



cca|DV CONNECTIONS

A quarterly newsletter for CT's domestic violence
and law enforcement communities

Summer
2013

Good afternoon,

Welcome to the Summer 2013 issue of Connections!

CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is committed to building a strong partnership between law enforcement and our member agency programs. As part of that effort we have developed a quarterly newsletter, *Connections*, that will inform law enforcement and victim advocates of the great work that is being done as a result of this partnership.

This issue of *Connections* will highlight recent and upcoming domestic violence liaison trainings, CCADV's annual awards breakfast to honor men working to improve the lives of domestic violence victims, the revised Family Violence Offense Report, and CCADV's Fatality Review Committee.

CCADV is the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them. Founded in 1978, we are membership organization of the state's 18 domestic violence service agencies. CCADV works to improve social conditions and lead Connecticut's response to domestic violence through policy, advocacy, public awareness, technical assistance, and training.

Any police department or domestic violence agency that would like to request training or technical assistance in the area of law enforcement may contact me at jfroehlich@ctcadv.org or 860-282-7899. All of the training we offer to law enforcement is free of charge.

Sincerely,

Joe Froehlich
Law Enforcement Coordinator

Upcoming Meetings & Trainings

**Law Enforcement
Advisory Committee**
Sept. 19 | 10:00 - 12:00
CCADV

**Lethality Assessment Train-
the-Trainer**
Sept. 26 | 10:00 - 12:00
CCADV

**Family Violence Model
Policy Governing Council**
Sept. 26 | 2:00 - 4:00
Legislative Office Bldg.

**Domestic Violence for Law
Enforcement Professionals**
(POST credit available)
October 8 | 10:00 - 3:00
CCADV

**Law Enforcement
Advisory Committee**
October 17 | 10:00 - 12:00
CCADV

**Supervising Domestic
Violence Investigations**
w/ John E. Guard, IV
November 6 | 9:00 - 4:00
CT Police Academy

**Law Enforcement
Advisory Committee**
November 21 | 10:00 - 12:00
CCADV

In This Issue

- **Domestic Violence Police Liaison Training**
- **3rd Annual First 100 Plus**
- **CT Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee**
- **CCADV Staff Named to National Lethality Assessment Advisory Board**
- **Revised Family Violence Offense Report Approved**
- **Community Partner Spotlight - Prudence Crandall Center & Plainville Police Department**
- **National Speaker John E. Guard, IV Coming to CT!**

Domestic Violence Police Liaison Training

On July 22nd and July 23rd, CCADV partnered with the Connecticut State Police to present two separate two hour training programs to police supervisors who were either domestic violence liaisons or training officers. This training was conducted at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden.

CCADV has identified 129 domestic violence police liaisons in 109 law enforcement agencies throughout Connecticut. This training focused in three areas:

1. The role and responsibilities of being a domestic violence liaison with a police department.
2. Becoming a trainer for implementing the new DESSP-230C Family Violence Offense Report in the police department.
3. Understanding the Statewide Model Policy "Police Response to Crimes of Family Violence"

The instructors were Major Alaric Fox of the Connecticut State Police, TFC Karen O'Connor of the Connecticut State Police, and Joe Froehlich, Law Enforcement Coordinator for CCADV. Major Fox and TFC O'Connor both serve on the state's Family Violence Model Policy Governing Council.

There were 98 attendees representing 51 law enforcement agencies. Approximately 40 domestic violence police liaisons completed the training.

3rd Training Opportunity Announced!

Due to the success of this program and the request for another training session, this same course will be presented on:

Tuesday, September 17, 2013
10:00am - Noon
Connecticut Police Academy
Meriden, CT

First 100 Plus - Call for nominations!



Tuesday, November 19, 2013
7:30am - 9:00am
Crowne Plaza | Cromwell

Plans for the 3rd Annual First 100 Plus are well underway. Tickets will go on sale next week!

In the meantime, **we are calling for nominations of men in your community who are working to improve the lives of the domestic violence victims.** This is a great opportunity for individuals making a difference locally to be recognized on a statewide level.

Questions?

Joe Froehlich

Law Enforcement
Coordinator

860.282.7899

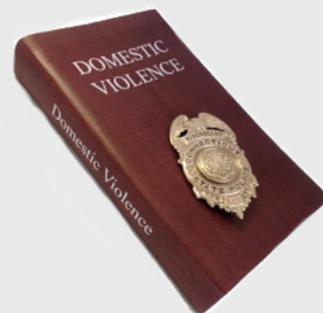
jfroehlich@ctcadv.org

Success Story?

