

“UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM”

General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 21

Overview for Group Discussion

- Review the Last Regular Meeting
- Board of Directors Updates
- Team Updates from Team Leaders/Spokespersons
- Other Business
- Roundtable

Group Discussion

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:34 PM and Review of Last Meeting - Group
The 1/23/2024 meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the [website](#).
2. Board Updates – Shawn L., Executive Director
 - Board members are working on previously tabled projects and making progress.
 - The Customer Relations Management (CiviCRM) implementation is moving forward. The next planning/training meeting is scheduled for April 2024.
 - The next board meeting will be on Sunday, 3/3/2024.
3. Advocacy Participation Team – Kim H.
 - Sharon M. and Kim H. created a message for members explaining how to share a link to invite new members.
 - Kim H. is reaching out to members who live in the same state to inquire about their interest in getting to know each other. She will initiate introductions through email. The first state is Ohio and 19 members have been contacted; no responses have been received yet.
 - A summary of each team is being developed to send as a follow up with new members who are asking how to be involved in UV4SOR.
4. State Coalitions Team – Kim H.
 - The original survey was emailed a second time to 261 members and 53 members responded. Including the original survey results, a total of 114 responses have been collected. Kim H. is learning more about Survey Monkey and its capability and thanked those who helped in the background testing.
 - The next meeting is 2/26/2024.

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5. Call to Action (CTA) Team – Elena A.
 - The team is working on deciphering the USSC and is specifically seeking feedback from others on the juvenile charges. The team would like to respond to the commission with an evidence-based response featuring the development of young brains but would like the input of those with a background in child development. The goal is to have a response by 2/22/2024.
 - The CTA Team is offering for State Coalitions and members to reach out to them with any issues, i.e. legislative bills, that a CTA could support. They will help create it and share the CTA with those who could be affected to take action.
 - Responded to various questions in the chat that requested clarity. Elena explained the purpose of the CTA team, which is working on tactical responses to current issues that arise. An example, advocating for the extension of free minutes in federal prisons. The CTA team also collaborates with partnering advocacy group’s CTAs.

6. Communication Team – Kathy D.V.

Nothing new to report.

7. Fundraising Team – Rita B.
 - [Tru Earth](#) has been posted. This company offers eco-friendly cleaning products with 20% percent of purchases going to UV4SOR.
 - The goal is to have three major fundraisers, including Giving Tuesday, each year. Members are encouraged to reach out to Rita B. with ideas or questions on how to create a fundraiser to support UV4SOR.
 - Kim H. shared that she and Shawn L. are collecting pop-can tabs to donate the proceeds. She challenged the state of Michigan members to collect and bring them all together.

8. Mental Health Team – Pammy D.
 - After little traction in the development of the diversion program it was decided with the support of the board to move into a direction more focused on finding our advocacy voices, healing, and developing confidence. The team is discussing new speakers, presentations, and workshops.
 - On behalf of the Advocacy Participation Team, Kim H. offered to collaborate and share the results of the most recent survey to help build a direction to focus on.

9. No More Silence Team – Betty B.

Betty is focusing on gathering missing ROIs. These are necessary for UV4SOR to use the stories and pictures. She reminded members that anyone’s experience is important, and all stories are welcome and will be used to benefit all teams and provide the human side to research.

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10. PR/Marketing Team – Shawn L. and Jenny L.
 - Jenny L. formalized the speaker form into a drop-down pdf. It will be available at the end of the week. The form will be downloadable to fill in.
 - Josh Hoe, who is a lobbyist for three states, and from the podcast Decarceration Nation and Dream.org will speak on 2/20/2024. He is an impacted person, and his bio is available on the [website](#).
 - [Allegra Pocinki](#) is working on research for her Ph.D. and will present on 3/19/2024. The topic will be about the similarities of grieving our experiences and our LOs through this journey.
 - Jenny L. informed meeting attendees from the state of Illinois that [Illinois Prison Project](#) is seeking collaboration and guest speakers.
 - There are plans for April in the works that can support UV4SOR advocacy.
11. Social Media Team – Rita B.

A series of FB posts were made to help educate members on the language to be used when talking about those who are incarcerated. A post was also made on how to post articles, explaining that posts should include a brief reason, interest, and/or feedback the person is looking for from the article.
12. Other Business

Reporting on behalf of Dwayne D., Shawn L. updated that his meeting with the Ford Corporation regarding their hiring process was positive. He was able to present the value that our LOs can provide in their workforce that they are missing.

Roundtable

1. New Member Welcome and Introductions
2. Share Something Good
 - Pammy Jean D. quit her job today in a difficult work environment.
 - Ann S. shared communication with her governor and will share the link with the executive order so Shawn L. can forward it in an email blast.
 - Madeleine V. registered for the NARSOL conference.
 - Jenny L. will be celebrating her son's graduation with a trip as a family.
 - Joe M. lost five pounds and is actively collecting pop-can tabs.
 - Joy T. shared that her son came home on January 17, 2024. He joined her during this segment of the meeting and shared his initial thoughts about being released. Returning home has been positive but adjusting is difficult after life-threatening events in prison because of his charges.
 - Elena A. reported that her son has come out of the SHU.

The next meeting date is Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. EST.

8:46 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.