



## City of Albuquerque Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Commission

**Date/Time:** Monday, November 13, 2023 starting at 3:00 P.M. MST  
**Location:** City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 7096, Conference Room and [Zoom](#)  
**Contact:** Isez Roybal, 505-991-3676

### Commission Members Present:

Teresa Garcia, Chair  
Stacy Burleson, Co-Chair  
Chearie Alipat, NMAFC  
Jodie Jaramillo, RCCCNM  
Sara Yvonne “Bonnie” Escobar, Enlace Comunitario  
Shannon Lowry, ABQ SANE  
Jolene Holgate, CSVANW  
Victoria LeBlanc (Karinna Solares as proxy), District Attorney’s Office  
Kate Thompson, Public Defenders Office  
Jenny Bartos, ARC NM  
Cecily Barker, APD Deputy Chief  
Jay Ratliff, APD Deputy Commander  
Christopher Sotelo, AFR Deputy Chief  
Jeffery Bustamante, CABQ ACS  
Ellen Braden. CABQ HHH  
Beatriz Valencia, CABQ OEI  
Isez Roybal, CABQ Office of Mayor/Policy

### Commission Members Absent:

KC Carmona, NM Attorney Generals Office  
Autumn Neas, BCSO Sergeant  
Natividad Posada, CYFD NM  
Amber Chavez Baker, Judge 2nd Judicial

### City Staff Present:

Brian Moore, Special Counsel for City Attorney and Acting DVSAC Counsel  
Jennie Lusk, Assistant Director of Policy  
George Vega, Commander APD  
Ashely Romero, AFR

### Members of the Public Present:

**Angel Charley**, Director CSVANW  
**Sarah Coffey**, NM Legal Aid  
**Bev McMillian**, FAC Manager  
**Maria Cahuenas**, Domestic Violence Resource Center  
**Jayne Leadmon**, LOPD  
**Kennedy Chavez-Silver**, APD DV Coordinator  
**Melissa Silver**, NMCADV  
**MaryEllen Garcia**, NMCADV Assistant Director  
**Kelsea Kilbride**, Victim Advocate of DVRC  
**Frida Quinonez**, RCCCNM  
**Anastacia VanOrman**, CYFD  
**Joseph Hinkle**, NMCEH  
**David Adams**, Parnall Adams Law  
**Annika Granfors**  
**Alexis Rindone**

### **I. Call to Order**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm by Chair Teresa Garcia.

## **II. Introductions**

- a. Chair Garcia led a moment of silence
- b. Chair Garcia reviewed the [Community Agreements](#) and took a roll call of commission members
- c. Chair Garcia had hoped to facilitate discussion around the Commission's "Why," after watching the following video <https://youtu.be/1ytFB8TrkTo?si=DCPSyb5NInPZVt-u>. Chair Garcia felt it was important the Commission watch the video together as this group continues to collaborate and strengthen the relationships within respective fields to better serve survivors. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, the video was not able to play properly. Discussing the Commission's "Why," with the foundation of the duties and powers ordained by [Ordinance 2022-46](#), will be a continuing conversation in the coming months.

## **III. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Voting Member Lowry motioned to amend the order of agenda items to have the "Continuing conversation for a Lethality Assessment," heard before the "Update and Continuing Conversation on use of \$100,000 Fund," as the presenter would be arriving later in the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chair Garcia. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- b. Chair Garcia moved to approve the agenda for the November 13, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Jaramillo. The November agenda was approved as presented. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

## **IV. Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2023**

- a. Chair Garcia opened discussion on the approval of the Minutes from Oct. 16, 2023 meeting.
  - i. It was requested that the draft minutes reflect that "Reina Martinez" served as Ellen Braden's proxy at the Oct 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - ii. It was requested that "hotel" be added to agenda item IX(b) to read: Given situational needs per client, Commission agreed that ACS be the manager and of hotel funds to use at their discretion. ACS committed to report on a monthly basis in November and December.
- b. Chair Garcia moved that the change be reflected in the minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Lowry. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- c. Chair Garcia moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Member Lowry. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## **V. Subcommittee Updates: Training and Policy/Funding**

- a. The Training Subcommittee of the DV/SA Commission is responsible for developing and implementing comprehensive training programs aimed at raising

awareness, educating stakeholders, and data centered approaches to promote effective responses to domestic violence and sexual assault within the community.

