

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT
Wednesday, February 8, 2012 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Council Chambers, 140 West Pine Street, Missoula, Montana

Members Present: Bob Jaffe, Caitlin Copple, Jon Wilkins, Dick Haines

Members Not Present: Dave Strohmaier, Adam Hertz, Cynthia Wolken

Other Present: Marilyn Marler, Tanya Campbell, Shantelle Gaynor, Jenny Daniel, Kim Campbell, Mike Barton

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Approve minutes from January 25, 2012. **Minutes held in committee due to lack of a quorum.**

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion with Crime Victim Advocate Office. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jon Wilkins) (Referred to committee: 02/06/12) **(Hold in Committee)**

Tanya Campbell introduced herself and the Crime Victim Advocate Office. Brochures for the [CVA](#) and [Just Response](#) were provided.

Jenny Daniel presented a [slideshow](#) describing the Crime Victim Advocate program. She provided an overview of the presentation. She stated that the CVA began in 1985 with an empowerment philosophy. She noted that the CVA is free and confidential, and educated advocates who receive ongoing training are available. She described the different kinds of violence that the CVA addresses. She stated that the CVA seeks fair treatment and restitution for victims. They serve as a liaison between the victim and criminal justice system. She described some of the services that are provided to victims. Preparation for contending with the justice system is provided. The CVA has a person who deals primarily with property crimes. Seeking restitution for victims was discussed. The CVA works with victims of personal crimes such as assault and crimes against persons. Crime victim compensation requests and crisis counseling services are offered. Victims are made aware of their rights. She stated that victim's information is kept strictly confidential. She contrasted the responsibilities of a Police Officer and of a crime victim advocate.

Dick Haines asked how the CVA is funded. He inquired if the CVA's activities were compatible with Title 9 requirements. He expressed concern that the University of Montana has cited Title 9 privacy requirements that prevent felonies from being reported to the Police.

Tanya Campbell replied that she would be addressing finances later in the presentation. She discussed the CVA's role in relationship to law enforcement. She stated that the victim needs to request law enforcement involvement, not the CVA. She cited studies that indicate the Involvement of an advocate from the beginning of an incident leads to increased prosecutions.

Kim Campbell introduced herself as an OPG grants administrator. She stated that she and Nancy Rittel are co-coordinators of the Justice System Team Response to Intimate Partner Violence (Just Response). She provided background on the organization. She described their mission as promoting victim safety and securing offender accountability. She listed partners including Law Enforcement, prosecutors, the Public Defender's Office, health care providers, and other CVA groups. She discussed a current grant application that would provide relevant training for Law Enforcement officers.

Shantelle Gaynor, OPG Grants Administrator, discussed community partnerships in relationship to federal grants. She described resources and activities funded by the grants.

She discussed the Healthy Indians Family Council. She described the Encourage Arrest grant. She discussed staffing and administration. She discussed using social networking to facilitate implementation of services. She stated that program costs are just under \$1 million. The budget includes much in the way of contract services. She reviewed various sources of funding.

Caitlin Copple asked for a breakdown of the number of people served in the City of Missoula versus outside of the City.

Shantelle Gaynor replied that generally about 60 percent of the people served reside in the City.

Marilyn Marler asked if the program costs cover all of the Full-time employees.

Shantelle Gaynor replied that it did. She discussed other budget expenses. She would like to see sustainable funding for the program. She would like to see ongoing training for professionals who serve victims. She would like to see more community outreach and education, particularly with the public schools.

Jon Wilkins asked if the schools provide any support.

Shantelle Gaynor responded that it depends on the teachers. She discussed current involvement.

Caitlin Copple stated that she sits on the board of the local National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI). She stated that the school district has only contributed \$500 for training.

Jon Wilkins asked if the School Superintendent had been approached regarding funding.

Shantelle Gaynor responded that staffing levels do not currently allow for expansion of the program.

Jon Wilkins asked how the proposed split of OPG between the City and the County would affect the program.

Tanya Campbell stated that at this point, she is unsure how the split would affect their organization.

Shantelle Gaynor feels that confusions and inefficiencies may result.

Jon Wilkins asked how the CVA typically makes first contact with a victim.

Tanya Campbell outlined different scenarios.

Jon Wilkins asked if charges have not been filed, what recourse does the victim have.

Jenny Daniel replied that the victim is provided with a form containing contact information for supporting organizations. The victim needs to make the initial contact.

Marilyn Marler asked how the CVA became part of OPG.

Shantelle Gaynor provided some background and history.

Marilyn Marler asked about the training for the people who staff the CVA office.

Jenny Daniel provided an overview of training and credentials. She stated that the staff are primarily paid staff.

Dick Haines feels that the CVA should be independent of OPG. He sees CVA's mission as prevention and support. He feels that more prevention is needed. He recognizes that more resources are needed.

Shantelle Gaynor feels that grant applications can be more competitive when submitted as a part of the OPG. She cited some benefits of working within the OPG.

Dick Haines does not feel that the community is doing enough regarding this issue.

Mike Barton discussed the relationship between the OPG and the CVA. He discussed the relationship with Law Enforcement. He feels that the relationship between the OPG and the CVA has been helpful. He sees significant progress regarding cooperation between the CVA and Law Enforcement.

Jon Wilkins asked how well the Police Department works with the CVA.

Kim Campbell stated that they have a good working relationship with the Police Department. She sees a willingness to collaborate.

Marilyn Marler discussed the on-campus forum she attended the previous day addressing the issue of sexual assaults. She discussed the University's SARC program. She acknowledged the complexities surrounding this issue.

Kim Campbell discussed an opinion letter that will be appearing in the Missoulian.

Tanya Campbell discussed the issues regarding confidentiality. She discussed the CVA's stance regarding prosecution.

Marilyn Marler asked what happens if a victim approaches the Police Department, but knows nothing about the CVA. How will the victim be made aware of CVA services

Tanya Campbell replied that the Police should always provide this information to victims. She has heard that Law Enforcement is very good about providing referrals to victims.

Marilyn Marler stated that she works at the University and has spoken with President Engstrom regarding this issue.

Dick Haines would like to see a full-day public forum with a panel of experts for a broader discussion of the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEM

V. HELD AND ON-GOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Police Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Mark Muir)
2. Fire Department Update – Ongoing in Committee (Jason Diehl)
3. Health Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Ellen Leahy)
4. Eat Smart Coalition information. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jason Wiener) (Referred to committee: 07/11/11)
5. Consider Discuss revisiting cell phone restrictions. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 10/17/11)
6. Discuss air quality issues related to railroad operations in and through Missoula. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 10/24/11)
7. Authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with Missoula Business Improvement District (BID) to co-fund the Dedicated Downtown Police Officer (DDPO) position. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Mark Muir) (Referred to committee: 02/06/12)

8. Update discussion with the 911 Dispatch. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Jon Wilkins) (Referred to committee: 02/06/12)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M. Submitted by Gregg Schonbachler.