

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 6, 2005

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

- \*Maria Armijo, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
- \*Tracy Bame, Phelps Dodge Corp.
- \*Peggy Bilsten, Council member of Phoenix  
Tony Vidale for John A. Blackburn, Jr., AZ  
Criminal Justice Commission
- Jerry Boone, Maricopa County Department of  
Public Health
- \*Cmdr Jim Brad, Town of Gilbert
- \*Dr. Mary Ellen Bradshaw, Arizona Public  
Health Assoc.  
Chris Christy, Salt River Pima-Maricopa  
Indian Community
- Dena Salter for Dr. Dean Coonrod, Maricopa  
Integrated Health Systems/MedPro
- Gene D'Adamo, The Arizona Republic
- Jill Faver, Arizona Foundation for Women
- +Martha Fraser Harman, Men's Anti Violence  
Network
- \*Susan Glawe, Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Gabriella Guerra, Value Options
- Kent Kearnon for Vicki Hill, City of Phoenix
- \*Dan Hughes, City of Surprise
- Cmdr. Kim Humphrey, City of Phoenix,  
Public Affairs Bureau, Vice Chair
- Jane Condor for Roger Illingworth, Dept. Of  
Public Safety
- \*Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging
- \*Phil Lieberman, Council member of Glendale
- \*Sue Linney, Council member of Goodyear
- \*Marie Lopez-Rogers, Council member of  
Avondale
- \*JoEllen Lynn, American Express
- \*Donna Marcum, AZ Criminal Justice  
Commission
- \*Linda Martin, Foundation for Senior Living
- \*Judy Mattingly, Justice Services, Inc
- \*Preston McMurry, McMurry Publishing  
Carolyn McBurney, Envision Project  
Management
- Marna McClendon, Office of the Attorney  
General
- +Craig Mills, ACS
- \*Karen O'Connor, Maricopa County  
Michael Parascandola, City of Goodyear  
Janice Parker, Save the Family Foundation
- \*Karyn Parker-Reichert, Marley House
- \*Sandi Perez, BHHS Legacy Foundation
- \*Keith Perkins, Never Again Foundation
- \*Don Peyton, City of Phoenix Fire Dept.  
Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center
- \*John Pombier, City of Mesa  
Lynn Potts, City of Mesa
- \*Lonetta Sanders, Phoenix Police Department
- \*Mike Stedman, City of El Mirage
- \*Marie Sullivan, AZ Women's Education and  
Employment  
Kristen Scharlau for Judy Tapscott, City of  
Tempe
- Mary Thomson, Governor's Office
- \*Kerry G. Wangberg, City of Phoenix  
Prosecutor's Office
- Phillip Westbrooks, Council member of  
Chandler, Chairman
- Dale Wiebusch, Arizona Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence
- \*Terri Woodmansee, City of Goodyear

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Allie Bones, Governor's Office
- Marge Clark, Eve's Place
- Debra Determan, MAG
- Teresa Franquiz, MAG
- Laura Guild, DES
- Katie Hobbs, Sojourner Center
- Sallie Laureles, Elim House
- Anna Maria Leff, DES/DCYF
- Lisa Melton, Community Legal Services, East  
Valley
- Doug Pilcher, City of Phoenix Municipal Court
- Bruce Raden, Congressman Shadegg Office
- Libby Reynolds-Bissa, City of Phoenix
- Ayanna Rutherford, MAG/AmeriCorps
- Jamie Torner, Sojourner Center
- JP Twist, Congressman Shadegg Office

- \* Those not present or represented by proxy
- + Those attending by video/audio conference.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Phillip Westbrook called the Council to order at 9:10am, welcomed everyone and began introductions.

2. Call to the Audience

Allie Bones, Governor's Office Division for Women, announced that the Governor's State Agency Coordination Teams (SACT) had developed a domestic and sexual violence needs assessment that was distributed electronically to several individuals yesterday. Ms. Bones said that she also brought hard copies to the meeting today if anyone did not receive a copy electronically. She asked everyone to please complete the survey and return it to the Governor's Office by Monday, January 17. She also asked that the DV Council members assist the Governor's Office with the distribution of the survey, where possible.