- i. Member Escobar (Chair of Training Subcommittee) gave the below updates:
  1. Discussed better training amongst different service providers in coordination with law enforcement (and ensure understanding of each other's standard operation procedures). Next step: Members coming to subcommittee meeting with SOP's, Cross-training (better make referrals to each other + best collaboration practices for soft handoffs).
  2. Training Subcommittee will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month from 3-4 PM, November 27, 2023.
- b. The Policy and Funding Subcommittee of the DV/SA Commission is responsible for developing and advocating for policies, legislation, and funding initiatives that address domestic violence and sexual assault, promote survivor-centered approaches, and enhance the effectiveness of support services.
  - i. Member Roybal gave the below updates:
    1. Discussed at length and finalized the Hotel Safety Plan Checklist and Hotel Client Agreement Form (both sent/brought to DVSAC). Next steps: Outlining the Hotel Assistance Process.
    2. Policy and Funding Subcommittee will meet on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month from 8:30am-9:30am, November 29, 2023

## **VI. Continuing conversation for a Lethality Assessment**

- a. Chair Garcia opened discussion to gauge whether the Commission is interested in pursuing a Lethality Assessment to keep officers safe, ensure survivors are being supported, identifying high risk (firearms, lethality, and strangulation) and reducing recidivism.
- b. Deputy Chief Cecily Barker reached out to Major City Chiefs Association to get insight and perspectives from what lethality assessments major cities throughout the country are using + what their policies are and if they use lethality assessments on scene. DC Barker has committed to putting a report together (spreadsheet, with her team) with a recommendation and discussing at the December Commission meeting.
  - i. Member Jodie Jaramillo, RCCCNM, thinks it would be great to have a lethality assessment that can utilized easily by law enforcement officers in their on scene response. After assessment identifies person being at risk, then what next?
  - ii. MaryEllen Garcia, NMCADV Assistant Director, spoke to the importance of understanding the original intent of the assessment and model that is being inquired about implementing. Why and What were specifically asking it to do and then what responsibility would be placed on law enforcement to gather that info in timeframe.

1. Safety assessment vs lethality assessment vs release assessment are all very different. For example, ODARA is a successful lethality assessment, but it was created in Canada, a country that does not have as big of issue with Firearms as we in the USA do. The DA-LE and Catch and Release were also brought up.
- iii. Melissa Silver, NMCADV, was a previous trainer for the DA-LE (5 questions). Discussed how it works with having a coordinate community response (CCR) and how it has helped with evidence collection.
  1. Shannon Lowry, SANE, posed question about the train the trainer/sustainability model. Jodie Jaramillo asked question about cost. Melissa has committed to gathering more information and reporting back to Commission
- iv. Charie Alipat, NMAFC, acknowledged the lethality assessment conversation being an ongoing part of the Commission and thanked law enforcement for their commitment to being a part of these conversations. It's equally as important for officers to understand how to use tools & ensuring they're equipped with knowledge of changes (in family violence protection act, dv policies, culturally specific, etc.) and implementation so the officers are safe and ensure survivors are safe.

