



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, March 14, 2008

Welcome and Introductions: 29 people were in attendance

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

A Moment of Silence was held in honor of victims and survivors of domestic violence. Sue Kelley read "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou

Acceptance of February Meeting Minutes

- First- Lauren Walker, Second- Kim Siejak

Treasurer/Finance Update

- As of 2/22/08, the ECCAFV has **\$11,119.84** 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 **\$ 9,998.07**
- Finance Chair presented proposal to increase annual membership dues to the ECCAFV as they have not changed in over 15 years. Increases would be:
 - Agency membership: from \$30 to \$50
 - Individual membership: from \$15 to \$25
 - Student membership: from \$10 to \$15
 - Survivors dues would be waived *(a process will be created to apply for this waiver)*

The groups discussed these changes. A member inquired about the reason for the raise, was it to increase funds or to fund particular events, etc. Finance chair responded, both. Kristen noted there have been requests to sponsor more events and ECCAFV would be able to continue helping in this way along with the speakers and presentations that are often brought to the community free of charge. Another member inquired about the current membership- Kristen noted that there are 22 paid agencies and 8 paid individuals. It was noted that many agencies may be attending but not paying their dues. Member moved that the changes be accepted. Another member noted that agencies should be reminded of all the benefits of membership so the worth of the money is seen (discounts to trainings, access to free events/ speakers, etc.). Member also noted that the number of paid members was noteworthy as it used to be much higher.

Member wondered if the cost was a barrier to paying and if an increase would lose more members than gain. Another member noted that perhaps a membership drive to increase base would be more useful. Motioning member noted that this amount was not a lot of money and that agencies maybe even should be charged more. Noted single trainings often cost more with less benefit. Member noted that perhaps student amount should not change due to these individuals often have limited funds.

The group came to consensus that the ECCAFV would make changes in membership dues for the 08-09 year. A motion was made by Cindy Chandler (second: Marci Holler) to do the following:

- The new annual dues will be:
 - Agency Membership: \$50
 - Individual Membership: \$25
 - Student Membership: \$10
- Survivor dues waiver would be available.

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- There will also be a disclaimer stating that any agency would like to be a member of the ECCAFV but is unable to pay the full amount in annual dues should contact the executive committee to make an individual arrangement based on need.
- A membership committee will be re-instated. A sign up sheet was sent around- Kristen will make the initial contact with this committee until a chairperson is determined. The goals of this committee would be to:
 - Increase member outreach
 - Create a procedure for survivor waivers and agency waivers
 - Create a plan for member benefits (i.e.- list the agency members on the ECCAFV brochure if they join by a certain time, discounted rates for events and trainings, etc.)

Legislative Awareness Day in Albany

- Ten people went to Albany on March 10, 2008 to advocate for the passage of Fair Access to Family Court- a bill that has been in the works for 20 years. NYSCADV held their program in the Well of the Legislative Office Building in Albany with a marathon theme to urge lawmakers to "Cross the Line and Join the 49"- the 49 other states that have access for a wider population to Civil Orders of Protection.
- Thirteen appointments were completed (8 with legislators and 5 with aides) in all and Senator Rath's office had a literature drop as an appointment was unable to be made. We were able to see two Niagara County legislators as providers/constituents were unable to attend and we had a Niagara County resident on our team.
- Art created for the day (by Haven House Art Empowerment group) was used as a visual aid to the legislators/staff and also incorporated into posters to be hung in their offices and our thank you notes. The art also remained with NYSCADV display in the lobby of Legislative Office Building. Visits were very successful. Many promised support or sponsorship and that they would talk to colleagues.
- The LAD trip used \$ 763.63 of the Advocacy Committee budget. The committee has spent \$ 836.19 in total and has a remaining balance of \$ 363.81.

Elections

- Greg informed the membership that Tanya Hernandez, Communications Chair, had to resign from her position on the ECCAFV Executive Committee due to personal reasons. Kristen and Stacie will be taking minutes and fulfilling those responsibilities in the interim until a new communications chair is elected.
- Nomination forms were made available to the meeting attendees. The form will be sent out to the ECCAFV email list and will be posted on the website.
- 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. A member list and attendance list will be available at the next meeting for review.

Award Nominations:

- Sue Kelley reminded all members that awards will be given out at the Annual meeting in June. Nominations are currently being accepted. If you need a nomination form, contact Sue at 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.

Annual Meeting Planning Update:

- The annual meeting will be held in June- probably the week of June 9th but, a date has not been finalized.
- This year marks the 30th anniversary of the ECCAFV and of the battered women's movement- looking back at the movement will be the theme of the event.
- The annual meeting will be an evening event and will be held at Rich Products Atrium on Niagara Street.
- Tickets will be \$30.00 each and scholarships will be available for survivors.
- More details will be made available ASAP.

Education and Training Institute

- The next DV 101 training is tentatively scheduled for September 25th, 2008.
- A Legal Services Training is being planned- it will probably take place in May or June.

ECCAFV Quarterly Update:

- Stacie has been working on this update. The first issue will be released at the April ECCAFV meeting. If you are interested in working on this project, contact Stacie at sdopko@cfsbny.org

CAPC Mock Fair Hearing:

- At the April ECCAFV meeting from 10a-11a the CAPC Project's Legal Services Committee will be presenting a mock fair hearing. All are welcome to attend. More information will be sent on the email list or contact Kristen at kluppino@cfsbny.org

Coaching Boys to Men Update

- Per and email sent to the ECCAFV Email list, this event (originally scheduled for Thursday 4/3/08) has been cancelled. The committee will reconvene and try to reschedule the event for October, 2008.

Gender and Domestic Violence Presentation:

- The ECCAFV along with Haven House and the UB Gender Institute is sponsoring Dr. Molly Drageiwicz to speak on gender asymmetry and domestic violence. The event is from 9a-11:30a at Child and Family Services- 844 Delaware Ave. The event is FREE and open to the public. Please RSVP to Kristen at kluppino@cfsbny.org

Updates:

- **MDCCEA-** The strategic plan is moving forward and committees have been established. A planning committee for the 3rd Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day has been developed. Contact Kristen at kluppino@cfsbny.org if you are interested in being a part of it.
- **LGBT Task Force-** The LGBT IPV Advocate is working on providing some services to clients and spending a great deal of time doing outreach.
- **CTFCAN-** No meetings will be held in April or May.
- **FJC-** No one from the FJC was present at the meeting to give an update.

Announcements:

Flyers about the DOH health clinics for teens were shared with the group.

Next Meeting is Friday, April 11, 2008 at the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County – 9:00 A.M.