



Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)

Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2017

2120 N Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

- I **Call to Order:** Amy Bocks, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Amy Bocks welcomed everyone and reminded them to please sign the sign-in sheet and utilize the tent cards. She announced that Debra Olsen and Angela Rose would not attend meeting today.

Present

Amy Bocks, Amy Palmisano, Beckie Miller, Colleen Hendricks, Carolee Holbrook, Connie Chapman, Denise Lundin, Jennifer Biddle, Kate Lyon, Kennesha Jackson, Larry Grubbs, Melissa Brickhouse-Thomas, Patty Abeyta-Young, Rebecca Begay, Thea Walsh, Stephanie Bradley, Tony Bidonde, Danielle Langel, Nancy Larsen, Dan Levey, Randy Udelman.

DPS/VOCA: Kate Lyon requested to present out of order. She advised:

- WAGS upgrades – DPS will begin an 8 month long process to complete upgrades to its Web-based Grants Management System (WAGS) starting next week. Applications for future awards will be completed and submitted via the upgraded WAGS system starting this summer.
- Discretionary Training Grant – DPS currently has a solicitation open for funding to conduct training for victim service providers. Applications are due Monday, January 23, 2017 at 10 AM.
- Recent and Upcoming US Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime audits – DPS recently completed an intensive financial audit; there were no findings or questioned costs. DOJ will be conducting a programmatic audit tentatively scheduled for late March 2017.
- Strategic Planning Process – members of the State Agencies Coordination Team (SACT) will be meeting tomorrow in preparation for a statewide strategic planning process. Meetings will likely be held in six different areas of the state to primarily discuss gaps in services.
- VOCA 2018 Award – all indications are that the VOCA Assistance awards to states will be similar if not the same as 2017.

- III. **Approval of September Minutes:** Amy Bocks asked members if there were any edits to the November minutes. Tony Bidonde from Maricopa Adult Probation announced that his name was spelled wrong. The correction will be made. No other edits were announced.

IV. Presentation by Randy Udelman, Arizona Crime Victim Rights Law Group

Randy thanked the ACVS members for allowing him to present at the meeting. Arizona Crime Victim Rights Law Group (AVRLG) provides wrap-around assistance as part of the Victims' Rights Enforcement Fund grant with the following agencies: Arizona Voice for Crime Victims, AZ Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, the Never Again Foundation and Parents of Murdered Children. Those agencies, as well as the Attorney to collaborate on services. Asserting rights on behalf of crime victims in criminal cases for over five years, the Udelman Law Firm, PLC and AVRLG work with crime victims by becoming counsel of record for victims of crime during the course of the criminal prosecution, ensuring that their rights have been upheld, and assisting in the recovery of criminal restitution.

Specific issues that have come up: Restitution on a regular basis- Pre-conviction requesting a lien (tool) per A.R.S. § 13-806. For example: a lien filed through the county at the time of conviction could allow the offender to stop paying his mortgage and eventually sell his property. Randy will ask the courts to preserve the status quo that will allow the victim to receive economic loss before the offender sells his property.

Common areas of legal representation/assistance include: mortgage fraud cases, victim privacy issues, discovery of medical recovery, body cams, bail forfeiture, Motion to Show Cause when offenders are done with probation, work with attorneys to assist with Victims' Rights issues. Tip for advocates: Make sure that the advocates are informing victims to keep a journal of out of pockets costs right away. If Randy can't assist victims he will point them in the right direction and collaborate with all other agencies.

Contact Randy at 480-946-0832 if anyone has questions or need more information.

