

# NORTH CAROLINA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, February 19, 2021  
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Board Members Present:** Deborah Weissman (Chair), Carolina Alzuru, Tiffany Bell, Shelby Benton, Kriquette Davis, Jacqueline Dienemann, Sherry Everett, Karen Fairley, Regina Gurley, Casandra Hoekstra, Tonya Horton, Holly Jones, Hans Miller, Vickie Pait, Cheryl Howell, Annette Taylor, Nora Salinas, Saira Estrada, Hilary Cooper, Starleen Scott Robbins, Amedia Vaughan-Jones, Sarah Owens-Weeks, Christine Strader, April Burgess-Johnson

**Board Members Absent:** Cathy Cloninger, Kristy Dickerson, Surabhi Gawande, Jennifer Howell, Sarah Kirkman, Bryan Miller, Karen Fairley, Jennifer Howell, Larry Pierce, Nora Salinas, Christine Strader, Robert Wilkins

**Other/Special Guests Present:** Betty Marrow-Taylor, DOA Deputy Secretary, Katie Hall, DOA Legislative Liaison, Catherine Rivera, DOA Boards and Commissioners Coordinator, Julia Horrocks, Helpmate a Domestic Violence Agency, LaToya Chancey, DHHD, Angela Harper King, DHHS, Maggie Slocumb, Helpmate a Domestic Violence Agency, Judith Johnson-Hostler, DHHS, Stephanie Sutkowiak, Nisha Williams, NCCADV, Laura Coleman, Nicki Locklear

**Council for Women & Youth Involvement Staff Present:** Mary Williams-Stover, Executive Director, Sandra Welch, Deputy Director, Allison Whitenack, Diane Blumel, Deborah Torres, Philisa Fowler, Lori Gerber, Jackie Jordan, Alisa Milliken, Rose Saltz, Holly Foz, Deatrice Williams, Molly Overholt, Gabrielle Smith, Kiricka Yarbough-Smith, Valerie Woodard, Camille Hesterberg, Kendra Underwood, Lori Hines-Jones, Bernetta Thigpen, Angela Winston-Hill

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**Call to order-** Deborah Weissman, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

**Approval of Minutes and Voting Items** – There was a combined vote on the following items:

1. Approval of Minutes – October 23, 2020 Meeting
2. Approval on Legislative Recommendations for all 7 items

Minutes and voting items were approved.

## **Chairperson’s Report – Deborah Weissman**

- Impact of COVID-19 and Domestic violence survivors and victims.
- NC State has problem with Broadband and Victim Service.
- Discussed the collaboration with NC and choice to focus our attention on raising awareness of DV services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing survivors.

## **Executive Director’s Update – Mary Williams-Stover**

Webinars/Presentations to increase awareness of Covid-19 impact on women. Jenny Black, Chairperson, NCCFW Advisory Board, completed webinars on Exploiting Inequity for NC Democratic Women Caucus, NCGA that was hosted by Representative Julie von Haefen and Representative Allison Dahle.

Highlighted recommendations for addressing employment, health and wellness, and political participation inequities impacting women and women of color specially to help NC build back better.

Interest in questions related to helping women with long term effects of Covid-19.

Mary mentioned how the office received a special invitation for NCCFWYI to apply for funding for short-term, COVID related assistance and outreach to victim.

CARES ACT GRANT – Submitted required C-1 report to DOA Fiscal and NC PRO to highlight sub-recipient programs progress and activities as of January.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Legislative Committee:** Sherry Honeycutt Everett and Holly Jones – Co Chairs

The following items are *recommended* by the Legislative Subcommittee for adoption to the full Domestic Violence Commission Legislative Agenda:

- Ensure domestic violence service programs are fully funded.
- Increase court access for domestic violence protective order filings during emergency court closures.
- Ensure equal access to domestic violence protections for all survivors.
- Limit and clarify which subsequent court orders may supersede a domestic violence protective order.
- End child marriage in North Carolina by raising the age requirement for marriage.

**Victim Service Sub-Committee:** Shelby Benton, Chair

Deaf and Hard of Hearing: PowerPoint is attached.

LGBQ:

Trans and Gender Non-Conforming:

African Black/African Caribbean:

Teen population:

American Indian:

Shelby reviewed the framework of the committee and mentioned that every population has needs but what activity or what impact could the Commission and Committee have on the population(s) that we choose to work with now. Made a motion to delay deciding on working on more than one population until after the vote is counted.-Motion passed.

A brief description of the Jamie Kimbel Foundation for courage was given.

**Next Meeting Date:** March 17, 2021 - 12:30 p.m.

**Requested DV Commission Meeting Agenda Items or Votes:** Shelby will report to the commission the top 3 population results of our vote.

**Respectfully submitted by:** Rose Saltz, NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement

**Domestic Violence Offender Management Committee:** Tiffany Bell, Chair

**A. Short Term Goals:**

- a. Complete review of new DVIP Applications
- b. Determine appropriate response to address concerns re: COOL Program.

**B. Long Term Goals**

**a. Administrative Code Review**

- A. Begin a comprehensive review of the Administrative Code governing DVIPs.  
Create a working group that could include individuals not on the appointed DVC representing cohorts in working with offenders.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tiffany Reid Bell, LPC Co-Chair of DVOM Committee & Lori Gerber, NC CFW&YI, Western Region Director, Staff Liaison to DVOM Committee

**Access to Health Services Committee:** Starleen Scott Robbins and Regina Gurley - Co-Chairs,

**Key Topics Addressed:**

- Follow-up discussion regarding the meeting with Cassandra Rowe.
- Committee decided to invite Cassandra to our March meeting to further discuss the pros and cons of universal DV screening and universal DV education in a health care setting.
- Agreed that a presentation at the May DV Commission meeting should be considered.
- Discussed need to identify resources for promotion of screening and/or education, potential trainings, and PSAs.
- All members/guests will send questions to Bernetta by Friday for meeting with Cassandra.

**Access to Transportation Committee:** Kriquette Davis - Chair

**Key Topics Addressed:**

Committee members gave a status report of transportation services and issues in their area.

Presenter, Jeremy Collins, NC Office of the Governor, Director of Connectivity, discussed the governor's initiative to expand high quality, high performance broadband internet across the state.

Sarah Kirkman reported that the Caitlyn's Courage pilot program in her district is working well, however, there are participation challenges.

**Respectfully submitted by:** Kriquette Davis, Committee Chair, and Philisa Fowler

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, June 4, 2021

Submitted by Deborah Torres, NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement