Task Force on Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Full Task Force

Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2023 – 2:00pm-4:00pm

Hybrid Meeting: Zoom & Libbie Mill Library

Members Present:	Members Absent:	VDH Staff:	Public:
Chair Maria Altonen (in-	Delegate Kelly Convirs-Fowler	Camilla Herndon (in-person)	R. Brent Rawlings (in-person)
person)			
Senator Jennifer Boysko	Danny Avula	Kimberly Beazley	Mary O. (in-person)
Delegate Karrie Delaney (in-	Chatonia Zollicoffer		
person)			
Adam Hade (in-person)	Caren Sterling		
Bonnie Price (in-person)	Lindsey Caley		
Ashley Balcombe			
Michele Laaksonen (in-			
person)			
Robin Foster (in-person)			
Genevieve Lohr			
Caitlin Yerkes			
Ariel Ward (in-person)			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendation
I. Call to Order and	Chair Altonen called the meeting to order at 2:02pm. Chair Altonen conducted a roll	
Introductions	call of members present. New members introduced themselves. Quorum was met.	
II. Review of the Agenda	Chair Altonen reviewed the agenda with the Task Force members. Chair Altonen	
and Approval of Minutes	reviewed the October meeting minutes. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was	
	made by Senator Boysko and the motion was seconded by Delegate Delaney. The	
	minutes were approved.	
III. Public Comment	One person provided public comment. Mary O. expressed concern over the two-	
	minute public comment FOIA rules. Mary O. expressed that two minutes is not	
	sufficient time for folks with disabilities or trauma to adequately address the Task	
	Force and spoke to the need to increase two-minute limit.	
IV. Committee:	Chair Altonen opened the floor for Task Force members to discuss the development of	
Remaining Deliverables	educational materials for hospitals, healthcare providers, rape crisis centers, children's	
	advocacy centers, and others. Dr. Foster suggested no paper materials and to generate	
	a short video or recorded slide deck. Brent Rawlings, a representative from VHHA,	
	agreed that VHHA could assist in the development of the educational videos given	
	that the Task Force can provide the content. Chair Altonen shared that the model	
	documents will be posted to the VDH website soon. The Task Force decided to form a	
	sub-committee to address the education materials. Members of the sub-committee	
	include Ariel Ward, Dr. Foster, and Genevieve Lohr. The sub-committee will meet in	
	January to draft content for the educational materials.	
	Chair Altonen introduced the next Task Force deliverable: drafting recommendations	
	for telemedicine. Caitlin Yerkes shared her experience with providing telemedicine to	
	support nursing staff performing forensic exams. The Task Force questioned the legal	
	ramifications of telemedicine. The Task Force decided to form another sub-committee	
	to investigate the legal landscape of telemedicine and draft recommendations. The	
	telemedicine sub-committee includes Dr. Laaksonen, Caitlin Yerkes, and Ashley	
	Balcombe. The telemedicine sub-committee will plan to meet in January.	
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V. Other Business	Chair Altonen opened the floor for the Task Force to address other business. Bonnie Price requested an update on hospitals' submissions of model documents. Kim Beazley reported the hospitals' submissions are still in review. Delegate Delaney requested legislative recommendations for upcoming General Assembly. Bonnie Price requested clarification on definitions for ambulatory surgery centers, urgent care clinics, and circumstances when forensic nurses are not available as treatment or transfer facilities under code. The Task Force discussed how to address the gaps in legislative definitions for these facilities. Bonnie Price also advised that the Task Force should consider how to reimburse for court testimony since there are significant barriers for achieving an expert witness status and judge approval. Chair Altonen shared that a Doodle poll would be sent out to determine the next quarterly meeting date.
VII. Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned by Chair Altonen at 3:09pm.