CCADV Kicks Off New Prevention Campaign

I Choose

In June CCADV launched its new prevention campaign - “I Choose” - focused on engaging boys, and men, to make positive life choices that don’t involve violence. The campaign stems for the idea that violence is a choice, and with the right mentors and the right tools, boys can choose to rise above domestic violence. Together, we are working towards educating boys about making good life choices:

“I Choose respect.”
“I Choose not to normalize violence towards women.”
“I Choose to take a stand against domestic violence.”

What’s more, we understand that with having successful male role models, boys can begin to understand how good choices can result in life affirming successes. Check out the campaign video below.

Click to play the campaign video

Please share the campaign with men and boys in your area and ask them to participate as an ambassador of the “I Choose” campaign and share their voice to help put an end to domestic violence. They can post a video on Facebook and tag CCADV (@CTCoalitionAgainstDomesticViolence) or use the hashtag #IChooseCTCADV.

Stay Tuned!

Rollout of the campaign will continue over the coming months with additional ways that individuals can get involved. A campaign toolkit with sample social media posts and images will be available in early September. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Linda Blozie, Director of Training and Prevention.
7th Annual First 100 Plus Breakfast & Awards Ceremony

Call for Nominations!

We need your help selecting members for the First 100 Plus Class of 2017! Do you know someone from your community or profession who goes above and beyond when helping victims and their families? Perhaps a law enforcement officer, educator, medical practitioner, attorney or faith-based leader? If so, we want to hear their story and learn about their work to help individuals experiencing domestic violence.

CLICK TO MAKE YOUR NOMINATIONS!

Save the Date

First
-100
plus
Celebrating Male & Female Champions

7th Annual Breakfast & Awards Ceremony

Recognizing male and female leaders working to improve the lives of domestic violence victims across Connecticut.

OCTOBER 27, 2017 | 7:30AM
HARTFORD MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

Thank you to our generous event sponsors:

Thank you to our generous sponsors...

Presenting Sponsor: Champion:

Defenders:

Please save the date and plan to join us as we honor the 2017 Class of statewide leaders who are working to improve conditions for victims of domestic violence and their families in Connecticut. Now in our 7th year, we are pleased to annually recognize the meaningful efforts of men and women across our state who are boldly stepping forward to advance policy and practice around serving victims of domestic violence. We are deeply grateful for their time and commitment, and hope that you will join us as we say ‘thank you’!

This year, in recognition of their extensive work and leadership throughout Connecticut to improve circumstances for victims of domestic violence, we will be honoring:

Bank of America
Coalition Crusader

Women’s Health Connecticut
Lawrence & Shirley Bostrom Pillars of Change

Event tickets go on sale in September!
Questions about nominations? Please contact Liza Andrews at 860.282.7899 | landrews@ctcadv.org

Sponsorship opportunities available!
CCADV recently partnered with Community Health Center, Inc.’s (CHC) Weitzman Institute to utilize the Weitzman ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) as part of our technical assistance offerings to our members. Weitzman ECHO allows CCADV staff to offer video conferencing with domestic violence advocates and providers across the state. Weitzman ECHO provides the opportunity for advocates to both learn and participate in a conversation from their own office, saving time and money. Video conferencing will increase meeting accessibility for member staff as it is rare that multiple advocates from one member organization are able to travel to CCADV’s office for the same meeting. Additionally, Weitzman ECHO sessions are recorded and can be accessed by all advocates at their convenience, including advocates who work nights and weekends.

CCADV’s first Weitzman ECHO session was held in June and covered the topic of comprehensive advocacy. Over thirty advocates from across the state participated. Video conferencing sessions will range in length from 60 to 90 minutes and will include a training component followed by a case presentation on how to apply the training information. We are excited to offer this new method of technical assistance to our members and thank CHC for its partnership and leadership!

CCADV Partners with CHC to Offer Technical Assistance to Members via Video Conferencing

CCADV Training Institute

Don’t miss out on these exciting opportunities through CCADV’s Training Institute! Click on the titles below for a description and registration information.

