



CEDV Leadership Facilitation Group

January 18, 2023

Members Present: Supervisor Dalia Palchik (chair), Meredith McKeen (Vice-Chair), Phylicia Woods (Community Liaison), Tom Arnold, Chris Leonard, Corie O'Rourke, Dr. Terri Edmunds-Heard, Toni Zollicoffer, Jim Ferguson, Kader Gumus, Ramona Carroll

Staff present: Stacy Ziebell, Brittany Vera, Joanna Fitzpatrick, Kimberly Jaramillo

I. Welcome & Introductions

The members of the Leadership Facilitation Group introduced themselves since new members were in attendance.

The new leadership members of the Council introduced themselves to the group. Meredith McKeen from Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS), the new Vice-Chair of the CEDV, explained her role as a Vice President of Programs and her hopes in being on the Leadership group.

Phylicia Woods, the new Community Liaison, introduced herself and explained her connection to the work of the Council through her job as a lobbyist, personal experiences, and in her role as the Chair of the Commission for Women.

II. Adoption of October Meeting Minutes

Stacy Ziebell requested a motion from the Leadership group to adopt the October meeting minutes. Chris Leonard made the motion to adopt the minutes and Tom Arnold seconded the nomination. The October meeting minutes were adopted without objection.

III. Coordinated Community Response Updates

Brittany Vera provided an update on the Step Up 4 Kids Coalition (SU4K). Brittany explained the purpose of the Coalition as the body that leads and organizes the coordinated community response to children who experience domestic violence. Brittany provided an update on the committees of the Coalition, including the Guardian *ad litem* (GAL) Training Committee and Protective Order Relief Workgroup. The Coalition is also in the process of developing a series of hyperlocal community roundtables, for both residents and community leaders about the

mental health options available to children and youth, especially as it relates to the trauma experiencing domestic violence.

Brittany provided an update on the grants that serve children and youth in Fairfax. The Resilient Kids, Thriving Families Program is a federal grant from the Office on Violence Against Women. DSVS partners with Northern Virginia Family Services' Multicultural Center (NVFS MC), which provides mental health services (individual and group) to children between the ages of four to ten years. Through the grant, the MC also provides prevention-focused workshops to children between the same age in after school programs, and training for professionals that teach them about the dynamics of domestic violence for children and how to help them.

The Healthy Youth Prevention and Education (HYPE) Expansion project is a grant from the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) that focuses on bringing teen dating violence prevention services to the Spanish speaking community. The grant provides one bilingual staff to adapt the current teen dating violence curriculum (HYPE) to the Spanish speaking community. Focus groups with parents, teens, and stakeholders from this community are under way to the adaptation of the curriculum is informed directly by the community. Another part of the grant provides funding for the Fairfax County Teen Advocates to create a video to teach their peers about an aspect of teen dating violence. The video is being produced in collaboration with Make a Scene Media. There will be a community-wide event to roll out the video once it is finished, with more details to come.

Stacy provided an update on the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) expansion. There is an interdisciplinary countywide LAP Workgroup from Shelter House, FCPD, FCPD Victim Services Division, DSVS, Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and others involved in the LAP process.

Stacy explained that when police respond to the scene of domestic dispute and there is an allegation of DV, the police will ask the suspected/identified victim a series of 11 questions called the LAP. The LAP is an evidence-based tool that is used by counties across Virginia, and the country to screen for factors in a relationship associated with the risk of possible homicide. If a victim screens in as "high danger" based on the way they answer the questions, the police will connect them to a LAP advocate, who is on-call 24 hours a day.

The people who meet the criteria for LAP, until now, have been people who were living together, had a child in common, or were married. The expansion of the program will now include people who are dating, or were previously dating, and do not live together. This change brings Fairfax up to the national standard for administering LAP. LAP is administered even if the victim does not want to press charges. To adhere to a victim-centered service model, the victim is always given a choice by the police officer as to whether or not they speak to a LAP advocate for safety planning and follow up services.

The Countywide LAP team put together a plan to train the entire police force, as well as the partners responsible for implementation, on the new LAP protocols. Stacy showed the video to the group that the police created to address training their officers. Stacy shared there was a 300% increase in calls the first week after the training. The calls went from 4 calls the same week the previous year, to 16 calls. The calls were not connected to the LAP Expansion, but the refresher training helped officers be more consistent with administering LAP.

Stacy asked if the Leadership Group thought it might be helpful to show the full Council the video. Kader Gumus asked if Stacy could also explain to the full Council why the video was created and the importance behind it. Supervisor Palchik asked to clarify if the video was used by other agencies outside the police department. Stacy explained that other agencies created their own training specific to their roles in the LAP response. Supervisor Palchik asked to have additional information about which agencies are involved in the LAP response.

Ramona Carroll asked about community education for the LAP and possible translation for the video. Ramona highlighted that the community should be aware of the resource and to expect it. Stacy acknowledged resources typically go into advertising the services of the 24-Hotline to the community but acknowledged the helpfulness and importance of the idea. Stacy suggested that the idea could be brought to the Countywide LAP team.

Meredith shared that NVFS is trying to implement their own form of lethality assessment because their clients may not be police involved. She wondered about how to implement a more universally accessible lethality screening tool. Stacy shared connections to the work of the Accountability Workgroup and the recommendations they are creating. The Accountability Workgroup works to explore alternate community responses to the legal and law enforcement system. The workgroup will wrap up in March and are currently developing a report that summarizes different approaches that have been used in other communities.

Supervisor Palchik also wondered about the connections to the healthcare community and the screenings related to maternal healthcare.

IV. Equity Updates

Stacy shared there will be an equity update at the full council meeting. There is some new information coming from GIS Mapping project and revisiting the bylaws.

V. Agenda Setting - Next CEDV Meeting

Stacy shared agenda items that could potentially be on the agenda. One thing would be to explore the hopes and dreams of the Council for 2024. The Leadership Group will be able to review these as they plan for the coming year. This will also allow for a pulse check to see

where the Council is. There will be an Equity Spotlight and the LAP video will be shown. Stacy shared that the rest of the agenda will be flushed out in the days to come. Stacy asked if any members had things they wanted to put on her radar or discuss, to reach out to her given that the meeting had to end.

VI. Adjourn

Stacy adjourned the meeting without further discussion.