



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TASK FORCE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015
City Council Committee Room
Honolulu, Hawaii

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Co-Chair Catherine Betts, State Commission on the Status of Women
Co-Chair Lester Hite, Major, Honolulu Police Department
Dennis Dunn, Victim Witness Kokua Services
Judy Kawano, Department of Human Services
Maureen Kiehm, Hawaii State Judiciary, First Circuit Court
Marcy Lopes, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Nanci Kreidman, Hawaii Domestic Violence Action Center
Thalia Murphy, Department of Prosecuting Attorney
Mary Anne Magnier, Department of the Attorney General, General Family Law Division
Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Crime Victim Compensation Commission
Amy Murakami, Crime Victim Compensation Commission
Pamela Tamashiro, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Family Justice Center
Shawn Tsuha, Department of Public Safety, Law Enforcement

OTHERS PRESENT:

Councilmember Carol Fukunaga
Julie Ebato, Department of Justice, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division

The meeting of the Domestic Violence Response Task Force began at 10:11 a.m.

1. The minutes of March 30, 2015 were approved with corrections.

Mary Anne Magnier made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Maureen Kiehm seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

2a. Members share their organization's top three challenges in doing domestic violence work.

Judy Kawano, Child Welfare Services, Department of Human Services, circulated a handout summarizing her department's top three challenges and Child Welfare Services data. Ms. Kawano explained that within her area, there is an overall need for funding and resources, with the following priorities: second stage housing to transition survivors upon leaving a shelter, and to prevent a return to the batterer; more counseling staff among their children's services providers; increased funding for statewide programming

on education, e.g. teen dating violence prevention and intervention; and staff training to properly screen and identify families involved in domestic violence.

Marci Lopes, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, agreed on the need for wider education, especially for the general public. Prosecutors have a challenge getting convictions in domestic violence cases because jurors do not understand the dynamics of domestic violence. Better coordination and collaboration among agencies and organizations, especially with data, needs to be a priority. While the coalition attempts to pull data together, their analyses cannot be as complete due to limited accessibility to data.

Ms. Kiehm, Hawaii State Judiciary, First Circuit Court, circulated a handout listing the three top needs for the judiciary. She explained the need for increased resources, which includes: more judges, staff, facilities, and court security; and regular, updated training for new and current staff at all levels. Increased group support services for batterers are also needed; although it is a proven, effective modality, there are insufficient facilitators. Overall, an improved coordinated community response to domestic violence is needed, via enhanced and regularly scheduled collaboration and communication.

Nanci Kreidman, Domestic Violence Action Center, circulated three handouts: 1) a statistical 14-year retrospective for the Domestic Violence Action Center, from FY 2000-FY 2015; 2) a ONE-DAY Snapshot of Services administered by the Domestic Violence Action Center on February 24, 2015; 3) an infographic data sheet on domestic violence hotline calls, taken from the National Domestic Violence Hotline National Report, and the Hawaii State Report, based on hotline calls documented in Calendar Year 2012.

Ms. Kreidman explained how her staff routinely experiences a lack of domestic violence information in many parts of the system, highlighting how ongoing training should be incorporated into organizations for current staff, particularly as practices are updated and implemented. Additional challenges are: lack of data, which impedes good community planning and resource allocation; accountability of offenders, which loses attention when a system is survivor-focused; and insufficient early intervention support for survivors, which generates good and safe choices moving forward.

Co-Chair Betts, State Commission on the Status of Women, brought up agency coordination, which results with victims falling through the cracks, and inconsistent funding and resources as challenges. It is common for a new initiative to get startup funding. However good programs disappear once political will and funding ceases. Thirdly, lack of data leads to bad policy and bad policy implementation. While domestic violence agencies and providers may know that programs are working, funding and political will cannot follow without the data.

Co-Chair Lester Hite, Honolulu Police Department, agreed with other members that lack of resources and personnel will continue to be a challenge for all agencies and organizations. Instead of focusing on challenges, he named his current strategies to work with the lack of resources: creating more synergy within teams; creating stronger relationships between Honolulu Police and domestic violence agencies, particularly by

increasing Honolulu Police training in domestic violence; and restructuring teams to ensure individual staff strengths are aligned with assignments.

