

# where we stand

## 2011 annual report



connecticut coalition against domestic violence

"In 2011 CCADV continued its focus on teens and the problem of teen dating violence. These teens have raised their awareness and are now working to educate their peers."



**The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence works to change the social conditions that perpetuate domestic violence through policy advocacy, public awareness, technical assistance, training and education.**

CCADV is proud to be the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies who serve them. Founded in 1979, CCADV is a membership organization of 18 domestic violence agencies that provide critical support to keep victims safe twenty-four hours-a-day, wherever you live in our state. If you know someone who needs our help, please call our statewide domestic violence hotline at 888-774-2900.

Through an immediate response, like our hotline, we aim to keep victims safe and safer at the end of each day. In that regard, CCADV works at a state and national level to create and implement policy changes to strengthen Connecticut's answer to domestic violence. As the only statewide organization representing the 18 domestic violence agencies here in Connecticut, we work stridently to build membership capacity through comprehensive training and technical assistance. We are grateful for the opportunity to do this important work each day and we appreciate the engagement of so many Connecticut stakeholders who assist our agency and its membership as we collaboratively work to provide the most effective and formidable response to victims.

Dear Friends:

The year 2011 represents a great combination of “firsts,” transition and building blocks which serve to strengthen the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (“CCADV”) and its work to assist victims of domestic violence here in our state. As the leading voice for domestic violence victims and those who serve them, CCADV took meaningful steps these past twelve months to sharpen policy, enhance training, and provide Connecticut with pertinent data and research and we are pleased to share them with you.

In April, CCADV’s Executive Director, Erika Tindill was tapped by Governor Dannel P. Malloy to head Connecticut’s Board of Pardons and Paroles. CCADV wished Tindill well with this exciting opportunity and soon welcomed Karen Jarmoc who took on the position of Interim Executive Director to lead CCADV through the rest of the year.

This smooth transition enabled our organization to continue its valuable work with the release of its first Connecticut Domestic Violence Fatality Review Report in July. CCADV was joined by United States Senator Richard Blumenthal as we discussed pertinent findings and recommendations which will drive our work and strong response.

September provided another first as we honored our “First 100,” male leaders who are committed to assisting CCADV and its membership to help victims. That month we also announced our inaugural “Training Institute,” to inform and increase the capacity of our membership, stakeholders, and ourselves. And finally, we were pleased to establish a “Media Guide for the Reporting of Domestic Violence,” to serve as a valuable tool for those who report on this heinous crime.

We can expect that some 54,000 victims will look to our statewide organization and its member agencies for help in a given year. It is both an honor and awesome responsibility to ensure that we provide these individuals with a comprehensive response that keeps them safe and safer at the end of the day. We are successful, in great part, due to the expertise and determination of those advocates who do this great work day in and day out – on the ground – 24/7, and we thank them.

We also are grateful for the great partnerships and collaborations that continue to grow among critical stakeholders who continue to assist us in Connecticut and we look forward to a continuation of this shared work. We’re incredibly appreciative for your support and we thank you.



Sandy Aldieri  
Board President



Karen Jarmoc  
Executive Director

# in one year

1,364 adults and 1,038 children sought refuge in a safe home.

13,602 adults and 908 children, not living in shelter, received support services including safety planning, counseling, support groups, and advocacy. 283 teens in abusive dating relationships received help.

21,986 hotline calls were answered. 37,523 individuals received services from advocates working in the criminal courts. Through our membership, over 200 training sessions were held, educating 144,057 people about domestic violence.



Domestic violence survivor speaks about her experiences with the Susan B. Anthony Project.

"This evening we received a crisis call from a 23 year old. Earlier in the day, the woman's boyfriend had gotten angry when she told him she was leaving. He stood on her feet so she could not leave and punched her. The woman was able to get away and call the police. When they arrived they helped her get to the emergency room. She had a fractured ankle from the violent attack, but we were able to shelter her and her infant son."

# policy advocacy

The year 2011 was a busy one for CCADV as it took the initiative to move important state and federal policy measures forward. The key reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was high on our list of engagements as we worked stidently both in Connecticut and Washington, D.C. to successfully obtain full support from our state's congressional delegation and both United States Senators Blumenthal and Lieberman for VAWA. VAWA creates and supports comprehensive effective and cost saving responses to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

As a part of the "Annual Legislative Advocacy Day" sponsored by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) in June 2011, Karen Jarmoc, Interim Executive Director, travelled to the nation's Capitol to meet with Connecticut lawmakers to garner their support for VAWA. Jarmoc also conveyed the importance of funding through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). Congressman Joe Courtney hosted Jarmoc for a meaningful talk about Connecticut's response for victims. CCADV then took its policy work one step further as it worked collaboratively with its membership to host valuable discussions in-state during the summer months.



