

**Governor’s Council on Domestic Abuse
October 14, 2020**

Present: Representative Lisa Subeck, Senator Andre Jacque, Nela Kalpic, Justine Rufus, Susan Sippel, Kathy Flores, Tammie Xiong, Rosalind McClain, Senator Tim Carpenter, Melissa Baldauff

Excused: Susan Perry, Patricia Ninmann, Rosalind McClain

Guests: Amber Peterson, Jenna Gormal (End Domestic Abuse WI), Tegan Swanson (End Domestic Abuse WI), Marianne Rosen (DCF), Pa Thao (Black and Brown Womyn’s Power Coalition)

Staff: Kaitlin Tolliver

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Staff person, Kaitlin Tolliver, called the meeting to order, with a quorum present at 9:08 a.m. This meeting was conducted virtually due to coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions. The minutes of the July 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved at 11:08 a.m.

Presentation on the Black and Brown Womyn’s Power Coalition

Pa Thao, Executive Director of the Black and Brown Womyn’s Power Coalition, presented information regarding the organization and its capabilities to the Council. PowerPoint of the presentation is attached.

Presentation on the DCF Division of Financial and Economic Security (DFES) Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF)

Marianne Rosen, Policy Initiative Advisor and DVTF Chair, presented on the creation and initial work conducted by the DVTF. PowerPoint of the presentation is attached. Council members engaged in conversation with Ms. Rosen around updating language to include tribes, opportunities for local trainings, and consistency of different definitions. Ms. Rosen will continue to participate in the Council and will follow up as additional work is conducted by the DVTF.

Committee Reports

Access Committee:

The Access Committee engaged in a presentation on the We Are Here MKE initiative. Antonia Vann from the Asha Project and David Bowles from CMR shared a PowerPoint (attached) explaining the origins of the initiative and the goals of the project which include (1) increasing access to usable data on domestic violence and sexual assault in Milwaukee (for the 7 culturally specific organizations involved in the initiative); (2) strengthen coordination with Milwaukee Police Department district stations serving culturally specific communities; (3) developing and launching a multilayered campaign featuring the culturally specific programs’ present and expertise; and (4) expanding victim services personnel at culturally specific programs to not only mitigate harm caused by the coronavirus but ongoing/continuous staff support necessary to strengthen and expand culturally specific services.

The Council members engaged in a conversation around how they could support culturally specific organizations. Tammie Xiong discussed the need for the Council to uplift the campaign due to the movement being necessary to end violence. Other ideas presented included recommendations to funders around scoring methodologies, utilizing the Long Range Plan to influence funding, and advocating for unrestricted funding. The Council recommended that the Access Committee look further into these recommendations and make suggestions.

Budget Committee:

The Budget Committee reviewed the presentation many members attended on the ALICE Report (<https://www.unitedwaywi.org/page/ALICE>) recently released by United Way of WI. The ALICE Report looks at Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed individuals and families within Wisconsin and outlines what income is needed to afford basic necessities.

Amanda Powers from the Office of Crime Victim Services summarized the OCVS Needs Assessment Survey. The PowerPoint is attached.

The Budget Committee also discussed preliminary actions necessary for reviewing the funding formula for the DCF Basic Services grant program. DCF Procurement has requested that the Basic Services grant program be evaluated for how grants are distributed. Currently it is a continuation application with funding formula (not a competitive RFP like every other grant program). DCF will be partnering with End Abuse and directors to evaluate not only Basic Services, but the entire DCF grant program. The Budget Committee will then need to recommend funding options for whatever is established. In preparation, the Budget Committee will expand and begin reviewing the history of the funding formula and compare other options.

Legislative and Policy Committee:

The Committee continued to work on developing the Revocation Process training. A script has been finalized demonstrating a “not so good” revocation hearing and a “best practices” hearing in order to discuss how to improve the revocation process for victims. Actors/Actresses have been identified. Initially, this was going to be recorded with the acting occurring in one space. Due to Covid-19, all counties are holding revocation hearings virtually. Because of this, the Committee determined that they will move forward filming the hearing via zoom. Next steps include inviting the ALJ’s to participate in the video and recording the video. The pamphlet that was created earlier in this process will be reviewed and updated as necessary and an agenda for the training will be finalized.

The Committee also discussed other barriers in the field that the Committee may be able to influence. Ideas that arose included “one family one court”, mediation and domestic violence, batterers treatment, and visitation services. The Committee will continue to discuss in future meetings.

Legislative Update

Jenna Gormal from End Abuse updated the Council various priorities of End Abuse. End Abuse is currently formulating their legislative policy agenda but it will have many extensions on the agenda of previous years (including teen dating violence, gun safety, public benefit access, etc.) and will include efforts to add an optional waiver to statutorily required match on domestic violence grants. Jenna also reported that End Abuse is continuing to recognize that they must center the most marginalized folks in our communities to make decisions moving forward that will meet the needs of all survivors.

Election of Co-Chair

Co-Chair, Renee Schulz, did not receive a reappointment in July and is no longer serving on the Governor’s Council on Domestic Abuse. Kathy Flores volunteered to accept the co-chair position for the next two years. Representative Subeck moved and Sue Sipple seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Topics and dates for 2021

Scheduling dates was discussed as a Council. Final dates planned to meet as a Council are the second Wednesday of February, April, July, and October.

The entire Council participated in a conversation to discuss potential topics for 2021. Options included:

- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Taskforce
- Immigration panel
- Transformative Justice
- Review of the OCVS Needs Assessment Survey

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.