

Quarterly Report to Public Safety Committee

Third Quarter

July 1-September 30, 2002

I. Community Education and Training

- Co-sponsored Take Back the Night Event, approximately 400 people attended
- Public speaking @ Take Back the Night on violence against women and children
- Fifteen minute interview (aired twice) on Milwaukee Public Radio; addressed violence against women, statistics, prevention and resources
- Interview with Fox 6 News on domestic violence and sexual assault – statistics and the importance of providing culturally competent services
- Conducted in-service for physicians at St. Frances Hospital on identifying and assisting clients with domestic violence issues
- Conducted in-service for Milwaukee Health Dept. Adolescent School Health Program on working with students on healthy relationships, date rape and statutory rape issues
- Conducted workshop for LGBT Subcommittee on the dynamics of domestic violence
- Ongoing high school class at MPS School for Community Service on healthy relationships
- Staff attended Violence Against Women workshop to exchange information on how domestic violence and sexual assault are being addressed in counties across Wisconsin

II. Special Projects and Programs

- Continued collaboration with the Wisconsin Humane Society on October Conference re: Making Connections: Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse
- Continued collection of data, information and resources to link to website, plan to have site completed, with the help of MHD, by the end of 2002
- Continued work with Judicial Oversight Initiative to develop/problem solve advocacy/liaison position for Milwaukee Police Department Family Violence Unit.
- Working with Milwaukee Health Department STD Clinic on guidelines and policies around mandatory reporting of statutory rape and other related issues, draft of policy completed
- Continued technical assistance
- Continued work with victims/systems on complex domestic violence and sexual assault cases
- Increased distribution of You are Not Alone Brochures and You Have a Right to Be Safe safety planning cards
- Staff working with Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board to assess impact of abuse on infant death
- Staff working with MHD on Outcomes for 2010 in regards to domestic violence and sexual assault in school aged populations
- Responded to county legislation that would have had negative impact on domestic violence program funding
- Responded to county legislation that would have eliminated the Witness Protection Program from the Sheriff's Department
- Prepared calendar of events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Began working with Judicial Oversight Initiative directors on ideas for future collaboration
- Worked on planning committee for Take Back the Night

III. Executive Committee

- Continued quarterly process of meeting with chairs of subcommittees in order to facilitate communication among the groups
- Continued monitoring and responding to pending legislation regarding domestic violence, sexual assault and related issues

IV. Commission Sub-committee Activities

Criminal and Civil Justice Coordination – Three goals have been identified for the group to work toward in the upcoming year. 1). Initiate a domestic violence/sexual assault case review process to educate systems and agencies on one another's processes. 2). Investigate supervised visitation models and promote discussion on how to expand upon existing models, if not create a new one. 3). Work to improve the treatment of litigants in the court system by providing a forum to hear problems and make recommendations for changes in the justice system.

Education and Training –The resource guide that will encapsulate various trainers on domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse issues will be completed in early spring. The group will then take on the role of establishing best practice training standards for local agencies.

Cultural Competence and Underserved Populations-The group has formed two work-groups. The first will be dedicated to collecting data from local agencies on demographics served. The second is a guidelines workgroup that will develop a packet of information and resources on cultural competency for agencies to utilize. They are following a structured 16 month outline and have had members sign letters of commitment to the group for that period of time.

Victim Advisory Committee –Survivor Forum to recruit new membership tentatively planned for December 2002. Recruitment also occurred, at Take Back the Night. Our goal is to have an appointee to the Commission by early 2003.

CCR Committee on Sexual Assault – This committee is continuing to work on case reviews with hopes of identifying gaps in services. Members of the committee have continued working to address sexual abuse in the Catholic church, reports on progress have been made back to the committee. November and December of 2002 will be used to create a strategic plan for 2003.

American Indian Task Force – This group is continuing to focus on educating the American Indian Community, as well as educating others on culturally specific issues within the community as they relate to domestic violence and sexual assault. They are currently planning a Safe Night for middle school students in which they will focus on healthy relationships.

Asian American Task Force – Since this group is just beginning to regain its focus, it is concentrating on bringing more people to

the table from various Asian populations. The committee will host a lunch to invite new members to the table.

LBGT Task Force – The committee held a training on the dynamics of domestic violence, as well as issues specific to these communities. Technical assistance has been requested from agencies in Madison and Chicago to share with this committee how other similar committees in other cities have worked on the issues.

V. Outside Community Affiliations

- Judicial Oversight Initiative/The Office Of the Chief Judge
- Jewish Family Services
- Latina Resource Center
- Wings of Faith Ministries
- Wisconsin Humane Society
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- LGBT Center
- Sexual Assault Treatment Center
- UWM Women's Resource Center