



# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: November 8, 2006, 5:00 pm

**Location:** American Legion, Kent, WA

**Board members present:**

Non-Fiduciary	Clem Benton	Kim Benett	Kristin Gauthier
	Kerry Annette Wade	Betty Nomura	DeDe White
Fiduciary	Don Lincoln	C.C. Scott	

**Board members excused:** Sonia Foss                      Cathy Williams                      Vyrn Muir  
Karin Schuyleman                      Margie Staulcup

**Guests present:** Deborah Greenleaf, Public Health-Seattle and King County

**Staff members present:** Dianne Heide                      Denese Bohanna

**Call to order** – Chair Clem Benton called the meeting to order at 5:05

**Quorum** – There was a quorum.

**Agenda** – Approved with one addition item – choosing a new Board Vice Chair.

**Approval of September 13 and October 11 Minutes**

**Motion 1**                      Betty moved to **approve the September 13 and October 11 minutes as written.**  
Second by C.C. The motion passed.

**Deborah Greenleaf – Safe N’ Bright Futures**

Deborah joined the Board to bring them up to date on the Safe N’ Bright Future (SBF) project. King County was awarded one of 22 nationwide grants as part of the *Safe and Bright Futures for Children Initiative* in 2004. The grant was in partnership between Public Health – Seattle & King County, the King County Judicial Administration and community partners. The group conducted a needs assessment and wrote a strategic plan for working with children in King County who are exposed to domestic violence. Several data sources were used to collect information including demographic data from King County regional profiles, local surveys and community service data. Qualitative data was collected from focus groups and interviews with both adults and teens that had experienced domestic violence as children.

**Highlights and Key Findings**

***Demographic Profile of King County Children***

- 390,646 children under 18 years of age are living in King County . Of all children living in King County, 43% are in South County; 26% in East County; 23% in Seattle and 8% in North County.
- Approximately 39,064 to 78,129 children and youth living in King County are exposed to DV yearly, based on national estimates and 2000 US Census data. These estimates suggest that 128, 913 King County children and youth have been exposed to DV sometime during their childhoods.

***King County Services Data***

- At the time of referral to CPS, approximately 47% of families have indications of DV at the time of referral. Based on this, 2,415 King County families with approximately 3,687 children were referred to CPS with indications of DV in 2004.
- King County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney’s Protection Order Advocacy Program Statistics (2004) indicated that 63% of families served (1,691 families with 2,879 children) included children on protection orders.

- Family Court Services (FCS) of King County Superior Court completed 289 DV-related family assessments in 2004. Many of the children were quite young: 47% (135) were birth-five years; 36% (106) were 6-11 years, and 17% (48) were 12-18 years. FCS completed 392 parenting plan assessments involving 572 children and youth. Of these, 58% involved findings of DV and parental substance abuse, and 26% had findings of DV and child maltreatment (i.e. physical and/or sexual abuse).
- Community-based DV programs provided services to over 2,400 households in 2004. Most programs offer services to children when their mothers participate in programs.

***Findings from DV survivors and professional service providers***

- One: Close the service gaps for children and their families
- There is a lack of specialized services for children affected by D V.
- Children need opportunities to learn more and talk about DV.
- Parents need support to strengthen family relationships.
- Children need informal networks and activities that build resiliency.
- There is a lack of culturally relevant DV services.
- More basic support services are needed.
- Increase and improve the services for battering parents.

***Two: Improve professional responses to children and families***

- Recognize and understand the effects of DV on children.
- Screen children for the effects of DV.
- Thoroughly assess children.
- Develop protocols, training and guidelines on effective responses.
- Increase communications, coordination and collaboration among service providers.

***Three: Develop community strategies***

- Work on the attitudes, values and norms that perpetuate violence.
- Provide community education campaigns.
- Have community members learn how to safely take action.
- Focus on prevention efforts.
- Call for community champions to join the efforts.

Deborah and Denese have been working with the SBF Team to design a pilot project in South King County partially funded using the \$28,000 offered by the SKCCN Board. The project will be an Intervention Project for Children. The details of the work are below.

***Need:***

- Every year over 1200 children and their parents receive services from the King County Protection Order Advocacy Program at the Regional Justice Center. The majority of these 1200 children and their parents are not engaged in on-going assistance from a domestic violence agency or other social service entity.
- Recent meta-analyses have shown that children exposed to domestic violence to exhibit significantly more problems than children not so exposed.
- King County currently has very limited resources for screening and intervention with children exposed to domestic violence.
- Current services for traumatized children focus on physical and sexual abuse.

