



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, September 12, 2008

Welcome and Introductions: 27 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 a poem entitled "Survivors Always Find a Way to make the Best of Life" by: Barbara J. Hall

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

- August minutes accepted (First- Pat Shelly, Second- Ruth May Kane).
- Eco-Friendly Meeting Minutes- Bill lead a discussion about conservation and promoting "greener" habits at our ECCAFV meetings. The following decisions were made by the group.
 - 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 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 added, email Kristen at dvcc@eccafv.org

Finance Update

- Currently there is \$9333.56 in the ECCAFV Account
 - LGBT DV Committee Holdings= \$551.00
 - Council on Elder Abuse Holdings= \$443.01
 - Petty Cash = \$60.25
 - ECCAFV Balance= \$8406.37
 - Deposits to be made= \$375.00

Change in Bank Account Signers

- Currently the signers on the ECCAFV Bank Account (at HSBC bank) are William Zelazny and Gregory White. The ECCAFV protocol is to have the Finance Chair and the Community Relations Chair as signers on the account. Currently, William Zelazny and Remla Parthasarathy hold these positions (in that order).
- Pat Shelly moved to change the signer on the ECCAFV bank account from Greg White to Remla Parthasarathy. All present were in favor. None was opposed.

Election Results

- Greg White and Safiyya Hunter were nominated for the Communications Chair position for the special election held in August, 2008. Safiyya won this election by 2-3 votes however, she indicated to the ECCAFV Executive Committee that she will not be able to fulfill this

commitment due to her school schedule this semester. Therefore, by default, Greg White will be serving as Communication Chair for the ECCAFV for the 2008-2009 year. Greg has accepted this position.

Website Sharing

- Based on the work Ruth May Kane and Brenda David have done and the conversations about the protocol for website sharing, the ECCAFV executive committee has developed an application for any organization that would like to share the website.
- Any interested party should contact a member of the ECCAFV executive committee for a copy of the application.

Education and Training Institute - DV 101

- The next ECCAFV DV 101 training will take place on Thursday 9/18/08. Currently there are 34 people registered and paid for the training. Kristen thanked members who volunteered to help the day of the training and Catholic Charities DV Program for Men for coordinating the site and making the folders.
- The next DV 101 training will take place in the Spring of 2009

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Update

- DVAM calendars were distributed
- ECCAFV Sponsored Events: (info posted on www.eccafv.org)
 - Bi-National Bridge Walk – 10.3.08
 - Walk Against Violence- Springville, NY – 10.12.08
 - Taking DV Out of the Closet – 10.15.08
 - IPV In LGBT Communities – 10.16.08
 - Visions of Peaceful Environments – 10.25.08
- Other Community Events:
 - Family Justice Center- “A New StART” fundraiser- 10/28/08- www.anewstartbuffalo.com
 - Crisis Services- “Men Who Cook” fundraiser- 10/7/08 @ 6p-9p – Statler Tower, Buffalo, NY - \$50/person, \$85/couple
 - Crisis Services- “Girls Night Out” fundraiser- 10/23/08 @ 6p – Transit Valley Golf Club
 - Hispanics United Buffalo- Domestic Violence Dinner- 10/24/08 – Bucho Olivencia Center- 261 Swan St- contact Norma at 856-7110 x108 for info
 - Neighborhood Legal Services will be including an article on domestic violence in their October newsletter, “Housing Highlights”, for DV Awareness Month.
- ECCAFV Fundraising Items were for sale at the meeting
- Next DVAM Committee Meeting – 9/25/08 from 8:30a-9:30a at 330 Delaware Ave.

Advocacy Committee Update

- Petrina announced that the Advocacy Committee will be working on a Voter’s Guide for local candidates for State and Federal Offices. The guide will include the candidates’ answers to questions about Domestic Violence, Elder Abuse, and Trafficking. The guide will be published before election day, November 4, 2008 and will be sent out via the ECCAFV email list and will be posted on the ECCAFV website (www.eccafv.org)
- Petrina Piro (intern from UB School of Social Work) and Courtney McGowan (intern from UB Law School, Women, Children and Social Justice Clinic) will be heading up this project.

