



**Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition
Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2018**

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: Heather Davis (MWH), Pam Gladish (Bloomington Police), Gideon Porter (POP), Debra Morrор (MWH), Becky Rose (MCCSC), Tina Smith (Trinity), Ron Smith (Indianapolis Counseling Center), Stephanie Waller (MWH), April Wilson (Prosecutor's Office), Selina Hardt (MWH), Shelby Jade Hoshaw (POAP), Brittany Lawrence (DCS), Pam Gladish (Bloomington Police), Tia Arthur (CASA Mclink Alliance), Liz Stauth (Anthem), Selina Hardt (MWH), Erika Oliphant (Prosecutors Office), Harry Heyer (BIP Provider), Andy Elliot (Student Visitor)

City Staff: Michael Shermis, Rose Gholson (intern), Danya Tabesh (intern)

I. Introductions

A. Brief introductions

II. Guest Speaker

Guest Speaker: Precious McMillon, Office for Sexual Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy, IU

Confidential Victim Advocates offers academic, safety, reporting and other services to students at IUB who have been victims to stalking, harassment, assault, dating violence, domestic violence, etc. at any point in their lives. The academic services include grade change requests, missed classes, and extensions. Safety services can range from protective orders to safety planning and informal precautions. The reporting services include reporting to IUPD, attend hearings, or report to the Office of Student Conduct. They can also help students to maintain their financial aid/scholarships if they are concerned about losing this due to missed classes or other circumstances.

CVA operates under culture of care, which focuses on the wellbeing of students in four core areas: respect, sexual health, mental health, and drug and alcohol use. 'It's On Us' is a 2-hour presentation that is mandatory for all incoming students. This presentation covers the topics of bystander intervention, respect, consent, and campus resources. It

teaches students to be an effective bystander and what it means to intervene. One key point is that it is okay to defer, it doesn't always have to be direct confrontation.

'STEP UP!' is similar in content to the 'It's On Us' presentation. 'STEP UP!' is an interactive presentation, mainly given to Greek organizations, where students act out scenarios to show how they would step up or intervene.

CVA uses the term respondent rather than perpetrator to separate from legal confusion.

Just because Monroe County cannot go further, does not mean the school can't. The school can issue a no contact order to respondent; this is different from a legal no contact order. If respondent is found responsible following a no contact order, they are suspended or expelled.

Approximately 30 clients are seen monthly in the office. For the hearing process, the complainant does not have to attend or can skype. If they do choose to attend, there is a divider between the complainant and respondent so they do not have to see each other. Alternative resolution involving conversation or follow up action is available if the victim does not want to follow through with the hearing process. Victims of sexual violence usually leave school by transferring or dropping out or put a pause on their education and resume a few years later. The most concerning cases involve staff members or faculty at IU because of the power imbalance. Sexual education that is provided for incoming students includes flyers on all bathroom stalls, and the 'It's On Us' presentation.

The office is currently hiring for assistant director to oversee 'It's On Us' program, hopefully starting by spring 2019 semester. Two parts to the office; sexual assault response and prevention.

III. Staff update

- A. Still need statistics. Michael will send out a template for people to fill out and add their statistics.

IV. Information sharing

- A. This Tuesday (10/30/2018) event for domestic violence awareness month, taking place at 12:00 at Maurer School of Law. There will be speakers from legal counsel of IN, Susie's Place, Middle Way House, professor who studies these issues, and a non-pizza lunch will be provided.

Next Meetings:

12 p.m., November 16, 2018, McCloskey Room, City Hall
Guest Speaker: Chris Guidry, Detective, Bloomington Police Department

Topic: Cyber Stalking/Harassment and Domestic Violence

December 21, 2018, NO MEETING

January 18, 2019, McCloskey Room, 12-1pm

Guest Speaker: Diane Walker, Executive Director, District 10 Pro Bono Project

Topic: Cyber Solutions to How Abusers Use the Civil Legal Process to Perpetuate Abuse