3. Approval of the October 24, 2004 Council Meeting Minutes

Without a quorum present, Chairman Westbrook called for the Council to continue on action items with the normal approval procedure by consent and formal approval would be granted at the next Council session in March, given that a quorum is present. There were no changes or additions to the minutes. Gene D'Adamo moved to approve the minutes, with a second provided by Carolyn McBurney. The minutes passed unanimously.

4. Working Group Progress Reports

Walk/Fundraising Subcommittee:

Gene D'Adamo, The Arizona Republic, said that the Walk subcommittee has met several times already and will be meeting again Monday, January 10. There is a Walk kick-off breakfast on Tuesday, February 1 from 8am – 9am at the R&G Ranch on 32<sup>nd</sup> St. and Indian School. The Walk itself is on Saturday, April 23 and will follow the same route as last year, beginning at Wesley Bolin Plaza. The subcommittee will be changing the procedure for collecting pledges. Sponsors include The Arizona Republic, Channel 12 News, Safeway, Verizon Wireless, American Express, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Phelps Dodge and EADV. There are also four or five other hot prospects. They are still waiting for a radio sponsor, but have print and broadcast sponsors in place. They are hoping for the Peak radio station to sign on as a sponsor.

Carolyn McBurney, Envision Project Management, continued by saying that a major goal for this year is to improve fundraising online. They are signing a contract agreement with Convio, a national organization that works with nonprofit on online fundraising. They did Howard Dean's online campaign fundraising. Mr. D'Adamo said that there will also be more effort to reach out to the MAG council, EADV member companies, MAN, Governor's Commission, and this DV Council. Last year they fell short in reaching out to those people vested in the issue.

Chairman Westbrook asked what is the goal for the number of participants and dollars this year. Mr. D'Adamo answered that it is an interesting question, and that they have been somewhat hesitant to publish the number in case they may fall slightly short. However, last year 3800 people participated and \$178,000 was raised. This year, the internal goal is to have 4200 walkers and \$250,000 raised.

Chairman Westbrook thanked Mr. D'Adamo and Ms. McBurney for their updates.

Victim Services Subcommittee:

Connie Phillips, Sojourner Center, said that her group is focusing on the goal of creating information that can be presented and demonstrates the need for services in a way that is less likely to be questioned. They have looked at Valley data and worked with ASU to create something everyone can be comfortable presenting.

Debra Determan, MAG, said that they also want to involve those who may be interested in data collection to come to those meetings. She asked the Council to share information about the subcommittee with anyone who would like to be a part of it. Ms. Phillips confirmed that the next meeting will be held on January 25 at 9am at MAG. Chairman Westbrook asked the Council to contact MAG staff if anyone is interested in joining the Victim Services Subcommittee.

No other subcommittee reports were given at this time.

5. Strategic Planning Options for DV 2005-2006

Chairman Westbrook said that this particular topic came from an earlier discussion with staff and some of the subcommittee chairs, who felt the need to look at potential goals for the subcommittees. Staff created a draft list of potential goals and sent them to the subcommittee chairs, and a copy has been provided today. The purpose of the list was to provide assistance to the busy subcommittees in helping them to get a few initial thoughts down. The subcommittees themselves could evaluate each suggestion and decide if they are appropriate to the group.

Vice Chair Kim Humphrey said that the smaller group had had the conversation for obvious reasons – it is a new year and time to look at things done in the past and where we're going in the future. Without definable goals, the group could become directionless. The group has tried to look at what the state is doing, and what could be done on a regional approach. They have discussed possibly going back to the community at this time to receive new input from other individuals, like survivors and providers. It may be time to go back to what we did originally to see if we're still heading in the right direction. Chairman Westbrook thanked Vice Chair Humphrey and concurred with his remarks. He then opened the floor for further comment.

