

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2018**

***** Approved *****

Members Present:

Lt. Yvonne Brantley
Hon. Thomas Cameron
Jeffrie Cape
James Fink
Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines
Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair
Jacqueline Schafer

Staff Present:

Aleksandra Andjelkovic
Michael Bobbitt, Board Secretary
Debi Cain, Executive Director
Gail Krieger
Karen Porter
Angela Povilaitis
Lore Rogers
Amanda Thomashow

Guests:

Amanda Barros - Michigan State Police
Rachel Carr - Uniting Three Fires Against Violence
Cristy Dowker - Michigan State Police
Michael Cristy - Children's Advocacy Centers of Michigan
Charisse Mitchell - YWCA of West Central Michigan
Mary Pollock - American Association of University Women of Michigan

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

C. Sullivan convened the October 12, 2018 Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Michigan Historical Library - Lake Superior room in Lansing, Michigan at 2:05 p.m.

BOARD CONSENT

Review of October 12, 2018 agenda and approval of September 7, 2018 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Moved by L. Hines to approve the October 12, 2018 agenda and to approve the September 7, 2018 meeting minutes with corrections. Motion seconded by T. Cameron. Motion Carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

C. Sullivan began by congratulating D. Cain for being appointed as Executive Director of the Division of Victim Services. Board members were advised that they may want to meet with some of the new legislators that will be elected next month. The 2019 Board meeting dates will be sent to Board members as soon as they are available. The September 24th Campus Sexual Assault Summit at Western Michigan University was a tremendous success. A. Thomashow provided a detailed synopsis of the event.

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

D. Cain said the September 24th First Lady of Michigan's Campus Sexual Assault Summit at Western Michigan University was the largest yet. Over the years a lot of amazing networking opportunities have resulted from these summits. She hopes that future Governors will continue to set aside \$1 million for campuses to do sexual assault prevention work on their campuses. D. Cain would like to see more evaluations done on campuses emphasizing evidence-based work. The latest campus sexual assault grant applications are currently being reviewed to determine which campuses will receive funding this year.

A. Povilaitis provided an update on a sexual assault consortium to improve concurrent criminal and Title IX investigations. One goal of the consortium is to ensure that victims are provided with all their options. Another goal is to remove actual or perceived biases whenever a school conducts its own Title IX investigation. The sexual assault consortium will include^[PA(1)] an external Campus Sexual Assault Investigator who is an expert in Title IX and criminal justice investigations. The goal is to intervene quickly and provide survivors with the resources they need whenever a criminal sexual conduct is reported. The consortium has made a recommendation^[PA(2)] to the Governor for two pilot program locations.

G. Krieger reported that the Attorney General's office recently hired a new prosecutor to act as the Violence Against Women Assistant Attorney General. This position is paid for through a grant administered by the Board.

D. Cain said that the sexual assault hotline has received a dramatic increase in the number of calls since it went live. Most callers tend to be survivors from long past with unresolved issues. The length of calls average about one hour and twenty minutes each. Many male survivors are also calling the hotline.

D. Cain said the upcoming election in November will result in potential turnover rate of over 70% in the legislature. There will also be a new Governor and a new Attorney General. She emphasized how significant the experience of the Board members will be when interacting with the new legislature.

L. Rogers said the National Council on Juvenile Family Court Judges, together with the Office on Violence Against Women, has issued a request for proposals on technical assistance on reducing domestic violence homicides through firearms. The Violence Against Women project partner at the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan was encouraged to do a statewide application. Wayne County, Kalamazoo County and Marquette County agreed to provide technical assistance and training to programs to develop policies on seizure, retrieval and storage of firearms in domestic violence and personal protection order cases. These policies can then be used as models for other communities throughout the state.

G. Krieger invited Board members to attend a one-day conference on sexual assault by Russ Strand in November. The conference is intended for investigators and is called "Sexual Assault Summit: Rethinking Suspect Interviews". The conference will be held in Lansing, Michigan and approximately 200 people are expected to attend.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

G. Krieger reported on a package of bills, HB 6386, HB 6388, HB 6389, HB 6390 and HB 6391 which would support the redirection of state Crime Victim Fund dollars to fund and create two pilot Crime Survivor Trauma Recovery Centers (CSTRC) in Michigan. HB 6388 establishes an advisory committee within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) that would report to and make recommendations to MDHHS. The committee would be comprised primarily of mental health professionals.

HB 6389 would fund the CSTRC by earmarking state funding from the Crime Victim's Rights Fund. HB 6386, HB 6390 and HB 6391 would amend the Crime Victim's Rights Act to require law enforcement to notify victims of assault about treatment for mental health and substance abuse and the availability of the local CSTRC. The legislation also stipulates the type of data to be collected and how it will be tracked.

G. Krieger advised opposing the bill package because it is duplicative and wasteful of state dollars dedicated to crime victims. It is over-broad and does not account for existing services directed to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. The state is already providing funding for two Trauma Recovery Centers, Flint and Detroit, to meet the needs of underserved crime victims.

MOTION: Moved by J. Fink to oppose HB 6386, HB 6388, HB 6389, HB 6390 and HB 6391 because the bill package is duplicative and wasteful of state dollars dedicated to crime victims, it is over-broad and does not account for existing services directed to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, the State is already using federal funding to pilot two Trauma Recovery Centers in Flint and Detroit, and it expands the definition of a crime survivor to include essentially anyone under the age of eighteen or less who has had any contact with the juvenile justice system. Motion seconded by L. Hines. Motion carried.

A. Povilaitis reported on HB 6134, HB 6135 and HB 6136. HB 6134 would modify the current felon in possession criminal statute to also include prohibiting persons convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence 2nd from possessing, using, purchasing a firearm or ammunition. HB 6135 would define the term misdemeanor involving domestic violence. HB 6136 would amend the criminal sentencing guidelines to reflect the changes in HB 6134.

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to support. Motion seconded by C. Sullivan. Motion carried. T. Cameron abstained.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

No comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Y. Brantley to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by T. Cameron. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Bobbitt
Board Secretary