



CEDV Leadership Facilitation Group

March 28, 2023

Members present: Sup. Dalia Palchik, Corie O'Rourke, Meredith McKeen (Vice-Chair), Phylicia Woods (Community Liaison), John Cook
Staff: Stacy Ziebell, Brittany Vera, Joanna Fitzpatrick, Kim Jaramillo

I. Welcome

Supervisor Dalia Palchik welcomed the attendees. Attendees introduced themselves

II. Adoption of January Meeting Minutes

Stacy explained the January meeting minutes were sent out earlier in the week. Supervisor Palchik asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Corie O'Rourke moved to approve the minutes and Phylicia Woods seconded the minutes.

III. Accountability Workgroup Report – John Cook

John Cook gave a brief report of the Accountability Workgroup and the report put forward by the group. John explained that that the group had internal support from DSVS staff as well as Brittany Davis from the Center for Justice Institute. Many of the ideas put forward by the group have been implemented and researched by other communities across the country and CJJ provided access and connection to this information.

The most challenging part of the work was outreach to the survivor community, as well as the broader community, including those who cause harm. County staff spent a lot of time doing outreach to

individuals to create focus groups, which took a lot of staff time and resources. Many individuals declined to participate in focus groups but still shared valuable insights about their experiences, notably the lack of confidence in the criminal justice system to hold survivors accountable. One workgroup member, Dr. Brenda McBorrough, wrote her doctoral dissertation on a similar topic of accountability for those using violence and her anecdotal findings suggested similar results from what the workgroup found in their outreach. The report focused on three sets of recommendations.

The recommendation for an independent accountability system focused on the fact that any participation in the system would need to be completely voluntary by the survivor. The framework for such a program was pulled from an existing program in New York. The program could also be preventative and allow participation before violence takes place. The program would allow for alternatives to incarceration through the use of family and community institutions. The convener of these groups would be conducted through a nonprofit organization who would conduct outreach to different groups and establish guardrails and guidelines for what accountability would look like, as well as training for the accountability groups.

The use of these groups depends on the severity of the offense and would remain voluntary throughout the duration of participation. Throughout all the aspects of the program, there needs to be a measurement of success through data collection. Group members asked questions about the framework of the alternative accountability response, the infrastructure, and ongoing mechanisms for implementation and evaluation. Group members also asked if there were other models around the country. John confirmed that they received different briefings from models around the country but that this would also be the work of the nonprofit organization who is selected to implement. John reminded the group of the success of Diversion First and how it continues to evolve. The currently proposed program would be seen as a pilot project.

Corie O'Rourke brought up the fact that many people who would be engaging in the work would be considered mandated reporters and if an

incident of suspected child abuse or neglect arose, they would have to make the appropriate reports. Stacy suggested that this conversation take place over two parts: the meeting in April where the results are presented and a second meeting in July where the results are more thoroughly discussed after the Council has had a chance to digest the information.

Corie acknowledged that the original ask for this topic was to explore ideas and create a report summarizing the findings. The next steps were up to the decision of the Council. The Accountability Workgroup has concluded their work, and if the Council decides to move forward, it would be new groups that take up the work outlined in the report.

The group agreed that next steps would be to share the report with the Council. Agenda and report should go out the Friday before the meeting. The July meeting will provide opportunities for more in-depth feedback and conversation from the Council. Supervisor Palchik suggested 10-15 minutes for the presentation followed by questions.

IV. Agenda Setting - Next CEDV Meeting

Equity member survey- Council members will have time to complete the survey during the meeting. Corie estimated it would take 5-10 minutes. CCR updates will take about 5-10 minutes to discuss updates and trends that may need to be addressed in smaller groups. Corie requested this take place before the survey in case the discussion inspires people on the survey.

Stacy asked if Council Members could be asked to wear teal for sexual assault awareness month and have Council Members take a photo. The only other agenda item might be to have a quick spot on the agenda for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Stacy suggested the topic of reproductive coercion as a topic. The team has something ready to go that could be presented.

Supervisor Palchik asked about the recent discussion about the high-risk interdisciplinary team. Given the recent homicide in Annandale, the opportunity might be timely to raise the possibility of standing up such

a team. Stacy suggested that the Leadership Team take up this discussion with the support of other members of the Leadership Team.

V. Adjourn