle (DVCC); Deiana Tyree (Child Inc);
Ellie Torres (Family Court)

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

1. Approval of minutes from November 26, 2012 meeting:

The minutes were approved as submitted.

2. CJC Subcommittees and VAWA Implementation Committee Vacancy

Maureen informed the Committee that a vacancy still exists.

CJC Staff have been in communication with the Governor's Office. They are reviewing all Boards, Commissions, etc., And the Council is reviewing committees. Staff is hoping this vacancy will be filled within the next few months.

Maureen informed the Committee of a change to the CJC Subcommittees that was announced during the April 15, 2013 CJC Board meeting. The Executive Director announced a merger of two subcommittees of the CJC. The Victims Advisory Committee, which previously provided guidance for the distribution of the VOCA-Assistance Formula grant; and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Committee, which previously provided guidance for the distribution of the FVPSA Formula grant will now become the "The Victims' Services Advisory Committee" of the CJC. Lieutenant Governor Matt Denn, chair of the Council, has appointed Commissioner Robert Coupe as the Chair of the new committee. The Chair of the VAWA Implementation Committee has been asked to be a member of the VSAC.

The intent is to still include some groups in the form of Review Teams members (VRTF, SAND, DVCC, and DVTF). Letters of invitation to the new VSAC will be sent by the Executive Director in the next week.

3. FFY2012 SASP Formula Grant Planning:

A handout was provided detailing the planning efforts that the CJC, ContactLifeline and the Children's Advocacy took over the past few months.

The CJC delayed the process until ContactLifeline had a permanent Executive Director in place. Planning meetings and conference calls started in February 2013. Committee members received summary notes of initial meetings (emailed in February and March).

A handout was provided to the Committee members with the "Spending Plan and Program Objectives" for the FFY2012 SASP. It will support maintaining ContactLifeline's existing staff and SASP funded services; and will expand the services that will be offered by the CAC.

Randy Williams and Cherelyn Homlish were present to answer any questions about the proposal. Mr. Williams explained that the Family Resource Advocate will be a new position to provide the supportive services to the non-offending parent/caregiver of child victims of sexual assault. The CAC follows a national model. Ms. Homlish explained the rape crisis services that will be maintained and enhanced with the SASP funds.

The next steps will be for the CJC, CAC and ContactLifeline to hold a meeting with the agencies who work with underserved communities (DDDC, LACC, La Esperanza, etc). The purpose of this meeting will be to seek input and assistance with the outreach initiatives to the underserved populations. The date and location has not been confirmed yet. The meeting will be open for the public, and on State Calendar website, but the specific agencies who submitted letters for the federal application will be invited.

Committee members received a draft "Standard Form" with the amounts that will be subgranted to each agency. A motion was made to approve the distribution of the FFY2012 SASP Grant (\$233,227). Motion approved.

4. Update Federal Activity

- Sequestration: Maureen informed the Committee that as of the date of this meeting, the CJC has not received the formula allocations for the FFY2013 STOP or SASP grants. At the recent STOP Administrators meeting, OVV did inform all states to expect cuts. The amount can be anywhere from 5-9% of a reduction from the FFY2012 awards. The sequestration has also delayed the VOCA and FVPSA announcements. But the CJC has been told to expect sequestration to impact all grant programs.
- VAWA Reauthorization: The Violence Against Women Act was recently re-authorized in March. The Re-authorization continues critical

grant programs, and establishes new grant programs to combat violence against women. There are several changes and new provisions under VAWA 2013. OVW has yet to provide full guidance, the SAAs of the STOP grant have been working with OVW to discuss the impact to the grant programs under VAWA. Some of the known changes to the STOP Grant Program include:

- Seven new purpose areas have been added
- Mandates the SAA consult and coordinate planning with other federal funding programs (FVPSA, VOCA-Assistance and Public Health).
- Requires very specific documentation and expectations for the Implementation Plans
- Changes to the allocation (courts, law enforcement, etc): Requires the 5% Court money goes “to” the courts (not for); also requires 20% set aside to “meaningfully address” sexual assault in at least 2 of the categories.

During the next few months, OVW will be releasing more guidance and clarification on the new provisions, new certifications, and any changes under VAWA 2013.

5. New Three Year Implementation Plan:

Maureen reminded the Committee that all states were due to submit a new Three-Year Implementation Plan for FFY2013. With the Re-authorization, all States would be required to submit a brand new plan (VAWA 2013 changes will be effective with FFY2014 funding). Immediately upon hearing the news of the Re-authorization, OVW has been working with the Association of VAWA Administrators (AVA) to discuss other alternatives. The STOP Unit of OVW has agreed to grant States a waiver of submitting a new plan for FFY2013. States can extend the goals/objectives in the current plan for the FFY2013 STOP Grant.

