



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

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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 and CT Dept. of Social
Services Host Best Practices Conference Featuring National
Experts**

-Governor Malloy and renowned experts offer remarks-

Hartford, CT- National and local experts were on hand for the first day of a two day conference co-sponsored by the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) and the CT Department of Social Services (DSS). ***Emerging Best Practices to Strengthen Connecticut's Response: A "Domestic Violence Across Communities" Event*** provides an opportunity for stakeholders to gain tools and practical applications for improving the state's response to domestic violence.

The first day of the conference included remarks from Governor Dannel P. Malloy and presentations from nationally recognized experts Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and author Lundy Bancroft. Day two will include presentations by Betsy McAlister Groves, founder of the Child Witness to Violence Project at Boston Medical Center, and author Dr. David Adams. Several local experts from Connecticut domestic violence agencies and municipal police departments are also on hand.

"Connecticut continues to make great strides in improving our state's response to domestic violence," said Karen Jarmoc, CCADV Executive Director. "This event provides an invaluable opportunity to learn from national experts and strengthen how we as a state both meet the needs of victims and hold offenders accountable."

"Over the past two years, with the expert assistance of CCADV and other stakeholders, state government has worked to remove some of the obstacles victims of domestic violence can face," said Governor Dannel P. Malloy. "This summer I signed a bill that will strengthen protections against domestic violence, and ensure these protections keep up with technological advances. Last year we appropriated funding for 24-hour staffing of domestic violence shelters. Government and law enforcement can and should be strong partners in the efforts to end domestic violence."

The goal of the conference is to provide advocates, clinicians, therapists, law enforcement, attorneys and other state and local providers with tools and practical applications to enhance Connecticut's response to domestic violence in the areas of lethality assessment, fatality review, cultural responsiveness, the impact of domestic violence on children, trauma, technology and cyber-stalking and offender profiles/offender accountability.

"Men who batter women are doing tremendous harm to children, even if they never use violence directly against them. Abusing their child's mother is terrible fathering and sends huge shockwaves through the home," said Lundy Bancroft, renowned

author and national expert. "As we struggle to end domestic violence, the root cause tends to remain in the shadows. We have to develop effective responses to the *perpetrators* of abuse so that they stop escaping accountability."

Earlier this year the CT Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee released its second annual report urging increased education about the dynamics of domestic violence for both members of the public and professionals who come into contact with victims and perpetrators. In the cases reviewed, the Committee found that family, friends and/or professionals that came into contact with the victims did not recognize the significance of the situation or the warning signs.

This is the fifth event co-hosted by CCADV and DSS as part of the "Domestic Violence Across Communities" series. CCADV and its 18 member agencies across the state serve an average of 54,000 victims each year and receive more than 200 hotline calls per day. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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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*