



STATE OF WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

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**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE
BUDGET, FINANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE 2024
MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 2024
1:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Meeting was held in-person and virtually
Approved July 9, 2024**

Council Members Present: Sue Sippel, Shannon Barry

Committee Members Present: Renee Schulz, Jen Bisterfeldt, Barb Fisher, Milly Gonzales, Liz Marquardt, Jaime Sathasivam, Robin Scott, Tegan Swanson

DCF/Governor's Council Staff Present: Julie Fisher

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair Sippel called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Members were welcomed and members provided introductions.

Review and Update of Committee Goals and Objectives

Fisher shared her screen with the current committee goals and objectives. Sippel led discussion. Committee members reviewed and discussed each section. Changes were suggested and are shown in red on page 3. The Budget Committee will discuss, review, and finalize these changes at the July Budget Committee meeting.

What can the Budget Committee do to assist programs in addressing funding cuts

Barry informed the committee that Melanie Schmidt with Timpano Consulting has offered four 90-minute seminars organizational change management. Specifically, Melanie offered to cover *facets of change management as it relates to loss of revenue* as a supplement to the other things that End Abuse and others are doing for programs.

The Committee referred this opportunity to the full council at the meeting o 4/10/2024.

Next steps: Barry will check in with Melanie, if appropriate, after the Governor's Council meeting.

Budget Update

Funding Bill: Sippel asked the Governor's Council if there were any questions around WI Act 241 which provided \$10 million to DOJ for sexual assault, domestic violence, and child advocacy centers. No questions arose at this time. Members are waiting to hear more from DOJ about their plans.

Gormal notified Cicero in advance that she would be on vacation and proposed setting the meeting for a date/time at which she could attend. Committee Leadership could not reschedule. Swanson mentioned that Gormal is now shifting her focus from state to federal funding because the \$10M funding has passed and the state legislature has adjourned.

Dissemination of the policy brief: *Securing Adequate Funding for Domestic Abuse Services in Wisconsin*

Next Steps before Dissemination: Finalizing the authors of the brief

Sippel had worked alongside Dr. Shour to come up with a list of potential authors that included Schulz, Sippel, Dr. Shour, Barry, Swanson, Cicero, and Fisher. Cicero replied to Sippel that she and Fisher, as DCF staff, could not author the brief.

Discussion re: Gonzales and Escudero qualifying as authors because they provided input at the beginning of the process. Sippel re-iterated that the recommendations for authors came from Dr. Shour. Council settled on Barry, Schulz, Sippel, Dr. Shour, and Swanson as authors.

Sippel discussed the possibility of presenting the list at the Governor's Council meeting on 4/10.

Next Steps

Pause to determine next steps for Budget Committee and workgroups until after decisions regarding the open meeting notice, minutes, and workgroup activities are made at the Council level.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Note: The revisions shown in red were made by the Budget Committee of the Governor's Council at the Committee Meeting on 4/9/24. Because there was not quorum, these serve only as suggestions and will be reviewed by the Budget Committee at the July Committee Meeting.

BUDGET, FINANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE 2024

Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse

Committee Goals & Projects

The Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse works to make the issue of domestic abuse visible to the residents and policy makers of the State of Wisconsin.

The **Budget, Finance and Sustainability Committee** of the Governor's Council plays an important role in accomplishing this mission. The Committee's work focuses on the following goals:

- Guide budget related projects and initiatives.
- Identify and address issues related to budget and financial sustainability of domestic abuse programs.
- Provide guidance to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) on the distribution of domestic abuse funding.
- Advance recommendations for sustainable funding to assure a robust and responsive network of providers to meet the needs of DV survivors in Wisconsin.

History and Projects

- Promoted the priorities identified in "*Vision. Hope. Safety. - 2014-2020 Long Range Plan for a Safe Wisconsin*" and support efforts for the next Long Range Plan.
- Developed and promoted the *Fair Minimum Budget* and *Why the Fair Minimum Budget* for domestic abuse programs.
- Researched the rising costs of Worker's Comp and investigated ways to mitigate the costs.
- Developed the previous funding formula for Basic Services, prior to it becoming competitive.
- Advised DCF on how to distribute the \$5M increase in funding in 2015.

Current/Future Projects:

- Develop updated Fair Minimum Budget(s) and companion piece if any.
- Work with a Budget Committee member on a policy brief: "Securing Adequate Funding for Domestic Violence Services in Wisconsin."

Discuss the impact of funding on the landscape of local programs in Wisconsin and disseminate information.

Committee Meetings and Structure

- The Budget, Finance and Sustainability Committee meets five times per year: February, April, June, and October. Members represent a diverse group of people from around the state, council and non-council members alike. We do conference calls between meetings, or schedule additional meetings, when working on projects.
- Meetings are usually two hours, depending on the length and intensity of current projects. If necessary, additional meetings may be scheduled by the committee co-chairs.

Currently all meetings are being held in person. Persons close to Madison usually attend meetings in person. We also offer options to connect via conference call or virtual meetings. Mileage and hotel reimbursements are available.

| If you would like to get involved or have a question about the Budget, Finance and Sustainability Committee, **contact Stacey Cicero at Stacey.cicero@wisconsin.gov**.