

••••••••THE ILLINOIS FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCILS
Annual Report FY 2002

Formation of the 14th Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council

- A symposium planning committee, composed of representatives from all four counties (Mercer, Rock Island, Whiteside, and Henry), was formed to assist with staging the symposium and convening needs identification meetings in each county.
- The symposium, which is the kick-off of the Council, and hosted by the judges of the 14th Judicial Circuit, was held on May 22 and 23 in Moline with over 550 people in attendance. Appellate Justice Thomas Lytton gave the keynote.
- Following the symposium on May 24, the council's planning committee was convened and is composed of representatives from all four counties, and all of the major disciplines. Supreme Court Justice Thomas Kilbride spoke about his support for and the importance of the council's work at a luncheon following the planning meeting.

Domestic Violence Court Systems Roundtable

- The purpose of the Domestic Violence Court Systems Project is 1) provide for interviewing and technical interaction with the local domestic violence courts; and 2) create a learning network of domestic violence court system professionals and court systems.
- Having conducted interviews of twelve domestic violence court systems and written a report, a round table was convened on May 29 for teams of domestic violence court systems representing 20 counties—in all 155 were in attendance, including presenters and facilitators, a few extra representatives from state level agencies, and staff.

The roundtable themes were: 1) making smart systems through assessment occurring on a regular basis; and 2) attending to victim safety includes offender accountability and prevention of further harm. Supreme Court Justice Rita Garman welcomed the round table and spoke about the importance of “procedural justice” to those working in the domestic violence court field: “How people are treated influences the likelihood that a person will comply merely because they are treated in a way that they perceive is fair.” A manual was created that included the project report and a domestic violence court system self-assessment guide.

Local Coordinating Councils:

Coordinators

All of the local councils have coordinators except for the new council in the 14th circuit. The IFVCC staff participated in the hiring of new coordinators in Rockford, Charleston, Chicago, and Macomb.

Full Council Meeting Programs

Over the last few months the councils have held well attended programs and workshops on topics such as: elder abuse, male violence (Jackson Katz), strategic planning, teen dating violence, and domestic violence intervention (Mark Wynn).

Hospitals Trainings

Assisting Nancy Carlson of the Attorney General's Office, IFVCC staff have provided technical support to the local coordinators in southern Illinois with implementing this program—bringing teams together for training and planning for follow up.

Regional Institute of Community Policing (RICP)

Assisting Judy Kim staff of RICP, IFVCC staff have provided technical support to the local councils with the delivery of this program—bringing teams together for training and planning and working with the councils to implement their plans.

Increasing Capacity for Collaboration

- Kathleen Quinn is working with IFVCC staff on developing increased activity and visibility for responding to elder abuse through development of and support for elder abuse council committees.
- In partnership with ICADV's Cheryl Howard, the IFVCC staff is assisting with the staging of regional dialogues with representatives of the domestic violence programs and the local council coordinators, which will begin with the southern region in September.

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IFVCC Statewide Full Council Biennial Meeting July 16th, Springfield Northfield Center

The title of the meeting is: “Teen Sexual Assault and Dating Violence—a Systems Dialogue with Teens.” The purpose of the meeting is to raise questions in the minds of the systems representatives in how they are responding to teen dating violence based on learning more about the perspective of teens from teens, themselves. Teams of teens will be attending from Biggsville, Park Forest, and Vandalia.

Guidebook for Schools on Family Violence Project

The project has moved into an exciting phase—developing integrated protocols. This is exciting because it represents new territory for the school and the services and systems that surround them, which involves sitting down at the same table and becoming familiar with each others policies and protocols, as well as developing approaches for where they interface and act cooperatively. The IFVCC staff continues to provide technical support to the three pilots—Union, Serena, and Pekin/Marquette-Heights—as active members of the pilots’ core teams.

Uniform Order of Protection

The Chief Judge’s Conference agreed to a request from Chief Judge Bruce Black that they utilize the same order of protection from circuit to circuit. The Chief Judge’s Conference asked Chief Judges John Shonkwiler and James Wexstten to head up the effort, who have requested that the IFVCC through Judge Carol Pope, Chair of the Legal Systems Committee, assist them in drafting the forms and implementing a process for in put from interested parties across the state. IVPA’s Mary Malefyt is providing the legal staffing to Judge Pope.