



## ERIE COUNTY COALITION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE ... founded 1978

*The ECCAFV is a member-driven organization which engages in social change activism to dismantle the root causes of domestic violence at the individual, organizational, and institutional level. Our goal is to end domestic violence.*

### **ECCAFV Meeting Minutes - Friday, November 14, 2008**

**Welcome and Introductions:** 30 people were in attendance  
(Attendance list from the meeting is available to meeting attendees. Contact Greg White (gregory.white@ccwny.org) for more information.)

A **Moment of Silence** was held in honor of victims and survivors of domestic violence. Sue Kelley led us in the reading of an article on a recent local incident. Pat Shelly also led us in the poem "Manifesto"

#### **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes**

- September and October minutes accepted (September Minutes: First - Pat Shelly, Second - Amy Fleischauer; October Minutes: First - Kathy Rockey, Second - Sr. Martha Olszewski).
- Eco-Friendly Meeting Minutes – Greg reminded us that the Coalition is working to conserve resources and promote "greener" habits for our meetings. At previous meetings, the following decisions were made by the group and included:
  - The agenda will be sent via email and posted on the board in the meeting room.
  - Minutes will no longer be distributed at meetings. A link to the minutes on the ECCAFV website will be sent out with the meeting agenda by email. Five copies of minutes will be available at the meeting for those who are unable to access the link.
  - Copies of flyers will not be distributed to all meeting attendees as all of the flyers are sent out via the ECCAFV email list and most are available on the ECCAFV website. 20 copies of all flyers will be available at the meetings.
  - Anyone who is not on the ECCAFV email list and would like to be included should email Kristen Luppino at [dvcc@eccafv.org](mailto:dvcc@eccafv.org)

#### **Finance Update – Quarterly Report**

- Currently there is \$1300 in the positive; 48 members in the Coalition. Net gain \$1321.
- Education and Training Institute: \$1110.
- DV Awareness Month: net loss - \$449
- Donations: \$62.50 and NCADV Conference: \$660.18 expenditure
  - LGBT DV Committee Holdings - \$936.
  - Council on Elder Abuse Holdings - \$338.65
  - HSBC Bank Account Total Holdings - \$10,078.88

#### **DVCC Position Funding Update**

- At the August Meeting of the Coalition, the membership was informed that the United Way would no longer be funding the position. United will be providing transitional funding through the end of December 2008. The DVCC position is really important to the work of the Coalition and serves as a staff person for the Coalition. Funding for the position has been and continues to be explored – a Stakeholders group has convened to explore options and ideas. There is consensus among the Coalition membership and the stakeholders group that the DVCC position is critical to the community. Child and Family

Services is the fiduciary entity for this position. Katey Joyce talked about the Stakeholder Meeting and that meeting is open to all interested persons; the next meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2008 at Child and Family Services, 488 Delaware, Ave., Buffalo, NY – 12:00 Noon. Several legislatures have been approached for funding. There is a list of private groups that may be interested in offering funding – a patchwork of funding sources is being explored. \$50,000 (salary and fringe benefits) in funding is needed annually in order to secure the position. The Center for Resolution and Justice may be a strong possibility for funding. The NYS Coalition has been approached to explore options of possibly expanding this position to a tri-county role – there was some interest but this is not possible at the present time. There may be an option to have a small contract with the State Coalition and UB may also have some options and possibility. There was some discussion that we should increase Coalition membership dues in order to raise funds for the position. An Appeal Letter (a concept) to anyone who receives services from the DVCC position offer/contribute funding is being considered as a possibility. The letter would request funding support at any level and that that amount would be appreciated. Katey Joyce shared the names of the initial meeting of the Stakeholders Group. Part of the DVCC position is to work as a staff person for the Coalition as well as serve as a coordinating liaison role in the WNY Community. Remla Parthasarthy and Greg White will sign-on to the Appeal Letter as part of the Stakeholders Group.

- Remla and Amy explained that the work process at Coalition Meetings is achieved through the Consensus-based Model. Amy Fleischauer described some of the details regarding membership, voting, and blocking the process, within the context of the Consensus Model. Pat Shelly offered one example of blocking-a-vote. Remla described that the Coalition should consider to offer funding support to the DVCC position in the amount of \$2,500. Greg discussed that a significant portion of our current fiscal resources are gained through the Education and Training Institute and much of the work that the ETI requires is completed by the DVCC position. Within that context, \$2,500 is a minimal funding request. Future expenses were anticipated and discussed. It was suggested that the funding amount from the Coalition should be increased to \$5,000.
- The DVCC position has been invaluable in the ongoing work of the Coalition. There was significant support among members present at the meeting for 5K of Coalition funding for the DVCC. Future, long-term funding also needs to be considered. Haven House is offering 10K in funding for the position; 20K of funding is needed for the remainder of this fiscal year. There was some discussion about the future role and work of the DVCC position – it's an opportunity to recreate the position, work, and role. Discussion about the implications of this funding, the reduction of fiscal resources, and the limitations of activities during the next year. Discussion about how the Coalition can continue to increase its potential to draw-down income to support the position. It was proposed that the Coalition issue a check for 2500 for the position and that the Coalition offer a total of 5K support for the fiscal year.

#### **Membership Update**

- Tabled.

#### **Advocacy Committee Report**

- Remla distributed sign-up sheets for committee membership and participation. Committees decide to meet on their own – there are not standing times.

#### **ECCAFV Monthly Meeting Location**

- Next meeting will be held at the International Institute of Buffalo.

**Child and Family Staff Loans Program**

- Laurie Schaller presented information on the Loan Program and what is can be used to support.
- This service may be especially important as a resource for victims of domestic violence.

**Updates:**

- Family Justice Center
  - Art Show was held. No additional fund raisers.
- Council on Elder Abuse
  - Past meeting – statewide prevalence of elder abuse and its treatment was presented along with information on future funding.
- LGBT DV Committee of WNY
  - One imminent concern is the current statewide funding cuts for their DV Advocate position.
- Citizen's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect
  - Action Plan for next meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Announcements:**

- No additional announcements.

An **Orientation for New Members** was held at the end of the meeting.

The **next monthly membership meeting** of the Erie County Coalition Against Family Violence will take place on **Friday, December 12, 2008** in the **International Institute, 864 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY**