MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT • HENNEPIN COUNTY

Family Violence Coordinating Council
February 8, 2018

Fourth Judicial District
Family Violence Coordinating Council
Serving Hennepin County

Present: Boswell, Verona; Brey, Katie; Chelmo, Patrick; Eckberg, Dr. Deborah; Furnstahl, Referee Mike; Garcia, Judge Tamara; Golden, Naomi; Hogan, Elizabeth; Kaul, Ann; Keefe, Amirthini; Milgrom, Aaron; Miller, Adam; Morales, Lidia; Nelson, Melynda; Osborne, Erin; Pilz, Judy; Sackrison, Ellen; Saunders, Jennifer; Taylor, Jennifer; Weinstein, Michael; Wilson, Kate.

1. **Welcome:** Referee Mike Furnstahl welcomed the group and new members.

2. **Approve 12/14/17 Minutes:** Minutes approved as submitted.

3. **Review and approve 2017 annual report**: Report approved as submitted.

4. **HC Public Health/DAP training partnership:** Karen Adamson, HC Public Health; Sarah Lockhart, DAP; Emily Wolfe, HC Public Health
   Karen Adamson, Sarah Lockhart, and Emily Wolfe presented on Birth-Five Mental Health and Family Violence as a part of the Domestic Abuse Project Early Childhood Services. This partnership with Hennepin County and DAP came about to assist children ages birth-five in meeting developmental milestones, assist children birth-5 and caregivers in building healthy relationships, decrease negative mental health outcomes for young witnesses to DV, increase access to early childhood services for families who have experiences DV, and to stop and prevent the intergenerational cycle and impacts of DV within our community. They reviewed statistics on the prevalence of DV in Minnesota. DAP's programming is different than other 0-5 mental health services because it is trauma and DV informed. Early childhood services they offer include developmental screenings, trauma screenings, and child-parent psychotherapy intervention. They also gave an overview of their program's structure and the current status of the program along with information on how to refer children to the program.

5. **FVCC Committee Report**
   a. Advocates - No update
   b. Civil - Jennifer Taylor reported there was discussion on holding a brown bag in April or May.
   c. Criminal - Jennifer Saunders reported on behalf of Michelle Jacobson that the committee did not meet.
   d. Juvenile – Lori Schwartz reported they set a date of April 18 for a brown bag presentation.

6. **Open Forum/Announcements**
   Referee Furnstahl and Adam Miller met with the Sheriff's department to talk about how to get people to hand over guns in DV cases. They will also be meeting with Mpls Police Chief Arradondo for more feedback on securing weapons in DV cases. The issue is that if we keep them, they need to be stored, and it doesn't seem that anyone has the capacity to store the weapons and ammunition.

Help your child make sense of their world.

Every year, millions of children witness domestic violence. Each child reacts differently to the abuse. Does your child show one or more of the following behaviors?

- Fear or terror
- Aggression toward others
- Depression/sadness
- Sleeplessness
- Anxiety or nervousness
- Low self-esteem
- Withdrawal or clinging behaviors
- Poor academic performance
- Eating or appetite problems

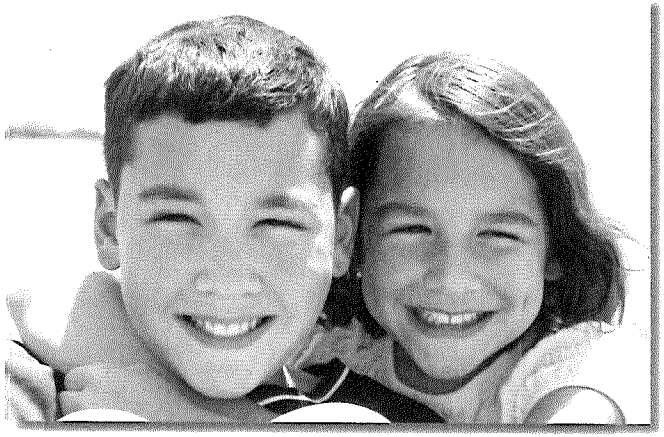
Call DAP's "First Call" line to find out more about our programs, or to sign up at 612-874-7063 x232

204 West Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN, 55404

domestic abuse project
DAP

Phone: 612.874.7063
Fax: 612.874.8445
E-mail: dap@mndap.org
Web: www.domesticabuseproject.org

Youth Program



DAP builds communities free from violence by providing holistic healing for every member of the family.

