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Health Department Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

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Partial Quarterly Report
on
Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
for
Common Council - Public Safety Committee

April 1- June 7, 2001

Community Education

- Police Recruit Training on Domestic Violence
- Workshop for social workers @ Sinai Samaritan
- Speaking engagement for Today's Girls, Tomorrow's Women
- Workshop on child physical and sexual abuse for Milwaukee Area Girl Scouts
- In-service at Meta House Outpatient Care

Media Opportunities

- Three appearances on Fox 6 am show (2 on Domestic Violence/1 on Sexual Assault)
- One appearance as panel member on violence in Milwaukee-Jeanetta Robinson Show
- One interview re: Candlelight Vigil for Murder Victim

Special Projects

- Collaboration w/Verizon Wireless to distribute 911 Cell Phones
- Planning training on expert witness testimony for domestic violence and sexual assault cases
- Continued technical assistance
- Continued work with victims in complex DV or SA cases
- Collaboration with Judicial Oversight Initiative
- Meeting with State VAWA Funders to ensure sustainability of Milwaukee CCR
- Collaborating with Latino Resource Coalition to translate materials to Spanish
- Continued work on developing website for Commission

****Leadership Awards presented by Task Force on Family Violence to: Commission Staff and several Commissioners for collaboration on Judicial Oversight Initiative; Janine Arseneau, Commissioner; Kathy Kendrigan, Commissioner.**

Executive Committee Projects/Changes

- Co-Chairing the Commission for the remainder of 2001 will be Antonia Vann of Asha Family Services, Inc. and Liz Marquardt of Task Force on Family Violence
- Planning special election for two Vice Chairs for remainder of 2001\
- Planning search for CCR Coordinator replacement
- Revised by-laws to ensure no discrepancies with revised Ordinance (copies will be provided when adopted).

Coordinated Community Response Sub-committee Projects

Legislative and Public Policy-Co-sponsored training with Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence on lobbying for Milwaukee sexual assault/domestic violence advocates
-Arranged for Milwaukee advocates to attend Domestic Violence Lobby Day in Madison, visited all Milwaukee Area State Representatives and Senators with Legislative Agenda
-Developed and presented Legislative Agenda adopted by Commission to Judicial and Legislation Committee of Common Council. Agenda is in keeping with Wisconsin Coalitions Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, but pays particular attention to demographics/issues specific to Milwaukee. \

Civil and Criminal Justice- Several meetings held to continue dialogue with Milwaukee County Judiciary. The purpose is to enhance the system to 1). Ensure that all systems share information around domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse cases so as to avoid conflicting orders; 2). Provide seamless services to victims, particularly child victims of sexual abuse and allow for the least amount of additional trauma caused by repeated interviews/examinations.

Education and Training-Continued work on the development of resource guide of Milwaukee area services.
-Continued creation of information to be provided to Milwaukee Medical Society for Newsletter.
-Conducted workshop on effective interaction with media for area service providers.
-Beginning to collect information from various CCR members to track community education in a more effective way.

Cultural Competency and Underserved Populations-Daylong workshop held for CCR members and Judicial Oversight Initiative Advocates on Cultural Competency. Training was provided by specialist from Columbia University.
-Two video presentations and subsequent dialogue professionally facilitated on dynamics and effects of racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination provided for above group.
-The above initiatives is in preparation for a daylong retreat committee is planning for Commissioners, members of the agencies they represent and other interested parties.

Oversight Committee- Two final meetings held to review initial goals set for this committee and ensure that they have been, or are in the process of being met. This committee will turn over its responsibilities to the Executive Committee of the Commission.

American Indian Task Force-Trainings held in various Tribal Regions in Wisconsin on domestic violence and sexual assault to provide information on the work and outreach success in Milwaukee/how it has been accomplished.
-Participation in Lunch and Learn Series to provide information on issues specific to the American Indian Population.
-Safe Night sponsored by committee and held for Southside MPS students.
-Brochure specific to population currently being updated.

Victim Advisory Committee-Continuing to expand membership.
-Agenda set for next six months with the intent to educate members on various issues and entities (e.g. roles of law enforcement agencies, direct service providers, how funding is obtained, etc.) prior to appointment of member and alternate to Commission.

Sexual Assault Provider Committee-Decision made to continue committee with the goals of discerning how systemic connections are made, how to address issues specific to Milwaukee and how to improve upon communication and services to adult and child survivors (male and female) in Milwaukee.
-Two "Case Staffings" held to learn about interaction among systems, agenda through 2001 has been planned, meeting dates set.

Other Affiliations:

Judicial Oversight Initiative

Wisconsin Coalition on Domestic Violence

Wisconsin Coalition on Sexual Assault

Brothers Against Domestic Violence

CHAI

UW-Milwaukee Department of Information and Library Sciences