



KDVA UPDATE

Newsletter of the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association • Summer 2008

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KDVA UPDATE Summer 2008

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KDVA Update is published by the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association. KDVA works to provide a strong, statewide voice on behalf of domestic violence victims and their children by administering state and federal funds to fifteen of Kentucky's domestic violence programs serving as primary service providers in the Area Development Districts, promoting public awareness, operating a Certification Program for domestic violence staff, and, among other things, advocating for state legislative initiatives to increase protection for domestic violence survivors and their dependent children.

KDVA provides networking opportunities for those helping end domestic violence, provides legal assistance to domestic violence programs and attorneys representing domestic violence victims, and helps promote public awareness of domestic violence.

Economic Empowerment Project helps 73 participants buy assets

39 bought homes, 30 used funds for post-secondary education and 4 started small businesses

by **Mary O'Doherty, Economic Empowerment Project Director**

Three years of sharing a cramped public housing apartment with her young children convinced Myriam Ibanez she needed to buy her own home. She enrolled in KDVA's Individual Development Account program and, with the help of Barren River Area Safe Space (BRASS) staff members, improved her credit score and saved \$6,000—enough money for a down payment. The only problem was that Myriam didn't earn enough income through her part-time job at a day care center to make a monthly mortgage payment.

That's when BRASS staff members Erin Pearson and Karla Trujillo stepped in. They helped Myriam write a resume and urged her to look for full-time employment. With their encouragement, Myriam enrolled in a certified nursing assistant training program. Her full-time job at a Bowling Green nursing home, along with her children's child support, meant she and her three children finally could afford their own home.

The family moved into the three-bedroom, two bathroom frame house on a well-maintained street in Bowling Green earlier this month. The \$100,000 house sits on an acre of land in a neighborhood of newly constructed homes. Myriam said the home will make life better for her children: Marina, 11 months, Paula, 8, and Daniel, 12.

"I could buy this house because I got a better job," Myriam explained. "It's a really nice neighborhood, and my yard is big enough for my children to play." Myriam is one of 39 people who have purchased homes with the help of KDVA's IDA program. Thirty others have used their IDAs to go to school and four have used them to start small businesses.

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Myriam Ibanez and her children

A victory for incarcerated battered women in Kentucky

by **LeTonia A. Jones, MSW, Training/Advocacy Administrator**

WE KNOW THE TRUTH



NOW JUSTICE

Kentucky Domestic Violence Association

Sunday, December 9, 2007 was a day that the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, the Department of Public Advocacy, and citizen activist, Marsha Weinstein had long hoped for, but were unsure they would ever see. It was the culmination of 12 years of work on behalf of two groups of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated victims of domestic violence in Kentucky. December 9, 2007 was the day that outgoing Governor Ernie Fletcher released to the media the names of 18 battered women who would receive pardons and clemency. At the time of the media announcement, 6 of

continued on page 6...

President's report

by Lisa Holmes, KDVA President

Green Dot Kentucky

Most people involved in social services are familiar with the “river” parable. In the story, a community along a river keeps finding seriously injured people floating in the river that passes through their town. They are kept really busy pulling these people out of the river and taking care of them. One day, a local leader suggests that instead of spending all their time taking care of the injured people, the residents should go upstream to stop people from falling into the river in the first place.

There are some days—especially those days when our shelter is overflowing with victims of domestic violence and their children—when I wish that ending domestic violence could really be that easy. Until recently, I would have argued that domestic violence would be with us forever. However, after attending last month's Green Dot Mini Summit, co-hosted by KDVA, I have a glimmer of hope for a violence-free future.

At the Summit held on June 30, Dr. Dorothy Edwards, Director of the University of Kentucky's Violence Intervention and Prevention Center (VIP), explained the Green Dot concept to over one hundred advocates, and business, nonprofit, education and government leaders from across the state. The Green Dot strategy, currently being piloted on the UK campus by VIP, involves engaging all facets of the community as bystanders to interpersonal violence (domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse). Every individual is challenged to do his or her own “small part” to contribute to a reduction in domestic violence—ultimately resulting in a cultural

shift toward intolerance of violence. So conceptually, at least—the task becomes about matching, outnumbering, and ultimately displacing individual moments of violence (red dots) with individual moments that are actively intolerant of violence (green dots).

KDVA, in partnership with the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP) and the University of Kentucky VIP Center, will be rolling out the Green Dot prevention program across the state over the next year. As part of the rollout, individuals and communities will be educated about the basic dynamics of violence against women and children, and then further educated about the potential role of bystanders. They will be taught what inhibits bystanders from intervening, including in high-risk situations, and will be given the tools and skills to overcome these inhibitions.

