
One Mission, One Voice.
Our Vision and Mission Statements

Vision Statement

The Vision of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence is to eliminate violence against women and their children:

- To promote the eradication of domestic violence across the state of Illinois;
- To ensure the safety of survivors, their access to services, and their freedom of choice;
- To hold abusers accountable for the violence they perpetrate; and
- To encourage the development of victim-sensitive laws, policies and procedures across all systems that impact survivors of domestic violence.

The Mission of ICADV

To:

- Provide statewide leadership as the voice for survivors of domestic violence and the programs that serve them;
- Change fundamental societal attitudes and institutions that promote/tolerate/condone domestic violence;
- Ensure that women and children have knowledge of and access to all services and opportunities,* endeavoring to provide these services locally;

In a way that:

- Respects women’s and children’s choices and cultural diversity
- Utilizes all available levers
- Public policy advocacy
- Program capacity and delivery
- Community awareness and education
- Cooperation with associated agencies
- Partnerships with communities and key stakeholders

*Services and opportunities should include: crisis telephone counseling, temporary shelter, peer and professional counseling, assistance in obtaining community resources, help to acquire employment skills, work referral.
Dear ICADV members and supporters:

It is hard to imagine that we are already 10 years into the 21st Century! And what an event this past decade has been. We experienced so much success during the last half of the 1990s, it has been a struggle to keep looking forward when it feels like we are losing so much ground.

But I am optimistic about 2010. The national economy is slowly improving. The resources that come to Illinois to support our work to end domestic and sexual violence have increased. The White House has established the Council on Women and Girls and appointed Lynn Rosenthal as the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women.

As you peruse this report, you will see the dedication of the ICADV members. They continue to provide services every day to thousands of survivors and their children. These programs continue to seek resources in their respective communities that will assist survivors and their families create a new life free from the threat of violence that has kept them trapped. Our member programs participate in collaborative activities that enhance education, job skills, safe housing, legal advocacy and representation, mental and physical health care, and other venues that allow for safety and growth.

We will strive to thrive this year and this decade. Illinois will struggle, but return to the leadership position that allows for safety and security for all Illinois families.

Sincerely,

Vickie Smith
STILL HERE

This past year was intense. We made tough decisions and tightened our belts. But we are still here. We laid off trusted, tried and true employees, streamlined services, and trimmed our budgets. But we are still here. We traveled to Springfield and talked to our legislators until we were blue in the face. Sometimes they heard us; sometimes they didn’t. We wrote them letters, picketed and protested. We were amazed at the ground we had to cover and defend; ground we thought we had secured years before. We cried over the ground we lost and celebrated each victory, no matter how small. But we are still here.

Yes, this past year has been intense. With less money and fewer staff we struggled to provide services to as many victims as we could. We listened to every heartbreaking story, offering hope when our own was wavering. But we are still here. We gave all we had but knew that our all was often not enough. We served 52,710 victims, but turned away 15,903 due to lack of space, staff, or other resources. That hurt and rankled in our hearts. But we are still here! We raised our voices while lifting the voice of victims, willing that their stories be heard. Yes we are still here. We saw the appointment of the first Violence Against Women Advisor to the White House, the defeat of the Thune Amendment that would have allowed perpetrators to carry concealed weapons, and the simplification and expansion of stalking laws. Oh yeah, we are still here.

And as this new decade dawns bringing with it new challenges, new fights, and new opportunities, we may not look the same. We may not be the same. But we will still be here!!

Until Victory Is Ours,

Joyce Coffee
Year 2 of Ambitious Three-Year Plan

- Build a sustainable ICADV operations funding model
- Improve staff and board operational interaction
- Recruit, orient, and maintain member programs, especially new programs and/or directors
- Drive legislative and government program domestic violence agendas
- Develop a 3-year statewide services plan
- Develop the next generation of leaders in the field of domestic violence
- Lobby and advocate for increased local private funds for programs
- Improve effective partnerships with crucial key stakeholders
- Keep domestic violence in front of society

Marketing & Public Relations Committee, Year 2

The Marketing and Public Relations Committee was tasked with identifying specific marketing messages for various stakeholders. To help with this work, the Stakeholder Committee was dissolved as a separate entity and pulled into the Marketing Committee. Together, they worked on redoing the public outreach of the Coalition through an informational brochure and through redesigning the ICADV website.

During year two, a brochure was produced, and the website was redesigned to reflect a color scheme between it and the informational brochure. ICADV also used the concepts in the website and brochure to create a unified look across all of its materials.
One of the goals of the Training and Leadership Committee was to develop the next generation of leaders. Directors of domestic violence agencies are choosing to retire, or move on, so programs need individuals who are ready and able to move into leadership roles.