Ms. Determan said that MAG staff had put together the list based on what groups are already doing, and provided example timelines. The list is not meant to be

directional in nature, rather it is something staff would like the chairs of the subcommittees to look at and determine if each item fits with their objectives.

Mr. D'Adamo asked if the list had been developed with the input of the chairs. Ms. Determan replied that it was basically developed by staff and was done quickly based on staff knowledge of what already is happening. The list was meant to start discussion. Mr. D'Adamo asked if it was meant to be taken back to the subcommittees. Ms. Determan said yes. Craig Mills confirmed that he would like to take the list back to the EADV Steering Committee for their input.

Vice Chair Humphrey asked Mr. Mills if, after five years, he felt that it was time to go back and get another pulse of the community to see what people think or if the group already has a good sense of what's going on. Mr. Mills asked if he meant specifically for EADV to receive public input. Vice Chair Humphrey replied that he meant to include everyone in that question. Ms. Phillips said that she supports the idea of going back to community. She told how she took the original 41 initiatives to a women's group at Sojourner Center and many of them had never experienced some of the processes like crisis response teams. She pointed out that not everyone takes advantage of what is available in the way of services or of those systems that we assumed were needed. She also said that the community knows a lot more than we did five years ago. She is also concerned that the 41 recommendations include really broad statements. The group often says that they do not want to get discouraged by really broad, unachievable goals, but the 41 are actually very broad. She said that what may have happened is that we have become complacent because we think it's "good enough" that a lot of people now care about DV. Our job is to keep it out there that it's not "good enough".

Janice Parker, Save the Family, agreed that gathering more public input is an excellent idea and that after five years it is time to go back to the community. Ms. Determan added that staff went back to the Duluth model to see where they are now and what's happened there in the course of their evolution as a group. Basically, we found that they did a lot of constant evaluation, internally and externally. Evaluation fits in with the model that we've been following all along. This concept of going back to the community and re-evaluating our goals with their input would make sense based on other groups' experience.

Mr. D'Adamo asked if the group should make sure that we look at the state plan. He said there has got to be some information sharing so we don't go down separate roads, or duplicate efforts. Chairman Westbrook agreed. Ms. Determan said that staff has thought about having an update at every meeting from the Governor's Commission. Mary Thomson, Governor's Office Division for Women, said that a missing area at the Regional DV Council is the focus on criminal justice, which has been a main focus at the Governor's Commission, starting with training. She said that MAG could play a huge role in helping them to do that. She also said that the Governor will be coming out with new fatality

review legislation in the upcoming session. It would allow communities to publish those numbers without being held liable in civil lawsuits. It would be useful have use the MAG Regional Council to reach the mayors and would be a logical partnership. Vice Chair Humphrey said that one of the issues that the Council did not tackle in the past and came to light recently was how law enforcement is involved in DV issues. He mentioned the high profile case going on in Phoenix right now and that it has shown how those law enforcement agencies need to deal with DV issues in their own agencies, where they have their own culture, or else it won't improve or get done. He said that this is something this Council could help to bring to light. Some chiefs of police could be brought in to participate on the Council.

Marna McClendon, Attorney General's Office, agreed that the Council needs to be focused on criminal justice and she mentioned the need for more presence from courts, personnel, and family court judges. Ms Thomson also mentioned how important the focus has been on the impact of DV on children at the Governor's Commission. She said they recently held a symposium with the County at the table. They discussed where they could create more seamless, coordinated interventions for them, such as in the school system and/or healthcare system. She said this was another area where MAG could help out in the Maricopa region. She suggested that maybe this could be done through existing groups. Ms. Determan said that MAG was not privy to that particular meeting, but that she would be happy to meet with the Governor's Office staff. Ms. Parker said that she would strongly recommend that type of collaboration between the state and MAG.