I believe that the Green Dot program has the potential to change the face of prevention in the Commonwealth. While I don't think it's time to stop pulling people out of the river, I do believe that, as we change red dots to green dots, fewer people will fall in.

In peace,



Lisa Holmes, President
Kentucky Domestic Violence Association



KDVA's new website

Check out our New Website!

Thanks to Sarah Davies Design and KDVA staff we have a newly designed website. The web address is still the same—we have not moved. We hope that the new design, new features and updated information will be useful tools to you whether you are a professional who deals with victims of domestic violence in your job or whether you are a victim of domestic violence. We also hope that the new site will be more user-friendly. KDVA's mission is to ensure that the right to live free of any form of domestic abuse is valued, protected and defended in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and we want to achieve our mission through our website, our printed material and through our every-day dealings with the public. Please direct any comments or questions regarding our website to Lee Zuhars at 502-209-5382 or by email at lzuhars@kdva.org.

www.kdva.org

Legislative update 2008

by Sherry Currens, Executive Director

Domestic Violence Funding In light of devastating cuts to the Commonwealth's social services budget, Kentucky's fifteen domestic violence programs (shelters) were relieved to find that their state funding was not reduced. Unfortunately, flat state general fund dollars are coupled with a significant decrease in revenue from marriage license fees; a loss in federal funding; and, as the economy worsens, a drop in private giving to domestic violence programs. This loss in funding paired with the ever-increasing costs of providing shelter and services—twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week—has resulted in a statewide, immediate operating deficit of over \$800,000 dollars—forcing programs to cut staff and reduce services to victims.

New Laws New laws approved during the 2008 regular session of the General Assembly went into effect on July 15, 2008. Two bills that were of particular interest to KDVA were SB 58 and HB 161.

SB 58 increases penalties for those who **tor-
ture dogs or cats**. KDVA, at the request of the Humane Society of the United States, appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee on behalf of this bill because of the clear link between abuse of pets and violence in the home. Seventy-one percent of pet owners entering domestic violence shelters report that their partners have threatened, injured or killed family pets. Under SB

58, causing physical injury to a dog or cat as a result of torture is a Class A misdemeanor that carries up to a year in jail, while causing serious physical injury or death is a Class D felony punishable by 1-5 years in prison.

KDVA has long been a supporter of the **anti-bullying legislation**. Although the Senate Judiciary Committee significantly revised **HB 91**, sponsored by Representative Mike Cherry, it still includes important safeguards. **HB 91** requires local school authorities to alert law enforcement when harassment at a school involves a potential felony. Yearly reports on school harassment will be made to the Department of Education and the Legislature.

Regrettably, **HB 161** introduced by Representative Rob Wilkey, as well as a similar legislation introduced by Senator Ray Jones (**SB 108**), failed to pass the legislature. Both of these bills would have expanded the protective order statute to allow persons who are dating, or have dated, but who have never lived together, and do not have a child in common, to petition for protective orders. These bills would have also expanded the warrantless arrest statute to cover persons in a dating relationship.

Victim impact statement

from Billie Jean May, Edmonton, Kentucky

It has taken me two years to get past all of the abuse you have put me through. The first one and a half years after I escaped from your control was spent worrying that you would come after me and follow through with all of the threats that you bombarded me with the whole time we were together. As stupid as they sounded you had me convinced that at any moment of any day a helicopter would fly over and literally blow me, and all of my innocent neighbors away. There were days when I would receive 50 to 100 phone calls, all day, all night, never stopping. You were literally driving me insane and to the brink of suicide.

You took advantage of my kind heart and exploited me for your own pleasure. The rapes, the beatings, the pleading for help all fell on deaf ears. You caused me to lose a large part of my hearing when you shot the gun over my

head and laughed. Because of you I have left behind all of my personal belongings, even my car you drove till it died, now I walk. According to you I am the most useless person on the earth. I know now that's just not true. My one wish in all this is that this never happens to another woman. You deserve to pay for what you have done to me. It is time you accept responsibility and suffer the consequences of your actions. You are not above the law!

Case Update

Benny Walden was convicted of two violations of a DVO, terroristic threatening and intimidating a witness in Metcalfe County Circuit Court on July 1, 2008. He was sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary.

