



## 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, April 11, 2008

#### **Welcome and Introductions: 31 people were in attendance**

*(Attendance list from the meeting is available to meeting attendees. Contact Kristen Luppino ([kluppino@cfsbny.org](mailto:kluppino@cfsbny.org)) for a copy.)*

**A Moment of Silence** was held in honor of victims and survivors of domestic violence.

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

- First- Pat Shelly, Second- Cindy Manne

#### **Treasurer/Finance Update**

- The ECCAFV has **\$10,392.36** in the account. Of that amount, the MDCCEA has \$369.02 and the LGBT Task Force has \$791.00. Including petty cash of \$38.25, the ECCAFV has **\$ 9,270.59**
- Finance Chair reminded attendees about the membership dues change approved at March 2008 meeting:
  - Agency membership: from \$30 to \$50
  - Individual membership: from \$15 to \$25
  - Student membership: Remains \$10
  - Survivors dues would be waived (*a process will be created to apply for this waiver*)

#### **Fair Access to Family Court Updates**

- Handout was put at all attendees place with the vote of the Judiciary Committee that moved the bill on to get a Senate Calendar number- #686. The handout also included sample letters that could be sent to local senators and also Majority Leader Bruno to urge that the bill be put up for a vote. It was noted letters could be mailed to both local and Albany offices and phone calls are also very powerful. The vote would need to take place by June in order for it to be completed in this legislative session and not have to go through all of these steps again.
- Da'Neil and Kristen have written an Op-Ed about the need for this legislation and possible issues law makers have brought up in opposition.

#### **Elections**

- Nominations were discussed and Kim Siejak has been nominated and accepted the nomination for Communications Chair. Bill Zelany has also been nominated to serve another term as Finance Chair and has accepted this nomination.
- It was noted that there have been no nominations for the Community Relations Chair and that in order for the work to continue, there is a need for strong leaders from within the Coalition membership. It was also noted that the Coalition does the social change work that is needed to work to end family violence.
- Kristen noted that the positions are not a lot of work and it is only one additional meeting a month. If anyone has any questions about the positions, please call Kristen.  
3 executive committee positions are up for election in May, 2008:
  - Communications Chair (2008-2009)
    - Documents decisions and activities of the Coalition leadership, committees, and the membership at large through minutes;

- Prepares organizational correspondence and details Coalition participation at public forums, presentations, and other functions as requested;
  - Maintains important documents and records for the group for inclusion in the organizational archives;
  - Processes mail and maintains membership lists; and
  - Contributes to projects and activities of the Coalition as needed.
- Community Relations Chair (2008-2010)- (Greg White is NOT eligible for re-nomination or re-election to this position)
  - Speaks the truth of the battered women's movement to the Coalition membership and larger community by being to accountable to and in relationship with local, state, and national groups;
  - Facilitates dialogue and solicits input regarding priority-setting from the Coalition leadership, committees, and the membership at large;
  - Coordinates monthly meetings of the Coalition membership;
  - Serves as ex-officio member of all Coalition committees; and contributes to projects and activities of the Coalition as needed.
- Finance Chair (2008-2010)- (Bill Zelazny is eligible for re-nomination and election to this position)
  - Monitors the fiscal stability of the Coalition by processing funds, recording income and expenses, and maintaining the Coalition's financial records;
  - Coordinates the Coalition's annual budget process, reviews funding requests, and provides membership with financial status updates on a regular basis;
  - Provides financial reports and support to agencies using the Coalition as a financial pass-through;
  - Complies with governmental reporting requirements (on a limited basis); and
  - Contributes to projects and activities of the Coalition as needed.
- Membership Reminder and Attendance List- Kristen reminded members that they must attend 3 of the last 6 meetings and pay membership dues to be eligible to vote in the election. If you have questions about whether or not you or your agency is a member contact Kristen at [kluppino@cfsbny.org](mailto:kluppino@cfsbny.org).
- Nominees will make brief statements and elections will take place at the meeting on May 9, 2008.

### Call for Award Nominations

- Sue reminded all members that awards will be given out at the Annual meeting in June. Nominations are currently being accepted. Please consider the work of those within and outside the ECCAFV as there have not been many nominations received.
- If you need a nomination form, contact Sue at [vicechair@eccafv.org](mailto:vicechair@eccafv.org) . Sue also sent around a sign up sheet for anyone interested in being on the awards committee. Contact Kristen if you are interested in that committee also.
- The Awards committee will meet after the May meeting to make decisions on award recipients.

