

# North Carolina Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission

## North Carolina Council for Women Quarterly Meeting March 5, 2010

Location: 3739 National Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC 27612

Time: 12:30 PM -3:-00PM

**Attendees:** Ms. Mary Peterson (Chair), Ms. Sylvia Ray, Ms. Bobbie Deese, Ms. Becky Long, Ms. Melissa Reed, Ms. Lynne Shoemaker-Younce, Ms. Julie Lapham, Ms. Meenal Khajuria, Ms. Denise Watts, Ms. Sonya Reid, Dr. Betty McGrath, Ms. Robin Coates, Ms. Jennifer Ward, Dr. Stephanie Deese, Ms. Yvonne Johnson

**NC CFW/DVC Staff:** Executive Director Jill Dinwiddie, Ms. Patti Kelley, Ms. Jackie Jordan, Mr. Todd Moore, Ms. Courtney Watkins

**Guests:** Deputy Secretary June Michaux, DOA Legislative Liaison- Ms. Christy Agner, Tricia Lester- VP of NC Center for Nonprofits, Dana Jennings- CEO of NC Center for Women in Public Service

- I. Call to Order- Mary Peterson, Chair
  - Mary Peterson welcomed everyone and then presented Sylvia Ray with a certificate for her service as Chair of the Council for the last two years.
- II. Introductions
  - Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves.
- III. Deputy Secretary's Comments- June W. Michaux
  - DOA has a new Secretary, Moses Carey Jr. from the Employment Security Commission and a new COO, Ann Bander from the Office of State Budget and Management.
- IV. Executive Director's Report- Jill Dinwiddie
  - Jill is very happy with the team at NC CFW/DVC and the region staff.
  - She announced that Robin Colbert (Assistant Director at NC CFW/DVC) is resigning as of next week to go back and finish her master's degree. Robin will also be working on a project for the Sexual Assault Coalition.
  - Patti Kelley (Council Coordinator) is retiring after 30 years of service with state government to pursue a career in real estate appraisal. Her retirement is effective June 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Diane Castellow (Central Region Director) will also be retiring in July.
  - At the region meetings, Jill met with programs and executive directors in all regions except the Western region (rescheduled because of snow). She now has a better idea of how the regions operate and what our grantees main concerns are.
  - Jill has also been meeting with various women leaders in different communities to discuss the Governor's Conference. Her objective is to enlist their support to help get the word out about the Conference.
  - Cheryl Wu Dunn, author of Half the World; Sapphire, author of Precious; Ronald Cotton and Jennifer Canino will all be interviewed at the Conference. Maria Shriver has also been invited. The Board of the Conference meets later this month.

- Jill has held many meetings with DOA Fiscal and Legal on the changes that need to be made to streamline the grants administration process. Unfortunately, the grant application process won't be online this year, but DOA has approved a shortened addendum to the application for existing DV and SA programs.
- The NC CFW/DVC website changes almost daily with new updates and news. For example, we now post a program of the month.
- Patti Kelly and Tara Minter have been meeting with a legislative study group on work balance, pay equity and other gender related issues.
- There is a program called "A Call to Men" whose objective is to allocate money and resources to the male perpetrators of abuse and not only to the victims of the crime. This will allow perpetrators to avoid being repeat offenders. This organization wants to hold a statewide conference on the topic.
- Jill has been meeting with state legislators; she would like the legislators and the Council's support on having the agency's name changed to the Council for Women and Girls.
- Jill thanked the Council for their support and their contributions for the Women's History Month event at the NC Museum of History on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### V. Presentation-NC Center for Nonprofits- Trisha Lester, Vice President

- Reviewed a brief history of the Center
- PURPOSE of the Center: 1) to be a statewide network for non-profits 2) to provide information on effective organizational practices 3) to advocate for the sector as a whole- they don't lobby on issues that benefit only one specific sector.
- SERVICES: They have a confidential helpline that can help with ethical dilemmas or other issues that affect non-profits. They provide attorney's that advise on issues such as how to terminate an employee. They hold a Public Policy Forum and a variety of other trainings (ex. accounting boot camps).
- Principles and Practices of Public Non-Profits is a publication that details what works and what doesn't in non-profits. It provides a guide and benchmarks that can be used as a self help tool to structure a non-profit organization. There is an ordering form for this publication in the packet of information that was handed out.
- This is a membership corporation (\$70 - \$200 annual membership dues) and they do serve every county in NC. There is a membership sign up form in the packet of information that was handed out.
- There are also local and regional networks in some counties of NC, but not all. Local centers can't advocate like the statewide Center can.

#### VI. Approval of Minutes- Mary Peterson

- Melissa Reed moved to approve the minutes, Julie Lapham seconded and all were in favor. The minutes were approved.

#### VII. Grant Update- Jackie Jordan & Todd Moore

- The grants team has been spending a lot of time working on ways to streamline the grant application and contract process. They will be going to a 2 year DV and SA grants cycle for so programs don't have to fill out a new application every year. Instead, they will just have to fill out a brief contract amendment from year one going into year two.
- The grant amounts for DV, SA and DH programs for this fiscal year were distributed. They also handed out a chart listing the amounts for DH and DFF funds by county.
- This month the grants administrators are holding grants training sessions.

