



DELAWARE COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ANNUAL REPORT



2017

Highlights and
Accomplishments
from July 1, 2016 to
June 30, 2017

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**Special thanks to Marcey Rezac, whose Board term ended during the 2016-2017 fiscal year.*

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Marcey Rezac, Policy Specialist
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DCADV 2017 Staff

Dear Friends,

This past year has been a significant year for the Coalition. As reflected in the annual report, we have been very busy building collaborations, engaging in prevention efforts, offering numerous trainings to diverse audiences and advocating for victim safety.

We hired some new staff, including a Policy Specialist to expand our efforts in addressing domestic violence as a public health concern. We updated our website to make it more accessible. We created new partnerships with schools and fostered conversations around trauma-informed care and the importance of self-care, especially for teachers, first responders, and advocates.

Importantly, this past year, the board and staff reviewed our mission and adopted a vision that highlights the importance of prevention in ending domestic violence.

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence envisions a First State where safe, healthy, equitable relationships, families and communities thrive. DCADV's vision boldly holds our hope and reflects our passion for equity and our efforts to create peace.

We are so grateful for the leadership of our task forces, especially the strength of the Women of Color Task Force and the perseverance of the Women Empowered Against Violence Everywhere Task Force. Their relentless commitment and vision for justice inspire us to never give up.

Our successes this past year are due to the talent and creativity of the DCADV staff, the dedication of the Board of Directors, the commitment of our member organizations, and the generosity of individuals, corporations and the community.

Thank you for your partnership, collaboration and support! We continue forward with the knowledge that together we will end domestic violence.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Ryan'.

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ABOUT DCADV

Our Vision

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence envisions a First State where safe, healthy, equitable relationships, families and communities thrive.

Our Mission Statement

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide, nonprofit organization and coalition of organizations, groups and individuals that strive to promote conditions that prevent and eliminate domestic violence by educating its members and community partners; providing informational resources to the community; and advocating as a strong, unified voice for victims/survivors of domestic violence, children who are affected, domestic violence programs and victim service providers.

Our Member Organizations

Member Organizations provide direct services to adult and child victims of domestic violence through hotlines, community advocacy, shelters, visitation centers, legal services, therapeutic programs, as well as offering treatment programs for offenders. They support the mission, goals, and philosophy of DCADV and work with DCADV to create an environment in which those victimized by domestic violence become empowered. Representatives from our member organizations serve on our Board of Directors.



Our Task Forces

WEAVER: Women Empowered Against Violence in Every Relationship

WEAVER is a domestic violence survivors' task force whose members meet monthly to develop strategies to educate the general public, criminal justice officials, government officials, service providers, advocates and other professionals about domestic violence from the survivors' perspective. WEAVER members were very active during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. They set up book displays in libraries, held a presentation at the Bear library called "What Does Love Got to Do With It", and staffed a resource table. One member co-presented with DCADV staff at a workplace training at Bank of America.

Women of Color Task Force

Members of the Women of Color Task Force meet monthly regarding the outreach and delivery of domestic violence services to communities of color, with a commitment to end domestic violence in communities of color. The task force also strives to increase public awareness of domestic violence through support, education and training. WOCTF Members worked diligently throughout the fiscal year planning and preparing for a conference on teen healthy relationships. The conference, entitled "Bridging the Gap Between Generations on Domestic Violence", was held in November 2017.

2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR FINANCIALS

INCOME

Grants - **\$732,517** (81.5%)
Contributions - **\$86,206** (9.6%)
Conference Fees/Trainings - **\$55,235** (6.2%)
Special Events - **\$15,132** (1.7%)
Membership - **\$7,695** (0.8%)
Miscellaneous Income - **\$1,888** (0.2%)

EXPENSES

Program Expenses - **\$765,886** (89%)
General Administration - **\$97,350** (11%)

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

As a Coalition, our mission includes listening, learning, and then responding based on the needs of survivors and those of the domestic violence community. We have been fortunate enough to work with extraordinary partners, who have informed our collaborative work.

