1. **Call to Order – Amy Bocks**
   1. Meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom and called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Amy Bocks.

**Attendees**

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| Adam Gendreau, AZ DCS | Joana, Friendly House |
| Amy Bocks, Attorney General’s Office | Johanna Fierstein, Defenders of Children |
| Amy Palmisano, La Frontera EMPACT | Karina Aragon, Mesa PD Victim Services |
| Antony Bidonde, Maricopa County Adult Probation | Katelyn Osselaer, City of Phoenix FAC |
| Bianca Harper, ACASI | Kennesha Jackson, VRP AGO |
| Brooke Fulton, NACASA | Melissa Brickhouse Thomas, Glendale PD |
| Cari Garrison, ADCRR Victim Services | Monserrat Miranda, Friendly House |
| Carla Uyeda, DPS VOCA | Nicole Houpt, DCS Victim Services |
| Carol Mitchell, AOC | Patty Abeta Young, Surprise PD Victim Services |
| Connie Chapman, AVAA | Renee Werner, MCSO |
| Crystal Singleton, MCAO Victim Services | Shannon Brien, Defenders of Children |
| Dan Levey, AZ Crime Victims’ Rights Law Group | Sonia Gonzalez |
| Emily Steiner, ALWAYS | Tina Ashelford, Mohave Co Attny Victim Services |
| Gretchen McClellan-Singh, ADCRR | Valentina Restrepo Montoya, ALWAYS |
| Heather Bohnet, ACJC | Virginia Rodriguez, Pima Co Attny Victim Services |
| Jessica Wright, Gilbert Prosecutor Victim Services |  |