Four new community partners join KDVA's Economic Empowerment Project; three old friends renew support

Four new financial institutions have made grants in support of KDVA's Economic Empowerment Project and three old friends have renewed their support. The grants will support KDVA's Individual Development Account Program, and the Kentucky Asset Success Initiative, (which includes four asset-building coalitions that provide free tax-preparation sites), Earned Income Tax Credit outreach and financial education. They are: Eastern Kentucky Asset Building Coalition, Barren River Asset Building Coalition, Central Kentucky Economic Empowerment Project and the Owensboro-Daviess County Asset-Building Coalition.

Citi Foundation, BBT, US Bank in Bowling Green and Westfield Insurance have joined the roster of supporters which already includes Fifth Third Bank, Allstate Foundation and Kentucky Housing Corporation, who recently pledged \$300,000 for KDVA's third IDA grant.

Citi Foundation is the giving arm of Citi, a financial services company that includes Citibank, Smith Barney and many other financial services organizations. BB&T is a bank that serves communities across Kentucky and 10 other states in the South-eastern United States. US Bank has locations across Kentucky. The contribution from its Bowling Green affiliate supports BRASS and its Barren River Asset Building Coalition. Westfield Insurance provides insurance through independent agents and is one of the country's top ten providers of farm insurance.

Thanks to Our Partners

Allstate Foundation

BB&T

Citi Foundation

Fifth Third Bank

Kentucky Housing Corporation

U.S. Bank in Bowling Green

Westfield Insurance

Economic Empowerment Project (continued from page 1)

Nine home purchases are pending. About 200 participants are enrolled.

IDAs are restricted, matched savings accounts and every dollar a participant saves is matched 2 to 1. Participants who maximize the program finish with \$6,000. Participants must have earned income and meet income requirements. All participants are required to attend financial literacy classes, meet monthly with their case managers, and, if necessary, pay down debt and improve their credit scores.

Myriam was referred to BRASS through the court system. She met Karla when she began attending a group for Hispanic domestic violence victims. When Erin showed up one day to recruit IDA participants, Myriam was first in line. Myriam took less than two years to save her \$2,000, and participated regularly in all her case management meetings and financial education classes, Erin said. She worked hard to pay down her debt and tapped the IDA Emergency Fund to help pay a \$400 past-due debt.

Karla helped Myriam write a resume, and both advocates talked to her about her interests and helped her decide to seek a job with a nursing home that paid for her to become a certified nursing assistant. Myriam, who has a green card, was born in Columbia, so Karla, who speaks Spanish, sometimes helped out during case management sessions. Erin said it took



Myriam Ibanez with her children in front of their Bowling Green home

them four months to convince Myriam that she could improve her living standards. "The hardest part was building her confidence," Erin said. "Once we got through that, then we started focusing on how we were going to increase her income."

More IDA success stories

Christy Bailey:

Non-traditional credit and stable work history made home purchase possible for OASIS client



Christy and Serenity Bailey

Five years ago Christy Bailey was addicted to methamphetamines, married to an abusive husband and homeless. Today she and her three-year-old daughter, Serenity, live in their own three-bedroom home in a quiet, tidy Owensboro neighborhood.

“Five years ago it never would have occurred to me that I could own my own home,” Christy said. The journey from meth addict to homeowner began at OASIS, a domestic violence and drug and alcohol treatment program. Christy was working two jobs—as

an activities manager at a homeless shelter and as a manager at a Burger King—when a supervisor told her about the IDA program at OASIS.

Christy began saving \$20 a month. When she saw the savings pile up, she upped her deposits to \$55 a month and saved as much of her tax refunds as possible. With the help of a credit coach at OASIS, she also focused on improving her credit history.

“Five years ago it would never have occurred to me that I could own my own home.”

~Christy Bailey

Like many IDA participants, Christy did not have a credit score. She did have delinquent medical bills left over from a serious injury caused by her batterer. Christy used her cable, rent and utility payment records to show that she paid her bills on time for two years. Those and her stable work history convinced the bank to give her a market-rate mortgage. Less than two years after she began saving, Christy used her IDA to buy the \$50,000 home.

Christy is using a second IDA to save and pay for college expenses. She’s working on a degree in social work and hopes to become a drug treatment counselor. Meanwhile, she’s a regular at the monthly IDA meetings at OASIS, where she encourages other participants to take control of their finances and plan for the future.

Andrea Langefeld:

Women’s Crisis Center helped her repair credit history and raise score by nearly 100 points

Andrea Langefeld thought her life was spiraling out of control when she left her abusive husband in November 2003. She and her three daughters moved into the basement of her mother’s one-bedroom house. “I was on food stamps and public assistance, living in my mom’s basement with three children,” she recalled. “My goal was to not be on any assistance.”

