

**FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**September 25, 2013**  
**Potomac Building**  
**5:00 P.M.**

<b>MEETING MINUTES</b>
------------------------

**Council in Attendance:** Judge Karen Abrams, Judge Christy Chesser, Ashley Croyle, Kimberly Gregory, Buffy Giddens, Laura Joyce, Kathy Lacer, Lanny Lancaster, Rev Sherrill Page, Bob Rezza, Sue Sabo, Elizabeth Schaeffer, Darla Hardy, Elizabeth Servello

*Other attendees:* Gary Lynch and Kaya Daley, Walden Behavioral Health

**Absent:** Libby Blair, Bella Wright, Dr. Kathy O'Brien,

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. September 25, 2013. Meeting minutes from the May 22, 2013 meeting were approved.

**Membership and Introductions:**

Darla Hardy was introduced as the new representative from the hospital and Karen Talbot was introduced as the new representative from the Commission for Women.

To start off the new year and acquaint new individuals with the Council, each member introduced themselves and described their work and/or role on the Council.

Bob Rezza announced that the Leonardtown Barracks won the Lethality Assessment Program Award for the second year in a row.

**Cycle of Violence:**

Laura Joyce provided a handout that depicted the cycle of violence and the three phases: 1) Tension Building, 2) Abusive Incident, 3) Honeymoon Period.

Each Council member directly involved in domestic violence discussed their role within the cycle and which phase (s) they were involved in. A matrix was compiled based on responses and showed that almost all agencies were involved in the second phase of the cycle. A few organizations such as the Sheriff's Office, State Police and the court systems were involved in all 3 phases. Several organizations provided referral services throughout the cycle.

There was discussion about the challenges of convincing victims to continue to stay involved in the prosecution process to the end.

**Committees:**

The Council discussed the different committees within the FVCC which includes the Multi-Disciplinary Team and the Fatality Review Board. There was also discussion about establishing an Education Committee to help develop ideas for additional education and awareness in the community. The use of social media was included in the discussion. A committee was established and members are: Ashley Croyle, Bob Rezza, Karen Talbot, and Kaya Daley.

### **Purpose and Goals of the Council:**

The purpose of the Council was also addressed and what goals the Council would like to accomplish over the next year. The topics of discussion included:

- How can the Council better understand the effectiveness of services being provided to domestic violence victims? The idea of some kind of survey was discussed.
- How to measure and quantify accomplishments. Laura would check with other jurisdictions to see what programs might already be in place.

### **Agendas for Future Meetings:**

October – normal meeting agenda with reports and updates from different agencies.

November - Brainstorm other ideas regarding goals for the Council over the next year.  
Ideas from the Education Committee.

Information about programs in other jurisdictions for measuring effectiveness of programs.

The meeting schedule for the next year was distributed to Council members.

### **Next Meeting / Adjournment**

Next Meetings: Wednesday, October 23, 2013  
Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Sabo, Recording Secretary