Through surveys, the Committee identified and prioritized skills needed for people to be a leader and director. The Committee also began to develop a talent-building process, identified high-potential people, and began to identify training tracks that they hope to model.

Because of the lack of dollars to create new programs, the Committee chose to create leadership components and attach them to various ICADV trainings, so that all ICADV conferences and trainings will have a leadership track.

The Membership Committee was able to establish a good working relationship and value for non-member programs. They reached out to non-member programs and encouraged them to apply for membership. This resulted in new Community Partners and new board members, including Arab American Family Services. The Committee also created a new-member program and/or director’s packet.

The Committee created a welcome and orientation process for new members, including a mentoring program. Membership Committee members are paired with each of the new directors, introducing new directors to other directors, discussing what each of the committees do, and encouraging participation in the work of the Coalition.

The Committee created activities for every board meeting, along with helpful information for members and staff.
The Operations Committee was charged with improving communication between the board and ICADV staff, as well as among board members. Committee minutes are now posted on the ICADV website and the ICADV Director instituted year-round weekly notes to members.

Programs provide their intent through use of ICADV committees. At this level of organization, committees discuss issues, report on topics, and send directives. Every committee is staffed by ICADV. This system is working well to provide information between the various committees.

The Operations Committee also reviewed fiscal and personnel policies, both of which are strong and in place.

The Public Policy and Government Funding Committee was to write a series of white papers for the second year of the Strategic Plan. Using planks from the Policy Platform, the Committee chose confidentiality (#3) and enforcement of existing laws (#5), as these have the greatest impact on the everyday lives of victims. A draft regarding confidentiality was completed.

Because of the dire financial conditions of the state of Illinois, the Committee also spent considerable effort towards state funding of domestic violence activities.
The Program Services Committee continued its work on identifying gaps in services. These gaps were identified in both qualitative and quantitative surveys completed by agency directors and clients receiving services. At the close of year 2, the Committee was almost finished with the assessment.

The qualitative survey of survivors indicated the following themes in answer to four basic questions:

1. What would survivors have done if domestic violence programs didn’t exist?
   - Theme of resiliency and commitment to leave the abusive relationship: seek out other services, go to family, or become homeless
   - Theme of confusion and uncertainty
   - Theme of living in fear and staying in the abusive relationship: thought it was normal, stayed and become violent, stayed and would be dead

2. What barriers did survivors experience meeting their goals?
   - Theme of external barriers: inability to financially support the family, lack of childcare, lack of housing, lack of transportation, lack of general resources
   - Theme of internal barriers: fear, grief and loss, self-esteem and confidence
   - Theme of legal barriers: response from courts and states attorneys, response from law enforcement, immigration issues

3. What type of assistance from their communities and other service agencies would be helpful to them as survivors?
   - Theme of ability to financially support family with a job
   - Theme of assistance with basic necessities: housing; childcare; transportation; medical care; assistance with food, utilities, and furniture
   - Theme of legal and/or law-enforcement improvements
   - Theme of counseling and therapy: for survivors, for their children
   - Theme of increased public awareness

4. What would they have told the Governor of Illinois about what they need as survivors of domestic violence?
   - Theme of services for victims: funding for domestic violence service providers; need for basic necessities, such as housing, including transitional; housing, childcare, transportation, employment, and education assistance
   - Theme of improved systemic response from legal and law enforcement community
   - Theme of appropriate response to perpetrators: stricter and more reliably enforced penalties, required perpetrator intervention programs
Each year, the Coalition staff provide outreach through its public education materials and trainings. The Coalition also provides federal pass-through dollars to domestic violence programs.

Public Education Materials

The Coalition has over 45 different pieces of resource materials that are distributed throughout the United States.

During FY09, we created four new posters: teen dating violence, elder abuse, children exposed to domestic violence, and help for battered women. All are available in English and Spanish.

The Coalition created and distributed over 170,000 pieces of public education materials during fiscal year 2009 to domestic violence survivors, domestic violence programs, other professionals, and the general public.

The formats of the materials include:

- brochures that cover issues including women with special needs, older battered women, effects of domestic violence on children
- pamphlets on safety planning and dynamics of domestic violence
- booklets that include a detailed reference guide for survivors and a guide for family and friends
- posters with powerful visual images and a strong message

Most material is available in both English and Spanish and some material is available in Korean and Polish.
During fiscal year 2009, the ICADV Training Institute trained 1,017 people. The 25 trainings included the legally mandated 40-hour domestic violence training, the annual children’s training, the management training, economic empowerment, and others.

