



ILLINOIS COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

One Mission, One Voice

FOR BETTER TIMES

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Illinois Domestic Violence Helpline:
1-877-863-6338
State TTY: 1-877-863-6339

National Domestic Violence Hotline:
1-800-799-7233
National TTY: 1-800-787-3224

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL NO MORE TEEN DATING ABUSE VIDEO CHALLENGE!

Last fall, the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence partnered with Lt. Governor Sheila Simon on the NO MORE TEEN DATING ABUSE VIDEO CHALLENGE which was sponsored by Verizon.

As part of the entry form this year, we asked teens to answer the following question: “As a result of this program, how have you committed to taking additional action to end teen dating violence?”

We wanted to get a sense of how teens were engaged in the issue of teen dating violence prevention. We received a total of **113** responses:



First place winners: Jamie Huennekens, Kirsten Stage, Brittany VanOnsten and Jana Michels

- **69** stated they would be talking with friends to make them more aware and provide advice about where to go for help;
- **13** said they learned the warning signs of dating abuse and learned when to speak out against it;
- **15** stated they understood the issue of dating violence and what healthy relationships look like;
- **16** stated they would be making a social media post about healthy relationships; one reported s/he would be reaching out to middle schoolers; and one reported s/he would be volunteering for an organization in this area.

The Marketing and Stakeholders Committee would like to thank the 35

member programs that requested promotional materials for the challenge and distributed those materials locally to high schools and other groups working with teens. This local promotion is what made the project such a success in its third year. They look forward to working with members again on similar challenges in the future.

ICADV received a total of 48 entries, up from 41 last year and 37 in the first year. In all, approximately 223 teens participated in the making of one or more videos, up from 214 last year and 133 in the first year. The Marketing and Stakeholders Committee narrowed the entries to 12 finalists based on creativity and positive messaging for teen dating relationships.

Those finalists were reviewed by Vickie Smith, Executive Director, ICADV; Annie Thompson, Lt. Governor's Office; and David Finch, Verizon. Additionally, the final judge panel this year included Travis Meier, former winner from year 1 and 2 of this project. After reviewing the videos and deliberation, the panel of judges selected the first, second and third place winners, and a raffle winner. The first place winners were from Fulton High School and they won iPads; 2nd place was from Barrington High School and four of the 14 students who made that video won iPad Minis (due to budgetary constraints and published guidelines); and 3rd place was also from Barrington High School and four of five students that created that video won Kindles. The raffle winner was from Eastland High School in Lanark, Illinois and received an iPad.

While the challenge was a great way to engage teens, the ultimate goal is to produce another tool for raising awareness of the issue. Verizon and member programs have already expressed interest in using the winning video(s) in various ways. We look forward to the challenge again this fall.



**Positive
Change
Comes
With
Time**

Thinking back over the years at the Dove, Inc. Domestic Violence (DV) Program, like other DV programs across the state, there have been so many changes. These changes include how the community looks at domestic violence, how law enforcement responds to domestic violence and how our State Attorney offices proceed in DV cases, etc.

I can remember sitting at the table with no more than a handful of individuals, trying to figure out how to best handle these situations. I recall the difficulties and challenges that we faced in trying to educate our key officials on the dynamics of domestic violence and stressing the importance of putting the blame on the perpetrator – NOT the victim – and holding them accountable for their actions rather than re-victimizing the victim.

Then came the mandatory arrest policies—thank goodness—a breakthrough! Victims would no longer have to make the decision when they were asked—usually standing right in front of their abuser—over and over if they wanted their abuser arrested. This opened the door for new discussion on identifying who was the primary aggressor. Like many other communities in Illinois, we went through the period of mutual arrests. We kept moving forward and speaking out on the extreme need for training on how to determine the primary aggressor in each situation.

We now work with a Police Liaison and a Liaison from the Sheriff Department, which has made a huge positive difference on collaborations with law enforcement and services to domestic violence victims. Having law enforcement liaisons has eliminated any confusion

