



Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 8, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Laurie Duker, Suzanne Bailey (phone), Joan Stine; Tovah Kasdin (phone), Kelley Rainey, Shirley Schreffler (phone), Lauren Shaivitz (phone), Tanya Sisler, and Jeff Spaulding.

Board Members Absent: Keyandra Brisco, Inga James, and Karalyn Mulligan.

Staff: Michaele Cohen and Erin Boguski.

Consultants: Cynthia Lifson (Legislative Counsel).

■ Welcome and Introductions

- Laurie Duker announced that Cheryl Kravitz had to resign from the Board due to new work commitments.

■ Written Material to Review

- **Board minutes** - the minutes for March 2016 were accepted.

- **Executive Director's Report** – April 2016

Highlights:

- *National OVW State Administrators and Coalition Directors Joint Meeting:*
 - Attended by Michaele Cohen and new VAWA state administrator, Sun Jang. Sun Jang is brand new to the position and Michaele was able to spend some time with him.
 - Focus on marginalized/underserved communities such as racial/ethnic/cultural groups, LGBTQ, etc.
 - Focus on sexual assault issues, including PREA and federal parental rights legislation (including funding incentives).
- *Future FVPSA funding* likely to include community-based, culturally specific programs as well as mainstream comprehensive programs.
- *MNADV Board membership:*
 - Laurie Duker is meeting with a student from PGCC.
 - Fiona Oliphant from DVRP is also interested.
 - Need to consider representatives from underserved communities. Erin Boguski and Michaele Cohen have been discussing people to approach.
 - 2016-2017 Board member application and responsibilities forms have been updated.
 - Future Board agenda item: discussion of bi-monthly meetings
- *New MNADV publications and resources:*
 - “Service Animal Accommodation Information for Domestic Violence Service Providers”
 - “Resource Directory of Trusted Partners for Professionals – 2016,” produced by the MNADV Culturally Specific Service Provider Round Table.

- Updated MNADV training calendar: January-June 2016
- Fliers for trainings: “Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Human Trafficking Symposium” and “Taking ‘Paws:’ Working with Survivors of Domestic Violence who have Service Animals.”
- *MNADV Lethality Assessment Program* - new logo. The new LAP website will include LAP materials.
- *MNADV Annual Lethality Assessment Award* - will be named in honor of Dave Sargent: The David M. Sargent Lethality Assessment Award. Laurie Duker will send a note to him from the Board.
- *MNADV Domestic Violence Program Standards*
 - Hotline and Shelter standards have been completed.
 - The work group is completing the Non-Residential Standards: counseling, advocacy, and case management.
 - The Standards have been developed, based on best practices, by domestic violence professionals in comprehensive domestic violence programs, which have also provided input and feedback.
 - Standards can be used to provide better services and used for evaluation.
 - The MNADV wants to ensure that standards and guidance is provided by the field and not by the state.
 - Maryland has no licensing or certification for domestic violence shelters.
 - Tovah Kasdin inquired about standards for non-traditional domestic violence programs.
- *Development – Memberships and Donations*
 - The MNADV has brought in almost \$20,000 in memberships and donations in the first six months of the fiscal year, not including conference sponsorships, which are listed separately. The budget goal for FY 2016 is \$20,550.
- **MNADV Domestic Violence Conference**
 - *Sponsorships*
 - Sponsor ads need to be submitted immediately; they will be sent to the conference program designer.
 - Current sponsors include: Kaiser Permanente (\$2,500); OVC TTAC (savings of \$1,300); Michael Cohen (\$1,000); ElderSAFE (\$500); UMBC Health IT Graduate Program (\$250); Family & Children’s Services (\$250); and the following Bronze sponsors (\$125): JCADA; Maryland Insurance Administration; and MLAW.
 - The MNADV received a Gold (\$500) sponsorship today from DHMH.
 - Additional Bronze sponsorships (Exhibitors) are expected.
 - *Registrations*
 - Karalyn Mulligan suggested a raffle as an incentive for the first 100 people who register.
 - There is a need to promote early registrations.
 - It was suggested that the conference information be moved up on the web page.
 - It was suggested that calls be made to 2014 conference attendees. Tovah Kasdin offered to do this.

