

**Domestic Violence Commission Meeting
Minutes – December 9, 2011
Public School Forum
3739 National Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh NC**

Commission Member Attendees: Chairperson Karen Parker Thompson, The Honorable Sherry Alloway, Marisol Barr, the Honorable Sharon Barrett, Maria Spaulding for Sherry Bradsher (representing Secretary Lanier Cansler), Gwendolyn Burrell, The Honorable J. Thomas Davis, The Honorable Lorrin Freeman, Beth Froehling, Janeen Gingrich, Chief John Guard, Alisa Hunt-Lowery, Monika Johnson Hostler, Jo Liles, Representative Marian McLawhorn, Deputy Secretary June Michaux, Dr. Aleese Moore-Orbih, and Ben Thalheimer

Guest Attendees: Trishana Jones, Vivette Jeffries-Logan, and Erica Scott

Department of Administration Attendees: Mary Williams-Stover and Charlene Kea

A. OPENING/WELCOME – Karen Parker Thompson, Chairperson

Chairperson Karen Parker Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reminded both the new incoming and existing DV Commission members to stay abreast of the required ethics training. If DVC members have any questions please contact the Ethics Commission at 919-715-2071 or visit the website at <http://www.ethicscommission.nc.gov/>.

B. INTRODUCTIONS – Karen Parker Thompson, Chairperson

The Chair asked all attendees of the December 9, 2011 DV Commission meeting to introduce themselves. Karen announced that Jill Dinwiddie retired and sends her best wishes to the DV Commission. Deputy Secretary June Michaux stated that DOA is in the process of naming a new Executive Director for CFW.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Karen Parker Thompson, Chairperson

The Chair asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the September 16, 2011 meeting and if there were any additions or corrections. Since there were none, a motion was made by Gwendolyn Burrell and seconded by Judge Barrett to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2011 DV Commission as written.

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mary Williams-Stover, Assistant Director

Mary welcomed all attendees to the Domestic Violence Commission.

- The CFW spent last month reporting and working on domestic violence issues and working to improve the process of awarding grants for 2012.
- The Governor's Conference for Women on November 2, 2011 in Charlotte, hosted over 1,500 women for a day of education, inspiration and empowerment. The conference will not take place in 2012 because of the election and Democratic Convention in Charlotte. The planning committee decided to spend the year conducting statewide listening sessions and explore statewide collaborative efforts.
- The grant administrators are working to streamline the grants process. There are five outstanding grants under legal review; however, CFW is working diligently to get them awarded. For the 2012 grant cycle, CFW will open the process to new applicants which could impose competition on existing grantees.
- Statistics for NC CFW are on the website at www.councilforwomen.nc.gov/stats.htm. The primary service utilized by clients is the 24 hour crisis line. Mary encouraged the DV Commission members to refer those in need of services to the CFW.
- The DV Public Awareness Campaign is producing a pilot 5 minute video. Mecklenburg County and Iredell County are the pilot counties for the project. CFW, Wells-Fargo and other Institutions are working to secure the funding.
- CFW is planning the 2012 Women's History Month Celebration with expanded the partners. If you have any ideas or thoughts, please let CFW know.

E. **SPECIAL REPORT- Barriers & Issues in the American Indian Communities Related to Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault – Erica Scott & Vivette Jeffries-Logan**

- Vivette Jeffries-Logan and Erica Scott provided a PowerPoint and statistical information on the barriers that exist in the American Indian community regarding domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Myths and lack of knowledge contribute to barriers within the American Indian community. An example was the “culture defense myth” that “violence against women is not part of Indian culture”.
- North Carolina’s American Indian population is the 8th largest in the country and the highest east of the Mississippi. The American Indian population is the 2nd fastest growing population in North Carolina following Hispanics. .
- The presentation provided statistical data on violence against Native women occurring on and off the reservations/American Indian community. The term “violence against women” refers to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking by an intimate partner or a family member. In the American Indian community, domestic violence and sexual assault are inter-related and one or both can occur.
- Sexual assault refers to not only a violent rape, but occurs in many forms. Women in the Indian communities are far more likely to be sexual assaulted by a non-Native than a Native person.

F. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

➤ **Victim Services - Alisa Hunt-Lowery**

The Victim Services Committee met on Monday and recommended a survey which will focus on the American Indian population within 20 counties. The survey will examine the barriers and successes dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault. Alisa stated that when the 20 counties are identified, the information will be sent to the DV Commission for review. Alisa extended an invitation for new members to the group.

➤ **Batterer Intervention - Jo Liles**

Jo Liles distributed a handout which outlined the committee's work. There were four Batterer Intervention applications for review; two were approved, one is pending, and one application was denied. Jo mentioned that the group is continuing to work on developing the Batterer Intervention Program handbook. She hopes to have a draft for review in the Spring of 2012. There has been an investigation of one of the Batterer Intervention Programs, SLIDES/MAPP in Lincoln, Cleveland, and Guilford counties. Based on the findings of the investigation, the Batterer Intervention subcommittee moved to remove this program from the list of certified NC Batterer Intervention Programs. A motion was made by Representative Marian McLawhorn and seconded by Judge Sharon Barrett to remove this program from the list. Marisol Barr asked who will serve the clients of this program. Kathleen Balogh is working with three judges to identify nearby programs to assist. Attached is her handout. Another question raised regarding the NC Batterer’s Registry was if this subcommittee supports its functions. Jo Liles responded that the Registry was supported by victims and their families. She will gather more information about the Registry for the DV Commission.

➤ **Law Enforcement & Pro Arrest – John Guard**

Chief John Guard stated the committee is scheduled to meet February 3, 2012. He welcomes anyone interested in serving on this committee.

➤ **Workplace Violence – David Elliot**

David Elliot could not attend this meeting and there is nothing to report at this time.

➤ **Legislative – Judge Sharon Barrett**

Judge Barrett stated the 50B Re-write Subcommittee sent their report for committee review. The 50B Re-write Committee has not met and Judge Barrett hopes to have something to report at the next DV Commission meeting in February 2012.

G. SPECIAL REPORT- NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence – New Orleans Children’s Program – Trishana Jones

- Trishana presented a PowerPoint presentation on a new Children’s Program (Child Advocacy and Services Enhancement – CASE project) along with a handout which outlined the presentation. This program will address the need to expand, enhance, and improve services for children and youth exposed to domestic violence in North Carolina.
- The Governor’s Crime Commission and NC DHHS – Division of Social Services joined the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence in an effort to strengthen awareness and provide a safe environment for youth and children in North Carolina. This new collaboration represents a partnership to ensure that services are provided to families and within communities.
- Eleven agencies will serve as pilot programs. The programs are categorized in 6 regions. Regions 5 and 6 are operating; Regions 2 and 4 will begin in Jan. 2012 and Regions 1 and 3 will start in Feb. 2012.
- The Governor’s Crime Commission has provided funding to assist in creating an infrastructure for agency screening. Programs and agencies will not use the tool for screening clients, only employees serving children in local DV programs.
- A question was asked if the services used to provide screening such as background checks are capped and how long it can be used. Trishana responded the contract states through June 2012.
- Trishana said that NCCADV was planning an awareness campaign. and she is open for ideas and networking on the project.
- The overall goal of the CASE project is to build an evidence base for trauma-informed services, strategies, advocacy, and interventions for children and youth exposed to domestic violence.

H. MEETING ADJOURNED

Chairperson Karen Parker Thompson thanked everyone for attending and for their support. Karen asked if there were any other announcements. Gwendolyn Burrell announced that the grant cycle for GCC is underway; Beth Froehling announced that the NCCADV’s newsletter, “The Advocate” outlines events and urged each DV Commission member to pick up a copy of NCCADV’s 2010 annual report. The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm. The next meeting will be February 10, 2012 in this same location.