Rep. Jim Himes speaks with staff of the Center for Women and Families.



Congressman John Larson meets with domestic violence advocates.

Long-time supporter Senator Richard Blumenthal spent a morning at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center in Stamford where he heard from advocates in regard to bolstering support to help victims. The Susan B. Anthony Project in Torrington was pleased to host CCADV and Congressman Christopher Murphy for a round-table discussion along with state lawmakers, law enforcement and survivors. Down in Bridgeport, at the Center for Women and Families, Congressman Jim Himes toured the safe house and saw first-hand the need to maintain life-saving services. CCADV also joined with Congressman John Larson to hold a valuable forum at the Legislative Office Building which drew advocates and representatives from legal services and the Office of Policy and Management to talk about VAWA and aid for victims of domestic violence.

CCADV is committed to continuing its essential work to improve upon measures and policies which serve to help victims. According to NNEDV, domestic violence affects women and children in every community, large and small, rural and urban, and it continues to be the most unreported crime in America. We look forward to fostering change and making a positive impact on behalf of the thousands of victims in our state.

"I am proud to have a delegation that supports CCADV and our 18 domestic violence agencies not only in words but also in their actions." - Karen Jarmoc

# policy advocacy

Connecticut is the only state in the nation with a **Speaker's Task Force on Domestic Violence** and CCADV is so proud to contribute to this specialized policy initiative. Through the leadership of State Representative Mae Flexer (D-Killingly), the 2011 legislative session offered meaningful statutory changes which strengthen our state's support for victims of domestic violence.

The **Law Enforcement Response to Family Violence Task Force** – established through legislation – resulted in significant recommendations issued by year's end to create one uniform policy to be used by all law enforcement agencies when responding to a family violence incident and violations of restraining and protective orders. This task force, co-chaired by Representative Flexer and Karen Jarmoc, Interim Executive Director of CCADV, also benefited from the representation of advocates from the Hartford, New Haven, New London and Stamford based domestic violence agencies. Their diligent work- resulting in a set of important policy reforms- will be taken to the 2012 legislature for their approval.

The 2011 session also resulted in the following changes which were effective as of October 1, 2011:

- . Law enforcement are now mandated to arrest a person who commits a family violence crime against someone with whom he/she is dating.
- . At the scene of a family violence crime, law enforcement officers are now required to give victims contact information for domestic violence agencies that employ people as, or make referrals to, counselors trained in providing "trauma informed care."
- . Victims, who have experienced an on-going pattern of verbal intimidation, threatening and stalking behaviors, are now qualified to submit an application for a restraining order .



It is imperative that we continually revisit and revise the laws we have in place to reduce and eliminate domestic violence. Anytime we can increase safety for victims and accountability for offenders, we will raise the chance that the cycle of violence will not repeat itself.



# training and technical assistance

## sustaining our programs

In efforts to ensure the pinnacle of professionalism and care for victims statewide, CCADV opened the doors to its Training Institute in September 2011. Through a cadre of experienced instructors, CCADV offers a series of courses that are unmatched in their scope and breadth for our member agencies, professional organizations as well as the general public. Whether you are a corporate entity, a public service organization or a concerned citizen, CCADV offers unique trainings best matched to suit your needs. Our training faculty includes both national and local professionals—all with extensive experience in the field of domestic violence. In its first four months, the Training Institute held 17 trainings, educating over 300 individuals encompassing a wide variety of respondents including, but not limited to: police officers, prosecutors, attorneys, advocates, clinicians and mental health experts. CCADV covered such critical topics as stalking, strangulation, orders of protection, risks and benefits of technology, motivational interviewing, and advocacy beyond leaving the abusive relationship. CCADV is proud to announce that 97% of all trainees indicated that each training they attended either met or exceeded their expectations.

ccadv  
training  
institute

Through the Institute, CCADV also initiated a specialized Prevention Capacity Building Training—a 12 month project that was attended by member agency community educators from across the state. The educators learned basics of prevention, they studied both the ecological and “Getting to Outcomes” models of prevention, the logic model for organizing prevention activities, program planning and evaluation and how to facilitate an effective community response. In addition to gaining a greater understanding of primary prevention, the participants have developed an organizational plan of action to deter domestic violence in its earliest stages.

Within the Training Institute, CCADV has a Lending Library aimed at reinforcing ideas highlighted in our trainings. With over 200 titles in various medias, the Lending Library has resources available on loan (free of charge) for any party interested in furthering their education. For those unable to access the Lending Library, CCADV produced a number of resources (in English and Spanish) that are available for viewing online at [www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org). These titles include “Reporting Domestic Violence: A Guide for Media”, “The Connecticut Guide to Family Violence Laws” and “Upon Further Examination: Findings and Recommendations from the Connecticut Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee.”

