

**NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Monday, June 27, 2011 at 2:30 p.m.

Via Teleconference with Public Access Located at:
Office of the Attorney General
5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202, Reno, Nevada 89511

Committee Members Present

None

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

Deborah Armstrong
Matthew Deal
Christina Hernandez
Larry Mosley
Suzanne Ramos

Committee Members Absent

Anya Arechiga
Kathleen Bergquist
Toni Downen
Dallas Smales

Public Present

Jennifer Kandt, Administrative Coordinator to the Committee on Domestic Violence

Attorney General's Office Staff Present

Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Rasul, Deputy Attorney General
Lorraine Webber, Assistant to the NCPDV

1. *Call to order, roll call of members, establish quorum.

Suzanne Ramos called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. A roll call was taken and quorum was established.

2. *Review and approval of minutes from April 18, 2011 meeting.

Christina Hernandez made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Larry Mosley seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

3. *Discussion and possible action on family court judge survey.

Ms. Ramos asked Ms. Prentice if it was too soon after the legislative session to approach Robin Sweet to find out if the survey could be distributed through the AOC. Ms. Prentice said that she would contact Ms. Sweet and ask.

The new Committee members were asked if they had had an opportunity to review the survey. Mr. Mosley said that he had and that his only concern was the number of pages. He thought that judges may not want to fill out a 41-question survey. Ms. Ramos stated that the judges, the judges' assistants or the court administrators may be filling out the survey. Ms. Prentice agreed that the survey was especially long.

Ms. Ramos asked the Committee if they wanted to review the survey again to determine if all the questions were necessary and what is really pertinent to the Underserved Populations Committee. Mr. Mosley suggested starting with specifying what kind of information the Committee is looking for and using that as a starting point for developing the survey. Ms. Ramos stated that there were reports of courts taking too long to process applications for restraining orders. There was also an issue regarding the availability of interpreters for those who do not speak English. Other issues that need to be addressed are visitation, sexual assault and workplace violence TPOs. Mr. Mosley stated that workplace harassment had been addressed legislatively and encouraged the Committee to really consider what they wanted to get out of this survey.

The Committee discussed simplifying the survey. Ms. Hernandez stated that if the assistants were completing the survey, then perhaps the length wasn't an issue. Ms. Ramos stated she would check with the administrator for the Washoe County Family Court to see who at the Court would be most likely to complete the survey. Meanwhile, the Committee members will review the survey again and Ms. Prentice will contact Robin Sweet and ask for her feedback on the length of the survey. She suggested that Committee members each come up with one or two reasons why the survey is necessary. This agenda item will be addressed again at the next meeting.

4. *Discussion and possible action regarding outreach to Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) community.

- **Potential meeting with direct service providers to discuss concerns and to identify and address issues surrounding the LGBT community.**

Jennifer Kandt, Administrative Coordinator the Committee on Domestic Violence (CDV), said that Ms. Prentice had approached her on behalf of the Committee to find out what Nevada batterers treatment programs were doing to address LGBT issues. Ms. Kandt sent an email to all of the programs asking what accommodations were being made and if any issues had surfaced. She compiled the responses and

provided them in a written report to the Committee. Ms. Hernandez asked if the questions had been sent to community centers or other organizations that may serve the LGBT community. Ms. Kandt stated that she works for the CDV which certifies batterers treatment programs in the State and that she had only surveyed those providers. Ms. Ramos asked if there was any training required of providers and if it was possible that there could be trainings specific to working with the LGBT community. Ms. Kandt answered that batterers treatment providers are required to complete 15 hours of continuing education on a yearly basis. Those credits must be directly related to domestic violence but the requirements are not any more specific than that. If training on domestic violence in the LGBT community was available, Ms. Kandt thought that providers would be willing to attend as they are always looking for training opportunities. She explained that when a provider is initially certified they must complete 60 hours of formal training: 30 hours of training related to victim services and 30 hours of training related to perpetrator services. The CDV is currently in the process of looking at those requirements and may revise them to require training on more specific topics.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she had heard from the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and that they do have a batterers treatment program. She noted that based on the responses from the providers to the questions that Ms. Kandt had asked there did seem to be an issue with dynamics when gay men are attending a treatment program. Ms. Ramos suggested reaching out to LGBT service providers to see if they were providing any services related to domestic violence. Ms. Hernandez said that the service providers in southern Nevada do not.

