

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015



Mission: To promote safe and healthy individuals and families through the prevention of interpersonal and family violence.

A United Way of the Bluegrass Agency

Domestic Violence Prevention Board
Members

Chair: Rashmi Adi-Brown CHES Solutions Group	Lisa Minton Chrysalis House
Vice-Chair: Velva Reed Fayette County Public Schools	Joe Monroe, Chief U.K. Police
Secretary: Mary Lynn Houlihan Office of Commonwealth's Attorney	Katie Mooney The Nest
Treasurer: Chris Ford, Commissioner LFUCG Division of Social Services	Andrew Oliver Children's Advocacy Center of the BG
Chad Aull Fusion Corp Design	Sally Rhoads, LCSW Private Practice
Ronnie Bastin LFUCG Commissioner of Public Safety	Joanna Rodes Family Care Center
Anita Capillo LFUCG SANE Program	Vince Riggs Fayette Circuit/District Clerk
Catherine DeFlorio Legal Aid of the Bluegrass	Hon. Larry Roberts Fayette County Attorney
Rev. Kelly Flood State Representative	Cynthia Robichaux Veterans Administration
Connie Godfrey LFUCG Adult Services	Lt. Mario Russo/Lt. Matt Brotherton LFUCG Division of Police
Rhonda Henry U.K. VIP Center	Linda Sanders Ky. Cabinet for Health/Family Services
Stephanie Hoffman Sunflower Kids	Jennifer Scutchfield LFUCG Council
T.C. Johnson, Director Winburn Youth Service Center	Mae Suramek Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center
Denise Kennedy Bluegrass Nursing Home Ombudsmen	Darlene Thomas GreenHouse17
Hon. Ray Larson Fayette Commonwealth Attorney	Kathy Witt, Fayette County Sheriff
Dr. TK Logan UK Center on Drug and Alcohol Research	Fayette Family Court: Hon. Tim Philpot Hon. Lucinda Masterton Hon. Traci Boyd Hon. Kathy Stein
	Staff: Teri Faragher, Director

September 21, 2015

Dear Domestic Violence Prevention Board (DVPB) and Committee Members and Residents of Fayette County,

It is with mixed emotions that I begin writing this year's annual, and my final, report to the DVPB. I approach my retirement from the DVPB with a combination of excitement and trepidation, and an underlying certainty that the time has come for me to pursue other possibilities and for the DVPB to move forward under new leadership. I have full confidence that the DVPB will continue to thrive and to fulfill its historic mission under the direction of a new full-time Coordinator and with the guidance and support of its Executive Committee, members and the LFUCG Department of Social Services. I will do everything I can over the next few months to make the transition as smooth as possible and to prepare the new Coordinator, once named.

Since no current members were involved when the DVPB was initiated, I am going to take this opportunity, my final annual report, to briefly review some of the highlights of our remarkable past, with a focus on our early history.

2016 will mark the 30th anniversary of the DVPB. In 1985, a United Way of the Bluegrass Study Group recommended the formation of a local coordinating council on domestic violence and, a year later, the DVPB was established in ordinance by LFUCG and 18 members were appointed by Mayor Scotty Baesler. At that time, I was the Supervisor of the Fayette County Adult Protective Services Team and a young mother who no longer desired to work full-time. I had started working in adult protection in 1979, the year "spouse abuse" was added to KRS 209, the Adult Protection Act. I was well aware of the need for services, programs and resources to help child and adult victims and for greater coordination of the few agencies we had that offered any support and protection to victims. It was a match made in heaven and I was hired as the part-time Director on a contractual basis.

LFUCG, through contractual services, and United Way, through annual grants, provided funding for my position. Our first Chairperson was Senator Mike Moloney, who also chaired the state Appropriations and Revenue Committee and sponsored much of Kentucky's early legislation related to child and adult protection and juvenile justice. The DVPB was a flagship program for LFUCG's Department of Social Services as its first program focused on community organization around specific issues. While other communities initiated councils at about the same time, we have the honor of being the state's longest standing local coordinating council on domestic violence.

Our history is not only long; it is full and complex. I have categorically outlined some highlights, however my attempts to be brief have met with limited success. That being said, you will undoubtedly remember efforts that are not reflected here.

