Alachua County Victim Services & Rape Crisis Center Advisory Council
Alachua County Health Department
Thomas Coward Auditorium
May 18, 2017

Members Present: Joanna Neville, Marilyn Roberts, Michelle Nall, Kathy Bolick, Brandi Dirkes, Jackie Monck,
Members Absent: Shannon Wallace-Giles, Joseph Mayo, Latanya Williams, Commissioner Hutchinson
Staff Present: Laura Kalt, Cassandra Moore, Tom Tonkavich, Crystal Walter
Guests: Julian Kinsey

There was a quorum
Meeting called to order 5:43pm

Introductions – Members got to meet Crystal Walter, newly hired victim advocate counselor for the Bradford County office.

Motion to approve the minutes from 3/16/17 meeting: Michelle Nall
Seconded: Marilyn Roberts
Motion carried

Discussed upcoming summer schedule: The July 20th meeting will be optional for members and will be used as a time to brain storm for 2017-18 community awareness activities.

Reviewed Agency budget as required by FCASV:
- Laura Kalt brought a copy of the agency’s budget and members asked the following questions:
  - Can the agency apply for federal grants?
    - At this time Laura K. understands the answer to be yes, but that it also depends on the grant’s specific requirements. The agency has had grant funders that would not award funds to a government agency, and grant funders that would not allow the agency to apply if it was already receiving federal funds. Laura will research whether any of the agency’s existing grants restrict applications to other specific funders.
  - Can the advisory council hold a fundraiser for the agency?
    - Jackie M. offered the following ideas for fundraisers: (1) collaborate with student org to raise funds or items survivors need, similar to a food drive, (2) poker night, (3) collaborate with fraternities and sororities on an event
    - Laura K. and Tom T. discussed that the agency can accept donation, but it cannot solicit donations. The agency has a donation account, which anyone can donate to, but with government agencies unable to solicit donations, fundraising is very difficult for our agency. Government agencies that fundraise on a regular basis have formed a separate non-profit organization that can fundraise, like the Alachua County Crisis Center’s Friends of the Crisis Center, which was created to support their volunteer program.
    - Laura K. also shared that at this time she does not see fundraising as a need of the agency since the agency’s donation account is currently at a comfortable balance to support the needs of victims. She would welcome work by the Advisory Council members to locate grants for prevention and awareness services and grants to support the agency’s volunteer program.

Staff Reports:
- Laura Kalt, Agency Director, reported
  - Raising Our Voices: Survivors Art Show was a success. Laura thanked the Advisory Council for their support at these events. The agency staff are very appreciative of the support the Advisory Council provides at events.
Sub-Committee Reports:

I. Dedicated Forensic Exam Facility Subcommittee
   a. Brandi reported that Jennifer Lalonde is working through final approval of procedures with the Physicians Executive Board.
   b. Brief discussion about planning a ceremony to commemorate the opening of the SANE Room once we have an idea of the potential opening. Brandi, Michelle and Kathy would like to help with planning the ceremony. Crystal W. suggested having a survivor who used the services prior to the room opening, speak at the event. Jackie offered to speak.

II. Education/Awareness Subcommittee
   a. Discussed a fall sticker campaign to promote the hotline and anonymous reporting website.

III. Discussion for creating new subcommittees ended with a plan to address topics and areas of interest/need (such as best practices, grant/fundraising, target populations) during regularly scheduled meetings, and if a topic seems to need a subcommittee then one will be created or the Advisory Council can assign work activities without a subcommittee being assigned. Laura K. suggested Jennifer Heard, the agency’s victim advocate therapist, come to the June 15th meeting to share ideas on best practices from a workshop they went to.

New Business and Announcements:

- Juliun Kinsey with Green Dot talked about Green Dot’s work and invited members to attend a free training on May 23 at the downtown library. The Gainesville Green Dot Facebook page - Facebook.com/GreenDotGNV

Motion to adjourn: Kathy Bolick
Seconded: Jackie Monck
Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017 @ 5:30pm in Alachua County Health Dept, Thomas Coward Auditorium

Minutes approved this 17 day of August, 2017

Signed [Signature]  
ACVS & RCC Board Chair