



Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2019

2120 N Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

- I. **Call to Order:** Amy Bocks, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Amy Bocks welcomed everyone and reminded them to please sign the sign-in sheet. Informed regular attendees to contact Lois Rees if they would like to have a name tent made.

Attendees

| | |
|---|--|
| Adam Gendreau, DCS VSL | Katelyn Osselaer, PHX FAC |
| Alejandro Palaires, ADC | Kennesha Jackson, AZ Attorney General |
| Amanda Perreault, AEDPS VOCA | Lauren Blumenfeld, DCS |
| Amy Bocks, AZ Attorney General | Lois Rees, Yavapai County Attorney's Office |
| Amy Palmisano, EMPACT-Suicide Prevention Cntr | Marcy Morales, Department of Child Safety |
| Beckie Miller, POMC | Marie Fordney, SACAC |
| Brooke Fulton, NACASA | Mimi Kaplan, JFCS Shelter |
| Carolee Holbrook, POMC Volunteer | Paola Bautista, ADC Intern |
| Connie Chapman, AZ Victim Assistance Academy | Samantha Hinchey, ACESDV |
| Dan Levey, AZ Crime Victim Rights Law Group | Sheri Doll, Department of Public Safety |
| Daniel Torrez, AZ Department of Corrections | Stephanie Bradley, Gilbert Prosecutor |
| Danielle Langel, ACASI | Stephanie Smith, Peoria Police Department |
| Dorinda Johns, ACJC | Susan Al-Nashi, AZDPS VOCA |
| Gina Winn, Glendale Police Department | Tony Bidonde, Adult Probation |
| James Gierke, Homicide Survivors | Tracey Wilkinson, Scottsdale Police Department |
| Jennifer Heisig, MCAO | Valeria Arriola, ADC Intern |
| Jennifer Runge, Victim Witness of Coconino County | Vanessa Helms, Pima County Attorney's Office |

- III. **Approval of March Minutes:** Carolee Holbrook identified a typographical error in Section VIII., changing “we” to “were”. Kennesha Jackson moved to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT) Presentations

- A. Kennesha Jackson spoke on SACT roles and priorities.
 - 1. SACT meets every other month



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2. Responsible for distributing funding throughout the state
 3. SACT focus is on collecting meaningful data and strengthening relationships.
- B. Sonya Pierce Johnson reported on the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant
1. Federal Grant funded by the Department of Justice
 2. Available to law enforcement, non-profit victim service agencies, offices and agencies of state government, units of local government, tribal governments
 3. Focus is on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
 4. Currently there are 23, four-year contracts that are reviewed annually
- C. Rebecca Chesley with the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family reported on the OVW Sexual Assault Services Program Grant (SASP)
1. Funding is provided by the Department of Justice
 2. Available to non-profit, non-governmental agencies who provide core services to victims of sexual assault
 3. There is \$400,000 of funding available, typically each grantee receives \$50,000 - \$100,000.
 4. The grant will be open for applications next June.
- D. Kennesha Jackson reported on the Attorney General Victim Rights Fund
1. Provides 2.2 million dollars in funding per year for governmental agencies
 2. 56 agencies participate
 3. Provides funding for statutory requirements
 4. Offers a comprehensive training program
 5. Serves 500,000 victims each year and provides over 1 million services per year.
 6. The grant is state funded, based on fines and fees
 7. The grant pays for Victims' Rights Forms used by law enforcement
 8. Provides agencies with the Post-Conviction Victims' Rights Forms
 9. Victims can file a complaint with the AGs office if they believe their victims' rights were violated.
 10. Funding is offered on a renewal basis only so there is no open/competitive process.



