

Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse
April 11, 2023

Present: Susan Sippel, Milly Gonzales, Senator Andre Jacque, Alena Taylor, Dr. Abdul Shour, Representative Sue Conley, Melissa Baldauff, Rosalind McClain, Virginia Gittens Escudero

Excused: Sue Perry, Senator Melissa Agard, Nela Kalpic, Tammie Xiong

Guests: Marianne Rosen, Jenna Gormal, Maria Konecke, Amber Peterson, Michelle Rawlings,

Staff: Stacey Cicero, DCF

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Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Sue Sippel, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. This meeting was conducted in person with a virtual option at the End Abuse offices, 1400E. Washington Avenue, Suite 227, Madison. The minutes of the February 2023 meeting were reviewed and a correction was made to reflect that the Long Range Plan developers were to meet with state funders and not the design team. A motion was made by Taylor to accept the February minutes with the correction, second by Gonzales. All aye.

**Presentation: Jenna Gormal, End Abuse Wisconsin
Ian Henderson, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault**
Long Range Plan review and discussion

Information was shared on the 2023-2029 Long Range Plan. This plan differs from past documents as it includes sexual assault and has a more broad scope that includes a focus on BIPOC communities. It is the intention of End Abuse and WCASA to meet regularly with the AIAA and BBWPC to review the LRP. This team will be called the Progress Committee. Next step is to publicly launch the LRP which will include a website. Target launch date is June. End Abuse will handle press releases and program notification.

Dr. Abdul Shour, Council member: Policy Brief update: Dr. Shour discussed his policy brief. Asked for Council input. The most current brief was emailed to Council members. Dr. Shour was invited to be a part of the Budget Committee to help moved this brief forward.

Committee Reports

Access Committee:

Melissa Baldauff, Co-Chair

The Access Committee continues to work on the Anti Oppression manual. The committee is reviewing articles and updating narrative and pictures. Discussion of manual use and best practices for programs. A first draft should be completed by this summer. The manual will be reviewed by DCF and the Governor's Council.

Budget Committee:

Sue Sippel, Co-Chair

The Long Range Plan is expected to be publicly released this summer. This committee will continue to follow the progress of this plan. The committee hopes to have a

presentation on the LRP at its July meeting, when it is out of draft form and the website is ready. The committee continues to work on updating the Fair Minimum and a companion piece to address the “why” the fair minimum is needed. The goal is to have this completed in 2024. The committee discussed the potential of adding specific fair minimums for tribal and culturally specific programs. Dr. Shour’s policy brief will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Legislative and Policy Committee:

Alena Taylor, Co-Chair

This Legislative and Policy committee has three subcommittees:

Batterer’s Treatment Standards review and updates: subcommittee continues to meet to work on updating the standards. They are partnering with the Center for Justice Innovation to provide technical assistance. This national group will provide assistance, free of charge, to help navigate any hurdles.

Fatality Review Commission initiative: subcommittee continues to meet. The recruitment group has disbanded. The focus continues on legislation and developing standards to form a group in WI.

Children who witness abuse just recently started a subcommittee. Amber Peterson will lead this group and is looking for additional members. The focus will be on education and may review the Guardian ad Litem handbook.

Legislative Update

Jenna Gormal, End Abuse WI, reviewed current legislation.

Representative Conley shared that she, Senator Jacque and Representative Tittl have introduced legislation discussed at the last Council meeting. The bill drafts include 49.148 expanding Wisconsin Works eligibility for at-risk pregnancy; and 71.07 allowing certain married persons to claim the earned income tax credit when filing a separate return. Representative Conley will keep the Council informed of the progress.

DCF Domestic Abuse Grant Program Update – Stacey Cicero

- Nine tribes applied for and received the DCF Tribal Sexual Assault funding. The \$50,000 funding opportunity begins April 1, 2023 and ends September 30, 2025.
- The DVHF program is entering its second year of funding. DCF is working with the UW Madison evaluation team to complete a comprehensive evaluation of the programs. We are hoping to share this document soon.
- The Domestic Abuse Services for Immigrant, Refugee, and Former Refugee grant cycle will end 12/31/2023. DCF is currently reviewing this funding and will release an RFP later this summer.
- Michelle Rawlings, Bureau Director, Division of Safety and Permanence, reported that DSP leadership has a desire to learn more about domestic violence programs and the needs. Staff are planning site visits with programs around the state.

Open Forum for Council Members

Co-Chair Sippel stated than email was received from Council member, Tammie Xiong, tendering her resignation on the Council.

Council member Gonzales presented an idea for the State to form a program allowing agencies to “buy-in” to Badgercare. This would allow smaller agencies to provide health insurance to their staff. This was referred to the Budget Committee for further discussion.

Public Comments

Marianne Rosen, Policy Initiative Advisor – Domestic Violence Task Force Chair: reported on the LIFE program (Living Independently through Financial Empowerment) and the potential of \$14 million dollars placed in the 2024 and 2025 state budget. This funding provides direct financial assistance to domestic violence survivors.

Concluding Remarks

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.

Motion by Taylor, second by Baldauff to adjourn the meeting. All aye.