



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION BOARD

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

2016 BOARD MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Rashmi Adi-Brown, CHES Solutions Group,
Director of the Div. of Family & Youth Services

Vice Chair: Velva Reed Barker, Fayette County
Public Schools, ESS/Social Work/Guidance & FRYSC
Coordinator

Secretary: Mary Lynn Houlihan, Commonwealth
Attorney's Office, Director of Victim Services

Treasurer: Chris Ford, LFUCG Dept. of Social Services,
Commissioner

EX-OFFICIO

Chief Mark Barnard, LFUCG Police Department, Chief

Ronnie Bastin, LFUCG Dept. of Public Safety,
Commissioner

Anita Capillo, SANE, Director

Emmanuel Caulk, Fayette County Public Schools,
Superintendent

Emily Charles, Sunflower Kids, Director

April Davis, KY Cabinet for Health & Family Services,
Service Region Administration

Connie Godfrey, LFUCG Adult & Tenant Services,
Director

Rhonda Henry, UK Violence Intervention and
Prevention, Director

Denise Kennedy, Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency
of the Bluegrass, Ombudsman

M.E. Kobes, Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center, Director

Hon. Lucinda Masterton, Fayette County Family Court,
Chair

Lisa Minton, Chrysalis House, Director

Chief Joe Monroe, UK Police Department, Chief

Hon. Lou Anna Red Corn, Fayette County
Commonwealth Attorney

Vince Riggs, Fayette County Circuit Court, Clerk

Hon. Larry Roberts, Fayette County Attorney

Joanna Rodes, LFUCG Family Care Center, Director

Jennifer Scutchfield, LFUCG City Council,
Councilmember

Winn Stephens, Children's Advocacy Center of the
Bluegrass, Director

Darlene Thomas, GreenHouse 17, Director

Jeffrey White, The Nest, Director

Sheriff Kathy Witt, Fayette County Sheriff

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Chad Aull, Fusion Corp Design, Sr. Sales Account
Manager

Hon. Catherine DeFlorio, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass,
VAWA Attorney

Rev. Kelly Flood, KY House of Representatives,
Representative

TC Johnson, Winburn Middle School, Youth Services
Coordinator

Dr. TK Logan, UK Center on Drug & Alcohol
Research, Professor

Cynthia Robichaux, Lexington VA Medical Center,
Primary Care-Mental Health Integration Program
Manager

2016 COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Child Abuse: **Velva Reed Barker**, Fayette County Public Schools

Partner Abuse: **Darlene Thomas**, GreenHouse 17

Vulnerable Adults: **Cliff Bryant**, Dept. for Community Based Services

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patricia Acosta, The Nest

Rashmi Adi-Brown, CHES Solutions Group

Robin Anderson, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Melissa Arnett, UK TAP

Chad Aull, Fusion Corp Design

Amy Baker, SAVI

Stephanie Bostick, GreenHouse 17

Sgt. Paul Boyles, Lexington Police Department

Hon. Traci Brislin, Fayette County Family Court Judge

Lt. Matt Brotherton, Lexington Police Department

Cliff Bryant, Dept. for Community Based Services

Lindsey Burke, Sunflower Kids

Traci Caneer, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Emily Charles, Sunflower Kids

Tiffany Compton, LFUCG Family Care Center

Israel Cook, CASA

Pati Coulter, County Attorney's Office

Liz Davenport, GreenHouse 17

Catherine DeFlorio, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

Andy Eilertson, UK Police Department

Letaunuu Faletufuga, CHES Solutions Group

Diane Fleet, GreenHouse 17

Chris Ford, LFUCG Dept. Social Services

Irene Gooding, LFUCG Grants and Special Programs

David Graves, Family Law Attorney

Vanessa Grossl, LFUCG Global Lex

Raegan Gyorffy, Children's Advocacy Center

Teri Faragher, OutrageUs

Mike Finucane, Action Counseling

Leticia Hagerman, Lexington Police Department

Samantha Hall, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Gary Haner, Dept. for Community Based Services

Cornetta Harris, Lexington Police Department

Sgt. Jeremiah Harville, Lexington Police Department

Hunter Hickman, The Nest

Mary Lynn Houlihan, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Cara Howell, Community Action Council

Sgt. Kevin Huddleston, Lexington Police Department

Stephanie Humes, Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center

Jennifer Johnson, Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center

Cherie Jones, After the Storms

Denise Kennedy, Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency

M.E. Kobes, Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center

Michael Korb, Community Corrections

Melissa LaKetick, After the Storms

Scott Lancaster, GreenHouse 17

Carolynn Lee, Office of Fayette County Sheriff

Nicky LeGood, Wellcare Health Plans

Jamie Love, LFUCG Global Lex

Angie Maldonado, Friend of the Court Office

Robert Mason, Counseling Associates

Hon. Lucinda Masterton, Fayette County Family Court Judge

Jenna McNeal, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Melissa Menza, LFUCG Family Care Center

