

Nataki Brown  
SC Solicitors Advocate Forum

Tressa Dixon  
SC Law Enforcement  
Victim Advocate

Sara Barber  
SC Coalition Against Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault

Trisha Allen  
SC Attorney General's Office

Joe Corey, Deputy Director  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Assistance Grants, Crime Victim

I. Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Director Nelson.

II. Approval of Minutes

Director Nelson asked members for any discussion of the Minutes from the November 16, 2023, meeting. No changes were recommended. The minutes were accepted as prepared and approved by members of the Council.

III. Business

OVC, Strategic Plan Update Steve Yarborough announced the survey went out February 9, 2024 to 2,971 individuals. Steve asked the Council members to encourage their staff or anyone they knew to participate

SC Network of Children's  
Advocacy Centers

Jada Charley  
SAFE Homes-Rape Crisis  
Coalition

Kassy Allia Ray, Ph.D  
Serve & Connect

Ginger Dukes, Deputy Director  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Services Training, Provider  
Certification and Statistical  
Analysis, Crime Victim Services  
Division, Office of the Attorney  
General

Ashley Thomas

the purposes of the survey. Steve asked for responses by March 1, 2024, if possible, but will leave the survey monkey open as long as survey monkey will allow it. They also plan on doing a follow-up the following week to remind people to take some time to answer the survey.

**Restitution Meeting Update:** Veronica Swain-Kunz mentioned they met with the Attorney General to talk about the final report. Veronica said nobody was looking at restitution on a statewide level. Veronica stated one of the recommendations from the task force is to have one entity look at restitution and start pulling people together to figure out how we can better improve on restitution with crime victims. Veronica mentioned another recommendation was to find a place to house this small group consisting of a director, a lawyer, a program coordinator, and a statistician. Veronica said she will email the Council asking for any suggestions on where this group can be housed. Veronica announced there are plans to release the final report at a press conference during SCVRW. Veronica mentioned the difficulty of having crime victims speak about restitution on the record as all the responses they received were anonymous. Veronica asked the Council if they knew of any crime victims that did not mind speaking on the record to please contact her.

**VOCA Updates:** Joe Corey advised there is still a potential 41% cut from the federal level. If this takes effect, the current funding of \$21.2 million will decrease to roughly \$12 million. They still have \$4 million in funding they



Westview Behavior Center from Newberry, the Richland County Library, and Prisma Health. The goal in the next fiscal year is to conduct a strategic plan on how they can provide services in one space.

Dean Kilpatrick announced the National Mass Violence Center will be funded for another three years. Dean stated there will be a National Conference in Pittsburgh, PA in July. This is a