



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, August 25, 2016

Call to Order: Nicole Bishop, Director Palm Beach County Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center (PBCVS)

Welcome / Introductions of Members and Guests: Amber Ahern, Oren Alter, Nicole Bishop, Rene Boone, Jennifer Brashear, Sherry Britton Susino, Susan Carlini, Crystal Conway, Ellen Craddock Day, Angela Dallesandro, Sharon Daugherty, Holly DiBenedetto, Monica Gonzalez, Adrienne Hillman, Richard Jenkins, Ana Jimenez, Keri Kampsen, Frank Katen, Eric Keith, Brenda Krayner, Dave LeFont, Cheryl Lumm, Brandy Macaluso, Tanya Meade, Carol Messam Gordon, Valerie Messineo, Earl Moore, Kathryn Oleksy, Jill Raftery, Clarice Redding, Betzy Rega, Kelly Roan, Cheryl Sandhoff, Rob Shelt, Clifton Smith, Joseph Sophie, Liisa Spinello, JR Thicklin, Steve Wessendorf, Yesenia Collura, Cameron Cook, Michael Lilienfeld, Brent Joseph, Elizabeth Mourlac, Maria Elie, Rich McNevin, Kim Cesark, Sarita Johnson, Veronica Castro.

Review/Approval of minutes: June 30, 2016

Members were emailed the minutes and the minutes were approved

Norton Museum of Art Project: Sandy Reynolds, PBCVS Green Dot Program Facilitator presented SART members with an art display. The Norton Museum of Art in partnership with Mothers Against Murderers provided an afterschool art program for surviving children of homicide families. Children participating ranged from ages eight-twelve with the goal to help them feel confident in the areas of art, poetry and science. The project on display today at SART is titled, "Becoming", lead by Art Instructor, Jean Hart Howard. She first photographed each child in black and white. Then had them paint over their faces exploring sections with primary and secondary colors. The third step was to transfer their painted photo to self-portraits on canvas, creating fun abstracts of themselves. During the ten session workshop, the children experience life as a community, felt loved, inspired and blessed by their experiences.

On-Going Business: Florida Sex Crimes Investigators Association Conference (FSCIA): Overview of SART 4 - hour block training PBCVS- Sharon Daugherty, Sexual Assault Outreach Coordinator & Susan Carlini, SART grant Coordinator organized and presented a collaborative SART presentation for the August 3, 2106 FSCIA conference. The goals of the presentation was to present the part each attendee plays in the infrastructure of the SART in their region, how a SART functions and the impact on a survivor. Sherry Britton-Susino SANE Coordinator taught on SANE Role clarification & the steps involved in conducting a forensic exam. Justin L. Hoover, Assistant State Attorney, Special Victims Unit – ICAC, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of

Florida In and For Palm Beach County provided attendees with strategy for how to strengthen criminal cases using the “Start by Believing” approach; Increase inter-agency communication; Strategies to strengthen sex offense prosecutions from the initiation of the case. - Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Forensic Biology Unit Manager Julie Sikorsky & Special Victims Unit Sgt. Eric Keith introduced the recently passed Florida Senate Bill 636, its requirements for the testing of sexual assault kits, and the implementation strategy of the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office. Attendees also gained insight and sensitivity into the experience of being a survivor in the military, who is also part of law enforcement facing gender issues. They will also gain understanding of the strengths of one survivor who helped change the Florida statute of limitations and is seeking national change now. - Camara Hall, Director, Stolen People & Ashley Foster, Ashley’s Law, Survivor Activists.

New Business: Nicole Bishop

SART 2016- 2017 Strategic Plan update: Nicole reviewed the 2016-17 goals and objectives of the SART strategic plan that was created by the SART members in December of 2015. Members were provided with a copy for review. (See 2nd attachment)

SART protocol revision review: SART members were provided with a copy of SART protocol revisions. Protocol revisions reflected the implemented Senate Bill 636 effective July 1, 2016. Several SART team members included Palm Beach Gardens PD, West Palm Beach PD, Boynton Beach PD, Jupiter PD, North Palm Beach PD, USMC, SAO and victim services.

Member Highlight: Detective Brent Joseph-Boynton Beach Police Department Criminal Investigations Unit talked about his case work as it now relates to the July 1, 2016 SB 636. Detective Brent stated that his team reviewed 1000’s of cases. Many were not under the criteria, however there was a 2004 case that surfaced and he is working with SART on the case to notify the victim and proceed with filing.