- It is time for the Council to sign up for the 2010-2011 DH grants review process (Jackie sent around a sign up and contact information sheet). The grant application deadline is May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the grants administrators intend to get the applications to review teams within 7 days after the application deadline.
- There is a possibility that we will need outside reviewers in addition to Council members, so it would be helpful to alert the community college volunteers who have helped in the past.
- Dr. Stephanie Deese asked if it was possible to do a 2 year contract when you don't know what the next year's funding will be. She recommended amending the contract contingent upon funding and performance. And suggested NC CFW/DVC be careful with the "2 year contract" wording. It can be confusing to programs who might think they're going to receive funding for 2 years without having to do anything from year to year.
- If applications get to reviewers by May 10<sup>th</sup>, the reviewer meeting could be held Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Each team leader (should be 6 teams) should have a meeting or conference call to discuss how they will evaluate the grants, prior to reviewing them.

#### VIII. Committee Reports

##### a. DH Manual Committee

- Patti has interviewed intern candidates and will hopefully have an intern by the end of May to work on compiling the manual.

##### b. Legislative Committee

- Worked with Christy Agner on the things she will present in her update.

#### IX. Legislative Update & Training- Christy Agner

- Christy handed out a legislative guide (green sheet) on the budget process that will also be sent out electronically so the links embedded in the document can be accessed.
- Resources for tracking the budget are listed in the handout.
- She included information on how you can listen to daily House and Senate sessions online.
- If you know the sponsor or the key word topic of a bill you can track it.
- Christy handed out a guide on how to work with your lawmakers (yellow sheet)—tips on how to contact and interact with them via phone, email, and postal mail.
- She provided a list of a few legislative committees that lists their members and the counties they represent.
- How do board members stay informed on committee meetings about issues pertaining to the Council? Mary Peterson and Christy will work on getting information out to the Council.
- Which committee oversees the State Employees Health Insurance Plan? The State Government Committee
- What are the state employee's guidelines for advocating? Christy found a policy that Patti sent out to the Council via email.
- Meenal Khajuria suggested that the legislative committee coming up with talking points to send out to the whole Council, so when Council members call legislators they are delivering a consistent message.

#### X. Old Business

##### a. Women on Boards & Commissions- Melissa Reed

- The task force met on how to increase the number of women on boards and commissions.
- The Women's Forum has about 100 women that could be given information on upcoming appointments and could be given training and assistance with completing an application.
- There are "Women on Board" workshops held from 9am-3pm on Saturdays that teach women about boards and commissions, help them hone in on their interest, research their

local boards, and help them with their resume to obtain the position. There will be eight to ten workshops held across the state this year.

- Dana Jennings from the NC Center for Women in Public Service reported that they are working on a database for women that will show what positions are available at the state level and the necessary qualifications. The Center for Women in Public Service will then help women with the required paperwork to obtain the position. The public launch of this database is Jan 1 of next year. First, they will be running it with the alumni of the Center for Women in Public Service and the Women’s Forum.
  - The task force will continue to meet and monitor the advancements of women on boards and commissions.
- b. Ethics Commission Requirements- Jill Dinwiddie
- Statement of Economic Interest must be filled out- it can be downloaded from their website. Also, every Council member has to attend a training session—the dates are online.
  - The State Ethics Commission will notify NC CFW/DVC regarding Council members who have not completed the SEI training.

#### XI. New Business

a. Delta Project- Robin Colbert

- This project is the result of Center for Disease Control grant. It is a 10 year plan to prevent Intimate Partner Violence. Prevention starts as early as possible and there are four strategic directions the project recommends across each lifespan.
- The DV Coalition would like the Council to endorse this project. A motion to endorse the project was made by Lynne Shoemaker Younce, seconded by Dr. Stephanie Deese and all were in favor.
- The DV Commission endorsed the project at their last meeting.

b. Name change for the NC CFW/DVC

- Change the name to NC Council for Women and Girls because addressing the needs of girls will help with the prevention of abuse and violence and will help them to make good life choices.
- Sylvia Ray moved to support the name change, seconded by Bobbie Deese and all were in favor.

#### XII. Closing Remarks/Next Meeting Date

- Patti Kelley asked for ideas for the upcoming Women’s Equality Day. Julie Lapham said they are having a breakfast in Greensboro on Sat. the 28<sup>th</sup> in honor of Women’s Equality Day.
- Mary Peterson would like to have the Council address the challenge of fiscal responsibility for girls. Perhaps, we could partner with a business or a financial institution to host a Saturday workshop for girls.
  - FDIC has a training manual called “Money Smart” – every community college has a Money Smart curriculum. There might be a way to make this available to the larger community by using our own network of DH program coordinators to get the word out. DH program directors could coordinate a money smart workshop for their local community via their community college (ex- Mother/daughter session).
  - Scholastic also has a financial program for middle schoolers.
  - NIFTY program in SC is a curriculum that helps kids in high school create businesses. When kids start working with money, it helps reduce dropout rates because the topics become more interesting with real world application.

- Kids Making It is a program in Wilmington that has been recognized by the Governor to help with crime prevention.
- Meenal Khajuria asked if there is a way for the Council to help with the Governor's Conference: The Council can help with promotion (ask Jill Dinwiddie if you would like to be put on the list to receive updates), provide the committee with ideas and resources to add to the conference offerings, and/or nominate someone for the Women's Hall of Fame-there is an application on the conference website.
- We hope to see everyone at the NC Museum of History for the Women's History Month event.
- The next meeting has to be after the DH grants are reviewed. The Council will discuss a couple possible dates via email.

XIII. Adjournment

- Dr. Stephanie Deese made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Robin Coates and all moved to adjourn at 3 pm.