Throughout the years, our advocacy and policy efforts have focused on core service areas. This year we have identified system needs:

- Being **victim focused when considering safety**. Delaware continues to plan for a Multidiscipline High Risk Team with the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council.
- Holding **offenders accountable and keeping children safe** when domestic violence is present with children. Delaware will be working with *Safe & Together* to explore how we can improve family outcomes when they become involved with the Division of Family Services.
- Expanding **access to Legal Advocacy Services** post PFA. Delaware's 2016 Annual Census once again identified Legal Services as an unmet need. Coalition member CLASI was successful in receiving an OVW LAV grant. Partners are exploring future opportunities to expand services for custody, visitation, and support.
- Improving the **criminal justice system's response** by examining attitudes, practices, resources, and knowledge. Delaware's rates of prosecution of domestic violence offenders remains low which jeopardizes victims' safety. An analysis of the full system was initiated by the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council. DCADV will continue to work with partners as we develop system improvements.

Over this past year, our work has seen **change in a variety of settings**, including state and federal leadership. We have remained vigilant in these transitions to provide advocacy and technical assistance;



and we have welcomed new partners with plans for future collaborations. But a good bit of our attention this year was focused on the potential budget cuts. In the end, member organizations saw between 10-20% cuts to their program budgets. Our voice will need to remain strong as we inform our elected officials about the impact in the coming year.

Looking ahead, we expect to continue to work on **criminal justice reform efforts**, including amending the criminal code, the effect of Police Body-Worn Cameras on victims, the expansion of trauma-informed approaches, and improving the response to victims of human trafficking.

This past year also saw a **change within DCADV's Policy Team**. In May, the Coalition hired Marcey Rezac, LCSW, DVS as our new Policy

Specialist. DCADV will surely benefit from her experience working in DV programs, but Marcey is also a former Board Member committed to coalition building. She has already begun to explore opportunities for expansion in two key systems.

We have embarked on an **innovative healthcare project** to expand how domestic violence services are provided and funded in Delaware. Tapping into current statewide healthcare reform initiatives, we plan to create domestic violence-specific Community Health Workers and revolutionize how services are delivered, reaching many more victims in the community while influencing healthcare system response.

The **expansion of our policy team** has allowed DCADV to weigh in on affordable housing and homelessness policy. In partnership with the state's Continuum of Care, DCADV will work to improve efforts to address homelessness, while assuring that privacy and safety protections are in place for survivors.



PUBLIC AWARENESS

2016 Purple Ribbon Event

Our annual public awareness and fundraising event is held every October during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year, on October 13, we gathered in Newark to celebrate and network with advocates and supporters, present awards, and enjoy a musical performance by the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware, a non-profit community chorus representing the LGBTQA community in Delaware.

Two outstanding individuals in our community were honored: Senator Karen Peterson with the Vision of Peace Award, given in recognition of leadership, contributions and sustained commitment to ending domestic violence against women; and Carmen Mendez with the Spirit of Advocacy Award, given for outstanding work with and on behalf of victims of domestic violence. Both of these awardees have gone above and beyond in their commitment to serving victims and survivors.

More than \$30,000 was raised from corporate sponsors, board members, members and guests.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2016

October was filled with special awareness events hosted by partners, a proclamation signing by then Governor Jack Markell, presentations to groups and workplaces, library displays, and media outreach.



TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

Conferences

DCADV hosted the 19th Advocates' Retreat and Conference, "Leading with HEART: Hope, Empowerment, Accountability, Respect, Togetherness." Over 100 advocates joined us for this two-day conference to discuss current trends in advocacy, policy, prevention, and direct service provision. Workshops covered topics such as self-care/burnout, creating safe, stable, and nurturing communities, victims' compensation, and stalking.

DVS Certification

For more than 15 years, DCADV has recognized individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence and best practices in domestic violence services. In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on the importance of prevention practices, in addition to intervention services. To reflect the changing landscape of the domestic violence field, we have expanded the DVS Certification Program to recognize those improving conditions and eliminating domestic/intimate partner violence at all levels. There are



Delaware Certified Domestic Violence Specialists at the 2017 Advocates' Retreat & Conference

now three tracks for individuals to become Delaware Certified Domestic Violence Specialists: Direct Service/Systems Advocacy, Prevention, and Dual Certification. As a result of these changes and a "grandparenting" period instituted to expedite the application process, 30 new DVS were certified, bringing our total number of certified DVS to 44.

