



# MARIN COUNTY COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NETWORK

## MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** December 14, 2011

**Location:** Marin County Civic Center, Sheriff's Office Training Room, 145

**Start Time:** 1:00 pm

**End Time:** 3:00 pm

**Facilitators:** Chuck Cacciatore, Marin County Deputy District Attorney and Kate Kain, Deputy Executive Director, Center for Domestic Peace

**Presenter:** Luz Alvarado, Community Advocacy Program Supervisor, Center for Domestic Peace

**Spanish Interpreter:** Linda Que, Community Advocacy Program Bilingual Advocate, Center for Domestic Peace

**Minute Taker:** Laura Martinez, Executive Administrator, Center for Domestic Peace

### Attendees:

#### **Interagency Team:**

#### Name

#### Organization/Department

Adelaida Garcia	
Araceli Ontivenos-Venegas	Legal Aid of Marin
Bobbe Rockoff	Health & Human Services
Bridget Baker	Center for Domestic Peace
Carolyn Placente	Center for Judicial Excellence
Cezeza Barker	Dominican University
Cindy Thomas	Kaiser Permanente
Consuelo Molina	
Cynthia Peterson	Community Violence Solutions
DeAnna Schlau	Community Violence Solutions
Delmy Lopez	
Donna Garske	Center for Domestic Peace
Felice McClenon	Health & Human Services
Gabriella Vahle	
Gina Vucci	
Graciela Rodriguez	Center for Domestic Peace
Gwen Mauvais	
Jack B. Baker	
Jessania Solano	
Jose Riveros	
Jose Varela	Public Defender
Larry Meredith	Health & Human Services
Lesbia Ochoa	

Lupe Nunez  
Maria Craft-Neto  
Marie Patterson  
Marilyn Weinberg  
Nan Moon  
Paul Cohen  
Rebecca Smith  
Robyn Roberts  
Rosa Lopez  
Sandra Esquivias  
Sandra Perez  
Sandra Ponek  
Sara Palacios  
VaDonna Danesi

LCSW

Kaiser Permanente  
Legal Aid of Marin  
Health & Human Services  
Marin Advocates for Children  
Community Action Marin  
Legal Aid of Marin

Canal Alliance

Department of Child Support Services

**Criminal Justice Team:**

**Name**

Abby Dennett  
Ethel Havens  
Faye D'Opal  
Heather Ravini  
Jacqueline Graf-Reis  
Jim O'Callaghan  
Keith Heiden  
Kimberly Larkey  
LeeAnn Magoski  
Michael Howard  
Nilda Fernandez  
Ryan Peterson

**Law Enforcement Agency/Department**

Probation Department  
Sheriff's Office Communication Division  
Marin County Superior Court  
Health & Human Services  
Mill Valley Police Department  
Fairfax Police Department  
Novato Police Department  
San Rafael Police Department  
Sheriff's Office Communication Division  
Novato Police Department  
District Attorney's Office  
Marin County Sheriff's Office

<b>Topic 1:</b>	Introductions – Kate Kain and Chuck Cacciatore
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Linda Que as the Spanish Interpreter.</li> <li>○ Ed Berberian, Marin County District Attorney is not able to attend today’s meeting; Chuck Cacciatore, Marin County Deputy District Attorney will represent.</li> <li>○ Attendees introduced themselves stating their name and organization affiliation.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Topic 2:</b>	Announcements & Disclosures – Kate Kain
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The following announcements and disclosures were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Agenda item “2012 Legal Updates” during the Joint Session will be postponed till the March meeting. In its place, Health &amp; Human Services and Center for Judicial Excellence have requested time on the agenda to make their announcements.</li> <li>○ DISCLOSURES: No open cases and no individuals will be discussed during the meeting. Participants are asked to voice concerns about domestic violence cases by focusing on the system of response in our county; what it allows and does not allow and how to improve it. For example, we will ask: “What in our system allowed this to happen? What in our system needs improvement?” rather than focusing on any individual responder, official, victim, abuser, or active case.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Topic 3:</b>	Follow-up to September 2011 Meeting: Enhancing the CCR Structure – Chuck Cacciatore
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attendees were asked for additional input to the following CCR Network Governance Enhancements (see handout): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Inclusiveness</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional input: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Open to language interpretation other than Spanish</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <i>Transparency</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional input and questions regarding confidentiality of cases and transparency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Are there ways to not use identifying information and talk broadly about cases?</li> <li>● Look for creative solutions</li> <li>● Interagency Team and Criminal Justice Team sessions should be taking place jointly to ensure transparency</li> <li>● Utilizing liaisons between teams</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <i>Shared Decision Making</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional input and questions regarding the voting process</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>and shared decision making:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group must continuously make an effort to come to a consensus. There is a spectrum of consensus; therefore the term consensus must be defined.</li> <li>• With the joint groups, who are the shared decision makers?</li> <li>• We must actively seek out reasonable dissent</li> <li>• More transparency</li> <li>• To what extent does it influence law enforcements response to investigate DV incidents as it relates to protocol?</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Strategies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional input and questions regarding strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will it become more detailed as an implementation framework?</li> <li>• The language of point B needs to be more specific for how we are creating interlocking prevention and intervention policies to include family courts, specifically.</li> <li>• How do we get more law enforcement agencies to attend?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <i>Leadership</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No additional input provided</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <i>Location</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional input regarding meeting location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marin County Office of Education</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Additional input regarding CCR Network Governance Enhancements: Resources should be added to the list. Where and how to get resources as the group moves forward.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Topic 4:</b>	Case Mapping – Luz Alvarado
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two domestic violence cases are mapped and discussed</li> <li>• Attending members identified the following gaps and solutions in case mappings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ When the responding law enforcement officer does not file a report agencies should contact the officer’s supervisor. It is suggested that the agency assist the victim (with the victim’s permission) in typing out a statement describing the DV incident and submit it to the local law enforcement agency. It is important to submit a statement into the criminal justice system and family court system.</li> <li>○ There seems to be a significant breakdown between the family courts, criminal courts and law enforcement agencies. If we can focus in on this disjuncture we can do a lot to improve the system.</li> <li>○ There are silos (family court, criminal court, law enforcement agencies) within the system that are difficult to cross over.</li> <li>○ There almost needs to be an ombudsman for both the victim and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>the abuser that can help to cross over these silos. As we discuss these case mappings we should ask how these silos are being crossed over.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The goal of the public defender is to work with the courts across the silos in a way that gives more money to the children in child support cases. Information on how agencies and the family violence courts can work together is essential.</li> <li>○ Service providers might not be aware that the victim has multiple hearings going on at one time. The person requesting services needs to make sure we are hearing them as we are trying to gather the information needed.</li> <li>○ What would make it so that the practitioner could be more sensitive to what is going on for the victim? Make staff aware of the questions that need to be asked. Imperative to have training among individual staff that trains them to ask the broader questions, i.e., Are you involved in other issues that we need to be aware of the affects you getting documents to us on time?</li> <li>○ There is a difference between support hearings and custody hearings. A judge is not always made aware that a filing for child support has preceded a filing for custody. Does it make sense to couple the two? Currently, when a case is moved from custody to support the same case numbers are used.</li> <li>○ A lot of the burden is placed on the victim to be the one to get information to the criminal court, family court and support services. A court that can facilitate multiple cases would take burden off of the victim.</li> <li>○ The time element is a barrier.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There was an agreement among the Interagency Team to continue the discussion related to the two case mappings during the team breakout session. Specifically, to look for points in the system that could be enhanced in order to increase victim safety.</li> <li>● The Interagency Team would like to have breakout meeting between CCR Network meetings to continue to discuss this work.</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A breakout session of the Interagency Team will be planned for some time in February to continue to discuss this work.</li> </ul>