- **Interagency Collaboration** – One of the primary objectives of the DVPB has been to foster the collaboration between disciplines and agencies that is vital to achieving a coordinated community response. To this end, the DVPB's standing committees (Child Abuse, Partner Abuse, and Adult Abuse) have hosted interdisciplinary meetings, training, forums, events, and projects on an ongoing basis since the beginning. We have worked with multiple community agencies to form and/or maintain multidisciplinary case review teams such as Lexington's Multidisciplinary Child Sexual Abuse Team (initiated in 1990), the Child Fatality

Review Team, the Domestic Violence Fatality/Near Fatality Review Team (1999), and the Red Flag Team. We worked with the Division of Police in 1987-1988 to lay the groundwork for the formation of their initial specialized domestic violence unit. We collaborated with community agencies to draft Fayette County's first interagency protocols on partner abuse (1991) and on child sexual abuse (1990), and to design and implement a dating/sexual abuse prevention project in Lexington schools (2000). We also collaborated with faith communities and community agencies to initiate the Representative Payee Program (2002) to prevent the exploitation and abuse of older and disabled adults. Our annual reports recount the many system level working groups, grant committees and ad hoc committees formed and facilitated by the DVPB over the years to promote multidisciplinary coordination and collaboration. The working relationships we have developed through these efforts are, in my opinion, our greatest asset.

- **Policy Level Efforts** – The DVPB has been actively involved in local and state level policy since its inception. In the early 1990s, we helped to compose Kentucky's first statewide medical protocol on domestic violence, participated in development of a statewide school K-12 life skills curriculum that addressed all arenas of family violence and sexual assault, developed fact sheets on child and adult abuse that were distributed statewide in extension offices, developed local guidelines for batterers intervention (which ultimately informed state standards), and wrote Kentucky's first protocol on the development of a coordinated community response to domestic violence for an Attorney General's task force. In 1992 we hosted our first candidates forum to engage public officials and have held them almost every election year since. From 1996 to 2003, the DVPB helped to inform many of the efforts of the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and served as the blueprint for Kentucky's Model Protocol for Local Coordinating Councils on Domestic Violence (released in 1997; later used as the basis for the Model Protocol for Local Councils on Elder Maltreatment). Our model has also been replicated in communities across our state and in other states, such as Texas and Arizona. The DVPB has reviewed and distributed information related to legislative proposals during every meeting of the Kentucky General Assembly since 1987. In addition, the DVPB has followed, and formally commented and testified on numerous state administrative regulations and policies affecting child and adult abuse.
- **Education, Training and Awareness** – Training for professionals has been a hallmark of the DVPB. In 1988 the DVPB sponsored its first biennial in-service, Child Abuse: A Cooperative Approach, with Fayette County Public Schools, the Crimes Against Children Unit, and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to foster interagency cooperation in child protective services. The in-service was held regularly until 2013, when it was deferred for another conference. (The DVPB Child Abuse Committee is currently considering hosting the in-service again in 2016.) In 1989 we hosted our first domestic violence conference. Over the years, the DVPB has sponsored a broad array of conferences, trainings, presentations, roundtable discussions and educational forums including Kentucky's first conference on stalking (2008); numerous conferences for attorneys, faith communities, businesses, child and elder care agencies, and health care and mental health providers, and multiple community trainings for professionals featuring national experts and model programs and practices. In 1994, in an effort to increase and improve mental health services for partner abuse victims and interventions for perpetrators we planned and facilitated a 16-

week course on domestic violence for therapists. We developed and printed our first directory of resources in 1988 and have developed over 20 resource guides, informational/safety brochures, and help cards since, many of which have been replicated in other parts of the state. We began outreach efforts to limited English proficient populations in the mid-1990's through publications and informational materials and co-sponsored a 12-week Spanish course for advocates in 2002.

