

LOUISVILLE METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

Meeting Summary Thursday, July 26, 2018

Members Presents: Marcia Roth, Kathy Paulin, Chris Owens, Marguerite Thomas, Elizabeth Wessels-Martin, Sgt. James Clark, Mike Littlefield, Charles Goutee, Mary Hamlet, Jackie Richardson, Samantha Graves, Ann Schiavone Dyke, Renee Campbell, and Kelly Williamson.

Staff & Guests: Adriana Conway and Kim Allen.

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kim Allen who reported that Chief Conrad and Ellie Kerstetter had last minute schedule conflicts arise and would be unable to attend the meeting. In their absence, Kim offered to serve as Acting Chair and reported that the agenda would include a brief review of Council updates. Members were asked to introduce themselves.

II. DVPCC Updates

Comprehensive Community Assessment

Although it was initially hoped that Professor Emily Sack would be in attendance to release the report today, Kim advised that she needed a bit more time to complete her work. Chief Conrad and Kim have remained in contact with her about the report. Professor Sack has indicated that the draft report is currently over 90 pages long and that she will be contacting some of the individuals that she interviewed to ensure that the information and data in the report is accurate. Kim called the attention of members to the September 26th date for the next meeting and noted that it was scheduled on a Wednesday so that the Mayor can be in attendance. Since release of the report represents a milestone event, media will be invited in the hopes of raising community awareness about the assessment and its findings.

Lethality Assessment Program

Marguerite distributed copies of a handout entitled, "Lethality Assessment Program Data," and noted that the information is reported by Fiscal Year. She noted that the total number of calls decreased from 1,728 in FY16/17 to 1,220 in FY17/18, but is unclear whether this is a positive or negative finding. It was noted that the rest of the data elements remained the same proportionally. Marguerite called attention to the fact that the 416 people who came into shelter along with the 1,754 callers who received additional services since June 2012, represents over 2,000 people who may not have otherwise known about the CWF. She added that the numbers also reflect positive contacts between the CWF and LMPD and that the program has facilitated excellent working relationships. Sgt. Clark reported that he has been reviewing officer body cam videos and is pleased with the extensive

investigations that are being conducted and the great job that officers are doing in completing the LAP forms. He looks forward to having the LAP and ODARA information consolidated into the electronic JC-3 form.

Marcia recalled that the Mary Byron Project brought LAP to Louisville after receiving an application from Maryland as part of its Celebrated Solutions Program. She is pleased that the program has worked so well and expressed appreciation to the CWF and LMPD for their efforts. Marcia asked if any possible reasons had been identified for the decline in the number of callers who spoke with an advocate from 800 in FY16/17 to 431 in FY17/18. Marguerite confirmed that the hotline is working, but indicated that a number of factors may have impacted the numbers. Marcia asked Sgt. Clark to check with officers to see if they had any ideas why the numbers have declined and he agreed to do so and report back to the group.

ODARA Implementation

Sgt. Clark reported that the ODARA tool has continued to be used on a limited basis in the Third Division. He added that LMPD did not receive grant funding to incorporate the ODARA and LAP questions into the electronic JC-3 form; however, the department plans to move forward in making this happen. No timeframe has been specified at this point. Kim agreed to follow-up with Pretrial Services regarding the status of ODARA implementation and will send out an email update to members.

Legislative Report

Kim advised members that the Legislative Committee of the Metro Criminal Justice Commission will be reconvening in preparation for the 2019 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. DVPCC members should have already received an email asking for ideas or suggestions for new laws, statutory amendments or proposals to be considered for potential endorsement. Kim reported that she also contacted Meg Savage, Legal Counsel, Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence, to see if they had identified any items for the next session. Meg indicated that no agenda has been developed at this point, but they are hearing that there may be another push for a felony strangulation law. Kim agreed to keep members posted and will include a legislative update on future meeting agendas.

Marcia asked if Professor Sack plans to include any legislative recommendations in the report. Kim agreed to follow-up with Professor Sack on this item. It was also suggested that it would be helpful to enlist feedback from Professor Sack on laws from other states that Kentucky may want to consider. During preparation of the recent Fatality Review Committee Report, Kim reviewed state laws relating to confiscation of guns and noted that some states allow police to remove guns at the scene and will revisit this information. Marcia also identified continuing challenges in collecting data across the Commonwealth and the fact that some states have enacted processes to facilitate statewide data reporting.

DVPCC Ordinance Revision

Kim called attention to the copy of Ordinance No. 88, Series 2018, included in the agenda packet. She reported that Ellie Kerstetter presented the DVPCC's recommendations to the Metro Council Appointments Committee on June 21st and the proposal was unanimously

approved and placed on the Consent Calendar. The ordinance was subsequently approved by the full Metro Council. Kim recalled that the DVPCC began discussing the proposed changes in 2016 after identifying the need to update membership titles and more clearly delineate between members serving by virtue of position and those serving based on Mayoral appointment. The new ordinance reduces the total number of members from 33 to 30 by eliminating the Public Protection Secretary, the Metro Criminal Justice Commission, and combining the Adult and Child Protectives Services positions.

FRC Recommendations/Action Plan

Kim reported that a copy of the tracker for the 2017-2018 Fatality Review Committee's Recommendations was included in the agenda packet for review by members. She advised that there have been no new recommendations added since the last DVPCC meeting and that FRC members are continuing to work on the listed items. This will remain a regular agenda update item for DVPCC members.

Trauma Informed Support Project

Chris distributed copies of a data summary related to the Trauma Informed Support Project (TIS), noting that the updated version includes the rest of the Fiscal Year 17/18. Although the project was launched in March 2014, irregular and inconsistently maintained data from the first four months of operation has been eliminated. She noted that the total number of reports declined from 720 in FY16/17 to 622 in FY17/18. Similarly, the number of juveniles declined from 1,072 in FY16/17 to 923 in FY17/18. The total number of juveniles for the four-year period (July 1, 2014 – June 20, 2018) was 3,853, which represents an average of 963 juveniles per year. Chris advised that the reports have been revised to provide better perspective and define the relationship category—approximately one-third of the reports involve juvenile behavior while the remaining two-thirds reflect parental behavior.

Chris reported that as the project has evolved, the data collection procedures have improved and now include information on weapons used, property damage, and degree of physical injuries. She reiterated that the purpose is to help JCPS know what kind of support and assistance is needed. Moving forward, Chris hopes to have data from JCPS on the number of youth and families who received assistance and what impact this has had on youth behavior and academics.

III. Old Business/New Business

Kim called attention to several articles included in the agenda packet. She first referenced an article that was printed in *The New York Times*, which discussed how “smart home” technology applications are being incorporated into ways that perpetrators are abusing their victims. Liz noted that the CWF posted the article on its Facebook page and received numerous comments. Members identified the need for discussion about potential abusive uses of the technology in domestic violence training along with the development of remedies and responses.

Kim also called attention to two articles relating to domestic violence that were included in a recent special edition of *Criminology and Public Policy*. The special edition focused on the 50th anniversary of the 1967 U.S. President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice and provides a retrospective on criminal justice policy and research over the past 50 years.

IV. Adjourn/Next Meeting

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the DVPCC is a special meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 26th at 12 noon in the Crown Room to receive Professor Sack's findings and recommendations.