

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2014**

***** APPROVED *****

Members Present:

Jeffrie Cape
Hon. E. Libby Pollard Hines
Jim Fink
Hon. Jeffrey Sauter
Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair

Members Absent:

Sgt. Yvonne Brantley

Staff Present:

Debi Cain
Celestine Colton
Donna Cornwell
Carol Hackett Garagiola
Sarah Heuser
Gail Krieger
Mary Lovik
Karen Porter
Lore Rogers
LaShawn Thurman

Guests:

Kathy Hagenian – Michigan Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence
John Lazet – Michigan Department of Attorney General

Welcome and Introductions

Chair C. Sullivan convened the October 17, 2014 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Library of Michigan – Lake Superior Room – Lansing, Michigan at 2:22 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of agenda; approval of the September 19, 2014 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by E. Hines to approve the October 17, 2014 agenda and the September 19, 2014 meeting minutes. Seconded by J. Cape. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan reported that Steve Barosko may be attending the Board meeting. Mr. Barosko is the producer of the sexual assault training video developed by Board staff and PAAM on the neurobiology of

trauma, featuring Dr. Rebecca Campbell. The Board can thank him in person for his work on this production.

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

D. Cain reported that she and K. Porter attended the 20th anniversary ceremony for Safe Place at Michigan State University (MSU), which is the only domestic violence shelter on a college campus in the country. C. Sullivan was the recipient of the Purple Ribbon Award, presented by MSU.

D. Cain informed the Board that the Governor signed 2014 PA 318, which creates a Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission within the MDSVPTB. United Parcel Services has met with Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy to discuss piloting a SAK tracking system in the City of Detroit.

D. Cain provided an update on the MSHDA funding. Beginning October 1, 2014, MDSVPTB integrated the MSHDA dollars for emergency shelter & housing as an amendment to our domestic violence comprehensive contracts. D. Cain will be working with twelve former executive directors assisting in recommending a formula to the Board for Emergency Services and MDSHDA dollars.

S. Heuser provided a brief overview of the annual manual and all of the documents entailing the work of the Board for FY'13. An additional section to the annual manual for State partnerships has been added. S. Heuser thanked M. Lovik, J. Giddings, K. Porter and M. Bobbitt for their assistance in completing the 2013 annual manual.

C. Hackett Garagiola provided an update on the work of the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children.

D. Cain announced that on Oct. 29th Channel 4 Detroit will be devoting an entire day of news broadcasting as DV Day (domestic violence). The Board staff has assisted Channel 4 by providing story ideas, suggested people to interview and being available for interviews that are being recorded to air throughout the day, organizing a live phone bank that will be available to callers throughout the broadcasts, recruiting expert hotline staff from several domestic violence programs to staff the phone bank, developing a resource list and other materials to be made available to the public on the "Click On Detroit" webpage during the day, and agreeing to participate in a live web-chat during the broadcasts. Board member J. Cape will be participating in an interview, as will two men who completed a batterer intervention program facilitated by Ms. Cape.

Legislative Review

M. Lovik presented proposed General Principles to address the use of mediation in personal protection order cases and the use of mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution in certain family law cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Motion: Moved by L. Hines to create a workgroup to further develop the guiding principles for future consideration. The workgroup will consist of J. Cape, J. Fink, E. Hines, M. Lovik, L. Rogers & C. H. Garagiola. Seconded by J. Sauter. Motion carried.

M. Lovik presented second-draft revisions to the Michigan Justice Reinvestment Recommendations prepared by the Council of State Governments Justice Center.

Motion: Moved by E. Hines to adopt the following response:

MDSVPTB members unanimously oppose the second draft of the Michigan Justice Reinvestment Recommendations prepared by the Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG), for the following reasons:

- The CSG Recommendations would introduce major changes to Michigan’s sentencing guidelines that are dangerous to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Given the complexity of the task and the victim safety interests at stake, careful consideration must be given to the proposed changes, with adequate time allowed to identify unintended consequences and address victim concerns. The Board understands that proponents of the CSG Recommendations intend to submit them for legislative consideration in November, with the intent of enacting them into law by the end of the current session. The Board does not believe that this timeline will permit stakeholders or lawmakers to fully understand the effects the Recommendations may have on victim safety, or to assess the Recommendations for possible unintended negative consequences to the criminal justice response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Thus, the Board opposes the Recommendations on the grounds that they are not yet ready for legislative consideration. The Board further welcomes the opportunity to continue working with other stakeholders to address concerns with the Recommendations.

- The inflexible restrictions on judicial discretion that remain in the second-draft Recommendations are inconsistent with the following Board General Principle adopted Sept. 19, 2014 in response to the CSG’s first draft Recommendations: “Judges should have the full range of sentencing options to sanction felony offenders convicted of crimes involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking on a case-by-case basis.” Because cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking commonly involve serial offenders and/or offenders who are engaged in an ongoing pattern of criminal behavior against a targeted victim, judges need discretion to tailor sanctions to the circumstances of the case, in order to maximize victim safety and offender accountability. In addition to expressing continued opposition to the CSG Recommendations, Board members unanimously request that the Board’s opposition be communicated to the following:
 - The Governor’s office
 - The bill sponsor(s)
 - The Attorney General’s office
 - The Senate Judiciary Committee
 - The House Criminal Justice Committee

Seconded by J. Sauter. Motion carried.

Board members acknowledged that they had an opportunity to review a list of other bills of interest to the Board’s constituency that had been introduced since the Board’s September 19, 2014 meeting. No further staff bill analyses were requested.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

L. Hines thanked L. Rogers for her impressive training during an education session on working with advocates that she provided at the American Judges Association conference.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

K. Hagenian reported that she and M. Keefe will be attending the National Network to End Domestic Violence meeting in Portland, Oregon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by E. Hines. Seconded by J. Sauter. Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
LaShawn Thurman