



Family Violence Coordinating Council

January 14, 2016 Minutes
Hennepin County Government Center
C1291 Executive Conference Room
12:15 – 1:30 PM

Fourth Judicial District Family Violence Coordinating Council Serving Hennepin County

Present: Jamie Becker-Finn, Joan Blace, Verona Boswell, Jackie Braun-Lewis, Katie Brey, Judge Elizabeth Cutter, Lieutenant Eddie Frizell, Ann Gaasch, Liza Garcia, Kristin Hays, Michelle Jacobson, Brenda Langfellow, Lisa McNaughton, Aaron Milgrom, Lidia Morales, Melynda Nelson, Rachel Ratner, Brynn Rhodes, Ellen Sackrison, Torrie Schneider, Lori Schwartz, Jennifer Taylor, Margaret Thunder-Solorzano, Michael Weinstein, Sandra White, Angela Wilms, and Reporting Secretary, Katie Dupay.

- 1. Welcome** – Judge Cutter welcomed the Council and members introduced themselves.
- 2. Approve December 10, 2015 Minutes** – The minutes were approved as submitted.
- 3. Finalize 2016 Strategic Plan Draft** – The draft 2016 strategic plan (attached) was reviewed and approved.

- 1. Domestic Violence Court Review Hearing Study** – A study was conducted to determine if there is research that supports having review hearings and what other considerations are needed to move forward with a pilot project of review hearings for the domestic violence court. Research supports we are on the right tracking by holding these specialized courts. The value added is particularly in the speed and efficiency for victims and leads to better results. Review hearings in domestic violence courts has not received much focus in the research, but there is some evidence that the addition of review hearings supports both probation compliance and treatment attendance while also tending to improve victim satisfaction.

The pilot would follow the group processed in the Minneapolis domestic violence courts with those initially assigned a DVSI score of 7 or higher (averages 380 cases per year). Monitored individuals tend to be motivated by increased judicial oversight; with probation officers determining individual needs for review hearings. Incentives help drive the completion of treatment and subsequent reduction in recidivism. The pilot will require District Court Executive Committee approval.

2. FVCC Committee Reports

Advocate – no report.

Child/Juvenile – Lori Schwartz reported the meeting was cancelled due to cold and lack of parking.

Civil – Brenda Langfellow reported the Family Court Enhancement Project DR calendars began with Central MN Legal Services providing support to petitioners. Due to volume demands, a second calendar will be added.

Criminal: Michelle Jacobson reported the committee focused on 2016 goals, specifically education on stalking. The committee is reaching out to experts to address the incomplete portions of the children's booklet with the goal of finishing this project.

3. Announcements / Open Forum

- Judge Cutter announced the FVCC and the Battered Women’s Justice Project are co-sponsoring a training on March 4, 2016 at the Ridgedale Library from 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM. The morning session will be an updated “comings and goings” exercise with the goal of building empathy and gaining a stronger knowledge base of resources available in response to the individual’s situation. In the afternoon, there will be a lecture regarding the different types of domestic violence offenders. The final portion of the training will consist of a panel discussion addressing the gaps in services. There are plans for three additional half day trainings to address domestic violence bridging issues across the divisions. Flyers will be distributed soon.
- Katie Brey will send an email vote to members regarding the FVCC meeting start time, either 12:15 PM or 12:30 PM. The results will be effective for the February 2016 meeting

Future Agenda Items

Finalize 2015 Annual Report – February 11, 2016
Infant Court – February 11, 2016

Use this link to find us on the web.

[http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-\(FVCC\).aspx](http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-(FVCC).aspx)

Use this link to access our Google Calendar of events.

<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fvccalendar%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

Family Violence Coordinating Council
(MN § 484.79 Family Violence Coordinating Councils)
2016 Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Objective	Responsible Party
Objective 1 Support the Family Court Enhancement Project (FCEP) to better address domestic violence in Family Court (MN § 484.79.3.2 Plan Identification of current weaknesses in the system and areas where additional resources are needed, and ways to improve those components)	
Action items 1.a. Continue working with the Family Enhancement Project to identify gaps in the way domestic violence is addressed by all components of Family Court. Keep FVCC informed of progress. 1.b. Provide FCEP representatives yearly strategic plan along with gaps/challenges brainstorming documentation.	1.a. Judge Holton Dimick and Katie Brey 1.b. Katie Brey
Objective 2 Provide and Promote Training (MN § 484.79.3.1 Plan Interdisciplinary training and systemic approaches to family violence issues)	
Action items 2.a. Provide a full day system training during March 2016. 2.b. Incorporate domestic violence issues into yearly bench training events. 2.c. Promote a consistent district wide response to domestic violence at regularly scheduled bench meetings. 2.d. Continue to support brown bag topic sessions.	2.a. Michelle Jacobson and Judicial Co-Chairs. 2.b. Judicial Co-Chairs and Executive Director. 2.c. Judicial Co-Chairs 2.d. FVCC Civil, Criminal and Juvenile Committees.
Objective 3 The Executive Committee of the FVCC shall develop a system for evaluating the effectiveness of its initiatives and programs in improving the coordination of activities and delivery of services and shall focus on identifiable goals and outcomes. An evaluation must include data components as well as input from individuals involved in family violence activities and services, victims, and perpetrators. (MN § 484.79.4 Evaluation)	
Action items 3.a. Develop a council wide survey that is administered after all events.	Katie Brey and Brynn Rhodes.