<b>Topic 5:</b>	Interagency Team Breakout Session – Creating “Interlocking” Domestic Violence Policies – Next Steps – Kate Kain
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The webinar, <i>Developing “Interlocking” Domestic Violence Policies and Procedures for Marin County Agencies</i> was hosted on November 10, 2011 with 9 agencies in attendance.</li> <li>● The webinar, <i>Using Focus Groups to Build Safety and Autonomy in Case Process</i> was originally scheduled for December 5, 2011, but will be rescheduled. The rescheduled date is TBD. The group will be notified as soon as it is finalized.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Interagency Team agreed that they would like to continue to discuss the two case mappings (see Topic 4 Discussion)</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Topic 6:</b>	Joint Session – Center for Judicial Excellence – Carolyn Placente (new agenda item)
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carolyn gave an overview of Center for Judicial Excellence and announced the implementation of Senate Bill AB 1050 which takes effect January 1, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For more information about Senate Bill AB 1050, contact Carolyn at (415) 388-9600, ext. 23 or by email at <a href="mailto:Carolyn@centerforjudicialexcellence.org">Carolyn@centerforjudicialexcellence.org</a>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Topic 7:</b>	Joint Session – Health & Human Services – Heather Ravani (new agenda item)
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heather announced that the Board of Supervisors has asked Health and Human Services to bring in an outside facilitator to help in continuing to move the work of the CCR Network forward. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HHS will be working with the group to develop more of a county-wide policy and to engage the entire community including stakeholders in evaluating existing resources and trends.</li> <li>○ Possibly working with David Barkan as the outside facilitator.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members will be contacted by HHS with further information.</li> </ul>

<b>Topic 8:</b>	Joint Session – Breakout Session Team Debriefing
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Criminal Justice Team discussed the Marin County Law Enforcement Protocol and the difference between a pro-arrest and mandatory arrest protocol.</li> <li>• The Interagency Team discussed how constituents within the system can be more informed regarding victim services and how to close the gaps in information between all the different interveners.</li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	
<b>Next Steps:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Law Enforcement Protocol will be posted on the DA’s Office website.</li> </ul>

<b>Topic 9:</b>	Data Review ( See: PPT Slides 19 & 20) – Chuck Cacciatore
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed the number of Temporary and Final Protection Orders requested vs. granted from January 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011.</li> <li>• Reviewed Law Enforcement Statistics from January 1, 2011 – November 30, 2011. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discussed the number of new felony referrals and number of new misdemeanor referrals.</li> <li>○ Discussed the number of cases filed and the difference between filing a Violation of Probation and a Citation Hearing which constitutes a more informal process.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Actions &amp; Decisions from Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasons why cases are not filed will be discussed in future meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps:</b>	

<b>Improvements Needed:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bigger room</li> <li>• More chairs</li> <li>• Microphone</li> <li>• Additional 30 minutes of meeting time: CONSENSUS YES.</li> </ul>
<b>What Worked Well:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhering to time frame</li> <li>• Opportunity to ask questions and dialogue with those present</li> <li>• Having Spanish interpretation services</li> </ul>

**Next Meeting: Thursday, March 22, 2012, 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm, Marin Health and Wellness Campus, Connection Center, Room 109/110, 3240 Kerner Blvd., San Rafael**