

newsletter

Fall  
2013

# Coalition Chronicles



CCADV Unveils Connecticut's First Ever Statewide Plan  
for the Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence

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## Fall 2013

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### Who Is CCADV?

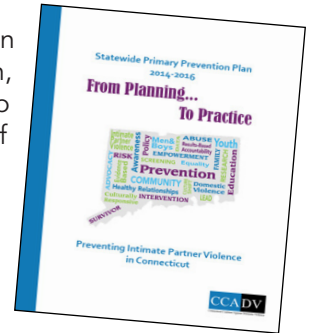
Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies who serve them. Founded in 1978, CCADV is a membership organization of 18 domestic violence agencies that provide critical support to keep victims safe 24 hours per day, wherever they live in our state. To that end, CCADV works at a state and national level to create and implement policy changes that strengthen Connecticut's response to domestic violence. We collaborate closely with a number of community, government and business leaders to ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to victim services and offender accountability. As the only statewide organization representing the 18 domestic violence agencies in Connecticut, we work stridently to build membership capacity through comprehensive training and technical assistance. Through an immediate response, like our statewide hotline, we aim to protect and improve the lives of victims. Whether seeking safety through shelter, assistance with court proceedings, or counseling, our member agencies work tirelessly to meet the needs of victims. If you know someone who needs our help, please call our statewide domestic violence hotline at 888-774-2900 to be connected to your local domestic violence agency.

# CCADV Releases Connecticut's First Ever Statewide Prevention Plan

In October, CCADV released Connecticut's first ever statewide plan for the prevention of intimate partner violence. *From Planning to Practice – Preventing Intimate Partner Violence in Connecticut* is the result of an intensive, two-year planning process by a multi-disciplinary group of experienced domestic violence and prevention practitioners. Aimed at stopping the violence before it starts, the plan outlines key strategies for creating a culture shift in our state that will allow us to build communities where violence is unacceptable.

CCADV convened the Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Steering Committee (IPVPSC) in 2012, bringing together key stakeholders in the areas of domestic violence, injury prevention, child welfare, law enforcement and healthcare. Using the social ecological model, the group developed and compared risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence at all levels of society to help guide their efforts.

A statewide needs and resource assessment was conducted resulting in five goals that will help prevent the first-time occurrence of intimate partner violence. The goals are to engage youth, reinforce the role of men and boys in prevention, increase public awareness, strengthen intimate partner prevention programs statewide, and improve program outcomes and accountability. Several tasks were outlined under each goal, including:



## Goal 1.1

## Increase healthy relationship content in youth oriented agencies and institutions

- By 2016, 5 new agencies will adopt evidence-based primary prevention curricula and 15 mentoring programs will be trained in teen dating violence and promoting healthy relationships

## [ Goal 2.2 ]

**Involve youth in developing IPV prevention strategies using Positive Youth Development approaches**

- By 2016, a minimum of 150 youth (at least 50% male) will be involved in IPV prevention in no less than 4 communities

### [ Goal 3.1 ]

**Establish a sustainable statewide speaker's bureau of men to provide IPV prevention education among their peers**

- By 2016, a minimum of 25 men will be trained to provide IPV prevention education to their peers

## Goal 4.2

**Make evidence-based practice IPV primary prevention curricula and resources more accessible to professionals, agencies, schools and institutions**

- By 2014, an IPV Prevention Toolkit will be developed and disseminated to help other organizations and institutions build their capacity to provide IPV primary prevention programming

## Goal 5.2

**Study the effects, including a cost-benefit analysis, of interventions to increase screening for IPV among healthcare providers**

- By 2015, research and develop an application for funds to pilot a study that will evaluate several methods of screening for IPV in emergency care and other medical settings

Intimate partner violence is, in many cases, predictable and therefore, preventable. This is the state's first road map for prevention and we look forward to working with our partners to achieve meaningful change throughout the state.

Learn more including actions that everyone can take to prevent IPV at [www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org). The executive summary and full report are both available in the prevention section.