- **Grants** –In addition to annual United Way grants, the DVPB (through LFUCG) has been awarded an array of local, state and federal grants over the years. The DVPB's first state grant, in 1986, was awarded to pay for colposcopy examinations for alleged victims of child sexual abuse. Only one doctor in Lexington, Dr. Reva Tackett, was trained to use a colposcope at the time. A few years later the DVPB received another grant to purchase a colposcope that we donated to the U.K. Medical Center in an effort to expand the pool of colposcopy-trained physicians and with the agreement that the exam would be available to all children regardless of ability to pay. In 1990, the DVPB received a Justice Cabinet grant to shelter older and disabled adult victims of abuse and neglect by contracting with a local nursing home. For several years, 10-15 people a year were removed from abusive/neglectful situations and temporarily sheltered at the nursing home until permanent placement could be arranged. Of course, most current members of the DVPB are aware of the more recent federal grants from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in which the DVPB has played a significant role. OVW Arrest and Enforce grants and Safe Havens grants have brought \$3.2 million to Lexington since 2003 to train professionals, enhance interagency collaborations and multidisciplinary team efforts, provide safe supervised visitation services, increase domestic violence offender accountability through arrests, and provide advocacy, support and mental health services to victims. Since its inception, the DVPB has also received many small grants to develop and print materials, purchase equipment, provide language access to agencies, and sponsor training and host events.
- **Research Informed Practice** – In 1992 the DVPB undertook its first research project to evaluate the outcomes, effectiveness and consistency of Fayette County's criminal justice response to partner abuse. The DVPB worked with District Court, Comprehensive Care and the College of Social Work to implement the study, placing four trained students in civil and criminal courts to document process and outcomes, and to interview victims after court. The study was published in *Psychological Reports* in 1995 but, more importantly, the findings prompted significant changes in court practice. The DVPB has maintained an emphasis on research informed practice and program evaluation since that time and has developed a national reputation for research and practice collaborations. While the DVPB has worked with several researchers over the years, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that our ability as a community to stay abreast of current literature, to collect data and to evaluate our interventions has been possible because of our strong relationship with U.K. professor and board member TK Logan. We have benefitted greatly from this collaboration since 2002 when she conducted the Fayette County Domestic Violence, Divorce and Custody study (requested by the DVPB) that laid the foundation for our first Safe Havens grant in 2003. Every grant written by the DVPB since then has had TK's mark on it in terms of data used to establish need, instruments developed to

collect data and evaluate programs and services, analysis of data collected, and written reports that summarize findings.

This is by no means a comprehensive account of DVPB efforts, though I hope it provides some outline of the volume and breadth of the DVPBs endeavors and accomplishments over the past 29 years. I have compiled a binder of our annual reports so, if you are interested in knowing more, it is available for review.

While I realize that it is tedious to read through a litany of projects and activities, I feel it is important for you all to understand this amazing enterprise that you are a part of and that we have nurtured for so long. The DVPB will continue to evolve and you will continue to play a role in what that evolution looks like. Hopefully this brief history of our past will help you realize possibilities for the future and serve as a reminder of our responsibilities to this community and to the individuals and families we were created to serve. The model of interagency collaboration we have created is the most functional and effective I have seen anywhere and what has enabled us to maintain strong working relationships while holding each other accountable. There will always be conflicts and problems in a large network of agencies. The question is what will we do about them. This is where our past can inform our future.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to our Chairperson Rashmi Adi-Brown, Vice Chair and Child Abuse Committee Chair Velva Reed, Secretary Mary Lynn Houlihan, Treasurer and Commissioner of Social Services Chris Ford, and Partner Abuse Committee Chair Darlene Thomas. They have worked tirelessly and diligently in the search for a new Coordinator. In addition, I recognize that we would not be where we are today without the guidance of many past leaders, such as Beth Mills, Kathy Witt and Anita Capillo, and the dedication you all have demonstrated to fulfilling the mission of the DVPB and to serving and protecting victims of abuse. I have always felt privileged to work with such a dynamic, committed and knowledgeable group of people.

It has been an honor to serve as your Director for so many years. Given our passion for this vital work, I feel certain that our paths will continue to cross in the future. And I look forward to working with you over these next several months as we steer the DVPB toward the next phase of its journey.

Sincerely,

Teri Faragher, Director

CHILD ABUSE COMMITTEE

Velva Reed, Chair
Rashmi Adi-Brown
Matt Brotherton
Gary Haner

Stephanie Hoffman
Mary Lynn Houlihan
Alicia Miller
Linda Sanders

Project

Status

- Participate in quarterly meetings of the Fayette County Child Fatality Review Team. Ongoing
- Participate in planning events for Child Abuse Awareness Month in April 2015. Completed
- Participate in planning for the 2015 It Takes a Village Conference (held on September 16, 2015; attended by 250). Completed
- Plan and sponsor Candidates' Forum to promote awareness and give the public an opportunity to hear the views of candidates for public office related to interpersonal and family violence issues. (Held October 30, 2014; attended by 110 people). Completed
- Provide training regarding child abuse/neglect and the link to intimate partner violence for individuals working with children. (Total of 10 sessions provided). Ongoing
- Disseminate information regarding legislative proposals to the 2015 Ky. General Assembly relating to child abuse, neglect, exploitation and sexual abuse through weekly email updates. Completed

