

Approved

**VAWA Implementation Committee**

**Summary Minutes**

**September 22, 2014**

**2:00PM-3:30PM**

**The Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO) - Conference Room**

**10<sup>th</sup> Floor - Carvel State Office Building**

**820 N. French St.**

**Wilmington, DE 19801**

**Committee Members Present:** Hon. Vincent Poppiti (*via phone*); Hon. Robert Coupe; Stephanie Hamilton; Josephine Maclaine; Maria Knoll, Esq;

**CJC Staff Present:** Maureen Monagle; Kathleen Kelley; Nicole Sund

**Public Attendees:** Eric Merlino (*ContactLifeline, Inc*); Carol Post (*DCADV*); Tim Collins

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

**1. Approval of the minutes from the June 11, 2014 meeting:**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**2. FFY2013 SASP Formula Grant- (grant modification- VOTE Required)**

CJC staffed emailed the subgrant application from the Children's Advocacy Center for the "Non-Offending Caregivers Program;" in the amount of \$74,389.

Staff's recommendation would be for the Committee to support the Non-Offending Caregiver Program for one more year. This program will not be eligible for FFY2014 SASP funding, per OVW, under the VAWA Reauthorization.

The funding for these services/ this project scope has already been approved by the CJC with the condition the VAWA Committee has final approval on subgrant. This does not have to be presented to the Council again.

A motion was made to support the CAC's grant application for \$74,389. This will support the services and associated costs to offer a Non-Offending Caregiver support program for one more year. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**3. Update on FFY2014-FFY2016 STOP Implementation Plan:**

The STOP Formula Grant Strategic Planning day has been scheduled for October 22, 2014.

Invitations have been sent to participants. These include key stakeholders and those agencies required by OVW. Maureen has received positive response and interest.

The meeting will be organized a little different from past strategic planning meetings. Breakout groups will be encouraged by the different disciplines/funding categories under the STOP grant.

Stephanie Hamilton has been providing guidance and suggestions for the structure and information to be shared.

The Committee will receive more details closer to date of the October meeting.

The CJC anticipates the award notice in the near future. One of the items OVW was waiting on was the final meeting. This meeting and participation in meeting has to be documented per OVW.

The STOP grant has to be competitive this year, per the new plan and requirements under VAWA Reauthorization. The Committee's funding recommendations typically are presented to the DVCC and CJC in December. Maureen is hoping the award notice comes in time to allow for solicitation process.

#### **4. DVCC Initiatives:**

Ellie Torres, the Executive Director of the DVCC, was going to update the Committee on new initiatives of the DVCC. She was unable to attend this meeting. This update will be tabled for a meeting in the near future.

An example of one of the initiatives that is being supported with a small STOP grant (reverted discretionary funds), is training and improvements to the Fatal Incident Review Team. Maureen reminded the Committee that the DVCC received a small grant to support travel of DVCC staff to a national conference. This also includes contracted services of a trainer to present to the DVCC. That date is tentatively scheduled for December. More information will be provided at a future meeting.

#### **5. Follow-Up Discussion:**

##### **• Rape Crisis Services:**

The concern for rape crisis services and the delivery of services has been previously discussed. The CJC held a meeting with key stakeholders on August 28, 2014, to discuss the delivery of rape crisis services in New Castle County.

ContactLifeline has addressed the issue of hotline calls. They are no longer being out-sourced to a different state. All calls to the rape crisis line are being answered by someone in Delaware.

The concern continues to be lack of coordination with other professionals (law enforcement, victims' advocates, mental health providers, etc). Poor response, or lack of response, has impacted referrals. ContactLifeline heard everyone's concerns and the decline of services over the past few years.

The Interim Director and staff will continue to try to respond and address concerns.

CJC staff has been asked by several members of the victims' community to address this issue. The CJC will hold follow-up meetings until rape crisis services are available and effective for anyone in need. Maureen will continue to keep the Committee involved in this issue, and informed of progress.

## **6. Domestic Violence Fund:**

- **2014 Collections:** The total amount deposited to the Domestic Violence Fund for the July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014 period is \$105,965.

The CJC retains 5% (\$5,298) for administration of the grant. The CJC will release the competitive solicitation by October 1, 2014. The solicitation will coincide with Domestic Violence Awareness month activities.

Applications will be reviewed during the next meeting. The Committee should be prepared to vote on recommendations before the December meetings of the DVCC and CJC (12/8 and 12/15 respectively).

- **DRAFT report of FY209-FY2013 DV Fund subgrantees:**

Amelia Simmons, CJC Assistant, assisted Maureen in the collection of all progress reports of all subgrant programs under the DV Fund. This draft report was provided to the Committee for review and comments prior to this meeting.

This document provides a brief summary of goal and outcome of each project. It shows the fluctuation in funding, the number of victims that have benefited by the services.

The Chair recommended this report also be shared with the Clerks of the Peace.

## **7. Federal Grant Update:**

- **SASP Formula Grant Update:**

- **FY2012 (\$233,227):** End date extended to 1/31/15. Due to challenges with fully expending all funds, ContactLifeline had a balance of federal funds. The CJC asked OVW for a no-cost extension to avoid reverting unspent funds. This extension was granted.
- **FFY2013 (\$238,908):** Funds fully obligated/not yet awarded. Grant funds will be awarded to ContactLifeline and the Children's Advocacy Center (as discussed in agenda item #2)
- **FFY2014 (Federal Application pending):** Maureen reported the CJC received the award on September 5, 2014. Delaware's award is for \$272,885.

- **STOP Formula Grant Update**
  - **FFY2010 (\$890,952):** The federal end date was 4/30/14. All funds were expended. Closeout was pending OVW's approval of final report.
  - **FFY2011 (\$893,875):** The federal end date was 6/30/14. As was previously reported, due to staffing challenges and filling a vacancy in DOC, and a problem with the City of Wilmington's Budget office and miscoding, there were unspent funds. As result, **\$5,523.31** was reverted back to OVW.
  - **FFY2012 (\$887,639):** End date 6/30/15 (*extension granted*). All funds have been obligated/awarded.
  - **FFY2013 (\$869,733):** The current federal end date is 6/30/15; the CJC cannot request an extension until March 2015.
  - **FFY2014 (award not issued by OVW):** pending final approval, as discussed above.
    - Discussed in agenda item # 3. STOP grants normally go before DVCC and CJC in December

**8. Other/Public Comment:**

Mr. Tim Collins addressed the Committee with his concerns on lack of services for male victims. He believes there should be a Violence Against Men Act.

Without anything further, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maureen Monagle