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- E. Diana Lee, Arizona Department of Health reported on the Family Violence Services Grant and the Rape Prevention Education Grant
1. Family Violence Services Grant
 - a. Two million dollars available
 - b. Five-year grant
 - c. Allows for prevention programs/services
 - d. Will be open for submittals in 2022
 2. Rape Prevention Education Grant
 - a. Primary purpose of funding is for prevention education
 - b. Five-year grant
 - c. Solicitation for new applications begins in August 2019
 3. Diana also reported that the Department of Health Services state action plan will be finalized within two months.
- F. Laura Guild with Department of Economic Security
1. Provides funding to community-based organizations to support Domestic Violence shelters since the early 1980s.
 2. Five years ago, they diversified to allow funding to go towards advocacy, transitional housing and housing interventions in addition to supporting shelters.
 3. Collaborates with other state agencies
 4. Those who would like to apply need to register with the AZ Procurement System to be notified of the next solicitation estimated in 2022.
- G. Sheri Doll with Department of Public Safety (DPS) VOCA Grant
1. The grant has been in place since 1984
 2. Grant is Department of Justice funded by fines and fees
 3. DPS is the administrator for the state
 4. 45 million dollars is available to Arizona
 5. Provides funding to all types of agencies and all victim types
 6. Grants are currently approved on a three-year cycle
 7. Applications are received through an open process. The next three-year cycle application process will begin in the spring of 2020.
 8. Currently provides funding to 106 agencies and 160 projects
 9. Provides funding for position and administrative costs, training, transportation services
 10. Agencies are required to provide a 20% match



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H. Dorinda Johns from ACJC

1. Victim Compensation Program is a non-competitive grant for the 15 County Attorney offices in the state.
 - a. Provides funding to victims of crime for expenses incurred as a result of the crime such as: counseling, medical expenses, lost wages, transportation, funeral expenses, crime scene cleanup
2. Victim Assistance Grant
 - a. State funded grant funded with fines and fees
 - b. \$750,000 is available this year
 - c. Agencies apply for funds and distribution is decided by committee
 - d. Funding awards are prioritized and focus on:
 - i. Funding projects that are not funded by other grants
 - ii. Personnel are a priority
 - iii. Grant opens January – March, is evaluated in May and awards are made in June of each year for the following fiscal year



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V. Legislative Priorities

- A. Kennesha Jackson, Arizona Attorney General's Office Victims' Rights Program (VRP) - These are the bills currently being tracked by the AGO Office of Victim Services:
1. HB2055 – Expands Juvenile court jurisdiction – Signed by Governor 4/24/19
 2. HB2080 – Civil Rights Restoration – Signed by Governor 4/30/19
 3. HB2480 Setting Aside Judgement – Waiting on final Senate vote
 4. HB2613 – Sex offender registration/termination – Passed in House, Failed in Senate
 5. SB1250 – Injunction Against Harassment; sexual violence – Signed by Governor 04/22/19
 6. SB1312 – Bad checks; restitution – Signed by Governor 04/10/19
 7. SB1313 – Victims' Rights to privacy; exception – DEAD
 8. SB1315 – Victims' Rights; refusal in interviews – Signed by Governor 05/13/19
 9. SB1338 – Adult Protective Services – Passed Senate, waiting on House vote
- B. ACESDV, Samantha Hinchey
1. SB1251, SB1252, HB2739 – Comprehensive Health Education – Bills did not make it out of committee
 2. HB2738 – Parent-child relationship: termination; grounds. – Bill did not get a committee hearing
 3. SB 1250 – Protective orders; sexual assault – Bill has successfully passed the Senate and House. It is on the Governors' desk for signature to make it a law. If signed, it will be effective on January 1, 2020.
 4. HB2679 – Domestic violence; households; treatment programs – Bill made it from the House to the Senate but was not heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee.
 5. SB1219, HB2740, - Domestic violence offenses; firearm transfers – Bills did not make it out of committee.
 6. Appropriation Request – ACESDV requested \$5 million toward services for sexual violence survivors. This should be allocated to Department of Economic Security (DES) in addition to state domestic violence funding. State sexual violence funding can increase the number of specially trained advocates, therapists, and trauma informed services in Arizona, including the development of rape



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crisis centers, which centralizes services necessary for survivors such as legal and medical advocacy, counseling, and medical forensic exams. This is currently in progress.