Alicia Miller, Dept. for Community Based Services

Katie Mooney, The Nest

Duane Osborne, Friend of the Court

Angie Pacheco, Circuit Court Clerk's Office

Evan Ramsay, UK Police Department

Ginny Redman, Chrysalis House

Velva Reed-Barker, Fayette County Public Schools

Nylar Roberts, CASA

Cindy Robichaux, VA Medical Center

Joanna Rodes, LFUCG Family Care Center

Alan Saylor, UK Police Department

Brittany Scordo, Commonwealth Attorney's Office

Jennifer Scutchfield, LFUCG City Council

Steven Stadler, Fayette County Attorney's Office

Hon. Kathy Stein, Fayette County Family Court Judge

Scooter Stein, Office of Fayette County Sheriff

Melissa Stiff, LFUCG Senior Center

Meredith Swim, GreenHouse 17

Isabel Taylor, LFUCG Global Lex

Shantel Taylor, Salvation Army

Darlene Thomas, GreenHouse 17

Lee Turpin, Fayette County Attorney's Office

Det. Jason Wallace, Lexington Police Department

Amy Ward, UK TAP

Melinda Weathers, Lexington Police Department

Kelly Wells, Fayette County Attorney's Office

Kristen Wilson, Fayette County Attorney's Office

Sheriff Kathy Witt, Office of Fayette County Sheriff

INTRODUCTION

2016

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to present the 2016 Annual Report of the Fayette County Domestic Violence Prevention Board (DVPB). I am excited to share our accomplishments for 2016, and hope you find this report useful and informative.

I would like to take a moment to reflect on a major change for the Board. In December 2015 we said good-bye to DVPB's long-time and only previous Director, Teri Faragher. Teri continues to provide wonderful mentorship to many of us in the community. Her leadership and guidance affords the DVPB a tremendous foundation of past accomplishments. While stepping into her vacancy has not been without its challenges, it has been an honor.

Throughout 2016 the Board continues to build on our positive momentum, deepening our impact and expanding our reach into the community. Through projects such as the new Safe Measures program, we provided funds for survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault with needed safety enhancements (lock changes, alarms, etc.) so they can remain safely in their homes. We've expanded community outreach and awareness through social media platforms. And we increased the visibility of Domestic Violence Prevention Month in October through an increase in event programming and community outreach.

The DVPB could not accomplish these goals without the dedication of our committed, passionate members, agencies, and community partners. Thank you for your partnership in embracing a vision of our community as a place where victims are safe, offenders are held accountable, and violence is unacceptable.

I look forward to working with the Board to advance our purpose in even greater and more impactful ways.

Warm regards,
Stephanie Theakston, MSW
Domestic Violence Prevention Program Coordinator

2016 ABOUT OUR WORK

The Domestic Violence Prevention Board represents a coordinated collaborative effort among Fayette County agencies to address domestic violence in our community.

When referring to domestic violence, our focus encompasses:

- Child abuse, neglect, and exploitation
- Dating and intimate partner violence
- Abuse of vulnerable adults
- Sexual abuse and exploitation
- Human trafficking
- And any other area of human abuse and exploitation that may be identified as a problem by the board

When discussing violence, we include physical and sexual violence, as well as threats, financial exploitation, psychological abuse, coercive control, and other abusive tactics.

Coordinated Community Response

Domestic violence is too complex an issue for any one organization or system to address. The solution lies within the community as a whole.

We firmly believe we are more effective working together to prevent, identify, and respond to domestic violence. As a result, we provide a cohesive community response for victims.

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the DVPB adopted the slogan “**Educate, Support, Prevent**” to represent our strategic approach to stopping domestic violence.

Throughout the year, committee members have worked to advance our goals in Fayette County. What follows are some examples of ways we have increased awareness and understanding of domestic violence dynamics, identified gaps in services and systems, initiated new programs to fill those gaps, and facilitated the sharing of expertise and resources among professionals.

OUR MISSION

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

The DVPB works to educate ourselves and others on best practice response to domestic violence and strengthen the community's response. Through trainings and awareness events, we equip the community to engage in the collective response to intervention and prevention. In 2016:

