



1978-2004

26 years of working in Colorado to end domestic violence in all its forms.

THE VOICE CONTENTS

The Voice is a publication of The Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV).

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THE VOICE

Summer 2004

Reflections on Recent Domestic-Violence-Related Deaths

By Ruth Glenn, Survivors Taskforce

Sadness, frustration and disappointment rushed over me as I heard about another colleague struggling to understand a domestic-violence-related death in her family.

The subsequent phone calls and media reports about Denver's domestic-violence-related deaths over a two week period reminded me that in spite of all our efforts, the consequences of this crime knows no boundaries.

For those of us working to end domestic violence, it never stops hurting. In the 11 years that I have been involved, we have made major strides in providing protection and services to victims, and enforcing sanctions for those who perpetrate this crime.

We improved access to services, supported new legislation, and implemented "mandatory arrest," but it has not stopped people who think that hitting, cursing, humiliating, strangling, punching, kicking, and using other forms of violence to control and kill their "loved" ones is somehow justified.

My sadness is rooted in the fact that we lose not just victims, but neighbors, co-workers, relatives, partners and friends from this violence on a daily basis. They are reported in anonymous headlines like "Slaying victim found" and "Jealous rage takes the life of Denver woman" and "Woman killed; ex-lover charged." My frustration is rooted in the belief that

we as a society have come so far in our fight to end domestic violence, but there is still so much to be done.

My disappointment is rooted in the reality that our community, judicial and law enforcement systems often fail to prevent, intervene and educate in a way that will stop these violent acts.

I know these failures are due to funding cuts or poor education and are not deliberate, but it hurts just the same.

There is an answer:

- Teach our children to get what they need using their words, not their weapons.
• Train the law enforcement and judicial systems to recognize domestic violence and its many dimensions.
• Secure more funding and resources for those providing these critical services.
• Assure victims that there is help and let them know how to find safety.
• Intervene and demand accountability for those who perpetrate this crime.
• Educate our citizens to watch out for and take care of each other.

The challenges appear insurmountable but I hold on tight to the belief that one day there will be no more victims of this crime. I believe that our communities can learn to recognize family violence and respond faster. We can improve funding, resources and education. I hope that the day is coming when I will not have to embrace a colleague and tell her how much I understand her sadness, frustration and disappointment.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a

time to mourn those who have died, celebrate those who have survived, connect with those who work to end

Remembering the Past, Picturing the Future

violence, raise awareness about the issue of domestic violence and educate the public about its effects. cont. page 6



CCADV VISION STATEMENT

CCADV is dedicated to the elimination of domestic violence in all of its forms. We recognize that this requires a fundamental change in society's views of gender and gender roles.

CCADV MISSION STATEMENT

Through community education, networking and the empowerment of battered women and children, CCADV serves as a forum for social action and the development of services for battered women and their families by bringing its membership and the community together. CCADV is a diverse network of rural and urban advocates who work together through the coalition to coordinate services, exchange information and work on issues of common concern, thereby providing a unified, statewide environment that will nurture members' local, community-based efforts to stop domestic violence.

CCADV PHILOSOPHY

- Our programs support, involve and include domestic violence victims and survivors of all racial, social, ethnic, religious, and economic groups, ages, sexual orientations and gender identities, and women with disabilities.
- We oppose the use of violence as a means of control.
- We support equality in relationships and the concept of helping women assume power over their own lives.
- We strive toward becoming independent, community based groups in which women are major policy and program decision-makers.
- We must work toward ending racism, homophobia, anti-Semitism, classism, and oppression of all traditionally silenced groups within the domestic violence movement. These oppressions are perpetuated by the same systems that profit by violence against women and children and cannot be separated from the overall mission of the Coalition, for the oppression of one woman is the oppression of all women.
- We recognize and support efforts of other agencies and individuals in addressing all issues that help to eliminate oppression and societal support of violence.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM TOOLKIT

The Children's Program Toolkit, funded by the Office of Violence Against Women's Rural Grant, is a project created to assist those working with children who witness domestic violence, specifically child advocates. This toolkit supports child advocates, statewide, by offering factors and recommendations to consider when developing a children's program for children who witness domestic violence. A collaborative effort among the Child Advocacy Committee, Jamie Gladish Running Deer-Child, the Youth Advocacy Director, and Monica Ortiz-Child, the Youth Advocacy Coordinator worked extremely hard to make this project a reality. The toolkit will be available at September's Statewide Meeting, which is sponsored by the Child Advocacy Committee.

