



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: July 11, 2007, 5:00 pm

Location: Mexico Lindo Restaurant, Kent, WA

Board members present:

Non-Fiduciary	Trisha Blomquist	Kim Bennett	Kristin Gauthier
	Lora Dear	Margie Staulcup	Betty Nomura
Fiduciary	C.C. Scott	Marsha Medgard	Vyrn Muir

Board members excused: Karin Schuyleman DeDe White Don Lincoln

Guests present: Jean Hueston Tracee Parker

Staff members present: Dianne Heide Denese Bohanna Cyndy Bracelen

Call to order – Vice Chair Kim Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:10

Quorum – There was a quorum.

Agenda – Approved with the addition of discussion for bridge funding for Safe N' Bright Futures

From the Heart Speech

Minutes for Heart speeches will be provided only if the presenter provides a written brief for the minutes.

Approval of June 20 Minutes

Motion 1 Karin moved to **approve the June 20 minutes as written.** Second by Lora. The motion passed.

Guest Speaker – Tracee Parker, Executive Director, Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Project in Kent

Tracee introduced the Safe Havens program and briefly shared results of their recent Safety and Accountability Audit (SAA). Safe Havens has two goals:

1. Increase safety of victims
2. Decrease opportunities for battering.

It is one of four national demonstration sites with technical assistance provided by national expert, Ellen Pence, the creator of SAA. Safe Havens was required to conduct an SAA as part of their federal funding.

An SAA requires key partners. Safe Havens already had key partners on their advisory committee that included: representatives from the courts, the domestic violence service community, batterers treatment programs, substance abuse programs, mental health providers and culturally specific service providers. Tracee reported that selecting a core team is critical in order "to get your foot in the door" and study whatever subject the SAA is about. However, the credibility of the SAA can be jeopardized if too many partners are included in the process. The Safe Havens SAA group chose to focus on the court system.

The first step in the process is to create an audit question that is non-offensive. Safe Havens began with a series of possible SAA questions:

1. What do judges see or hear that make them decide one way or another about ordering supervised visitations?
2. How do battered women learn about supervised visitations?

3. How do women who want to access this system know what to present in court to influence the courts decision about supervised visitations?
4. How do women who want to use supervised visitation services find a qualified provider?

Early lessons the Safe Havens group learned were the importance of narrowing the scope of the questions and making sure of a clear focus. These are critical needs if the SAA is to be successful.

The Safe Havens SAA gathered stories about what was happening to victims through interviews, focus groups and studying written documents. Some of their findings were:

1. No one talks to women about supervised visitations prior to court.
2. Women aren't prepared to know what to request in terms of supervised visitations.
3. People have four minutes in front of a judge to get a protection order and often haven't even thought about including the children in the order.
4. Many women had domestic violence advocates, but the focus was on their safety and didn't prepare them for after the perpetrator got out of jail.
5. Supervised visitation is not a part of the community response. There is a whole network of supervised visitations providers but no standards or monitoring of them.
6. There are many times information about supervised visitations could be given.

Tracee compared the supervised visitations focus of stopping domestic violence to the child welfare focus of safety of the children. It is not appropriate to send batterers to supervised visitation for parenting skills. That is not their role.

Tracee concluded that the SAA started a dialogue and increased connections within community systems. As such, it solidified the Safe Havens organization and helped them gain trust within the community. Tracee reported that Ellen Pence recently suggested that they implement a walk through of supervised visitation programs as if people were potential clients.

SKCCN Board members asked several questions:

1. Would Safe Havens consider setting up a looping video on the internet so it was more accessible to parents and providers?
2. What about families where English is not their primary language? Safe Havens provides interpreters.
3. The Family Violence Prevention Fund is close to releasing a new booklet on selecting supervised visitation services.

Safe N Bright Futures Bridge Funding

The Board was reminded that they had tabled discussion of \$10,000 in bridge funding for the Safe N Bright Futures project until the SKCCN contract with the Family Policy Council could be finalized. The folks from Safe N Bright Futures need financial assistance to keep momentum moving on this effort through December 31, 2007. During this time they will work to secure additional partners and funding for the project.

Motion 2 Margie moved **to approved \$10,000 in bridge funding for the Safe N Bright Futures Project.** Second by Kristin. The motion passed.

2007-09 Family Policy Council Contract

Dianne reported that it was critical to get the contract with the Family Policy Council signed and returned to the Family Policy Council as quickly as possible. The Board Chair is suppose to sign the contract but Don was on vacation until late August which would be too late. According to the SKCCNA Bylaw (quoted below) the Vice Chair, Kim Bennett, should be able to legally sign the contract but Dianne suggested the Board additionally make an official motion and take a vote.

Section 8.2 SKCCNA Bylaws read:

The vice chairperson shall be elected by the Network Board of Directors and shall assume the responsibility and authority of the chairperson in his or her absence or inability to serve. The vice chairperson shall represent the SKCCN Board at meetings of the King County Networks Alliance (KCNA) unless the Executive Committee appoints another Board member as the designated representative.

The Board agreed that Kim should sign the contracts.

Motion 3 Trisha moved **to approve allowing Kim Bennet, SKCCN Vice Chair, to sign the 2007-09 Family Policy Council contract.** Second by C.C. The motion passed.