Have a success story
you'd like to share?

Send your submission
to Joe at
jfroehlich@ctcadv.org

**all submissions to be
approved by CCADV*



Men that you may wish to consider nominating could include:

- Staff members or volunteers of your agency
- Police officers
- Court personnel that are particularly helpful to victims
- Attorneys that work with victims
- Members of the local media that help spread the word
- Local business owners that have played a significant role in your work

Nominations can be submitted online at www.ctcadv.org, where you can also view the members of the First 100 Classes of 2011 and 2012. Many thanks for helping make this another successful event!

CT Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee

Over the past decade Connecticut has averaged 15 homicides annually as a result of intimate partner violence.

Led by CCADV, the Connecticut Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee was established in 2001 and works to prevent future deaths by conducting multi-disciplinary, systemic examinations of intimate partner fatalities that occur in our state. A retrospective examination of individual fatalities allows the Committee to comprehensively analyze the strengths and challenges of the community's response to domestic violence. The review process does not and will not assign blame for fatalities to individuals, agencies or institutions; the perpetrator of the homicide is assumed to be ultimately responsible for the death.

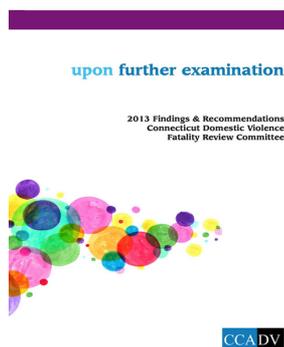
The objectives of the Committee are to:

- Enhance the safety of victims and accountability of batterers
- Identify systemic gaps and barriers to service
- Implement coordinated community response
- Influence public policy for prevention and intervention of domestic violence

The Committee includes representation from key stakeholder including: domestic violence providers, victim family members, law enforcement, prosecutors, public defenders, victim service providers, batterer intervention providers, advocates, and CT Departments of Children & Families, Correction, Public Health, and Social Services.

The Committee's recommendations, along with aggregate case findings, are highlighted in annual reports, which began being published in 2011. The report - Upon Further Examination - is designed to promote positive change through training, prevention, education, and legislative advocacy. To view this year's report, please click below.

2013 Findings & Recommendations



LAP Continues to Expand; CCADV Staff Named to National Advisory Board

The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), which is a result of collaboration between CCADV and the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC), included Ansonia and began with 8 additional towns, including Manchester, New Britain, Waterbury, Norwalk, Plainville, Norwich, Shelton and New London. Modeled after the LAP program first piloted in Maryland, it is a two-pronged intervention process that makes use of a specialized lethality assessment instrument and an accompanying protocol. Trained police on the scene of a domestic violence call assess a victim's risk for serious injury or death using the one-of-a-kind Lethality Assessment Screen. Officers immediately link "high risk" victims to the community-based domestic violence program hotline in their area with the goal of quickly linking the victim to available services.

During the month of July, 22 law enforcement agencies and 12 domestic violence programs participated in LAP. There were 163 screens conducted, 91 (56%) were considered high danger, 77 (85%) victims spoke with an advocate on the phone and 47 (61%) of those victims followed up with additional services.

This program continues to expand and now includes a total of 29 law enforcement agencies. Click [HERE](#) to view the agencies participating in LAP.

Upcoming Train-the-Trainer Opportunity

There will be a 4th train-the-trainer opportunity for police and domestic violence agencies participating in LAP.

Thursday, September 26, 2013
9:30am - 4:00pm
CCADV, Wethersfield, CT

CCADV Staff Named to National Advisory Board

CCADV Executive Director Karen Jarmoc and Law Enforcement Coordinator Joe Froehlich have been invited to participate on the National Lethality Assessment Advisory Board. This will provide CCADV with a national perspective of the development and effectiveness of LAP throughout the United States.

Revised Family Violence Offense Report Approved

The Family Violence Model Policy Governing Council has completed revisions to the Family Violence Offense Report and the report has since been approved by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP). Click [HERE](#) to view the revised form.

The Council has also made significant progress towards completing a revision of the Statewide Model Policy for Police Response to Crimes of Family Violence. It is anticipated that the final approval of revisions to the model policy will be completed at the September 2013 meeting.

