

# SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD (SOMB) MINUTES

Friday, July 11, 2018

## SOMB Members

## SOMB Guests

Allison Boyd	Abigail Kubiak	Garrick Pridemore	Laura Sanchez	Sera Bennett
Angel Weant	Amber Clayton	Gayla Sykes	Leo Gordon	Serena Jameson
Carl Blake	Amira Minazzi	Grant Godfrey	Lisa Nelson	Shannon Folz
Jeff Jenks	Amy Rosengrants-Smith	Grover Rollins	Margaret Boatman	Shay Boe
Jeff Shay	Aubrie Hendryx	Hannah Dann	Matthew Schultheir	Sheila Montoya
Jesse Hansen	Barbara Vigil	James Bailey	Melissa Kraher	Sheila Pitt
Kandy Moore	Blair Garner	James Lanum	Mervyn Davies	Sonya Hickson
Korey Elger	Bonnie Cantu	James Meyer	Meyra Yanez	Steve Brake
Leonard Woodson	Bren Berrygill	Jarrett Brogton	Michael Perry	Steve Parker
Marcelo Kopcow	Bret White	Jason Talley	Michelle Neergaard	Sue Campbell
Mark Waller	Catherine Desponett	Jeff Geist	Mindee Mitchell-Brown	Tabitha Feron
Missy Gursky	Christina Bode	Jessica Lee	Natalie Brown	Tammy Fiscus
Steve Moreno	Christy McKinley	Jessica Oaks	Pam Burkhartsmeier	Tanya Hamilton
Rick May	Croi Buggeln	Jim Hinkle	Pamela Cook	Tanya Tyrrell
Robin Singer	Cupert Lira	Joe Gerber	Patricia Pereira	Teresa Stilwell
Taber Powers	Dan Depue	Joe Murphy	Robert Kay	Thomas Lambert
Tom Lerversee	Danelle Lomey	John Murphy	Ron Winstonley	Tracy Sharp
	Danielle Martinez	Karlene Kelsch	Ryan Jones	Tricia Wagner
	David Wetherald	Kathy McCorkle	Sally Chapman	Vicki Ensign
	Dawn Conrad	Kevin Bishop	Samantha Chuchul	Wendy Biesemeier
	Dea Brdige	Kevin Powell	Sandy Buchanan	William Dockins
	Deb Baty	Kimberly Kline	Sara Lovett	William Steele
	Derek Winstonley	Kristal Steeves	Sara Mulholland	Zachary Lockwood
	Elisa Bejarano	Kristy Stansell	Sarah LoBiando	
	Elizabeth Hicks	Laura Borrego-Gibbs	Scott Simpson	

**Absent SOMB Members:** Amanda Gall, Brie Franklin, Jessica Meza, John Odenheimer, Mary Baydarian, Norma Aguilar-Dave, Richard Bednarski, and Sharon Holbrook

**Staff:** Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky, Raechel Alderete, Michelle Geng, Marina Borysov, Kelly Hume, and Jill Trowbridge

**SOMB Meeting Begins: 9:00**

## **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Extended introductions were made by all SOMB Members and SOMB Staff in attendance.

## **APPROVE AGENDA:**

Approved by consensus

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Raechel Alderete reminded all in attendance at the SOMB meeting to sign the attendance sheets in order to receive credit for training hours.

## **PREVENTION PANEL DISCUSSION:**

Raechel Alderete introduced the members of the prevention panel. She indicated that there will be a time for questions and answers after all panel members have given their presentations.

### **Stand Up Colorado – Ellen Stein-Wallace**

Ellen Stein-Wallace indicated that Stand Up Colorado is a state-wide relationship violence prevention campaign which is geared toward altering behavior and social norms that tolerate relationship violence. She indicated that this is based on a similar campaign which is in operation in New Zealand. Ellen went on to describe that this platform was chosen as it addresses prevention of relationship violence rather than exclusively offering resources for victims. She noted that this campaign encourages the offenders to take responsibility, educates them on misconceptions regarding relationship violence, and offers resources to help them with behavior change. Ellen also mentioned that they are working with various treatment providers to assist in offering treatment for offenders, and indicated that the website offers assistance for both the offenders and the survivors. She noted that this program targets males ages 18-34. Ellen indicated that the key messaging is that it is not okay to use abusive behaviors, but it is okay to ask for help, and that it is important for all members of the community to engage in action to end relationship violence.