Questions from the group:

- Tony Bidonde with Maricopa County Adult Probation asked about the Post-Conviction and how there is not sufficient time for the offender to pay the victim restitution. Victims need more information about the process and how probation and restitution works.
Randy stated that there are some tools to bring the offender back to court such as Manner of payments, condition of plea, reduced to civil judgment, and petition to Order to Show Cause can be very effective. The AZ Supreme Court has a committee that is working on updating AZCOURTS.gov to be more user friendly with respect to restitution issues.
- Denise Lundin offered a presentation of the new website at the March meeting. It will have a strong education component.
- Carolee Holbrook brought up co-defendant cases when the Department of Corrections can't collect on cases that are not the same case numbers. Which one is priority?
- Colleen Hendricks stated the legislative 20 percent deposited in their bank could be raised by the director.
- Stephanie Bradley stated that Judge Granville would sign her liens for her because it was such a long process otherwise. Something to be aware of.

V. Vote on Change in Operational Guidelines: Amy Bocks asked members if there were any edits, questions and suggestions that needed attention on the draft ACVS Operational Guidelines. There was a suggestion that an Operational Committee be added to page 6 and have someone besides the Executive Committee take a look at ACVS and have an audit once a year. The draft ACVS Operational Guidelines were approved as presented.

VI. Vote on Dues Fee Structure Change of Agency Memberships: Amy Bocks wanted to remind everyone that starting July 1, 2017 the ACVS Agency membership dues will be \$150.00 instead of \$100.00. Kennesha Jackson stated that the changes of membership's fees were already approved within the Operational Guidelines.

VII. 2017 Legislation Priorities:

a. Kennesha Jackson, Arizona Attorney General's Office, reported the following 2017 Legislative Tracking.

- HB 2269 – Victims' Rights; requirements; monetary judgments. Sponsor: Simms Amending Sections 8-386, 8-386.01, 8-387, 8-396, 8-407, 8-413 and 8-415, Arizona Revised Statutes; Amending Title 12, Chapter 9, Arizona Revised Statutes, by adding Article 12; Amending 13-4405, 13-4407, 13-4415 AND 13-4428, Arizona Revised Statutes; relating to victims' rights.
- HB2155 Victims' Rights; failure to comply. Sponsor: Coleman Amending section 13-4436 and 8-415. Changes the number of days a victim can request a reexamination proceeding from 10 days to 20 days after the proceeding at which the victims' right was denied.
- HB2241 Victims' Rights; pleading endorsements. Sponsor: Farnsworth. Amending section 13-4437. Requires counsel for the victim to be endorsed on all pleadings.

b. Thea Walsh, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, reported that ACESDV supports the following Bills:

- HB 2125 (sex trafficking victim; vacating conviction). Process for vacating other convictions a victim of sex trafficking may have been convicted of as a direct result of their victimization. Ex. If they were force to sell drugs while being trafficked and they were charged with that crime.
- HB 2268 (sexual assault evidence; submission; reports). Creates a process for submitting kits
 - SANE to notify law enforcement in 24 hours after the kit was collected
 - Law enforcement takes possession of kit within 5 business days
 - Within 15 business days submit to lab if victim reports to law enforcement and law enforcement determines a crime occurred
 - All kits submitted to lab must be tested "as soon as practically possible if sufficient personnel and resources are available"Also requires law enforcement to report annually on kits received and submitted and well as reasons for why kits were or were not submitted.
- HB 2228 (child and family advocacy). Requires DCS to consider whether a child of suspected abuse or neglect should be assessed and interviewed at a child and

family advocacy center. Defines child and family advocacy center.

According to Thea, ACESDV opposes the following Bills:

- HB 2024 (false reporting; classification). Makes it a class 4 felony to false report to law enforcement. Unintended consequence could be fewer survivors reporting especially if they think they won't be believed.

VIII. Updates from ACESDV. Thea Walsh advised that the Governor's budget includes \$1.2 million to test untested rape kits.

