

**Fourth Judicial District
Family Violence Coordinating Council
Serving Hennepin County**

Present: Biebl, Jeffrey; Boswell, Verona; Brey, Katie; Cichowicz, Nick; Coy, Erica; Smith, Deana; Eckberg, Deborah; Folkens, Bruce; Furnstahl, Referee Mike; Golden, Naomi; Hogan, Elizabeth, Kaul, Ann; Lockhart, Sarah; Lopez Ferguson, Tara; McTigue, Penny; Milgrom, Aaron; Miller, Adam; Morales, Lidia; Nelson, Melynda; Osborne, Erin; Quaintance, Judge Kathryn; Saunders, Jennifer; Simmons, Raschon; Taylor, Jennifer; Torborg, Kari; Twogood, Ben; Weinstein, Michael; Wick, Kathy; Wilson, Kate

1. **Welcome:** Committee co-chairs Judge Quaintance and Referee Furnstahl welcomed the group. Judge Quaintance asked the group to introduce themselves and also to let her know what sub-committee they are a part of.
2. **Approve December 13, 2018 Minutes:** Minutes approved as submitted.
3. **Annual Report:** Katie Brey said the committee has received a draft of the annual report. They are looking for a comment period of one week. Once comments have been received, it will be sent out for electronic vote. Once the vote has been finalized, the report will be submitted to Chief Judge Bernhardson.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Criminal:** Jennifer Saunders reported that the committee met on December 17 and they talked about strategic plan, priorities, and suggestions about larger ideas they could take on as a council. They also discussed the December CLE with Judges Kappelhoff and Robben, training ideas for 2019, and received updates from organizations about ongoing probation restructuring. The next meeting is February 11th.
 - b. **Juvenile, Advocates, Civil:** Katie said other three committees did not meet in December and chairs were not in attendance at the meeting.
5. **Safe at Home Program-Maggie Larson, Safe at Home Program Administrator**

Maggie Larson presented on the Safe at Home Program, which falls under the umbrella of the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. Safe at Home is a program that allows victims with extreme safety concerns to keep their address a secret so the person they're afraid of can't find them. It is not a witness protection program, a resource to find housing, or a program that gives out post office box addresses. When the program started twelve years ago, it was one of ten

similar programs around the country. There are currently thirty-five states with similar programs.

Minnesota's program has served 8,000 people over the years. Currently there about 2900 people/1100 households enrolled in the program all throughout Minnesota. The typical enrollee is a survivor of domestic violence, victims of stalking, or sexual assault. The program works by assigning a participant an alternate address that all private and public entities must accept as their true address. This allows the participant to keep their real address unknown and inaccessible to the person they fear.

There are some exceptions to when a participant needs to disclose their real address including a court-order to disclose; if it's a requirement of probation; and when there is a federal requirement (there are exceptions). The Safe at Home program must always know a participant's real address.

People can apply and become enrolled by working with a Safe at Home Application Assistant. After Safe at Home receives the application the new applicant is called and the program basics are discussed, the application is certified within three business days, and every new participant is issued a Safe at Home card. Participants are allowed to withdraw at any time or their participation may be cancelled for various reasons. For questions call the Safe at Home office at 651-201-1399 or email at safeathome@state.mn.us. Training dates to become a Safe at Home Application Assistant will be coming soon to the Safe at Home website.

6. Open forum/announcements:

The next meeting is February 14, 2019. There will be a very preliminary discussion about the resource fair next week.

Future Agendas

February 14, 2019 - Discussion on the future of FVCC Resource Fair

Upcoming events

Use this link to find us on the web.

[http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-\(FVCC\).aspx](http://www.mncourts.gov/Find-Courts/Hennepin/Family-Violence-Coordinating-Council-(FVCC).aspx)

[Use this link to access our Google Calendar of events.](https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fvccalendar%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago)

<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=fvccalendar%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>