Judy Henderson from the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV) was also invited to discuss the issues at this meeting but was unable to attend. She did send an email to the committee stating that she had attended the La Red conference in Boston and that the NNADV is planning on bringing representatives to Nevada for a regional training in 2012, most likely in southern Nevada. The NNADV will be incorporating La Red's materials as well as other national organizations' technical assistance materials in a new NNADV brochure on LGBT issues. They are also purchasing some new materials for the NNADV Resource Center on this topic and welcome suggestions. Ms. Henderson stated in the email that the NNADV would value feedback from the Committee once they prepare a draft brochure. Ms. Hernandez commented that in regard to the brochures, she would like to see protocol for the shelters on being inclusive of those in the LGBT community.

Ms. Ramos asked Ms. Armstrong if Safe Embrace had any protocols specific to the LGBT community. Ms. Armstrong stated that there is nothing written but that her agency helps any woman who comes in and identifies herself as a victim of domestic violence.

Ms. Ramos would like to invite Judy Henderson to the next meeting to further discuss possible training on the topic.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she would contact the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and ask for their curriculum.

5. *Discussion and possible action regarding outreach to the Asian Pacific Islander (API) community.

Ms. Bergquist was unable to attend the meeting. This item will be on the next agenda. Ms. Prentice reminded the Committee that Ms. Bergquist will be speaking about these issues at the Council meeting scheduled for August 11, 2011 in Ely.

6. *Discussion and possible action regarding outreach to tribal communities.

Ms. Smales was unable to attend the meeting. The Committee will discuss this item on the next agenda.

7. *Discussion and possible action regarding outreach to the African American Faith based community.

Ms. Armstrong stated that there will be an opportunity to do some outreach at Greater New Hope Church on July 30th. She has some information that she will forward to Ms. Webber for distribution to the Committee.

Mr. Mosley asked what efforts were being made in Southern Nevada. Ms. Ramos stated that the Committee hoped to have some people who lived in the south help with outreach. Mr. Mosley stated that a group of women from the Delta sorority were working on the issue and that he would provide the Committee with the name of the president of that organization. The 100 Black Men organization, Mountain Top Church, and Victory Missionary Baptist Church are also involved in addressing the issue of domestic violence. Ms. Ramos asked if any of these organizations held functions where there could be presenters. Mr. Mosley replied that a couple of months ago, Delta sorority put on a day long seminar. He stated that he would find out when then next seminar was scheduled. Ms. Prentice asked Mr. Mosley to send Ms. Webber the contact information for the organizations he mentioned.

Ms. Hernandez stated that she had received an email from Save Faith United. They are putting together a conference in October called "Portraits of Reality" and hoped to bring Carolyn Thomas in as the keynote speaker. Ms. Ramos suggested that the Committee contact them and see if perhaps the Attorney General could speak at the conference. Ms. Prentice said that if she were given the information, she would reach out to the Attorney General to see if she were available.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding outreach to Hispanic community.

Ms. Ramos reported that she and Council member Anya Arechiga had been working on an ongoing series of domestic violence stories to air on the Spanish language station Univision in northern Nevada.

She asked if anyone had contacts or ideas for outreach to the southern Nevada Hispanic community. Ms. Hernandez volunteered to look up some media contacts who have been helpful to her in the past. Mr. Mosley suggested contacting the Latin Chamber of Commerce and the freshman legislator Irene Bustamante. Ms. Ramos asked Ms. Hernandez and Mr. Mosley to send the contact information to Ms. Webber for distribution to the Committee.

Ms. Hernandez suggested that a future point of discussion might be access to services for undocumented immigrants. Some immigrants are reluctant to seek services because they fear being deported.

9. *Schedule future meetings and agenda items.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 12, 2011 at 2:30 p.m.

10. Public comment.

There was no public comment.

11. *Adjournment.

Larry Mosley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Christina Hernandez seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.