Thalia Murphy, Department of Prosecuting Attorney, explained that, compared to the process for handling child sex assault cases, the system lacks an equivalent for handling all aspects of child physical abuse cases. Honolulu no longer has the care clinic, which was staffed with a pediatrician to screen for child abuse, a very specialized medical training. A coordinated, multi-disciplinary team is needed to document a child's physical abuse, and to work with police, prosecutors, and the Children's Justice Center so that cases are investigated well and can be prosecuted.

Ms. Magnier, Department of Attorney General, agreed with Ms. Kawano's points, stating that expanded training is important for deputies, and there is an overall need for more domestic violence family services.

Amy Murakami, Crime Victim Compensation Commission, explained that 31% of their cases are domestic violence, however they are not seeing proportionate claims for counseling. In the few cases that do seek counseling compensation, as per statute, the granted counseling services can only be applicable to the direct victim and for the incident reported. Domestic violence typically is a series of long-term, unreported incidents, and includes children as indirect victims. This is the gap that needs to be addressed. An additional challenge is victim notification when offenders are released from law enforcement custody. The release is a critical time for victims to get to safety. The Sheriff currently has a notification process, however the Honolulu Police Department does not.

Pam Tamashiro, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Family Justice Center, agreed on the importance of training. Social service providers and the prosecutors each need to be trained on the other's approach to addressing domestic violence, and how they do or do not intersect. While trauma-informed care is the common frame for domestic violence services, it is important to also have training to learn to hold offenders accountable. The Family Justice Center is set to open a housing project in 2015. The project will serve single survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, or sex assault. This is a new housing model which requires residents to prosecute their offenders. It will also provide safety and support services so survivors do not return to the offender.

Shawn Tsuha, Department of Public Safety, also agreed that staffing levels need to be increased. More specialized domestic violence training for courthouse deputies is needed. His department also needs policies on providing service to victims or domestic violence entities entering the courthouse. A firm method of intelligence sharing among agencies and departments is also needed. It can help his department develop risk management tools, and they can be proactive about prioritizing resources and staff when victims and alleged perpetrators will/may be in court.

Julie Ebato, Department of Attorney General, cited a 2014 report from a working group convened under the Attorney General. To help ascertain more specific gaps in services, the working group report highlights that it is critical for agencies, firstly, to do a self-assessment of current services being provided and to whom. The report includes a checklist to assist agencies in this self-assessment.

2b. Discussion of solutions to challenges and next steps.

Co-Chair Betts requested to skip 2b since the discussion from agenda item 2a (organization challenges) subsumed 2b (solutions and next steps). No members objected.

2c. Discussion of current recommendations based on Task Force member review of the following reports:

- i) *Breaking the Cycle of Violence* (December, 1986)
- ii) *Further Recommendations for the Development and Coordination of Services* (December, 1997)

2d. Identification of budget requests based on current recommendations, as identified by Task Force members.

Co-Chair Betts requested to merge agenda items 2c and 2d into one discussion. No members objected.

Ms. Kiehm added a third report to the list: 1999 Report, developed through the Attorney General, with specific recommendations for the Criminal Justice System.

Members discussed responses to the reports and fiscal recommendations. A number of members agreed that while the community has come a long way since the reports were first published (1986, 1997), there are still holes in the current system. For the next meeting, Co-Chair Betts requested members to review *Breaking the Cycle of Violence* (December, 1986) recommendations closely, and summarize what has been accomplished in their respective service sectors since that time, and what remains to be done.

The members also brought up that until political will prioritizes domestic violence programs, funds and resources, effective programming, and progress will continue to be limited or inconsistent. It was also recommended that any future proposals for data gathering initiatives should be tied to an implementation program that acts upon this data.

