



Community Gun Violence Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2023

9:00-11:00AM

Attendance: DPH Commissioner Juthani, Colleen Violette, Susan Logan, Kyle Fischer, Jeremy Stein, Kelsey Alexander, James Doddington, Vin Russo, Ebony Epps, John Frassinelli, Chief Jacobson, Pina Violano, Nina Jacobson, James Manjiadrio, Patrick McCormick, Kerri Raissian, Bradley Richards, Jacqueline Santiago-Nazzaro, Carl Schiessl, Miriam Miller, Adam Skowera, Sara Moriarty

Commissioner Juthani calls the meeting to order at 9:02am discussing the 8 awards that were made on November 16th, 2023. Hopeful for where the work will go next. The Commissioner makes a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

Jeremy Stein makes a motion to approve.

Karri Raissian seconds the motion.

Commissioner Juthani opens the floor for public comment:

Senator Marylin Moore: takes a moment to appreciate the work everyone has been doing and continues to do and wishes everyone a Happy Holiday.

Commissioner Juthani seconds that remark and wants to remind everyone that we had added an additional award to bring the total number of awards from 7 to 8.

Hearing no other public comment, we are moving on to the final review of the Annual Report. Commissioner Juthani asked Miriam Miller to share the report and asked for comments as we go through the document and edit it in real time.

No changes needed to the Table of Contents

Moving into the Executive Summary section, Kerri Raissian added comments into this section, Colleen Violette added the comments into the chat and Miriam Miller added them into the comment section of the document.

Data Evaluation and Analysis of Grant Funded Programs

Introduction sections- no comments

Commission membership- no comments

Subcommittee Overview and Recommendations RFP Grant Criteria and Award

Miriam Miller asked if anyone from this group wanted to discuss this.

Colleen Violette, Chair

Colleen gave an overview of the project awardees and overarching recommendations for the future RFP's as well as meeting dates.

Short term objectives

Continue to initiate RFP's as funding allows

Provide TA

Provide evaluation TA.

Objectively score grant applications

Execute grant contracts with awardees.

Long Term Objectives

Provide on-going TA.

Collaborate with other commission members sub-committee members to support sustainability.

Report on awardee progress and program evaluation

Consider the need for a new RFP annually.

Keri Raissian: how can we support the upcoming showcase?

Colleen Violette and Kelsey Alexander will be meeting soon to discuss this.

Kelsey Alexander: We expect the June showcase to be more robust since we are just starting out

Susan Logan: we anticipate 2 showcases per year.

No other questions or comments-moving on

Sustainability, Legislative and Financial Subcommittee

Jeremy Stein, Chair speaking on behalf of this group:

Critical that the RFP process be more streamlined in the future. There is a desire to increase VOCA funding.

Kyle Fischer discussed the VOCA FIX ACT that passed in the SUMMER 2022

Someone posed the question of Who distributes these funds?

Jim Doddington answered-The Judiciary

Long term objectives of this committee are to

1.sustain State and Federal funding after ARPA funding is expended

2. Coordinate with DPH and the Commission researchers to ensure that funding is evidence based and effective

Recommendations from this group for 2024 are:

Explore what's happening in other States

Explore separating RFP's, mini grant opportunities etc...

Coordinate with OPM/other agencies increase T.A

Collaborate with DSS

Commissioner Juthani: We have positions open to help grow this program as well. I also want to congratulate Jeremy Stein on being invited to the White House.

Jeremy Stein: Thank You, it was truly an honor.

Data Evaluation and Analysis Grant Funded Programs

Kerri Raissian, Chair

8 funded awardees announced on November 16, 2023 so no evaluation has been done yet. Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention is covered in all programs.

Commissioner Juthani wanted to clarify that CTVDRS stands for Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System.

Kerri Raissian: We believe that evaluation services are 2 pronged.

1. Improve service delivery.
2. Help make us more competitive.

Long term objectives

Data sharing agreements with DPH and the judicial branch

A better understanding of available databases

Exploring data opportunities

Commissioner Juthani announced that there has been a CDO (Chief Data Officer) hired by the Department which will be helpful in this work. There was discussion around announcing the new DPH CDO in this document as well.

Partnerships, Programs, Stakeholders and Community Engagement

Chief Jacobson, Chair:

Several listening sessions have been held in various areas. 75 people at one session in Hartford. With great participation by community members, very eye opening to what they are seeing, we need to continue to do more.

Short term objectives

- 1.Strengthen community connections
- 2.Determine community level needs
- 3.Identify novel programs

Long term objectives

Fulfill subcommittee mandated charges.

Ensure sustainable State and Federal funding.

Create line item in the State budget that supports CVL program trainings and TA and CVL focused coalition.

Engage victims!! Victims today become the shooters tomorrow out of necessity.

Pina Violano: Can we add a 4th short term objective? Youth voices are heard!

Jackie asked how people are appointed to Sub-Committees?

Commissioner Juthani: If people are interested in joining groups and have an interest, they are welcome.

Jackie raised concerns about focusing our work in the same areas.

Chief Jacobson commented on how they are spreading their work around the state and have listening session scattered throughout the State.

Home Health Care

James Doddington, Chair

Short term Objectives

Survey the landscape of current home health care organizations and groups providing post-acute care to victims and families' long term.

Long term objectives

Partner with DSS/DPH to explore ways to support organizations that provide home health services to victims of violence and their families.

Susan Logan: Can we spell out the acronyms in the document chair/sub-committee section?

Commissioner Juthani: yes, we will spell out the acronyms for clarity.

Commissioner Juthani: Can we have the members vote on this

15 yes votes from members.

Kerri Raissian: Can we have an update on the evaluator RFP?

Commissioner Juthani: going through the final round of approvals now.

Commissioner Juthani made a motion to adjourn.

Pina Violano: moved to accept.

Carl Schiessl: was a second to adjourn.

See you all in 2024!