19 Resource/
Information Events

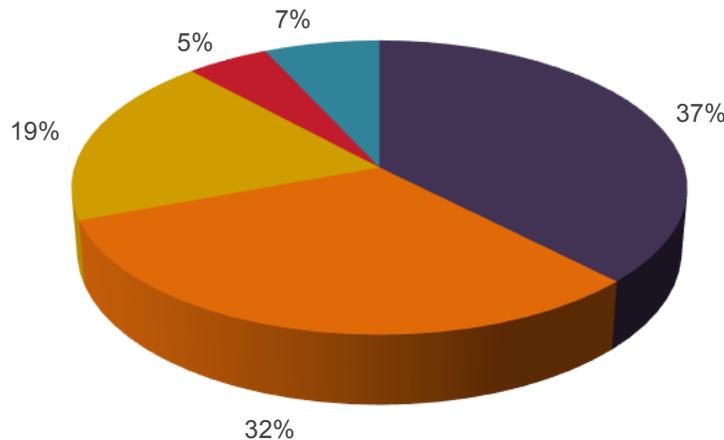
2,220 Individuals
Reached

97 Training Events

3,749 Individuals
Reached

TRAINING, OUTREACH & PREVENTION

Our Training, Outreach, and Prevention team developed and delivered training events, group presentations, webinars, and other outreach activities, which impacted tens of thousands of Delawareans, including victims and survivors, and the advocates and providers who serve them.



- Prevention & Social Justice
- Understanding Trauma/Trauma-Informed Services
- Systems Advocacy
- Intimate Partner Violence & Health
- Economic Empowerment

Prevention & Social Justice

- Health Equity
- Anti-Oppression
- Healthy Relationships
- Social Determinants of Health
- Gender Norms
- Teens
- Violence Prevention
- Risk & Protective Factors
- Evaluation
- Engaging Men and Boys

Understanding Trauma/Trauma-Informed Services

- Trauma & The Brain
- Secondary Trauma
- Sanctuary Model
- Children Exposed to DV
- Toxic Stress
- Mental Health & Substance Abuse
- Trauma-Informed Settings
- Trauma-Informed Policies & Practices
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Trauma-Informed Systems

Systems Advocacy

- Child Welfare
- Custody & Visitation
- Civil & Criminal Justice Systems
- Policy
- Legislative Advocacy
- Housing
- Social Services
- Coordinated Community Response

Intimate Partner Violence & Health

- Health Impact of DV
- Reproductive Health & Coercion
- The Role of Health Care Systems & Settings
- Trauma-Informed Screening & Response
- Health Disparities/Health Inequity

Economic Empowerment

- Financial Abuse
- Financial Literacy
- Financial Planning Resources & Supports



Delaware MEN partners with DCADV staff

Transforming Trauma

Traumatic experiences and chronic adversity are a reality for many of us –adults, children, families, and surrounding communities. Trauma can impact our brain and therefore, our learning and behavior. In Spring 2017, DCADV’s Training, Outreach, and Prevention team collaborated with Christina School District to present a three-part training series on trauma/adversity to building-level administrators across the district. The series, *“Taking ‘Collective Care’: Understanding Trauma and Finding Realistic Ways to Help Ourselves, Our Students and Our Schools Build Resilience,”* was designed for participants to examine trauma at the individual, organizational, and community levels, with the goal of collaboratively identifying simple and realistic strategies to help recognize and respond to the impact of trauma by taking “collective care” of ourselves no matter our role (student, teacher, administrator, parent, coworker). By working across our roles, participants discovered how to use their individual strengths and collective power to reduce re-traumatization and create safe, healing and resilient environments for all.

THRIVE Collaborative Learning Series: Connect, Converse, Create Change

In support of Delaware's efforts to become more trauma-informed, DCADV hosted an exciting series of collaborative learning sessions in early 2017.

