

Advisory Committee on Sexual and Domestic Violence Final Meeting Minutes

Virginia State Capitol, House Room 1
Tuesday, September 19, 2017
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Members Present

The Honorable Barbara Favola, Senate of Virginia
Fran Ecker, Director, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)
Kristi VanAudenhove, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance)
Melissa McMenemy, Office of the Attorney General
Kristen Howard, Virginia State Crime Commission
Kathy Robertson, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
Heather Board, Virginia Department of Health
Warren Rodgers, Southside Survivor Response Center
Autumn Jones, Arlington County Victim/Witness Program
Teresa Berry, Sexual Assault Response and Awareness, (SARA) Inc. - Roanoke
Kathy Anderson, Empowerhouse
Chana Ramsey, James House
Bunny Chidester, (Designee for Nancy Fowler, Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS))

Members Absent

Mindy Stell, Virginia Victim Assistance Network
Nancy Fowler (represented by designee), DSS
The Honorable David B. Albo, Virginia House of Delegates

Welcome & Remarks

*The Honorable Barbara Favola
Senate of Virginia*

The meeting started at 10:38 a.m. with a quorum present.

Senator Favola put forth a motion to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2017 meeting. Kathy Anderson requested that the minutes be amended to reflect the following: “Although sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) are present within the local hospitals [in the Fredericksburg area], their numbers have decreased, which has caused a coverage gap.”

Kristen Howard made a motion to approve the amended minutes. The motion was seconded by Heather Board. The minutes were approved by the committee, as amended, with no objections.

Senator Favola provided a summary of the subcommittees' work group efforts which produced several meaningful recommendations. These recommendations alone with a plan of action will be compiled in a report.

Professional Standards Committee Update (PSC)

Kassandra Bullock, Manager of Victims Services, DCJS

An update was provided regarding the:

- composition of the Professional Standards Committee;
- requirements outlined in the *Code of Virginia* pertaining to formation of the Committee's membership, geographic location of program, program concentration, and professional expertise;
- purpose of the accreditation standards and any correlation to funding;
- PSC has evaluated several models of accreditation, including national models and the model previously proposed by the Action Alliance.

The PSC met on August 23rd and August 24, 2017, and tentatively adopted revised accreditation standards introduced by the Action Alliance at their June 2015 Membership Meeting. The committee is currently reviewing the standards to identify areas for proposed amendment and revision.

Additionally DCJS has received approval to hire an Accreditation Coordinator to facilitate the work of the PSC and support the accredited programs.

A request was made that the PSC consider having the accreditation standards sent out for review and a comment period particularly, if accreditation of programs would at any point becomes associated with funding.

Review of Work Group Recommendations

Senator Favola

Senator Favola introduced the work group breakout sessions of the Data and Grants Administration Subcommittee and the Services and Prevention/Intervention Subcommittee.

The work group members were directed toward their group facilitators and work areas. The work group sessions proceeded for one hour and twenty minutes.

Work Group Reports and Wrap Up

Senator Favola

Senator Favola reconvened the Committee and requested that the work group facilitators provide a report of their work session outcomes.

Data and Grants Administration Work Group Report

John Mahoney, DCJS

Mr. Mahoney provided a summary of the work group's efforts which included a discussion of conducting analysis and developing policy recommendations based on research studies, creation of a website and data dashboard, additional training and guidance related to grant management and data reporting and also a survey to assess the management of grant administration, training and resources.

Services and Prevention/Intervention Work Group Report

Patricia Foster, DCJS

Mrs. Foster provided a summary of the work group's efforts which included modifying Prevention and Intervention into separate recommendations; rewording recommendations to address efforts related to addressing survivor marginalization and lack of representation. The work group suggested an additional meeting in October to complete the recommendations.

The Advisory Committee acknowledged the proposal of the *Services and Prevention/Intervention Subcommittee* to conduct an interim work group session in October.

Public Comment

Senator Favola

Senator Favola opened the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Senator Favola

Senator Favola adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.