**Members Only**

**Day of Advocacy Staples**
September 20 I 9:30am - 4:00pm I CCADV

**Law Enforcement Response to Domestic Violence**
November 14 I 10:00am - 1:00pm

**New Staff & Volunteer Orientation**
November 27 - 28 I 9:30am - 4:00pm I CCADV

**Understanding Batterer Intervention Programs**
December 5 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Campus Personnel Only**

**Preventing & Responding to IPV on Campus**
September 13 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Legal Response to IPV on Campus**
October 11 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Intersection of Stalking, IPV & Technology on Campus**
November 15 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

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**Community Welcome**

**Intersection of Domestic Violence & Trafficking**
October 4 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Tech Safety & Domestic Violence**
October 18 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Engaging & Supporting Parents Affected by DV**
October 19 I 10:00am - 1:00pm I CCADV

**Interseccion de la Violencia Domestica, Salud Mental y Trauma en Familias Latinas**
Nov. 30 & Dec. 1 I 10:00am - 4:00pm I CCADV
The 2017 Regular Session of the General Assembly saw more important changes to Connecticut law that will increase victim safety and offender accountability. Public Act 17-31, An Act Concerning Strengthening Laws Concerning Domestic Violence makes important changes in four key areas:

1. Strengthens the state’s anti-stalking statutes to include a lower level of fear of “suffer emotional distress” as a qualifier making the statute more accessible (existing language requires “fear of physical safety”);
2. Includes suffocation in the state’s strangulation statutes;
3. Increases penalties for violations of conditions of release; and,
4. Requires that a pre-sentence investigation be completed on all family violence felonies when the defendant is facing incarceration.

Changes to the state’s stalking laws bring Connecticut in line with 29 other states that have revised their statutory definitions to allow for a lower level of fear when charging for stalking. A top risk factor for fatal intimate partner violence, stalking is a crime intended to intimidate and terrorize its victims. The average length of intimate partner stalking is 2 years, with many offenders approaching their victim and intensifying their conduct quickly. The high level of fear and distress caused by stalking often results in anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and depression which can hinder the victims’ ability to manage daily activities.

In Connecticut, statewide use of the nationally-recognized and evidence-based Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) allows law enforcement to screen victims of intimate partner violence for potentially fatal violence. According to data collected from nearly 3,000 victim responses to the LAP screen between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, 71% of screened victims report having their daily activities controlled and 49% report being followed and spied on or subjected to threatening messages. Another 46% of screened victims reported that their current or former partner threatened to kill them.

National best practices have long called for inclusion of “emotional distress” in state stalking laws to improve the ability of law enforcement to intervene in stalking behaviors earlier and protect the victim from escalating violence. Changes contained in Public Act 17-31 go into effect October 1st. Please see below for training opportunities for domestic violence advocates and law enforcement regarding the statutory changes to stalking and strangulation. Click on the image above for a full legislative summary as of July 2017 (additional information will be available following adoption of a state budget).

Training Opportunity!
Stalking & Strangulation: Legal Update
Tuesday, September 19 | 9:00am - Noon | CCADV | REGISTER
OR
Thursday, October 5 | 9:00am - Noon | CCADV | REGISTER

This training will review:
• 2017 changes to the state’s stalking and strangulation laws;
• methods of stalking and ways to identify and document emotional distress; and,
• documentation of strangulation, including reporting and photographs.

Each training will cover the same material. Individuals interested in attending need only attend one session.
In May, CCADV and CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence (Alliance) jointly held a roundtable discussion on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and other federal funding issues with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro. Congresswoman DeLauro expressed concern about some of the possible budget priorities of the current Administration that could result in less funding for vital domestic and sexual violence services. CCADV CEO, Karen Jarmoc, noted that potential cuts by the Administration or as a result of budget sequestration could be devastating for victims in Connecticut, which relies on federal funding through the Family Violence Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).