**78** new advocates completed training to become Certified Battered Women’s Counselors. In 2011, **55** trainings were held for **1,020** advocates and community based organizations in such areas as trauma, substance abuse, women defined advocacy, trauma, stalking, strangulation and restraining orders.

# training and technical assistance

## sustaining our programs

CCADV provides critical leadership in coordinating efforts to keep victims safe by addressing systemic barriers facing victims and their children and by strengthening services. Since opening its doors, CCADV is committed to providing a quality array of services for those most in need. No matter what your knowledge base, CCADV knows that it's a constant battle to remain current with all that is emerging in the field of domestic violence. At CCADV we are always searching for the most effective and efficient ways for enhancing victim safety and building the capacity of our membership.

The Program Operations Team at CCADV works diligently to answer the questions you have through telephone, email, in-person or on-site. Whether you need answers about ALICE, the database and reporting system, a local resource or the interpretation of a state statute, our highly qualified staff remains ready to respond to your on-going needs.

In 2011, CCADV staff provided consultation and technical assistance with member agencies, victims, the media and others who work with domestic violence victims about a range of issues including:

- Enhancing crisis intervention and building responsive services
- Improving accessibility for victims
- Identifying promising practices, programmatic resources and funding opportunities
- Building coordinated community responsive systems through collaborations with legal services and community based organizations
- Providing consultation and expertise to advocates through training opportunities at the CCADV Training Institute
- Improving the media response to domestic violence through the issuance of "Reporting on Domestic Violence in Connecticut: A Guide for Media"

CCADV also facilitated on-site consultation with our member agencies around such issues as best practices to expand and enhance domestic violence services, providing trauma responsive programming, and compliance with the CCADV Standards for Member Agencies.



# fatality review

In July 2011, CCADV and the Connecticut Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee released its first report on domestic violence fatalities over the past ten years. The purpose of the report is to share the work of the Committee and the opportunities for intervention identified through the review process. Consistently each year, 12-16 victims of domestic violence in Connecticut lose their lives at the hands of their abusive partners. And behind the numbers, there is a remarkable collection of information as well as a comprehensive and extensive assessment of the circumstances related to these fatalities. The work of the Committee identified trends and precipitating factors in these fatalities-in essence points of intervention that could be changed or enhanced to reduce the overall numbers we see each year. The detailed report identified several key findings with a set of recommendations for improving the systemic response to domestic violence. Through its detailed work, the Committee found:

**In the vast majority of fatalities reviewed, the victim did not reach out to their local domestic violence agency for help.** These victims as well as families members did not know about the availability of domestic violence services.

**In all but one case that was reviewed, there were children present when the fatality occurred, including children who were not related to the family.**

**For the perpetrator, it appeared that a divorce, break-up of the relationship and/or the loss of parental/custodial rights of children remained high as precipitating factors for the fatality.** For each fatality reviewed, the Committee determined that events existed that were driving factors in the commission of the murder.

**Gunshot wounds were the number one cause of death in all the domestic violence fatalities.**

**It was determined that training and professional development must be provided utilizing a cross-disciplinary, collaborative delivery model.** Securing additional resources to provide an enhanced response to domestic violence was an on-going issue.



Survivors Alvin Notice and Tom Mealy

A woman sought a protective order from her ex-husband who was being released on parole. The judge asked her if she was still afraid of him. She said the only reason she wasn't dead is because the gun jammed.



# “the first 100” engaging men

One hundred male leaders from throughout Connecticut were honored at a breakfast on September 28, 2011, for their leadership in heightening awareness to the availability of and access to domestic violence services in Connecticut. United States Senator Richard Blumenthal, the first of the 100 named by CCADV, was on hand to offer congratulations. Honorees included business, government and community leaders who are committed to influencing change to make victims safer in Connecticut.

Nearly 200 guests turned out for the event where Speaker of the House Christopher Donovan and the Connecticut General Federation of Women’s Clubs received awards for their impact and contributions in making a difference in the lives of victims of domestic violence.

Speaker of the House Christopher Donovan received the “Coalition Crusader Award” for his work to establish the Speaker’s Task Force on Domestic Violence. The General Federation of Women’s Clubs was presented with the “Lawrence and Shirley Bostrom Pillars for Change Award” for their advocacy in assisting the Coalition’s 18 member agencies to obtain state funding for 24 hour on-site coverage at their domestic violence shelters. The Bostroms created the state’s Survivors of Homicide organization after their daughter Margaret was murdered by her husband.