## **VII. Update and Continuing Conversation on use of \$100,000 Fund**

- a. Teresa Garcia opened the floor for discussion on the use of hotel funds. The Commission discussed at length the above agenda item.
  - i. MaryEllen Garcia from NMCADV described the Coalition being a member driven coalition, committed to their members having the resources to be effective and efficient in the work they do with survivors of IPV (i.e. CCR). She brought up concerns around the \$100,000 fund and safety issues, confidentiality, ensuring DV providers have adequate resources.
  - ii. Chair Garcia gave background on the \$100,000 Fund. In the past two years, \$100,000 was given directly to organizations (DVRC and SAFE House) to manage and allocate, but many issues arose. These funds are specifically for emergency temporary housing. It was voted and agreed upon unanimously by the Commission that Albuquerque Community Safety be the manager of the hotel funds to use at their discretion, noting that the full \$100,000 may not be spent. As ACS agreed to be the manager of the hotel funds and report back a monthly basis, it takes away added stress from individual service providers. Also discussed programs meeting on a weekly basis for survivors who came in on weekend to hotel to allow for collaboration.
  - iii. Ellen Braden stated that this is the third-year funding has been allocated. The first two years funding went directly to two different agencies with varying degrees of success (success determined by clients getting into

hotels and partnered agencies getting paid and reimbursed). Instead of directing funds to a single agency, ACS agreed to be manager of hotel funds, so that multiple service providers would have access to hotel clients using those funds.

- iv. Chearie Alipat spoke to greater capacity of ACS, including 24/7 and being a non-law enforcement response for DV/SA survivors. For example, NMAFC does not have capacity so they would defer to non-law enforcement component, such as ACS. Also spoke to hotel funds being available to all agencies, where previously it was monopolized by one organization and equal access to resources to community.
  - v. Isez Roybal discussed that it is a direct conflict of interest for members of the Commission to vote to allocate all or a portion of the \$100,000 funds to a service provider that the commission member belongs to/employed by. As outlined by “Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault” Ordinance, the Commission is an advisory commission that is tasked with making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council.
  - vi. Sara Bonnie “Yvonne” Escobar posed her challenge in this discussion and asked MaryEllen what is the alternative – if there is funds to be spent, the Commission made a recommendation, there are 6+ plus months now for it to be spent or it won’t be used. She asked that an alternative be posed immediately.
  - vii. Beatriz Valencia agreed with Bonnie. She asked MaryEllen if she has recommendations to add to the Hotel Safety Plan Checklist, email changes that are necessary in order to have some funds used within next 6-months. The Policy and Funding subcommittee can also advocate for funds for service providers in January or February – how it is going to be used, what funds are needed and other requests to put a separate recommendation together, not using this \$100,000 fund.
  - viii. MaryEllen discussed confidentiality being adhered to by the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Nonprofits who provide services to DV and IPV victims cannot share their information.
  - ix. Chearie asked that we as a system do not gatekeep these funds and create more barriers from helping serve survivors and getting them to hotels.
  - x. Jeffery Bustamante committed to discussing with ACS’s legal team about the release of information (what information about clients served can be released and what cannot) and reporting back. ACS committed to report on a monthly basis in November and December.
  - xi. Shannon Lowry advocated for a coordination meeting on Monday and for it to be virtual because of capacity issues.
- b. A weekly meeting was set with the providers and ACS on Monday mornings to establish coordination and triangulation (discuss any clients that were put into

hotels over the weekend and set work streams or what program can case manage those survivors).

### **VIII. Data Updates: AGIS Map-based Data and Storytelling Tool**

- a. Member Roybal shared information and on the GIS software the City of Albuquerque uses to create a map-base data and storytelling tool, that could be used as a means to bridge the transparency gap and show respective data from the agencies and organizations on the Commission. The report and mapping application would be created and maintained through the City. The Commission discussed at length.
  - i. MaryEllen Garcia asked what is the purpose?
    1. Isez Roybal talked about identifying gaps in services and provide solutions, law enforcement response rates, etc.
    2. Jodie Jaramillo brought up community outreach and resources in places with higher DV calls
    3. Teresa Garcia mentioned importance of data to gather where highest need is – as result, going to schools teaching healthy relationship preventative measures in high-impacted area, what services are available, etc.
    4. Shannon Lowry stated that client information the orgs are provider is very minimal, and has no specific identifiable information
    5. Sarah Coffey, NMLA, stated that mapping may not have as much impact with providers, advocates, and people seeking services. Also being mindful of people experiencing poverty having limited access to seek resources and potential judgement factor that people aren't utilizing resources and being cognizant to not put that on people already experiencing high stress. Also talked about underreporting
    6. MaryEllen stated being conscientious about the ways in which information is utilized. Ensure map is reflective of massive impact and being inclusive of all communities
    7. Beatriz Valencia discussed the social vulnerability index (health and safety issue) that the Office of Equity Inclusion uses and may be a more approachable way of reporting data that the Commission discussed. Beatriz committed to connecting Dr. Billy Jivetti, OEI Race & Equity Data Analyst, and a small group of Commission members who could provide input on what this database should look like.
    8. Kelsea Kilbride, DVRC, would like to go to communities and see what they would like this data to do
    9. Bonnie Escobar, Enlace Comunitario, believes that data collection is critical to identify the gaps and show how DV and SA are

