



Commission  
to Prevent Violence  
Against Women

**Arizona Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women**

**February 21, 2019, 10:00 a.m.**

**Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room**

1700 W. Washington, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women was convened on February 21, 2019 at the Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room at 1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

<b>Members Present (15)</b>	
<b>Diane Umphress, Chair</b>	
<b>Kate Brophy McGee, Co-Chair</b>	
<b>Elizabeth Ortiz</b>	
<b>Eve Scarff</b>	
<b>Jason Zimmerman</b>	
<b>Antoinette Means</b>	
<b>Kristin Flores</b>	
<b>Laura Guild</b>	
<b>Monica Yelin</b>	
<b>Mark Klym (proxy for Susan Smith)</b>	
<b>Steve Stahl</b>	
<b>Nicole Bidwill</b>	
<b>Tasha Menaker (call-in)</b>	
<b>Neil Websdale (call-in)</b>	
<b>Ed Mercurio-Sakwa (call-in)</b>	
<b>Staff/Guests Present (14)</b>	<b>Members Absent (6)</b>
<b>Malcolm Hightower</b>	<b>Dan Rincon</b>
<b>Rebecca Chesley</b>	<b>Jon Eliason</b>
<b>Raquel Gonzalez</b>	<b>Jon Smith</b>
<b>Diana Lee</b>	<b>Patricia Klahr</b>
<b>Hirsch Handmaker</b>	<b>Patricia George</b>
<b>Stephen Enteman</b>	<b>Kay Radwanski</b>
<b>Donna Bartos</b>	
<b>Carrie Borgen</b>	
<b>Brittney Trahan</b>	
<b>Anthony Saucedo</b>	
<b>Kate Lyon</b>	
<b>Livia Finman</b>	
<b>Jessica Zorker</b>	
<b>Sonya Pierce-Johnson</b>	

### Call to Order

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, Chair**, called the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with 15 members and 14 staff and guests present.

### Welcome of New Commission Members and Introductions

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, Chair**, welcomed everyone and asked all members to introduce themselves. Asked commissioners on the phone to introduce themselves.
- **Ms. Diane Umphress, Chair**, welcomed the Honorable Kate Brophy McGee as the new commission co-chair.

### Approval of Minutes

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, Chair**, requested a review of the **January 17, 2019** meeting minutes.
  - **Mr. Steve Stahl** motioned to accept the **January 17, 2019** minutes.
  - **Ms. Kirstin Flores** seconded the motion.
    - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

### Approval of Strategic Plan

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, Chair** requested a review of the 2019 Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women strategic plan.
  - **MS. Laura Guild** motioned to accept the strategic plan
  - **Ms. Elizabeth Ortiz** seconded the motion.

### Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

- Ms. Donna Bartos, announced February is teen dating violence awareness month. Ms. Bartos' provided materials, which can be given to organizations serving teenagers. BLOOM365's mission is to prevent teen dating abuse before it starts. Their vision is healthy and safe relationships. The model questions, "Are you blooming or wilting?" Relationships can bloom with empathy trust, love and respect. Research has informed of risk factors and risk causes that perpetuate power and control in the world around us. Ms. Donna Bartos pointed out that all curriculum is evidence-informed. Ms. Bartos, asked commissioners whether they remembered the stop drop, and roll protocol. All commissioners raised their hand. Ms. Donna Bartos then established that individuals were not familiar with what to do when domestic violence (DV) and other violence was present. BLOOM365 is based on a three-step model: Education, Advocacy and Activism. Ms. Bartos established that the organization has reached over 4,000 youth a year. The first step is education; the goal is to remove help-seeking barriers for teens experiencing, witnessing or causing victimization. Ms. Bartos shared the experience and photo of a student who attended one of BLOOM365 training, who now provides helps the organization with creating their materials. The goal of the second step, advocating, is to intervene early to lessen harms and prevent future risk. The goal of the third step, activate is to uproot the social norms that tolerate abuse and violence and cultivate kindness, respect, equality, empathy, consent, safety and peace as the standard. Ms. Bartos stated that after participating in the training, 40 percent of participants signed up to become advocates. Ms. Bartos showed a photo of a peer advocate speaking at March for our Lives event. Ms. Bartos stated that early adopters are being launched in Montana and New York. Ms. Bartos shared outputs; noted that a number of students recognize they are controlling and abusive. These students may ask, "what's there for me, what do I do?" There is an intervention (Youth Violence Intervention and Prevention Project) for teens who recognize abuse in themselves. Partnering with Arizona State University (ASU) School of Social Work, Dignity Health, and One-n-ten, this intervention seeks to train adults in how to respond to a teen that discloses that they have experienced violence or may be likely to perpetuate. Ms. Bartos shared the list of school districts and agencies Bloom 365 is partnered with. Ms. Bartos moved to present on The Elephant in the Room strategy. This strategy allows students to anonymously ask questions; students make powerful comments and