For more information on the toolkit, please contact Jamie Gladish-Running Deer at 303.831.9632 ext. 14

UPCOMING CCADV MEETINGS, TRAININGS, & EVENTS

September 22, 2004 — **Rural Issues Retreat and Dinner Meeting**, retreat info TBA, dinner 6:00-9:00(Cañon City)

September 23-24, 2004 — **Statewide Meeting**, day 1: 8:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m., day 2: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Child Advocacy Committee. (Cañon City)

October 1, 2004, 2004 — **Domestic Violence Awareness Month Rally at the Capitol**, 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. (Denver)

October 14-15, 2004 — **Advanced Training Institute**, day 1: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Topic: Children's Advocacy day 2: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Topic: Roundtable Discussion for Children's Advocates (Grand Junction)

Anti-Racism Alliance (ARA) meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM at CCADV.

Children's Advocacy Committee (CAC) meets every second Tuesday from 2:30-3:30 at CCADV.

Queer Advocacy Committee (QAC) meets on the third Thursday of each month from 9-11 at CCADV. QAC meetings are open to everyone.

WELCOMING TWANNA LATRICE HILL

In December, CCADV welcomed Twanna LaTrice Hill as the new Public Policy Director. Twanna comes to CCADV with extensive educational and professional experience. She holds degrees from Princeton, Harvard, and Regis and is currently pursuing a PhD in Education Policy and Sociology. Twanna's professional experience includes working as a policy analyst for the Education Commission of the States, and the Director of Educational Programs at the Rape Assistance and Awareness Program. She has also served as a board member for a number of organizations.

With little preparation time for the 2004 Colorado Legislative Session, Twanna jumped right in, providing leadership for CCADV on issues important to victims of

domestic violence. With fearless passion, Twanna educated legislators on the need for housing protections for victims of domestic violence, how allowing State personnel to function as immigration officers was dangerous for victims and many other important issues. Twanna's extensive experience allowed her to critically analyze complex legislation to determine the best course of action for the CCADV. As we prepare for the 2005 Legislative session, Twanna has been conducting town hall meetings in communities across Colorado to help develop CCADV's legislative priorities.

2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Legislation supported by CCADV that passed

Immunity for Hotline Workers

Exempts hotline volunteers of nonprofits from civil liability. Defines "hotline" as a telephone line staffed by an individual who provides professional assistance to callers in crisis situations.

Changes to the Name Change Statute

Allows court to waive public notice requirement for good cause. Requires petitioner to file proof of public notice with the court after satisfying the notice requirement (unless waived). Prohibits name change for minors under age 16 who is subject of support, custody, or visitation orders. Amended to grant exclusive jurisdiction over name change of a minor that is subject of support, custody, or visitation orders to the court that has jurisdiction over those actions

Background Checks Offender Treatment

Requires Domestic Violence Offender Management Board and Sex Offender Management Board to conduct background checks on prospective treatment providers that go beyond the scope of criminal history record checks to include obtaining references.

Housing Issues for Victims of Domestic Violence

As amended in Senate committee, leaves intact only those provisions of the bill which prohibit a lease clause which would evict a domestic violence victim for calling law enforcement.