The next meeting of the Governing Council will be held on Thursday, September 26th from 2:00-4:00pm in Room 2A of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.

The Council is chaired by State Representative Mae Flexer and CCDV Executive Director Karen Jarmoc. Member programs represented on the Council include: Barbara Bellucci, Center for Domestic Violence Services at BH Care; Andrea Mancuso, Domestic Violence Crisis Center; and Cathy Zeiner, Safe Futures. Law enforcement represented on the Council include: Chief Michael Lombard, Wilton Police Department; Chief Joseph Dooley, Southern Connecticut State University, Major Alaric Fox, Connecticut State Police- Commissioner's Office; Chief Michael Surprenant - Plainfield Police Department, and TFC Karen O'Connor, Connecticut State Police-Training Academy.

Community Partner Spotlight

CCADV would like to recognize and thank the Prudence Crandall Center and Plainville Police Department for their outstanding partnership. Under the leadership of Chief Matthew Catania and coordination of Captain Brian Mullins, the Lethality Assessment Program was implemented in September 2012. Nikita Carmona of Prudence Crandall coordinates the program with the Plainville Police Department.

During the first ten months of the program the police department conducted 130 screens, 59 (54%) were identified as being in high danger, 59 (100%) of the victims immediately spoke with an advocate and 15 (22%) victims continued with services. The police department has embraced this program and found it to be a valuable tool for connecting victims to the local domestic violence program.

Sgt. Michael Bisnov of the Plainville Police Dept. shared his observations and experience of the program in the following email:

"I am a Sergeant with the Plainville, Connecticut Police Department currently assigned to the Patrol Division and the Domestic Violence Intervention Team (D.V.I.T.). I volunteered and was chosen to become a member of this specialized team as a Detective in November of 2011. Our department was one of the first to volunteer and participate in the "pilot" institution of the Lethality Assessment Project (LAP) with the help of New Britain's Prudence Crandall Center in August of 2012. Looking back now, I am hard pressed to think how we effectively "bridged the gaps" in communication between victims, the police and advocates without it. The usefulness of this tool was illustrated immediately following its initiation during the summer of 2012. Our agency had been dealing with a pattern of serious physical and psychological domestic violence perpetrated by a male offender against his live in girlfriend. At the conclusion of our investigative efforts, the male offender was apprehended while lying in wait at the victim's home. He was outfitted with dark clothing, rubber gloves, duct tape, a large double edged knife, lead lined "sap" gloves and a screw driver with which he attempted to force entry into the home of the female victim. The offender perpetrated these acts with absolutely zero regard for the active restraining order issued by the court listing the female victim as the protected person. The offender was taken into custody and charged with a litany of domestic violence related charges including Criminal Violation of a Restraining Order, Stalking 1st Degree, Criminal Trespass 1st Degree, Carry Dangerous Weapon, Weapon in Vehicle, Breach of Peace 2nd and False Statement 2nd Degree. As one can imagine when the grim reality of the offender's intentions were brought to the attention of the victim, she felt powerless and terrified to reside within her own home despite her assailants capture and arrest. Through use of the resources provided by the LAP, I was able to conduct efficient and effective follow-up initiatives to the benefit of the victim. A safety plan was established immediately and communication between the victim, the police, the courts and the advocates never faltered. This was a great relief to the victim who in the past had suffered through the "juggling act" which had often occurred when these resources weren't always readily available. To this day the victim still resides in our town and has expressed great appreciation for the selfless service provided by all agencies involved. Victims of family violence deserve protection and reassurance, LAP has streamlined the communication process and assured that we provide nothing short of just that."

John E. Guard IV to Present at CT Police Academy

On November 6, 2013 Sergeant John E. Guard, IV will present a training session to first line supervisors and domestic violence liaisons with the responsibility of supervising the police response to domestic violence. This course will ensure that supervisors will be able to evaluate and oversee investigations in domestic violence. A special focus on offender dynamics will be provided along with investigative tips to ensure the offender's "Private Face" is exposed.

Attendees of this course will:

- Understand the dynamics that occur within relationships where domestic violence is present
- Learn techniques that law enforcement can use to increase victim safety and offender accountability
- Learn examples of how officers can use the CALM strategy, collect evidence, and interviewing techniques
- Understand emerging trends for law enforcement including the use of digital technology in investigations.

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

9:00am - 4:00pm

CT Police Academy

Meriden, CT