

Network meeting Minutes
April 28, 2013

Attendance: 40 in person
Webinar: about 10

Social worker CEUs - carol White will arrange for CEUs. Available to webinar folks as well.

Network Website - if your agency wants to be linked to the Network website, please let Connie Monahan know. 505-883-8020

Sexual assault Awareness Month - April. Proclamation copies are available.

Legislative Update

Julianna Koob , NMCASP - sexual assault services did well in last session. \$675,000 was added for sexual assault services including SANE programs and Rape Crisis Centers.

Sex Offender Registry - NMCASP has not taken a stand for or against the registry. Believe the adverse effects of the registry need to be understood and have taken role of educating legislators. There were multiple changes made to the Registry including the types of crimes and reducing amount of time to register. Sarah, Julianna's intern, has more information.

Strangulation Bill - switched sponsor this year. Effort was to create a crime of strangulation, and instead the legislature created a definition. After being amended, the sponsor was asked not to move it along b/c it required physical sign of injury. Will take it up again next year.

Trafficking Legislation - a bill adding to resources available to victims was passed. A court can now order that a victim not be required to participate in investigation and prosecution because of fear. Also adds trafficking to the list of crimes CVRC can provide assistance with. Safe Harbor Bill did not pass which deals with criminalization of prostitution.

Commission on the Status of Women - funding for \$125,000 was vetoed. There is still hope for the Commission to be resurrected.

Linda Siegle, NMCADV - \$400,000 additional funding for DV Programs around the state.

Missing persons bill - effort to create a mechanism for reporting missing persons. Challenge around folks who didn't want to be found such as victims of DV. Will try again next year.

Confidential address program is also in need of some editing, especially pertaining to where to vote.

VAWA Update - Katie Richardson, Senator Hienrich's Office summarized the VAWA Reauthorization Act. The Act is normally Reauthorized every 5 years. Has been effective in reducing violence against women. In 2011, Congress allowed the act to expire. In 2012 an expanded act was passed by Senate which was not supported by the House and Congress did not pass. In 2013 the Act was passed with the following changes:

\$600,000,000 in VAWA

Native Americans - now have authority to prosecute DV crimes (only) that are committed on tribal lands by non-Natives. LGBTQ - DV victims will have access to the same services and programs. Immigrants - increase U-VISA cap, include stalking as a crime for VAWA,

Tiffany Fiser - Lujan Grishams Office

Read a note from Congressman Michelle Lujan Grisham

Panel:

How to Quash a Subpoena, Kara Johnson, NM Legal Aid

If the subpoena is on behalf of a client, give the subpoena to the client's attorney and let them handle it.

Have 14 days to respond

Need to respond to the Subpoena which is when you make a motion to Quash. (Sample provided and Kara offered to help). Must stipulate the grounds for quashing which has to do with protected or privileged information.

Take the motion to quash to the clerk of the court. Call ahead for specific county expectations. Get instructions on who needs a copy.

Suggestion was made that there be some sample Motions created and available by the NMCADV.

The above How To Segment is a new agenda item. If you have suggestions for topics for this segment, please share it with one of the Steering Committee members.

Agency Spotlight - Law Access

Law Access gives legal advice to low income folks over the telephone. About 8 attorneys on staff. Civil issues pertaining to Housing, unemployment, family law, child guardianship. Won't take cases where a private attorney might be able to make money. Take calls from those at 40% of the poverty level. If they can't help a client they will make a referral. Brief services - could be making a phone call or writing a letter on behalf of the client. They sometimes might draft pleadings for clients who will be defending themselves pro se. They do not meet with clients and they do not go to court with clients. First point of referral is NM Legal Aid. Their calls are not usually the DV case but the cases secondary to the DV. Handle about 18,000 calls/year and give advice to about 10,000 clients per year. They also operate the Landlord Helpline. Have some fully bilingual staff and use the language line.

PANEL - How Trauma Impacts Victims:

Providing Trauma Informed Care Jenna Yanez, VAWA, Admin Office of the Courts

People in trauma have a response to the trauma and if they are having a trauma response more frequently they are laying down worn paths in the brain and tend to use this path more and more frequently, sometimes not even appropriately.

Dawn Snuggerud, Farmington Community Health Center

Uses a Trauma and the Brain worksheet in her work with victims. Her work describes the brain centers to individuals and how the senses work. She helps clients understand how early childhood or adolescent experiences impact today's responses and how the individual is coping today. She also helps victims understand their risks behaviors and the triggers. She helps them to build a context for their feelings. She also describes the symptoms of PTSD. Kay encourages people to use kind and gentle conversation with themselves as they deal with their trauma.

Kay Gomolak, COPE

Sanctuary Model and its implementation at COPE.

Kay's concern is that often times we have the least experienced and the least trained staff providing services to victims. The Sanctuary Model is a response to this. Folks from the Sanctuary Institute train on this model and it is about changing the culture of the organization. Focus on "what has happened to you" and not "what is wrong with you". It moves people into the present instead of operating in the past. Seven values (commitments) have been adopted by the Organization in order to change the cultural. Start each day at their facilities with a community meeting attended by all staff and clients. Each staff and client has a "plan" for the day and supervision includes a focus on the Sanctuary Model.

When Clients ask "why did he do it?" they are usually asking "what is wrong with me" which is what society has been telling them for a long time.

Donald Clark, MD.

PowerPoint presentation: Hidden Injuries & Misdiagnoses in Battering

Very little research has been conducted on women who have experienced DV and head trauma.

Concussion and strangulation are common types of brain injury experienced by victims. The data presented in the presentation was collected from individuals who have experienced one head injury and who were generally athletes. Simple concussions resolve on their own. If a victim's symptoms seem to be getting worse, the victim needs to return for care to a hospital/doctor. Don's contact information for those needing it is rezzdogg@comcast.net.

Strangulation interrupts the blood supply to the brain and affects all the parts of the brain. Trauma impacts the portion of the brain directly impacted by the force.

Conference on Aging coming up August 27.

Next Meeting: June 26, 2013

Respectfully submitted by
Teresa D'Anza