State Representative Chris Donovan



Larry and Shirley Bostrom with  
Women’s Club President Jo Ann Calnen

# td411



This year CCADV released “td411”, a teen dating application in both the iTunes App Store and the Android Market. Reportedly the first of its kind in the nation, td411 provides information and tools that teens, their friends and families can use to learn more about dating violence and healthy relationships.

We're excited to provide information on dating relationships in a format teens are most likely to use. Teens may not pick up a phone and call our hotline if they need help, so the app provides them with all the information they need in one quick and convenient place.

The App also has a complimentary website at [www.td411.org](http://www.td411.org) featuring the same content. CCADV partnered with the Institute on Community Research, the Center for Youth Leadership and the Office of the Child Advocate on the implementation of this project.



“We’ve taken great strides to make td411 the best it could be, so it was crucial to get input from teens throughout the process. We want to make sure they find the App useful, so they can either use it themselves or to help a friend!”

Above: Students from across Hartford work with CCADV to unveil td411 on April 27, 2011. From Left: Corporina Roberson (Weaver High School), Simone Foster-Bey (Northwest Catholic High School), Jimille Bowers (Law and Government Academy).

Right: Greenwich “Ynetters” demonstrate their commitment to addressing and reducing teen dating violence in their schools.



# financials

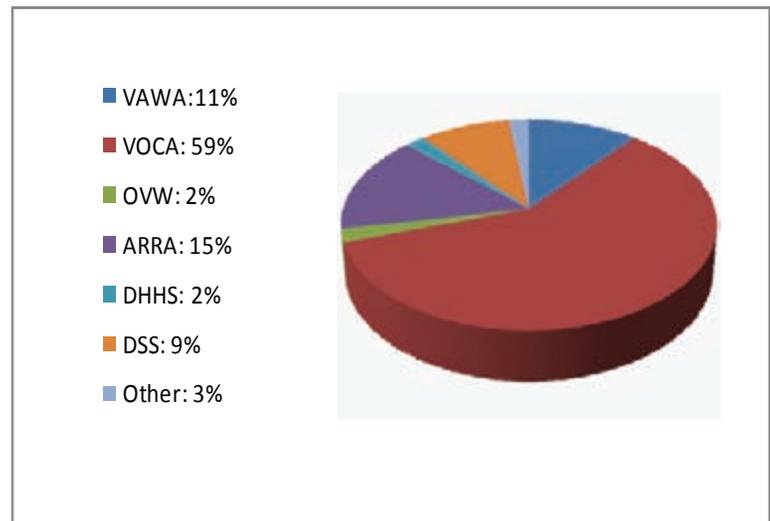
## income

The Victim of Crime Act (**VOCA**) funding supports our Adult Advocate Program and our Family Violence Victim Advocate Program.

The Office of Violence Against Women (**OVW**) funding supports our training Institute, Fatality Review Committee, our Child Advocacy Program, an Enhanced Services Program, and three Docket Court programs.

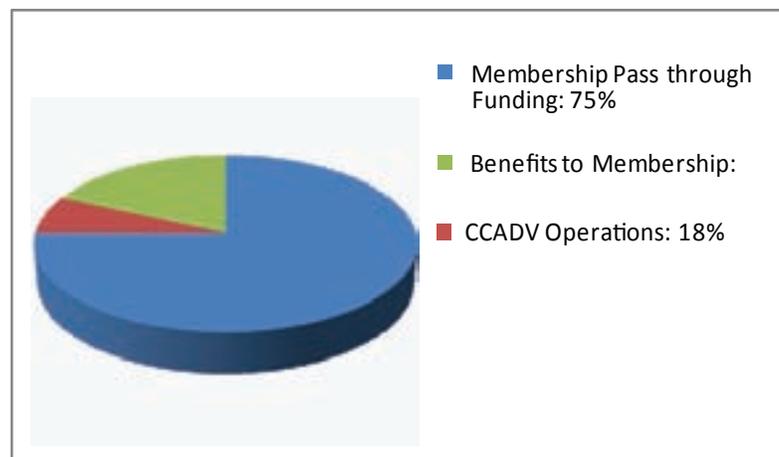
The **Judicial Branch** funding supports our Family Violence Victim Advocate Program, three Docket Court programs, the Family Violence Victim Advocate Supervisors and our Bridgeport Docket Program.

The state Department of Social Services (**DSS**) and the federal Department of Health and Human Services (**DHHS**) support the overall operation of CCADV.



## expenses

Pass through funding to support our member program projects is 75% of all CCADV expenses. The remaining expenses are for the overall operation of CCADV and services that benefit our member programs such as publications, public policy advocacy, training, public awareness materials, and the specialized consultants for technical assistance.



**\$ 3.25 million dollars** were passed along to our member agencies to support the operation of their programs.

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If you need help or  
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