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approval of March Meeting Minutes**
   1. No comments or corrections.
   2. Motion to approve by Patty Young, 2nd by Adam Gendreau.
   3. Minutes were approved via hand raise reaction function by a majority of voting members present.
3. **AZ Legal Women and Youth Services (ALWAYS) - Valentina Restrepo Montoya and Emily Steiner** 
   1. Mission of ALWAYS is to provide free legal services to assist vulnerable youth and trafficking survivors. The goal is to improve stability, self-sufficiency and safety.
   2. Services include direct representation, advocacy, support and referrals.
   3. The specific population served is individuals under the age of 25 impacted by domestic violence, homelessness, abuse and neglect as well as survivors of human trafficking of any age. There are no limitations based on gender or sexual identity.
   4. The three main areas of focus are Family Law, Immigration and Criminal History Repair.
      1. Family Law services include assistance with orders of protection, defending against orders of protection, petitions for dissolution of marriage, parenting, custody and child support orders or modifications. The goal is to help people understand and navigate the system to empower them to represent themselves.
      2. Immigration services include assistance with obtaining legal status in the United States (green cards, work visas and/or citizenship). They do not represent people in court for removal or deportation proceedings. They specialize in Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, VAWA, U VISA/T VISA, Naturalization and DACA cases.
      3. Criminal History Repair services include removing the stigma and barriers resulting from convictions due to human trafficking (loitering, prostitution and/or drugs). They will assist individuals with applications to set aside convictions, obtain fingerprint clearance cards and good cause objections.
   5. The ALWAYS office is located in Maricopa County but services are not limited to only residents. They do not take every case but they do offer a free consultation in every case. Staff goes out into the community to provide services.
   6. Staff does not get involved in criminal representation but will make referrals to other agencies such as LSCVA for that type of assistance.
   7. All of the services provided are free of charge to the client. Funding comes from the VOCA grant, Hickey Family Foundation and other general donations.
   8. Website: <https://alwaysaz.org/> & Contact Information: [info@alwaysaz.org](mailto:info@alwaysaz.org); [Emily@alwaysaz.org](mailto:Emily@alwaysaz.org); [valentina@alwaysaz.org](mailto:valentina@alwaysaz.org)
4. **Legislative Priorities**
   1. Kennesha Jackson, AZ Attorney General’s Office – No update
   2. ACESDV: Not present
5. **Updates from ACESDV: Not present**
6. **State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT) – Funders Reports**
   1. VRP – Kennesha Jackson, Arizona Attorney General’s Office:
      1. FY 22/23 Funding Update: The review of the FY23 Performance Reviews (renewal applications) is complete. They are currently waiting for the final appropriation from the legislature. They will notify agencies when their FY23 Budget Proposal is available in GMAN. At this point, projections indicate that awards will remain consistent with FY22 award levels.
      2. If your agency is in the VRP Program and anticipates any unspent funds for FY22, please submit a budget modification request form before June 30, 2022. They encourage agencies to spend all of their VRP monies by the end of the fiscal year rather than having to revert funds. If you are in the Victims’ Rights Program, please complete the VRP Satisfaction survey by June 30, 2022. A link to the survey was distributed to the primary agency contact person at your agency. Please contact Kennesha Jackson should you need the link to the survey forwarded to you.
      3. Victims’ Rights Education: Please refer to the AGO website for a list of upcoming trainings at www.azag.gov. Outreach and education presentations will be conducted via webinar. Please note that the Basic as well as new Advanced training curriculum is available for registration. For more information on the schedule, to register, or to request a private presentation for your office please contact OVSTraining@azag.gov.
7. ACJC – Heather Bohnet:
   * 1. The FY23 Victim Assistance Program recommendations passed the Victims Committee last week and will be presented at the full Commission next Thursday. The recommendation before the commission is a $500,000 program size.
     2. Contracts are anticipated in early to mid-June.
     3. HB 2131 to address Victim Compensation was amended and is pending. The amendment is to a one-time appropriation of $10 million in ARPA funds and an on-going appropriation of $2 million in general funds.
     4. ACJC submitted a funding proposal for Victim Compensation tribal outreach program. If awarded, ACJC would create toolkits to be used by victim service agencies for outreach in tribal areas of the state.
     5. ACJC is requesting submissions from victim service agencies to be added to the AZ VINE Victim Service Provider Directory. An email went out with a link to request inclusion. If you did not receive the email reach out to Heather at [hbohnet@azcjc.gov](mailto:hbohnet@azcjc.gov).
     6. VINE Project Update: ACJC is in the implementation phase of the OVC grant to allow custodial agencies to elect to utilize the automated notification system for victims. At this time, 4 agencies are in the implementation phase (Apache, Pinal, Cochise and Yavapai) and 3 others are in the MOU process.
8. VOCA – Carla Uyeda:
   * 1. Reprogramming deadline for new budget lines for FFY2022 are by June 30, 2022.
     2. Staff are working on site visits and Civil Rights Compliance reviews.
     3. If you have questions email Carla at [cuyeda@azdps.gov](mailto:cuyeda@azdps.gov).
9. DES – Not Present
10. DHS – Not Present
11. **Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA) – Connie Chapman**
    1. The Basic Academy in Flagstaff will be held in August, dates TBD. Registration will open June 1st and there will be 40 spots available.
    2. The Advanced Academy and Leadership Academy are in the planning stage at this time. There is a brainstorming meeting on May 23rd at 9am. If you’re interested in participating in the planning or have ideas for topics please email [avaaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:avaaacademy@gmail.com)
    3. MAP training is available – they will go to your agency and train on specific topics requested. If you are interested in training please email [avaaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:avaaacademy@gmail.com).
       1. Dan Levey offered to train on victim impact, restitution, victim rights, and/or public policy.
       2. Since July 1, 2021 they have trained 110 people through MAP trainings.
12. **Committee Reports**
    1. Executive Board Report – Chair Amy Bocks
       1. If anyone has ideas for speakers for future meetings email Amy or any member of the Executive Committee.
       2. In July there will be a return to in-person meetings with a virtual option. If anyone has ideas for meeting locations with technology capabilities, space for 30 people in person and plenty of parking please let Amy know. Katie Osselear from the City of Phoenix FAC shared that they are now allowing up to 30 people in person but they do not have advanced technology options.
    2. Treasurer’s Report – Karina Aragon
       1. ACVS: $19,599.19: ACVS had a slight decrease due to administration costs.
       2. AVAA: $4,016.49: AVAA had an increase due to reimbursement from the grants.
       3. Relocation: $686.56: Relocation had an increase due to a $500 donation.
       4. TOTAL: $24,302.24
    3. Vice Chair – Adam Gendreau
       1. The Membership Committee has held one meeting and are exploring ideas for recruitment and retention of ACVS memberships. If you need an invoice to renew or join please email Adam.
    4. Relocation Committee – Tracey Wilkinson: Not present
    5. Website Committee – Adam Gendreau
       1. No updates
13. **New Business/Open Forum**
    1. Amy Bocks shared a link to a new crime victim resource video: The intent of this video, entitled After Sentencing: Now What? How to Ensure Your Victims' Rights Continue Post-Conviction, is to explain the post-conviction process, describe victims' rights and services and detail how to opt-in for notifications. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VrIIliJBQm4>
    2. Adam Gendreau highlighted ACASI and Dr. Bianca Harper for their formal collaboration with DCS. The collaboration is allowing DCS to provide resources for services in cases where DCS isn’t able to provide direct services.
    3. Carol Mitchell from AOC reminded everyone that if they become aware of any issues victims are facing related to the courts you may reach out to her. Her email is [cmitchell@courts.az.gov](mailto:cmitchell@courts.az.gov) and the link to Commission on Victims in the Courts: <https://www.azcourts.gov/cscommittees/CommissiononVictimsintheCourts.aspx>
    4. Amy Palmissano from La Frontera EMPACT shared they received a grant to assist adult victims of sex trafficking with therapy.
       1. La Frontera AZ, EMPACT-SPC, Trauma Healing Services, hotline 480-736-4949.
       2. Johanna Fierstein from Defenders of Children shared that their organization does a clinical level trauma therapy support group for trafficking victims by a bilingual clinician.
    5. Patty Young inquired if anyone had thoughts on the House Bill 2604 for Order of Protections.
       1. Karina Aragon shared that the bill was signed by the Governor this month and that Orders of Protection went from being valid from 1 year to 2 years and that Emergency Orders of Protection went from being valid for 24 hours to 7 days.
       2. Carla Uyeda shared a link to a news release: <https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2022/04/governor-ducey-signs-bi-partisan-legislation-protecting-victims-rights>
       3. Renee Werner shared that the effective date is in late July.
14. **Next Meeting**
    1. July 20, 2022 at 10:00 am - hybrid format in person and virtual – location TBD.
15. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned by Amy Bocks at 11:14 a.m.