Rex Critchfield, DES, said that the group has talked about looking at services and analyzing gaps, but if we're going to go out and talk to victims, he would hope that we look at where the intersections are where our systems come in contact with people who are at risk, but have not tapped into the DV systems specifically yet. For example, they know at DES that there is a fair correlation between those who receive TANF and those who are known to the CPS system, so then a correlation between DV and CPS might be likely. He said that we might try to do a better job identifying up front those individuals who have other needs, even if not presently vocalizing them. He noted what Ms. Phillips said earlier about those people who haven't heard about the services that are out there and wondered where could we have bumped into them and raised their consciousness a little earlier about what's available before it becomes time for shelter.

Chairman Westbrook thanked everyone for their thought provoking comments. He said that everyone's participation helps us to think about how best to take action. Vice Chair Humphrey asked if we might consider a group of people that would be willing to get together and look at how we could go back out and get public input through focus groups or surveys. Ms. Bones mentioned the needs assessment survey that she passed out earlier and pointed out that once the data comes in, it will be available in a county-specific format. She reiterated how

important this needs assessment could be in showing where gaps exist. Ms. Phillips reminded the group that their purpose in getting together is coordination. She said that what she's hearing from Ms. Bones and Ms. Thomson reminds her that it's really important that we all work together. She suggested that MAG really get behind the survey and encourage people to fill it out so that we can all benefit from it. She said that she would like to participate in the Vice Chair's planning group, which he recommended. She added that our job is coordination, so let's look at what we're doing and make sure it's meaningful.

**Chairman Westbrook said that he would entertain a two-fold motion: first to recommend that MAG advocate the Governor's needs assessment survey and second to form a group that would work on planning through public input and coordination with the state plan.**

**Ms. Phillips moved to accept these two items above. Marna McClendon seconded her motion. Both recommendations were passed unanimously.**

Chairman Westbrook asked staff to come back to the next Council meeting with report from this new subcommittee and asked for volunteers to serve on this group. Ms. McClendon, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Critchfield, Ms. Parker, Mr. Weibusch, and Vice Chair Humphrey volunteered for the subcommittee. Ms. Determan asked the Council to let staff know of anyone else not on the Council who might want to volunteer.

6. Proposition 200

Chairman Westbrook began discussion of Prop 200 by stating that the proposition did pass on November 2 went into effect just before Christmas. He said that it was put on the agenda just for open discussion for how it might be affecting agencies. Dena Salter, Maricopa Medical Center, said that they have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of people coming into the ER and clinics, and it has obviously been a cause for concern for patients. There have been individuals will give fake, anglo-sounding names if they actually have a name that may cause them to be deported. She said the general population may not understand that emergency services are not affected by Prop 200 and that all of their waiting rooms have been unusually slow lately. Chairman Westbrook thanked her for her input.

7. Pride Without Pain Project

Chairman Westbrook introduced Jamie Torner from Sojourner Center, who is the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender outreach coordinator. Ms. Torner said that her job is to disseminate information about DV to that community, and also to provide training to anyone who would like to receive it. She said that she recently spoke to Valley One-in-Ten and Transgender Harmony and tailored her presentations to those agencies' needs. Chairman Westbrook asked how long the program has been in existence. Ms. Torner said that she personally has been there since March, but the program has been at Sojourner Center for much longer. Ms.

Phillips said that Ms. Torner is doing a wonderful job and that her current position was very difficult to fill. She added that we often don't think about DV in nontraditional relationships, but that Sojourner is really excited to be able to offer this serve. Ms. Torner said that there is a support group available on Thursday nights for lesbian and bisexual women who have been victims of DV. She also offers community case management services. Laura Guild, DES, asked if when speaking to groups, if she gets any information from them about barriers to services. Ms. Torner said that one concern that frequently comes up is that most DV shelters are women specific, there often there is no place for gay men to go, especially if they don't want to go to a homeless shelter. She said that in general, her presentations have been very well received that she often receives feedback from trainees via email after the sessions. Mr. Critchfield asked what the focus is on in the trainings. Ms. Torner said that her presentations can be completely tailored to what the organization wants.