2007-09 Statement of Work

Denese provided the Board with the Statement of Work (SOW) form required by the Family Policy Council – she filled in those areas where the Board had already made decisions. She explained what each section of the SOW was about and the steps that would need to be taken before the form could be completed. The draft SOW showed:

Selected Problem Behaviors:

- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse & Neglect
- Youth Violence

Short Term Child and Family Outcomes

- A. Reduce major stressors for non-offending parents
- B. Reduce adult perpetration of domestic violence
- C. Increase child safety
- D. Strengthen families, improve early child development and parenting skills in targeted neighborhoods

Population to be affected

- A. Non-offending parents
- B. Victimized parents
- C. Children who experience or are exposed to family violence
- D. Children and families in targeted neighborhoods

This work will result in the following Community Outcomes

1. Improved community and system response to children exposed to domestic violence
2. Increased decision-makers knowledge about policies to help reduce and prevent the negative impacts of domestic violence on children
3. Improved universal supports for families with young children in ways that improve school readiness

Proposed effective strategies include

1. Review of Community Efforts
2. Community Partnerships
3. Community trainings with Targeted Audiences
4. ACES Community Awareness and Responses
5. Safety and Accountability Audit

These responses were gathered from previous Board discussions at the Retreat or in Committee meetings.

Additional questions that the Board will need to work on in the next months include:

1. Why does the Board believe the proposed strategies will logically lead to a reduction in the selected problem behaviors?
2. Is the resulting Theory of Change consistent with the SKCCN ten-year plan as shown in the 2007-09 Two-Year Work Plan?
3. What additional information would the SKCCN like the Family Policy Council to consider?
4. Who are the Key Partner in this work?
5. How will the SKCCN measure results of this work from beginning to end?
6. How much will the SKCCN spend to do this work?

Dianne provided the Board with a draft budget for 2007-09. She pointed out that the figures in the budget made several assumptions and was NOT set in stone NOR had it been considered by the Finance Committee or any other member of the Board. It was simply a starting point so that the Board could consider financial resources during the discussion of possible strategies. She noted that the full 10% limit had been budgeted to Administrative and that \$52,155 had been ear marked for the SOW extension through October 31, 2007. The remaining budget line items are based on what was spent in 2005-07 and what Dianne felt would be needed to continue that same level of work in 2007-09. When considering Board strategies it would be a good idea to look at the budget and consider what might need to be reduced if some new idea was to be implemented.

Theory of Change

The next step in the planning process is for the Board to work on defining the Theory of Change and how each strategy will help the SKCCCN achieve it's goals. The Board broke into small groups for discussion and then reported back the following ideas:

Completion of a successful Safety and Accountability Audit will . . .

- Help identify gaps and provide an overall assessment of current practices
- Increase communication in the community and among organizations
- Create a group of organizations and individuals to address Batterer Treatment Programs and address the impact on children
- Identify the gaps and provide recommendations to close the gaps and create implementations for policy change.
- Improve Batterer Treatment Programs to recognize and decrease the impact of domestic violence on children and identify what types of programs are needed to teach effective parenting skills.
- By assessing the current practices, we will provide effective ways to increase the child's sense of safety and well being while providing them with hope that change is possible and break the cycle of violence.

Continuation of SKCCN Community Partnerships will result in . . .

- Educating each other on the various resources within our community and what each agency brings to the community
- Agencies working together expands the resources within the community.
- Collaborating services (agencies) working together, this helps with filling in the blanks when working with our clients
- Knowing the agencies within our community and what they have to offer clients, helps reduce duplications of services

Raising Community Awareness of Domestic Violence (DV) and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) could be accomplished with the following strategies and will result in . . .

<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Result</i>
Open dialogue and build partnership with Educational Service District with specific focus on Readiness to Learn and Reinvesting in Youth projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased opportunities to provide information and training in the 8 SKC schools districts • Increased opportunities to build protocols for use in local school systems
Presentations to PTA's in all 105 SKC schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased parents skills in how to identify ACE's and how DV affects children • Increased supports among neighbors
Host Town Meetings on the subjects of child exposure to DV and ACE's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase knowledge among local leaders and members of the community • Collect feedback on possible strategies for work in each community
Work with youth leaders from each SKC school district to build programs that educate youth on dating violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase knowledge among youth about relationships and what is acceptable • Peer to peer support for youth victims of violence • Reduce adult DV in future years
Work with elementary schools in SKC to teach children about "good love, bad love"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better choices in relationships as children grow older into adolescent and adult relationships • Increased knowledge of how to identify a "non-positive" relationships in the family home
Continue education efforts with healthcare providers around both children experiencing DV and ACE's (An assumption is made that this is the one area where BOTH the DV victim and abuser may be in the system which offers a unique opportunity to work holistically with the whole family)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better patient intake that will identify those suffering from ACE's • Increase skills for working with families experiencing DV • Increase knowledge among healthcare providers about batter's treatment and how to help patients enter treatment when needed (Could connect to the Safety & Accountability effort)
Possible messages to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge is power • The more you know . . . • With love in the lead, resolution will follow

Each small group leader was asked to email the notes from their discussions to Dianne for inclusion in the minutes. Staff will take the resulting ideas to committee meetings during July for additional discussion and will report to the Board in August for next steps in writing the final plan.

SKCCN Committee Signups and Annual Non-Fiduciary vs. Fiduciary Report

The Board was asked to fill out a Committee signup for 2007-08 and to provide information about their status of non-fiduciary vs fiduciary. She reminded the Board that this information was required by the SKCCNA Bylaws and/or the Family Policy Council.

Walk-A-Thon Update

Members of the Walk-A-Thon committee asked each Board members to start working on teams and for their ideas on sponsors. It is time to get rollin on the Walk-a-Thon effort if the event is to be successful. Cyndy provided the Board with brochures and posters.

Committee and Staff Reports

All reports were provided in writing.

Meeting adjourned – 7:05

Minutes Approved:

Signed

Date