LESS THAN  
**15% OF WOMEN**  
REPORT BEING ASKED ABOUT IPV BY  
THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER  
**DESPITE**  
INDICATING THEY WOULD  
DISCLOSE IT IF ASKED

*There's still time!*



*3rd Annual Breakfast & Awards Ceremony*

**NOVEMBER 19, 2013**

**7:30am-9:00am**

**CROWNE PLAZA | CROMWELL, CT**

*Join us as we honor 100 male leaders working to  
improve the lives of domestic violence victims.*

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO MEET THE  
FIRST 100 PLUS CLASS OF 2013!**

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO PURCHASE  
YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

*Additional Honorees:*

**Verizon Foundation**

*Larry & Shirley Bostrom Pillars of Change Award*

**Garry Lapidus, PA-C, MPH**

**Director, Injury Prevention Center**

**CT Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital**

*Coalition Crusader Award*

*Thank you to all of our sponsors, including...*

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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!**

## Member Spotlight on...

### THE CENTER FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES OF EASTERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY, INC.

## Gender Based Violence Training in Barbados

by Joanne Martin & Shanika Rucker, The Center for Women & Families of Eastern Fairfield County, Inc.

The Center for Women and Families of Eastern Fairfield County, Inc. recently had the unique opportunity to partner with The Barbados Professional Women's Club (BPW) to provide a five-day Gender Based Violence Advocate Training. The training occurred in Barbados, W.I. - July 25 to July 31, 2013. The concept was the brain-child of Marianne Burnham (President – Barbados Professional Women's Club (BPW)), other staff at BPW and The European Union.

The Center for Women and Families is well versed in providing this type of training within Connecticut. The Center conducts domestic violence and sexual assault 40 hour trainings three times a year. The training has a multi-disciplinary approach, which includes presenters from The Center for Women and Families, local law enforcement, medical practitioners, Court representatives, child welfare workers and other community partners. The majority of the attendees are community professionals, Masters level students and perspective volunteers.

A relationship between BPW and a local university professor resulted in the Barbados Professional Women's Club (via a grant from the European Union) requesting to have three of The Center for Women and Families Certified Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault staff attend and present at their Gender Based Violence Conference. The Gender Based Violence training was Barbados first attempt to educate the local professional community in a multi-disciplinary approach in regards to intimate partner and domestic violence - the agenda included information about the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, trafficking and self care.

According to Marianne Burnham, BPW President, within domestic violence work, a lot of the stakeholders are not fully aware of the gender-based issues that are associated with this complex social issue. BPW was interested in conducting a multi-discipline Gender Based Advocate Training to help inform community providers about the available responders and how to deal with a hotline call or crisis.



CWF staff tour a Barbados Safe House

The attendees included local law enforcement (Royal Barbados Police Force), social service providers, child advocates, teachers, medical professionals, multi-cultural and religious community leaders. The conference presenters were from local Barbados agencies such as local law enforcement, mental health consultants, legal and court representatives, as well as International Representatives from the United Nations, Royal British Police and the U.S State Department.



CWF staff meet with a US Embassy Public Affairs Officer

The staff that had the privilege to attend and present were: Stephanie Stacy-Community Education Coordinator; Shanika Rucker- Crisis Service Manager; and Joanne Martin- Multi-Disciplinary Investigative Team Coordinator. The Center's employees presented on the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault and child sexual abuse.

According to The Center's staff, this was an amazing opportunity to collaborate with a group of professionals outside of the U.S. It was encouraging to observe that, despite some differences in response to domestic violence and sexual assault within the two cultures, there were many more similarities. And at the core of all of our work is the desire to create happy and healthy citizens that can lead a life free from violence. The Center for Women and Families is looking forward to a long and productive collaboration with The Barbados Professional Women's Club.

This opportunity was particularly meaningful as The Center for Women and Families continues leading the charge to establish Connecticut's premiere Family Justice Center. A Family Justice Center is unique as it brings together prosecutors, law enforcement, domestic and sexual violence programs and a broad array of diverse community partners at one location to provide comprehensive and coordinate programs to alleviate the myriad barriers in breaking the cycle of violence. Traveling to Barbados reminded us of the vast challenges that some of our international sister agencies face as a result of institutionalized racism, sexism and classism. Seeing these women and men reaching across all boundaries to raise awareness and create social change in their communities has deeply inspired us.



# Enhancing Screening in Primary Care Settings

CCADV and four of member agencies were recently awarded grants by the Verizon Foundation to support prevention activities throughout the state. CCADV's \$10,000 grant will allow us to establish a healthcare collaborative with Community Health Centers, Inc. (CHC). Through the use of a trauma-informed model, the grant funds will enable us, in conjunction with our member agencies and CHC, to implement domestic violence screening and protocols at each of CHC's 12 primary care hubs throughout the state.