questions. Ms. Bartos showed a video representing the impact of this program. Ms. Bartos shared a personal experience of an impactful statement on one of these cards.

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, chair**, asked whether schools were receptive. **Ms. Bartos**, stated that originally only one school opened their doors. The program is now in multiple districts. Junior High program was launched this year. **Ms. Kate Brophy McGee** talked about the rebranding of school campaigns, including rebranding to include school safety, school health, and impacting the culture in schools to be safe. **Ms. Diane Umphress** asked whether initiatives could be branched out to rural school communities. **Ms. Bartos** confirmed that they are looking to reach out to further rural schools. She also stated her agency is going to military bases to train on sexual assault (SA). **Ms. Diane Umphress** stated that it would be great to have this across the state. **Ms. Elizabeth Ortiz**, thanked **Ms. Bartos** and asked whether BLOOM365 was partnering directly with the fifty county attorneys in Arizona. **Ms. Donna Bartos** responded no, but attorneys from other states have reached out. **Ms. Elizabeth Ortiz** replied being interested in collaborating. **Ms. Tasha Menaker** thanked Donna for her presentation and her work. **Mr. Steve Stahl** addressed the difficulty in the City of Maricopa of parents not wanting to collaborate and asked whether BLOOM365 had overcome that bridge. **Ms. Donna Bartos** addressed the concern of parents, “why does my child need this.” **Mr. Steve Stahl** added that parents need to be informed on what is being done in school and appreciate as much information as possible. **Ms. Donna Bartos** explained that schools are now required to have an “opt out” clause for parents. **Ms. Diane Umphress** thanked **Ms. Donna Bartos** for her presentation and established that she’d want to see this program expand in schools.

### Sexual Violence Prevention in Arizona

- **Ms. Diana Lee**, shared latest projects at the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Ms. Lee explained The Sexual Prevention and Education Program (SVPEP) targets to prevent the occurrence of sexual violence (SV). This is primary prevention, before the abuse occurs. This program is funded by the Rape Prevention Education grant. SVPEP is guided by a set of values outlined by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): (1) prevention of first time occurrence; (2) reduction of risk factors and enhancement of protective factors; (3) the use of evidence based/informed programs; (4) the incorporation of behavior and social change theories; (5) use of state and community data to inform programs; and (4) evaluation for program and process improvement. CDC uses the Social Ecological Model (SEM) as a framework for understanding the interplay of individual, relationship, social, cultural and political systems. These give visualization of how the complex interplays foster a perpetrator of sexual violence. Ms. Lee provided an overview of the first Sexual Violence Prevention Conference in Arizona. Positive feedback of conference was received; if funding is available, ADHS is hoping to do it again. Ms. Lee asked committee to review booklet on conference. Ms. Lee reviewed the 2016 community needs assessment, which was distributed to stakeholders across Arizona who had been identified as key partners in sexual violence work. This assessed Arizona’s effectiveness or lack of in primary prevention. The strengths include: vision and leadership, partnership, and data evaluation. The areas for improvement include: policy, communication and infrastructure. Ms. Lee discussed the SVPEP Strategic action plan in process that includes a community stakeholder survey, roundtable discussions and Arizona Sexual Violence State Profile Report. Ms. Lee addressed the importance of involving the community. A total of 500 email surveys were sent and 180 responses were received. The community prioritized six populations: LGBTQI, individuals with disabilities, African Americans, Native Americans, Rural communities and youth. A male population was added, as the Department wants to learn more on how to prevent sexual violence with boys. Further a total of 14 statewide focus groups were conducted; summaries are being used to inform the state action plan. Ms. Lee asked committee to look at reports in booklet. Ms. Lee stated that the development of a state wide SV strategic plan is taking place and noted that a wide range of individuals—including community members, public members, health institutions, educational, law enforcements—are being invited, but meetings are being capped off at 40. The upcoming meeting is on February 28<sup>th</sup>. A group is planned in Phoenix in March. Ms. Lee reports a low male population in the groups and would like more male participation. A draft of AZ