IX. Grant Sources Updates:

ACJC. Larry Grubbs reported the following:

- The Commission will approve a funding recommendation for the ACJC Crime Victim Assistance Grant on Thursday, May 19th. The meeting will start at 1:30pm at 1110 W. Washington, Suite 250, Phoenix, AZ. Grant agreements will be sent out following the meeting.
- Significant changes are proposed to the ACJC Crime Victim Assistance Grant program. The recommended program size is \$500,000 and awards will prioritize projects that are not VOCA Assistance eligible.
- ACJC will be joining other members of the State Agency Coordinating Team to conduct statewide strategic planning meetings. The focus of ACJC's involvement will be to identify changes to the Crime Victim Compensation and Crime Victim Assistance Program rules. These meetings should take place in April.
- ACJC is entering into a rules review process for Victim Compensation. ACJC is meeting with compensation boards and others involved in the process and will eventually open the process for public comment. Dates for public forum will be on the website.

VRP: Kennesha Jackson reported the following:

- Agencies will receive their FY17 VRP second installment the end of January or beginning of February. FY17 Performance Reviews have been issued in GMAN and are due February 10, 2017. If your agency is in the VRP Program and anticipates vacancy savings for FY17, please submit a budget modification request form. Agencies are encouraged to all spend of their VRP monies. Applications are being accepted for new awards; contact Kennesha Jackson at OVSVRP@azag.gov for more information.
- The Attorney General's Office is currently seeking nominations for the 2017 Distinguished Service Awards. Please share this information with your agency's employees and contacts. Nominations are due Friday, February 3, 2017. Awardees will be recognized during the National Crime Victims' Rights Week event during the week of April 2-8, 2017 in Phoenix.
- Refer to the Victims' Rights Training schedule online for a list of dates for this winter and spring. The next Basic and Advanced training will be held February 8th and February 9th in Phoenix, AZ at the Family Advocacy Center.

X. Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA). **Connie Chapman** reported the following:

- Registration is now open is now open for the APAAC sponsored training for Advocates in prosecutorial agencies. The topics are; Exculpatory statements, In Their Own Words, Technology Safety and Advocacy in Action. Space is limited so register quickly.
- A Basic Arizona Victim Assistance Academy will be held in June; exact dates not determined at this time but will be announced as soon as available.
- The VOCA training grant is out and we will be asking for funding for an additional Basic Academy and an Advanced Academy. If you have any speakers or topics for the Advanced Academy please e-mail Connie as soon as possible.
- There will be an AVAA Meeting immediately following the ACVS Meeting today if anyone would like to join.

XI. Committee Reports:

- a. Executive Board Report.** **Amy Bocks** reported that if anyone has ideas for presentations for future meeting to please let us know so we can get those scheduled.
- b. Treasurer's Report.** **Amy Bocks** reported that Angela Rose sent an email with the following account balances: ACVS, \$15,070.31. AVAA, \$33,928.07. Relocation, \$563.21 (no balance change). Notable expenses, Liability insurance policy for 2017, \$1,480.00 (split between ACVS and AVAA).
- c. Membership Committee.** **Amy Bocks** reported that there are now 44 paid memberships. Membership renewal will begin in May/June. The membership lists have been cleaned up; let Amy know if there are changes to staff, email changes, or new contacts.
- d. Website Committee.** **Amy Bocks** asked that members provide her with any upcoming events that they have so they can be put on the website. She also reminder all about the Amazon Smile program, where a portion of what you spend can go to ACVS.

XII. New Business/Open Forum.

- Beckie Miller wanted to invite members to the "Annual POMC Fundraiser Dinner and Auction" February 24, 2017, 5:30 p.m. at the El Zaribah Shriners.
- Amy Palmisano announced that a Take Back the Night event is planned for April 7, 2017 at Civic Space Park in downtown Phoenix from 5pm – 9pm. The event will feature survivors of sexual and domestic violence.
- Stephanie Bradley announced an "Evening of Hope" January 23, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at 1600 E. Lakeside Drive, Gilbert, Arizona 85234.
- Beckie Miller provided Connie Chapman with cellular telephones for the Relocation Fund, as she will see Angela Rose later today.

XIII. Next Meeting: will be held March 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Phoenix Family Advocacy Center, 2120 N. Central Avenue, #250, Phoenix, AZ.

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:44AM