New provisions in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) allow abused adults, children and teens to have access to services that would treat their abuse and many resulting conditions before they worsen. We aim to pilot integrated domestic violence abuse prevention into Connecticut's community-based health clinics as screening and prevention can now be considered a primary prevention or early intervention service through the ACA. CCADV has selected CHC as a project partner as CHC's are often cited nationally as models of patient-centered care for the underserved. Additionally, CHC's 12 clinic sites – where 80,000 patients were seen last year - are located in similar alignment with CCADV's 18 domestic violence member agencies.

As part of a separate but related endeavor, CCADV will convene a healthcare advisory council to identify evidence-based intimate partner violence (IPV) screening tools for a variety of medical settings. One evidence-based screening tool already identified by several sources as reliable in primary care settings such as CHC is the HARK screening tool.

Through a trauma-informed model, CCADV will provide training to CHC clinical staff at each of its primary care hubs, in addition to training for certified domestic violence counselors at our member agencies. We will also create informational tools in a culturally- and linguistically-specific manner for use by healthcare professionals and patients statewide. CCADV will also consult to CHC's IPV screening clinical champions on strategies to improve effective screening and support CHC's work to identify "missed opportunities" into the CHC dashboard.

The Verizon Foundation grant awarded to CCADV was part of more than \$300,000 invested in domestic violence prevention programs throughout New England. In addition to CCADV, grants were also awarded to four of our member agencies – Domestic Abuse Services YWCA Greenwich, Network Against Domestic Abuse, Safe Futures and Safe Haven. In September, CCADV Executive Director, Karen Jarmoc, joined her colleagues from other New England domestic violence coalitions at a Red Sox game where the Verizon Foundation presented them with the grants at a pre-game ceremony. As a bonus, each participating coalition director got to throw out the first pitch. Thanks to training by her dedicated staff, Karen's pitch was a success!

## HARK

### HUMILIATION

Within the last year, have you been humiliated or emotionally abused in other ways by your partner or ex-partner?

### AFRAID

Within the last year, have you been afraid of your partner or ex-partner?

### RAPE

Within the last year, have you been raped or forced to have any kind of sexual activity by your partner or ex-partner?

### KICK

Within the last year, have you been kicked, hit, slapped or otherwise physically hurt by your partner or ex-partner?



**Karen Jarmoc throws out first pitch!**

photos courtesy of Verizon Wireless

## US Senators Blumenthal and Murphy Call for Stricter Gun Restrictions to Protect Survivors



*Karen Jarmoc joins Senators Blumenthal and Murphy at the New Haven Police Department to discuss the proposed legislation*

photo courtesy of Thomas MacMillan/  
New Haven Independent

In August, CCADV Executive Director Karen Jarmoc joined Connecticut's US Senators Dick Blumenthal and Chris Murphy as they announced plans for legislation that seeks to close loopholes related to possession of firearms that often leave victims of domestic violence vulnerable.

The measure, which will be known as the *Domestic Violence Survivor Protection Act*, would prohibit the sale to and possession of guns and ammunition by individuals who have temporary restraining orders against them. Currently, in Connecticut, when a victim applies for a restraining order, judges often grant temporary ex parte restraining orders and then set a hearing date 14 days later when they will determine if a permanent (in Connecticut, this means one year) restraining order should be issued. Senators Blumenthal and Murphy are hoping to help protect victims just after they have initially filed for a restraining order, which is a particularly volatile time.

The bill is expected to be introduced in the US Senate this session. Both Senators noted that they believe this particular gun safety issue is likely to gain traction with elected officials who otherwise don't support more general gun control measures.

## US Representative DeLauro Warns of Impact of Continued Federal Funding Cuts on Domestic Violence Programs

Immediately following the end of the federal government shutdown, Connecticut's US Representative Rosa DeLauro held a press conference with CCADV and our North Haven-based member agency, The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services to highlight the harmful effect budget cuts and the shutdown have had on critical services to domestic violence victims.

Mandated across-the-board spending budget cuts known as sequestration could result in 1,500 fewer victims served in Connecticut as well as allowing close to 1,400 crisis calls to go unanswered if cuts are made to US Dept. of Health & Human Services funding under the Family Violence Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA). Sequestration cuts are slated to continue through 2021.

