

VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Agenda April 24, 2025

Attendance: Shanquenetta Anderson, Wendy Ayala, Chelsea Hughes, Franklin Marks, Dyan Owens, Dolores Briceno, Debra D'Agostino

Members Absent: Ellen Alexander, Christina Ingram, Eleen Alexander, Anand Verma, Liz Briganty, Carla, Anand Verma, Celeste Iroha

Ex-Office Members Absent: Ellen Alexander

Support Staff: Melodie Monroe

I. Additions to Agenda – Wendy Ayala

- No additions to Agenda.

II. Roll Call & Virtual Meeting Procedures – Wendy Ayala

- The chair will call the roll to establish a quorum.

III. Approval of Minutes from Past Meetings – Wendy Ayala

- March 27, 2025, Minutes were not approved.
- Will move to approve at next meeting

IV. Executive Subcommittee Update – Shan Anderson

- **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) Update- no updates**
 - Next meeting is last Wednesday of the month, May 28th

V. Legislative Subcommittee Update – Wendy Ayala

- Update on Legislative Advocacy Work
- Updates from Christina at the next meeting.

VI. Ex-Oficio, Non-Voting Members:

- Montgomery County Police: Ellen Alexander**
- Office of Public Defender: Dyan Owens – no updates**
 - Upcoming Expungement Clinic with State's Attorney's Office on May 17
 - Flyer will be sent out
- State's Attorney's Office: Dolores Briceno - no updates**
- Department of Health and Human Services: Vacant**

VII. Membership and Recruitment – Wendy Ayala

- **Update on Vacancies – Call to Action**
 - Membership is currently down.
 - There has been trouble with getting the County Executives to post the current vacancies.
 - Liz will share the specifics of roles when she comes back.
 - 11 Vacancies
 - All members must be residents of Montgomery County
 - Mental Health
 - Legal
 - Medical
 - Dental or Nursing Professions
 - Two representatives of the community as a whole
 - One member of the clergy
 - Where can we share the vacancies?
 - Social media (groups you are in)
 - Word of Mouth
 - County Newsletters
 - County Action Newsletter
 - Montgomery County East Region Newsletter
 - If you can think of any other outlets, please email them.
- **Share a Reminder About Attendance**

VIII. Update to VSAB Handbook – Wendy Ayala

- Wendy provided a Google Drive Link to view the Handbook
 - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WFWRirZZOXdavCkQcGtdSz4qJYCxHVXS>
- Wendy suggests an edit be made to the Ground Rules for Monthly Meeting (Page 9).
 - The language currently reads:
 - *No more than three outside speakers will be allowed to make presentations per year, limited to 30 minutes, including questions and answers.*
 - Suggested that the language is changed to not limit the number of speakers.
- Wendy suggests that the time limit be kept and will call to action at the next meeting.
 - The language currently reads: Members will allot a time limit for a topic to be discussed and place that time on the agenda. Once the time limit is reached, the topic needs to be tabled until all topics have been discussed for the evening. If additional time remains, it can be further discussed or tabled until a later meeting.

IX. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates – Celeste/Chelsea

X. Discussion on future presentations

- Wendy suggests that Interfaith Works be invited to present and gave a description of what they do.
 - Resources in the County
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Supportive Housing
 - Vulnerability and needs of Women fleeing abuse

XI. Announcements/Comments/New Business

- Debra wanted to know:
 - Is there a list of county entities that have been impacted and/or lost funding because of the DOJ cuts?
 - Wendy – There is a list in the Google Drive folder. Liz can give more insight.
 - This list can be broken down, and the agencies can be contacted to determine their specific needs.
 - Debra mentioned that she was aware that Montgomery County has hired at least 15 former Federal Judges who had been affected.

Next Meeting:

May 22, 2025 (Virtual)

