



Isiah Leggett
County Executive



Darren M. Popkin
Sheriff

Office of the Sheriff

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council

Thursday, March 8, 2018

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**Family Justice Center 5th Floor Conference Room
600 Jefferson Plaza, Suite 500, Rockville, Maryland 20852**

In Attendance: The Honorable Sidney Katz, Chair (Montgomery County Council); Debbie Feinstein, Vice Chair (Montgomery County Office of the State's Attorney); Tom Manion (Montgomery County Office of the Sheriff); Nicole Drew (Montgomery County Commission for Women); Tina Michaels (Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation – Pre-trial Services); Assistant Chief Laura Lanham (Montgomery County Department of Police); Teresa Bennett (Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services); Resa Levy (Community Member); Ronald Whalen (Community Member); Sheila Kamdar (Community Member); Cheryl Kravitz (Community Member); Smita Varia, Staff (Montgomery County Office of the Sheriff);

Guests: Lisa Mandel-Trupp (Office of Montgomery County Councilmember Sidney Katz); Michael Subin (Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission); Shana Brodeur (Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse); Captain Sean Gagen (Montgomery County Police Department); Natasha Carter (The Armand Center); Ajita Robinson (The Armand Center); Michael Xu (The Armand Center); Karen Mull (The Safe Passage Center)

Absent: The Honorable Karla Smith (Circuit Court for Montgomery County); The Honorable John Moffett (District Court for Montgomery County); The Honorable Rebecca Smondrowski (Montgomery County Public School – Board of Education); Eshigo Okisili (Community Member); Naomi Pearson (Student Member); Rochelle Perry (Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services – Parole and Probation)

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Approval of January Minutes

The January 11, 2018 DVCC meeting minutes were reviewed. Nicole Drew proposed a motion to approve the minutes without revision. The motion was seconded by Tom Manion and passed.

III. Announcements

The Sexual Assault Response Team will be holding an event on April 10th at 6 pm at the Universities of Shady Grove. Smita will circulate the flyer.

IV. New Member Update

The Coordinating Council has several new members. Tina Michaels is the new representative for Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation,

replacing Angela Talley, and Rochelle Perry replaces Bill Sollod as the representative for Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services – Parole and Probation. Ronald Whalen is the new Community Member, and Naomi Pearson is the new Student member. Cheryl Kravitz and Eshigo Okasili have been nominated for another 3 years as Community Members.

V. Guest Presentations

Karen Mull from the Safe Passage Center and Natasha Carter from the Armand Center gave presentations on their monitored exchange and supervised visitation services.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Education and Outreach Committee - *Debbie Feinstein, Chair*

The Choose Respect Conference will be held on April 15th at Richard Montgomery High School from 12:00 – 4:00pm. The Choose Respect Planning Committee is working on finalizing a new logo that will be unveiled at the conference. Registration opened on March 1st and 139 people have already registered. The PSA Contest deadline is next Friday, March 16th. There are currently 29 entries. From past experience, most of the PSA entries come in during the last week, so the Committee does expect many to come in next week. This year, the contest only asks for entries that address emotional, financial or technological violence, not physical abuse. The conference will offer a choice of workshops for the high school students. They will be able to choose between It's Not Love and Bystander Intervention. All students who complete the workshop will receive 4 SSL hours. School of Rock will also be performing during the Resource Fair and while people are entering the auditorium. Outreach for the conference includes MCPS and local organizations working with youth.

The Expect Respect Presentations are going well. With facilitators from the State's Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, Chesapeake Counseling and the Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse, the presentations will reach over 2,000 students.

The Coaching Boys into Men Program is expanding to the Jewish Day School Baseball Team this spring. The Committee is also looking to expand their work with athletes by piloting a program for girl athletes called Athletes as Leaders.

The FJC Multi-Language Cards are being distributed according to established protocols with no issues to report.

B. Victim Services Committee update - *Tom Manion, Chair*

Tom Manion reported that case work at the FJC has been busy recently. The ALERT meeting (a multidisciplinary group that collaborates on high risk cases) met earlier in the week. At the January ALERT meeting, due to the collaboration of the partners, 2 people were located and arrested on outstanding warrants before the meeting concluded. The Onsite Partners meeting and the Steering Committee Meeting are both next week. Tom has been focusing on training and technology. He has recently applied for a grant to upgrade the technology at the Family Justice Center. The Family Justice Center Alliance conference will be in Ft. Worth, Texas in April and the Family Justice Center will send 3 staff to that conference. Other Family Justice Center staff will attend the Victims Rights Conference in April and the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence Conference in May.

C. Offender Program and Policy Committee – *Tina Michaels, Chair*

The Offender Program and Policy Committee met yesterday. Ron Whalen and Rochelle Perry are the new members on the committee. The committee had successful meetings with the Circuit Court and District Court Judges about the Abuser Intervention Program. The Committee is still working on meeting with the Commissioners and will be starting to work on new initiatives, including a domestic violence training for parole officers.

D. Legislative and Policy Planning Committee - *Vacant, Chair*

There is a new bill that will make it a criminal violation (90-day misdemeanor) to violate pre-trial or post-trial condition. Currently, if someone is out on Bond and they go to the victim's house, they cannot be arrested unless there is also a protective order. With this new bill, the Police could arrest the offender on a 90-day misdemeanor. This violation also does not have to happen in front of an officer. If the officer has probable cause based on credible information, they can make the arrest, even if they are not present to witness the violation. Both the House and Senate have voted favorable for the Bill, but it now has to go to Crossover to decide what the final language will be, and then it will be voted on again.

There are several other bills being considered at this time. There will be a more expanded report on legislation at the May meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Debbie Feinstein, Vice Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:29 PM.

The next DVCC meeting will be on May 10, 2018, 5pm-7pm at the Family Justice Center



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