“The IDA program is a great program, but it is something that you have to work for; you have to have ambition.”

~Andrea Langefeld

Andrea, 31, got a job as a server at a restaurant in the Cincinnati airport and, with a Section 8 housing voucher, moved into a nearby apartment in northern Kentucky. Shortly after that her effort to become self-sufficient kicked into high gear.

Andrea met Becky Mishos at the Women’s Crisis Center and opened an Individual Development Account. She attended a financial education class, and with Becky’s help, Andrea began cleaning up her credit history, raising her credit score by 100 points. One year later, Andrea bought a home in Ludlow, Kentucky, for \$85,000. She used the money in her IDA and \$10,000 in down payment assistance from Kentucky Housing Corporation.

Andrea says the IDA program helped her take a big step toward financial security. Her caseworker helped her take the steps she needed to be able to apply for a mortgage. Most importantly, she said, the program helped her focus on her dream of homeownership and empowered her to take responsibility for her financial future.



Andrea with her three children at their home in Ludlow

A victory for incarcerated battered women (continued from page 1)



Gov. Ernie Fletcher and some of the women who received clemency & pardons

the women were incarcerated at either Otter Creek Correctional Facility for Women or at the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women. On Tuesday, December 11, 2007 the prison doors opened and by Executive Order, these 6 women were free to walk through them and begin anew.

The Kentucky Domestic Violence Association (KDVA) has been working on behalf of incarcerated victims of domestic violence since the late 1980's. In the mid-1990's, KDVA joined with Marsha Weinstein, then Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on Women, and the Department of Public Advocacy (DPA) to ask for clemency for a group of women who were incarcerated for killing their abusers. These women became known as the "Sisters In Pain." A book was written about them and they made an appearance on "Donohue" after their release. In 1995, Governor Brereton Jones commuted the sentences of nine of these women. Three additional women, identified as part of this effort, were also paroled.

In 2003, at the request of the Governor's office, KDVA and the Department of Public Advocacy began reviewing the files of women in prison for killing their abusers. After the review was completed, clemency requests were prepared for a group of thirteen women and presented to Governor Patton along with a video entitled, "Hear Our Pleas for Mercy." Unfortunately, despite our belief that Governor Patton was in favor of pardons for these victims of domestic violence, he did not grant clemency to this second group of women—citing concerns that the large number of requests for pardons that he received near the end of his administration made it difficult for him to establish criteria that would assure him of uniformity and justice. This was devastating to this group of incarcerated women and disheartening to those who worked on the petitions.

However, KDVA and other community partners continued to work on their behalf by providing them with regular visits, limited financial support, and legal advocacy. Over the next

eight years, some of the women were released on parole and three additional women were identified and added to the group. By 2007, there were ten currently incarcerated women awaiting relief from then Governor Ernie Fletcher. In December 2007, Governor Ernie Fletcher granted full pardons to ten of the women who had been granted clemency by Governor Jones and one currently incarcerated woman. He also commuted the sentences of five incarcerated women. In addition, he referred the four remaining women to the Kentucky Parole Board, directing them to either grant these women parole or prepare a full report for the Office of the Governor for use in determining whether the conditions were such as to warrant a grant of clemency. KDVA continues to advocate on behalf of these 4 women. Their names are Bertha Williams, Pearly Sue Mills, Barbara Sarabia, and Cassandra Holland.

It is KDVA's hope that the current Beshear Administration will be open to offering relief to the women identified in former Governor Fletcher's Executive Order, as well as put forth a concerted policy effort to ensure that other incarcerated victims of domestic violence are identified and given an opportunity to receive mercy. Increasingly, more and more states are looking at the issue of the unjust incarceration of victims of domestic violence. Kentucky is among the frontier states on this issue and has a unique opportunity address the impact of domestic violence on the lives of victims and offer relief to those who suffer its effects.

If you would like more information about the KDVA Clemency Project, please contact LeTonia Jones at 502-209-5382 or ljones@kdva.org. If you would like to make a donation to help support incarcerated and formerly incarcerated victims of domestic violence, please make your donation payable to KDVA and indicate Clemency Project in the memo line. The mailing address is P.O. Box 356 Frankfort, KY 40602. It is only with the continued support of the general public that KDVA can continue its efforts to free Kentucky's Battered Women. *We Know the Truth, Now Justice!*



KDVA staff with some of the women released from Otter Creek Prison

KDVA Training Institute

Upcoming trainings

Eliminating the “Language Barrier”: Strategies for Language Accessibility

Friday, August 22, 2008, 9 am-Noon

Participants will discuss responsibilities of Federal Funds Recipients to provide language assistance and meaningful access to non-English speakers, strategies to ensure language assistance while keeping our expertise and how to manage an interpreted session. Additionally, we will discuss the role of the interpreter during the provision of services.

