



Meeting Minutes: March 22, 2018

Present:

Discussion Items

1. Introductions
2. Agency Presentations
 - a. Beth Pipping, Emergency Communications Supervisor at Grand Rapids Police & Fire Dispatch presented on Smart911
 - i. Smart911 has existed in Kent County for about 1 year; not every county in Michigan has this application
 - ii. Smart911 is a national, secure database that allows users to create a profile of information that becomes available to the 911 dispatcher only if & when the registered phone (landline or cell phone) calls 911. Users can enter as much or as little information as they would like, and the user can change the information provided at any time. Smart911 is a helpful service in the event that the 911 caller cannot communicate due to medical emergency, home invasion, domestic violence, inability or trouble speaking, deaf or hard of hearing, language barrier, etc. Smart911 is a free service for all users, and does not require an email address. Go to www.smart911.com to create your user profile and/or see resources available for community outreach.
 - iii. When someone completes a profile through Smart911 this information shows up on dispatch computer; the user can choose to include as much or as little information
 - iv. No one, including dispatch can go in an search the database
 - v. Smart911 allows dispatch to initiate a text conversation with the user if the phone call is dropped. Once the reason for calling 911 is resolved, dispatch will not be able to text the caller, nor will the caller be able to text the dispatch (i.e. in a few days if there is another emergency, the user is not able to start another conversation with dispatch via Smart911).
 - vi. Right now, marketing of this service is primarily word of mouth
 - vii. It is important that once someone moves, they update their Smart911 profile!
 - b. Abby Johnson, WEAVE Program Coordinator at the YWCA West Central Michigan presented on the WEAVE Program
 - i. Abby Johnson explained the WEAVE program and its participants. The goal of the program is to better equip those in the community that are primarily working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disability with the skills to better support victims and prevent violence from happening.
 - ii. One program Abby highlighted was the healthy relationship support group. She distributed flyer with information on this program. If you would like one, please contact Abby at ajohnson@ywcawcmi.org
 - iii. The next support group is starting in April. This group is targeted towards individuals with IDD's, but the YWCA does not require official diagnosis or paperwork for someone to join. The group is a closed group, meaning individuals cannot join in the middle of the curriculum.
 - iv. Another program Abby highlighted was a video they are working on that will provide a tour of the YWCA's Nurse Examiner Program. Abby stated that those with IDD's often benefit from routine. The purpose of the video is to

- help potential clients of the program get an idea of what the space looks like and a deeper understanding of what to expect before they engage in the program.
- v. Lastly, the WEAVE program is working on a training series targeted towards those that work with the IDD population. The purpose is to provide education on warning signs, how to support survivors and resources available. Stay tuned for more information in this area.
3. Financial report was presented by Tara Aday, but moving forward Abby Johnson will be presenting these reports. Safe Haven's accountant will be forwarding regular financial statements to Abby to avoid any conflicts of interest.
 - a. There is currently \$215.91 dollars in the DVCCRT account with no pending transactions
 4. Case Review
 - a. We reviewed the purpose of case reviews, which is to provide a space for community members to discuss community issues and areas of success with the goal of improving the collective community's response to instances of domestic violence
 - b. Safe Haven's Residential Program Manager, Becky Mills, presented a case around a woman who was strangled by her husband; police responded; there were witnesses
 - i. It was determined that the case was not picked up by the prosecutor, which is why the case was dropped. Chris Becker stated that he would look more into the case to determine why his office did not move forward with charges
 - ii. The group also discussed why DART did not respond. Beth Pipping recalled the call coming through dispatch and the request going out to DART, which was also noted in the police report. There were no DART representatives at the meeting, so DART was not able to speak as to what had happened
 - iii. Chris Becker encouraged participants to reach out directly to him if an issue like this arises where there is some uncertainty as to why a charge was not issued.
 - c. Due to time, it was decided to review the article about the grant Jefferson County received during June's meeting. This article will be sent out to members.
 - d. Discussion and concerns were raised about two recent incidents in the Hispanic community. The first involved a young Latina woman that called 911. He was arrested but later bonded out of jail. Returned to their shared residence, strangled and killed her. He was not in the U S. legally and she wondered why he wasn't deported after being arrested. The second incident involved a Hispanic woman who hung herself after her assailant was released.
 5. Agency updates
 - a. Aaron Toffoli from Kent County Health Department provided information about the "Embrace Your Voice" event on April 12th at the Rockford Schools.
 - b. Abby Johnson provided Information about the "Believe Survivors" initiative. They are encouraging bars in GR to hang their post to help end rape culture.
 - c. The Sexual Assault Prevention Action Team is hosting an event on April 11th at the YWCA. Contact Aaron Toffoli from KCHD for more details.
 6. Follow up for next meeting
 - a. Aaron Toffoli will contact the city of GR to book the bridge and make it purple for the Candlelight Vigil on October 1st.
 - b. Al from Men's Resource Center will confirm with Randy and obtain a 3-4 sentence overview for the presentation on May 24th.