The government shutdown that occurred earlier this month also jeopardized domestic violence services as some federal grant funding could not be accessed since US Government agencies were closed. While CCADV had sufficient funds on hand during the shutdown to continue our operations and to pass through to our member agencies to support direct services, had the shutdown extended past November 1st, services would have faced a level of uncertainty.



*From left to right: BHcare President & CEO Roberta Cook, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, The Umbrella Director Susan Deleon, Karen Jarmoc*

# Staying Safe Online

Technology plays an increasingly significant role in our everyday lives and particularly in the work that domestic violence advocates do with victims. It is critical for providers to stay up-to-date on the latest technologies and how they can be used to both abuse victims and keep them safe. To that end, we want to make sure that people are aware of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) Safety Net Project Technology Safety Blog.

The Technology Safety Blog explores the intersection of technology and privacy and intimate partner violence, sexual assault and violence against women. The blog examines recent changes in technology and social media, providing tips for how victims can stay safe. A recent post broke down the decision by Facebook to remove the “who can look up my timeline by name” option, leaving user privacy vulnerable to an easy “search by name” option. Emphasizing that certain activities/information placed on Facebook will always be visible to the general public, the blog provided a few tips for increasing privacy including:



- Check out the “[view as](#)” option, to see what someone can see when they look at your page, whether it’s as a friend, a friend of a friend, or the public.
- [Review your timeline](#) by going back to previous posts on your timeline and change who can see those posts. You can even delete old posts.
- Going forward, [limit what you share](#) by choosing only friends. You can even go further and create lists that will limit exactly who see the specific information you are sharing.
- Take a look at Safety Net’s handout on [Facebook Privacy](#) for more privacy tips.

You can also find a host of technology-related resources through the Safety Net Project related to:

- Assistive technology for people with social, sensory or physical disabilities
- Cell phones
- Confidentiality and privacy
- Databases and data retention
- General technology safety & information
- Safety net journal article & publications
- Online safety & privacy tips
- Organizational technology capacity & development
- Privacy

Be sure to check out the blog at [www.techsafety.org](http://www.techsafety.org).

## Upcoming Trainings

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

### All Welcome

[Clinical Response to Domestic Violence](#)  
November 12 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | CCADV

[Principles of Primary Prevention](#)  
November 14 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | CCADV

[Youth Mental Health First Aid](#)  
November 15 | 8:30am - 4:30pm | Valley United Way  
Shelton

[Understanding Domestic Violence:  
What Every Professional Should Know](#)  
December 3 | 10:00am - 3:00pm | CCADV

[Facilitating “In Their Shoes”  
Teens and Dating Violence](#)  
December 12 | 10:00am - 1:00pm | CCADV

### Members Only

[Strengths Based Advocacy & Case Management](#)  
November 5 | 9:00am - 12:00pm | CCADV  
or 1:00pm - 4:00pm

[Supervising the Police Response  
to Domestic Violence](#)  
November 6 | 9:00am - 4:00pm | Police Academy  
(law enforcement, members only)

[Supporting Survivors with Disabilities](#)  
November 19 | 8:30am - 4:30pm | CCADV

[Strengths Based Advocacy & Case Management](#)  
November 21 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm | CCADV

[The Officer as a Batterer: Information for Advocates](#)  
December 4 | 9:00am - 1:00pm | CCADV



# Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)

## One Year Later...

On October 1, 2012 CCADV began a pilot of the Lethality Assessment Program. The program employs a two-pronged intervention process whereby first responders to domestic violence calls employ a research-based lethality screening tool and connect victims directly with advocates for support and safety information. LAP protocol directs law enforcement to initiate intervention action as a result of a screening assessment. The process begins once an officer at the scene of a domestic violence incident conducts an assessment of the situation and, if factors that indicate danger exists, asks the victim a series of eleven questions that comprise the "Lethality Screen for First Responders."

If a victim's responses to the questions reveal a high potential for violence, the officer follows a referral protocol by informing the victim that people in similar situations have been the victim of escalating violence. To help the victim address immediate safety needs, the officer calls the local domestic violence advocate and encourages the victim to speak directly with the advocate.

The pilot program consisted of fourteen (14) police departments and eight (8) domestic violence member agencies. The pilot program was conducted under the training and guidance of the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence from October 2012 to December 2012. In February 2013, CCADV's Law Enforcement Advisory Committee conducted an evaluation and assessment of this pilot program. The committee held a roundtable discussion with law enforcement administrators and coordinators, as well as domestic violence administrators and coordinators. During this discussion it was apparent that the relationship between law enforcement and our member agencies had strengthened as a result of the program.

