**Minutes for Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task**

**July 17th, 2018**

Chair: Bobbie Hodson- **Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office**

Vice Chair: Christine Warwick- **Retired (Haven)**

Location: Suncoast Hospice

The Gathering Place (room B)

5771 Roosevelt Blvd.

Clearwater FL

Time: 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

**VISION:**

To have a peaceful and just community;

**PURPOSE:**

1. To promote the prevention of domestic and sexual violence.

2. To enhance victim safety.

3. To hold batterers accountable.

**GOALS:**

1. To develop and implement primary preventative strategies.

2. To facilitate and implement a coordinated community response to domestic violence,

3. To provide ongoing education and assessment of the coordinated community response.

The Task Force agrees to use the principles of **Trauma Informed Care** in conducting our meetings by creating a safe, trustworthy, collaborative and empowering environment. This supportive culture of shared decision making and choices for all involved will enhance our advocacy efforts.

Bobbie Hodson called the meeting to order by reading the Vision, Purpose and Goals of the Task Force at 2:03 PM.

Melissa Andress proposed approval of the minutes seconded by David Swindall.

1. **Chair’s Report** – Bobbie Hodson [bhodson@pcsonet.com](mailto:bhodson@pcsonet.com)

-Introduce Melinda Perry- Chief Operating Officer of RCS, she will be the contact for issues as the Executive Director position is vacant.

-Discussed 501(c)3 nonprofit status would make receiving grants easier and it doesn’t seem cost prohibitive to apply although no other TF(Task Force)s around state have this status. Bobbie made a motion to start the process, seconded by Linda Chamberlain and voted and approved. Board of directors will likely come from chairs of committees.

1. **BIP Committee Report**– David Swindall, Chair

-David reported Maria Erickson has been approved a new BIP provider although she does not have a standalone facility she wanted the credentials.

-The Steering committee approved new sliding fee schedule which will be distributed to State Attorney’s Office (SAO) and Misdemeanor Probation. David completed a coordinated community response to DV training on behalf of the TF.

1. **Education Committee Report** – Melissa Andress, Chair

Melissa has nothing new to report.

1. **Fatality Review** **Committee Report** – Frieda Widera, Chair

-One case was reviewed in June – minutes provided where 20 patterns and trends were noted including opportunities for intervention. Next meeting is August 2.

-Frieda provided copies of the Attorney General’s Statewide Fatality Review Report for distribution along with their recommendations.

1. **Primary Prevention Committee Report** – Jennifer Saulpaugh, Chair

-Jennifer reports they are continuing to work on revamping the “**Say This, Not That**” booklets.

-Prevention committee has 2 events scheduled including the CASA back to School Family Fun day Sat. July 21st at the Tree of Life Church 9am – 2pm and the National Night Out on October 2nd 4:30-8:30pm. Looking for volunteers, please contact Frieda [fwidera@largo.com](mailto:fwidera@largo.com) or Jennifer [jennifer.saulpaugh@rcspinellas.org](mailto:jennifer.saulpaugh@rcspinellas.org)

-Representatives at St. Pete Pride street festival June 24th were well received distributing resources.

1. **Statistics Committee Report**  – Ruth Whitney , Co-Chair

(Presented by Sherry Clester) Committee met June 7th and July 5th and will meet July26th to finish report to be presented at September meeting.

-The Statistics committee is requesting printing costs be covered by TF which will be addressed at Steering Committee.

-The Statistics Committee plan to meet with Chiefs at Largo PD and St. Petersburg PD soon.

1. **Steering Committee Report** –Alexis Upton, Chair [hokieupton@gmail.com](mailto:hokieupton@gmail.com)

Alexis reported there will be no October awards ceremony in 2018 but the TF will create something to acknowledge Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

VIII. **Advocacy Committee Report** – Katie Gardner, Co-Chair

-The committee met 7/10/18 and learned about landlord/tenant laws and will meet again on Sept. 11th.

-The committee is in need of a new Chair so please reach out to Katie [ktgard15@gmail.com](mailto:ktgard15@gmail.com) or Gaby [glopez@casa-stpete.org](mailto:glopez@casa-stpete.org) if interested.

IX. **Announcements:**

Deena Silver of JAEDA reports they are still trying to bring “The Yellow Dress” to a high school this next year however it has been difficult and discouraging. JAEDA is hosting training in October training leaders of synagogues about domestic violence.

Sherry Clester reports Alexis Upton from the SAO will be training SPPD officers during read-offs about DV investigation. There have been 2 DV murder/suicides at the Vibe Apts on 4th St. in the last few months. Sherry gave commendations to Judge Siracusa who has been setting high bond amounts on strangulation cases.

Denise Brunvand received the ‘Healthy Relationship” bookmarks and distributed them to the attendants.

If you have any requests for the education piece in the coming months, contact Alexis or Bobbie.

pinellasdvtf.weebly.com

Facebook.com/PCDVTF/

Next Meeting: 9/18/18 @ Suncoast Hospice 5771 Roosevelt Blvd. Clearwater

and future meeting:

11/13/18 (early due to holiday at SPC Epi Center 13805 58th St. N)

Please contact Bobbie Hodson if you wish to be on the agenda

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Alexis Upton