



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: August 8, 2007, 5:00 pm

Location: Mexico Lindo Restaurant, Kent, WA

Board members present:

Non-Fiduciary	Trisha Blomquist	Kim Bennett	Kristin Gauthier
	Karin Schuyleman	DeDe White	
Fiduciary	C.C. Scott	Marsha Medgard	

Board members excused: Kristin Gauthier Margie Staulcup Betty Nomura
Don Lincoln Vyrn Muir Lela Brugger (Alt.)

Guests present: Jean Hueston Judith Cary

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 as written

From the Heart Speech

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

Approval of July 11 Minutes

Motion 1 Karin moved to **approve the July 11 minutes with changes**. Second by Lora. The motion passed.

Planning – Elements of the Two Year Plan

In order to assure that every member of the Board understood the planning process for 2007-09 Denese provided a worksheet that outlined the steps that need to be taken.

1. The Board will adopt a Theory of Change which explains WHY we do what we plan to do.
2. The Board will select OUTCOMES or RESULTS expected from their work.
3. The Board will choose STRATEGIES they believe will lead to the expected outcomes/results.
4. The Board will approve ACTIVITIES that will support the selected strategies.

The Theory of Change discussion will be driven by the full Board with some supplemented discussion with staff, individual Board members, Executive Committee and individual committees. Theory of Change was included for discussion at the August Board meeting.

Outcomes and Results will also be driven by the full Board. The Board has already chosen to continue it's focus on children exposed to domestic violence so 2007-09 outcomes will probably be the same as 2005-07 with a few updates. 2005-07 Outcomes were:

Community level:

- Improved community and system response to children exposed to DV
- Increased decision-makers knowledge about policy to reduce and prevent the negative impacts of DV on children

Individual child and family level:

- Reduce major stressors for non-offending parents
- Increased child safety

SKCCN Committees are already working in the background with discussion and investigation of strategies. Committees will make recommendations to the Board about strategies and activities for the areas they concentrate on so that the full Board can make final decisions. Strategies represent the WHAT we do and Activities represent HOW we are going to do it. This process will include the creation of a final budget for 2007-09 by the Finance Committee for Board approval the will assure the SKCCN has the needed financial resources to meet goals. 2005-07 Strategies include:

1. Collaborate with community partners to design a workable system of community responses to children exposed to domestic violence.

Sample activities include:

- City domestic violence task forces and Regional Collaborative
- Safe & Bright Futures
- King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Safety & Accountability Audit team
- FACES
- Train community professionals in best practices
- Fund direct services to improve responses such as
 - DAWN – Kids Club
 - YWCA – Children’s Domestic Violence Program
 - Safe & Bright Futures Pilot

2. Develop the SKCCN Board to increase decision-makers knowledge about policies to reduce and prevent the negative impacts of domestic violence on children.

Sample activities include:

- New board orientation
- FPC and community conferences that provide training for Board members
- Board meeting discussions and presentations

3. Review of community efforts to improve community and system responses and increase decision-makers knowledge.

- Federal Way
- Tukwila

4. Educate targeted audiences to improve community and system responses.

Sample activities include:

- Health care professionals
- School counselors
- Federal Way Call to Action (also falls under review of community efforts)

5. Inform decision-makers about policies

2007-09 activities will need to include the Board’s plan to implement a Safety & Accountability Audit on perpetrators treatment, building more youth involvement through work on dating violence/healthy relationships and Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Planning – Theory of Change

Denese explained the Theory of Change to the Board and offered the a suggested revision that reflected discussion at the July Board meeting and discussions that have taken place during the month at committee meetings.

Children exposed to adverse childhood experiences, such as domestic violence, are at much higher risk of becoming the next generation of abusers or victims. Yet, the majority of children go on to lead healthy lives. Research tells us that by taking a resilience/strength-based approach, both adult and child victims can be helped to focus on building their own strengths and, thereby, create protective factors that break the cycle of abuse.

The Board suggested several additional changes. The Board suggested that the phrase “abusers or victims” should be changes to “abusers and/or victims”. In addition they decided to remove the “/strength-based” and simply state “taking a resilience approach”. The final suggestions are below:

Children exposed to adverse childhood experiences, such as domestic violence, are at much higher risk of becoming the next generation of abusers and/or victims. Yet, the majority of children go on to lead healthy lives. Research tells us that by taking a resilience approach, both adult and child victims can be helped to focus on building their own strengths and, thereby, create protective factors that break the cycle of abuse.

