**For Immediate Release**

**JARMOC SELECTED TO LEAD STATEWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITION**

**Hartford, CT**- The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) has selected Karen M. Jarmoc to serve as its leader as it moves forward with its meaningful work to strengthen Connecticut's response to victims of domestic violence. Board President, Sandy Aldieri today announced that Jarmoc, who has held the post of Interim Executive Director with CCADV since April 2011, has been appointed its Executive Director effective February 15th.

"Karen Jarmoc has been a tremendous and strong voice for our statewide coalition and for victims of family violence in Connecticut," said Aldieri. Aldieri notes that over the past nine months, CCADV established its Training Institute, officially issued its first report of the CT Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, and launched its inaugural "First 100" men event which raised much needed dollars for public awareness. Most recently, Jarmoc served as co-chair of the General Assembly's Task Force on Law Enforcement Response to Family Violence. That group has made significant recommendations to the legislature to build upon law enforcement's comprehensive work to assist victims. "Karen's leadership on these initiatives and her vision to guide CCADV in its work as the recognized voice for victims of domestic violence and those who serve them in Connecticut, makes her the perfect chief for the future," added Aldieri.

Jarmoc said that taking on this important role is like coming full circle. Nearly twenty years ago, Jarmoc worked as the Executive Director at the Network Against Domestic Abuse, Inc. in Enfield. The Network is one of CCADV's 18 member agencies which provide a critical response to victims including advocacy in court, emergency shelter, counseling and a 24-hour hotline. As a Connecticut state lawmaker, Jarmoc was a member of the Speaker's Task Force on Domestic Violence. "I am grateful for the opportunity to get up every morning and do this meaningful work," said Jarmoc. "CCADV and its membership serves more than 54,000 victims annually and I appreciate this occasion to lead this effort and fortify training, policy and public awareness to better serve victims."

Jarmoc represented Enfield's 59th House District from 2007 to 2011. In 2008, Jarmoc was honored by CCADV as a leader whose commitment to change made a difference in the lives of survivors of domestic violence. Jarmoc serves on the board of the Connecticut Airport Authority. Locally, she is board chair to the United Way of North Central Connecticut and the Asnuntuck Community College Foundation, Inc. In 2011, she was named by the rotary Club of Enfield as a 2011 Paul Harris Fellow.

***************

*The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide coalition which works collaboratively with its 18 community-based domestic violence agencies in Connecticut. Each agency offers free services to victims 24-hours-a-day to include hotline, safety through shelter, counseling and support groups and help to obtain a restraining order. If you or someone you know needs support, call the statewide free and confidential hotline at 888-774-2900.*