### Education and Training Institute

- Attendees received a brochure for the Legal Services training that will take place on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 844 Delaware Ave. It is aimed toward service providers and attorneys and will be a ½ day training. Please contact Stacie for more info. or to register ([sdopko@cfsbny.org](mailto:sdopko@cfsbny.org)).
- Next DV 101 is tentatively scheduled for September 25, 2008.

### ECCAFV Quarterly Update

- Stacie has been working on this update along with Kim; the general format was explained and content discussed briefly. The first issue was distributed at today's meeting. It also will be e-mailed to the listserv. If you are interested in working on this project or have any suggestions or feedback, contact Stacie at [sdopko@cfsbny.org](mailto:sdopko@cfsbny.org) or Kim at [ksiejak@cfsbny.org](mailto:ksiejak@cfsbny.org).

### Annual Meeting Planning Update

**P.O. BOX 350 • BUFFALO, NY 14205 • (716) 884-6002**

- The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, June 19, 2008 from 5:30- 8 p.m. at Harry's Harbour Place Grille.
- Tickets will be \$30.00 each for members and \$ 35.00 for non-members. Scholarships will be available for survivors. Reservations are due by June 9, 2008.
- This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ECCAFV and of the battered women's movement- looking back at the movement will be the theme of the event.
- Flyers were distributed to attendees about the meeting and with registration information; entertainment will include a performance by Theatre for Change, emphasizing the effects of family violence on children.

#### Updates:

- **FJC-** Paul noted that the FJC is still conducting "Behind Closed Doors" tours that are 50 minutes long. The upcoming ones will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. and on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. Christina Chapman is the contact for more information.
- **MDCCEA-** The strategic plan is moving forward and committees have been established. A planning committee for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day has been developed; the day falls on Father's Day, but the event will most likely be happening on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kristen at [kluppino@cfsbny.org](mailto:kluppino@cfsbny.org) if you are interested in being a part of it. Next MDCCEA meeting will be on May 6, 2008 at 9 a.m. at Meals on Wheels.
- **LGBT Task Force-** The LGBT IPV Advocate is working on providing some services to clients and spending a great deal of time doing outreach. Plans are in the works for outreach at PRIDE events in June. The task force brought an issue to the attention of the ECCAFV membership—recently, the Buffalo News "outed" a Trans individual in a crime report and there is a concern about this person being placed in a men's jail. The task force feels there is a need for some education and advocacy around this issue and will keep the ECCAFV membership informed of any steps the task force takes in that regard.
- **CTFCAN-** Currently on hiatus, but Kristen reminded the group that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and she has sent a very good resource from Kidspeace to the listserv. It is not known if there will be a May meeting; if there is, Kristen will send an announcement to the listserv.

#### Announcements:

- There was some discussion on changes to the mandated reporting laws that have taken place. Anyone who contracts with DSS needs to be aware of these. There also now is a Super Mandated reporter for facilities.
  - o *Details concerning recent changes to Chapter 513 & Chapter 193 of the Social Services Laws of 2007 can be found @ the Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS) website: <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies> - Search for: 07-OCFS-ADM-15 Xctasy's Law and 08-OCFS-INF-01 Mandated Reporters (replaces 07-OCFS-INF-07).*
  - o *Free training for institutions, schools, agencies, or facilities be arranged via the following website: [www.nysmandatedreporter.org](http://www.nysmandatedreporter.org)*
- Another attendee noted that nominating people for the ECCAFV awards only takes writing a few sentences and that there are lots of people/organizations in the community that do great work.

#### CAPC Mock Fair Hearing

The mock fair hearing was presented for the group after a short break and was very well received. There was a good amount of Q & A while the players were still in character after the initial presentation. The CAPC Legal Services team is available to come out to agencies and present. If you think you have a group that would benefit, please contact Ida Parker at [ijp@bppn.org](mailto:ijp@bppn.org) or 884-6711 ext. 204.

**Next Meeting and Elections are Friday, May 9, 2008 at the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County – 9:00 A.M.**