

**Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition**  
**Minutes**  
**September 16, 2016**

**Attending:**

Coalition Partners: Heath Adkins (Probation), Ashley M. Kim (Protective Order Project), Alison Leslie (Spencer Psychology), Jackie Dakich (Prosecutor), Pam Gladish (Bloomington Police), Toby Strout (MWH), Sharon Groeger, MWH, Virginia White (MWH), Heather Davis (MWH), Debra Morrow (MWH)  
City Staff: Michael Shermis

**Information:**

What information do the Coalition partners agree to share?

Probation would be able to share info: active cases, violations, demographics, explanation.

*Action: Heath to follow up and see what information Probation can provide. If any information can be determined ahead of time, send to Michael*

Prosecutor not sure what could be disclosed, record expunged so quickly (2 to 5 years?) that it's harder, but perhaps actual prosecutions, repeat offenses, current cases, expungement record; raw numbers

*Action: Jackie to follow up and see what information Prosecutor's office can provide. If any information can be determined ahead of time, send to Michael*

Police could provide number of calls, arrests, differentiation between misdemeanors/felonies, male and female suspects. But wouldn't be until the middle of the month

*Action: Pam to follow up and see what information the Police Department can provide. If any information can be determined ahead of time, send to Michael*

POP can provide permanent protection orders granted versus applied, judge's decisions, referrals

*Action: Ashley to follow up and see what information Protective Order Project can provide. If any information can be determined ahead of time, send to Michael*

Middle Way House would be happy to share info on the number of DV calls received, the number of women and children sheltered, the average length of stay, and whether the resident returned to an abusive relationship or not

*Action: MWH to follow up and see what information they can provide. If any information can be determined ahead of time, send to Michael*

Police use a Domestic Violence Referral Form from the Prosecutor's office.

*Action: Jackie sent to Michael; Michael to distribute to the group.*

MWH uses a Lethality Assessment.

*Action: MWH to send to Michael; Michael to distribute to the group.*

We agreed that whatever statistics are shared are with the "older" understanding of domestic violence.

At the next meeting we will review whatever Coalition partners send and discuss what kind of format might make it "publishable" on the City Web site.

We agreed to have a FB account that we can highlight victim assistance.

*Action: Staff will set up account; Coalition partners agree to send items to post to account.*

**Meetings/Activities:**

We agreed to hold the meeting every month because of how big gaps were for people who would miss one.

*Action: Coalition partners agree to either come, send a representative, or let Michael know they can't make it.*

We agreed to hold a conference every other year. Next one in 2018.

Concern that the Sheriff and IUPD need to contribute

*Action: Toby will follow up with the Sheriff's office; Michael will follow up with IUPD*

Do we need a hospital presence? How often do they call advocates?

*Action: Staff to determine the best person to connect with at the Hospital to answer these questions, maybe contribute and/or attend meetings.*

**Name/Mission:**

While we agreed to focus on what we need to do to make system work better, it is probably time to do a more formal assessment of our mission. Here it is below:

The Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition is committed to improving the response to domestic violence issues through communication and coordination of services. Major projects of the Task Force include an annual Domestic Violence Awareness Conference held in November and the implementation and monitoring of an audit of our community's response to domestic violence.

*Action: Staff to update Web site so it says Coalition and every other year for conference. Coalition partners agreed to revisit mission at the next meeting.*

In a discussion on what we are trying to accomplish, we agreed on the following:

**Oversight**

- Specifically we will produce information for publication on the state of domestic violence in our community (see above).

**Education**

Trainings.

- Several topics for training both for Coalition partners and for the general public

*Action: Plan, at a future meeting, on selecting topics for future speakers.*

**Awareness**

- Make better use of the newspaper
- Guest editorials on DV for DV month
- Use social media (FB) to spread word about DV issues and educational opportunities

We agreed to change the name to Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition (reflected above).

**Education/Awareness:**

We discussed using Survey Monkey to determine some answers from those on the DVC mailing list. Questions to consider:

- What are the barriers for not being involved with the Coalition?
- What could you add to the Coalition discussions?
- What information would you like from the Coalition?

*Action: Finalize questions at the next meeting.*

We agreed to have someone come speak to the Coalition on the new law (passed last July) that affects domestic violence in Indiana.

*Action: MWH (Toby) will try to find the appropriate speaker from Indy for the November meeting. Coordinate with Michael for logistics.*