Protection Orders

Relocates civil protection order statutes. Authorizes district court and juvenile courts to issue emergency protection orders to prevent domestic abuse of a minor child. Clarifies that, if there are conflicting protection orders the court shall consider public safety first. Specifies that if a modification occurs it is only effective if the served or if the respondent has notice. For dissolution of marriage cases, separates permanent protection orders from temporary protection orders.

Legislation opposed by CCADV that passed

None!

Legislation supported by CCADV that failed

Unemployment Insurance Benefits and Domestic Violence

As amended in house committee, allows a person who has quit a job because of domestic abuse to be considered for unemployment benefits if proof of abuse OR proof of counseling are provided. Allows an exception from the requirement to actively seek work for the first 15 business days after a claim has been filed, if looking for work would make it more difficult to escape domestic abuse or would unfairly penalize the person.

Legislation opposed by CCADV that failed

Second Degree Assault Sentencing

If a victim is unlawfully on a defendant's property or the defendant acted under a good faith need for defense of him/herself or another person, allows the court to sentence the defendant as if the offense is not a crime of violence, if the defendant is convicted of second degree assault.

Family Data Collection

Requires collection and internet posting of certain data about families, children and marital status by Judicial Branch regarding domestic relations cases, by Department of Human Services regarding persons receiving services or benefits, and from the Department of Corrections regarding inmates.

Functions of Immigration Officers by State Personnel

Authorizes the governor to enter into an agreement with the department of homeland security to use state employees to assist in immigration matters.

For more information on the legislative session, please contact Twanna LaTrice Hill, Public Policy Director, at 303.831.9632

2003 COLORADO SERVICES PROVIDED

Total # of Crisis Calls	29,404	Total Number of <u>Residential</u> Clients	5,297
Total # of Counseling Calls	43,237	Women sheltered	2,725
Total # of Information & Referral Calls	75,512	Children sheltered	2,572
Total # of Advocacy Calls	51,319	Total Number of <u>Nights of Shelter</u>	113,941
Total # of Volunteer Hours Donated	331,253	Total Number of Women who couldn't Be placed - shelter full	5,382
Total # of Community Education Presentations	2,691	Total Number of <u>Non-Residential</u> Clients	30,601
# of relationships in which alcohol or substance abuse is an issue	7,903		
# of perpetrators who are in possession of, or have immediate access to a weapon/firearm	3,669		

**SOURCE: DOMESTIC ABUSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
(303) 866-2855**

THE IMPACT OF CRAWFORD

On March 8th, through a ruling in *Crawford v. Washington*, the United States Supreme Court handed down a decision that is likely to affect the admissibility of victims' statements in child abuse and domestic violence cases. Although the case did not involve domestic violence, the decision directly affects domestic violence cases and may change the way domestic violence cases are prosecuted throughout the country.



In most states, including Colorado, prosecutors have not been obliged to produce a witness at trial. Instead, according to *Ohio v. Roberts* (1980), the court could admit out-of-court hearsay statements from a person who was unavailable if the statement was deemed reliable.

The *Crawford* decision overrules the *Ohio v. Roberts* test on the grounds that it violates the Sixth Amendment right to confrontation. Based on the Sixth Amendment, which reads, in part, "in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right...to be confronted with the witnesses against him," the court held that out-of-court statements by witnesses that are testimonial are barred, under the Confrontation Clause, unless witnesses are unavailable and defendants had prior opportunity to cross-examine witnesses, regardless of whether such statements are deemed reliable by court, abrogating *Ohio v. Roberts*. If the witness is unavailable, then that person's testimonial statement may not be introduced at trial.

Crawford only applies to testimonial evidence. The question to be determined is what evidence is testimonial. The *Crawford* decision did not clearly define testimonial statements but generally, a testimonial statement is that made under oath and/or for purposes of a trial. A statement is often deemed testimonial if it could reasonably be expected to end up at court at some point. Examples of

testimonial statements include a statement to the police officers or other investigators in the course of interrogation, accomplice confessions, prior trial testimony, and *ex parte* testimony taken at a preliminary hearing. Of course, testimonial statements may still be entered into testimony if the person who made the statement is present at the trial and available for cross-examination.