7. Collaborative Legislative Advocacy
 - a) The Public Policy department has also worked collaboratively with partners on other legislative advocacy. Some of this work has been to stop bad bills, including HB2523 – youth employment and HB2616 – registration of voters; payment; prohibition.
 - b) ACESDV was part of the stakeholder collaboration that successfully repealed A.R.S. 15-716, “No Promo Homo”, and testified for the removal of former Tempe City Councilmember Kilby Granville due to the sexual violence allegations supported by an independent investigation.
 - c) Other municipal collaborations include working with partners on the Phoenix budget and the removal of manifestation of prostitution laws.
8. Federal Advocacy
 - a) ACESDV has been working on federal issues as well. These include asylum and immigration policies, the Supreme Court Nomination, and treatment of unaccompanied minors in federal custody.
 - b) One of the most important advocacy agendas with Congress is around the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the associated appropriations. The current reauthorization effort, H.R.1585, has successfully passed the House of Representatives in Congress. On April 10th it was put on the Senate legislative calendar. Unfortunately, it is unlikely to move forward without changes, due to Republican dissatisfaction with specific provisions in the bill, especially around prohibited possessors of guns. Instead, the Senate is working on its own version. The policy department has the Senate draft yet but our federal partners are urging that it be close to H.R.1585. Additionally, there is continued efforts around the associated appropriations to fund the prevention and response services across the nation. ACESDV policy team is meeting with Congressional representatives during their in-district meeting times this month to speak to them specifically about appropriations and VAWA reauthorizations.



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9. If you want to be more involved you can sign up for Legislative Action Alerts and Updates at ACESDV.org.

C. Dan Levey reported that his agency is working on opposing SB1313. This bill would have allowed prosecutors to release unredacted video footage to defense attorneys. There is a stakeholder meeting in the summer. Amy requested that Dan notify us of meeting dates.

II. Updates from ACESDV, Samantha Hinchey

A. Sexual Violence Core Advocacy Training – May 20 – 24 at the Sojourner Main Campus

III. State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT)

A. VRP – Kennesha Jackson, Arizona Attorney General's Office

1. FY 2019/2020 Funding Update – The review of the FY20 Performance Reviews (renewal applications) are complete. We are currently waiting for the final appropriation from the legislature. We will notify agencies when the FY200 Budget Proposal is available in GMAN. If your agency is in the VRP Program and anticipates vacancy savings for FY 19, please submit a budget modification request form before June 30, 2019. We encourage agencies to spend all of their VRP monies by the end of the fiscal year.
2. If you receive VRP funds, please complete the VRP Satisfaction survey by June 30, 2019. A link to the survey was distributed to the primary agency contact person. Please contact Kennesha Jackson should you need the link to the survey forwarded to you.
3. Order forms for the Request/Waiver form booklets, which are issued by law enforcement, will be distributed this month. Once received, please complete and return the form to OVSSVRP@azag.gov by June 14, 2019.
4. Trainings – Please refer to the Victims' Rights Outreach and Education schedule online for a list of dates for upcoming trainings. The next basic and advanced training will be held June 5 and 6 in Tucson. If you are unable to attend a presentation, please notify the coordinator 48 hours before the scheduled training so registrants on the waiting list can attend.



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- B. ACJC – Dorinda Johns, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
 - 1. The Commission will meet May 23 at 1:00 to finalize grant awards
 - 2. The next grant cycle will begin in October. Participants should expect changes to the grant next year as funding is decreasing.
 - 3. ACJC is developing a new grant management system
 - 4. Larry Grubbs has resigned. His last day is May 24. Please direct grant questions to Dorinda. All other questions should go to Andrew LaFever.
- C. DPS – Sherri Doll
 - 1. Preparation for the next VOCA grant cycle will begin in early spring.
 - 2. DPS has hired two new grant coordinators – Amanda Derreault and Susan Al-Nashi. Agencies will be notified of any change to their assigned coordinator.
 - 3. Requests that agencies revert funds now if they have a surplus. This will ensure that VOCA funds remain in the state.
 - 4. DPS is currently conducting site visits based on risk assessments.