Non-Fatal Strangulation Bill

Assemblymember Gabryszak attended the Coalition meeting to talk about a bill he is sponsoring (A 11012) which creates and defines a new crime of strangulation. The bill recognizes that

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strangulation has the potential to cause serious and life-threatening injuries. Thirteen other states have similar legislation. According to the Assemblymember, as the law is now, strangulation is considered a violation (an offense with a maximum sentence of 15 days in jail), and the new legislation would raise it up to a Class B felony (max 25 yrs). The bill is currently stuck in the Codes Committee (Chair is Joseph Lentol).

Updates:

- NYSCADV Tips and Trends
 - Tech safety tips including cell phone use, GPS, and internet safety from the NYSCADV newsletters were discussed.
 - Hotline Trend: The NYS DV & Sexual Violence Hotline has recently seen an increase in calls for elder abuse, which may result in local DV programs seeing a similar increase.
 - Please contact NYSCADV at 518-482-5465, if you need resources on elder abuse or are information on technology & safety.
- Family Justice Center
 - The FJC has a new staff member- Julie Doerr, Community Relations Manager. She will attend the 10/10/08 ECCAFV meeting.
 - The FJC has a new on-site partner- the Child Advocacy Center- Deanna DiSimone. The CAC will be offering assessments, referrals, and linkages for children at the FJC.
- Council on Elder Abuse
 - The next meeting is 10/7/08 @ 9am at Meals on Wheels
 - Formal committees of the CEA have been established and are working on several projects.
 - The CEA will be hosting a community forum on 9/25/08 at 5:15p. Flyers were distributed.
 - The CEA will be applying for website sharing privileges.
 - The Elder Justice Act, S. 1070 (Federal), was discussed. The act, which has been passed by the Senate Finance Committee for the past 3 years, will create a centralized Federal office for elder abuse issues, will invest in research on elder abuse, will create an advisory committee to drive the work and will create source of dedicated funding for elder abuse.
- LGBT DV Committee of WNY
 - The LGBT DV Advocate continues to work with clients and communities. The \$25K that has been allocated by NYS has been cut by \$1200 in 2009. The budget is being re-worked so that the services can continue.
 - A Fundraiser will be held on 9/25 at Nietzsche's @ 9p- flyers were distributed.
 - Pat Shelly also encouraged each agency to send one person to the IPV in LGBT Communities training taking place on 10/16/08 so that person can share the important information with the agency.
- Citizen's Task Force on Child Abuse & Neglect
 - The CTFCAN is meeting this afternoon from 12p-3p to work on action planning following the consensus building work done in June. All are welcome.

Announcements:

- The ECCAFV welcomed its new MSW Intern, Petrina Piro. Petrina will be working with the coalition 2 days per week until May, 2008. She will work directly with Kristen Luppino and can be reached at ppiro@cfsbny.org or 884-6002.
- Baker Victory Services is hosting OPDV on 10/15 and 10/16 for their 2-day training on DV for Child Welfare Workers. Call Missy at 828-7037 for info.

- The UB Gender Institute is having a conference entitled “Seneca Falls Dialogues” on 10/11 and 10/12 in Seneca Falls, NY. The cost will be \$50 for students and \$100 for non-students. More info will be available on their website, www.genderbuffalo.org, soon.
- If you or someone from your agency is interested in joining the committee to work on future funding for the Domestic Violence Community Coordinator Position, please contact Remla (chair@eccafv.org) or Kristen (dvcc@eccafv.org)
- Crisis Services Advocate Program is having a fundraiser on 9/20 at Macy’s – Shop for a Cause. Contact Jackie at 834-3131 for more info.

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

The next meeting will take place on Friday, October 10, 2008 at 9 a.m. at *Child and Family Services, 330 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14202.*