

**Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence**

**DV Commission Annual Meeting**

Thursday May 25, 2017 from 8:00am-10:00am

@ The Leopold Chandelier Room

*The mission of the Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence is to provide leadership in the community's effort to reduce and prevent domestic violence.*

**Members Attending:** Alan Artman; Riannon Bardsley; Beth Boyd; Karen Burke; Regina Delahunt; Lorayne Dennis; Silvia Johnson; Jon Komorowski; Ken Levinson; Kathy McNaughton; Jon Mutchler; Darlene Peterson; Linda Quinn; Dave Reynolds; Mike Riber; Peter Ruffatto; Garrett Shelsta; Bruce Van Glubt; Mary Welch; Moonwater

**Members Absent:** Chief Cliff Cook; Sheriff Bill Elfo; Christina Kobdich; Dave McEachran; Katie Plewa Olvera; Michelle Zlotek

**Staff Present:** Susan Marks; Liz Stuart; Melissa Lacki; Elizabeth Montoya

**Guests:** April Barker (Bellingham City Council); Jessica Bee (Opportunity Council); Charles Burleigh (Mt Baker School District); Sydney Donaldson (Western Washington University); Jon Dukes (WWU Prevention and Wellnress); Randy Elsbree (Blaine School District); Geneva Graham (Brigid Collins); Christine Hagstrom (Mt Baker Planned Parenthood); Jeralyn Heil (Catholic Community Services); Jill Iwasaki (Ferndale School District); Michael Lilliquest (Bellingham City Council); Jennifer Moon (UnityCare NW); Emily O'Connor (Lydia Place); Riley O'Leary (Whatcom Prevention Coalition); Blanca Ortega (DVSAS); Michael Parker (Whatcom Homeless Service Center); Jeff Parks (Whatcom County Sherriff's Office); Kelsey Peronto (Northwest Youth Services); Amanda Robins (Northwest Youth Services); Kathleen Roy (Brigid Collins); Jessica Sankey (Bellingham School District); Flo Simon (Bellingham Police Department); Olivia Solomon (Lummi Victims of Crime); Ron Spanjer (Blaine School District); Annie Taylor (DSHS Children's Administration); Bobbi Virta (United Church of Ferndale); Kathy Washatka (Opportunity Council); Emily Wilson (Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center); Page (Northwest Youth Services)

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder to complete meeting evaluations</li> <li>• Welcome new member</li> </ul>	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike Riber welcomed the group and members and guests introduced themselves and their organizations.</li> <li>• New Domestic Violence Commission members, Beth Boyd, Peace Health, and Lorayne Dennis, Lummi Victims of Crime were introduced.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. MOTION: Consent Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes from March 23, 2017</li> </ul>	<p><b>MOTION: Consent Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes from March 23, 2017             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Members were provided copies of the minutes from the 3/23/2017 meeting for review. <b>Alan Artman</b> made a motion to</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>approve the minutes from the meeting. <b>Darlene Peterson</b> seconded. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regina Delahunt presented the slate of Executive Committee officers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chair: Mike Riber</li> <li>○ Vice Chair: Chris Kobdich</li> <li>○ Secretary: Riannon Bardsley</li> <li>○ Treasurer: Alan Artman</li> <li>○ Executive committee at large: Darlene Peterson</li> <li>○ Executive committee at large: Kathy McNaughton</li> <li>○ Executive committee at large: Beth Boyd</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Regina Delahunt</b> made a motion to approve the slate of officers. <b>Linda Quinn</b> seconded. The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Strategic Planning for Safe Futures: Promoting Healthy Relationship and Consent through Partnerships with Schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background on DV Commission and schools</li> <li>• Overview of Safe Futures</li> <li>• Safe Futures strategic planning</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strategic Planning for Safe Futures: Promoting Healthy Relationship and Consent through Partnerships with Schools</b></p> <p><b>Background on DV Commission and Schools:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Susan gave an overview of the history of the DV Commission’s work with schools and school districts. Members received a handout highlighting the information in their packets.</li> <li>• 1998: As part of founding ordinances, City of Bellingham and Whatcom County designate Whatcom County superintendent as standing member on the DV Commission</li> <li>• 2007: Developed and adopted school policy for response to DV for both students and employees for Meridian School District; first of its kind in Washington State</li> <li>• 2013: Ferndale School District adapts and adopts policies and procedures for employees experiencing domestic violence</li> <li>• 2011-2016: STEP Grant funds a pilot project in the Ferndale School District to address relationship abuse and sexual assault with secondary students. Achievements included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Youth advisory groups to provide peer education</li> <li>○ Multi-disciplinary school protocol</li> <li>○ Annual all-staff training</li> <li>○ Ferndale Community Coalition formed and institutionalized</li> <li>○ Full-day county-wide youth summit</li> <li>○ Advocacy, support groups, and prevention education at schools</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 2012-2013: Key recommendation (1 of 12) of Whatcom County DV Fatality Review Panel: Whatcom County schools/school districts address relationship abuse and sexual assault as it impacts students. Strategies to include: developing policies and procedures, identifying a prevention liaison for each school, training all staff in identification and response, working with community partners to ensure on-site prevention education and services</li> <li>• 2015-2018: Goal (1 of 4) of the DV Commission’s Strategic Plan is established to increase capacity in the community to address domestic violence as it impacts children and youth. Strategy: Expand efforts to address the response to and prevention of dating and sexual violence in local schools and school districts. Target outcome: Expansion of the</li> </ul>

pilot program in the Ferndale School District into the elementary, middle, and high schools in other Whatcom County school districts

**Overview of Safe Futures:**

- Liz Stuart presented an overview of the Safe Futures project to members. Members received handouts highlighting Safe Futures goals, strategies and activities in their packets.
- The Safe Futures project is a collaborative, school-based project between the DV Commission and Ferndale, Blaine, and Mt. Baker School Districts to identify and institutionalize enhanced response and prevention for relationship abuse and sexual assault through:
  - developing policies and providing training
  - increasing capacity among influential adults
  - engaging youth in action-oriented solutions
  - implementing school-based services and prevention education
- Liz informed members that the Safe Futures Task Force will meet again in July for strategic planning regarding marginalized communities, with a focus on Native youth, LGBTQ+ youth, and youth experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Date to be announced.

**Safe Futures Strategic Planning**

- Susan Marks introduced guest facilitator, Kathy Washatka, who would facilitate the Safe Futures Strategic Planning session.
- Kathy Washatka introduced the strategic planning activity and encouraged participants to use this opportunity to bring their unique perspectives and fields of knowledge to the planning process.
- Each table was provided with data packets specific to the following categories: Elementary School Themes; Middle and High School Themes; District-Wide Themes; Community Service Provider Themes; and Community Member Themes. Data included survey responses from youth and school staff, as well as notes from interviews and focus groups with school administrators, school counselors, teachers, parents and social services providers from all school districts.
- Members were given time to review their table’s data packet and then discussed the data in small groups, documenting their responses to the following questions:
  - What about this data makes you feel optimistic?
  - What surprises you about this data?
  - Based on this information, what are we missing?
  - What is the burning issue for you here? What is your top priority or what needs the most attention?
- After the discussion, members shared their groups’ responses with the large group. Responses are recorded in a [separate document](#).
- Kathy concluded the strategic planning process and reminded the group that the follow up Safe Futures Strategic Planning meeting would be held in July.

**4. Adjourn**

**@ 10:00am**