

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

**MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2015**

***** APPROVED *****

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Patsy Baker
Michelle Bynum
Debi Cain, Executive Director
Celeste Colton
Debbie Felder-Smith
Gail Krieger
Mary Lovik
Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis
Karen Porter
LaShawn Thurman

Guests:

Brittney Abbott, SafeCenter
Kim Bruce
Julia Denig, Domestic Harmony
Jessica Edel, SIREN
Lori Jump, UTFAV
Mary Keefe, MCEDSV
John Lazet, Attorney General's Office
Dawn Mack, NHBP Tribal Court
Charisse Mitchell, CWIT
Janine Ouderkirk, Shelterhouse/CDVSA
Rachel Richards, DHS/Adult Services
Erin Roberts, RAVE
Shelly Safi, SafeCenter
Holly Seymour, CWIT
Marie Waite, COVE
Stacy Westra, SCAO

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair C. Sullivan convened the January 23, 2015 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Department of Human Services – Grand Tower – Dempsey Room, Lansing, Michigan at 2:07 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of agenda; approval of the November 14, 2014 meeting minutes.

Motion: Moved by J. Sauter to approve the January 23, 2015 agenda and the November 14, 2014 meeting minutes. Seconded by L. Hines. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan reiterated Governor Snyder's announcement of the merging between the Department of Community Health (DCH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) as the newly formed Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS). C. Sullivan suggested that she and a couple of other Board members meet the new DHHS director, Nick Lyon.

C. Sullivan shared D. Cain's Excellence in Leadership Award.

C. Sullivan provided an update on the status of the Board member selection process to replace former Board member K. Hoover. The Board can expect a new member to be selected no later than March 2015.

C. Sullivan thanked the public for their attendance and travels. Also thanked the staff and twelve formula committee members for their diligence in developing the DVES and MSHDA formula as fairly as possible for all of the domestic violence comprehensive programs.

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

D. Cain presented a 25 year service award to P. Baker and lauded Patsy's many outstanding contributions.

D. Cain provided an update on the letter to Chief Deputy Director D. Berger regarding the Child Advocacy Centers audit. A letter from the Board regarding the audit report has to be sent to the legislature no later than February, 2015.

Motion: Moved by Y. Brantley to accept that the audit information was received and the Board approves forwarding of the D. Cain letter as required by legislation. Seconded by J. Sauter. Motion carried.

D. Cain provided a brief update on SB 789, which was vetoed by Gov. Snyder. D. Cain suggested the Board send a letter to the Governor thanking him for vetoing the bill.

D. Cain explained that the STOP grant requires that 5% of the STOP grant be provided to courts.

D. Cain recommended that the Board support a dedicated domestic violence docket in the 36th district court in Detroit.

Motion moved by J. Fink to use up to 5% of the STOP grant – courts set aside to support a domestic violence docket in the 36th district court in the city of Detroit. Seconded by Y. Brantley. Motion carried.

M. Lovik provided additional comments on SB 789.

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 November 14, 2014 meeting.

P. Baker outlined the DVES & MSHDA Formula proposal as recommended by the formula committee. D. Cain & P. Baker recommend that the formula be phased in over the five year period of the domestic violence comprehensive contracts (10/1/15-09/30/20).

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board allowed public comment regarding the proposed DVES and MSHDA formula.

M. Waite – Represents Mason, Lake and Oceana Counties. Is concerned that she has the two poorest counties in the State but it isn't displayed on the poverty indicators. The citizens aren't receiving DHS assistance and other resources. The counties are very rural and there is no public transportation. The program staff picks up clients and makes home visitations. Overall, it costs the shelter more to service their clients. M. Waite stated that she's not sure the formula takes into account their lack of resources and believes it costs them 2-3 times more than it costs other programs to run based on the extra they do.

L. Jump – Director of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence, the Michigan tribal coalition. Native Americans have a higher rate of domestic and sexual violence victimization than other populations, and the complex interaction of federal, state and tribal jurisdictions over law enforcement matters often creates a barrier to achieving justice in Indian country. Moreover, gaming (casino) funds cannot be relied upon as a source of support for services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence because they are used in other areas such as primary health care. To address past inequalities, L. Jump recommended that the Board make changes in the allocation of formula funding to allow inclusion of tribal programs. L. Jump thanked the Board staff for meeting with the tribes this year.

C. Mitchell – Services Allegan and Ottawa counties. C. Mitchell asked was the formula applied to the two counties prior or after they were brought together under the one contract. D. Cain explained that the Board is using the formula based on the geographic territories of the domestic violence comprehensive grant and the funding combines the counties. C. Mitchell thanked the Board staff and committee.

E. Roberts – Services Ionia and Montcalm counties. E. Roberts voiced concerns over the formula grant but is grateful for the 5 year easement into the new contracts.

Motion: Moved by J. Sauter to accept the following DVES and MSHDA formula and implementation schedule:

- No geographic service area will be awarded less than \$20,000
- The formula "base" will represent 21% of the total amount of funding (which allows for the \$20,000 minimum award)
- After the funding to support the minimum award and the "base" has been removed, the funding will be allocated as follows:
 - 30% population in the geographic service area
 - 30% square miles in the geographic service area
 - 30% poverty indicators in the geographic service area
 - 10% housing cost in the geographic service area

Seconded by J. Fink. Motion carried.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Y. Brantley thanked the Board and staff for their kind words, cards and emails during her time of grief.

J. Sauter thanked the Board and staff for the thoughtful gift basket he received.

J. Cape announced that BISC-MI will be hosting their annual international conference in Grand Rapids in April. J. Cape is suggesting that anyone interested in attending register as soon as possible because there will be limited seats.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved to adjourn by Y. Brantley. Seconded by L. Hines. Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LaShawn Thurman