Training will be held at the KDVA Training Center, 111 Darby Shire Circle, Frankfort, KY 40602. Please register by August 18, 2008. Registration fee is \$20 (materials and continental breakfast included in registration/CEU fee). Please contact Isela Arras at 502-209-5382 or iarras@kdva.org.

Considerations for Victims of Domestic Violence and Their Children

Thursday, September 4, 2008, 10 am-4 pm

This training will promote a culturally competent system of care and will focus on the dynamics of domestic violence. It will also include: the effects of domestic violence on adults and children who witness, lethality and risk assessments, resources and referrals, reporting requirements, and legal services for protection and strategies for providing language accessible services.

Training will be held at the KDVA Training Center, 111 Darby Shire Circle, Frankfort, KY 40602. Please register by August 26, 2008. Registration fee is \$35 (materials and continental breakfast included in registration/CEU fee). Please contact Sara Clayton at 502-209-5382 or sclayton@kdva.org.

It’s All Interrelated: Violence Against Women as a Form of Oppression

Thursday, November 6, 2008, 10 am-4 pm

Join us for an interactive workshop that will focus on diversity and self-awareness as it explores oppression through experiential learning. This workshop will specifically address the link between oppression and violence against women.

Training will be held at the KDVA Training Center, 111 Darby Shire Circle, Frankfort, KY 40602. Please register by October 29, 2008. Registration fee is \$50 (materials and continental breakfast included in registration/CEU fee). Please contact Sara Clayton at 502-209-5382 or sclayton@kdva.org.

To register for any of the above workshops, please complete the registration form below.

Please sign me up for:

- Eliminating the “Language Barrier”: Strategies for Language Accessibility, Friday, August 22, 2008 @ \$20 each
- Considerations for Victims of Domestic Violence and Their Children, Thursday, September 4, 2008 @ \$35 each
- It’s All Interrelated: Violence Against Women as a Form of Oppression, Thursday, November 6, 2008 @ \$50 each

Name _____
 Title _____
 Organization _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 Email _____

How to register:
 Mail or fax your completed registration form and payment to:
 P O Box 356
 Frankfort, KY 40602
 or Fax: 502-226-5382

For more information:
 Call 502-209-5382

Program news and updates

Center for Women and Families

Louisville, Kentucky

Art and healing



On July 1, 2008, a new piece of artwork became a permanent fixture at The Center for Women and Families' Joan E. Thomas, M.D. Campus in downtown Louisville.

A group of domestic violence survivors created the large mural to tell their own stories of healing and provide hope for victims of domestic violence. The opportunity to create the artwork was made possible by the Louisville Visual Art Association Open Doors program, a visual arts outreach program that hires local

professional artists to facilitate community based art projects in under-served area communities.

The group spent roughly three months brainstorming and developing the mural. The creative process was supported by components of the Open Door program, including a fieldtrip to a Louisville Visual Art Association art exhibition and a history of artists who have affected social and political change through public art.

The final design of the mural highlights silhouettes of each woman transferred onto the canvas. It is a visually stunning piece that not only tells each survivor's story, but also emphasizes the need for hope and strength. The artists have chosen to permanently hang the painting at The Center for Women and Families to inspire women and children living there and seeking services.

Art therapy is a valuable part of The Center's holistic healing program, and The Center's facilities are decorated with numerous examples of client produced artwork. Additionally, The Center strives to form partnerships with local galleries and artists to display art. The mural was showcased at a press conference, celebration and reception for the artists.

Women's Crisis Center

Northern Kentucky

WCC collaborates on grants that reach victims across the lifespan

The Women's Crisis Center is working collaboratively with Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission and Catholic Charities to bring healthy relationship workshops to Northern Kentucky adolescents and adults. Stronger Together, a program federally funded by the Healthy Marriages Initiative, allows Women's Crisis Center staff to facilitate healthy relationship groups with adults and teens and to provide resources to those in an unhealthy relationship. All Stronger Together programs are free to Head-Start eligible families.



Teen workshops are a program focus for summer 2008. A hip-hop themed healthy relationship workshop for teen boys and girls, ages 12-17, is being held at Randolph Park Public Pool in Covington. Also, a safe dating workshop, only for girls ages 13-17, called Girl's Night In, is being held this summer at the WCC walk-in office in Covington.

