

**South Carolina Victim Assistance Network
Board of Directors Meeting
August 13, 2009
10:30 a.m.**

Present:

Veronica Swain Kunz
Brett Macgargle
Patty Cavanaugh
Susan Quinn
Saylor Fox
Adela Mendoza
Patricia Ravenhorst
Renee Mattox
Ritchie Tidwell
Margaret Frierson

Absent:

Dean Kilpatrick
Vicki Bourus
Hope Blackley
Riley Bost

Brett called meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Old Business

Minutes of the June 11, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Ritchie Tidwell reported information about a new grant:

3 Year Grant -Kershaw County: Safe Schools Healthy Students. This program will provide crisis response, Alcohol Prevention, Afterschool Program, Employment for Kids, Gang Prevention and Childhood Development resources.

Financial Update

Financial update was presented by Ritchie Tidwell. The budget for FY 2009-2010 was reviewed. Ritchie Tidwell moved to approve the budget. Renee seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Budget includes projected Enforcement 4 money beginning Feb. 2, 2010. Enforcement Grant provides money for overhead (rent, telephones, audit, etc.)

Ritchie suggested applying to be approved for an Indirect Cost Rate for grants. Money is unrestricted. Veronica is encouraged to apply for it.

VOCA grant programs began July 1 (CVISS, VIP, Immigrant Victim Network)

Telecommuting: Rent will be \$4,800 annually, rather than \$28,000+. Address will remain the same. Weekly staff meetings will remain in the office.

Other agencies were proposed for use for Board Meetings:

DJJ, The Cooperative Ministry, Synergy Building (Juvenile Arbitration Board space)

Larry Bergmann has decided to work and volunteer less; therefore, he needs to retire from the Board. He has asked that we maintain close contact and to call upon him when we need his services, advice and support. Brett will call Larry to check to see what he'd like us to do in the form of a gift, party or other celebration to honor his long-term service to SCVAN.

Recommendations - Edisto Restaurant gift certificate: The Post Office

Other Restaurants with private rooms for party: Miyos, Travinia's

Newest Board Member:

The Board presents Susan Quinn for a seat as an Ex-Officio member of SCVAN's Board of Directors. Absent Board members will be asked to vote electronically to approve Susan.

Potential new Board Member:

Jessica Freed – special events/ fundraising events coordinator at USC, interested in serving on the Board.

Diane Blumel:

Resume included in the Board packet. Diane is willing to move from Charlotte for employment. She would like to remain involved in crime victim services. In the meantime, Diane would like to work with SCVAN as a Board member or help with fundraising events. Patricia Ravenhorst mentioned she can do immigration work without a SC law license.

Victim Immigrant Network presentation – Adela Mendoza and Patricia Ravenhorst
Patricia and Adela introduced themselves.

Program Goals/Objectives -

Developing resource directory in English and Spanish

Developing a resource/referral database for victim service providers. (They will be following up with the resources to verify their continued services.)

Education and Training to law enforcement agencies

Education and Training to Immigrant Communities and those who serve them

Tricia provided an explanation of U-VISAs and T-VISAs – more information in handouts.

Many solicitors and law enforcement officers are not signing these Visas for victims. Tricia is seeking training opportunities to educate these groups about this issue. Recommendation: Talk to SCLEOA and Jeff Moore of the SC Sheriff's Association.

Tricia would like to present at the Solicitors Conference/ Training:

Recommendations:

Call Trey Gowdy to be able to present information at the Solicitors Conference

Ask Ginny Barr to add the Network to her arbitration training

5 Trainings have already been scheduled within the next 3 months. A DSS Training is scheduled September 25.

No family court work will be done with this project. A link to the Immigrant Victim Network program will be added to SCVAN's homepage when it is ready. Many other states have similar programs. (i.e., NC Legal Services). The media will be contacted to get the word out when the program is up and running.

Calls/Referrals have already been coming in from the Mexican and Guatamalan Consulates, Immigration attorneys, victims and their friends and family, and judges.

Initial Goals:

Trying to get foreign-born victims to trust and work with existing victim service providers. The IV Network will create an upstate Coalition (and in the future to develop coalitions statewide) in an effort to avoid duplication of services.

Upcoming Training:

August 28, 2009

Summit of the Statewide Coalition: The meeting will be held in Columbia, and will be open to anyone statewide. Location: Lutheran Church, Nell Street, Columbia. Site accommodates 80 people. Anyone from the criminal justice system is invited.

Brett would like to have the training at DJJ. Ritchie has contacts for Mental Health trainings.

One problem immigrant victims are encountering is the lack of licensed counselors who speak their native tongue. Unlicensed counselor can not be paid by SOVA.

United Way Funding: Tricia, Veronica, Fab and Adela are meeting with the United Way of Greenville to attempt to fund a position for a coordinator for the Upstate Coalition.

Other Funding Opportunities for this program:

Capacity Building Grants (Youth and Homeless)

Clemson University

Brett suggested to hand pick from each agency that could make the networks happen to the trainings.

Adela will send a list of current contacts for Veronica to send out to the Board for more ideas.

Send an invitation to Reggie Lloyd. Ritchie suggested we meet with Reggie Lloyd about program. Renee will invite FBI Agents and ICE, Adela will send updated flyer.

Veronica will get Patricia to present the IV Network to the Victim Services Coordinating Council. Ritchie suggested they make a presentation to the Joint Council on Adolescent Services.

Girls Symposium: Girl Smart

Held at the Youth Learning Institute (Clemson); teamed with Columbia College. This is a divergent learning curriculum, based on a national model. Symposium to be held on November 13, 2009, 8:30 – 4:00. SCVAN will display at symposium and next year present. Program is for all ages, but basically tailored to parents, teachers and others who work with girls.

Presentation Follow-Up: Rachel Cornell's Powerpoint presentation, Rage on Rage

(abuse and dating violence video)

Brett talked to a Hollywood agency to try to get rights to the song incorporated in the presentation. Warner Brothers has the rights to the song and are requesting \$250 to use it. Veronica will send out video via email to artist to ask for donation or for permission to use the song gratis. Presentation could be used to expand Safe Harbor's program, Megan's Project in schools in the Upstate. The presentation and Megan's Project could be presented during VRW, incorporating a school field trip for junior and high school students.

Other Information

Renee Mattox – The US Attorney's Office is co-hosting a training at Coastal Carolina regarding Human Trafficking on September 3, 2009 @ 9:00 (free training). This event is also a networking opportunity for providers.

Clarissa Whaley has been working with ECCHAT (a group affiliated with ZONTA, that is interested in eradicating and raising awareness about Human Trafficking) in Horry County.

Acceptable Expenditures of Act 141 \$

Veronica is serving on a Subcommittee along with Sandi Wofford to examine and make recommendations about approved expenditures of Act 141 funds.

Three staff members attended each of the three Civil Justice for Victims trainings sponsored by SCVAN and NCVV across the state.

Veronica reported on CVLN staff's trip to Portland, Oregon to work with NCVLI and other legal clinics across the nation.

SCVAN still hopes to be awarded the Public Awareness grant from OVC. Award date is October 1, 2009. The grant will provide \$20,000 worth of commercials and funds for Veronica to travel the state to publicize victims' rights and services, as well as SCVAN.

Recommendation: Develop a Slide Show to provide general information about the agency (information should also be available in Spanish)

Fundraising committee will be developed in late August, utilizing new Board members and other interested parties.

The Board toured the new office space SCVAN will be using. Target date: October 1.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 8, 2009