Two specific fiscal recommendations were discussed: 1) development and implementation of an ongoing, centralized data resource; and 2) a high-risk management matrix -- to identify people coming into the system who are at higher risk than others, and to be used throughout the system to coordinate response to survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

Many members agreed with these recommendations. For the high-risk management, Ms. Kreidman suggested selecting other jurisdictions to model Hawaii's program. Mr. Dunn suggested to look at less intensively resource-driven recommendations as well, noting current technology and easier file-sharing capabilities.

3. Discussion of the May 1, 2015 Report to the Council: outline, parameters, and deadline.

Councilmember Carol Fukunaga explained that the Honolulu City Council will use the Task Force's reports to demonstrate the need for more domestic violence program funding.

The May 1st Preliminary Task Force Report would serve as a tool for the Council to identify city budget gaps that may impact domestic violence programming. It would also prepare councilmembers for the upcoming CD2 discussions from April 22nd through the end of May. The Year-End Task Force Report could help identify systemic needs required for a more comprehensive coordination among multiple agencies and levels of government. Councilmember Fukunaga agreed with the members' earlier discussion concerning data collection, noting a specific interest in more quantified data about the overall impact of domestic violence programs on the community.

To respond to the May 1 deadline, Co-Chair Betts recommended the following actions:

- 1) Co-Chairs Betts and Hite will draft a preliminary report incorporating recommendations from today's formal discussion;
- 2) Co-chairs will electronically transmit the draft on April 23rd to task force members for feedback;
- 3) Task Force will meet and finalize the report on Friday, May 1, 2015, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

No members objected.

Concerning the longer, Year-End Task Force Report, Co-Chair Betts requested members to review the reports discussed, and share their broad-based recommendations to the Task Force via email. Discussion will be planned for a future meeting once the preliminary report is complete. No members objected.

4. Announcements

The Hunting Ground, a film about campus sexual assault. Screenings: Thursday, April 16, at the Hawaii International Film Festival, and Friday, April 17, at the Arts at Mark's Garage.

Community Advocate Lunch with Dottie Davis, a former decorated law enforcement officer and a domestic violence survivor, whose abuser was also a law enforcement officer. Friday, April 17, 11:30 a.m., at the YMCA.

5. Next meeting date and addition of new member

Ms. Magnier made the motion to add Julie Ebato, Department of the Attorney General, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division, to the Task Force. Ms. Tamashiro seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The next task force meeting will be Friday, May 1, 2015, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Council Committee Room, as discussed previously during agenda item 3.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

DV Response Task Force – April 16, 2015
Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Welfare Services (CWS)

Top three challenges:

1. Funding for 2nd stage housing is needed. Effective January 2015, the DHS contract for DV Shelter increased the maximum bed days allowed per stay from 90 to 120 days, as survivors are experiencing difficulty locating and/or qualifying for affordable housing. This is a barrier to survivors achieving independence and unfortunately results in some survivors returning to the batterer. Transitional housing was also added to the scope of services, but additional funding is not available at this time.
2. Additional funding for children's services is needed as most programs do not have adequate funding to hire highly qualified staff with specialized knowledge in dealing with children exposed to domestic violence. Children, particularly older children and youth, should have an individualized assessment, service plan, and services to address their needs, which may be different from or even in conflict with the survivor's needs. They may also need services to help ensure that they know how to be safe, don't suffer long term physical, psychological and emotional effects of exposure to violence, and don't perpetuate the violence in their own relationships.
3. Additional funding is also needed to support prevention and intervention services for youth. The DHS currently contracts for the Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Intervention Program, which has reached more than 10,000 youth statewide. Additional funding would allow this program and others like it can provide services on every island and in every school.

CWS Data:

1. In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2014, DHS domestic violence contracts provided the following services:
 - 1,455 unduplicated men, women, and children were sheltered.
 - 44,381 shelter nights were provided.
 - 4,661 hotline calls were received.
 - 253 youth targeted presentations were conducted for 10,241 participants.
 - 842 individuals received non-shelter DV counseling, advocacy and support services, including 339 survivors, 406 children, and 97 batterers.
 - 66 survivors received Legal Services for Immigrants Experiencing Domestic Violence.
 - 236 survivors received Legal Services in Domestic Violence Shelters or while eligible for DV shelter services.
2. In SFY 2014, 358 of 2,139 child removals (16.7%) indicated that domestic violence was a precipitating factor.

