Bill to Protect Victims at the Most Dangerous Time Wins Final Approval

After its second year of consideration, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence at the most dangerous time finally passed the full General Assembly! The bill, House Bill 5054, An Act Protecting Victims of Domestic Violence (commonly referred to as the “TRO bill”), requires the temporary surrender of firearms and ammunition during ex parte restraining orders and brings Connecticut law in line with best practices in 20 other states. The bill was championed both years by Governor Dannel P. Malloy and Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, and the Governor is expected to sign the bill when it gets to his desk.

The most dangerous time for a victim of domestic violence is when she or he takes steps to end the abusive relationship. Because domestic violence is all about power and control of one partner over the other, this can be a particularly difficult time for the abuser, who will begin to realize that he or she is losing control over the victim. This may result in the offender taking more extreme actions to regain control.

Evidence-based research by Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell at Johns Hopkins University has shown that domestic assaults that involve firearms are 12 times more likely to result in death than those involving other weapons or bodily force. And women in an abusive relationship are 5 times more likely to be killed if their abuser has access to a firearm. Connecticut has had an average of 14 intimate partner homicides annually since 2000 and firearms are the single most commonly used weapon in those homicides (39%).

The state has a vested interest in protecting the lives of victims of domestic violence. Existing state law prohibits anyone who is the subject of a full, one year restraining order from possessing firearms. Filling the gap created during the temporary order which covers the most dangerous period of time for a victim is commonsense.

Continued on page 2...
Bill to Protect Victims cont’d...

Opposition to the bill remained strong this session, focusing on perceived violation of constitutional rights and the availability of the risk warrant, a Connecticut law that allows police to seize weapons from those deemed to be a danger to themselves or others. While the risk warrant may provide a viable option for some victims, CCADV advocated that it should not be the only option. The Battered Women’s Justice Project reviewed both the civil restraining order and risk warrant processes and concluded that, “Victims need options. Going to law enforcement presents safety risks for many victims and, at the end of the day, victims still do not have the civil restraining order that offers them significant protections during the critical departure period. Connecticut’s Risk Warrant statute fails to provide a safe and tenable option for victims of domestic violence and should not be the only route available to victims who believe their abusers access to firearms is a safety risk to them. As such, the Battered Women’s Justice Project advocates that giving explicit authority to courts to order the surrender of firearms in an ex parte or temporary restraining order addresses the complex relationship between gun control and protecting victims of domestic violence in the nuanced way it requires.”

Legislators were responsive to CCADV arguments that the dangerousness and potential lethality in the days following an application for a temporary restraining order warranted a temporary deprivation of firearms and the fact that the risk warrant, which was created to respond to issues of mental illness and firearms, might not be the best option for every victim. Several compromises were made to the bill language that enabled clarification and won over some opponents. These changes included a reducing the timeframe between the application and the hearing on the temporary order when applicants allege that the respondent has access to firearms; clarifying that firearms will be returned to the respondent within five days of the expiration or lifting of a temporary restraining order; and requiring that the Judicial Branch make information about the risk warrant process available to applicants of restraining orders.

While the bill passed out of the Judiciary Committee on party lines, it ultimately passed the House of Representatives with strong bipartisan support on a vote of 104 – 42, which included 21 Republicans and all but one Democrat. The Senate also showed bipartisan support for the bill, passing it with a vote of 23 – 13, including three Republicans and again, all but one Democrat. Many legislators spoke about what they saw as improvements to the bill that balance the rights of the accused with the safety of the victim in a particularly vulnerable situation.

The bill had gained national attention, emerging as a priority for a second year for Americans for Responsible Solutions (ARS), the gun violence prevention group founded by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords and her husband, Mark Kelly. A survey conducted on behalf of ARS found that 86% of Connecticut voters supported the bill. National support for the measure also came in the form of a phone call from Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to President Obama. Jarrett called House Speaker Brendan Sharkey to urge passage, noting that the bill was one of several domestic violence-related initiatives they were watching across the country. Several local partners were also instrumental in securing passage, including the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence, CT Women’s Education and Legal Fund, and CT Against Gun Violence.