At the other end of the age spectrum, Women's Crisis Center plays an important role in the Office on Violence Against Women's Elder Abuse Training for Law Enforcement. A WCC domestic violence advocate works with area law enforcement, Prosecutors, and Adult Protective Services to provide training to law enforcement about how to respond to cases of potential elder abuse.

For more information on Stronger Together or the Elder Abuse Training for Law Enforcement, please contact: Tasha Wilder, Community Educator at tashaw@wccy.org or 859-372-3572.

Family Life Abuse Center

Mount Vernon, Kentucky

The Grateful Threadz



In its first eight weeks in business, The Grateful Threadz, a thrift store started by the Christian Appalachian Project in Mount Vernon, brought in over \$15,000 and served 1,581 customers. The Grateful Threadz offers the community a much-needed resource while providing job-training opportunities for residents of the Family Life Abuse Center (FLAC) and Healing Rain, a faith-based substance abuse program. The store allows women to get work experience while receiving on-the-job training and childcare assistance.

According to FLAC Director Peggy Hancock, "Shelter residents love working in the store. This program allows us to provide financial education and assist residents with setting up bank accounts and developing budgets. Our next step is to help women start saving for major purchases such as automobiles."



Upcoming statewide events

Safe Harbor

Ashland, Kentucky

Lobster Fest, August 23, 2008

A "Maine" Event at Safe Harbor

The Boyd County Medical Alliance is hosting a Lobster Fest on Saturday, August 23 at the Bellefonte Country Club in Ashland, Kentucky. All proceeds will benefit Harbor Hill, a permanent housing facility for women and children of Safe Harbor. Harbor Hill will offer one, two and three-bedroom apartments and accommodate residents while they concurrently learn skills enabling them to live independently. The building will also offer child care, counseling and adult education classes.

At the Lobster Fest, one can expect a wonderful fare of lobster and New England clam chowder, as well as other traditional accoutrements to be served. There will be silent and live auctions, a gem scoop, and dancing under the stars to the Convertible Blondes, a live band. It is through the vision and efforts of Executive Director, Ann Perkins and event chairperson, Susan Fried, as well as her committee, that this "possibility" will soon become a "reality." This event is open to the public and tickets can be purchased on a first come, first served basis for \$125 per person.

For more information, please contact Carie Kizzair at Safe Harbor, (606) 329-9304 or email ckizzair@safeharborky.org.

Women's Crisis Center

Northern Kentucky

Domestic Violence Across the Life Span, September 24, 2008

Please join us for a training on September 24, 2008 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Crestview Hills City Building. Presenters for this training are Jackie Zschau and Laura Kinney, who are both LCSW's and Certified Domestic Violence Advocates. This training will provide information about the dynamics of domestic violence and the effects of domestic violence on children, teens, adults, disabled and elder victims.

The registration fee is \$40 per person and the deadline for registration is September 17th. For more information or to ask about registration please call Darla at the Women's Crisis Center at 859-491-3335.

Save the date!

Lt. Governor Daniel Mongiardo and The Kentucky Commission on Women, Office of the Governor invite you to attend...

"Change the Grade for Women's Health"

Kentucky Women's Health Summit

September 11-12, 2008

Capital Plaza Hotel, Frankfort, Kentucky

Registration fee: \$75 per person

Day One: The Kentucky Women's Health Summit is designed to inform participants of the overall status of women's health in Kentucky, highlight the complexities and broad scope of women's health issues, and bring together advocates and agency leaders to showcase resources and highlight best practices.

Day Two: The Kentucky Women's Health Summit will offer the opportunity for dialogue and ultimately set the stage for a major health initiative to address the dismal statistics of health and well-being for women in the Commonwealth. Women are 52% of Kentucky's population...if we truly want to move Kentucky forward, the health of Kentucky women must be addressed!

Please visit www.women.ky.gov for more information and to register.

Save the date!



December 8-11, 2008

Marriott Griffin Gate Resort

Lexington, Kentucky

For more information please

go to www.kdva.org or call 502-209-5382

This annual conference is held to actively promote peace in all relationships. Workshops have been designed to provide professionals in the fields of mental health, medicine and nursing, law, criminal justice, education, prevention, research, victim advocacy, social services and allied fields with in-depth information by leading presenters in their fields.