- The Partner Abuse Committee developed an insert for the Fayette County Domestic Violence Resource Guide to provide information to victims of dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, about the newly instituted Interpersonal Protective Orders for which they are eligible and how to obtain such an order.
- The DVPB engaged community members and distributed resources during Domestic Violence Awareness Month at popular local businesses and events such the Night Market and North Lime Coffee and Donuts, who developed a special customized product in support of our mission.
- The DVPB collaborated with University of Kentucky campus cinema program to screen "It Happened Here" an award-winning documentary focused on college campus responses to sexual assault.
- The DVPB Coordinator provided three trainings to Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers about domestic violence dynamics and the intersection of child abuse. The DVPB Coordinator also presented two trainings (along with Diane Fleet) to Community Action Council staff about recognizing and responding to domestic violence, and one training for the LFUCG Department of Social Services staff on the dynamics of domestic violence, its effects on children, their obligations as social service providers, and protective order procedures.
- The DVPB Coordinator presented at the "What Works in Child Welfare" conference in Lexington in May on the role and importance of supervised visitation services in cases of domestic violence. The DVPB Coordinator also presented information to Fayette County Public Schools Guidance Counselors on the new dating violence law and the Interpersonal Protective Orders now available to victims of dating violence.
- The DVBP Coordinator presented to LFUCG City Council about the purpose of the Board, the history of its success, and the extent of documented domestic violence in the community.
- The DVPB Coordinator disseminated information regarding legislative proposals to the 2016 KY General Assembly relating to child abuse, domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault through weekly email updates.
- The DVPB Coordinator created a social media campaign on Facebook and Twitter to share information about domestic violence and reach an expanded audience. In the period of three months, social media traffic increased by 248%.

2016 SUPPORT

The DVPB works to create better supports and services available to families impacted by domestic violence in our community and to support those individuals and agencies working to prevent domestic violence. In 2016:

- The Partner Abuse Committee created the Safe Measures program to increase safety and autonomy for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault by providing funds to those who wish to remain in their current homes but need safety enhancements, such as locks and alarms, in order to remain there safely.
- The DVPB revised and updated the Fayette County Domestic Violence Resource List and list of support groups for victims of intimate partner violence in an effort to make services more accessible.
- The Safe Havens Consulting Committee (ad hoc) met multiple times to identify gaps in the current systems responding to domestic violence and brainstormed solutions, which include a strategic victim safety planning project and an offender accountability program in civil court.
- The DVPB Coordinator began writing a proposal for the OVW Justice for Families grant intended to fund the projects proposed during the brainstorming session and provide safe supervised child visitations and exchanges in domestic violence cases in a manner consistent with Safe Havens Guiding Principles through Sunflower Kids.
- The DVPB hosted Wear Purple Day and had many people participate through social media, had the Helix garage and buildings on UK's campus lit up in purple, and designed and hung banners along Vine Street during Domestic Violence Awareness Month to show support for victims and those who have dedicated their lives to victim safety.
- The Stand Up for Youth (SUFY) coalition, comprised of members of the Child Abuse Committee and community partners, hosted its 3rd Annual Appreciation Breakfast during Child Abuse Prevention Month and honored those working in the field of child welfare.
- The DVPB Coordinator assisted with the management of Sunflower Kids when the agency was without an Executive Director and continues as the Program Administrator for the Safe Havens Project.

THE DVPB STRIVES TO SUPPORT
VICTIM SAFETY
AND **OFFENDER**
ACCOUNTABILITY

The DVPB works to prevent further violence by promoting positive changes the systemic and community response to violence.

- The DVPB met quarterly to facilitate an effective collaborative coordinated response to meet the needs of domestic violence victims and their children.
- The DVPB fostered conversations about the release of domestic violence offenders and discussed ways in which the justice system can assist in enhancing victim safety.
- The Child Abuse Committee distributed Summer Safety Tips that included advice from the Fayette County Coroner on how to increase safety for children and families.
- The Child Abuse Committee relaunched its bi-annual conference, Fayette County Child Abuse Prevention: A Cooperative Approach. The conference hosted more than 120 public school workers, child protection workers, and police officers in an effort to foster interagency collaboration, to discuss role clarification and how each relates to the overall system. The conference also featured discussions on human trafficking in our community, and internet safety tips for children and youth.
- The Fatality/Near Fatality Review Team, chaired by Judge Lucinda Masterton, conducted a review of two cases of domestic violence fatality/near fatality in an effort to determine indicators that may prompt early identification and intervention in future cases to prevent more domestic violence homicides .
- After a period of inactivity, the Vulnerable Adult Committee reconvened and identified unmet safety needs of vulnerable adults in our community by conducting a brainstorming and a survey of service providers. The need for safe, appropriate, emergency shelter arose again and again as a top action item, and the committee has begun exploring options for this and reducing potential for additional victimization.
- The DVPB and staff from the Department of Community Based Services created a collaborative working group to discuss and improve the intersection of child abuse and domestic violence responses and protections.

THE YEAR AHEAD - 2017

- Increasing partnerships with the LGBTQ community in our response to domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Developing a workplace campaign to support victim safety and employment protections.
- Expanding the number of trainings and presentations given at local and state levels.
- Growing the number of community partners and businesses involved in the participation of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Increasing social media outreach through regular content updates on multiple platforms.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION BOARD

LFUCG Department of Social Services

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