DVCC Medical Committee

Southern Delaware: April 13, 2015

Milford State Service Center, Annex Building

I: The Meeting was called to order and introductions were made by those present at the meeting. In attendance were: Dawn Culp (BH and Committee Chair), Karen Long (DPH), Natasha Smith (DVCC), Aimee String (DVCC) and Cheri Will (Beebe).

II. Old Business

1. Medical Manual
2. CEU Renewal – Those present at the meeting reviewed the CEU application for the Medical Manual Training. Those present agreed that the application looked great minus a few grammatical and formatting errors. Dawn Culp suggested that we add a section in the Medical Manual and accompanying training regarding the Lethality Assessment screening tool. Aimee reminded the group that we did not include it in the original manual because it has not been scientifically validated for use in hospitals and at the time the tool was not being utilized in all Delaware hospitals. The group agreed that the tool is now being utilized in all Delaware hospitals and reflects what we consider to be best practice in Delaware. The committee agreed that it should be included in the medical manual with the caveat that it has not been scientifically validated for use in hospitals. Cheri mentioned that we also need to stress the importance of privacy when using the tool. It should never be utilized in a triage area. Aimee mentioned that we could also include the revised strangulation form in the updated medical manual. Aimee will go through the resource list to make sure that information is up to date.
3. Training Changes – Those present at the meeting agreed that adding the Clinical Illustrations as role play scenarios and the additional minutes of training would be beneficial to those being trained.
4. Certified trainers – Those present were in agreement with the list of trainers.
5. Distribution – The Committee agreed that it would be nice to make hard copies available again in light of the changes. Once changes are made, the medical manual will be re-released to all hospitals. Karen noted that the manual is available on their internal employee website and will need to be updated in those locations as well. We will also reach out to the Medical Society of Delaware again to request their assistance in getting the new manual out to service providers.

III. New Business

1. Medical/Legal Domestic Violence Forum – Those present at the meeting thought this was a great idea. Dawn noted that a helpful training topic would be preparing healthcare providers for the legal justice system. Other areas of interest include, explaining the difference between a PFA and no contact order, the importance of documenting medical records and more information on strangulation.

IV. Trends in the Field

1. Aimee mentioned that there was a package of Bills being discussed called the Women’s Package which will include a bill pertaining to reporting sexual assaults on college campuses. While no one has seen the exact language of the bill at this point, there are some concerns. This is something that we should all be keeping our eye on.
2. Cheri Will noted that there is a need for more DV education to the LGTBQ community. This is a population that we also need to be addressing in TDV trainings.

V. Agency Reports - None

IV. Next Meeting Date: July 14th at 10:00 AM at the Milford State Service Center, Annex Building