IV. Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA)

- A. Connie Chapman reported
 - 1. Basic Academy – August 19 – 23, Flagstaff, AZ
 - a) Connie asked if increasing tuition to \$400 this year would prevent anyone from attending. No objections.
 - b) Due to decreased funding, there will only be one academy this year and no scholarships will be offered. Class will be limited to 50 participants but may be able to expand if necessary.
 - c) Registration will open at the end of May.
 - d) Contact Connie Chapman with questions.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Board Report
 - 1. Randy Koeppen with Chrysalis has submitted an idea of holding a Victim Survivor Expo to highlight all services available to agencies and the community. Amy Bocks asked if the membership would be interested in such an event to be held next spring. Discussion ensued. Amy Bocks asked for volunteers to review the idea to see if it would be feasible. Marie Fordney, Samantha Hinchey and Gina Winn volunteered and will report back at the July meeting.



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2. Executive Committee meets a week prior to the meeting. Please let Amy Bocks know if you have any items you would like to be added to the agenda.
- B. Treasurer's Report
1. Gina Winn reported that the accounting and payroll services have been set up.
 2. Report as of April 30, 2019
 - a. ACVS: \$19,591.81 – Slight decrease due to accounting expenses
 - b. AVAA: \$11,361.02 – Slight increase due to an ACJC Reimbursement and Advanced registration
 - c. Relocation: \$1,427.99 – No change
- C. Membership Committee
1. Marcy Morales reported that volunteers are needed for the NOVA conference July 22 -25. Training is required and will be on Sunday, July 21. Marcy will send details out via email. Please see Marcy to volunteer.
 2. ACVS was given a free table at the NOVA Conference. The ACVS table can put information out on your agency if you do not have your own table. Table prices vary by agency type. Please see Marcy for information on reserving a table.
 3. Current membership fees are \$150/agency or \$50/individual. Marcy Morales asked for suggestions for promoting ACVS for new members. Discussion ensued. Suggestions included looking at the ACVS budget to determine how much of a discount can be given; keeping the payment deadline open long enough to allow agencies time to process payment; offering new members a 25% discount. Please email Marcy with suggestions.
 4. Please send any website updates to Marcy Morales.



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D. Relocation Committee

1. Tracy Wilkinson reported that we are in the 10th year of the Relocation Project. Tracy provided revised copies of the ACVS Relocation Project Operational Guidelines, ACVS Relocation Project Sponsoring Agency/Advocate Procedures, and ACVS Relocation Project Application for approval. The following revisions were discussed:
 - a. Sponsoring Agency/Advocate Procedure updates:
 - i. Language added that the relocation committee will not work directly with the client.
 - ii. Added language that pre-paid debit cards will not be purchased.
 - b. Application updates:
 - i. Removed ACVS mailing address
 - ii. Advocate is to confirm that the destination is a safe place
 - iii. Amy Bocks will create a fillable PDF for the application
 - c. Operational Guidelines were updated to provide clarity.
 - i. Discussion ensued regarding the use of ACVS credit card instead of writing a check. Discussion ensued. ACVS only has a debit card. Connie Chapman recommended that we not use it for relocation. James Gierke brought up that many hotels don't accept cash, that the program was designed to provide victim assistance quickly and the current process takes a long time to process. He recommends that the process be streamlined. Discussion ensued. Amy Bocks will send revised documents to the membership for input. Will finalize at the July meeting.
 - ii. \$10,232 has been raised through the cell phone recycling program. This includes cell phone, kindles, eReaders, ipads, etc.

VI. New Business/Open Forum

- A. Daniel Tomez with DOC reported that the Victim/Offender Dialog Program went live March 1, 2019. Please contact Daniel for information on the project.
- B. Tracy Wilkinson reported that Mesa Police Department is holding a Mental Health Awareness Fair, May 18 from 10:00 – 12:00 at Benedictine University, 225 East Main Street, Mesa, AZ. There will be food, music and breakout training sessions.



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- C. Katelyn Osselaer report that the City of Phoenix has launched a new web portal to request police reports and track their request.
 - D. Basic and Advanced training will be offered in Coconino County June 11 and 12.
- VII. **Next Meeting** – July 17, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Phoenix Family Advocacy Center, 2120 N. Central Ave., 2nd Floor Community Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ.
- VIII. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.