Sponsored by:

Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP),
 Kentucky Domestic Violence Association (KDVA),
 Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services,
 Department for Human Support Services,
 Child Victims' Trust Fund
 and Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet

Plenary speakers include:

Marta Miranda

Sue Ostoff

Dr. Diane Follingstad

Christy Burch-Epperson
& the UK VIP

Adnan's tech tips

by Adnan Rafiuddin,
Information Technology Coordinator



"Times are Tough"

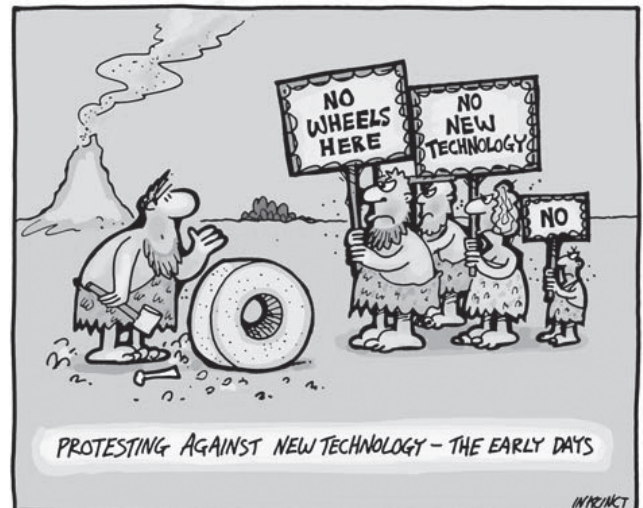
Times are tough nowadays with budget restrictions and the need for more capabilities involving technology. However, there are a couple of ways to ease the tension by building a good technology plan along with some great teamwork.

If you need to purchase several computers but only have the funds in your budget for a few, I suggest looking into "virtualization". There are several forms of virtualization. First, you can install different operating systems on one computer as most people do these days instead of purchasing both a Mac and a Windows machine. The other method that not many people know about is to use a PC but share its resources with 30 others giving the perception that you actually have 30 PCs in your office. For this approach you will have to purchase some hardware, but the bottom line is going to be significantly lower. Also, using this method will reduce the amount of licenses needed. When the need for a new application arises, the software can be installed on just the root computer. Everyone can have their individual drives and will not know any different.

Another simple thing that can be done is to utilize **VPN (Virtual Private Network)**. If an employee is travelling or would like to work from home (to save gas money these days) she/he can use VPN to connect to their office computer to do

their work. VPN capability usually comes with most Business Routers. Adjusting some settings on the router which will enable you to connect to the office computer from anywhere worldwide as long as you have an Internet connection.

These are just a few suggestions that can be taken into account when planning for the next year. Sometimes it is very difficult as a non-profit to know about new technologies, but if a plan is established early it is possible to save money and open new doors to advocacy and outreach.



4/08-2007-346 © INK/INCT Cartoons www.inkind.com.au

INK/INCT

Clearinghouse update: focus on economic justice

compiled by Sara Clayton, Resource/Training Coordinator

Resources from the web

The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program www.econempowerment.org

To address the problem of domestic violence, The Allstate Foundation launched a comprehensive initiative in partnership with the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) Fund to provide support to victims of domestic violence. The program focuses on providing knowledge and skills—particularly those related to financial security and economic empowerment—to support survivors of domestic violence.

Through the Domestic Violence Program, The Allstate Foundation is committed to targeting long-term resources to ending domestic violence. The program will provide a comprehensive network of services for domestic violence survivors and advocates, including: direct services, thought leadership and public awareness.

Redevelopment Opportunities for Women, Inc. www.row-stl.org

Founded in 1978, Redevelopment Opportunities for Women, Inc. (ROW) is premised on the belief that every individual has self-worth and is endowed with certain strengths and abilities. ROW's mission is to empower women and their families to build skills, economic security, personal safety, and hope for the future. ROW has carried out its mission through a variety of programs that create a foundation where women are able to develop the necessary skills and abilities to begin to take control of their lives. Services are focused on serving women who have been impacted by intimate partner violence, homelessness and/or poverty.

Our vision for the future of our agency is to continue effective positive change on behalf of homeless, abused, and/or indigent women and families, through both innovative service delivery and systems advocacy.

Through a continuum of educational, counseling and support services, we focus on strengths, build on those strengths and develop skills needed to live healthy and productive lives. Specifically, ROW carries out its mission through its Family Strengths Program, Family Literacy Program, Early Childhood Activity Program, Domestic Violence Response Program, ROW's Economic Action Program, REAP Training Institute and Community Building.