An excited utterance (a statement made while still under the influence of a startling or traumatic event) is still allowable. Most calls to 9-1-1 are considered excited utterances, for example. Dying declarations are also an exception to the confrontation clause and are thus admissible.

Crawford applies *only* to criminal cases. Future decisions will define *Crawford's* scope, but it appears that a victim or witness must be present at trial and subject to cross-examination in order for their out-of-court statement to be used as evidence admissible at trial.

Tracking the Homeless

In 2001, Congress directed the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to obtain an unduplicated count of homeless individuals in order to better understand and address chronic homelessness in the United States. Though perhaps well-intentioned, HUD took Congress's original directive, which mentioned but did not require use of a management information system, and created what amounts to a tracking and surveillance system for America's homeless, including victims of domestic violence.

In July 2003, HUD distributed proposed standards for the implementation of their homeless tracking system, which outlined multiple data elements—including full name, Social Security Number, date of birth, and race—to be collected on each adult and child client. Additionally, program-level data such as disability status, status as a domestic violence victim, HIV status, pregnancy status, and other individually-identifying or sensitive data would be required for all HUD-funded program clients and strongly recommended for other programs' participants. These data would be kept for at least seven years in the client's electronic file in a centralized database run by a locally managed Continuum of Care (CoC). There are three Continuums of Care in Colorado and each will each receive HUD funding for its region based on the participation level of all local agencies serving the homeless. To "encourage" participation, HUD has structured funding so that even agencies not funded through HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act will have to participate in HMIS, or full funding would not be received by the local CoC for homeless services. This creates unhealthy pressure within each CoC to preserve the ever-dwindling government assistance for homeless programs at the expense of agency autonomy and client confidentiality and civil rights.

Domestic violence victims have special safety and confidentiality concerns arising from HMIS. Agencies serving DV victims collect as little information as possible on their clients, to limit the risk that the victim's location is discovered or personal data accessed. Because a large proportion of women receiving mainstream homeless assistance are victims of domestic violence, our concern goes beyond domestic violence agencies and reaches into every homeless service provider, including food banks, soup kitchens and traditional shelter programs. Further, the intrusive nature of HMIS will create an additional barrier for other marginalized communities—including immigrants, people of color, people with disabilities, and HIV positive clients—to receive crucial homeless services.

Last year's proposed standards allowed domestic violence programs to submit only aggregate data for victims, and HUD acknowledged at the time that providing client-identified information in an HMIS poses serious risks to that vulnerable population. The proposed provision would allow domestic violence agencies to comply safely with HMIS and not endanger HUD funding for themselves or the CoC as a whole. In the final standards released on July 30, 2004, however, the language permitting qualified participation for domestic violence victims was removed and domestic violence agencies were directed to collect client-identified information for the victims they serve. HUD stated that "technological and administrative solutions...will adequately protect data on victims of domestic violence," and that without full participation of domestic violence agencies, it would be impossible to obtain an accurate picture of the homeless in many jurisdictions. CCADV and a national network of domestic violence advocates disagree. **Data can be extremely dangerous, and no one's safety, confidentiality, or access to services should be risked to satisfy the requirements of a research project.**

For the last year, our Coalition and its members have been working hard to address and mitigate the impact of HMIS on domestic violence victims, other homeless individuals, and the agencies that serve them. With the recent changes made to the standards, there is even more work to be done. In collaboration with the National Network to End Domestic Violence, we will examine existing local, state and federal confidentiality laws that may pre-empt the federal directive, and we will strongly encourage HUD to reinstate the domestic violence exemption.

Last year, Colorado DV programs sheltered 5,297 women and children and provided outreach and counseling to 18,476. Transitional housing and other vital support services were also provided to many victims by these agencies. Domestic violence programs provide a safe, confidential haven for survivors of abusive relationships, and we must strive to maintain that safe haven, even when projects like HMIS seem poised to undermine it. CCADV does not support any client-identifying information being directly entered into the Colorado HMIS. We will continue to advocate for victim's safety and rights, and advise our membership on appropriate action as HMIS discussions carry on.

