

## Meeting Minutes

### Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance

450 W. State Street, Boise, ID 83702

9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 9A

July 26, 2024

9:00 a.m. MT

**Members Present:** Wes Somerton-Chair, Jessica Uhrig-Vice Chair, Jennifer Beazer, Rachel Kaschmitter (via Webex), Jona Jacobson (via Webex)

**Members Absent:** Amber Moe, Clint Lemieux

**ICDVVA Employees Present:** Dana Wiemiller, Amy Duque, Erin Vlamis, Jessica Marshall, Kristina Larkin (via Webex)

The meeting was called to order at 9:13 a.m. MT

1. **Action Item: Minutes from June 14, 2024, Meeting**

*Review and approval or revision of June 14, 2024, meeting minutes*

Jessica Uhrig moved to approve minutes. Jenn Beazer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Discussion Item: 2024 Awareness to Action Conference Wrap-up**

*Dana Wiemiller, Executive Director, presented about the recent annual conference. Building Dana Wiemiller provided a recap of the 2024 conference. Building Hope Today did a great job coordinating, the partnership with CARTF was successful, and logistics with The Riverside Hotel went smoothly. Final attendance was 414, down from 2022 which could be due to a number of factors: the higher registration fee, funding cuts that hindered programs from traveling, and possibly the name change was confusing. There was a debrief meeting on Thursday of this week. Today's meeting materials included session feedback in a spreadsheet. Next year is still under discussion – could be in person June 3 and 4 at the Riverside or could be virtual. One concern is that the Riverside is not sufficiently ADA friendly. CARTF may not want to partner next time. Internet Crimes Against Children is still interested in partnering with us, but we need to decide if we would prefer to go back to hosting the conference alone. Need to make decisions soon in order to reserve the Riverside. Jona and Jenn both expressed a preference for an in-person format.*

3. **Discussion Item: Review of Program Risk Assessments**

*Amy Duque, Program Administration Manager*

Amy reviewed the Risk Assessment Summary based on 2023 subrecipient monitoring. There were 33 low-risk agencies, 10 medium risk agencies, and no high-risk agencies. COBS was at

the upper limit of medium risk, at a score of 18. One more point would designate them as high risk. Amy shared new items being added to the 2025 Risk Assessment form to better capture relevant data.

**4. Discussion Item: FY25 Funding Availability**

*Dana Wiemiller, Executive Director*

Dana Wiemiller presented a spreadsheet with an overview of the FY25 funds available to award. Based on current expenditures, it's projected that less of the VOCA 21 award will be used in the current grant year than originally expected (\$600,000 as opposed to \$1M) which will preserve more VOCA 22 funds for the FY26 grant year.

**5. Discussion Item: Review and Discussion of FY25 Grant Applications**

*Staff and Council discussion of funding applications for Federal Fiscal Year 2025.*

Grant Managers Kristina Larkin and Erin Vlamis presented the funding recommendations for FY25 awards. Prior to discussing individual recommendations, they explained that all agencies were asked to make a 5.5% reduction from their FY24 award to better align with available funding. Requests that included the reduction and had all allowable line items were fully funded. Requests that did not include the 5.5% cut were reduced unless a clear justification of need was provided. Jenn Beazer brought up the issue of Executive Director (ED) salary, and the discrepancy among agencies. Kristina and Erin said a review of ED salaries revealed 22% of ED salaries in the state, on average, are being funded by ICDVVA. Staff carefully reviewed ED salary requests and many were reduced, particularly those who do not perform direct services.

Staff shared discussions to evaluate funding for National Special Victims, a new applicant this year. The Council agreed the agency is still too early in their development within Idaho and does not merit funding at this time.

The COBS application was also discussed due to allegations included in recent new articles. Council members agreed that these are still unsubstantiated claims, and funding may continue unless there are official findings of wrongdoing.

Council members also discussed the need to consider new criteria for future award decisions as funds continue to decline.

**6. Action Item: FY25 Grant Awards**

*Approval of Federal Fiscal Year 2025 grant award recommendations*

Jessi Uhrig moved to approve all recommendations for funding as presented by staff, and that no funds shall be awarded to National Special Victims. Additional funds up to \$70K may be awarded to Bingham Crisis Center if Bingham Crisis Center and NSV agree to a partnership model to manage the Blackfoot shelter. Seconded by Jenn Beazer. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Action Item: Grant Administration Policies and Procedures Update

*Amy Duque, Program Administration Manager*

Amy shared that the manual did not need revisions at this time and the agenda could proceed without any action.

8. Discussion Item: Executive Director Report

*Dana Wiemiller, Executive Director*

- New DHW Policies & Staffing Changes: there is a new director, Alex Adams, at DHW and many new members of leadership team. They implemented OneDepartment, a new approval process for grants, conferences, communications, rules/legislation. Staff is still consulting with DHW to determine which of the new guidelines applies to ICDVVA.
- Regional Roundtables: Regions 1 and 2 are scheduled for September 10 in Coeur d'Alene. Regions 6 and 7 are scheduled for October 1 in Pocatello. Regions 3, 4 and 5 are scheduled on October 23 in Boise. Training session will likely focus on vicarious trauma; however, the details are still being finalized.
- Funded Program Updates – nothing new to report
- Trafficking News Article – discussed the recent three-part article by InvestigateWest regarding COBS and human trafficking services in the state.

9. Discussion Item: Councilmember Reports - none

Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m. MT.

Jenn Beazer moved to adjourn. Wes Somerton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.