CCADV member directors Esperina Stubblefield and Lee Schlesinger both pointed to the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) funded under VAWA as an example of a critical and successful program that could be impacted by potential federal budget cuts. Following a call to police, LAP is proven to successfully connect victims facing the greatest risk to domestic violence organizations for follow-up services.

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Congresswoman DeLauro encouraged roundtable participants to work with other stakeholders such as law enforcement and medical professionals to increase awareness about the impact of potential cuts. Noting that the Connecticut delegation would fight to protect funding for domestic and sexual violence services, she also urged people to work with national partners to increase support from representatives and senators in other states.

Other CCADV members participating in the roundtable were Kathie Verano, Safe Futures; Amy Lappos, The Center for Family Justice; Beth Vumbaco, Chrysalis Domestic Violence Services; and Wendy DiChristina, YWCA Greenwich Domestic Violence Program. The event was hosted by BHcare.

CCADV recently added six American Sign Language (ASL) video interpretations to our website. Following the assessment and evaluation of our website’s accessibility with Rachel Posner, a consultant and member of the deaf community, key sections of the site were identified that would benefit from video recordings. The videos cover the following topics:

- Who is CCADV
- CCADV Member services
- Domestic violence warning signs and risk factors
- Getting help: what to expect when you call the statewide hotline or the police
- Legal options & resources
- Safety planning

According to The National Domestic Violence Hotline, data from an eight-year survey indicates that deaf and hard of hearing individuals are 1.5 times more likely to be victims of intimate partner violence. A number of unique circumstances face the community including isolation and a lack of interpreters or the inability to communicate with advocates or law enforcement who do not know ASL. Couple this with reduced reading literacy rates among the deaf and hard of hearing due to a lack of interpreters in educational settings and written website content has the potential of being inaccessible.

The ASL interpretation videos aim to increase language access for deaf and hard of hearing victims. Led by Director of Diversity & Accessibility, Wendy Mota Kasongo, CCADV has taken further steps in recent years to increase service accessibility to the deaf and hard of hearing community. Video phones were installed in each of our 18 member organizations between 2015 and 2016 that allow deaf or hard of hearing victims receiving services to make outgoing calls to other needed service providers, such as healthcare providers, using ASL interpretation services provided by Sorenson Communications. Training in ASL has also been provided to domestic violence advocates across the state giving them the necessary skills to confidently communicate with victims. Next steps in these efforts is to make the statewide domestic violence hotlines accessible via video phone in addition to the existing use of TTY.
Please Join Us!

The Children’s Center on Family Violence

Opportunities for Enhanced Practice:
Supporting Resiliency in Children Exposed to Family Violence

Thursday, September 21, 2017
8:30am - 4:30pm
Quinnipiac University School of Law
North Haven, CT

Registration Fee: $50 (includes box lunch)

This exciting one day symposium will feature national and local experts addressing the impact of family violence on children and best practices for responding to promote resiliency.

Some topics to be covered include:

- The intersection of community violence, family violence, trauma and intervention
- Family violence and cultural competency for children
- How persistent fear and anxiety can affect young children’s learning, behavior and health
- Trauma informed services within the public school setting

Scheduled presenters include:

Carol O’Connor, LCSW - TF-CBT Coordinator & Quality Improvement Advisor, Child Health & Development Institute of Connecticut

Ruby White Starr - Chief Strategy Officer, Casa de Esperanza; Director, National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities

Margaret Briggs-Gowan, Ph.D. - Associate Professor, Psychiatry, UConn Health Center

Cat Davis, MA, RDT - Director, ALIVE Program, Post Traumatic Stress Center, LLC

For questions, please contact Kelly Annelli, Director of Member Organization Services, CCADV
860.282.7899  kannelli@ctcadv.org
Learn more at www.ctccfv.org
CCADV Assists in Development & Facilitation of New Series of Campus Trainings

As a project partner of the SAFE Campus Project here in Connecticut, CCADV recently assisted in the development and now the facilitation of several new trainings to promote safety on college campuses. The SAFE Campus project is designed to enhance victim services, implement prevention and education programs, and develop and strengthen campus security and investigation strategies to prevent, prosecute and respond to relationship violence, sexual assault and stalking crimes on college campuses. This project is unique in that it is a consortium composed of the four state universities and all of the community colleges – only the second of its type in the nation.