SANE Report: Sherry Britton-Susino, PBCVS SANE Coordinator

SANE report for the month of July 2016: There were 27 call-outs for SANE exams. All were covered by PBC SANES. About 50% of the exams were done at Butterfly House and 50% in hospital emergency rooms. Sherry discussed four new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that will be implemented for the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANES). The development of these new SOPs will provide guidance for the SANES and insure that the SANES are providing care that is in accordance with best practices. The subject matter addressed in these SOPs included SANE Schedule Development, Non-Fatal Strangulation, SANE Photography and Inmate exams—SANE Exams performed on Incarcerated Individuals. Sherry presented at the Florida Sex Crimes Investigator Conference on August 3 with 120 people in attendance.

Committee Reports: Standing

Community Action Network: Sharon Daugherty, PBCVS Outreach Coordinator

Events for SAAM: Palm Beach Awareness Walk Week: Natalie Roberts will be heading up the “Palm Beach Awareness Walk Week” We discussed holding multiple walks over the week. It will become an annual-signature event. Susan C. will assist in committing an officer from each dept. to attend. Create a photo opportunity of all LE participating. Walk would include the entire county. Possibly a circle walk rather than linear; consider making it an educational journey with

prizes or tokens along the way with stations set up. Involve Parks & Rec. and permits will be needed. PBSO & other LE to assist with traffic.

Training Committee: Susan Carlini, SART/OVW Grant Coordinator

- FDLE *Signal 35*, four hour block training is scheduled for September 30, 2016. The State Attorney, PBSO Detective, and CPT have been added to the agenda. Registration is open through Palm Beach State College criminal justice site and survey monkey. Law enforcement will receive CEUs. All SART members were send registration informational.

- OVW SART partner CILO has completed a responding to victims with disabilities hand book. There will be scheduled trainings to SART members and law enforcement by request. The booklets will be disseminated as part of the trainings. An email will be sent to all SART members with further information.

Campus Committee: Sharon Daugherty

Nothing to report at this time

Legislative: Joseph Sophie, Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Aide

This week, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction that stopped the Obama administration from enforcing its May guidance that requires schools and colleges give transgender students access to services and facilities in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity. This opens the door to a potential challenge to the legality of the 2011 guidance by the U.S. Department of Education that directs how colleges, under Title IX, must handle campus sexual assaults. The transgender guidance, as well as the 2011 campus sexual assault guidance, was both released without being put through a formal public comment period, thus providing a path for a college unhappy with the sexual assault requirements to challenge them in court.

SART Case Staffing's: Carol Messam Gordon

SART Case Staffing was held on August 12, 2016 here at the SART Center.

At the request of Victim Services staff this case was staffed. Victim was visiting Florida with her boyfriend and was staying at a local hotel. Victim went to the pool and while at the pool was abducted at gunpoint, brought to a parking lot and was sexually assaulted. Victim reported to Law enforcement and the victim advocate was contacted to respond and provide assistance. Victim advocate, SANE and Law enforcement had some concerns about this case and the case was staffed. All involved agreed that the advocate is the point of contact for dispatching the SANE and will gather information, coordinate with SANE and Law enforcement as it relates to forensic exam and law enforcement interview.

We also staffed 2 cases involving two 13 year old victims who were sexually assaulted. Victim advocates, Law enforcement and SANE responded to both cases and provided assistance to both victims. Victims also needed immediate medical care and were connected to Victim Services Sexual Assault Care Coordinator for medical follow-up services. One victim was 28 weeks pregnant as a result of the sexual assault and has not received prenatal care. This victim was connected to Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies for prenatal care at no charge to the victim's family. Suspect was arrested and trial is pending. The other victim received immediate care and is doing well. Next staffing is scheduled for September 8 at 10am.

AdHoc:

- **Non-Reporting:** In progress

- **Walk in Their Shoes:** In progress

Member field discussion:

- Pink & Purple Day – September 24, 2016
- PBCVS new weekly Sexual Assault Group- flyers presented
- Committee for Day of Beauty thanked the sponsors
- Vice Mayor Johnson of Mangonia Park announced the End it Now Domestic Violence Campaign.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2016 from 2:00 – 3:00 PM