



**Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition  
Meeting Agenda  
April 21, 2017**

**Mission:** The Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition is committed to improving our community's response to domestic violence issues through communication and coordination of services.

**Attending:**

Alex Chitwood (POP), Heather Davis (Middle Way House), Molly Oliver (Connect 211), Debra Morrow (Middle Way House), Julie Robertson (probation), April Wilson (Prosecutor), Brittany Lawrence (DCS), Charlotte Barton Coombs (DCS), Corttany Brooks (POP), Michelle Gregory (H. Michelle Gregory LLC)

City Staff: Michael Shermis, Kiara Kelly, Deaven Elliott

**Staff Update**

Continued review 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Stats booklet. Discussed ways to reorganize information on the charts, rewrite certain phrasing, and eliminate some parts of the chart along with the description information to not create confusion included:

- Change to plea hearing box:
  - Rewrite consisted of: Change of plea hearing being broken up into two brackets because there are two possible results coming out of plea hearing. The first box would include negotiated plea agreement and the second box would say open plea.
- Change to police department under arrest:
  - Boxes should begin with office requesting for charges to be filed. Then the report is reviewed by the prosecutor's officer to then either sign probable cause for the crime. There are then two options, they are released with no charges or if there are charges to be filed.
- Changes to Corrections box:
  - Top box of parole should be taken away and under this section jail and prison should have a change in color and a written explain of each to understand the differences.
    - Michelle Gregory will be writing up this change.
  - The changing of the name of corrections in general should be rephrased to community supervision.
- Change to probation:
  - Should be renamed to monitor case with two boxes under for if they successfully complete or violate probation.
- Description changes:
  - Police department changes
    - Paper handed out by April Wilson
  - Last words
    - they are then released from supervision
  - Department of correction → take it out of description
    - Only for those individuals prison not jai

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### Guest Presentation

Corttany Brooks and Alex Chitwood, the director from Protective Order Project at Indiana University Law School, gave a presentation on the operation of their project and an overview of speaker Kerry Bennett's, legal counsel at Indiana Coalition against Domestic Violence, presentation given at the Law School. She discussed the Victim Defense Bill about to be heard by Indiana legislature and laws currently enacted:

- Victim Defense Bill would enable victims to carry a fire arm to defense themselves.
- Ex parte by judge can have immediate possession
  - Abuser can be ordered to leave his or her home even if they are the only one on lease. This includes various possessions, such as, cars or pets.

POP also gave information on what their program offers and recent statistics since the formation of their organization:

- Since 1990 → 1000 cases and increasing
  - 150 most recent cases
    - 58 accepted case
      - 27 were worked on by volunteer attorneys from Bloomington
      - Draft petition for clients
      - A lot more IU student going through ethics process to them
      - 13 petitions this year

Alex Chitwood from POP will send Michael the PowerPoint presentation discussing Indiana's civil protection order to post on the MCDVC Web site.

### Information Sharing

#### A. Middle Way House

- a. There will be a celebration of life for Toby Strout, former executive Director at Middle Way House, at Buskirk Chumley on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30p.m.

### Next Meeting: 12 p.m., May 19, 2017, McCloskey Room, City Hall

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Jody Lynee Madeira and Rachel Guglielmo from Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America will be coming to speak next meeting.

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