Three Top Needs for the Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

1. Resources

A. Judges, staff, facilities, court security

Average caseload for domestic violence probation officers in the First Circuit is 150

B. Increased funding for service providers

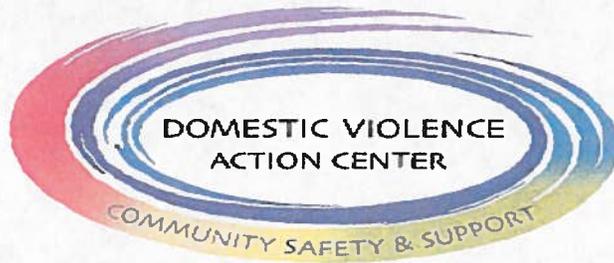
Desired standard for dv offenders in mandated intervention groups is 8 to 10 per facilitator. One provider average ^S14 to 25 per group and often, with only one facilitator most of the time

2. Training

Both internal only and multi-disciplinary training for new judges, staff, service providers, community partners

3. Enhanced collaboration

Between key stakeholders to coordinate new/modified policies, procedures, programs



Retrospective
14 Years (FY 2000 – FY 2014)

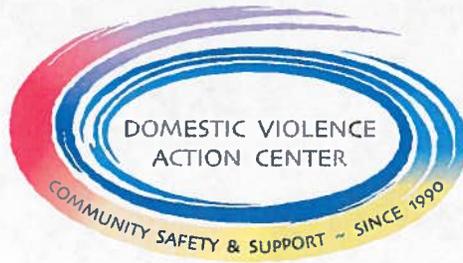
- DVAC Staff had Telephone Contact with **262,415** Callers
- **6,229** Requests for Legal Representation Received
- **4,849** Legal Cases Opened
- **4,275** Legal Cases Closed
- **4,238** Advocacy Cases Opened
- **5,164** Advocacy Cases Closed
- **7,479** Court appearances by Agency Attorneys
- **30,103** Hours Working on Document Preparation and in Court Proceedings
- **20,481** Accompaniments with Clients to Agencies, Appointments for Court
- **49,168** Safety Plans Completed
- **46,891** Risk Assessments Conducted

Teen Alert Program (program began in 2002)

- **58,777** Students, Educators & Service providers Trained through Teen Alert Program
- **325** Public Schools Statewide Visited by Teen Alert Program Staff
- **105** Private Schools Statewide Visited by Teen Alert Program Staff

P. O. Box 3198 Honolulu, HI 96801-3198
Oahu Helpline: 808 531-3771 Toll-free: 800 690-6200 Administration: 808 534-0040 Fax 808 531-7228
dvac@stoptheviolence.org www.stoptheviolence.org





25 Years

**A ONE-DAY Snapshot of Services
February 24, 2015**

- **114** calls with clients
- **61** calls on behalf of a client (i.e. negotiating with an opposing party, investigative call to a social service agency for a GAL report, etc.)
- **49** in-person contacts with clients
- **222** children under the age of 18 on agency caseload who were affected by this work (i.e. for each case that was handled, children were part of that household)³
- **5** court appearances with clients by attorneys at Family Court;
10 court accompaniments with clients by advocates at Family Court;
3 client accompaniments by advocates to other service agencies
- **10** Helpline calls
- **77** Safety plans completed
- **87** Referrals made to community agencies:
- **62** legal information provided (provided to clients on agency caseload, EXPO petitioners and HL)
- **1** Support Group conducted
- **150** students participate in Teen Alert Program lunchtime rally and “spin the wheel” at James Campbell HS event booth about healthy relationships

Data is inclusive of all client services and community programs.