There are many people who we would like to recognize for their efforts to get this measure passed. First we would like to thank our 18 member organizations and our Board of Directors, many of whom advocated directly to their legislative delegations, helping secure additional support that enabled passage. Governor Malloy, Lt. Governor Wyman and their staff were instrumental in moving this measure successfully through both chambers. Representative William Tong (D-Stamford), House chair of the Judiciary Committee, worked tirelessly to defend and pass this legislation, resolute in his desire to prevent violence against women. Senate President Martin Looney (D-New Haven), Speaker Brendan Sharkey (D-Hamden), House Majority Leader Joe Aresimowicz (D-Berlin), House Republican Leader Themis Klarides (R-Derby), and Senator Eric Coleman (D-Hartford), Senate chair of the Judiciary Committee, were also strong leaders in securing support within their caucuses. Senators Beth Bye (D-West Hartford) and Mae Flexer (D-Killingly) were, for a second year, outspoken advocates for the passage of this measure. Representative Caroline Simmons (D-Stamford) was a key ally in the House, counting votes and urging support, along with Representative Robyn Porter (D-New Haven), who courageously told her story of surviving an abusive relationship to reiterate why a victim doesn’t stand a chance if her or his abuser attacks them with a gun. Without each of these individuals, this outcome would not have been possible. Thank you!
In February, CCADV released the results of the recent study, *An Analysis of Service Utilization and Perception from the Field*. Data from the study shows that shelter capacity and length of stay have both increased significantly in recent years. The study examined the service statistics of CCADV’s 18 member organizations between fiscal years 2008 and 2013 and included surveys and focus groups with members. Service statistics from the most recently completed fiscal year (2015) demonstrate that the upward trend is continuing.

In fiscal year 2008, shelter capacity averaged 57%; by fiscal year 2013 the average was 95%, and in fiscal year 2015 it was 114%, doubling in just 7 years. Length of stay increased by 65% in that same time frame, growing from an average of 26 days in fiscal year 2008 to 43 days in fiscal year 2015. A number of issues have led to the increase, but lack of affordable housing or transitional housing options and reductions in other human services, such as behavioral health services, were cited by members as the biggest catalysts. Additionally, as victims present with more acute, complex needs, longer shelter stays and additional residential supports become necessary until stable, appropriate housing can be identified and secured.

“The data we collected confirmed what we experience daily in calls from victims. There is continued demand for multiple support services for domestic violence victims and their children. We have a statewide network in place to help them, but it is important for the Legislature to evaluate policy and funding to match these trends,” said Karen Jarmoc, chief executive officer, CCADV.

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**CCADV Releases Service Utilization Data**

In fiscal year 2015, CCADV’s 18 member organizations served 41,446 victims of domestic violence, including 35,507 adults and 5,839 children. 2,323 victims of domestic violence were housed in emergency shelter, including 1,165 adults and 1,158 children.

**Demand for Shelter Increases 100% in 7 Years**

Increased knowledge about services through public awareness campaigns and coordinated outreach efforts through programs such as medical advocacy and the lethality assessment program, a partnership between law enforcement and domestic violence organizations, result in more requests for service.

Reductions in other human services such as mental health and substance abuse treatment and lack of affordable housing often leave victims with no place else to go.

**Length of Stay Increases 65% in 7 Years**

Victims are presenting with more acute, complex needs, such as immigration issues, significant health concerns like cancer and high-risk pregnancies, mental health and substance issues. Issues that require longer shelter stays and additional residential supports until stable, appropriate housing can be identified and secured.

**On Average, Shelters Work with State Funding of $7 Per Person Per Day**

The state currently funds domestic violence shelters at $7 per person per day. This funding is expected to cover mortgage/lease payments, utilities, and staffing. Programs must spend increasing amounts of staff time and resources on extensive private fundraising to fill this gap, thus diverting further from direct services for victims.

