I. **Call to Order**
Christine White called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.

II. **Introductions & welcome to new members and guests**
Mary Lou Ricksecker, Peter Bennett, Noble Wray, Tim Warren, Amy Bramlett, Kathy Peterson, Kim Linsenmayer, LeAnn Xavier, Denise Armstrong, Cheryl Patty, Libby Tucci, Karen Larson, Teri Varney, Sam Kellogg, Audra Sulewski, Marjorie Schuett, Betsy Johnson, Darald Hanusa, Ginna Isunza, Bea Cantelmo, Veronica Clark, Barbara McKinney, Christine White, Melissa Garecht, Sherry Severson

III. **Spotlight on Melissa Garecht, Victim of Crime Advocate with Elder Victim Support Program**
Melissa is a social worker with Dane County Human Services and is stationed at the Northport Office. She has been with Dane County for 11 years. She took over the Elder Victim Support Program. This VOCA position is funded by forfeitures and fines received in the federal court system. To be eligible for the program, an individual must be a resident of Dane County who is a victim of a crime aged 60 or older when the crime occurred. A majority of the referrals come from the DA’s office, although some come from elder abuse and neglect social workers and focal points (16 senior centers in Dane County). The goal of this program is to generate face to face contact with older adults to assess how the crime has had an impact on them, determine if their needs are being met and if their independence has been affected. For many older adults who are first time crime victims, this can have a huge impact on their mental health, stability in the home and whether or not they can remain independent. Melissa goes and assesses their situations, helps with court, writing victim impact statements, applying for restitution, mental health and focal point referrals, assesses for concerns of dementia and makes sure older adults are still doing well and are safe in our community. Financial abuse is the primary crime reported. She does also see some battery, sexual assault, physical abuse and domestic abuse. Majority of those she serves are aged 60-75. The majority of her clients were female, white, non-Hispanic adults. The ratio of male to female clients is now about 50/50.

Next month’s spotlight: Darald Hanusa and Teri Varney of Midwest Domestic Violence Resource Center.

IV. **Review of January minutes**
No changes.
V. **Subcommittee Reports & Status of 2012-2013 Action Plan Implementation**

The DV-CCR is trying to adhere to the action plan. An updated version was just sent out. Concern was brought up that Batterers Treatment is still not on the diagram. The template is not something we can edit and is meant more for a way to guide us through the process, not necessarily reflect Dane County. It was suggested that we put a disclaimer on the diagram that states it does not accurately reflect Dane County, but represents more of a national view on DV issues in the community.

a) **Legal Issues**

DOC reps came in to speak about the Compass Program and assessing risk management including information on how to predict re-offense in violent and DV offenders. They are also working on identifying gaps in the system. Possibly collaborate with Victim Outreach? There was also discussion on the Jennifer Boyce homicide. Further information on this subject is discussed in VI) Other Business, item c below. Might this be worthy of research to determine a correlation between divorce and DV homicide? We are missing a whole group of victims when there is no contested divorce and/or child custody issue. Could a questionnaire be included in the divorce paperwork to assess risk? Include resources to law enforcement and/or DAIS in this paperwork as well? Domestic partners not going through a divorce are also at risk. Other options: include something on the court website about divorce and safety, training family law attorneys to look for risk factors and/or speak to DCFLAG, Dane County Family Law Attorney’s Group at one of their monthly meetings.

b) **Victim Outreach**

They spent most of their last meeting finalizing the 2012 year end subcommittee report. They have 4 ongoing pieces: a victim lethality sheet, translating a no contact cheat sheet in Hmong and Spanish, a panel for identifying gaps in the system for victims, and working with DPI to implement education sheets in high school physical and health education curriculums.

c) **Abuser Treatment and Monitoring**

They finally got WCADV to update their website on accessing abuser treatment. They hope to get all abuser treatment providers in Dane County to participate in the DV-CCR Subcommittee. Another goal is to share research and issues taking place. They received an email from the National Association of Social Workers. There is a draft bill in the assembly regarding concealed carry and evaluating risk factors. Mental health providers would evaluate the risk for someone charged with a DV crime. The provider would have to report a client they thought was at risk that is in possession of a firearm. This presents a huge dilemma. Issues include: confidentiality, who is going to train providers and will they be certified in risk assessment. Jackie Campbell is coming to the Batterer Treatment Association Annual meeting on April 25-26. She is the expert on risk assessment in the nation and has all the recent data on what happens in different levels of dangerousness. The Celebration Subcommittee is planning the next community wide celebration on October 18th. They have added criteria for who they will honor. The person will be someone who has actively worked in DV for at least 20 years or more, has made significant contributions to DV and has a public profile. There will also be a Lifetime Achievement Award. They are working at getting public sponsors for this event. They are also hoping to do training for defense attorneys in regards to batterer treatment in October and a 2 day workshop on DV in the community, including why couples counseling is not a treatment of choice in DV cases. Victim Outreach is working on a lethality checklist for victims. Perhaps they could
work with this committee and collaborate or turn over to ATM. They have been looking at lethality for a couple of years in regards to how likely a batterer is to kill their partner and how to keep an eye on those people.

d) Youth Issues
Their last meeting was in January. They will next meet March 19. They are hoping the video aimed at anyone interested in children of violent homes collaborations such as Rainbow Project, Briarpatch and Family Services, will be done soon. Working on outreach and education to other service providers clients use and the effects of DV on children. They would like to do 3 presentations a year to continue their outreach/education goals.

e) Membership & Outreach
Marlys contacted someone interested in coming to meetings. Keep referring new members to the committee.

