

DCCESV Q4 Meeting  
July 29, 2020

I. Attendees present:

- Amara Legal Center
- Ayuda
- DC Department of Health
- DC Forensic Nurse Examiners
- DC Rape Crisis Center
- DC SAFE
- Ethiopian Community Center
- FAIR Girls
- Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse
- Mary's Center
- Men Can Stop Rape
- My Sister's Place
- Network for Victim Recovery DC
- OVSJG (Kelley Dillon + Cheryl Bozarth)
- Restoration 199
- Rights4Girls
- Safe Shores
- Safe Sisters Circle
- Victim Services MPD
- Elizabeth Olds

II. OVSJG

- Upcoming virtual training hosted by OVSJG on August 25. Scheduled time likely 1-3pm
  - i. Hosted by Leslye Orloff, leader of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project and professor at American University, as well as two other Judges who are trainers
  - ii. Focus on immigrant issues and family law, with additional focus on accessing public benefits with immigrant clients
  - iii. Follow up training TBD for September
  - iv. Look for this info through the VAN or RAN or DCCESV distribution lists
- OVSJG is working hard on reviewing applications and moving toward awards and letters of intent.
  - i. Hope to get letters of intent out within the next 2-3 weeks
  - ii. Some of this has been held up by the District's budget process
- The Council finalized budget last week
  - i. Enhancement to the mayor's budget ended with OVSJG receiving an enhancement of 4.8 million, with 3 million of that designated for a DV emergency shelter
  - ii. 3.3 million enhancement for reentry; included in that is 1 million for a men's housing pilot
  - iii. 1.7 million for access to justice, which is passed through DC BART Foundation

- iv. For victim services, things landed better than where they started, especially considering a 1 billion budget drop
  - Organizations can support OVSJG by elevating conversations around BLM and impact that it has on victims in the District; need for continued support and services at those intersections
    - i. Being vocal about the ways that OVSJG and victim services offer supports around these intersections is one of the ways that the budget landed where it did
- III. SAVRAA Update, Elisabeth Olds
- Funding freeze complicated timeline of hiring and training advocates to be ready to go by October 1 (the go-live point for the expanded advocacy portion of SAVRAA and all the things that go with it)
  - OVSJG will release the RFA in August for the expanded advocacy function of 2019 and the dispatch system
    - i. Funding for that will be released October 1
    - ii. You can apply for that RFA; Elisabeth is happy to provide technical assistance to anyone who is applying--filling in gaps, answering questions related to the technical aspects of it so that everything meets requirements
  - Curriculum for advocate training is almost finalized. People will be able to indicate if they've had training if they are already qualified
    - i. This application will also go out in August
    - ii. Opt-out of certain pieces of the curriculum for qualified applicants will be announced in September
    - iii. Elisabeth may be reaching out to some of you as far as providing TA or instruction
  - In August, SART membership and bylaws should be finalized
    - i. Will establish protocol for dispatching advocates and MPD
  - Emergency legislation will be introduced to extend implementation deadline by 90 days
  - Training to begin in November and should cumulatively last 2 weeks
    - i. Solid referral process to outside organizations to refer survivors will be established in this period, though this will be an ongoing process
  - Training to be completed in December
  - Elisabeth will be reaching out to individual organizations to have meetings to talk through your questions and needs
  - Keep in mind that DC's regionally-specific challenges of having multiple jurisdictions, responders, and service providers require a high level of coordination

IV. Executive Director Search update

- Launched last month; the job announcement is on Idealist and the Coalition website
  - i. We are continuing our search
  - ii. We haven't started interviews yet
  - iii. Will be working with hiring committee to decide which applicants out of current pool will be selected to do an interview
  
- Hiring committee consists of:
  - i. Neil Irvin [MCSR]
  - ii. Rachel Friedman [MCSR]
  - iii. Indira Henard [DCRCC]
  - iv. Chandra Dawson [DCRCC]
  - v. Najma Johnson [DAWN]
  - vi. Elisabeth Olds
  
- Board of Directors will make final approval vote, based on recommendation of hiring committee
  - i. Melissa Hook
  - ii. Jonathan Wade
  - iii. Sislana Ledbetter
  - iv. Rachel Friedman (recusing self because also on the hiring committee)
  
- Please spread the word and share on your social media handles; feel free to use social media graphics that have been posted to the DCCESV social media for this search
  
- Please continue to reach out with questions and feedback about this process

V. Open discussion and announcements

- JCADA is hiring a part-time staff attorney at JCADA; if you know anyone who is barred in Virginia, please pass this along
- If you have any events, please send them to [hgoldstein@mencanstoprape.org](mailto:hgoldstein@mencanstoprape.org) to be posted to website and social media

VI. Several months into COVID, how have adjustments to services gone?

- There have been closures related to COVID
  - i. Reviewing all protocols from CDC and local government, as well as discussing with other service providers, about approaches to service during this time
  - ii. Looking for ways to develop protocols when timely testing is a challenge and temperature checks are moot for asymptomatic carries, and seeking to do this inter- and intra-organizationally, as many direct service providers are facing these challenges
  - iii. How do organizations anticipate doing contact tracing, especially in situations where people may be reluctant to leave contact information because of their circumstances
  
- We may be able to collect some of these challenges and concerns in a centralized way, and observe the trends that emerge in order to inform a response

- i. We can also create an online public conversation about this and think about other people locally and nationally who could be on a panel to help us think through some of this stuff in a more solution-oriented way
  - ii. It would also be helpful if DC Government could support in coming up with best practices/protocols and emerging trends since they have access to providers across a wide array of services
- We will be sending out surveys following this meeting, please complete them!