

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007, 5:30 P.M.
SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Bob Lee	Martina O'sullivan
Alisha Favorite	Scott MacDonald
Dee O'Brien	Steve Robbins
Heidi Simonson	Todd Mayer
Jo Anna Goodman	Ofelia Gomez Gratereaux
Kathi Loughlin	Candace Atkins
Laura Segura	Mariann Lindgren

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:

Charles Molnar
Irwin Joseph

COMMISSIONERS UNEXCUSED:

Alan Hiramura
Larry Biggam
Patrick Meehan
Ellen Tiberlake

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Mayo ALTO
Kathleen Johnson – Advocates INC
Jacqueline Hunt – Safe Connection
Kristen Clemens

1. Call to Order.
Chair Simonson called meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Introduction of Members.
New Member: Martina O'Sullivan- Dominican
Each Commissioner introduced him/herself. New Commissioners and Guest introduced themselves
3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda.
Skipped Task Forces and Committees

4. Approval of October Minutes.

No Review of June minutes.

5. Oral Communications from the Community.

None

6. Old Business.

A. DV Courts Expansion- Exciting services at Watsonville Court House will move to new Court House. Watsonville postponed opening ceremony until February or March. Bob reported that Misdemeanor cases would move in November, Felony in December, and the rest in 2008. Judge Morse will preside over DV cases with Children. DV to move to Santa Cruz. North County Felony cases to go to Judge Salazar.

B. Bylaws - recommendations: Schedule time to meet on changes to bylaws.

7. New Business.

A. Safe Connections: Jackie Hunt (director)

Program provides supervised visitation- involved with the whole family. It is the only program in the county with training and support from Washington DC. Program will be shutting down because there is not enough funding to keep it going. Jackie states that fees alone cannot fund the program. Scott MacDonald offered to meet with her regarding funding. Candace reported that she was directed by the courts to find another program; Pajaro Valley Prevention is very interested and has been medically approved. High-level cases are being referred to TLC in Santa Clara. She does have a list of providers that is given to family law and clients.

B. Batters Program - Tim Mayo- ALTO: Review Sheet Attachment.

Bob asks Tim if he can change the law how would he do it? Tim responds by saying that: he would change the value structures, psychological or systemic change, do counseling. He states that there is not enough funding. He mentions that collaboration and communication with other programs is good. Scott MacDonalds stated that alto has done a good job. Bob asks if arrest reports are part of intake. Tim responds by pointing out that people can choose to go the program they want and they try to get people in to programs ASAP. This means police reports are not always available. Tim also states that a police report very important and hold vital information. Scott points out that clients have to take treatment reports to the Courts. Tim adds that if clients receive more attention and review from the Courts it will encourage the clients to change.

- C. Elder Abuse - Kathleen Johnson: Review Sheet Attachment.
Long-term Care and Patients rights Advocacy Program are both programs that are run by Advocacy Inc. Both programs are involved in investigating in living facilities. Most abuse is by staff but family abuse still happens. Mandates for this program are very big but the funding is small. Kathleen states that domestic violence on elders in their home (care facility) by visiting family or caregivers is still domestic violence. She adds that trying to deal with issues in a systematic level is very important; they have representatives from almost every senior group in the country.
8. Announcements from Commissioners.
See Attachments.
9. Adjournment.
The Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.