

MINUTES
Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime
November 10, 2015

The Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, Fourth Floor, Conference Room 4B, from 2:05 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Co-Chair Susan Omilian, Brian Austin, Jr., Matt Berardino for Melissa Farley, Joseph W. Bibisi, Antonia Cordero, Laura Cordes, Janice Heggie Margolis, Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Karen Jarmoc, David Lawrence-Hawley, David Snyder for Karen Martucci, and Deborah Witkin

Members Excused or Absent:

Co-Chair the Honorable John A. Danaher, III, Chester Brodnicki, and Robin Montgomery

OVS Staff Present:

Linda J. Cimino, James Morgan, and Jean M. Weisbrod

Guests Present:

Natacha Kerelejza of Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) and University of Connecticut student interns Emmeline Pappas and Yamilette Rosado.

Agenda:

1. Welcome

Susan Omilian called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Council members introduced themselves.

Laura Cordes distributed a new business card and reported that Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services (CONNSACS) changed their business name to the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence, which better reflects their mission.

2. Approval of the September 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Susan asked for a motion to accept the minutes of September 8, 2015. The motion was moved and seconded; the minutes were accepted as presented.

3. Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) Update

Jim Morgan distributed and reviewed the *Office of Victim Services Criminal Injuries Compensation Program Budget statement for month ending 10/31/15, FY 07/01/15 – 06/30/16*. Jim reported that expenses are consistent with last year.

Jim distributed and reviewed the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) Contributions (P.A. 06-152), Fiscal Year 2015-2016*. Jim reported that as of September 30, 2015, the total amount collected from the courts is \$548,000, which is 9% higher than last year.

Susan asked if the recently signed federal budget would impact Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. Jim explained that \$1.5 billion has been removed from the federal budget but the Compensation Program will not be affected.

4. Presentation: Intimate Partner Violence Screening, Training and Intervention Project

Clinical Director Natacha Kerelejza, LCSW, of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) presented on the *Health Professional Outreach Project: Supporting Care for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence*.

Natacha stated that CCADV has partnered with the Injury Prevention Center at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital to implement the Project, which provides education, training, technical assistance, policy guidance and evaluation and data on intimate partner violence to healthcare providers. She also discussed the importance and benefits of screening patients for intimate partner violence in health care settings including hospital emergency rooms.

Following the presentation, Council members discussed the benefits of the healthcare provider intimate partner violence training.

5. New Business

Susan reported that the scheduled dates for the 2016 Advisory Council meetings are:

- Tuesday, January 12, 2016;
- Tuesday, March 8, 2016;
- Tuesday, May 10, 2016;
- Tuesday, July 12, 2016;
- Tuesday, September 13, 2016; and
- Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

Janice Heggie Margolis reported that Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) purchased new computer equipment with VOCA technology funding. David Lawrence-Hawley added that the Klingberg Family Centers also utilized the VOCA technology funding to purchase laptops and electronic equipment.

Janice reported that MADD's legislative initiatives include amending Section 14-227a of the Connecticut General Statutes, to extend the time for blood alcohol content testing beyond two hours, and child endangerment charges for adults who drive while intoxicated or impaired with children in their vehicles.

Linda reported that Judicial Branch administrators are reviewing OVS's requested legislative changes to Chapter 968, Victims Services.

Laura Cordes reported that the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE) Program will celebrate its 5th anniversary in January 2016; an event will be held to recognize the anniversary.

Council members agreed that the January Council meeting agenda include legislative topics by Council members and the following presentation(s):

- Trauma Informed Care presentation by David Lawrence-Hawley
- Legislative Updates by Council members
- Victim Rights Enforcement Advisory Council Report to be distributed (if available)

- Update on the Impact of Domestic Violence on Children's Task Force Report presented by Karen Jarmoc

6. Adjournment

Susan adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Jean Weisbrod, Recorder