



**Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 15, 2024**  
 Virtual Meeting –via Zoom

**I. Call to Order – Amy Bocks**

a. Meeting was conducted virtually on May 15<sup>th</sup> via Zoom and called to order 10:02am.

**Attendees**

Amy Bocks, AGO OVS, Assistant Director & Advocate Program Manager, ACVS Chair	Fawn Jardee, Surprise PD, Victim Advocate
Jacqueline Lopez, Pinal County Attorney’s Office, Victim Services, ACVS Vice Chair	Mayani Jinel, Chicanos Por La Causa/De Colores
Erica Williams, LSCVA, Program Coordinator, ACVS Secretary	Lindsey Kircher, Mesa City Prosecutor’s Office, Victim Services Supervisor
Ada Acero, SCESDV, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator	Kendall Maier, AGO OVS, State Victims’ Rights Funding Administrator
Tina Ashelford, Mohave County Attorney, Victim Services	Heather Marcy, Northland Family Help Center, Deputy Director
Lindsay Ashworth, DES, Office of Interpersonal Violence Manager	Gretchen, Board of Executive Clemency, Executive Director
Jamie Balson, LSCVA, Founding Attorney & Executive Director	David Newstone, Defenders of Children, Executive Director
Lauren Barnes, ADES, Office of Interpersonal Violence	Amy Palisano, La Frontera/EMPACT, Trauma Healing Services
Melissa Brickhouse Thomas, Glendale PD, Victim Assistance Unit Manager	Nick Pawlowski, DCS Victim Services, Program Manager
Emily Caron, Gilbert PD, Victim Advocate	Virginia Rodriguez, Pima County Attorney’s Office, Director of Victim Services
Connie Chapman, AVAA, Project Director	Eva Salazar, Yuma County Attorney’s Office, Victim Services
Veronica Driz, AGO OVS, State Victims’ Rights Education Administrator	David Tascoe, AZ Supreme Court Administrative Office, Commission on Victims in the Courts
Cisco Garcia, DOJ USAO, Victim/Witness Program	Mark Tetzlaff, Homeland Security Investigations, Victim Assistant Specialist
Renee Gronski, City of Surprise, Victims’ Rights Supervisor	Marri Tiseth, Secretary of State, Address Confidentiality Program
Jamie Farmer, Pima County Attorney’s Office, Victim Services Intern	Carla Uyeda, DPS VOCA Administration, Administrative Supervisor
Bianca Harper, ACASI, Clinical Associate Professor	Samantha Weiss, ADES, Office of Interpersonal Violence
Carrie Howe, ADCRR, Administrator of Victim Services	

**II. Welcome and Introductions, 10:02am**

**III. Approval of March 2024 Meeting Minutes**

a. No corrections, 1<sup>st</sup> motion to accept Virginia Rodriguez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tina Ashelford



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**IV. Legislative Priorities**

- a. AGO - Veronica Driz (veronica.driz@azag.gov) for Ryan Clark
  - i. No updates on legislation.
  - ii. Send inquiries to Ryan Clark or Kirstin Flores.
- b. LSCVA - Jamie Balson (jamie@lscva.org)
  - i. The following bills have been signed by Governor Hobbs:
    - 1. SB1371 – change requires LEAs to prioritize requests for a copy of the police report made by victims of domestic and sexual violence.
    - 2. SB1436 – expands eligibility to Lifetime No-Contact Injunctions to victims of strangulation, stalking, and voyeurism.
    - 3. SB1671 – added language that allows the court to modify the percentage of inmate funds contributing to restitution.
    - 4. The group briefly talked about alerting courts about this change.

**V. ACESDV - Ada Acero (ada@acesdv.org)**

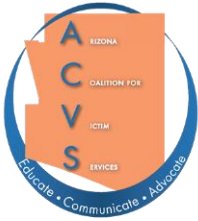
- a. No current legislative updates.
- b. VOCA Impact Report - if you have any questions or would like a copy, please reach out to ACESDV.

**VI. AGO – Kendall Maier (kendall.maier@azag.gov)**

- a. AGO Website Revisions
  - i. Orders are closed for Victims' Rights Request/Waiver (R/W) form. This is the last year the AGO is providing printed forms.
  - ii. AGO website was recently revised to include a dedication section for R/Ws. R/Ws, FAQs, and the Custom R/W Form Process can be found at: [Victims' Rights Request/Waiver Forms | Arizona Attorney General \(azag.gov\)](#).
    - 1. Any problems or questions can be directed to OVSVRP@azag.gov.

**VII. State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT) – Funders Reports**

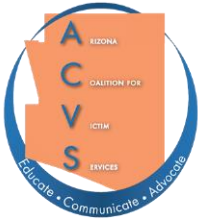
- a. AGO - Kendall Maier (kendall.maier@azag.gov)
  - i. VRP Agencies:
    - 1. Waiting on notification of the AGO's budget before moving forward on opening up agencies' budget proposals for FY25.
    - 2. Education:
      - a. Basic and Advanced Victims' Rights presentations dates the remainder of FY24 (through August) are posted on the website and are open for registration.
      - b. One Basic presentation will take place on a weekend day in August. Advanced presentations in July and August are scheduled



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for the afternoon – take note since these have historically been scheduled in the morning.