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**MEETING THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS**

*(Check out the full set of FY15 service stats in the link above.)*

- **19,667 victims received counseling**
- **25,308 victims received court-based services**
- **28,776 crisis calls received**
- **1,088 support group sessions held**

One-on-one counseling sessions with advocates. A total of 80,794 counseling sessions were provided over the course of 92,913 hours. Victims involved in criminal or civil court cases were provided with counseling, safety planning, guidance on the court process, and information & referrals. Court-based advocates were available in all criminal courts, but funding for civil advocacy was only available in four family courts.

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Click here to download the factsheet.
Health Professional Outreach Project Sees Successes in First Year

Nearing its one year anniversary, CCADV’s Health Professional Outreach Project has already achieved several successes. The project, which is funded by the CT Department of Social Services, is designed to provide training and technical assistance on intimate partner violence (IPV) to healthcare providers across the health system. IPV is a common problem in medical and behavioral health practices, and is associated with a number of adverse health outcomes. Studies show that physicians rarely screen for IPV, are not aware of community resources and are not confident in their ability to manage IPV clients. Through the Health Professional Outreach Project, medical, mental health, and substance abuse professionals have received education in a wide array of health care environments.

An exciting outcome of this project has been the connection between health providers and CCADV’s local member organizations through training. These relationships support collaboration between providers and domestic violence organizations, as they serve victims and survivors of IPV. Evaluation and the review of existing practices and relationships within the health community has been another targeted outcome. The project has provided evaluation in two forms - assessing the collaboration with health providers through the perspective of the member organizations and surveying health providers’ preparedness to manage IPV clients using PREMIS (Physician Readiness to Manage Intimate Partner Violence), a 15 minute survey tool to measure physician preparedness to manage IPV clients.

The Injury Prevention Center, a program of the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and Hartford Hospital, has developed a modified PREMIS tool for use during CCADV’s standard Health Professional Outreach Project training for health professionals. This tool is designed to provide comprehensive and reliable measures for readiness to manage IPV. In addition, this survey provides concrete information about screening practices, protocol and policies, and provider assessment of their ability to manage IPV. A pre- and post-survey captures changes in knowledge and confidence to manage IPV.

Member organizations work with health providers across the health system. Victims and survivors access health services for both emergent needs, primary care, and care for dependent children. In November 2015, a Member Organization Health Provider Survey was distributed to identify the type and quality of relationships with health professionals at the local level. This evaluation provides an occasion to inform the benefits, challenges and opportunities when working with health providers on the local and statewide level.

In its first three quarters, the Health Professional Outreach Project has trained 570 providers over the course of approximately 35 trainings. The trainings have spanned health system, including emergency departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers, community mental health and/or substance abuse agencies, pediatric practices, OB-GYNs, physician assistants, APRNs, and staff from the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These trainings, as well as input from outreach activities, feedback from member organizations, and guidance from the CCADV Medical Advisory Council has informed the development of a curriculum guide, provider tool kit, and resource materials for training and technical assistance activities.

The fourth quarter of the project is focused on analyzing both process and data from the first nine months. Futures Without Violence, a national leader on programs, policies and campaigns that empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children, recommends universal education to health providers, not simply screening and basic referral. “Shifting the health sector response from screening and disclosure to universal education, direct inquiry and brief counseling about the impact of IPV on health with all patients may serve as: primary prevention (for those never exposed), secondary prevention (for individuals with histories of IPV), intervention for those experiencing IPV (including those who do not disclose).” As our project moves into its second year we will be organizing our training and technical assistance to encourage a more robust response from health providers.

Have questions about the Health Professional Outreach Project? Interested in taking advantage of the free training and technical assistance? Contact CCADV’s Clinical Director, Natacha Kerelejza, LCSW, at nkerelejza@ctcadv.org or 860.282.7899.
CCADV’s Director of Diversity & Accessibility, Wendy Mota Kasongo, was recently honored by Hartford’s Comisión Homenaje a la Mujer Hispana (Commission for Homage to the Hispanic Woman). The annual awards ceremony is now in its fifth year and its second year hosted by the Hartford Public Library’s Center for Contemporary Culture. This year’s event honored eight Hispanic women and brought together numerous leaders within the Latino community, including State Representative Edwin Vargas, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, Consul General of Ecuador in CT Raul Erazo Velarde and Consul General of Peru Elena Ines Iturrizaga Figueroa. The event’s focus is bringing the Latino community together to honor and recognize women for their professional contribution, community involvement and commitment to the Hispanic community in Connecticut. Few embody these efforts more than Wendy Mota Kasongo.