### **Front Range Center for Assault Prevention – Victoria Strong**

Victoria Strong noted that the Front Range Center for Assault Prevention is part of the National Center for Assault Prevention. She indicated that this organization offers adult, pre-school, and school-age children/teens education on assault prevention. Victoria noted that this organization goes to schools and educates the adult personnel first on assault prevention/safety before educating the students. She mentioned that they typically stay at a school for approximately 3 weeks, and indicated they service about 25 schools per year. Victoria noted they educate the children on the three most common types of abuse, which are bullying, stranger awareness, and sexual abuse. She went on to indicate that the key to this education is to teach skills that enable a child to stand up for themselves against bullying, have a keener sense of stranger awareness, and to say no to physical abuse for themselves and others.

### **Sexual Violence Prevention Program at the Colorado Department of Health and Environment – Danielle Tuft**

Danielle Tuft, who works with the Sexual Violence Prevention Program, noted that their primary goal is to prevent first-time perpetration among adolescents ages 12 – 25. She went on to indicate that they currently support 8 grantees throughout the state who address these issues with adolescents. Danielle indicated that they do much of their work in schools educating on healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention. She also noted that they work with adults to help message what healthy relationships should look like. Danielle mentioned that about one-half of the grantees focus on comprehensive sex education in the school systems, and noted that the other grantees focus on anti-harassment policies in schools. She went on to discuss a new program called "Hot Spot Mapping" which helps students identify safe and unsafe spaces in a school setting, and help administrators create safe spaces. Danielle noted that they will be taking these programs outside of school, and indicated they will address adults' primary prevention in a community setting.

### **Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA) – Sarah Dobson, and Safe House Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) – Fernanda Perez**

Fernanda Perez described the mission of the Safe House Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) which is to end all forms of violence to include, verbal, sexual, physical, emotional, and psychological abuse. She went on to note that her job within this organization is to educate high school adolescents regarding the various forms of violence. Fernanda mentioned the 8-session program is taught to educate on consent, boundaries,

intersexuality, sexual assault, and how to help a friend. She indicated that SPAN is also using the “Hot Spot Mapping” in their curriculum to help the students find “safe spots” in the school. Fernanda also mentioned that she is involved in an after-school mentoring program called Peers Building Justice (PBJ) that help the students become social justice warriors in their communities.

Sarah Dobson noted that Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA) is the rape crisis center for Boulder and Broomfield counties. She mentioned that the MESA and SPAN prevention teams collaborate as these programs are interwoven. Sarah indicated that the intervention targets the root causes of all intersections of violence. She discussed a men’s program that uses adult men to mentor young males regarding gender-bias, and all types of violence. Sarah mentioned that in the first part of the curriculum, young men learn about stereotypes, media, what it’s like to be a man, how to resolve conflict, and what to do when feeling ashamed. She indicated that the second part of the curriculum is about what they think it should mean individually, or what it would mean to them as a group. Sarah noted that having the adult role models facilitate group discussions helps the young men work through these issues and stereotypes. Sarah announced that she and Fernanda will be presenting a session on the social justice approach to violence prevention – peers building justice later in the day.

**Board Discussion:**

Angel Weant asked those panel members that have curriculums in the schools how open they are in receiving this education. Victoria Strong responded that these programs are not yet in Cherry Creek, Douglas County, and the southern Colorado counties, and noted that it is difficult to obtain access to certain schools that have trouble addressing these issues. She also indicated that the schools are wanting “experts” to come in and educate the teaching staff, employees, and students on these issues to free up the teaching staff. Victoria mentioned that when they are able to get the curriculum in a school, then they usually are able to stay as long as needed.

Raechel Alderete asked the panel members for assistance and resources in getting some of these programs into the remaining schools.

Missy Gursky commented that prevention is a huge plus, and noted that this is something that is typically missed.

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky mentioned that there are many of the same risk and protective factors that are focused on by both the Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB) and the Sexual Violence Prevention Program at the Colorado Department of Health and Environment, and noted the need for cross-collaboration. He also indicated that this program has been developing data from the schools that could be useful for SOMB use.

**Audience Discussion:**

Laurie Kepros noted that mandatory reporting may be a barrier to getting these programs into the schools. Ellen Stein-Wallace indicated that those on the help desk let the callers know about mandatory reporting if anything is disclosed. She also noted that treatment providers are also required to report any disclosures, and mentioned that this is becoming an issue with juveniles.

