

# MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES February 10, 2012

\*\*\* APPROVED \*\*\*

### **Members Present:**

Cris Sullivan, Chair  
Candace Cowling  
James A. Fink  
Kathryn A. Hoover  
Honorable Amy Ronayne Krause  
Honorable Edward Sosnick – Phone call-in

### **Staff Present:**

Debi Cain, Executive Director  
Donna Cornwell  
Mary Lovik  
Tiffany Martinez  
Barbara Mills  
Lore Rogers  
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary

### **Guests:**

Kathy Hagenian - Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence  
Julie Hagstrom - Michigan State University/SARA Project  
Melissa Horste – Senator Carl Levin’s Office  
John Lazet - Office of the Attorney General  
Shannon Nobles - Michigan Resource Center on Domestic & Sexual Violence

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair C. Sullivan convened the February 10, 2012 Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB) meeting at DHS, Grand Tower Building in Lansing, MI, at 1:15 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests and to Board members.

### **BOARD CONSENT**

Review of agenda; approval of December 9, 2011 meeting minutes

**MOTION: Moved by Chris Sullivan to approve the February 10, 2012 agenda and to approve the December 9, 2011 meeting minutes. Seconded by A. Ronayne Krause. Motion carried.**

### **CHAIR’S REPORT**

C. Sullivan congratulated E. Sosnick on an award he received from Haven for his 37 years of work to end violence against women. She mentioned that A. Ronayne Krause was appointed to the State Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee. C. Sullivan also circulated a new Department of Human Services Org Chart and noted Paula Kaiser VanDam as the new Acting Director to whom D. Cain reports.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE**

As previously approved by the Board, P. Baker reworked the STOP formula to reflect the 2010 census. Upon review of the large variation among the most impoverished and most affluent counties, D. Cain reviewed the revised formula data with Chair C. Sullivan. Based on suggestions from C. Sullivan and P. Baker, D. Cain recommended to the Board utilizing the 2010 census in the STOP formula but capping the gain or loss of any geographic area to \$3,000. D. Cain presented a chart to the Board detailing the projected numbers with the caps.

**Motion: Moved by C. Sullivan to support using a modified formula with a \$3,000 cap to determine STOP funding for Michigan counties from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Motion seconded by Candace Cowling. Motion Carried.**

D. Cain was contacted with a request for information related to the governor's upcoming public safety message. D. Cain submitted information about the domestic violence programs that cover all 83 counties of Michigan and the services they perform. D. Cain also provided information about the successful collaboration MDVPTB has had with many state partners in updating the sexual assault kits and planned law enforcement training pilots under our GTEA. G. Krieger and S. Heuser did an excellent job in preparing the draft materials.

D. Cain mentioned her recent trip to Washington D.C. in which she spoke at Congressman Conyer's hearing as a representative for VAWA administrators. Her comments about about VAWA Reauthorization focused primarily on accountability issues of states.

### **Legislative Review**

M. Lovik reported on HB 4799 [Crime of coercing an abortion.]

**MOTION: Moved by to Kathryn Hoover to support the following concerns expressed to sponsors by MDVPTB staff:**

- **Survivors may be ambivalent about losing long jail sentences for offenders.**
- **Offenders using non-criminal means of coercion will still be at large after payment of the fines the bill imposes.**
- **Nothing prevents offenders from doing the prohibited acts after the child is born.**
- **Provisions for notice of police contacts with offenders should be broad enough to allow for safety planning.**
- **There is no penalty for forcing a woman to become pregnant or for carrying a pregnancy to term.**

**Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried. A. Ronayne Krause abstained.**

M. Lovik reported on HB 5050 (H-2) [Lying to / concealing information from police investigating a crime.]

**MOTION: Moved by A. Ronayne Krause to endorse the staff's efforts to limit criminal liability for survivors who may have faced prosecution under the introduced version of the bill. The Board**

further authorizes staff to seek immunity from prosecution for survivors who are not protected in the H-2 version of the bill, including without limitation, survivors who:

- Are not victims of the crime under investigation, and who feel compelled to conceal or lie from forms of coercion other than physical harm, and / or
- Fear physical harm from someone who is acting on behalf of a domestic partner.

**Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried.**

M. Lovik reported on HB 5134, 5182 [Screening for coercion to abort.]

**MOTION: Moved by Cris Sullivan to authorize staff to work to address these concerns:**

- MDVPTB staff and others with expertise in domestic and sexual violence should participate in developing the screening and response protocols.
- The charge to DCH to develop screening and response protocols for coercive abortion should include provision for training of medical professionals who will use the protocols.
- Survivors who disclose coercion to abort should not be subjected to an additional 24 hour waiting period.

The MDVPTB further recommends that separate screening for domestic violence apart from screening for coercion to abort should not be included in the bills at this time.

**Motion seconded by Candace Cowling with amendments. Motion carried. A. Ronayne Krause abstained.**

L. Rogers reported on HB 4532 [Unauthorized computer access.]

**MOTION: Moved by K. Hoover to support HB 4532 with the removal of the spousal exemption.**

**Motion seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried. A. Ronayne Krause abstained.**

M. Lovik reported on HB 5078 [Children witnessing abuse of other children; Duty to report child abuse one has witnessed.] J. Cape and K. Hoover worked with D. Cain and M. Lovik to draft a guiding principle on this issue. K. Hoover presented a draft principle to the Board.

**MOTION: Moved by A. Ronayne Krause to adopt the following general principles: (adopted on 2/11/05) should also be applied to situations where a child witnesses abuse of another child.**

- The Board's general principle governing child witnessing of adult domestic violence (adopted on 2/11/05) should also be applied to situations where a child witnesses abuse of another child.
- Adults who witness child abuse should be required to report it to appropriate authorities if they have a reasonable expectation that reporting will not endanger their own safety or that of others.

**Motion seconded by C. Sullivan. Motion carried.**

M. Lovik reported on HB 5153 [Civil immunity for social services agencies.]

**MOTION: Moved by C. Sullivan to authorize staff to express concerns, and appoint a workgroup to draft general principles (Candace Cowling, Jim Fink, Lore Rogers, Mary Lovik, Debi Cain)  
Motion seconded by C. Cowling. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kathy Hagenian from the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence said the coalition has a grant from DCHand works with Futures Without Violence and Project Connect on issues of reproductive coercion.

Shannon Nobles from the Michigan Resource Center on Domestic & Sexual Violence said she can be reached directly by phone or email. She said she is available Monday through Friday to handle technical assistance, help with research and make recommendations. The Michigan Resource Center is owned by the Board.

**PROCESS EVALUATION:** No comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 3:05 p.m.

**MOTION: Moved by C. Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kathryn Hoover. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Bobbitt