Wendy has worked tirelessly to increase awareness in Connecticut’s Latino community regarding the availability of domestic violence services. She led the development of Vida...hay opciones para la violencia doméstica, CCADV’s outreach campaign in Hartford, Middletown, Waterbury and Bridgeport used to announce the statewide Spanish hotline and let victims know that they have options for dealing with abusive relationships. She has been interviewed by multiple Latino media outlets and spearheaded a revamp of CCADV’s teen dating violence app – td411 – to include all of the content in Spanish, making the information more accessible to Latino youth. Wendy has also developed several training opportunities through CCADV’s Training Institute that are offered entirely in Spanish and seek to increase learning opportunities for Latino professionals working with victims. While we could go on, we will simply say that Wendy is a tremendous asset to CCADV, our membership and victims of domestic violence throughout Connecticut. Congratulations, Wendy!

ENGAGING MEDIA TO INCREASE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MESSAGING IN LATINO COMMUNITIES

May 25, 2016
1:30pm - 3:30pm

CCADV
912 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT

THIS EVENT IS FREE!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
http://www.ctcadv.org/training-events/events/

This community panel will bring together media professionals who will share their experiences shaping traditional and challenging topics for distribution in Latino communities. Representatives from print, television and radio platforms will discuss effective techniques utilized within these venues in order to increase domestic violence awareness in the Latino community.

Discussion will include: fortifying domestic violence messages in cultural specific ways, developing strategic partnerships and collaborations to increase awareness, using social media, and effectively capitalizing paid and unpaid media opportunities.

Click here to download and share the event flyer!
In the summer of 2015, Michael Bolton Charities approached Susan DeLeon, then director of The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services at BHcare, and Board Certified music therapist, Cyd Slotoroff, with an offer to fund music therapy one afternoon a week at its Greater New Haven domestic violence shelter’s children’s program beginning in September. The above example illustrates what a powerful means of expression music therapy can be.

Some of the effects of witnessing and experiencing domestic violence are disempowerment, shame, guilt, confusion, anger, sadness, fear, emotional and behavioral dysregulation, and poor communication and expression skills. These effects can be especially difficult for children who are particularly vulnerable, still developing a sense of self, and are lacking the cognitive framework to understand their experiences and the tools to deal with overwhelming feelings and experiences. These children live under the weight of secrecy and denial of feelings and experiences. Often their closest friends didn’t know what was going on in their house and don’t know they are at a shelter.

Music therapy provides a pleasurable, non-threatening outlet for children at the shelter to understand, express and receive affirmation for their intense feelings. Through songwriting, instrument playing and instrumental improvisation, movement to music, singing, and listening to and talking about songs, children have an opportunity to break through that emotional isolation. In the course of playing instruments and engaging in music activities, children begin to learn how to negotiate and ask for what they want rather than grab and push or be sullen and withdraw. As they express their feelings in the safety of music therapy, the children become more empowered and begin to trust themselves.

The following example illustrates the joy and release that can take place in music therapy sessions. Two sisters aged 10 and 11 had a cathartic experience playing drums with Cyd in their first music therapy session. Here is their feedback: The 10 yr. old: “I feel much better. I got to let my feelings out, I feel free. Y’all did good picking the music teacher. I am sooo happy.” The 11 yr. old: “After music I was really happy. I really loved it. I felt that I can let everything out and express myself through music. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!” In their second session, as the 10 yr. played guitar in open tuning and Cyd and the other sister accompanied on drums, they created a spontaneous song with the chorus: “I’m so glad I got away.” It continues: “Away from all the trauma, So glad I got away ……….. I miss my friends but I got away. I didn’t want to stay……..” They then proudly shared their song with their mother, younger sister, and child advocate, Jane Adamik.

Cyd also has music sessions with mothers and their infants and toddlers, providing opportunities for joy and bonding, and learning new parenting skills.

