



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

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Lower Level  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

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**Member Agencies**

Center for Domestic Violence Services  
at BHcare  
Ansonia, CT

The Center for Women & Families  
Bridgeport, CT

Women's Center  
Danbury, CT

Domestic Violence Program  
United Services  
Dayville, CT

Network Against Domestic Abuse  
Enfield, CT

Domestic Abuse Services  
Greenwich YWCA  
Greenwich, CT

Interval House  
Hartford, CT

Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis  
Meriden, CT

New Horizons  
Middletown, CT

Prudence Crandall Center  
New Britain, CT

Center for Domestic Violence Services  
at BHcare  
New Haven, CT

Safe Futures  
New London, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center  
Norwalk, CT

Women's Support Services  
Sharon, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center  
Stamford, CT

Susan B. Anthony Project  
Torrington, CT

Safe Haven  
Waterbury, CT

Domestic Violence Program  
United Services  
Willimantic, CT

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**CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence Joins National Day of  
Action Calling on Congress to Pass VAWA**

*-Violence Against Women Act critical to helping victims in CT-*

**Hartford, CT-** The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) will join the National Network to End Domestic Violence on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> in a nationwide day of action urging Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The Act expired 679 days ago.

First authorized in 1994, VAWA has created a comprehensive and coordinated community response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. As a result of this life-saving measure, community-based agencies have provided enhanced services that keep victims safe and the criminal justice system has held more offenders accountable for their actions.

"VAWA is a critical piece of our work here in Connecticut," said Karen Jarmoc, CCADV Executive Director. "We are grateful to have a delegation that supports its reauthorization and expansion. We urge them to work with their colleagues to get this important measure passed."

While VAWA has historically had bi-partisan support and was easily reauthorized in 2000 and 2005, it expired in 2011 amid partisan debate in Washington, DC. Connecticut's entire congressional delegation supports the Senate version of VAWA which passed the Senate on a bi-partisan basis and expands protections to undocumented immigrants, gays and lesbians, and Native Americans. The House version would not only limit victim protections, but it would impose unnecessary and costly audit requirements on providers resulting in fewer dollars for direct services.

"The Senate version of VAWA is a truly bipartisan measure that commands overwhelming support in the Senate and the American public," said U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.). "In Connecticut, I hear again and again from men and women of all backgrounds that VAWA is an idea whose time came 18 years ago but continues to demand the kind of respect and support that the U.S. Senate has given it. Now is the time for the House to adopt the Senate version of VAWA, because it is more inclusive and more effective. For example, new provisions I proposed will advance the VAWA to the new frontier of Internet crimes – helping to stop cyber stalking and cyber harassment or impersonation. We must take this fight to the House and end the epidemic of domestic violence that victimized 54,000 women in Connecticut last year alone."

"While Connecticut and others have made significant strides in prevention and support, far too many still face the terrible reality of violence across our nation and here at home," said Congressman John B. Larson. "VAWA is critical to maintaining

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and enhancing the programs and preventative measures necessary to ensure the safety and well being of countless American citizens. I am committed to the reauthorization of VAWA, and will continue to do all I can to help end violence in our communities."

Earlier this year, CCADV hired its first ever Law Enforcement Coordinator through a VAWA grant. This vital position will allow the Coalition to develop a mutli-disciplinary training team and a law enforcement advisory committee to build upon law enforcement's response to victims of domestic violence. Additionally, this position will oversee the statewide Lethality Assessment Program aimed at reducing the number of domestic violence related homicides in our state.

With 30 days left in the current session of Congress, advocates across the country, including here in Connecticut, will be calling on members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to reauthorize VAWA. To learn more, visit [www.nnedv.org/policy/issues/vawa.html](http://www.nnedv.org/policy/issues/vawa.html).

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*The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc. is a membership organization made up of the state's 18 domestic violence agencies. Help is available to victims 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.. Each agency offers free services to victims including a toll-free hotline, safety through shelter, counseling and support groups, and by assisting in securing a restraining order. If you or someone you know needs support, call the statewide free and confidential hotline at **888-774-2900** to be connected to your local domestic violence agency. For more information about CCADV visit us online at [www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org)*