



STATE OF DELAWARE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL
STATE OFFICE BUILDING – 10th FLOOR
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**Summary Minutes
Victims Services Advisory
Committee
March 14, 2018
10:30AM**

**Delaware State Police Museum
1425 N. DuPont Highway
Dover, DE 19901**

Committee Members Present: Deb Reed (Vice Chair, DSPVS); Paige Schmittinger (VCAP); Maureen Monagle (DVCC); Sue Ryan (DCADV); Alex Burns (AOC); Lisa Minutola (OPD); Erin Connelly (DOC); Jay Lynch (DHSS)

CJC Staff Present: Terica Jones; Valarie Tickle; Nicole Rodgers, Kathleen Kelley, Hugh Bayard

Public Attendees: Iris Homer

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

1. Welcome and Introductions

The new director of VCAP, Paige Schmittinger introduced herself. CJC Staff to the committee has also changed from Valarie Tickle to Terica Jones.

2. Approval of the minutes from meeting held November 17, 2017

The minutes were approved with one request to change Deb Reed from “Co-Chair to Vice Chair.” Since she was not at the last meeting, Paige Schmittinger (VCAP) abstained from the vote.

3. Federal Grant update

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Grant Program funds are fully obligated. There were no updates for this funding.

The committee was updated that due to a balance in FFY2015 VOCA Assistance, the new program with Nemours initially approved for funding using FFY2016 was updated to be partially funded using FFY2015 funds. This change was discussed with the Chair and Co-Chair prior to obtaining approval by the Criminal Justice Council.

The committee was informed of balances in FFY2016 and FFY2017 VOCA Assistance totaling \$1,157,539.71. As a result, CJC Staff recommended the release of a funding solicitation for new or expanded programs be released in April 2018 in anticipation of the June CJC meeting. The committee agreed. They did not have any priorities that they wanted included as all funding categorical requirements have been met. Any committee members wishing to receive copies of submitted concepts were told to inform CJC staff.

4. Funding Requests: DVCC Domestic Violence High Risk Team Proposal (\$82,728)

The Criminal Justice Council received a request from the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council for funds to support the contracting of a DV High Risk Team Coordinator as well as team training and supply and operating costs. The committee was given the option to fund the request as received, request more information, or invite the DVCC to compete in the upcoming competitive solicitation. Committee members confirmed that this would not be a state position and that DVCC would contract someone that would be housed at their agency not through another agency. There were questions raised on the precedent set by the committee allowing funding to be spent for a new program without it participating in the competitive process. The committee felt that it was appropriate in this instance and approved this request for funding with 1 abstention. The balance of funds available for solicitation will be updated to reflect this allocation.

5. New Business/Other

CJC staff provided updates on the FFY2015 VOCA Training Grant. The grant was used to fund a Victim Services conference in March 2018. The balance will be used to develop the curriculum and train the instructors for a newly developed Delaware Victims Assistance Academy (DVAA). The development of the Victim Services Training Advisory group was discussed with committee members expressing interest in involvement by their agencies. It was confirmed that the academy would not be mandatory for state victim service workers although it may be a part of grant conditions. The goal is to have the academy curriculum accredited. The committee will be updated on progress at the next meeting.

6. Public Comment

Iris Homer addressed the Committee to discuss the availability of programming for kids who are first time offenders to prevent reoffending. Similar work done with adults by Victims Voices Heard was discussed. Disconnect between offenders, community and victims were also mentioned. Iris was informed of the juvenile programming and encouraged to contact CJC staff working in that funding area.

Without anything further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terica Jones
CJC Coordinator