ICADV administers Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds. VOCA funds are provided to local domestic violence agencies throughout Illinois for the purpose of providing legal advocacy, medical advocacy, counseling, and therapy services to survivors of domestic violence and their children. VAWA funds are provided to local domestic violence agencies for the purpose of providing services to underserved or unserved client populations such as Latina victims of domestic violence; victims living in rural areas of Illinois; and survivors of domestic violence who also have chemical dependency issues. In FY09, ICADV administered over $3.3 million in VOCA and VAWA funds that supported 157 projects operating in 51 domestic violence service providers throughout the State. This was about a $1 million cut to domestic violence services in Illinois.
Revenue by source

**Federal funding ($357,511)**
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA)
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Victim of Crime Act (VOCA)
- American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

**State funding ($250,258)**
- IL Attorney General’s Office
- IL Criminal Justice Information Authority
- IL Dept. of Human Services

**Other grants ($161,287.34)**
- Altria Group, Inc.
- Allstate Foundation
- Little Angel Foundation
- Fifth Third Bank Foundation
- Field Foundation

**Dues and donations ($134,044)**

Expenses by Category

- Programs and Services (public education, technical assistance, policy advocacy) ($535,524)
- Operations ($210,987)
- Training ($81,447)

Total: $827,958
ICADV Programs

Certification: ICADV works with the Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professionals and the Certified Partner Abuse Intervention Programs to help ensure the best qualified individuals and domestic violence victim services agencies are available.

Economic development: ICADV provides training and technical assistance to domestic violence programs working with low-income clients to help provide the clients with financial literacy, thereby raising them out of poverty to help break their financial dependence on abusers.

Advocacy: ICADV staff work with other agencies to make sure the systems designed to help victims of domestic violence don’t revictimize victims.

Collaborative efforts: ICADV staff work closely on various projects to make sure the collective voices of battered women and the programs that serve them are heard at the state and national level.

Contracts: ICADV provides federal pass-through dollars to qualified domestic violence service provider agencies.

Legislative work: ICADV staff educate legislators regarding the impacts that proposed bills would have on survivors of domestic violence.

Services: ICADV works with domestic violence service providers to ensure that the best possible victim-centered services, including confidentiality, safety, and survivor empowerment, are offered at member and funded agencies.

Public Education: ICADV creates, prints, and distributes public education materials.

Technical Assistance: Each year, the ICADV offices receives thousands of requests for information ranging from the location of a service provider, to the latest in newly passed laws.

Training: ICADV provides trainings throughout the year to many individuals from all the allied fields that touch upon domestic violence, such as attorneys, law enforcement officers, therapists, and individuals from the health-care industry.
Domestic violence victim services providers in Illinois have experienced a downward trend in both state and federal funding since fiscal year 2003. Inflation exaggerated the cuts, which led to decreased service in many rural counties throughout the state from fiscal year 2003 up to the present.
Despite the bleak fiscal situation for many domestic violence service providers, they continue to serve victims and provide many hours of service each year. Many of the clients seeking service require legal advocacy for obtaining an order of protection and remaining involved in the criminal prosecution of the batterer. These clients require many fewer hours than those seeking shelter. As the economy worsened, it became more difficult for many clients to find jobs and the economic independence they need to be able to leave their abusers for good. As a result, clients seeking shelter stayed longer.
ICADV Members (cont.)

FY 2009 ICADV Board of Directors

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IL Coalition Against Domestic Violence
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Family Rescue
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E. Jeannine Woods—VP/Secretary of Board
Cairo Women’s Shelter
Cairo, IL   618-734-4377

Jim Walters—Treasurer of Board
Hope of East Central Illinois
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Marla Reynolds
Mercer County Family Crisis Center
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Margarette Trushel
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Alton, IL   618-465-1978

Linda Healy
Mutual Ground
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Nancy Kelley—ICADV Board representative and past President
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Jane Farmer
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ICADV Community Partners

Howard Area Community Center, Chicago

Chicago Salvation Army, Partner Abuse Intervention Program

Wabash County Health Department, Mt. Carmel

ICADV Staff

Bookkeeper—Kris Barnett

Director of Contract Management and Electronic Communications—Sarah Conlon

Director of Operations—Jacqueline Ferguson

Director of Training and Public Education—Theresa Sakolsky

Economic Empowerment Project Manager—Kelly Goodall

Executive Director—Vickie Smith

Office Manager—Heather Russell

Training Coordinator—Pam Groves

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Image of a survivor holding a sign: "I'm a survivor. Thanks to a violence prevention program... we need these programs!!!