The data reported during the pilot program by the participants was encouraging. From October through December 2012, there were 428 screens conducted, 268 (63%) were considered high danger screens, 239 (89%) of those screened at high danger agreed to speak on the telephone to an advocate, and 156 (65%) of those who spoke on the telephone to an advocate followed up with domestic violence agencies for additional services.

*"I had no idea that the officer would be so caring and concerned. I really took the officer and the advocate seriously when I saw them work together to help me to a safe place. They showed me that there are people out there to help me and my son, I did not have to do this alone." - Victim*

### Between 9.15.12 and 9.30.13...

26 law enforcement agencies conducting an average of 1 screen for every 604 people

1,651 screens completed

961 screens were high danger (58%)

806 victims spoke to a hotline worker (84%)

538 of those victims followed up for services from the local domestic violence agency (67%)

Following the pilot, the committee made recommendations about the program to best address the needs in Connecticut. These recommendations included areas of training that should be reinforced and additional information that should be added to the lethality screening form. These changes were incorporated in five train-the-trainer sessions conducted between April and September 2013. To date, thirty-eight (38) law enforcement agencies and fifteen (15) member agencies have certified lethality assessment program trainers.

Connecticut LAP currently has twenty-six (26) police departments and eleven (11) member agencies participating in this program. There are several police departments in the process of conducting in-house training and it is anticipated that over thirty police departments will be using the program by January 2014.

We are continuously evaluating the Maryland LAP and other best practices used nationwide to ensure that a comprehensive, innovative program is being used here in Connecticut. CCADV and our member agencies will also continue to provide training across the state as we look to build program participation. In the longterm, we hope to have every law enforcement agency in Connecticut using LAP to best meet the needs of victims in high danger situations.

Many thanks go out to the dedicated law enforcement personnel and domestic violence advocates who have worked together to make the first year of the program a success!

# CCADV Member Programs

**The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services**

Ansonia      New Haven  
(203) 736-9944    (203) 789-8104  
[www.bhcare.org](http://www.bhcare.org)

**The Center for Women & Families**

Bridgeport  
(203) 384-9559  
[www.cwfefc.org](http://www.cwfefc.org)

**Women's Center of Greater Danbury**

Danbury  
(203) 731-5206  
[www.wcogd.org](http://www.wcogd.org)

**Domestic Violence Program/  
United Services, Inc.**

Dayville      Willimantic  
(860) 774-8648    (860) 456-9476  
[www.unitedservicesct.org](http://www.unitedservicesct.org)

**Network Against Domestic Abuse**

Enfield  
(860) 763-4542  
[www.networkagainstdomesticabuse.org](http://www.networkagainstdomesticabuse.org)

**Domestic Abuse Service/  
Greenwich YWCA**

Greenwich  
(203) 622-0003  
[www.ywcagreenwich.org](http://www.ywcagreenwich.org)

**Interval House**

Hartford  
(860) 527-0550  
[www.intervalhousect.org](http://www.intervalhousect.org)

**Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis**

Meriden  
(203) 238-1501  
[www.mwchrysalis.org](http://www.mwchrysalis.org)

**New Horizons**

Middletown  
(860) 347-3044  
[www.chcl.com](http://www.chcl.com)

**Prudence Crandall Center**

New Britain  
(860) 225-6357  
[www.prudencecrandall.org](http://www.prudencecrandall.org)

**Safe Futures**

New London  
(860) 701-6000  
[www.safeuturesct.org](http://www.safeuturesct.org)

**Domestic Violence Crisis Center**

Norwalk      Stamford  
(203) 852-1980    (203) 588-9096  
[www.dvccct.org](http://www.dvccct.org)

**Women's Support Services**

Sharon  
(860) 364-1900  
[www.wssdv.org](http://www.wssdv.org)

**Susan B. Anthony Project**

Torrington  
(860) 482-7133  
[www.sbaproject.org](http://www.sbaproject.org)

**Safe Haven**

Waterbury  
(203) 575-0036  
[www.safehavengw.org](http://www.safehavengw.org)



Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

912 Silas Deane Highway, Lower Level  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
860.282.7899  
[www.ctcadv.org](http://www.ctcadv.org)

**Statewide Hotline - 888.774.2900**  
**Call to be connected with your local domestic violence service agency.**