**Minutes for Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force**

**March 20, 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 2:02 PM.

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the January meeting and the minutes were approved.

St. Pete Police Department Chief Holloway was recognized for his contributions to preventing domestic violence and leading the community with his efforts at the St. Pete Police Dept.

1. **Chair’s Report** – Bobbie Hodson

Bobbie reported she applied for the Sheriff’s Advisory Board Grant of one thousand dollars for nonprofit organizations. She advised the task force we will know in May whether we received the grant.

1. **BIP Committee Report**– Lola Blevins

Lola reported the BIP committee will be meeting again in June. They will be discussing the sliding scale fees for BIP courses. The sliding scale fees have not been changed since 2006. Lola also reported the monitoring of BIP providers is coming up this year.

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

No report.

1. **Fatality Review** **Committee Report** – Sherry Clester

Sherry advised they are working on the annual report. This year will be a one page handout. She reviewed the minutes from their 2/1/18 meeting which was a near fatality case.

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

Jennifer reported they are having the Family Extravaganza on the 10th. PTA presentations are on-going. The “Say this not that” booklet is being revamped. They will also have a booth at Pride.

1. **Statistics Committee Report**  – Ruth Whitney

Ruth reported they planned on going to the Police Standards Council. The tragedy in South Florida changed the topic, however, for the next meeting to address the new laws. They will not be able to attend the Council meeting until June. They are meeting with two agencies and will continue with pleas for advocates and specialized detectives. There was a discussion of DV training for SRO’s.

1. **Steering Committee Report** –Alexis Upton

No report.

1. **Advocacy Committee Report** – Katie Gardner

Katie reported the newsletter is being finalized. The newsletter will be geared to sex assault/child trauma and will recognize award recipients. The newsletter will be released via e-mail and copies left at targeted areas.

1. **Education Component:**

Rose Harris and Katie Miklos from Suncoast Sex Assault Services presented on Intimate Partner Sexual Violence.

1. **Announcements:**

Manny Wolfe- Manny reported that three out of the four jail divisions are being serviced with BIP. They are trying to get another counselor certified and are trying to start a female BIP group at the jail. They currently have a waiting list for men’s BIP at the jail and are receiving a lot of court referrals.

Art Heals will be taking place on April 14th from 5-9pm at the Galley.

Bobbie moved to spend $150 to publish Denise’s bookmarks as a task force. It was decided the steering committee would first address if the two shelters agree to have their information published on the bookmarks.

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: 5/15/18 @ Suncoast Hospice and future meetings: 7/17/18, 9/18/18

5771 Roosevelt Blvd. Clearwater

11/13/18 (early due to holiday and at St Pete College Epi Center)

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

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Alexis Upton