PARTNER ABUSE COMMITTEE

Darlene Thomas, Chair	TK Logan	Rhonda Bach
Rashmi Adi-Brown	Angie Maldonado	Anita Capillo
Robin Anderson	Amy Marquardt	Rick Curtis
Chase Barnett	Lucinda Masterton	Catherine DeFlorio
Mariah Beatty-Adams	Barbara Norris	Diane Fleet
Cliff Bryant	Katie Mooney	Irene Gooding
Anita Capillo	Colin O'Brien	Mary Lynn Houlihan
Connie Cord	Kathy Phillips	Kevin Huddleston
Pati Coulter	Ginny Redmon	Stephanie Humes
Catherine DeFlorio	Jason Rothrock	Leigh Koetsch
Mike Finucane	Mario Russo	TK Logan
Diane Fleet	Jennifer Scutchfield	Kathy Phillips
Mona Gallo	Isabel Taylor	Jason Rothrock
Leticia Hagerman	Amy Ward	Mario Russo
Rhonda Henry	David Waters	Darlene Thomas
Stephanie Hoffman	Melinda Weathers	Angie Miller Thompson
Alex Horn	Kelly Wells	Lee Turpin
Mary Lynn Houlihan	Kristen Wilson	Melinda Weathers
Kevin Huddleston	Kathy Witt	Kelly Wells
Jennifer Johnson	DV Protect/Enforce	Kristen Wilson
Jennifer Kelder	Community Partners:	Kathy Witt
Carolynn Lee	Robin Anderson	

Project

Status

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a brochure, in English and Spanish, on teen dating violence and healthy and unhealthy relationships, a joint project of the Partner Abuse Committee and the DV Protection and Enforcement Community Partners Committee. (Brochure approved by the Office on Violence Against Women and printed). | Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and host one day training, <i>Reality DV: What Criminal Justice Professionals Need to Know About Domestic Violence</i>, featuring national trainers from Aequitas and the FBI and Mark Wynn. A joint project of the Partner Abuse Committee and the DV Protection and Enforcement Community Partners Committee (Held on October 15, 2014 in Circuit Court Bldg; attended by approx. 100 multidisciplinary providers). | Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and sponsor Candidates' Forum to promote awareness and give the public an opportunity to hear the views of candidates for public office related to interpersonal and family violence issues. (Held October 30, 2014; attended by 110 people). | Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the Ky. Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Mary Byron Foundation to explore tracking continuing education and training for state judges. | In Process |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise list of Fayette County resources and list of support groups for victims of intimate partner violence. | Ongoing |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate information regarding legislative proposals to the 2015 Ky. General Assembly relating to intimate partner violence, sexual assault and dating violence through weekly email updates. | Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Office of the Commonwealth Attorney and community agencies to support and assess efforts to enhance community identification and response to high-risk cases. | In Process |

Project

Status

- Assist the Division of Police with implementation of the VAWA funded Domestic Violence Protection and Enforcement Project involving collaborative partnerships between the DOP, criminal justice and community agencies.
- Facilitate the DV Fatality/Near Fatality (F/NFR) Review Team in Fayette County as part of the Protection and Enforcement Project. Facilitate interagency meetings/communication related to development and implementation of Team recommendations. (One cases reviewed; recommendations from previous year finalized and distributed). F/NFRT chaired by Judge Lucinda Masterton).

Ongoing

Ongoing

SAFE HAVENS CONSULTING COMMITTEE (Ad Hoc)

Teri Faragher, Facilitator
Cliff Bryant
Pati Coulter
Catherine DeFlorio
Irene Gooding
David Graves
Stephanie Hoffman

Scott Lancaster
Angie Maldonado
Barbara Norris
Duane Osborne
Judge Kathy Stein
Kelly Wells

