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Mayor

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Health Department

Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



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Quarterly Report to Public Safety Committee

First Quarter

January 1, 2001 – March 31, 2001

I. Community Education and Training (Commission Staff)

A. Speaking Engagements

- Presentation to Wisconsin Violence Against Women Act Funders: Overview of Milwaukee's Coordinated Community Response Project
- Presentation at "Today's Girls, Tomorrow's Women" Legislative Breakfast
- Presentation to students at Milwaukee Medical College
- Presentation to Professors at UWM College of Library Science
- Presentation to Girl Scouts of America on preventing sexual assault
- Two presentations to MPS staff on domestic violence, sexual abuse of children and sexual harassment in schools
- Training for Milwaukee Police Department on domestic violence
- Presentation on Commission to Victim Advisory Committee
- Presentation to the National Organization of Women
- Collaboration with Milwaukee County Medical Society to provide outreach and education to physicians through their monthly newsletter
- Letter to the Editor on domestic violence as a health epidemic written (and printed) in collaboration with the Health Commissioner

B. Media

- Appearance on Milwaukee Justice television show to discuss domestic violence and sexual assault
- Participation in press conference regarding the trial of Mark Chumera (purpose was to dispel myths about sexual assault victims perpetuated by the trial)
- Television interview with Fox News regarding prevention of sexual assaults of children
- Two radio interviews on domestic violence in our community

- Collaboration with SDC Victim Assistance Program on an appearance on Milwaukee Live to provide education on services available to victims
- Dozens of PSAs aired on WTMJ

II. Special Projects

- Victim Advisory Committee formed, has met 3 times and will select a representative and an alternate to the Commission
- Continued Staffing of Sub-Committees
- Participation on Healthy Outcomes Committee for Milwaukee Health Department
- Working on creation of website for the victims
- Participation on both Oversight and Victim Advisory Committees for the Judicial Oversight Initiative
- Attendance at legislative conference held in Madison by the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Attendance at meetings in Riverwest area to address violence issues
- Participation on WKTI's committee in preparation for Domestic Violence Awareness month
- Sexual Assault Provider Group formed

III. Other Projects

- Planning and staffing of Commission meetings
- Continued providing of technical assistance
- Continued referral and advocacy services provided to victims
- Development of budget for 2002
- Commission elections held
- Representative from the Mayor's Office appointed
- Collaboration with Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office to provide expert witness testimony to ideally increase conviction rate
- Participation on Sexual Assault Treatment Center Advisory Board

IV. Commission Sub-Committee Activities

A). Executive Committee

- Working to enhance balance of sexual assault and domestic violence representatives on committee
- Elections held
- Bylaws committee formed to ensure bylaws meet with demands of Ordinance, as well as with needs/expectations of expanded Commission

B). Civil and Criminal Justice Committee

- Held conference addressing the co-existence of domestic violence and child maltreatment
 - Had speakers present information on funding opportunities available to create a Coordinated Community Response to victims of child sexual abuse
- C). CCR Oversight Committee**
- Planning of first Victim Advisory Committee Meeting
 - Reviewing goals of CCR to ensure that they are being met
 - Continuing to work to increase balance of sexual assault and domestic violence representatives on all sub-committees
- D). Legislative and Public Policy Committee**
- Creation of legislative agenda for the Commission
 - Conducted, in conjunction with Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a legislative training seminar
 - Continuing to keep members abreast of pending legislation regarding sexual assault and domestic violence issues at the local, state and federal level.
- E). Education and Training Committee**
- Working to increase awareness of medical profession of domestic violence issues
 - Working on developing ways to improve and enhance media coverage of the issues
- F). Cultural Competence and Underserved Populations Committee**
- On two separate occasions, had professionals attend meetings to work with committee on tools to evaluate cultural competence
 - In conjunction with Judicial Oversight Initiative, had a national speaker present a conference on cultural competency
 - Planning of cultural competence training for full Commission

V. Outside Community Affiliations

- American Indian Task Force on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Sexual Assault Provider Committee
- Judicial Oversight Initiative
- Aurora Health Care
- Milwaukee County Medical Society
- Latino Resource Coalition
- VAWA Advisory Committee (State)
- Milwaukee Health Department Safety Committee
- Milwaukee Health Department Outcomes Committee
- Wings of Faith Ministry (outreach and education)