SV Primary Prevention Strategic Action plan to be done by April 2019 and a final version and distribution by May 2019.

- **Ms. Diane Umphress, chair** inquired on the collaboration of child and family advocacy centers She noted that both men and women visit these and asked whether Ms. Lee had contacted them. She added that committee member, Mr. Jason Zimmerman, was president of Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Network. **Ms. Lee** responded that the focus is primary prevention; advocacy centers focus on the response after sexual violence, but that she believes the advocacy centers were part of the distribution list **Ms. Diane Umphress, chair** stated that Southern Arizona would be more than happy to participate and added that prevention is very important.
- **Monica Yelin** asked whether it was understood why Pima had higher numbers of sexual assault. **Ms. Lee** stated that Pima County is the second most populated in Arizona. **Monica Yelin** stated that there could be more in Maricopa county, but perhaps these were not reported.

### **Traumatic Brain Injury in Victims of Domestic Violence (3 PRESENTERS first introduced themselves)**

- **Dr. Hirsch Handmaker, Lt. Mark Higbee, and Carrie Borgen** presented on their work regarding concussions in domestic violence cases. The three are part of the Maricopa County Collaboration on Concussion from Domestic Violence (MC3DV). **Dr. Handmaker** noted that the three had partnered to begin investigating the impact of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in Victims of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in an underrepresented, diverse, cohort of women and children who have experienced DV. Mr. Handmaker stated that the program had started out of the concern for brain injuries for kids playing football. They found that only thirty percent of concussions emerged from sports. They found that this might, however, be an issue important to DV. They found no evidence-based research on intimate partner violence. There was a broad interest in the community on addressing this issue and MC3DV was put together. MC3DV members had the same goal and were invested in finding how to prevent this from occurring, and on educating the public and victims. Dr. Handmaker listed symptoms of concussions and shared the personal story of a victim of DV. The signs of concussions were present and they included: vision, migraines, and balance. Dr. Handmaker emphasized the importance of the involvement of victim advocates in cases of DV. He added that Mesa Police Department officers conduct a two-minute assessment to test for concussions when they are out on a call.
- **Lt. Higbee** stated that Mesa PD was happy to collaborate. They stated challenges on making the devices available. Another setback was to have the police officers remember to do complete this process. Lt. Higbee stated that victims are not as concerned with the risks of brain injury (in the future) at the time of crisis. Their focus is safety.
- **Dr. Handmaker** discussed Near Point Convergence (NPC) in Concussion Patients. Convergence insufficiency (CI) is a common binocular vision deficit after a concussion; it may result in visual discomfort and vision-mediated functional difficulties such as slowed reading and compromised attention, leading to impaired academic, work and sport performance.
- **Lt. Highbee** discussed the device used to test for viable brain injury. Lt. Highbee stated that data is collected from the device. Abnormal tests result from a high number of victims. Police officers and forensic examiners can do this test, it does not have to be performed by an optometrist. He established that individuals in a distressed state do not want to deal with a long-term problem, so a short test is suitable.
- **Ms. Carrie Borgen**, emphasized the need to address the physical impacts of DV. **Ms. Borgen** provided an overview of Sojourner Center. **Ms. Borgen** provided data on the number of individuals served in the community each year; shelter services per year; and services provided to children. **Ms. Borgen** discussed the campus layout. The Sojourner MC3DV program is funded by a grant from the Marley Foundation. The MC3DV program is involved in the efforts to support participants and its research efforts. **Dr. Handmaker** established that there is a complexity of individuals involved ranging from police departments to neuroscientists. The program is in it's initial stages and members are willing to collaborate.