Activities

- Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, with Sunflower Kids (SFK) as the sub-recipient, was awarded a \$500,000 three-year Safe Havens continuation grant by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in October 2013. The purpose of the grant is to provide child visitations and exchanges in domestic violence cases in a manner that is consistent with Safe Havens Guiding Principles. Funding is intended to support visitation and exchange services at Sunflower Kids center in Lexington and through a satellite program in Georgetown, Kentucky. LFUCG (DVPB and the Division of Community Development) and SFK worked jointly to implement the grant, with the guidance of the Lexington Safe Havens Consulting Committee and the Georgetown Consulting Subcommittee.
- Facilitated semi-annual meetings of the Safe Havens Consulting Committee and the Georgetown Consulting Subcommittee to discuss ongoing implementation of visitation and exchange services and foster interagency collaboration.
- Worked with Chief Mike Bosse to design and develop space for SFK to provide visitation and exchange services in the new Georgetown Police Department facility. The facility includes space for SFK to have two visitation rooms, storage space, a victims' waiting room, and two parking areas (for visiting and non-visiting parents). The space has been offered to SFK on a rent-free basis. SFK began serving families in the new facility in September 2015.
- Developed and submitted SFK Georgetown site plan and packet of materials, including policies and procedures, to the OVW for approval to implement visitation and exchange services in the Georgetown Police Department facility. (Site plan and policies and procedures approved by OVW in June 2015).
- Developed training and reference handbook for visitation and exchange monitors.
- SFK Director and DVPB Director presented in national webinar, Safe Havens: Planning and Implementing Supervised Visitation and Exchange Programs, hosted by the OVW and the Vera Institute (December 5, 2014).
- SFK staff attended the National Supervised Visitation Network conferences in Clearwater, Florida and participated in several OVW webinars.
- Provided seven presentations to community groups on domestic violence and child supervised visitation and monitored exchange services.

ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Organized quarterly meetings of the DVPB, and meetings of standing and ad hoc committees.
- Staffed all DVPB committees and completed related tasks (e.g., writing reports, documents, grants, progress reports and correspondence; creating and revising informational materials; organizing interagency meetings and forums, and; conducting workshops).
- Worked with the DVPB Executive Committee and LFUCG Departments of Social Services to promote establishment of and conduct position study for a full-time DVPB Coordinator position in LFUCG.
- Served as a clearinghouse on family violence issues for Fayette County, providing information and materials to victims, agencies, students, and the general public.
- Supervised one University of Kentucky student intern and hosted three inter-colloquium students.
- Submitted application for three-year United Way of the Bluegrass (UWBG) regional grant. Awarded \$7,164 for fiscal year 2016. Submitted semi-annual and final report for previous three-year UWBG grant.
- Program administrator of Fayette County Safe Havens Grant Project funded by federal Office on Violence Against Women through the Violence Against Women Act (\$877,000 awarded 2010-2016). Worked with Sunflower Kids to maintain visitation and exchange services at Lexington center (since 2003) and to develop and implement a satellite program in Scott County (services initiated January 2014). Submitted semi-annual progress reports to OVW. Facilitated consulting committees in Georgetown and Lexington. (Total Safe Havens funding awarded 2003-2016: \$1.777 million)
- Assisted with implementation of federal Office on Violence Against Women, Arrest and Enforcement Grant to increase arrests and enforcement of protective orders (\$300,000 awarded 2013-2016; total VAWA funding 2006-2016: \$1.5 million). Assisted with facilitation of the Domestic Violence Protection and Enforcement Project Community Partners Committee and organization of *Reality DV: What Criminal Justice Professionals Need to Know About Domestic Violence*, a one day training on domestic violence for criminal justice professionals (held October 15, 2014).
- Staffed the Fayette County Domestic Violence Fatality/Near Fatality Review (DVF/NFR) Team. Worked with Chair, Judge Lucinda Masterton to plan meetings and facilitate interagency discussions to develop and implement Team recommendations.
- Member of Attorney General Jack Conway's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative (DVFRI); member of Model Protocol Committee. Attended national DVFRI conference in St. Petersburg, Florida as a representative of the Kentucky DVFRI (May 2015).
- Member of the Human Trafficking Task Force, Eastern District.
- Member of the Fayette Family Court Advisory Council.
- Co-authored article for Police Chief Magazine on SHARP, the Stalking and Harassment Risk and Assessment Profile (accepted for publication). Wrote brief commentary to highlight the benefits of the Violence Against Women Act for the National Bulletin on Domestic Violence (published October 2014). Contributed to Kentucky Law Enforcement magazine for article on dating violence (published Fall 2014).
- Reviewed article for the National Institute of Justice on legal representation for victims of domestic violence in civil proceedings.
- Presented in two national webinars: Community Implementation of SHARP for the Battered Women's Justice Project on December 10, 2014, and Safe Havens: Implementing Supervised Visitation and Exchange Programs for OVW on December 5, 2014.
- Worked with Anita Capillo, Director of SANE, to develop 3-hour online training on domestic violence for the U.K. Medical Center.
- Presented 10 workshops/trainings (with approximately 850 participants) on family and interpersonal violence and developing a coordinated community response, including two workshops at statewide conferences, and one full-day training with the Louisville Police Department on stalking.