An audience member asked if these programs are available in Southern Colorado. Victoria Strong responded to please contact her, and she will assist in helping to get the Center for Assault Prevention going in that area.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW STANDARDS AND POLICIES:**

Michelle Geng indicated that the Standards Revisions Committees are open to all interested parties throughout the state, and noted that they can be attended via WebEx. She mentioned that the Child Contact Assessment has just been revised through Committee discussion, and noted it will be presented to the SOMB in August. Michelle indicated that these revisions are sent out through “Constant Contact” emails, and mentioned all to review these revisions as they come out. Michelle also explained that the Adult Standards Revisions Committee has been working on how to manage adult sexual assault victims, including a victim of a previous offense that

has not been brought to the attention of law enforcement, as well as contact in the community and reunification for families.

Raechel Alderete indicated that the Juvenile Standards Revisions Committee has begun meeting again, and noted that the next scheduled meeting is scheduled on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. She mentioned that all interested parties are invited to attend these meetings, and noted that they can be attended via WebEx. Raechel noted that the Polygraph Section will be reviewed at the next meeting, and indicated that possible revisions will be made to this Section based on current best practices. She noted another area of revision will be to the definition of the term “sexual deviance” due to review of current research in the field. Raechel indicated that for any sections which discuss the Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDT’s), that they “shall” now include a victim representative to ensure victim representation.

Raechel Alderete indicated that there have been numerous changes to the Standards, and noted the need to implement these changes in the best way possible. She mentioned that the SOMB is trying to assist with implementation, and have come up with the following processes:

- Next year there will be more “round table” discussions to find out what is working and what is not;
- Lunch and Learn trainings via WebEx that are approximately 1 hour-long beginning October 17<sup>th</sup> with a reminder to be sent out in advance. She noted that this will only be open to treatment providers, evaluators, and polygraph examiners, and also indicated there will be time to discuss implementation struggles with the CSTs and MDTs.

Raechel Alderete reviewed the revision process with all in attendance, and indicated the following:

- Revisions are made at the committee level and approved by the committee.
- Revisions are then given to the SOMB for Board review and 30-day stakeholder review.
- At the next SOMB meeting, revisions are then voted on and ratified as an official change

Raechel Alderete also asked the group for implementation suggestions, and noted that SOMB members may conduct some of the training in order to build trust and build relationships throughout the state.

### **Board Discussion:**

Angel Weant expressed her hope that this revision ratification process is suitable to all concerned, and noted that even though Probation and Parole are not under the purview of the Standards, they are to follow them. She noted her availability to Probation for any questions, and indicated she will be having upcoming training throughout the state.

Raechel Alderete indicated that she and Michelle Geng will be on the western slope in October for a booster training session which will include a time to discuss what is working and what is not, implementation of revisions, and how to better reach your needs. She also noted that in the future, the introduction and booster training sessions are going to an on-line platform using WebEx, while the in-person meetings will be centered around how to implement changes.

Carl Blake indicated that there has been discussion regarding assigning an implementation date for when a change will go into effect, whenever possible. He noted that currently once the SOMB approves the revisions, the changes go in effect immediately, which causes some lack of implementation, education, and communication.

Raechel Alderete noted the SOMB staff retreat focused on a strategic plan that will include new practices regarding revisions implementation.

Tom Leverage indicated that many of these changes are responsive to best practices, changes in legislation, and what is currently used in the field. He noted that the SOMB needs to also be responsive as to the implementation

of these revisions. Tom went on to ask the audience how to better education and implement changes as they happen.

Jesse Hansen discussed the Domestic Violence Offender Management Board (DVOMB) changes and implementation of the risk-needs-responsivity model these past couple of years. He indicated they use round-tables for education, input, and for helping the field to understand why these changes are being made.

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky thanked Raechel and Michelle for their hard work in trying to make this information readily available with the inclusion of field input. He noted that there may be times when the Standards revisions being implemented are not working well in the field, and indicated his hope that the round-tables will enable field expertise feedback. Chris also noted to call Raechel and/or Michelle with any questions or concerns with the Standards implementation.

**Audience Discussion:**

Sue Campbell asked for audio versions of the changes as they would be very helpful while driving.

It was reiterated that it does take time to get changes in policy and procedure out to the field and educate on these changes.

Steve Parker expressed his support of the SOMB and the staff in their implementation of the many changes being made.

**SOMB Meeting Adjourned: 10:45 am**