The Board was excited about taking the next steps in the planning process and enjoyed seeing a quick summary of the reports for external projects. They also liked the way “adverse childhood experiences” was included in the opening statement however wondered if perhaps the study shows us that even though children may seem OK perhaps they are not OK. Perhaps they have just learned how to “hide” their pain and we are confusing this with resiliency.

After discussing the proposed language the Board felt more work was needed before they were ready to approve the final language and suggested additional discussion in September after committees and staff had taken more time to discuss options.

SOSDV Walk-A-Thon – Northwest Afternoon Event

Trisha announced that the WAT Team has arranged for a Public Service Announcement to be shown during Northwest Afternoon on August 27. In order to participate in the special offer the group must bring 15 people to be in the audience that day. Trisha did not have the exact details but asked if Board members would be willing to come to the KOMO-TV studios that day to be in the audience. There was lots of interest and Dianne was asked to coordinate this activity.

Planning – Population – Age and Gender

The SKCCN Board focus during the past two biennium has been on young children 0-8 and conversations have focused on female victims. During planning discussions two additions to the population have been identified that may cause the Board to expand or change that focus – work with youth and work with abusers.

The Board has recently indicated that they would like to adopt a strategy that would include more youth involvement. To support that idea the Community Awareness and Training (CAT) Committee has suggested working in the schools with youth on dating violence/healthy relationships. The CAT Committee suggested the possibility to a link in helping youth understand healthy relationships and a reduction of domestic violence in adulthood and would like to do research on this possibility. The Board thought this was a good idea but didn’t want to make too broad of a statement.

Motion 2 Trisha moved **to include work with youth on dating violence and healthy relationships in their plan for 2007-09.** Second by C.C.. The motion passed.

C.C. shared some touching words that were the result of a Morgan Counseling exercise entitled “What I’d Like to Say to My Dad”. Morgan Counseling asks abusers in their treatment program to fill out a card to their fathers each year for Father’s Day with what they would like their fathers to know. The cards provided some real examples of the challenges abusers had as children. The Board was asked to consider if they were focusing on abusive “fathers” or abusive “parents”. Some community partners will disagree with the Board no matter which choice is made BUT by focusing on “parents” the Board vision would be to improve parenting skills and help abusive parents to build a nurturing relationship with their children. The Board developed a grid during the discussion as shown below:

Option	Pros	Cons
Abusive Fathers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the data available is on fathers • We don’t always understand the male experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It cuts out those women who do abuse
Abusive Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even if the percentage of women that abuse is small – they do abuse and should be included in our work • Healthcare providers often work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DV advocate community focus on male privilege as the cause of DV – an SKCCN change could cause a break with some partners. • Lack of research about mothers.

	<p>with whole families and therefore may work with both the victim and abuser</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auburn schools insist on gender neutral statements in our work • Both parents may play a part in the family dynamic ie abuse. • By eliminating women we automatically leave out female abusers 	
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The Board was concerned that the focus might get too broad if the focus is on all abusive parents but also felt strongly that a gender based statement might not be the best way to go. Concerns were raised about how our partners might view this change – would we lose support. Some felt the Board’s mission was to open these discussions and help the community build a deeper understanding of the complexities of domestic violence.

Denese provided a Table from Praxis International which summarized the different categories of abuse against intimate partners. The summary includes:

Category	Definition
Battering	An on going patterned use of intimidation, coercion, and violence to establish and maintain dominance over an intimate partner.
Resistive/reactive violence	Violence used by victims to resist domination, end battering, retaliate against abuse, and establish some parity in relationships.
Situational violence	Violence used to achieve goals without any pattern of control, intimidation, and domination.
Pathological violence	Violence arising from mental illness, neurological damage, physical disorder, substance abuse, etc.
Anti-social violence	Violence arising out of personality disorder. It is usually generalized across situation.

There is an accompanying article for this table that both staff members felt did a wonderful job of discussing the issues without making gender based decisions. Some forms of intimate partner violence listed are believed to be based in male privilege especially battering. It is suggested that women tend to fall into other categories of violence. After a long and very rich discussion the Board decided to table this discussion for a final decision in September.

Committee and Staff Reports

All reports were provided in writing.

Meeting adjourned – 7:15

Minutes Approved:

Signed _____ Date _____