The Re-authorization also mandates States submit the implementation plan with the application (not 120 days upon receipt of award). The FFY2014-FFY2016 Implementation Plan must be finalized in time for the FFY2014 application (typically due February/March of 2014). This does allow states a full year to plan according the changes that will affect the STOP grant. For example, known changes to the STOP Grant under the Re-authorization.

With OVW granting states an extension on the new plan, Maureen informed the group that planning initiatives will be happening during the next year. Long-time STOP funded programs should be aware that funding beyond FFY2013 will be based on new plan and requirements under VAWA 2013 (continuation funding not guaranteed).

6. Federal Grant Update:

SASP Formula Grant Update:

- **FY2011 (\$153,458)**
 - ContactLifeline continues to be the subgrantee. This enhances and maintains rape crisis services, state wide. Subgrant has a project period of 8/1/12-7/31/13.
- **FY2012 (\$233,227):**
 - The CJC Standard Form will be presented to the CJC during the June meeting. The goal will be to have the funding recommendations to the CJC by the June meeting. Programs should start July 1, 2013.

STOP Formula Grant Update:

- **FY 2009 (\$856,468):**
 - Program ended 12/31/12. Closeout pending OVW approval of final report.
- **FY2010 (\$890,952):** End date 4/30/14
 - All funds are obligated.
- **FY2011 (\$893,875):** End date 6/30/13 (12-month, no-cost extension is pending official notice from OVW).
 - An unobligated balance of funds remains in the law enforcement (\$38,759) and discretionary (\$75,858) categories. CJC staff prepared two draft solicitations for consideration, and the Committee's approval. The release of the announcements is dependent on the approval from OVW for an extension. The Program Manager has approved the extension, but the CJC is waiting for the official GAN.
 - **Law Enforcement RFP:** The 25% that must go towards law enforcement has a \$38,759 unobligated balance of funds.

Maureen explained that after reviewing some of the "2012 Victims Bill of Rights Reports" that police agencies submit to the CJC, and information captured in DELJIS, there are a significant number of referrals to the DSP/DE Victims Center to justify an additional police based advocate. There are also other law enforcement initiatives that could be support under STOP. The balance also carries over to FFY2012, and will carry to the FFY2013 grant. The available balance is enough to actually fund a position, not one-time equipment purchases. The Committee could release the remaining balance; or, the committee could put some of the

discretionary funds towards the announcement. Staff recommended making \$40,000 for law enforcement initiatives and making that available for continuation under FFY2012 and FFY2013.

A motion was made to release the solicitation for \$40,000 for police agencies. Motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion involved the availability of continuation fund. CJC Staffs' recommendation would be to attract new programs and new departments, include the continuation funding (for three years) in the solicitation. A motion was made to obligate the funds under the FFY2012 and FFY2013 awards. Motion carried unanimously.

The RFP will be released when the CJC has the GAN for the 6/30/14 end date. The goal is to have enough time to have announcement, review, and Committee's recommendations presented to the CJC in June.

Selected program(s) will need to be prepared to start July 1, 2013.

- **Discretionary/Victims Services RFP:** Maureen informed the Committee of a recent decision made by the Executive Director. \$8,076 had been obligated (not awarded) for SOAR to continue bi-lingual recovery services in Sussex County. After review of the goals/objectives of the previous years of this project; the CJC did not award the 9th year of this project. The Chair was informed of the decision, and a letter was sent to the agency (the Chair received a copy). CJC staff recognized the need for services in the community and recommended funds be made available under a specific solicitation, targeting Non- English Speaking Victims of Sexual Assault in Sussex County.

There was some discussion of the challenges/obstacles with the program that was not continues. CJC Staffs' recommendation is to try a new approach to service delivery to this community. \$8,076 was the amount previously obligated. CJC Staffs' recommendation is to increase the amount available, but keep the targeted population and services specific non-English speaking sexual assault victims in Sussex County. Staff recommended \$30,000. A motion was made to release the solicitation for \$30,000.

Further discussion involved the availability of continuation funding under FFY2012 and FFY2013. Committee members were concerned there have been so many

challenges trying to serve this community, funding will not be guaranteed, but the solicitation should be drafted to have it available for consideration after review of the program. A motion was made to release the \$30,000 under FY2011, but not guaranteed obligation of continuation funding, pending review of the program. Motion carried.

Maureen explained the same time constraints with review and approval process. Selected program(s) should be prepared to start July 1, 2013.

