



Commission  
to Prevent Violence  
Against Women

**Arizona Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women**

**February 20, 2020**

**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 20, 2020, at the Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room at 1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

<b>Members Present (11)</b>
<b>Diane Umphress, Chair</b>
<b>Beth Hoel</b>
<b>Steve Stahl</b>
<b>Kristin Flores</b>
<b>Tasha Menaker</b>
<b>Jon Smith (phone)</b>
<b>Neil Websdale (phone)</b>
<b>Kay Radwanski (phone)</b>
<b>Patricia George (phone)</b>
<b>Ed Mercurio-Sakwa (phone)</b>
<b>Elizabeth Ortiz (phone)</b>
<b>Members Absent (9)</b>
<b>Kate Brophy McGee, Co-Chair</b>
<b>Jon Eliason</b>
<b>Laura Guild</b>
<b>Monica Yelin</b>
<b>Susan Smith</b>
<b>Eve Scarff</b>
<b>Patricia Klahr</b>
<b>Nicole Bidwill</b>
<b>Daniel Rincon</b>

**Call to Order**

- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, called the Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women meeting to order at 10:10 AM with 11 members present.

## Welcome/Introductions

- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, welcomed everyone and asked all members to introduce themselves, including those that had called in.

## Approval of Minutes

- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, requested a review of the **November 21, 2019** meeting minutes.
  - **Chief Steve Stahl motioned** to accept the **November 21, 2019** minutes. **Kristin Flores** seconded the motion.
    - The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

## New Life Center

- **Myriah Mhoon**, CEO, and **Angela Rose**, Director of Training for New Life Center (NLC) were introduced by **Diane Umphress, Chair**.
- **Myriah Mhoon** discussed New Life Center's Vision, Mission, and History of working to eliminate domestic and sexual violence through support services, education, and expertise.
- **Myriah Mhoon** reported that NLC was founded in 1991 and is currently the largest Domestic Violence Shelter in Arizona with 70% of the victims and residents seen being children.
- It was also reported that in 2018 NLC achieved dual status to be both a Sexual Violence Center and a Domestic Violence Shelter. **Myriah Mhoon** discussed that maintaining this status includes the Center working to have the agency be trauma-informed, work with multidisciplinary teams, and improving practices and services.
- **Myriah Mhoon** informed the Commission of the NLC Programs, including the residential program, children age-appropriate programming, mobile advocacy and education, low-barrier funding housing, and 24/7 Sexual Assault Services.
- **Angela Rose** presented on the NLC Sexual Assault investigation Training Program that uses subject matter experts to give AZPOST certified trainings that are victim-centered, trauma-informed, and include case studies. These trainings are supported by community partners and incorporate a multidisciplinary training approach to include current best practices.
- **Angela Rose** gave a list of the 11 training topics that are provided by NLC, including basic interviewing of adult sexual assault cases, sexual assault offender behavior, sexual assault cases in Indian Country, and Sex Trafficking Investigation.
- **Angela Rose** discussed the methodology for developing the training by getting subject matter experts, identifying trainers, creating the training content and generating law enforcement support. NLC also implements a needs assessment to evaluate attendee current and ongoing needs and satisfaction on training.
- **Angela Rose** reported that to date 152 people have been trained with attendees representing 8 counties and 2 Tribal nations.
- **Angela Rose** reviewed next steps and upcoming trainings in Yuma, Maricopa, and Pinal County.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, commended New Life Center on working to standardize training that uses case studies and allows participants to learn first-hand from experts in the field.
- **Chief Steve Stahl** discussed the possibility and desire to develop connections with faith based providers and asked if these organizations would be receiving training in the future.

**Angela Rose** stated that the current focus is on the criminal justice system but that hopefully in the future NLC could work on expanding organizations and areas that are trained. **Chief Steve Stahl** proposed looking into finding new grant opportunities that specifically fund faith based partnerships as they will improve the process of referrals and reporting. **Diane Umphress, Chair**, suggested having faith based communities come to present to the Commission and discuss what needs exist and how the Commission can help.

- **Kristin Flores** asked for clarification regarding the process of requesting to have training. **Angela Rose** stated that if there is an expressed need in a community that NLC will work to coordinate a training, provided that there are trainers and time available for a commitment.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, reinforced that using the MDT model to train is particularly helpful in rural based areas that need to have MDTs for success.

