



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL
TREATMENT COMMITTEE
DRAFT Minutes**

April 11, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Appoquimink State Service Center

- I. Introductions
 - a. In attendance were Brendan O'Neill (chair), Shamla McLaurin (Catholic Charities), Blanche Creech (Turning Point at People's Place), Melissa Kearney (Probation and Parole) and Dan Armstrong (Child Inc.)
 - b. DVCC Staff Present: Aimee String and Moe Monagle
 - c. Public Attendees: None present

- II. Review of January 10, 2018 Minutes
 - a. Minutes were approved as presented.

- III. Old Business
 - a. Update on meetings between Treatment Programs and P&P
 - i. Child Inc. met with Probation and Parole on January 11th for an information sharing session. The session was well received. Child Inc. and P&P plan to meet quarterly.
 - ii. People's Place has been in discussion with P&P. They have not yet scheduled a meeting in Sussex as there has been a lot of turn over.

 - b. Evaluation of Treatment Programs: Review of Recommendation #3

"As part of capacity building efforts, form a DVCC Research and Accountability Committee comprised of DVCC staff, judges or commissioners, and agency representatives to meet on a regular basis to develop and implement a more rigorous plan for ongoing data collection, analysis and dissemination. To build on this first evaluation effort:

**Design and implement a study that is focused on victims. While including victims was outside the scope of this evaluation, a pilot study that includes interviews conducted with victims of batterers enrolled in the program would have great value. "*

DISCUSSION NOTES:

- A study focusing on victims could be helpful however difficult to obtain information because there is no leverage and funding makes providing incentives difficult.
 - Dan mentioned that Child Inc. does Victim Surveys and have a very small return rate (approximately 20%). Both People's Place and Child Inc. experience similar return rates. It is a very transitory population.
- When working with victims there is always a concern that we could re-traumatize victims or put them in danger if he/she is currently with his/her abuser.
- There was a study complete in Australia that focused on victims. Aimee will research and report back at our next meeting.

**Continue the two outcome components of this evaluation: 1) the analysis of DELJIS data and 2) the utilization of the BIPPOS pre-test/post-test tool.*

DISCUSSION NOTES:

- Intervention Programs agreed that it would be possible to continue the BIPPOS pre/posttest but we would need to be very sure that there was a clear reason and use for the information. The BIPPOS does take time and effort on behalf of the service provider.
- For the purposes of the evaluation, Dr. Mankowski scored the pre and posttests. We would need to get someone trained in scoring the tool.
- Blanche mentioned that if we were to continue using the tool, she would want more information from Dr. Mankowski about the reverse scoring. It is her belief that there may be a flaw in the system. She has previously spoken to Dr. Mankowski about her concerns.
- At one point, the DVCC has an Evaluation Form that was being utilized by the Intervention Programs. Perhaps this would be a more effective way to continue to track information if it were redeveloped.
 - The Committee would like to revisit this form.
- The Statistical Analysis Center is under new leadership. Moe plans to meet with them in the future. Perhaps there is a way that the committee can work with them to track information.

**In the long term, conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis for the program.*

IV. New Business

- a. Treatment Programs noted that they are still seeing PFA orders of anger management when it should have been Domestic Violence Intervention. This is particularly happening in consent orders. It may be time to do another mediator training.

V. Agency Reports

- a. People's Place
 - i. Rosemary West is back with People's Place. She has an MSW and will be doing clinical work.
 - ii. Jennifer Oppel, Director of the SAFE program has resigned.

iii. Mamie Charest is the new Executive Director of People's Place.

- b. Melissa Kearney will be shifting positions to work in Pre-Trial. Her position has not been posted yet.
- c. Child Inc has hired new Director, Lori Sitler
- d. The DVCC will be bringing Dr. Jacquie Campbell to Delaware to do a one day Danger Assessment Training on May 17th. This training will be by invitation.

VI. Public Comment

- a. No members of the public were present.

DRAFT