CCADV Director of Training & Prevention, Linda Blozie, sits on the Training & Technical Assistance Committee, which recently announced these important training opportunities. The following trainings are designed for college and university personnel including but not limited to Title IX Coordinators, Campus Resource Team members, Judicial Hearing Boards, counseling and health services, student affairs, law enforcement, public safety and residential life.

Preventing & Responding to Intimate Partner Violence on Campus  
September 13 I 10:00am – 1:00pm I CCADV I DESCRIPTION & REGISTRATION

Legal Response to Intimate Partner Violence on Campus  
October 11 I 10:00am – 1:00pm I CCADV I DESCRIPTION & REGISTRATION

Intersection of Stalking, Intimate Partner Violence and Technology on Campus  
November 15 I 10:00am – 1:00pm I CCADV I DESCRIPTION & REGISTRATION

The first training in the series – Bringing In the Bystander – brought together more than 50 representatives from across Connecticut to discuss bystander intervention strategies and raising awareness on campus. Other members of the Training & Technical Assistance Committee include Colleen Kearney, Chair, SAFE Campus Project Grant Director; Lisa Hamilton & Starsheemar Byram, Eastern Connecticut State University; Gayle Barrett, Middlesex Community College; Jessica Waterhouse, Tunxis Community College; Christopher Piscatelli, Catherine Christy & Cynthia Torres, Southern Connecticut State University.

Member Spotlight On...  
Therapy Dog Provides New Measure of Comfort to Victims

At just 5 months old, Safe Futures newest team member is having a big impact. Luna, a white, female boxer puppy, has been brought on board to serve as a certified therapy dog and provide comfort to victims and children receiving services at Safe Futures. Clients are so eager to work with her that they are making their appointments around her schedule.

In just the few short weeks she has been part of the team, Luna has already helped a child open up to a counselor after initially refusing to talk, and entertained other children whose mother was in crisis and needed time alone with an advocate. Luna has also provided some much needed comfort to staff during particularly stressful days.

Luna’s sweet temperament and big eyes make her perfect for the job of working with victims of trauma. She will first attend obedience classes and then be trained as a therapy dog. Safe Futures obtained Luna with a grant from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, which is also providing support for construction of a kennel for clients’ pets while they stay in shelter. When not working, Luna lives with Safe Futures Executive Director, Katherine Verano.
**PURPLE TIE TUESDAY**  
10.17.17

**Wear a PURPLE TIE** on Tuesday, October 17th.

It’s a simple yet meaningful way to raise awareness about DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and show your commitment to promoting healthy relationships.

*Or any purple article of clothing. We encourage everyone, tie or no tie, to participate in the day!

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**NNEDV Unveils Tech Safety App in Spanish**

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) recently released a Spanish-language version of its Tech Safety mobile app – a resource for survivors of technology-facilitated stalking or abuse, their friends and family, and service providers. This educational mobile app walks users through how particular forms of technology could be misused to harass and stalk them, what they can do about it, and offers tips on how to enhance their technology related safety and privacy.

The app explores six categories: harassment, impersonation, cellphone safety, device safety, location safety, and online safety. Under each category, more information is provided with specific explanations about what someone can do if they are being harassed, and privacy tips are offered that can be used to increase privacy and security. The app also includes additional resources on documenting abuse, talking with an advocate at a domestic violence program, contacting police, getting an attorney, and where to call for help. The English and Spanish versions have content in both text and audio to increase accessibility options.