***Goal:*** To strengthen the ability of infants, children and youth exposed to DV to develop and maintain positive and healthy relationships with supportive caregivers and other support systems by addressing the impact, and mitigating the effect of DV exposures.

***Plan:*** Provide a specialized response team integrating mental health services with community-based children's DV advocacy. This integrated team would provide a range of services and supports based on families' needs.

***Key Outcomes to Achieve for Children:***

- Decrease trauma symptoms exhibited by child as a result of intervention •.
- Increase protective/resiliency factors available to the child and his or her non-abusive parent
- Reduce belief that domestic violence is their fault and help children correctly assign responsibility for violent behaviors

- Improve social and relationship skills so that children may access needed social supports in the future
- Reduce violence and behavior problems as observed in school, community and family settings
- Increase awareness of supportive adults in the child's natural environment so that they may provide needed social supports when necessary

***Rationale for proposed model:***

- Facilitates the engagement of parents and children by:
  - Co-locating service providers is an empirically proven way to engage and intervene with children exposed to DV
  - Maintaining confidentiality using community-based team members
  - Engaging families who are already motivated to seek assistance
  - Providing services that voluntary and outside of the court system
- Meets current service gaps by:
  - Providing unique and specialized assessment of children's needs
  - Engaging the protective parent in recognizing and supporting their children's needs
  - Providing longer-term and ongoing support of families
  - Facilitating better linkages and utilization of community services and resources
- Expands community capacity and responses by:
  - Providing better collaboration and coordination with existing services
  - Documenting systems gaps for local government and service agencies
  - Leading the development and expansion of service capacity in the community

***Rationale for location at the RJC:***

- South and East King County have the largest number of children in need
- Parents with 1 ,200 children a year are served by the RJC Protection Order Program
- DV survivors readily seek and utilize support of the Protection Order advocates
- The majority of families at the Protection Order Program are not engaged in other assessment or advocacy services
- RJC is a safe and secure location with accessible childcare

***The Plan for Service:***

- KCPAO Protection Order Advocate provides initial referral.
- Family accepting referral is connected with Safe and Bright Futures (SBF) children's DV advocate onsite at the RJC. Families accept or decline, those declining are offered information with resources for future use.
- SBF children's DV advocate provides initial screen of family needs and describes program to parent. Families meeting service criteria are scheduled for comprehensive assessment with mental health clinician. Families not willing or not in need of service are provided community referrals.
- SBF mental health clinician conducts assessment of (a) family DV history, strengths and available support networks, (b) the child's mental, social, emotional, and functional patterns, (c) parent-child relationship and support needs, and (d) access and utilization of available community resources and supports.
- Service plan is developed by SBF clinician and advocate for families requiring and wanting intensive support.
- SBF mental health clinician provides trauma or therapeutic interventions or links family to other providers.
- On-going case management is provided by the SBF children's DV advocate for up to two years. Advocate assist child by (a) facilitating linkages to community resources such as early childhood development services, children support groups, mentoring programs, and other support services, (b) Providing non-offending parents with linkage to DV advocacy, support, education, referrals to parent support groups and linkages to community resources and support services. SBF mental health clinician provides consultation and support to the SBF children's DV advocate.

***Evaluating the Project:*** There will be ongoing data collection and analysis on program effectiveness including children's needs, parents needs, family strengths, services provided, service gaps, family outcomes, and consumer feedback.

***Project Start-up:*** Propose 3 year project with evaluation, interpreter, and training costs:

- Partial Team 1: Cost of 1.0 FTE advocate and .5 FTE clinician (\$ 130K/yr)
- Partial Team 2: Cost of 1.5 FTE advocate and .75 FTE clinician (\$195K/yr)

- Full Team: Cost of 2.0 FTE advocate and 1.0 FTE clinician (\$260K/yr)

Deborah was thanked for coming to the SKCCN Board with this information. In return Deborah thanked the Board for their support and for the wonderful work done by Denese in the work of the SBF team.

**Startup Funding**

Denese reported that Startup Funding applications have gone out with approval of the Executive Committee and she has had several calls about the criteria. She asked the Board to review the criteria and timeline plus provide guidance on the approval process. Since time is short would the Board be comfortable in allowing the Executive Committee to make the final decisions?

**Selection Criteria** *(As provided with the applications to the community)*

The following criteria have been initially reviewed by the Board of the South King County Community Network. The Board will take action on the final criteria on Nov. 8. It is unlikely that there will be in major changes in the criteria, but organizations wishing to know the final set of criteria may contact SKCCN by phone or email after Nov. 8.