P. O. Box 3198 Honolulu, HI 96801-3198

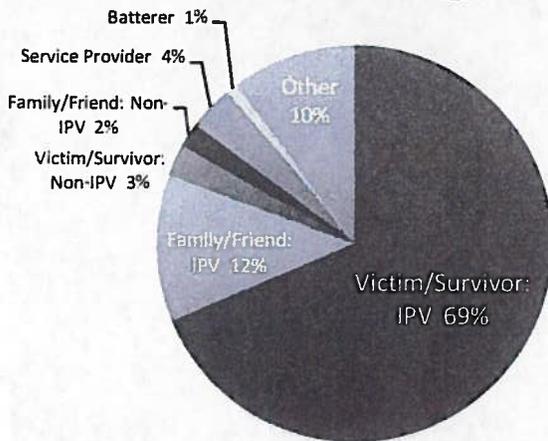
Oahu Helpline: 808 531-3771 | Toll-free: 800 690-6200 | Administration: 808 534-0040 | Fax 808 531-7228

dvac@stoptheviolence.org | www.domesticviolenceactioncenter.org | [facebook.com/domesticviolenceactioncenterhawaii](https://www.facebook.com/domesticviolenceactioncenterhawaii)

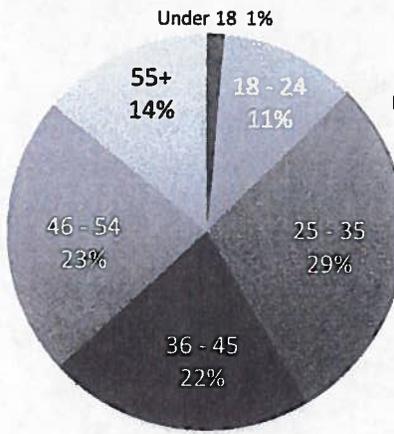


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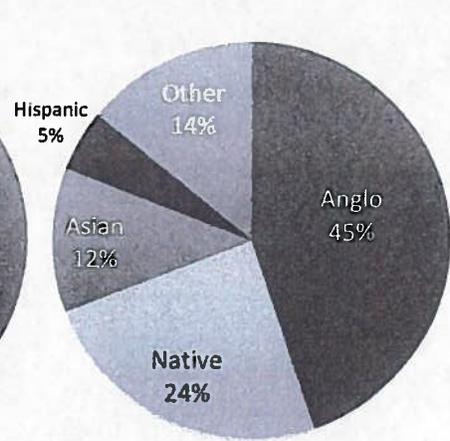
Who is calling the Hotline from HI?



Caller Type



Victim Age



Caller Ethnicity

The category of "other" includes: Arab/ Middle Eastern/ Iranian, Asian (East/ Southeast/ South), Multiracial and Native American/ Alaskan Native.

CALLER TYPE DEFINITIONS:

Victim/Survivor: IPV (Intimate Partner Violence) – a victim or survivor of abuse from his/her partner or spouse

Friend/Family: IPV (Intimate Partner Violence) – a friend or family member of a victim/survivor of IPV

Victim/Survivor: Non-IPV – a victim or survivor of abuse by anyone else: parent, sibling, caretaker, etc.

Friend/Family: Non-IPV – a friend or family member of a victim of any other type of abuse, such as child or elder abuse

Service Provider – a caller from any agency, including other domestic violence agencies, which provides social services

Batterer – a caller who identifies as abusive or who an Advocate believes to be a batterer

Other – any caller about whom an Advocate is able to gather info, but who does not fit into an above category; this might include callers like law enforcement or medical professionals

Hotline Call Volume

In 2012 the Hotline documented **494** calls from Hawaii. The state ranks fortieth in terms of Hotline call volume.

From where are they calling?

LINEE



Top 10 HI Cities in Call Volume

Rank	City	% of Total
1	Honolulu	48%
2	Hilo	7%
3	Kailua Kona	3%
4	Kahului	2%
5	Mililani	1%
6	Kapolei	1%
7	Kailua	1%
8	Kaneohe	1%
9	Holualoa	1%
10	Pearl City	1%
	Total	67%