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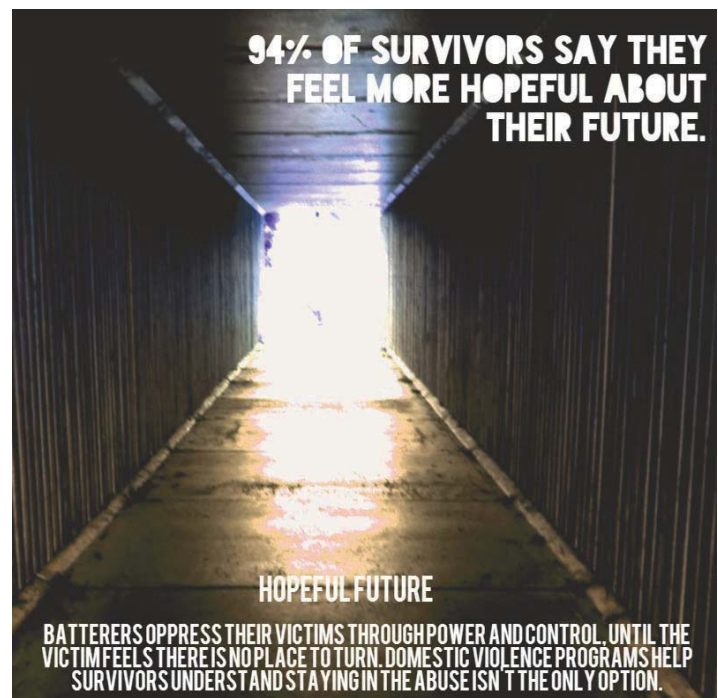
Dove story continued from page 2

for point of contact in their office. We simply call our designated liaison and provide them with the information or questions we have. They look into the situation for us and get back in touch with our advocate making the call. Our Legal Advocates meet monthly with our law enforcement liaisons to discuss any particular issues/concerns or to give suggestions about what is needed from each in order to work better for the benefit of our clients. Our ongoing meetings keep us all connected and in continued conversation. In addition to our monthly meeting with our law enforcement liaisons, we meet monthly with our Judge who handles Orders of Protections. This has resulted in positive outcomes for our clients and greatly enhanced our relationship with the Judge.

We all know the buzz words “Coordinated Community Response”, and know it is key to providing good services. We—allied professionals in the community—meet regularly to discuss our roles and work towards our shared goal which is to provide safety and justice to the victim and accountability to the perpetrator. Our Domestic Violence Unit which consists of the State’s Attorney Prosecutors, Law Enforcement (both police and sheriff), domestic violence program advocates and program director, local sexual assault program, elder abuse program, probation, Legal Aid Attorney, and Child Advocacy Program all meet monthly as well.

We have come a long way from several years ago sitting at a table with domestic violence advocates talking about how there was very little or complete lack of communication and support from law enforcement and the state’s attorney office. We have grown leaps and bounds from victim blaming to collaborating on how to create environments that allow victims to empower themselves and even encouraging them to participate in the criminal trial of the abuser!! Although we still certainly have our moments of “agreeing to disagree”, working relationships are strong and victims lives are better for it!!!

Teri Ducey, DV Program Director, DOVE, Inc., Decatur, IL



Empowering Women. Expanding Awareness. Eradicating Violence.

806 South College Street ~ Springfield, IL 62704

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First Pet Friendly DV Shelter in Illinois.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, more than 70% of pet-owning women entering domestic violence shelters reported that their batterer had injured, killed, or threatened family pets for revenge or psychological control. As many as 65% of domestic violence victims are unable to escape their abusers because they fear what will happen to their pets when they leave.

In recognition of the extreme complications animal abuse can create for those seeking to flee violent relationships, QUANADA became the first domestic violence shelter in Illinois to accept companion animals into the shelter. Cats, dogs, and small “pocket” mammals, reptiles, and birds may be accepted into shelter. “Our ultimate goal is to ensure no family members are left behind – including those with fur, feathers, or scales” says Megan Duesterhaus, QUANADA’s executive director. Since becoming pet friendly, QUANADA has housed five dogs in the shelter.

Presently, animals are housed in specific pet friendly rooms inside the main shelter building. The ultimate goal is to update an existing outbuilding to comfortably and safely house companion animals. The pet shelter will include appropriate ventilation, climate control, privacy fencing, and a security system. QUANADA was recently awarded a RedRover® Relief Safe Housing grant to apply towards these updates. To date, close to 50% of the funding necessary to fully complete the pet shelter project has



been raised.

Since becoming a pet friendly shelter, QUANADA has also adopted a shelter dog, Scarlett, a 2-year-old cocker spaniel mix. Scarlet is great at providing a source of emotional support and stress relief to staff and clients. She is also a comforting presence to the overnight staff.

If your organization is interested in becoming pet friendly, QUANADA would be happy to help in any way they can. For more information on converting your shelter into a pet friendly facility, you can also check out the resources at Sheltering Animals and Families Together (SAF-T) website <http://alliephillips.com/saf-tprogram/>.

Megan Duesterhaus, Executive Director, QUANADA, Quincy, IL

Attaining Sought After Goals



When Mariana Young Sun Kim came to KAN-WIN in 2009, she had been in an emotional, physical and financially abusive marriage for nearly ten years. During those years, she never told her family back in Korea what was happening. She was completely isolated and too scared to seek help. She heard about KAN-WIN on the radio. It took three more years and the fear of her children learning this abusive behavior for her to knock on their door.