Child Advocate, Jane, described music therapy this way: “If the music therapy program could be described in one word it would be Freedom. Freedom to express yourself without fear, freedom to explore parts of yourself that you never knew were there, freedom to make mistakes and pick yourself up and try again, freedom to laugh and cry and dance and sing, freedom to be heard, freedom to play the drums so long and so loud that your hands hurt but you don’t care because you are free.”

Esperina Baptiste Stubblefield, the current Director for The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services describes the program as “a channel which helps the children and moms get in touch with their emotions. It allows them to take down walls and get them on the path to feel whole again.”
4th Annual Spring Reception

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our 4th Annual Statewide Spring Reception at the Governor’s Residence in April. It was another great event, raising over $11,000 to help us advance our work!

Money raised through our Statewide Spring Reception goes to support many of the critical activities of CCADV that are not supported by grant funds. This includes public awareness, including the development and publication costs of various outreach materials and campaigns; prevention efforts; and advocacy efforts on both a state and federal level. We appreciate your support as we continue to strengthen our work on behalf of our 18 member organizations and victims of domestic violence throughout Connecticut.

Thank you to Governor Dannel P. Malloy and First Lady Cathy Malloy for hosting us for a third straight year!

Check out more event photos on our Facebook page.

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

First Lady Cathy Malloy, CCADV CEO, Karen Jarmoc, Attorney General George Jepsen

CABLEVISION

Law Enforcement

Police Leadership in Responding to Domestic Violence Calls
May 5 | 8:30am - 4:00pm | POST, Meriden
Law Enforcement Only

Train-the-Trainer: Training Law Enforcement on Domestic Violence
May 10 | 9:30am - 3:30pm | CCADV
Members, Prosecutors, Law Enforcement Only

Community Welcome

Mental Health First Aid
May 12 | 9:00am - 4:30pm | CCADV

Engaging Media to Increase Domestic Violence Messaging in Latino Communities
May 25 | 1:30pm - 3:30pm | CCADV

Healthcare Professionals Only

How the Affordable Care Act Assists Victims
May 24 | 10:00am - 12:00pm | CCADV

Members Only

Engage Me...Respectfully
May 25 | 9:30am - 12:30pm | CCADV

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CABLEVISION
My Experience with LAP...
From the Nation’s 3rd State to its’ 50th

By Joe Froehlich, CCADV Director of Law Enforcement Services

Little did I know in September 2012 when we began piloting the lethality assessment program that this project would someday bring me to Hawaii. In 2003 the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence developed the model we use in Connecticut. Currently over 600 law enforcement agencies in 35 states use the Maryland model. The DOJ Office of Violence Against Women awarded the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) a grant to provide training and technical assistance on a national basis.

In April 2015 Maryland’s national project director and LAP manager observed one of our Connecticut trainings. I was honored when just a few months later they invited me to participate in their first training outside the continental United States – a training in Hawaii! This was an incredible opportunity to learn from a national trainer as well as from advocates and police in another state. Because each island has its own police department, this initial training included both Kauai and Oahu, home of the Honolulu Police Department. Honolulu has 2,000 police officers and will be the fourth largest department using LAP, following Dallas, Milwaukee, and Fairfax County, VA.

In February 2016 Maryland’s Abby Hannifan and I trained 48 police officers and advocates at the Kauai Police Department. I have participated in over 120 police trainings, but was anxious about this one. Assistant Chief of Police, Roy Asker of Kauai PD, immediately put me at ease when he said, "Joe, this is Kauai so you need to take off the jacket and tie and relax." It was the first time I conducted training with a bunch of flowers around my neck, and it was great.

40 police officers and advocates and 3 attorneys attended our train-the-trainer day at the Honolulu Police Department’s Training Academy. Command staff for both departments participated in the full day training sessions. Their words and their actions represented their commitment to successfully implementing LAP. Everyone welcomed these trainers from the mainland’s east coast.

Both advocates and police shared the challenges involved on small islands where it is difficult to keep victims in safe housing without the offenders finding them. Many survivors do not have the opportunity to leave the island. Therefore, safety planning is especially critical in the islands.

