

MEETING MINUTES
ST. MARY'S COUNTY FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 29, 2014
RUSSELL ROOM * LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting)

ROLL CALL – Members present were Laura Joyce – Chair, Ashely Croyle – Vice Chair, Kimberly Gregory, Reverend Sherrill Page, Yvonne Dawkins, Buffy Giddens, Elizabeth Servello, Patrice Campbell on behalf of Lanny Lancaster, and Ella May Russell.

Members who did not attend and were excused were Judge Karen Abrams, Kathleen Lacer, Dr. Kathy O'Brien, and Libby Blair.

Staff members present were Amber Hebert – Office Manager for the Department of Aging and Human Services.

OTHER ATTENDEES – Sheriff Tim Cameron, Domestic Violence Coordinator Melissa Green, and Kathie Raley.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Motion to approve the September 24, 2014 minutes was made by Ms. Giddens and seconded by Ms. Russell, the motion passed.

STATUS REPORTS –

- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) – The hospital had 3 sexual assault cases in September with 1 being date rape.
- Child Advocacy – Ms. Russell shared statistics from the Child Advocacy Center – for the month of September there were 4 physical assault cases, 4 neglect cases, and 11 referred for alternative response.
- Lethality Assessment Program – The program is going well and there has been an increase in referrals to Walden Sierra services.

COMMITTEE UPDATES –

- Multidisciplinary Team – Mr. Rezza retired from the Maryland State Police and Ms. Joyce will reach out to the agency to request a new representative on the council.
- Education and Social Media – No update.
- Fatality Review – See below.

DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS –

- The council discussed changing meeting dates to quarterly, which was well received. Ms. Hebert will follow-up with Legal Office to ensure the change is okay. Motion to change the meeting dates to quarterly beginning in 2015 was made by Ms. Giddens and seconded by Ms. Page, the motion passed.

FATALITY REVIEW –

- Motion to adjourn the meeting to a closed session at 5:25 p.m. was made by Ms. Russell and seconded by Ms. Giddens, the motion passed. The reason for the closed session was for the council to conduct a fatality/domestic violence review assessment. Attendees of the closed session included Laura Joyce, Ashley Croyle, Kimberly Gregory, Reverend Sherrill Page, Yvonne Dawkins, Buffy Giddens, Elizabeth Servello, Patrice Campbell, Ella May Russell, Sheriff Tim Cameron, Melissa Green, Kathie Raley, and Amber Hebert. The meeting was opened to the public at 6:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING –

- The next meeting is January 28, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 14 in the Potomac Building.

ADJOURNMENT –

- The council adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.