



Vermont Council on Domestic Violence

Project Highlights, Council Work, Recent Accomplishments 2013-2017

Domestic Violence Accountability:

- Engaged in long-term planning with Department of Corrections as they re-assessed domestic violence specific programming for offenders
- Conducted international review of DV Accountability Curricula
- Collaborated with the Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and Center for Court Innovation on study "*Domestic Violence Accountability in VT*"
- Became versed in national best practice related to Risk Assessment
- Revised and updated the Statewide Standards for DV Accountability Programs
- Provided ongoing technical assistance and support to Programs around the state
- Crafted and implemented plan to meet statutory requirement for DV Accountability Program Certification in absence of DVA Coordinator position

Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction:

- Council became versed in nationally recognized Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) and DV High Risk Team Models
- Participated in Rutland DV Homicide Reduction Demonstration Initiative

DV Fatality Review Commission:

- Support to Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission (DVFRC)
- Annual Recommendations Review and Collaboration on Implementation
- Presentation of Report findings at local venues around the state
- Liaison with family members of homicide victims

Protection Orders:

- Protection Order Service Committee
- Surveyed statewide advocates and law enforcement regarding protection order process, reported results to Judicial Caucus
- Consulted with Court as they implemented statute change representing shift in protection orders delivery to Law Enforcement
- Technical assistance to communities implementing statute change
- Convened/coordinated statewide stakeholders group to address afterhours coverage issues in wake of PSAP closings

Judicial Caucus:

- Reviewed new court forms which list minor as victim according to statute change; recommendations to legislature for changes in process to support minors filing
- Reviewed recommendations of the VT DVFRC related to the Judiciary
- Conducted Statewide Audit of Protection Order Process
- Crafted formal recommendations to VT Judiciary based on Best Practice standards of *National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges*
- Coordinated initiative bringing national training to VT Court Staff
- Supported Development of Pilot Court Observation Project

DV Mandatory Law Enforcement Training:

- Supported work of Mandatory Law Enforcement Training Committee
- Shared training resources with Council Members

Impacts of DV/SV on the Workplace:

- Coordinated workgroup
- Researched National Best Practice
- Made formal content recommendations to Human Resources for state employee training content
- Developed Training
- Piloted Supervisors Training
- Delivered trainings

Supervised Visitation:

- Collaborated on draft legislation to support Supervised Visitation Programs in VT
- Established a Supervised Visitation Committee / Collaboration

Restorative Justice:

- Engaged members in emerging statewide exploration of restorative justice principles in responding to domestic violence
- Convened/coordinated work group

Engaged in Collaboration Surrounding:

- Recommendations of Governor's Prevention Task Force on DV and SV and State Prevention Plan Development
- Role of the DV Advisory Groups of Agency of Human Services
- Department for Children and Families' Position Paper on Domestic Violence
- STOP THE VIOLENCE VT Law Enforcement group
- Incarcerated Women's Initiative
- Served on AHS DV Steering Committee
- Legislative Advocacy related to Council Priority Areas

Local Domestic and Sexual Violence Task Forces:

- Coordination of statewide Task Force liaison meetings
- Technical Assistance/Support for local Task Forces
- Local task force pilot addressing community protocols for Stand By's conducted by law enforcement in context of protection orders

Quarterly Meeting Presenters Included:

- Department of Corrections; DV programming and restorative justice
- Agency of Human Services; trauma informed practices, economic security for victims, domestic violence policies of the Agency
- Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services; Statewide STOP Implementation Plan
- Governor Scott
- US Attorney Eric Miller to discuss Human Trafficking
- Deputy Secretary of State, Chris Winters *Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program*
- Deaf Vermonter Advocacy Services; Working with Deaf individuals
- DIVAS Program for Incarcerated Survivors of Domestic Violence