### **Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence**

- **Lindsay Ashworth**, Sexual Assault Response Manager, presented on the training that the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) provides on Community Response to Adult Sexual Assault.
- In 2014, ACESDV was provided a 3 year grant by the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family (GOYFF) that was used to update the 2001 Arizona guidelines for a Coordinated Community Response to Sexual Assault.
- **Lindsay Ashworth** discussed that the scope of work for ACESDV was to continue enhancing community engagement through symposiums, community specific trainings, and supplemental trainings that are trauma-informed and culturally specific. **Lindsay Ashworth** reviewed the different symposiums and trainings that have been and will be provided by the end of 2020, including an upcoming training on the Neurobiology of Trauma that will be in Nogales.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, asked how the trainings are being advertised. **Lindsay Ashworth** discussed the collaboration that ACESDV has with local community SARTs and CCRTs. These partnerships and developing relationships help to publicize the trainings.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, asked if there was any collaboration with Children or Family Advocacy Centers throughout the state. **Lindsay Ashworth** confirmed that there had been trainings and contact with CAC/FACs, specifically having good recent attendance in Maricopa and Pima County located centers.

### **Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Family Advocacy Center**

- **Carol Ann Colmenero**, Director of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) Family Advocacy Center was introduced by **Diane Umphress, Chair**.
- **Carol Ann Colmenero** reviewed the history of developing a Family Advocacy Center (FAC) within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) in 2007 in part prompted by a criminal investigation and examination to the child welfare needs of the community.
- Founded in 2009, the SRPMIC FAC works to utilize a collaborative, multidisciplinary team to reduce further trauma to children and victims while honoring the cultural values and traditions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

- **Carol Ann Colmenero** reviewed the recently updated referral process that the FAC uses. The change to have the referral process become electronic has increased efficiency and communication with partnerships, including police, social services, legal services, and the housing department. The restructured system has changed the silos that previously existed so that services are now more collaborative and wrap around the clients.
- **Carol Ann Colmenero** discussed that a main focus of the FAC is working with the multidisciplinary teams to look at intergenerational and historical trauma in the community.
- **Carol Ann Colmenero** discussed the FAC Core Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) members, including the Director of the FAC, Trauma therapist, Victim Advocate, Salt River Police Department, legal services, child and protective investigators, tribal prosecutors, education representative, family preservation specialists, senior services, health and human services providers and housing representative.
- **Carol Ann Colmenero** listed the different services that are provided at the FAC, including trauma assessments, case management, referrals for services, victim advocacy, forensic interviews, Trauma based counseling, and Sexual Assault Nursing Examinations.
- **Carol Ann Colmenero** reported that from 2017 to 2019, the total number of children seen more than doubled at the FAC.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, remarked on the amazing work that has been done at the FAC and the difficulty that other communities, such as Yuma, have with working with Tribal relations. **Diane Umphress, Chair**, also talked about visiting the FAC and the positive collaboration that exists between CPS and law enforcement members. **Carol Ann Colmenero** stated that SRPMIC is working with other Indian Communities to develop other FACs on tribal lands and that people are welcome to request a tour of the facility to get ideas.

## Workgroup Reports

- **Outreach and Awareness Workgroup**
  - **Chief Steve Stahl** reported that the workgroup has been brainstorming ideas for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). Specifically, the workgroup would like to use efforts to focus on social media postings and have more focused and impactful events for participants.
- **Victim Services Workgroup**
  - **Tasha Menaker** reported that the workgroup had discussed enhancing collaboration and working to put together a Victim Services Provider event during SAAM that focuses on professional resiliency.
- **Training and Prevention Workgroup**
  - **Elizabeth Ortiz** informed the Commission that the Training and Prevention Committee has been focusing on the implementation of the Arizona Intimate Partner Risk Assessment Instrument System (APRAIS) and AZ Point. The goal of the workgroup is to focus efforts on how to best support and encourage the appropriate use of the two systems.

### **Request for Future Presentation Topics**

- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, stated that the Commission will now be accepting public comment via written submission through the GOYFF website.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, opened the conversation to discuss possible future topics to bring to the Commission meetings.
- **Ed Mercurio-Sakwa** discussed getting reeducation on previous presentations.
- **Kristin Flores** suggested having the Attorney General's office giving a presentation on the work and outreach they do with schools and adult community groups.
- **Diane Umphress, Chair**, suggested that it could be beneficial to hear about legislative proposals that have been developed during the current legislative session.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

- **Diane Umphress, Chair** announced the following meeting dates:
  - Tuesday, May 19, 2020
  - Thursday, August 20, 2020
  - Tuesday, November 17, 2020

### **Adjourn**

- **Diane Umphress, Chair** called for adjournment at 11:23 AM.
  - **Chief Steve Stahl** motioned to adjourn. **Tasha Menaker** seconded the motion.
- Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.

Dated the 21st of February 2020  
Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Gaelyn Davis  
Program Administrator, GOYFF