3. Law Enforcement:
  - a. FY24 is the last year the AGO will provide printed versions of the R/W form and had ADOT host a TraCS demonstration with the LEA's in March. R/W form orders are closed for FY24 and in the process of printing.
  - b. The AGO will continue to annually update the R/W form and distributing it via email to LEAs and updating in TraCs's system.
4. Please direct any questions or concerns to [OVSVRP@azag.gov](mailto:OVSVRP@azag.gov).
- a. ACJC - Dorinda Johns ([djohns@azcjc.gov](mailto:djohns@azcjc.gov)) - not present
  - i. Amy Bocks: Expect some change to the Victim Compensation packet.
- b. DPS-VOCA - Carla Uyeda ([cuyeda@azdps.gov](mailto:cuyeda@azdps.gov))
  - i. DPS-VOCA is continuing to prepare for FY25 renewals. At this time, DPS does not have any new information to indicate the level at which current subawards will be renewed for FY25. The renewal timeline has been adjusted and will now likely be announced in late June/early July.
    1. The Arizona Governor's Executive Budget includes a recommendation of \$9.3M from the General Fund to backfill VOCA.
    2. If approved, this would mean current DPS-VOCA subawards could be renewed in FY25 for an additional twelve-month period at approximately the same levels as FY24 subaward amounts.
    3. Should the recommendation not be approved, current subawards could be renewed in FY25 for an additional twelve-month period at approximately 50% of the FY24 subaward amounts.
  - ii. May 9 OVC From the Director's Desk call: The balance of the Crime Victim Fund (CVF) is just over \$1.49B. Therefore, the CVF balance has exceeded the FY24 obligation cap of \$1.2B. Information about the "From the Director's Desk" calls and recordings can be found at [https://ovc.ojp.gov/library/multimedia/list?series\\_filter=From%20the%20Director%27s%20Desk](https://ovc.ojp.gov/library/multimedia/list?series_filter=From%20the%20Director%27s%20Desk)
  - iii. The FY24 grant period is past the half-way point. As of the April financial reports, expenditures should be near 58%. It is critical that subrecipients who are behind on spending address unutilized funds via an amendment to either reprogram or reduce the budget.
  - iv. Reminder: final amendments to reprogram must be submitted by June 30.
  - v. Site visits and monitoring activities are ongoing.
  - vi. Civil Rights Compliance reviews are ongoing.
- c. GOYFF - not present
- d. DES - Emailed update from Lindsay Ashworth ([lashworth@azdes.gov](mailto:lashworth@azdes.gov)), Samantha Weiss ([sweiss@azdes.gov](mailto:sweiss@azdes.gov)) present
  - i. Currently working on extension amendments to extend their domestic violence contracts and sexual violence grants for FY25
  - ii. "Serving Survivors Living with Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders" Series. The first event already took place but there are three remaining.



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- e. DHS – not present

**VIII. Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA) - Connie Chapman**  
**(avaacademy@gmail.com or info@azcvcs.net)**

- a. Received ACJC grant for \$200k. The funds must be used by December. Funds will primarily go towards training facilities and hotels to keep training costs low for attendees. Some of the funds will be used to hire speakers.
- b. Training Calendar: <http://www.azcvcs.net/wp-content/uploads/ACVS-Upcoming-Trainings-Online-Version-2024-1.pdf>
- c. Please register early so that they can plan accordingly.
- d. Upcoming trainings:
  - i. Basic will take place in Flagstaff in July and Tucson in December.
  - ii. Leadership training in June, please register soon.
  - iii. Neurobiology of Trauma training in Phoenix in September and Tucson in December.
  - iv. Please make sure to cancel by the deadline if you can no longer come to the training.
  - v. Advanced and Leadership training coming this year, please send ideas to Connie.

**X. Committee Reports**

- a. Currently working on updating the ACVS website.
- b. Regional resource by county to be hosted by ACVS. We hope to have this done by the end of summer or early Fall.
- c. ACVS has a new PO Box, please update your records: P.O. Box 25859, Tempe, AZ 85285.
- d. Treasurer's report - Connie Chapman for Karina Aragon
  - i. ACVS: \$2,714.53
  - ii. AVAA: \$10,157.53
  - iii. Relocation: \$94.42
  - iv. Bank Balance: \$22,827.27
- e. Jacque Lopez
  - i. Reminder about the 2-year membership option.
  - ii. Please make sure you include your agency's name on invoices and/or checks.
- f. Relocation Committee - Tracey Wilkinson - not present

**XI. New Business/Open Forum**

- a. Job Openings:
  - i. Mark Tetzlaff - Homeland Security Investigations is recruiting for a Victim Witness Specialist (Social Science Program Specialist) in the Tucson office. It takes about six months to a year to get hired. Looking for applicants with a bachelors or masters in something victim services related and multiple years in victim services. Also hiring forensic interviewers.



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- ii. Cisco Garcia - US Attorney's Office is recruiting for a Tribal Advocate. Additional postings coming soon.
- iii. Renee Gronski - Surprise PD is recruiting for a Part-time Police Victim Advocate (Tues-Fri, 10am-5pm). Eligible applications will be referred on 5/23.  
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/surprise/jobs/4496770/police-victim-advocate-part-time-temporary>
- iv. Virginia Rodriguez – Pima County Attorney's Office will be opening Advocate Supervisor positions soon. They require three years of experience as a Victim Advocate.
  - v. Jacque Lopez - Pinal County has an Advocate position open.
  - vi. Meyani Jinel – Chicanos Por La Causa has full time positions open.
  - vii. Melissa Brickhouse Thomas – Glendale Police Department Victim Services has part-time positions coming soon (10-16 hours).
- b. Amy Bocks - APAAC Conference is this week.
- c. Cisco Garcia - Four Corners Indican Country Conference in Colorado last week of August for about 2 ½ days. He will send invitation to ACVS to post.

## **XII. Next Meeting**

- a. July 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am via Zoom.

## **XIII. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned by Amy Bocks at 11:19am.**