She said that her contact number is on a magnet being passed around the room. She said that the response from agencies requesting training has been slower than she anticipated, but the response from audiences has been wonderful. Ms. McClendon asked how the Council could help. Ms. Torner said that putting her name and number out there advocating for agencies to request presentations. Chairman Westbrook thanked Ms. Torner for her presentation.

8. DV Awareness Month Kickoff Subcommittee Sign-Up

Chairman Westbrook reminded the Council that the last time they met, they voted to have an annual kick-off event to DV Awareness Month in October. He said that he wanted to plan ahead for this year's event as much as possible. Last year's planning was fast, but the event went well. He proposed forming an ad hoc work group that would begin meeting after the Walk on April 23, consisting of maybe four or five people. He asked for members to either volunteer for the work group now or contact MAG staff later. Kris Scharlau representing Judy Tapscott from the City of Tempe volunteered, as well as Chairman Westbrook.

9. Staffing

Debra Determan reported that there had been some shortfall in funding for continued staffing of DV projects. She estimated that it requires about 1 ½ full time employees to fully staff all of the DV committees and subcommittees, but the funding has not been available to continue that level of staffing. She said that she has been able to negotiate a half-time salary that may come through. There may also be another AmeriCorps volunteer available to work on DV. She said that it looks like there may be enough staff for major projects, may not for full staffing of the smaller groups. She said that staff may need members to get more involved in coordinating those. She said that she is continually looking for ongoing funding to do coordination, though it is difficult to find that kind of funding. She said that the objective in prioritizing staffing will be to look at primary projects, where groups will get the biggest bang for the buck based on their goals and objectives. Chairman Westbrook asked Ms. Determan when she would know for sure about

the additional AmeriCorps volunteer. She said that she should know within the week.

10. Meeting Schedule

Chairman Westbrook noted how difficult it can be to coordinate a convenient time for a meeting when there are several people involved. He reminded the Council that staff had emailed a survey to all members last November, which asked which available meeting time would work best for them. The results showed that the first Thursday in a.m. was the first preference, with the first Tuesday in the a.m. as the second preference. Janice Parker noted that she likes the meeting change to the mornings, as in the middle of the day it's hard to pull away for ongoing tasks. She said that she would be fine with Tuesday or Thursday, as long as the time was 9-11am. Craig Mills said that the first Thursday works the best for him. Chairman Westbrook added on behalf of Vice Chair Humphrey, who had to leave the meeting early, that he frequently would not be able to attend on Thursday mornings as he has a standing meeting. Mr. D'Adamo said that if Commander Humphrey can't be here on Thursdays, it might be wise to reschedule to Tuesdays. Chairman Westbrook asked Mr. Mills if he would be able to attend if the meetings were changed to Tuesdays. He said yes, at least in the short-term.

**Chairman Westbrook requested a motion to reschedule the meetings to Tuesday mornings. Ms. McClendon made a motion to move the standard meetings to the first Tuesdays of every other month from 9am – 11am. Carolyn McBurney seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Mills opposed.**

11. Announcements

Mr. Critchfield complimented Mr. D'Adamo and Ms. McBurney on their organization of the Walk. He said that he had had no idea it had become as sophisticated as it is. He said that they are doing a great job. Mr. D'Adamo and Ms. McBurney thanked him and said that there has been a lot of trial and effort.

Ms. McClendon announced that National Crime Victims Rights week would be recognized on April 10-16. She said that she was disappointed that it will just miss coinciding with the Walk. She said that the Attorney General's office will hope to collaborate anyway and will provide some more information as we move forward. Ms. McBurney said that after the Crime Victims Rights rally they will have table for people to sign up for the Walk and that they hope to have a victims rights team.

Ms. Thomson reminded the Council that the new legislative session starts on Monday Jan 10 and that the Governor will be giving her State of the State address at 1:00. She said that there would likely be a lot of issues related to DV in this next session, and suggested that there be a legislative report at the next session.

**The next scheduled Regional Domestic Violence Council meeting is on Tuesday, March 1 from 9:00 – 11:00am at the MAG offices, Saguaro Room.**