### **Peace Officer Training and AZPOST Overview**

- **Mr. Stephen Enteman** provided brief history of Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AZ Post). AZ Post was created by an act of the 28<sup>th</sup> legislature in 1968. This is a certifying agency. The board provides services to: law enforcement agencies, sworn peace officers, correctional officers and police training academies. The board also approves correctional officer training curriculum and establishes minimum standards for correctional officers. Mr. Enteman listed some board members, there are a total of thirteen. Mr. Entman stated that the AZPOST creates training curriculum (which compromises 585+ hours of mandated training) and certifies other training materials from different programs. Mr. Entman established that their performance objectives are set at administrative code. The curriculum contains: twelve hours of DV, sex crimes investigations, sexual offences, victimology, family offenses, crime prevention, sexual exploitation of a minor, and investigation on specific crimes. Mr. Etman reported training hours have not been changed in years; agencies were surveyed and changes are in the process of being made. Mr. Etman reviewed DV, sexual offence, and sex crimes investigations curriculum; key components presented, but not all were shared with the committee. All recruits are provided with this curriculum. Mr. Etman reviewed additional programs supported by AZ POST, which include: Prevent Child Abuse Arizona and Arizona Intimate Partner Risk Assessment Instrument System (APRAIS). AZ POST is funded primarily through appropriated funding from the Criminal justice Enhancement Fund (CJEF). The costs of attending trainings were covered; there is no cost to attend AZ POST. Trainings provided by a basic academy have no cost to students. Academies are provided with a stipend for each graduate in order to offset their expenses. Training by the AZ POST is also free. If people need to travel, fees associated may be covered. If a third party is attending, there may be fees. **Ms. Diane Umphress**, chair discussed the importance of SA training. Ms. Kristin Flores questioned victims rights in the general curriculum and expressed her willingness to assist. **Mr. Enteman** stated that this is covered in the curriculum, but the list he provided was not exhaustive. **Ms. Laura Guild** questioned whether 500 hours was only for initial training. **Mr. Enteman** replied that other states may have more or less, but Arizona's standard is 585. That is the minimum, but over the 585 can be provided. **Ms. Laura Guild** inquired on continued education. **Mr. Enteman**, established that a minimum of 8 hours of continued education were required. Agencies can do more.

#### **Sexual Assault Awareness Month: April**

- **Ms. Rebecca Chesley**, provide a brief overview of what is planned for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The TEAL initiative—which stands for, trauma informed, empathic responses, accountability of perpetrators, and learning into actions—was created for this campaign. Other plans for this month include a sexual assault service provider symposium and a roundtable, for which a date is still to be determined. Ms. Chesley encouraged agencies to be active on the date of action, on April 2, 2019. Other activities include tabling opportunities (including college outreach events and distribution of both teal-colored buttons and palm cards, which will hold information on sexual assault. Ms. Chesley added plans to release two RFPs in the coming weeks, one for training on recommended guidelines for sexual assault and one for those involved in sexual assault investigation, such as law enforcement and prosecutors.
- **Ms. Flores** asked whether each agency would have a table in tabling event. **Ms. Chesley** addressed that she would table on behalf of GOYFF and the commission, and that it is La Frontera who hosts the Take Back the Night event and would be happy to share information to the commission on tabling at the event.

#### **Call to the Public**

- **Ms. Diane Umphress**, chair gave call to the public. No speakers responded to the call.

#### **Future Meeting Dates**

- **Ms. Diane Umphress**, chair announced the following meeting dates for the coming year:
  - Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM at 1700 W. Washington Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room.

#### **Adjourn**

- **Diane Umphress**, chair called for adjournment at 11:58 a.m. **Ms. Ortiz** motioned to adjourn, **Monica Yelin** seconded the motion.

Dated the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, 2019  
Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Rebecca Chesley  
Program Administrator, GOYFF