1. Organizations are grassroots-based organization that have been initiated by residents in response to an identified need and are run primarily by community volunteers who have a passion for the mission of the organization. The work of the organization results in improving the lives of families with young children in a targeted community.
2. Organizations must have been in business less than 3 years to qualify as “startup”.
3. Organizations do not have to be a legally separate organization. They can utilize a 501(c)(3) as a fiscal agent.
4. Organizations demonstrate a willingness to learn and consider changes that would strengthen their organization.
5. Organizations must be willing to work with a consultant to develop measurable outcomes related to social supports and community cohesion prior to receiving any SKCCN funds, and they must be able to measure those outcomes by June 15, 2007.
6. Organizations are able to assure one consistent contact person who speaks English to work with SKCCN.
7. Organizations are able to provide ideas about how to strengthen their organization.
8. The concept paper demonstrates that the organization gets the “biggest bang for the buck”. That is, it has the capacity to reach the largest number of families and/or impact the biggest need.

**Timeline**

Early Oct. 2006	Advertise and solicit proposals
Mid Nov. 2006	Proposals due and reviewed for selection
Early Dec. 2006	Projects selected/approved by SKCCN Board
Jan. 2007	Begin projects
Mid June 2007	Outcome measures and End of Service Report due

After some discussion the Board felt the criteria and timeline met the Boards expectations. Given the timeline there seemed to be no other option but to allow the Executive Committee to make the final selection. Denese was instructed to send copies of materials (as possible) to all Board members to invite comments before the meeting. Any Board member who wanted to participate was welcome to come to the meeting. Betty Nomura volunteered to participate.

**Motion 2** Kerry moved to approve the criteria/timeline and to allow the Executive Committee to make final decisions on funding for Startup projects. Second by Betty. The motion passed.

**Membership Recruitment**

Dianne reported that this was a critical time to work on recruiting new Board members for two reasons. First, the Board is short of both fiduciary and non-fiduciary members which decreases our voice in the community. Second, the Board will begin the planning process for 2007-09 in a few months and new Board members will be more vested in the plan if they have participated in the process.

She asked the Board to send her recommendations of people and organizations to contact to fill the open positions. One need to keep in mind would be skills needed by the SKCCN Board which include legal advice,

accounting knowledge and knowledge of domestic violence from both the victim and perpetrators aspect. The Board made several suggestions for contacts including: SeaTac-Fire & Police; Washington State Bar Association; Keith Beach Foundation; SKC Chambers of Commerce.

#### **Children's Domestic Violence Conference Donation**

The SKCCN Board budgeted to donate \$500 to the Children's Domestic Violence Conference in 2005 and 2006. However, they only voted to make the disbursement in 2005. Dianne asked for Board approval to send the intended donation in 2006.

**Motion 3** Kerry moved to approve a \$500 donation to the Children's Domestic Violence Conference for 2006. Second by C.C. The motion passed.

#### **Community Network Coalition**

Dianne asked the Board if they wanted to join the Community Network Coalition (CNC). During previous biennium the Board sent \$250 per year to as a donation to the CNC. According to CNC membership guidelines a donation makes the SKCCN a member – there is not set rate and the amount is up to the Board to decide. During the current biennium the Board has not made any donation.

Denese advised the Board to hold off on a decision about membership in the CNC. The CNC is working on a reorganization plan that will include hiring an Executive Director as part of an effort to build a more professional organization. Some of the funding for this may be provided by the FPC on a contract for services basis.

#### **Katreena Scott**

Denese asked if any additional Board members would like to attend the session with Katreena Scott or if anyone had specific questions for the session. Several Board members were interested and Denese will settle details with them later. All felt Denese knew what information the SKCCN needed and would handle the session fine.

#### **SKCCN Vice Chair**

Since Florenda Wyatt has been removed as a Board member the Executive Committee asked if any Board members were interested in taking on the role of Vice Chair. Betty Nomura volunteered to take on the position which pleased the Board.

**Motion 4** Kerry moved to appoint Betty Nomura as SKCCN Vice Chair until June 30, 2007. Second by C.C. The motion passed.

#### **December Board Meeting and 2007 Board Schedule**

Since the Board has attended to the needs of the SKCCN it was agreed that there would not be a December Board meeting. Dianne reminded the Board that the Kent City facility would be available starting in January of 2007 but that would mean moving the Board meeting to the fourth Wednesday of the month. She wanted to know if the Board wanted to make the move or continue to meet in the American Legion location. After some discussion and weighing the difficulty of moving meeting dates versus the problems with meeting at the Legion Hall (no heat and bad acoustics) the Board decided to stay at the Legion Hall but asked Dianne to continue looking for a new location.

#### **Committee and Staff Reports**

All reports were provided in writing.

Meeting adjourned – 7:02

Minutes Approved:

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Signed

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Date