■ Development and Financial Oversight

■ MSAA 7K Run/1 Mile Walk

- Registrations are up – so far, 112 people have registered. People must register by April 15 [later changed to April 13] in order to guarantee a T-shirt.
- The virtual run should be promoted.
- It was suggested that Board members hold signs at mile markers. Laurie Duker, Jeff Spaulding, Tanya Sisler, and Kelley Rainey offered to do this. Sign holders would cheer people on and create more public awareness.
- The MNADV will also bring the MNADV banner to hang.
- The final planning conference call will be held on Monday, April 11 at 1:00 to finalize details.

- **2014 (FY 2015) 990** – will be presented at the May meeting for Board approval.

■ Awareness Activities

- Alicia Bickoff, LAP Manager, appeared on WMAR-TV's In Focus segment. She was also interviewed for an upcoming WMAR-TV program on violence against women.
- Erin Boguski noted that these videos – as well as videos used in MNADV trainings – are available on the MNADV YouTube channel.
- Michaele Cohen and Erin Boguski were interviewed for a cable-TV show.
- The MNADV has been fielding calls from reporters, especially in response to the LAP press release.

■ Grants

- **Bureau of Justice Assistance/Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program** – MNADV submitted a concept paper to create a risk assessment tool for offenders which would incorporate the LAP and be used in court. This proposal comes out of the MNADV's year-long Judicial Initiative Exploratory Committee. The proposal includes a research and development component, pilot program, and evaluation. If selected to submit an application, this would be a large, multi-year grant.
- **VOCA grants** (SAMS Report)
 - The program provider survey has been re-opened.
 - A draft interim report was developed but will be expanded with additional survey responses.
 - Amy Johnson attended an interim report meeting at GOCCP and met the new executive director.

■ Administration

- **LAP Specialist** – the MNADV is advertising for a new LAP Specialist to replace Alisha Queen.

■ 2016 Legislation and Legislative Advocacy – Cynthia Lifson

- The Maryland General Assembly Session ends Monday, April 11, 2016 at midnight.
- **MNADV Priority Bills**
 - HB 155/SB 278 ■ *Criminal Law - Stalking and Harassment* - PASSED both the House and Senate.
 - HB 314/SB 346 ■ *Peace Orders – Grounds for Relief* - PASSED both House and Senate.

■ **Other Bills of Interest**

- HB 534/SB 924 ■ *Family Law – Protective Orders – Notification of Sunset Repeal* - PASSED both House and Senate. There was an effort to amend SB 924 by Delegate Angel, but the House bill had already passed.
- Expungement bills: HB 220 - *Criminal Procedure - Partial Expungement* was heavily amended.
- HB 1001/SB 943 ■ *Criminal Procedure – Firearms Transfer* now has different language in the House and Senate bills. An amendment in SB 943 would allow convicted offenders to turn over rifles and shotguns to a third party. The MNADV opposed this amendment. There was a need for written and oral testimony to emphasize the MNADV’s concern about the amended bills. The bill sponsors and leadership are aware of the concerns. Laurie Duker noted that both written and oral notice should be given to offenders. In the Judiciary Committee hearing on SB 943, the police raised questions about the cost of implementation: investigation and verification. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services said that they don’t have enough officers to enforce it, especially because the bill was broadened to include all convicted felons not allowed to possess firearms. Liability issues were also raised. Changes could include again limiting the bill to domestically-related crimes. A conference committee will be appointed. At this point, advocates have no control over the outcome.
- HB 1371 ■ *Criminal Law – Strangulation – Lethality Screening Protocol and Training* will pass. The MNADV opposes the amended version as unnecessary since the LAP already exists.
- HB 646/SB 593 ■ *Family Law – Child Conceived Without Consent – Termination of Parental Rights (Rape Survivor Protection Act)* passed the House but is still in the Senate committee.
- The Justice Reinvestment bill is also still pending. Currently, the expungement provision would enable offenders to ask for expungement after 10 years. This is a major issue for the Black Caucus.

■ **2017 Legislative Session**

- The MNADV will start working this summer on legislative issues for next year.
- The Board should begin their discussion at the June Board meeting.
- All relevant stakeholders must be included in legislative discussions.

■ **Executive Session**

- Hats or T-shirts were discussed for the 7K Run/Walk.
- Signs for 7K Run/Walk should be professionally done.

<p style="text-align: center;">The next MNADV Board of Directors Meeting will be Friday, May 13, 2016 10:00 am - 12:00 noon MNADV Conference Room, Suite 320</p>