“What Makes an ACE?”: Our first event in the series consisted of a panel and roundtable discussion to contemplate the effects of adverse childhood experiences, moving beyond focusing solely on individuals to examining the broader structures and conditions that give breeding ground to childhood trauma and adversity. DCADV was joined by community leaders working in substance abuse/mental health, criminal justice reform, trauma-informed care, and violence prevention to identify steps individuals and organizations can take to not only support healing and trauma-informed care, but also opportunities to help disrupt and dismantle systems, policies and conditions that allow ACEs to occur in the first place.

Engaging & Supporting Parents and Caregivers Affected by Domestic Violence: Local domestic violence advocates joined with the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health for a webinar focused on practical guidance to support and engage parents and caregivers' with individual trauma and the broader context of their lived experiences.

Liberated Parenting Strategies: For the final session in the series, DCADV hosted a webinar presented by Trina Greene-Brown, founder of *Parenting for Liberation*. Trina shared her personal journey as a mother parenting for liberation in the context of her work as a black feminist in the violence against women movement, helping us think about the role our advocacy and organizations play in disrupting and dismantling oppression. This discussion helped participants explore parenting strategies grounded in domestic violence prevention that both promote healthy gender norms and self-concepts, while reconciling the challenges children with marginalized identities face in safely navigating the world.

Delaware Men's Education Network (MEN) is a statewide network of campus, military and community-based partners working to engage men in sexual and domestic violence prevention by promoting healthy masculinity, healthy relationships and changing the norms in our society that allow violence to occur.

This year Delaware MEN welcomed two new partners, **Shue-Medill Middle School** and the **Youth Empowerment Program**. Delaware MEN partners also include **CAMP Rehoboth**, **Delaware National Guard**, **Delaware State University**, **Dover Air Force Base**, **One Village Alliance**, **University of Delaware** and **Wilmington University**.

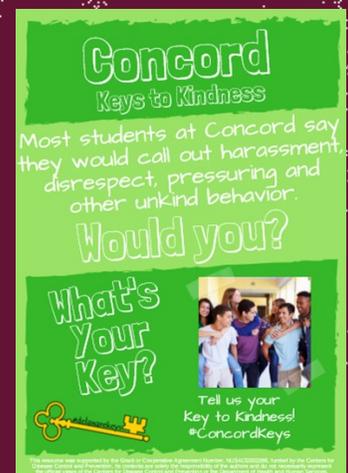
A noteworthy highlight for Delaware MEN was the hosting of the 2017 Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Proclamation at Shue-Medill Middle School. This was a significant event as it was the first time the proclamation was signed off-site and the first time that middle school aged youth were recognized and engaged in the proclamation, which was signed by Governor John Carney. Student clubs at Shue-Medill worked in collaboration with school leadership to prepare for the event and engaged in their own proclamation of a student-adapted Healthy Relationships Bill of Rights.



2017 Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Project PIN

As part of implementation and evaluation of DCADV's CDC-funded DELTA FOCUS project, DCADV was honored to partner with Concord High School to implement Project PIN during the 2016-2017 school year. Project PIN is a strengths-based prevention strategy consisting of a two-part program that uses audience-interactive bystander scenario performances to collect locally-specific data to use to create effective, community relevant messaging to promote positive social norms around bystander engagement. Student leaders at Concord, supported by School Wellness Center staff and Health Education teachers, worked intensively with DCADV's prevention team to collect and unpack data on their schools' norms around bystander engagement and to design and produce messaging materials aimed at fostering a safe space within their school for speaking up and speaking out against harassment. The students developed the "Concord Keys to Kindness" campaign and designed posters to display throughout the school. Lessons learned from DCADV's partnership with Concord will inform development of a Project PIN Toolkit to guide and facilitate replication of the program.



SUPPORTING MEMBERS, DONORS, AND FUNDERS

2016/2017 Fiscal Year



Your Support Means So Much! All of the activities described in this Annual Report were made possible by the generosity and investment in our communities and state by the following individuals, organizations, and agencies. If you'd like to contribute or fundraise on our behalf, please visit our website or call us at 302-658-2958.

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State of Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Families
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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Family Violence Prevention and Services Act State Coalition Grant
U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women State Coalition Grant

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