Economic Education Programs for Battered Women: Lessons About Credit Reports

http://new.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/BCS18_EP.pdf

This links the reader to a brochure (pdf format) published by the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, in collaboration with Greater Hartford Legal Aid and the University of Iowa School of Social Work. The brochure provides information about economic education, sometimes also called, "financial or economic literacy." The discussion describes well-established economic education programs based in domestic violence agencies in Iowa and St. Louis, Missouri and explores the effects of different settings on program development and evolution. The authors also share the lessons learned from these programs' experiences and key issues to consider when developing economic education programs for battered women.

What Domestic Violence Survivors Should Know About Credit Reports

http://new.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/YourCreditReport.pdf

This links the reader to a brochure (pdf format) published by The Women In Need, Inc and the National Consumer Law Center. The brochure provides information about how credit reports can affect victims of domestic violence and what victims can do to build good credit, repair credit and more.

Interactive training tool

In Her Shoes: Economic Justice Edition Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

A revolutionary community education tool, In Her Shoes is designed for learning about domestic violence. Participants move, do, think and experience the lives of battered women.

The newest version of "In Her Shoes" will increase awareness of the additional struggles battered women face when they are poor. The perspective of the batterer is also represented in the Economic Justice Edition. Most useful for longer training sessions where there are opportunities for group discussion. This interactive training tool can be ordered online at www.wscadv.org/resources.

Book

Guide to Consumer Rights for Domestic Violence Victims from National Consumer Law Center

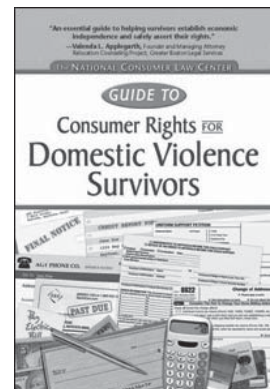
"An essential guide to helping survivors establish economic independence and safely assert their rights." Valenda L. Applegarth, Founder and Managing Attorney Relocation Counseling Project, Greater Boston Legal Services.

"An invaluable resource for survivors to get back on their feet financially. This book has great advice about joint property, credit cards, bank accounts, child support collections, credit reports, compensation funds, and much more." Rebecca S. Dempsey, Attorney WIN/Victim Services, PA.

Abuse survivors have financial as well as physical and emotional concerns—they may be left with no income and a stack of unpaid bills that ruin their credit rating and that lead to collection harassment and lawsuits. Financial stress may lead the survivor to return to the abuser or become vulnerable to predatory loans, rip-off car sales, and overpriced child support collection offers.

This guide assists survivors with practical and precise advice from the nation's consumer law experts on diverse topics as:

- Which debts to pay first
- Stopping debt collection harassment
- Credit reporting & the effect of the abuser's credit history
- Joint debts, credit cards, debit cards, and bank accounts
- Identity theft by the abuser
- Using civil protection orders for economic redress
- Crime victim compensation funds
- Child support & private child support collection agencies
- Quickie foreign divorce scams
- Federal tax issues for survivors
- Bankruptcy—filed by the abuser or the survivor
- Driver licenses and address confidentiality
- Utility bills, student loans, loans to avoid, and more.



KDVA Member Programs

Barren River Area Safe Space

in Bowling Green
Lee Alcott
1-800-928-1183

Family Life Abuse Center

in Mount Vernon
Peggy Hancock
1-800-755-5348

Sanctuary, Inc

in Hopkinsville
Helen Kinton
1-800-766-0000

Bethany House Abuse Shelter, Inc

in Somerset
Robert Brown
1-800-755-2017

LKLP Safe House

in Hazard
Lois Valentine
1-800-928-3131

Sandy Valley Abuse Center

in Prestonsburg
Connie Little
1-800-649-6605

Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program

in Lexington
Darlene Thomas
1-800-544-2022

Merryman House

in Paducah
Vonnie Adams
1-800-585-2686

SpringHaven, inc

in Elizabethtown
Lisa Holmes
1-800-767-5838

The Center for Women and Families

in Louisville
Denise Troutman
1-877-803-7577

Owensboro Area Shelter (OASIS)

in Owensboro
Brenda Jones
1-800-882-2873

Women's Crisis Center

in Covington
Kimberely Adams
1-800-928-3335

DOVES of Gateway

in Morehead
Patricia Collinsworth
1-800-221-4361

Safe Harbor/FIVCO

in Ashland
Ann Perkins
1-800-926-2150

Women's Crisis Center

in Maysville
Kimberely Adams
1-800-928-6708



Kentucky Domestic Violence Association
P.O. Box 356
Frankfort, KY 40602

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