For more information on CCADV's response to HMIS and its impact on domestic violence victims and services in Colorado, please contact Information & Technology Director Jennifer Lynch at 303-831-9632 ext. 22.

Remembering the Past, Picturing in the Future continued from page 1

On October 1st CCADV will hold a rally from 11:30-12:30 on the west steps of the State Capitol. The theme this year will be "Remembering the Past, Picturing the Future." To illustrate this theme individuals and programs attending the rally should bring placards with illustrations of past accomplishments on one side and an image symbolizing the hopes for the future on the other side. With the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) up this year the visual representation may also represent what VAWA has meant to programs across the state and what programs hope future VAWA will mean.



Tu Casa's Prevention Education program began as an idea from a VIDA volunteer in 1998. Initially the program reached a few schools and community groups and focused its efforts in the peer education/mediation realm. When I was hired as a part time educator in 2000, all the staff that were providing prevention education were moving in other areas of their job positions. It was a new beginning and I had the freedom to enhance the program in a variety of ways.

Tackling programs in 14 school districts in six counties was overwhelming so I decided to narrow my focus to classroom presentations. I sent many letters showcasing the presentations available and placed numerous calls to principals, counselors, and superintendents. I met with superintendents, attended parent/teacher/student groups, placed public service announcements in the local newspapers and radio stations, and pitch the idea to anyone who would listen. A handful of school districts responded to the offers and scheduled presentations. At the time the goal was to reach as many students and adults as possible and the curriculum was tailored to what the schools wanted presented.

Many schools were reluctant to have presentations until the initial handful began discussing the quality and no cost of having Tu Casa present information that would normally fall on the shoulders of teachers in Health, Teen Challenge, and HERO classes. During the summer, I offered the program to community organizations who worked with children and/or victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

In 2001, I was asked to mentor and train a budding prevention education program in Archuleta County. Several trainings were conducted throughout the next two years and technical assistance was provided when needed. Also that year, Adams State College Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) asked me to participate in the trainings held

TU CASA SCHOOL OUTREACH By Melissa Lierly

for new and continuing members each semester.

Much effort was put forth to continue building relationships with schools and community organizations. Occasionally the key person was not the principal or counselor—it was a dedicated teacher or parent. Many thank you notes were written to express gratitude and propose a return visit in the next school year. Word of mouth became a powerful way to advertise the program. In 2002, Janae Naranjo was hired to work with me in the prevention education program.

To date, Tu Casa has been in 13 school districts in six counties and is in seven school districts consistently. Two educators provide presentations about sexual assault/harassment, dating/domestic violence, bullying, and child sexual abuse to community organizations (e.g. mental health, medical field, law enforcement, victim advocates), college students, and K-12th grade students and school staff. In 2004, we have already reached 1083 students and 319 adults. We currently use Jackson Katz's MVP materials for many adult and high and middle school students. Two Adams State College graduate students from the counseling program helped enhance the elementary presentation to include activities, games, and songs. Our goals are not only to increase awareness but to increase bystander intervention skills and take an active stance against domestic and sexual violence. The trainings are free to anyone or group interested in learning more about domestic and sexual violence. In the past year, Janae and I have been fortunate enough to have established a friendly and professional rapport with many schools and community organizations. Hence, they now call us!

Tu Casa serves six counties in the San Luis Valley.

MEMBER UPDATES

Welcome new members! At the membership meeting in July Park County Crisis Center and the Denver Domestic Violence Coordinating Council joined CCADV's membership.

A Woman's Place, Inc. (Weld County) has a new Executive Director; Joelle France, M.S.W. A Women's Place has also gone to 24-hour staffing at the safehouse for the first time and has restructured the agency to accommodate the staff changes.

