



Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)

Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2018

2120 N Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

- I. **Call to Order:** Debbie Olsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Debbie Olsen welcomed everyone and reminded them to please sign the sign-in sheet and utilize the tent cards.

Amy Bocks, AZ Attorney General	Eric Fahy, AZ Dept. of Corrections
Amy Palmisano, EMPACT	Frances Van Aller, Honor Health
Angela Rose, City of Scottsdale	Ginger Butcher, ACESDV
Bob Steward, Prescott Valley Police Dept.	Julie Williams, Maricopa County Attorney
Cari Garrison, AZ Dept. of Corrections	Kate Lyon, AZ Dept. of Public Safety
Charles Brooks, US Attorney's Office	Larry Grubbs, ACJC
Christine Osborn, AZ Dept. of Corrections	Marc Tetzlaff, Homeland Security
Connie Chapman, AVAA	Marcy Morales, Dept. of Child Safety
Danielle Langel, ACASI	Natalie Gruner, Phoenix City Prosecutor
Debbie Olsen, Yavapai County Attorney	Renee Glaze, ACESDV
Debbie Weiland, AZ Dept. of Public Safety	Renee Werner, MCSO
Denise Lundin, AZ Supreme Court	Robert Celaya, Maricopa Adult Probation
Dina Aguilera, Gilbert City Prosecutor	Vanessa Helms, Pima County Attorney
Emily Baird, Mesa City Prosecutor	Xavier Ruiz, AZ Dept. of Public Safety

III. **Approval of March Minutes:** Marc Tetzlaff made a Motion to approve the March 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Denise Lundin. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Alzheimer's Association:** Melissa Del-Colle, Central Arizona Regional Director, provided the following information regarding the Alzheimer's Association:

- Services are provided free of charge to individuals suffering from dementia and their family members/caregivers.
- Services include case management, education, and support groups for family members, caregivers, those suffering from dementia, and those with early onset of dementia.
- Training for first responders (law enforcement & victim advocates) is available. Training is 90 minutes and can be adjusted to meet the needs of the audience/organization.

- Cannot endorse other resources but will help service providers, advocate, navigate resources for victims with Alzheimer's.
- Their Medic Alert + Safe Return program is a nationwide identification and education program that mobilizes first responders should an individual become lost. Scholarships are available to eligible families to assist with the initial enrollment fee.
- Contact Susie James at 1-800-272-3900 to make a referral for services in the Prescott & Prescott Valley areas.
- The Association serves approximately 2,000 families per year, but has the capacity to serve more.

V. Arizona Department of Child Safety: Marcy Morales, Victim Services Manager presented the following:

- In February 2018 a three-day event was held between DCS and a number of stakeholders. The participants identified a need for increased communication between DCS Specialists and prosecutorial Victim Advocates and noted that children in DCS care have not been empowered to exercise their victims' rights.
- Six Liaisons have been hired to facilitate communication between DCS and prosecutorial Victim Advocates; another Liaison will start in a couple of weeks.
- The Liaisons will work cases across the State, but the pilot is only in Maricopa County right now. It is hoped that the remaining counties will be brought on board by the end of the summer.
- The DCS Specialist is the Legal Guardian for the children and the Liaison will facilitate and ensure communication between the Specialist and the Victim Advocate.
- Victim Advocate should send an email message to victimservices@azdcs.gov with the child's name and date of birth and a Liaison will respond with the contact information for the assigned Specialist or advise the advocate if the minor child victim is in DCS custody.
- Liaisons will check-in monthly with the Specialist and Victim Advocate.
- Liaisons may be attending court.
- Specialists will provide transportation for trial.
- This is a new program so DCS is interested in receiving feedback and suggestions for improvement. Contact March Morales at marcela.morales@azdcs.gov or (602) 255-2709.

VI. Voting – ACVS Treasurer: Debbie Olsen advised that Gina Winn expressed interest in becoming the ACVS Treasurer, but was unable to attend today's meeting. Before voting, Debbie asked if anyone else was interested in being considered; there was no one. Debbie read a short biography of Gina, who is presently an Advocate with the Glendale Police Department, where she assists victims of homicide and violent crimes.

Voting was done by written ballot and Gina Winn was unanimously votes in as Treasurer for ACVS. Angela Rose will begin training Gina this summer.

VII. Update on ACVS Secretary: Debbie Olsen informed the group that Patty Abeyta-Young is no longer employed by MADD and cannot fulfill her term as Secretary, which ends in December 2018. Debbie asked if there was anyone present who is interested in serving in this capacity; there was no one. Debbie encouraged the membership to consider this opportunity and to contact anyone of the Executive Committee members if interested.

VIII. Legislative Priorities

a. Arizona Attorney General's Office: Amy Bocks advised that there are no bills currently being tracked by the Attorney General's Office. Contact Kennesha Jackson or Kirstin Flores if there is legislation you would like them to review for support.

b. Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence: Ginger Butcher highlighted the following:

- HB2249 - This bill makes various changes to protective orders and injunctions against harassment. This bill passed and becomes effective in 2020.
- HB2585 – Repeal of Parental Rights of Rapists – this failed in Committee but will be introduced again next Session.
- HB2454 – This bill failed in Committee but ACESDV will continue to work on it.
- Contact Whitney Walker, whitney@acesdv.org, Domestic Violence Policy Coordinator, if you have any suggestions for new legislation.

IX. Updates from ACESDV: Ginger Butcher provided the following update:

- There are several upcoming trainings, check the ACESDV website www.acesdv.org.
- All webinars have been recorded and are available on the YouTube channel.

