

## Surviving Abuse, Exploitation and Neglect

### Reporting Subcommittee

7/2/2020 2:30 pm

#### 2:30- 2:45 Introductions and what goals you have for the subcommittee.

- Ann Sheridan: Assistant Attorney General.
  - o Social Services. CINA, Adult guardianship
  - o Interest in Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation for multiple populations.
  - o On the legal services subcommittee as well.
- Denise Mckoy: AAG for Health occupations
  - o Former pediatric nurse.
  - o Former elder law attorney
  - o Prosecuted for board of nursing.
- Stephanie Cooke: Director for Child Protective Services and Family Preservation at SSA.
  - o With pandemic happening, SSA is focused on Data to help inform the work going on under the issue of Reporting.
  - o Looking to issue of under-reporting. SSA is looking to do outreach with mandated reporters and do prevention work.
    - Working with the office of communications around how to help other resources.
- Christy Lewis: PG County Dept. of Social Services. Quality insurance and compliance division.
- Katie Pedersen: CPS Talbot county.
- Laura Opont: Law clerk. 3rd year law student.
- Estelle: Office of Adult Services under Dorinda Adams.
- Dorinda Adams: Subcommittee Chair. Adult Protective Services.

#### 2:45- 3:18: What issues do we face in creating a short term goal?

- Remember we are working with vulnerable groups and consider intersectionality.
  - o What reporting sources are available
  - o What can we improve in ?
  - o There has been decreased reporting because of COVID and likewise decreased investigation
  - o Suggestion: get one centralized location for reporting. Right now, It is all over the place.
    - Problem: make sure other resources do not get left out
- Many vulnerable populations have even more limited access to the internet and technology.
  - o Suggestion: Public service announcement? TV, telephone
- Big Reporting problem: children are not in school. Abuse only comes to light when a child gets sent to hospital or police are called.
  - o Teachers are missing out on communication with students who spot signs of abuse.
  - o Many families have stopped doing therapy.

- Suggestion: Get information out to neighbors?
- If it is a clear-cut case of child abuse authorities will call CPS, but in more nuanced cases of abuse, CPS is left out of the loop.
  - Send a reminder to mandated reporting.
- Public Service Announcement
  - There was a minute-long PSA released in May about Reporting posted on their website.
    - § How can we distribute this PSA to more sources???
  - Message went out in police chief weekly newsletter.
  - DHS Medicare director reached out to MD Pediatric Association and reached out about reporting.
- Groups Missing in reporting : faith-based groups.
- Maybe look to workers who have close contact with families? Delivery workers?
- Gave public list of other resources to empower themselves: Suicide Hotline, Food banks etc.
- Maryland PTA sharing information from parent standpoint
- Look into contact schools for fall semester.
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: RAINN: minors call in. Sometimes they do not know where they are. If they do, they may be scared to connect/report (parents may be the abuser)
  - Suggestion: Create a text hotline for abuse victims.- Long term goal
    - § What about for more phone-challenged senior citizens?
- Anne Arundel County: 311 app.
- AA County public school system: app is in development.
- Most counties have a 311- can we have a way to connect all counties that have attached it to the user's current location?
- Can we incorporate a CJAMS (Child Juvenile Adult Management Systems)?
  - General public will not have access to CJAMS, only those in DHS or DJS.
  - Would be too difficult to create enhancements to connect CJAMS to a PSA.

**3:18-3:30 Short-term goal:**

- **Create a starting point list of what groups have been reached out to, and what groups we need to focus on reaching out to**
  - **Ex: reaching out to the Health Occupation Board.**
- **Key stakeholders that we need to reach out to.**
- Laura will send out google doc/spreadsheet
- Everybody will include groups and links with information on who we will be reaching out to.
- Determine how will go forward with programs like text/911/311