woefully underfunded and what is needed to get it funded. For example, Enlace has 6 case managers and DVRC has 1

10. Chearie Alipat discussed safety backing and barriers
11. Melissa Silver also advocated for focus groups
12. Angel Charley shared that the CSVANW is hosting focus groups with indigenous survivors, with end goal of informing large-scale policy. Focus groups around SA, DV, Human Trafficking with survivors to tell their stories and pulling out where the system failed them (the stories that will affect real system change). They prioritized wellness and healing of their time and trauma

## **IX. Public Comment**

- a. Angel Charley is stepping down on November 17th, 2023 from the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women. After seven years of dedicated service, including four years as the Executive Director, the time has come for her to embrace a new journey. Her commitment to CSVANW's mission has been a driving force behind collective successes. She is excited to announce that Tiffany Jiron has stepped into the role of Interim Executive Director as of November 13, 2023. Tiffany's passion, lived experience, and determination is exactly what CSVANW needs to move this work forward. Executive Director Jiron can be reached at [tjiron@csvanw.org](mailto:tjiron@csvanw.org). And if immediate assistance is needed, please reach out to Lincoln Encino, Executive Assistant, [lencino@csvanw.org](mailto:lencino@csvanw.org).
- b. Jenny Bartos' final day serving as Director of Advocacy and Education with The Arc of NM will be November 24, 2023. She has been a focal point for putting Advocacy & Education initiatives into action. She hopes to continue working with you in her new position, at the NM Attorney General's Office, as it is our shared commitment to communities which brings about meaningful change. Jenny remains the NMDOH/DHI recognized SME for the state of NM on abuse against persons with disabilities, which should help avoid potential conflict in providing assistance/consultation – and her new position is also related to disability advocacy in certain respects. Barbie Montoya will remain a resource and support to DV/SA programs to provide disability-specific assistance as needed: the only requirement is that the person lives with a disability.
- c. Karinna Solares from the Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office is partnering with the International District for a coat drive on 12/8 and toy drive on 12/15. Please reach out to [karinna.solares@da2nd.nm.gov](mailto:karinna.solares@da2nd.nm.gov) for any questions and donations!
- d. Sarah Coffey requested orders of protection be a future agenda item for the Commission: ensuring documents are getting out, what challenges law enforcement is having, and what support can be given to ensure court orders are served, with BCSO civil division and APD

- i. Chair Teresa Garcia assured Sarah that these meetings are already occurring, and she will invite her to them + items will be discussed at December meeting
- e. Recognized Beatriz Valencia for her work on the Hispanic Heritage Committee!
- f. Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico and ABQ Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are having a drive for undergarments and bras for survivors. After survivors undergo a forensic/medical exam, there is a need to replace undergarments and bras. Accepting gift cards, new undergarments, and bras. Please reach out to RCCCNM or Abq SANE.

**X. Future Actions and Next Meeting**

- a. Next Meeting: December 11, 2023 at 3pm MST.
- b. Isez Roybal to send out Meeting Minutes via email to Commission Members.
- c. Teresa Garcia and Stacy Burleson to send out additional and/or supplemental documents, upcoming agenda items, etc.
- d. Additional updates will be circulated via email.

**XI. Adjournment – Thank you**

- e. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. by Teresa Garcia, Chair.