



**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 November 29, 2018**

**Call to Order:** Carol Messam-Gordon, Palm Beach County Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center (PBCVS)

**Welcome / Introductions of Members and Guests:** Scott Addlesberger, Breanna Andrews Lisa Alward, Molly Anderson, Vanessa Arriela, Belinda Barr, Robert Bragg, Sharon Daugherty, Lorna Fink, Travis Hunter, Adam Lobrutto, Nicole Martinez, Tanya Meade, Carol Messam-Gordon, Valerie Messineo, Craig Newby, Serenia Page-Beckton, Samantha Poje, Jill Raftery, Clarice Redding, Christine Shaw, Christina Silvestri, Laura Stevenson, Kenneth Velazquez, S'Rah Ysrael, Rachel Zara.

Carol welcomed all on behalf of Victim Services Director, Nicole Bishop, and read the SART Mission as a reminder of why the team meets. She introduced herself and asked all members to introduce themselves.

#### **Review/Approval of minutes: October 25, 2018**

The minutes for October were approved with no changes and/or revisions.

**On-Going Business:** Carol Messam-Gordon, SART Program Coordinator/ Penny McIsaac, PBSC Title IX Coordinator

Sharon Daugherty presented in Penny's stead. She announced that the Campus Round Up 4 had taken place on November 16, 2018 and was attended by 55 persons from various disciplines which the majority from college education. She outlined the presentations for the day and raved about the engagement of the participants who attended. It was another successful event.

**New Business:** Carol Messam-Gordon/ Lorna Fink, Lynn University Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator, JD, CCEP

Lorna Fink distributed a summary of and reviewed highlights of the proposed changes in the Title IX and how they may impact the collaborative work of the campus Advocates with community advocates who have shared cases. She stated the 149-page document was originally introduced as guiding principles under the former presidential administration; however, current administration

is attempting to make this an official binding guidance with penalties for non-adherence. The group was asked questions and wanted the document emailed to all members. Lorna announced that there was a 60 day timeline for public comment that began on November 16, 2018. Lorna encouraged all to take a look at the document and send comments. The document was emailed after the meeting.

**Member Highlight:** Christine Shaw, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation

- How can Legislative Delegation be of assistance to you?

Christine outlined the roles and responsibilities of her office which is to support the elected Officials assigned to her office including traveling to Tallahassee when they are in session or propose bills. As the liaison for legislative affairs, her office is responsible for working with the public, at their request, to meet with the officials and express their ideas, concerns, etc. She cannot lobby, but serves as an Advocate only for any issues brought forth. Her role in SART is to assist with researching laws and bills related to topics of interest and those that may affect the work of SART. Her office started a newsletter, please feel free to sign up at [www.pbcdelegation.com](http://www.pbcdelegation.com) to receive updates.

**SANE Report:** Serenia Beckton for Sherry Britton-Susino, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordinator Sherry responded to a case shortly before the SART Meeting began. SANE had 21 call outs, Seventeen exams, twelve of which were done at Butterfly House and five at the Emergency Room. Three of the cases were non-reporting. SANE was available 100% of the time and completed all the exams.

- **Case Disposition:** None available for this meeting.

**Community Action Network:** Sharon Daugherty, PBCVS Outreach Coordinator

The seven committees continue to function for various specialties. Our Hispanic Outreach Committee has the planned Hispanic Awareness Day on January 6, 2019 at St. John Fischer Church. We have the WPB Police Static display. This is the first year and it will be fabulous for all to see. The Sexual Assault Awareness Committee is beginning to plan the activities for April 2019. Sharon asked if anyone had jeans they would like to donate to help with Denim Day 2019 to let her know and she'll make arrangements to pick them up. And, encouraged anyone who is interested in joining a committee to contact her.

**Training Committee:** Serenia P. Beckton, SART Grant Coordinator

Our Committee met on November 15th. We have a few projects in process. The first is the Anti-Stalking Toolkit revision. AVDA as our lead, reports it's in its final stages and training will commence with the VA police officers next month. Meetings are held at SART Center on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 2-3pm. Contact me if you are interested in joining.

**Legislative Committee:** Abby Ross/Christine Shaw

There were no additional updates from the committee following Christine's presentation about her office, Legislative Delegation.

**SART Case Staffing's:** Carol Messam- Gordon, Program Coordinator

Sexual assault case staffing held at the SART Center at 10am on Friday, November 9, 2018.

Case involved a 16-year-old victim, assaulted by a friend and taken to CPT for a forensic exam. Victim received a prescription for STD prevention and the guardian filled the prescription at a local pharmacy.

Special circumstances:

CPT report that was sent to the assigned advocate and in the report it was noted that victim tested positive for an STD. Sexual assault Care Coordinator contacted victim to schedule follow-up testing and during the phone call she became aware that the victim and her parents had no knowledge that victim contracted an STD.

Recommendations and services: Staff were concerned with the information they provided to victim and requested to staff this case with CPT to review the victim notification & CPT's medication process. Contacted CPT to schedule a case staffing. I was informed that the director is out of office and case could not be staffed until she returns. Case is pending staffing with CPT.

**Green DOT Program update:** Clarice Redding, Program Coordinator

Green DOT training & Yoga calendars for 2019 will be available soon. Captain Green DOT costume is on order and should be unveiled soon. SART will be updated on arrival and release of costume.

**Member field discussion:**

- Human Trafficking Task Force 5k is scheduled for February 9, 2018. A flyer
- AVDA's race for HOPE will be held on January 12, 2019. Active first responders' entry fee is waived.
- Zonta, an international organization is organizing a dedication and appreciation for Julie Weil. They will have a fundraiser for her organization. It's a dinner scheduled on January 26, 2019 at the Pavilion Grille in Boca Raton. Announcement will be forwarded to SART Members.
- No SART Meeting in December

**Next meeting date:** January 31, 2019 @ 2pm – 3pm

Thank you and happy Holidays!