**Domestic Violence Coordinating Council**

**Kent County Domestic Violence Prevention Forum Planning Meeting**

**July 13, 2015 at 1pm**

**Delaware State Police Museum - Dover, DE**

The meeting was called to order and those in attendance made introductions. Those present at this meeting were Karen McGloughlin (Department of Public Health), Gregg Bunkley (HOPE Foundation), Adrienne Owen (Delaware State Police), Dr. Joseph Zingaro (Peoples Place), Dawn Culp (Bayhealth ED), Ruth Yeboah (Dover Air Force Base), Kathy Hudson (Nanticoke), Ellie Torres (DVCC), Natasha Smith (DVCC).

This is the first meeting of the Kent County DV Prevention Forum. Minutes from the initial statewide planning meeting, held on June 8, 2015 were distributed to those in attendance.

**DV Prevention Forum History**

A brief description was given of the Domestic Violence Prevention Forum’s past events. Christiana Care has sponsored this event for over ten years. Generally they have tried to have an interactive event along with a panel discussion. In the last few years, Christiana Care has used Art Fusion to provide an interactive dramatic presentation to the audience followed by a panel discussion. These events have typically taken place in November and we would like to continue with that time frame.

A brief recap was given of the June 8, 2015, initial statewide planning meeting. Those present agreed that “Engaging Men” (14 and over) was a good idea for the Kent County DV Prevention Forum focus.

**Location**

The Martin Luther King Center at Delaware State University was the first choice for a location of the event. Those present also suggested the Early College High School (ECHS) and Dover High School as alternate locations if the MLK Center is not available. Committee members thought that the event should take place in the afternoon.

Committee members thought that inviting only Men and Young Men to the event would be the most effective. Members agreed that event participants would be more likely to have an honest and open conversation if the majority of participants are males in the room. Committee members discussed having DSU students and ECHS students at the same event. Committee members thought that DSU participants could act as mentors to the high school students. After some discussion committee members thought that we should gear our efforts toward DSU students and add high school students to the program if possible.

**Date**

Those present thought that holding the event in the first 2 weeks of November is a good time if scheduling works out with partners (such as school, location and Theatrical Fusion).

**Art Fusion**

Committee members thought that Art Fusion was a good idea to have at the event. It was agreed that using the Skits performed in 2014 could work with this event as well. The group agreed that Art Fusion is very good at customizing the skit to the audience. Committee members also agreed that looking at the scripts before the event is a good idea.

**Panel**

The committee discussed various individuals who may be willing to participate on the Panel for this event. Some of those mentioned were Delaware State University’s Football Coach, the Athletic Director at Delaware State University as well as a number of Former NFL players that are affiliated with Delaware State University or have lived in Delaware. Gregg Bunkley (Hope Foundation) agreed to provide contact information for a number of those mentioned above.

Dr. Zingaro (Peoples Place) suggested Dr. Julius Mullen as a Panelist for this event. Dr. Mullen is the Director of Seaford House and is the Chief Clinical Officer for Children and Families First in Delaware.

Dawn Culp suggested we reach out to Ms. Pauline Meeks from Delaware State University to see if she thinks if it is a good idea to have DSU male students as a Panelist for this program. It was also suggested that we reach out to the Delaware Men program to see if there is someone from the DSU program that is able to participate on the panel.

Committee members also suggested that having someone from a Sexual Offense Support (S.O.S) program would be a good idea for having someone on the panel. Another suggestion was made to have Patrick Paterson (who was involved with the “Spit ’N Anger: Venom of a Fatherless Son” documentary) to have on the panel.

Committee members discussed having a Moderator for the Panel. The suggestion was made for Jeff Williams (WDEL) to moderate the program. The committee also discussed having one of the panel members give a brief introduction at the start of the program to get the participants engaged. The committee also discussed that we make sure that all those that participate in the Panel have an appropriate message when it comes to Domestic Violence Prevention.

**Food**

Those present at the meeting thought that it would be a good idea to have refreshments since this will be a late afternoon event. It was noted that if we use Delaware State University and the Martin Luther King Center we need to utilize DSU’s catering for the event.

**Childcare**

Committee members did not think childcare was needed because this event will happen during the daytime.

**Support Staff**

Committee members thought that DSU’s counseling program would be a good place to start for support staff for the event. If additional staff is needed, Delaware State Police Victims Services would gladly pitch in to help.

**Advertising**

Committee members thought that it may be a good idea to reach out to DSU Student Government, the Athletic Department and Fraternities on DSU campus for publicity. Committee members also thought that it was a good idea to see what system DSU currently using to get the word out about events (including electronically and social media). Committee Members thought that partners at DSU could customize a version of the flyer for the event. Karen McGloughlin was also willing to help with creating the flyer.

The committee briefly discussed giveaways and door prizes. Suggestions were made for ID card holders and cell phone screen cleaners. Committee members also thought it would be a good idea to include Resource Cards in the giveaway items.

A suggestion was also made to reach out to the Graduate Chapters of Fraternities in the Dover area to encourage undergraduate Fraternity members at DSU to support the Kent County DV Forum. A suggestion was also made to see if Graduate/Undergraduate Fraternities would be willing to donate door prizes (such as Walmart Giftcards).

**Next meeting date: Monday, August 10, 2015 at DSP museum at 1pm.**