As in CT, the training participants were very engaged, interactive and relaxed. The greatest difference was when one police commander said the start and ending time of the training was flexible because we were “on island time.”

They may be relaxed regarding time, but their commitment to LAP and to keeping victims safe was obviously a priority. I am honored that CCADV and MNADV gave me the opportunity to participate in this national event.

IT WAS REALLY ABOUT THE BEACH...CONGRATULATIONS, JOE!

When Joe went out to Hawaii for “work,” many of us back at the office were suspect. And our greatest fears were realized – Joe and his wife, Trish, were really scoping out beaches for their planned retirements. And with that, after serving 4 years as CCADV’s Director of Law Enforcement Services and 31 years in law enforcement, Joe will officially retire from full-time work at the end of June. (see the next page for info on a celebration!)

Joe’s time in law enforcement included 3 1/2 years as a local police officer with the New Fairfield Police Department, 22 years with the State Police, where he reached the rank of master sergeant, and 5 years as deputy chief with the Putnam Police Department. When Joe joined CCADV in 2012, he was responsible for implementing and overseeing the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). Under his guidance, LAP has gained national recognition and expanded to include nearly 75% of the state’s police departments, including the State Police, State Environmental Police and several college and university police departments. Incredibly well-respected within the law enforcement community, Joe has also had a lasting impact on the partnership between domestic violence advocates and police departments across the state.

Thank you, Joe, for all of your hard work and commitment. We wish you well as you venture to this next chapter...and we ask that you please not trail too much sand in when you come back to visit.
In the last issue of Coalition Chronicles we may have mentioned that our 6th Annual First 100 Plus Breakfast and Awards Ceremony would be held in October...JUST KIDDING! Our mistake. Please make note of the actual event date - November 4, 2016. We hope to see you there as we honor the next group of men and women seeking to improve circumstances for victims of domestic violence!

Do you know someone who should be recognized as a member of the 2016 Class of First 100 Plus? Get your ideas ready because we’ll open nominations in July! Once open, nominations can be made online at www.ctadv.org.

**Saving the Date**

**6th Annual Breakfast & Awards Ceremony**
Friday, November 4 2016
7:30am - 9:00am
Hartford Marriott Downtown

Please note the new date!!

**Upcoming CCADV Events**

**Retirement Celebration for Joe Froehlich**

Please join us for an Open House in honor of Joe!

Wednesday, June 29, 2016
1:00pm - 3:00pm
CCADV I Wethersfield

It’s free to come say goodbye to Joe, but we ask that you please RSVP!

Click here to RSVP
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services</strong></th>
<th><strong>The Center for Family Justice</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Women’s Center of Greater Danbury</strong></td>
<td><strong>Domestic Violence Program/United Services, Inc.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Danbury (203) 731-5206 <a href="http://www.wcogd.org">www.wcogd.org</a></td>
<td>Dayville Willimantic (860) 774-8648 (860) 456-9476 <a href="http://www.unitedservicesct.org">www.unitedservicesct.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>The Network</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Interval House</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chrysalis Domestic Violence Services</strong></td>
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<td>Hartford (860) 527-0550 <a href="http://www.intervalhousect.org">www.intervalhousect.org</a></td>
<td>Meriden (203) 238-1501 <a href="http://www.mwchrysalis.org">www.mwchrysalis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>New Horizons</strong></td>
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<td>Middletown (860) 347-3044 <a href="http://www.newhorizonsdv.com">www.newhorizonsdv.com</a></td>
<td>New Britain (860) 225-6357 <a href="http://www.prudencecrandall.org">www.prudencecrandall.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Safe Futures</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Women’s Support Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>Susan B. Anthony Project</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharon (860) 364-1900 <a href="http://www.wssdv.org">www.wssdv.org</a></td>
<td>Torrington (860) 482-7133 <a href="http://www.sbabproject.org">www.sbabproject.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safe Haven</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterbury (203) 575-0036 <a href="http://www.safehavengw.org">www.safehavengw.org</a></td>
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**CCADV is the state’s leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them.**