



Mission: *To promote a community-wide response to sexual violence by coordinating a multi-disciplinary team that will ensure victims receive comprehensive, compassionate care*

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) General Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday January 31, 2019

Call to Order: Sharon Daugherty, Palm Beach County Victim Services Outreach Coordinator & Susan Carlini, Palm Beach County Victim Services Program Coordinator

Welcome / Introductions of Members and Guests: Scott Addlesberger; Oren Alter, Belinda Barr, Brandon Bidenman, Sherry Britton-Susino, Dylan Brooks, Susan Carlini, Ellen Craddock-Day, Sharon Daugherty, Rebecca DeLaRosa, Kenia Desravines, Kat Duesterhaus, Lucas Hall, Alison Harris, Faye Johnson, James Lamons, Lazarus Kimsal, Paul Lisker, Adam Lobrutto. M-Z guests records are unavailable.

Review/Approval of minutes: November 29, 2018

On-Going Business:

Susan Carlini discussed the SART member survey. This survey is for members to give their input on meeting proceedings, times, dates etc. The survey is short and only takes 5 minutes. Serenia will send out the survey again next week. All members are encouraged to take the survey.

New Business:

SART members were requested to consider recognizing an outstanding 2018 SART member. Nominations are being accepted for the SART member of the year 2018. The recognized individual will receive recognition at the National Crime Victims Week Luncheon. Nominations are due Feb. 15th 2019.

Sharon presented SART 2018 reflections: Looking back on accomplishments achieved by SART in the year 2018. The “Start by Believing” campaign was also discussed.

Julie discussed the CNN - Inside with Chris Cuomo episode 3 “Anatomy of a Rape”. This is still available for viewing On Demand.

Valerie Messineo discussed Victim Link, which is a line that victims can call to get information about their rights and information about reporting or not reporting. This line also give victims the ability to be transferred to the correct jurisdiction if they choose to report the crime.

Sharon opened up the floor for members to share accomplishments.

- Julie discussed the CNN - Inside with Chris Cuomo Episode 3 “Anatomy of a Rape”. This is still available for viewing via “On Demand.”
- Taryn shared that they continue to help students become more familiar with victim services and what services are available to them.
- West Palm Beach Police Department was recognized for their outstanding diligence in helping with cold cases.
- JR Thicklin announced Feb 20th will be the roll out for a Clergy Toolkit and training that encourages faith leaders in the community to become more aware of sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Compass announced they are partnering with PBC Victim Services to help bring awareness of SA/ DV to the LGBTQ community.

Member Highlight:

Dustin “Tate” Yeatman announced that to-date 1634 cases have been sent for testing, of those cases 647 profiles have been uploaded, 232 had hits in their system, 59 have been assigned to detectives and there have been two arrests.

SANE Report:

Case Disposition:

Sherry reported that in 2018, 100% of the 301 cases that were called out were responded to by SANE Nurses.

Community Action Network:

Survivor Action Team: Sharon discussed the Survivor Action Team Retreat. It was an uplifting experience. The team produced masks for display at our events and discussed the Media Appreciation Day for July 2019.

SAAM Committee:

Reminder to attend our 4.2.19 Annual Field of Hope Event here at SART. SART members were invited to send their outreach staff to vendor & send their families they serve to this survivor speak out.

Training Committee: on-going

Legislative Committee: Legislative Committee: It was reported that VAWA has been reauthorized till Feb. 15th, after that date we will have to wait to see what happens, but further government shutdown could mean some negative repercussions for Sexual Assault Programs.

SART Case Staffings: Valerie Messineo reported that on January 11, a sexual assault case staffing was held at the SART office. Six cases were reviewed with Victim Services advocates, supervisors, coordinators, SANE coordinator, and our therapist.

Two of the cases involved the same victim. She is a minor who was assaulted by two different people in two different department jurisdictions. Both officers had met with this victim without an advocate present. During the staffing all talked about the best way to support this victim and also convey to LE the importance of having an advocate present when they meet with a victim.

One case was a West Palm Beach PD case where a detective went above and beyond what was expected to help make the victim comfortable as she was significantly traumatized from the assault. Several advocates became involved with the case as it transitioned from daytime to evening and then into the weekend. This was an example of how the care and attention the detective gave the victim made a difference. The intent of this discussion was to highlight best practices and encourage all to follow this practice.

The third case was a non-reporting that involved a victim who was Baker Acted after the assault. The right of the victim to have an exam even if admitted to the hospital's psychiatric unit and how to best support her moving forward was discussed.

Another case involved a victim who walked into Victim Services Central office requesting assistance. She said she reported to a road patrol officer but had not heard anything back. The case was never received by a detective. After the staffing, the department was contacted and the case was assigned to a detective that afternoon. Later, the suspect filed an injunction against the victim. Given the circumstances of her assault; Victim Services provided support to her during this hearing.

Green DOT Program update: on-going

Member field discussion:

- Judy Traub from the National Counsel for Jewish Women announced that she is selling posters for Human Trafficking awareness. \$30 for 6 posters. They are great for setting up at any event to help bring awareness. She made posters available at the meeting. The Federation will pay for the posters for Non-Profits.
- Julie Weil's "Not Just Me" Foundation continues to make donations to the Butterfly House, such as clothing & toiletries. If anyone has any needs for supplies, please let Julie know so that she may help to provide those supplies to anyone who assists victims.
- Pride Fest 2019 will be held on the weekend of March 30th & 31st. Palm Beach County Victim Services will be participating in Palm Beach Pride - Palm Beaches' largest LGBTQ event. Our partners at Compass are putting on this community celebration at Bryant Park in Lake Worth. It is a two-day event featuring live music, a parade, and local vendors.

Next meeting date: February 28, 2019 @ 2pm – 3pm

Thank you!