Mariana moved to the United States in 1999, with hopes of furthering her education. In Korea, she had earned a business administration degree. She worked for a company translating documents from English into Korean. She moved to Colorado to attend college and live with family friends. However, Mariana was lonely without her family and her funds were running out quickly. She was here on a student VISA and not allowed to work. Tuition for international students is higher. She began chatting online with a man in Chicago who encouraged her to move, telling her

that he would help her find employment and transfer schools.

Mariana moved to Chicago to be with him. He quickly introduced her to his family and asked her to marry him. He wanted to elope, telling her that through marriage she could get a Green Card so she could work and have access to cheaper college tuition. Mariana was in love but wanted to get married more traditionally. They traveled to Korea to meet her family and get engaged. It was during this trip that Mariana began to have doubts. She tried to call off the engagement and end the relationship, but he took a knife, held it up to his own throat and told her that if she left him, he would kill himself. She felt trapped and couldn't tell anyone about what happened.

The abuse and isolation began when they got married in 2001. Soon after the wedding, he told her that he didn't want her to go to school. He and his family thought she should work and add to the family income. He kept pushing her away from studying and going back on his promise to support her in getting an advanced college degree.

Mariana told her husband that she wanted to wait to have a baby and focus instead on paying down his debts. The abuse escalated. He accused her of only marrying him for a Green Card. At one point, he took her ID and credit card out of her purse and left the house, telling her that she only had these things because of him. She now had no money or identification.

After the birth of their second son in 2008, the level of abuse increased. He physically abused her in front of the children. He hit their older son with a toy baseball bat. Two months later, he strangled her in front of both children. She knew she couldn't endure it any longer. She feared for her sons and their future.

KAN-WIN quickly helped her and her children find emergency shelter and after three months found her space in their transitional housing program. Two years in transitional housing gave her the time, peace

and encouragement to reach her goals. She found employment at a medical clinic and her boss there offered to help pay her tuition. Mariana worked 9am-4pm each day, then took both of her children to nightcare so that she could attend night schools classes. Sometimes, they wouldn't get home until 10pm. She would put the boys to bed and begin her homework. Often, she wouldn't get to bed until 2 or 3am, sometimes falling asleep at the kitchen table with her books open. At last she was fulfilling her dreams.

"I am a totally different person than I was, I can do anything." Mariana points out that with the support of KAN-WIN's counseling program, she was able to improve her self-esteem. She learned that the violence wasn't her fault. Over the years KAN-WIN has connected her with many community resources that offered support. The Legal Assistance Foundation in Chicago helped her through her divorce, which went on for three years before it was settled. Mariana completed matched savings programs with both Beth New Life and Heartland Alliance to help pay for

her education. She applied for and received grants from Web of Benefit and the Chung Hea Foundation. "Whatever chance I had, I took it."

Mariana is determined to live violence free and become financially and spiritually independent. Through the Allstate financial education classes at KAN-WIN, she was able to learn how to budget. As a result she raised her credit score by more than 300 points. She found these classes so important that she began sharing the information with co-workers and others in her life. In 2014, she earned certificates in medical billing and accounting. Today, she is studying to take her Certified Public Account exam and preparing for a graduate program.



ICADV Advocacy Efforts 2015

It has been an exciting legislative session for all of us here in Springfield! While ICADV has participated in many different legislative campaigns for varying new laws, we have focused our resources on two main bills: the restriction of crime-free (or nuisance) ordinances and resentencing provisions for incarcerated domestic violence survivors.

The first, Senate Bill 1547, is a joint advocacy venture with several other organizations. Last summer, we partnered with the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, (Shriver Center) the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Illinois, and a number of housing advocacy organizations to draft language that would help survivors remain in their rental housing. Approximately 35 municipalities throughout the state have enacted what are often referred to as "crime-free ordinances." These ordinances are intended to allow landlords to remove criminals from their rental properties swiftly and definitively. However, most of them do not distinguish between perpetrators and victims, or they are not being enforced as such, and therefore have had the unintended effect of having survivors being removed from their homes along with perpetrators when they call the police for assistance.

