



COLORADO COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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******MEDIA ADVISORY******

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES BEGIN WITH OCTOBER 2 RALLY
AT STATE CAPITOL**

(DENVER, CO – SEPTEMBER 27, 2006) Recent high profile domestic violence incidents in Colorado are a sober reminder of why campaigns like Domestic Violence Awareness Month are needed, says the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV). A twenty-eight year old organization dedicated to ending domestic violence in all its forms, is organizing a month of statewide activities beginning with an 11:30 am rally at the State Capitol in Denver on October 2.

According to the American Medical Association, family violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually. Nearly one-third of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend and over half a million women are stalked by an intimate partner each year.

In 2005, there were 50 domestic violence related deaths in Colorado, and over 200,000 crisis and advocacy calls were made to safehouses and counseling hotlines. Nearly 5,000 women and children spent the night at shelters and over 5,000 had to be turned away due to lack of space.

“Domestic violence strikes at the heart of our society. We must stand together and say this violence will not be tolerated in our homes, our work and our communities if we hope to end domestic violence in all its forms,” said Interim Executive Director Nancy Osborn Nicholas.

Highlights of the rally include African dancers and drummers, speakers--including Attorney General John Suthers--and a proclamation from The Honorable Governor Bill Owens.

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Where: West Steps of the State Capitol in Denver (Colfax & Broadway)

When: Monday, October 2, 2006

Time: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
(Please arrive at 11:30 to enjoy the drumming 30 minutes prior to the rally)

Why: *Mourn* those who have died, *celebrate* those who have survived, *connect* those who work to end violence, *raise awareness* about the issue of domestic violence and *educate* the public about its effects.

Theme: Ripples of Hope. It symbolizes individual pain that we convert to hope and healing for victims and their families.

Award: Diane E. Millich will be the first recipient of the "*Community Impact Award*," which honors an individual or a group of individuals who put the voice and welfare of survivors at the forefront of their work.



Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) - www.ccadv.org - is a 28-year old statewide, grassroots, nonprofit organization providing resources, education, and training, and serving as a voice to more than 80 members and 60 programs serving some 40,000 battered women and children in Colorado each year.

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