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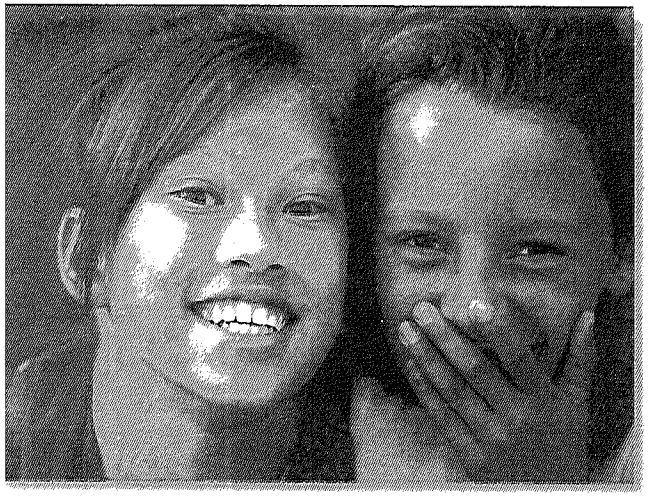
Group Services

DAP offers age-specific groups for youth ages 5-15 who have witnessed domestic violence in their home environments. The groups meet once per week for 12 weeks. The goals of Children's Group are to help children understand that violence is not their fault and that they are not alone in their experience of witnessing abuse, to learn about healthy ways to express emotions, and to have fun. While children attend Children's Group, DAP offers a parallel parenting group for parents or caregivers to learn about how to support their children in healing from the effects of witnessing violence.



Individual Services

Play is the way that children learn to communicate and express themselves. Child Centered Play Therapy is an approach that DAP therapists use to help children express and play through their feelings related to their experiences of witnessing domestic violence. Individual play therapy sessions are typically 45 minute weekly meetings with a therapist for six to nine months. Although children are referred to Youth Services because of abuse in their families, our therapists work with a variety of presenting behavioral and mental health concerns.

"We talked about what was going on in my family and that other people can help. They have had these problems before, and they can help."

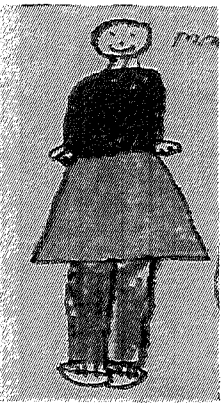
Children's Group client

Child-Parent Therapy

Child-parent sessions are offered at DAP for families with children ages birth to five who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence. The goal of Child-Parent Therapy is to support and strengthen the relationship between a child and their parent or caregiver after witnessing abuse. These sessions can occur on-site at DAP, or a therapist may be able to visit with you in your home.

"I learned that when fighting happens, it's not your fault."

Children's Group client



Costs

There are no fees for Youth services.

Signs of stress in young children (0-5)

Watch for any of these changes:

- Cries more
- Withdrawn or unusually quiet
- Fearful, startles easily, worried
- Bedwetting or toileting issues
- Sleep issues- can't fall asleep, nightmares, sleeps all the time
- Temper tantrums, outbursts
- Clinginess, cries when you leave
- Can't relax, irritable
- Not playing or plays out the event
- Behaves like a younger child
- Asks questions about the event

ASK FOR HELP! Get support from a caring professional.

For Early Childhood support call **612-348-4111**

Hennepin County
Public Health

20170406

204 west franklin avenue
minneapolis, mn 55404
phone 612.874.7063
fax 612.874.8445
hours 9a-5p

LAURA BATTAGLIA, MSW, LGSW
early childhood therapist and coordinator

lbattaglia@mndap.org ext. 262

www.domesticabuseproject.org

204 west franklin avenue
minneapolis, mn 55404
phone 612.874.7063
fax 612.874.8445

SARAH LOCKHART, MSW, LICSW
supervisor of youth services

slockhart@mndap.org ext.282

www.domesticabuseproject.org