After long negotiations in the Senate, we came to an agreed bill with the cities of Chicago, Chicago Heights, and Kankakee - the main oppositions to the bill. In late April, the bill moved out of the Senate with a unanimous vote. It is now in the House, and we continue to work with advocates from the Shriver Center and the ACLU to lobby in this chamber. The second bill began in the House under the

sponsorship of Rep. Christian Mitchell. ICADV has been working with Cabrini Green Legal Aid, Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Women, and the Illinois Clemency Project for Battered Women on a bill that will assist survivors who are currently incarcerated. As many as ninety percent of women imprisoned in Illinois have suffered from domestic violence at some point in their lives. Our bill was heavily negotiated with the State's Attorneys, who had major concerns about the finality of convictions and a potential for abuse of the law. By the time we reached an agreement on language for the new law, deadlines had already passed in the House to move the bill. Our team decided to be a bit procedurally

creative and asked the Senate staff for a shell bill. With a little luck and a lot of tenacity, we moved the bill unanimously out of both the Senate Criminal Law Committee and the Senate floor. Rep. Mitchell has picked up the bill in the House, and we remain hopeful that the bill will move forward before the end of session. Currently, we have focused on adding co-sponsors to win some leverage in moving it.

As always, Vickie Smith, Executive Director of ICADV, has been working hard to speak with legislators about the budget. We have had several programs send representatives to speak with their legislators about the need

for continued funding. These visits have been quite successful, and were continued through the end of May.

As our bills progress, we will continue to send our membership advocacy alerts, and we thank you very much for your participation!

Noelle Dupuis, Director of Policy,
Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence





Jazz

at the

PASFIELD HOUSE

525 SOUTH PASFIELD

JUNE 12
5:30 - 9PM

Honorary Chair First Lady Diana Rauner

Enjoy Jazz in a beautiful outdoor setting, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.



This event benefits the
ILLINOIS COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Would you like to make a difference while having lots of fun?

The Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence is putting on its annual Jazz event! Join us for good food, good music and good company at the Pasfield House on June 12, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Music provided by: Frank Parker Jambalaya New Orleans Jazz/Blues Band, Judy Page, formerly with Ike and Tina Turner, Debbie Ross, and Brooke Thomas. All proceeds will go to make our Illinois communities safer for victim/survivors of domestic violence and their child witnesses



TICKETS

\$50 IN ADVANCE; 10 FOR \$450; \$60 AT THE DOOR
CALL 217-789-2830 OR VISIT WWW.ILCADV.ORG

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Executive Director's Note

As I write this memo to include in our latest For Better Times, I am listening to the Senate Appropriations Committee discuss various budget proposals. As the Illinois Legislature and the Governor

struggle with different perspectives of how to solve Illinois' complex and significant revenue issues, this newsletter highlights how wonderful our member agencies are in continuing to be creative with designing programs to respond to adults and children experiencing domestic violence. No matter what our elected officials ultimately agree to spend on services, our members will strive to work in their communities to help families find safety.

Our front page story illustrates collaborative efforts with which ICADV has begun to focus on prevention.

We are excited that the Verizon Foundation continues to be our partner in engaging high school students all over the state to creatively address healthy relationships. This project has grown every year since we started and we look forward to another series of successful entrants this fall.

Each article in this current edition shows that ending domestic violence has to occur through partnerships and collaborations. No entity or organization can accomplish this goal independently. These articles also point out that domestic violence is a multi-faceted problem that requires varied opportunities to address safety of families. ICADV and its member programs needs each of you to bring your talents and skills to the table to help us.

Finally I would like to invite everyone reading this newsletter to join us at Jazz at Pasfield House on June 12. This event is a way to celebrate the hard work of our Board of Directors, Program Council and staff in the work we have done this year to educate communities and professionals, advocate for strong laws and funding to support survivors and their families, and build collaborations throughout the state.

Become A Member of ICADV

ICADV FRIEND

Requirements: An individual who supports the vision and mission of ICADV. Potential Friend members must review and sign ICADV's assurances document found by clicking [here](#).

Fee: \$25.00 per year

Benefits: Friends will receive information regarding trainings, public policy, newsletters and monthly electronic mailings.

ICADV COMMUNITY PARTNER

Requirements: Non-profits, for-profits, and government agencies that support the vision and mission of ICADV and are acceptable to local ICADV members. Potential Community Partner members must review and sign the assurances document found by clicking [here](#). This level of membership goes through a review process by the ICADV Membership Committee.

Fee: \$250.00 per year

Benefits: Community Partners will receive information regarding trainings, newsletters, public policy and by monthly electronic mailings. Community Partners receive up to \$100 worth of ICADV resources, chosen by the Community Partner and may be invited to sit on ICADV committees.

ICADV Program Council Member

Requirements: Non-profits or for-profits that support the vision and mission of ICADV and are acceptable to local ICADV members. Potential Program Council Members must review and sign our assurances document found by clicking [here](#). There are additional criteria that must be met for membership at this level.

This category is made up of two types:

- Domestic Violence Service Provider
- Partner Abuse Intervention Program

For more information on any level of membership email us at msa@ilcadv.org and type membership in the subject line.