VI. Other Business/ Discussion
a. Update re: OVW grant – We are not doing it as it didn’t apply to us. Every year federal government releases grants 2 months before they are due. Should we have a committee to attack grants when they come out? Grants come to Leadership Circle. There is a lot of info attached so they try learning more to see if they are worth it. This was not one for us. However, it would be nice to pass these off as they are time consuming.

b. Acronyms list – Passing around the COSC list. Add or delete items you feel are relevant or don’t apply. Goal of list is to help CCR members with acronyms we use here.

c. Discussion on recent Jennifer Boyce DV homicide and getting community to speak out more when they hear a concern – Jennifer Boyce was murdered in January by her husband. They were scheduled in court in the next few days to finalize their divorce. He killed her then went to work. He later killed himself. People who knew her felt there was little warning to predict this would happen. Some at her workplace might have had inkling there was reason for concern based on Jennifer’s comments to them. There was also a neighbor who might have heard the disturbance in Jennifer’s apartment. The alder sent out emails in regards to this crime right after it happened, as well as DV resources. A victim’s family doesn’t get closure when the abuser kills himself. Boyce’s family is using her story to raise awareness about DV and raise money for DAIS. This could also be an opportunity to educate HR departments about DV in the workplace.

d. Discussion on recent Jennifer Sebena DV homicide – Jennifer was a police officer in Wauwatosa. She was stalked and shot by her husband while she was on duty. He is a war veteran with PTSD. This brought up the discussion of working with VA hospitals to assess risk, work with the VA on transitioning veterans back into the community and get batterers treatment to veterans.

e. Leadership Circle asking for help. Action plan says meetings to be held alternately at CCB and in the community. We are meeting in Fitchburg next month. Looking for anyone with contacts in Fitchburg to help get the word out. Darald to speak to Police Chief and City Hall. Sherry to look at getting it in the Fitchburg paper. Ideas for retreat agenda in September – traditionally it is a half day and is held off site. We try to use that time for longer in-depth discussions, solutions, presentations, etc., but also look at the CCR as a whole, if it’s working the way we want it to and are we following the action plan. Start thinking about location or ideas? We are looking for a place that’s free. We also need ideas for discussion topics. One idea is to have Teri and Darald do batterers
treatment group simulations and education. We would also have fresh info on lethality assessment at this time. Any connections with EPIC or American Family? We could do outreach and training in exchange for meeting there.

VII. Announcements
a. New COSC representative will be Peter, as it made more sense for the representative to be someone from the Leadership Circle. A big thank you to Jill Sweeney for her years of service in this role over the last 2-3 years. THANK YOU JILL!
b. Dane County DV Summit on March 14 will be at 11:30 AM at the Courthouse. Purpose is to get input from stakeholders on how to improve the court system’s response to DV. The RSVP deadline for lunch has passed.
c. WCADV and WCASA Legislative Advocacy Day on March 27 – a day to lobby DV and sexual assault issues to your legislators.
d. Other-DOJ training on April 11 in Brown Deer. Its focus is a partnership against DV for law enforcement and criminal justice professionals. Some topics include: early intervention in DV issues, reducing violence and saving lives. It goes beyond the basics of DV and takes a 365 degree approach. For more information see WILENET or contact Stacy Lenz at the Training and Standards Board.
e. Next meeting will be April 12, 12:00-1:30 PM, Fitchburg Library, Meeting Room A, 5530 Lacy Rd, Fitchburg.

VIII. New Business
a. Contact the Leadership Circle if you have items of interest or agenda items.
b. Update on Madison PD and concerns about how DV cases are being handled. The issue was brought to the Chief right away. MPD is looking at the quality of the reports being written. There is concern across the board, not just with young officers. MPD contacted the DA’s office to see where there can be improvements. The DA’s office said MPD has the best quality investigations. MPD is making videos for briefings on DV and report writing. One issue they see is victims who recant. Another issue is injunction violations where there was invited contact. They are forming a DV focus group to talk about the focus deterrence model. This will be a special investigations unit similar to the red flags CCR subcommittee to target potential reoffenders.
c. Potential new agenda item: Discuss how the above item came about and how to introduce these at our meetings.
d. It was reported by an officer that Jennifer Sebena will not be included in the Law Enforcement Memorial because she was shot by her husband and not in the line of duty. To be discussed: should the DV-CCR, along with WCADV, send a letter of support for Jennifer to the appropriate party?

IX. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Sherry Severson