- A unobligated balance remains for discretionary programs. That will have to be discussed in future meetings. Good opportunity for the Committee to think of one-time discretionary projects that are needed to address STOP program areas (technology, data collections, etc).
 - Maureen informed the Committee of a recent modification to the DSP “Law Enforcement Training” grant. When this project was first awarded to the DSP, it fell under the DVCC’s Law Enforcement Subcommittee. With the federal consultation requirement and certification, the DSP’s subgrant is designed to include DCADV, SAND and the DVCC in the development of the subgrant project. The conference planning group no longer should fall under the responsibility of the DVCC Subcommittee. DSP will continue to include them in the planning process, but the meetings of this planning group are an ad hoc committee; specifically discussing law enforcement initiatives, it should not be a public meeting. The CJC does not have any concerns with DSP as a subgrantee for this project; and has made this adjustment to the grant.
- **FY2012**(\$887,639): End date 6/30/14
 - Committee voted on continuation programs during the last meeting. A balance remained. Will have to be adjusted based on the solicitations discussed. The CJC will have to request an extension. Cannot submit extension until 90 days prior to end. The balance can be tabled for future discussion.

7. New Business

- Domestic Violence Fund- information only:

The DF 2013 funds will be up for solicitation in the fall. This will be the fourth year of funding under this program. CJC Staff wanted to initiate the conversation for the following considerations:

Most of these programs have now received funding for three or four years. What is the plan for making this competitive (will this follow normal 3-year funding rule, or go beyond?). Also, during the last round of requests, proposals included vehicles, and other items not allowed under most federal programs. Other funding issue that CJC will need guidance for the solicitation is the Indirect Cost Rate. Most federal funding sources have eliminated IDR as an allowable cost.

Nothing needed for a vote. But it is something CJC Staff will need guidance on before the next release (fall, 2013).

- High Risk DV Team-Information Only:

Maureen informed the committee that the CJC recently sent a team to Boston for a “High Risk DV Team” conference. This was done very quickly, and at the Executive Director’s discretion. STOP funds were used to support travel in several STOP Subgrants to ensure a MDT approach. DE had a team with representation from DSP(3), WPD(1), NCCPD(1), DVCC(1), Child Inc (1),, People’s Place (1), DOJ(2), DOC(2) and the Victims Coordinator from the CJC. The DCADV sent one staff person to be on the team. DCADV used their agency’s funds not STOP. But they are included on the collaboration and a member of the Team.

The CJC had participating agencies/subgrantees sign a MOA committing to some follow-up work after the conference. The MOA was intentionally written with loose outcomes. At the time it was created, the DE Team did not know what to expect. The MOA basically commits those individuals that traveled to Boston agree to participate in a follow-up meeting(s) to discuss next steps.

One of the things learned at the conference is that the High-Risk Team relies on the foundation and use of the Lethality Assessment Program. The LAP has been introduced in DE, but is not used consistently by all police departments in the State.

The CJC will be meeting with the Team on May 8th to discuss what was learned, and possible next steps. Maureen will continue to provide the Committee with updates.

- OVW Discretionary Programs to agencies in Delaware- information only:

CJC staff has recently been included in some OVW discretionary grant programs that other agencies receive. The Office of Community Services (DHSS) receives a Safe Havens grant; and the Courts receive the Court Enhancement grant. The SAA should be notified when agencies apply for discretionary federal programs. The CJC can be aware of agencies that are competing against each other; it helps to engage new partnerships and strengthen applications, rather than compete against each other.

Maureen will be inviting OCS and the Courts to a future meeting so brief the Committee on the discretionary program. Federal funding should be used to address gaps, enhance or expand services in the State. Communication is important to ensure we're not overlapping or duplicating services.

8. Other/Public Comment:

At this time, the floor was opened to members of the public for comments or questions. Carol Post wanted to comment on the continuation funding and concern that programs, especially non-profits, will be competing for funding. Carol indicated her concern with the "3-year Rule" and the impact that may have on programs. Carol also commented on the concern that the CJC mentioned the Indirect Cost Rate. It is so difficult for non-profits when funding is so limited. Some agencies rely on the Indirect Costs Rate to continue operations.

Deanna Tyree had questions about the High Risk DV Team and the success of LAP. When would Delaware be looking at implementing the High Risk Team?

Maureen explained that CJC is not saying Delaware needs a High Risk Team. It became clear at the conference, that more training is needed before this could be planned. Also, if it was determined that a High Risk Team model be implemented in DE, more research and assessment would be need to determine the best community to implement this. The CJC was included in the LAP discussion when agencies started raising concern about it not being utilized statewide. It is the hope of CJC staff that we re-engage police departments in the process and training. The approach will be discussed at the follow-up meeting on May 6th.

Valerie Marek had a question about the balance for discretionary projects. SOAR is in need of software and database to meet the requirements for insurance companies and HIPPA. Can STOP funds be available for to assist with that.

Maureen responded that any requests for special funding should be submitted to the Executive Director for consideration. It is important to note, that discretionary programs must still fall under the program areas and scope of the STOP program, or any grant program the CJC administers. What was described did not sound like it met STOP requirements. Maureen stressed there is no solicitation for discretionary grant programs. But, per CJC policy, agencies with special needs can submit a request to the Executive Director.

Without anything further, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Monagle