

**FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**April 28, 2010**  
**ROOM 14, POTOMAC BUILDING**  
**5:00 P.M.**

<b>MEETING MINUTES</b>
------------------------

**Council in Attendance:** Judge Karen Abrams, John Helldorfer, Laura Joyce, Kathy Lacer, Dr. Kathleen O'Brien, Ella May Russell, Sue Sabo, Christina Taylor, Kimberly Gregory, Bob Rezza, Nancy Luginbill, Ella May Russell

Other members: Sarah Russell (SO,) Heather Bauer (Walden Sierra,) Krisanne Bentley (Commission for Women)

**Absent:** Tim Cameron, Lanny Lancaster, Norma Pipkin, Elizabeth Schaeffer

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Kathleen O'Brien at 5:10 p.m.

**I. Approval of Minutes:**

Judge Abrams requested the Council approve the February 24, 2010 meeting minutes. John Helldorfer seconded the motion. Council voted and the meeting minutes were approved.

**II. Committee Updates:**

**Multi-disciplinary Review Team Committee**

Laura Joyce provided an update from the Committee and passed out an overview of the last few meetings. Discussed concerns about DC cases being referred to The Mediation Center.

Laura also discussed a recent case that was successful in part due to the focus of the Case Review Team and how the victim was able to receive assistance and support in a variety of crucial areas to include family advocacy, counseling, and assistance from the SO and the SAO in preparing for the case. She also congratulated Christina Taylor on her outstanding work on this case.

Heather Bauer also provided statistics from Walden Sierra for the Mar/Apr timeframe.

**Shelter Sub-Committee**

Lanny Lancaster was unable to attend, but it was reported that Three Oaks is now operating another shelter for women which is "sober-housing" and the new project is going very well.

**Fatality Review Committee**

Ella May Russell provided information from the Apr 6<sup>th</sup> Fatality Review Conference. One interesting piece of information is that most municipalities have a Fatality Review Team that is separate from their FVCC. We are one of the few that combines the FRT and FVCC which provides more continuity and learning opportunities to the process. St. Mary's is one of the most active teams as well. Another interesting point is that many municipalities put together and end of year plan with strategies to address issues over the upcoming year. Our strategy in St. Mary's is to identify problems as they occur and look for solutions immediately, versus waiting until the end of the year. Another interesting program in Baltimore City is that they have 2 counselors that interview offenders and others involved in the situation (with the victim's permission) with the focus on trying to gain insight into the whole picture of what occurred, how, why, etc.

**Other Business:**

Heather Bauer from Walden Sierra has been working on the grant they were awarded. Their goal was to council 120 victims to date, and as of Apr 1, they have exceeded the goal at 132. Many are from court referrals or other agency referrals. They are doing well in coordinating anger manager classes.

## **V. Announcements**

Lethality Assessment Conference is June 8<sup>th</sup> at Anne Arundel Community College.

## **VI. Next Meeting / Adjournment**

Possible presenters at one of next meetings: Cathy Beck, Navy Fleet and Family Services, and The Mediation Center.

### **Next Meeting:**

The next FVCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 14 of the Potomac Building.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Sue Sabo, Recording Secretary