Alternatives to Family Violence (Adams County) is proud to announce two new staff additions. Yolanda, the new Safehouse Director, and Kalisha, the new Kids Advocate, at the safehouse.

Vicki Lutz has recently joined Crossroads Safehouse (Larimer County) as the Executive Director.

The 16th annual COVA conference, *Doorways to Discovery*, will take place November 7th-10th at the Keystone Resort and Conference Center. For more information go to www.ColoradoCrimeVictims.org.

On Thursday, October 7th, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the Denver Domestic Violence Coordinating Council along with grant partners Denver DA's & City Attorney's Office, Victim Assistance Unit & DV Investigating Unit DPD, Project Safeguard, & Manager of Safety Office, is holding an advanced training on *Steps to Strengthening Alliances*. For more information on the training contact the Denver Domestic Violence Coordinating Council at denverdvtf@aol.com (preferred) or 303.480.9661

Traumatic Stress Studies

The Traumatic Stress Studies (TSS) Lab at the University of Denver is now conducting several studies to examine the effects of violence on children and women. Studies are designed to better understand children and adults' responses to violence in order to improve intervention and prevention services. The **Stress and Parenting Study** focuses on better understanding how exposure to violence affects parenting and emotion understanding in children. The **Cognition and Trauma (CAT) Study** examines how witnessing domestic violence affects children's learning and memory development. All research is confidential. Mothers receive financial compensation for participating; children receive age-appropriate, non-violent prizes. Research is under the direction of Anne DePrince, Ph.D.

For more information about any of these studies or other on-going research, please call 303.871.7407 or visit www.du.edu/~adeprinc/lab.html.

CCADV STAFF

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- *Public Policy Director:* **Twanna LaTrice Hill**, ext. 15
- *Safety and Accountability Audit Coordinator:* **Emily White**, ext. 23
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- *Training and Technical Assistance Director:* **Christine Loreda**, ext. 20

CCADV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

- *Co-Chair (Rural):* **Alison Hade**, Alternatives to Violence – Larimer County
- *Co-Chair (Urban):* **Jana Loveall**, AMEND – Denver County
- *Secretary/Acting Treasurer:* **Julie Banta**, Alternatives to Family Violence – Adams County

CCADV Committee Board Representatives

- *Anti Racism Alliance:* **Sila Lopez**, Jubilee House – Gunnison County
- *Children Advocacy Committee:* **Valerie Howley**, Individual Member – Larimer County
- *Development Committee:* **Michael Garcia**, Personal Banker – Broomfield County
- *Legislative Committee:* **Linda Ferry**, Denver DA's Office – Denver County
- *Queer Advocacy Committee:* **Carter Klenk**, Colorado Anti-Violence Program – Denver County
- *Region II (Metro Denver):* **Debora Beck-Massey**, DVI-for Women with Disabilities – Denver County
- *Region III (SE Colorado):* **Tara Deacon**, Family Crisis Services – Fremont County
- *Region IV (Western Colorado):* **Cathy Cramp**, Individual Member – Montrose County
- *Region IV (Western Colorado):* **Jenifer Wynne**, Advocates of Lake County – Lake County
- *Rural Issues Committee:* **Regan Wood**, Advocates for Victims of Assault – Summit County
- *Survivors' Task Force:* **Nancy Duke**, T.E.S.S.A. – El Paso County



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Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to the prevention and elimination of domestic violence in all of its forms.

Members of CCADV include shelters, safehouses, counseling & advocacy programs, and concerned individuals. The staff at CCADV provides information and referrals, trainings to organizations and individuals, and works on the development of public policy and legislation.

I would like to be a Contributing Member of CCADV
and help end the tragedy of domestic violence

- \$25.00
- \$50.00
- \$100.00
- \$250.00
- Other Amount
- Please send me information on voting membership levels

Please make check payable and return to:

CCADV
P.O. Box 18902
Denver, CO 80218

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City, ST Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!