X. Grant Sources Updates:

a. VRP: Amy Bocks reported the following:

- Performance Reviews have been completed. Funded agencies will be notified when the FY2019 Budget Proposal is available in GMAN. There is a significant decrease in VRP funding for FY2019 due to a decrease in Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund (CJEF) revenues.
- VRP grant recipients are asked to complete the VRP Satisfaction Survey by June 30, 2018. A link to the survey was provided to the primary agency contact person. However, if you need it forwarded to you, please contact Kennesha Jackson
- Order forms for the Request/Waiver booklets were distributed this month. The order forms should be completed and returned to OVSVRP@azag.gov by June 15, 2018. Please be sure to contact Kennesha Jackson if any updates to the contact information listed on the form are necessary.
- Please refer to the Victims' Rights Training schedule online for a list of dates. The next Basic and Advanced training will be held May 24 and May 25, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ. To request training in your area please visit <https://www.azag.gov/victim-services/victims-rights-training-schedule>.

- b. **ACJC:** Larry Grubs reported the following:
- ACJC approved the funding recommendations for the Victim Assistance Grant. Twenty-four awards were made; up from six the previous year. A total of \$750,000 was allocated across all three funding tiers.
- c. **DPS VOCA:** Kate Lyon reported the following:
- The VOCA cap for FY2018 was \$4.436 billion; the highest ever. The proposed cap for FY2019 is \$2.3 billion and limit deposits at \$2.5 billion. There are still lots of discussion about this at the Federal level.
 - Arizona's FY2018 VOCA award was \$70.8 million; an 81% increase over FY2017.
 - Next scheduled solicitation will be conducted in 2020 for the project period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
 - VOCA Unit Supervisor Tiffany Brizendine is leaving DPS; last day May 25, 2018.
 - Debbie Weiland was introduced as a new Grant Coordinator in the VOCA Unit. Debbie has been with the Department of Public Safety for 10 years and recently transferred into the Unit.
 - DPS is still looking to bring in additional Grant Coordinators in order to reduce the current caseload of over 30 sub-grantees per Grant Coordinator to approximately 20.

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

- AVAA applied for and was approved for a grant from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. The approved funding will cover Connie's salary, a Basic Academy in Phoenix; one day Leadership Academy; and a one day Advanced Academy (repeat of Dr. Wilson's training on Neurobiology. Registration for the Leadership Academy and Neurobiology Training will be \$75. Registration for the Basic Academy will be \$200; scholarships will be available.
- The Basic Academy in Flagstaff August 6 – 10, 2018 is full and there are 20 people on the waiting list. Those on the waiting list will be the first ones eligible to attend the next Basic Academy.
- The Leadership Training June 11, 2018 is full.
- The Office for Victims of Crime has released an opportunity to apply for a training grant. This will be discussed at the AVAA Committee meeting later this morning.
- Be sure to provide Connie with any suggestions for future training topics.
avaacademy@gmail.com.

XII. Committee Reports:

- a. **Executive Board Report.** Debbie Olsen reported the following:
- WebMO, the ACVS development/maintenance company has decided to go in another direction with their business. PC Intellect took over our account and thus far we have had a good experience with them and there has been no increase in fees.

- The revised ACVS Operational Guidelines and By-Laws were sent out to the Membership and are also available on the ACVS website.
 - There is a need to find a new Accountant due to ongoing errors.
- b. Treasurer's Report:** Debbie Olsen reported the following account balances:
- ACVS, \$13,607.88
 - AVAA, \$39,473.46
 - Relocation, \$2,238.61

ACVS balance decreased due to a transfer of \$2,000 to the Relocation Account. Additionally, the tax preparation fee was slightly higher this year.

Debbie further advised that the accountant used by ACVS made more mistakes this year, which were caught by Angela Rose before the taxes were filed. The accountant has made mistakes multiple years and we need to find another one. Anyone knowing of a good accountant who would be interested in handling a small non-profit should contact Angela.

- c. Membership Committee:** Amy Bocks reported that the membership drive will begin soon, as the current membership year ends June 30th. The new Membership Brochure will be available on the ACVS website by June 1. Agencies/individuals needing an invoice/receipt should contact Amy at amy.bocks@azag.gov or 520-628-6977. Everyone is encouraged to renew their membership in a timely fashion. Contact Amy if you know of any agencies who might be interested in joining ACVS.
- d. Relocation Committee:** No new requests have been funded.
- e. Website Committee:** If you would like events added to the calendar on the ACVS website, they can be submitted on-line at the bottom of the calendar, or you can contact Amy at amy.bocks@azag.gov. Also contact Amy with any job posting you want included (or removed) on the website.

XIII. New Business/Open Forum:

- Denise Lundin invited everyone to attend the Commission on Victims in the Courts (COVIC) meeting June 8, 2018 from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the Arizona State Courts Building, 1501 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ. There will be two presentations at the meeting that the membership might be interested in; Solving Cold Cases – Familial DNA and Decoding Sex Buyers – The Work of CEASE, Arizona. The first presentation should begin around 10:30am. There will be a working lunch (\$5.00). Notify Denise if you are interested in attending; dlundin@courts.az.gov.
- Renee Werner advised that during the past year she has been seeing Judges in Maricopa County issue a “place holder bond” of \$50 when a defendant is booked for a probation violation and a new victim crime. The defendant is held no bond on the probation violation matter, and the “place holder bond” is set on the victim

crime. This poses concerns for the victims. Denise Lundin asked Renee to provide her some more information about what she is seeing and she will look into it.

XII. Next Meeting: July 18, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the Phoenix Family Advocacy Center, 2120 N. Central Avenue, #250, Phoenix, AZ.

XIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 p.m.