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**Purchase your Awareness Tie for Purple Tie Tuesday!**

Ties can be purchased from CCADV for **$75 ea**

plus shipping and sales tax

Proceeds support CCADV’s work!

The Vineyard Vines® Tie is hand made in the U.S.A. with 100% imported silk and incorporates the nationally recognized purple ribbon for prevention of domestic violence. The tie measures approx. 57” long and 3 ½” wide.

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**Para descargar y aprender más, haz click aquí**
CCADV Attends National Technology Safety Summit

CCADV Director of Training & Prevention, Linda Blozie, recently attended NNEDV’s Technology Summit 2017 in San Francisco, CA. This unique 3-day training summit focused on the intersection of technology and domestic & sexual violence, stalking and trafficking. Technology has revolutionized how we communicate and made the world more accessible. When harnessed correctly, technology provides exciting opportunities to improve services, empower survivors, hold offenders accountable, and drive social change. Unfortunately, technology can also be misused as a tactic of abuse. The summit gives advocates from across the world the opportunity to explore not only the many ways technology can be misused, but also the many strategies survivors can employ to use technology safely and effectively.

Here are just a few of the trainings offered at this year’s event:

- **The Ins & Outs of Assistive Technology Safety** – Participants learn about the assistive and adaptive technologies survivors with disabilities are using; how they enhance services and safety; and, how to incorporate them into an agency's safety planning process.

- **Finding Community Online** – Participants are encouraged to consider how LGBTQ youth's identities may impact their use of technology, the role of that technology in their lives, and the toll tech abuse can take on their need to find community and acceptance online.

- **Teens & Tech** – Participants analyze the intersection of technology and teen dating violence (1 in 4 teens in a dating relationship has experienced abuse through digital tech) while exploring the barriers teens face when seeking help from service providers, law enforcement and the justice system.

- **Location Privacy and Protecting Addresses** – Participants evaluate how to increase survivor safety in areas with online government databases like Automatic Voter Registration.

- **Criminal Investigations & Digital Evidence** – Participants explore what artifacts are left behind when people use technology and how those artifacts can be used to show behavior and actions; includes real life examples from convictions to demonstrate how the evidence was prepared for court so that it could be understood by the judge, jury and attorneys.

The summit provided concrete information that CCADV can incorporate into our own training and awareness efforts, including how survivors can use technology to increase safety and privacy, how to document harassment and abuse to build a case, and how to engage survivors and the public via technology to increase support and create awareness. Stay tuned!

Contact Linda with questions or visit NNEDV’s Tech Safety Blog for a number of resources for both survivors and community stakeholders.
# cca|DV

## MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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<tr>
<th>The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services</th>
<th>The Center for Family Justice</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ansonia New Haven (203) 736-9944 (203) 789-8104</td>
<td>Bridgeport (203) 384-9559</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.bhcare.org">www.bhcare.org</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.centerforfamilyjustice.org">www.centerforfamilyjustice.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Women’s Center of Greater Danbury</th>
<th>Domestic Violence Program/United Services, Inc.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Danbury (203) 731-5206</td>
<td>Dayville Willimantic (860) 774-8648 (860) 456-9476</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.wcogd.org">www.wcogd.org</a></td>
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<th>The Network</th>
<th>Domestic Abuse Service/Greenwich YWCA</th>
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<td>Enfield (860) 763-4542</td>
<td>Greenwich (203) 622-0003</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.thenetworkct.org">www.thenetworkct.org</a></td>
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<td>Meriden (203) 238-1501</td>
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<td>New Britain (860) 225-6357</td>
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<td>New London (860) 701-6000</td>
<td>Norwalk Stamford (203) 852-1980 (203) 588-9096</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.safefuturesct.org">www.safefuturesct.org</a></td>
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<th>Susan B. Anthony Project</th>
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**CCADV is the state’s leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them.**

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Statewide Hotline - 888.774.2900 (English) 844.831.9200 (Español)  
Call to be connected with your local domestic violence service agency.