

VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

July 25, 2019

Attendance: Neda Bolourian, Quintara Brunson, Ronald Cohen, Cinder Cooper Barnes, Amos Hicks III, Brian Koosed, Kecia Lopes, April Marrone, Kathryn Pontzer, Sally Reid, Juanita Rogers, Leah Schwartz, Reem Sharaf, and Robin Stimson.

Members Absent: Liz Briganty Vidal and Sorell Schwartz.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Annabelle Gerendasy for Ellen Alexander and Rebecca Marcolini.

Guests: Drena Reaves-Bey.

Support Staff: Maria Carzon and Rafiah Prince.

I. Additions to Agenda

- No additions to the Agenda.

II. Approval of Minutes

- The June 27, 2019 minutes were approved.

III. Introduction of new board members

- Welcome to Neda Bolourian, Quintara Brunson, Amos Hicks III, Brian Koosed, and Juanita Rogers.

IV. Public Affairs/Events Sub Committee updates and Facebook demonstration - Sally Reid

- They attended and reported the public Orange event.
- If you know of events or resources, please notify the Affairs and Events Subcommittee members.
- To attend an event, please send a request to Rafiah. If it is approved, they can say they are members but not represent the board.
- It takes weeks to get the approval, so please send requests as soon as possible.

Action item: Leah will send a list of the upcoming events to Rafiah.

V. Annual Report - April Marrone

- Volunteers are needed to meet with the VASAP and APP staff in September, in order to prioritize needs.
- The 2018 Annual Report and interview questions for service providers were distributed.
- Volunteers are also needed to interview Service providers in January.
- Quintara Brunson, Neda Bolourian, Brian Koosed, Sally Reid, and Leah Schwartz have volunteered.

Action item: April will work with Rafiah to schedule a meeting with VASAP and APP staff.

VI. Questionnaire for County Service Provider Interviews – April Marrone

- The document was distributed, and the Board agreed to combine questions 1 & 8, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, 9 & 10, and to add to question 11, How are you funded? Move question 14 to Budgeting section and add “Do you have adequate staffing?” “if not why?” Remove question 21, combine questions 23 & 25. Combine questions 26 & 27 and move them to the performance section.

Action item: April will edit the document to reflect the changes.

VII. Directory Update – Rafiah Prince

- Rafiah contacted the Mary Anderson. She said they can have a banner on the County website with a link, to VASAP’s website. Mary can do a press release. Additionally, a release that targets County agencies.

Action item: Cinder and Ron will work on the press release, due on August 8, 2019, and send it to April and Rebecca.

VIII. Legislative Sub Committee updates – Kathryn Pontzer

- They would like to clarify if the role of the Board is to support targeted legislation that is being lobbied by others. Is the Board permitted to suggest potential legislative changes to other entities that are allowed to lobby?

Action item: Agree on the role at the September meeting. Agree on VSAB’s legislative priorities, deadline at December Board meeting.

- Conduct outreach to determine legislative priorities for the 2020 Maryland General Assembly Session. This can be ongoing, but much of the work should occur between September and December.
- Identify/Agree on VSAB’s legislative priorities.
- Define what we mean by “supporting” legislative priorities.

IX. Executive Sub-Committee updates – April Marrone

- April is requesting two more members join with this committee.
- They met with the County Council members and attend budget hearings, write letters to Council members. Currently they are trying to get a meeting with Raymond Crowel.

Action item: Maria will send everyone the list of Sub Committees and descriptions.

X. Announcements/Comments/New Business

Action item: Kecia Lopes will provide a better picture for the Annual report.

Adjournment 8:30 PM
Next Meeting: Thursday September 26, 2019
6:30 – 8:30 PM