Advancing the Movement in

Partnership



# DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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Special thanks to Kirstin Cornnell whose term ended during the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

### **DCADV Staff**

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Special thanks to former staff members Amy Hopkins, Dorothy Letterlough, and Zainab Shaw who contributed to the work featured in the annual report.

### Message from our Executive Director, Sue Ryan

#### Dear Friends,

The 2019 year has been a memorable one. DCADV celebrated its 25 year anniversary as Delaware's domestic violence coalition. It is an acknowledgement not just of the history of the agency but also of its future moving forward. The driving force then and now is collaboration.

We are building upon the strengths of our partnerships to develop the Domestic Violence Community Health Advocates project to offer both safety and health supports to victims of intimate partner violence. We are working with community partners to create Advocates Privilege to preserve victims' confidentiality and foster their safety.

DCADV works with member programs and system partners to engage in prevention efforts that focus on school wellness centers, financial empowerment and coaching boys into men.

DCADV continues to offer training for service providers and advocates to build capacity and to share best practices. The Domestic Violence Specialist program continues to grow, welcoming newly certified advocates and building a mentoring community.

All of this work is anchored in our shared commitment to end and prevent domestic violence. We build upon our past and move with hope toward the future. Throughout, we remain grateful to our partners, member programs, staff, board, and supporters. Thank you for your generous support and partnership.

Peace,





DELAWARE COALITION Against Domestic Violence



DCADV Staff at 2019 Purple Ribbon Event

### **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 Agencies**

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.







The Women of Color Task Force meets regularly to discuss and develop strategies regarding outreach and delivery of domestic violence services to communities of color. The WOCTF strives to increase public awareness of domestic violence through support, education, and training. In April 2019, the Women of Color Task Force hosted "Stop the Madness! A Workshop on Domestic Violence and the Impact of the Courageous Bystander." Read more about it in the Training & Outreach section of the report. DCADV is so grateful to the WOCTF for their leadership, collaboration, and hard work!





eliminating racism empowering women **YWCA** 

### Women Empowered Against Violence in Every Relationship (WEAVER)

WEAVER is a DCADV task force of survivors of intimate partner violence. Through the years the task force has changed and evolved to meet the needs of the group, but the intention remains unchanged. To use one's story to inspire change and good is at the core of why members remain committed to working with the Coalition and member programs. Members over this past year have participated in public awareness events, distributed resource materials to barber and beauty salons, advocated for state funding, and participated in DCADV trainings. DCADV is deeply grateful for the efforts of WEAVER members and their ability to create change by sharing their perspective. If you are or know a survivor of IPV who is interested in raising awareness, improving systems, and expanding services for victims of intimate partner violence, consider WEAVER as an option for advocacy and telling your story.

### 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Financials

### Income

Grants - **\$796,895** (46.8%) Contributions - **\$833,970** (48.9%) Conference Fees/Trainings - **\$41,169** (2.4%) Special Events - **\$16,521** (0.9%) Other - **\$15,393** (0.9%)

### **Expenses**

Program Expenses - **\$865,496** (88.5%) General Administration - **\$112,294** (11.5%)

## **Advocacy & Policy**

The 25th year of the Coalition was a momentous year, including the progress made within the state and nationally to prevent and eliminate domestic violence. As a movement, we continuously seek ways to broaden our reach and build new partnerships. Over the year, our Policy Team led system change efforts to address concerns raised by survivors. Our advocacy focused primarily on matters within Family Court, Housing, Healthcare, Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, and Family Visitation. DCADV also actively promoted victim centered policies at Legislative Hall in Dover, and on Capitol Hill in D.C.

Sharing information on what victims need and want is our main strategy, but our ability to regularly advise leaders and community partners on evidence-based best practices and the movement's lessons learned has been invaluable. Our Policy Team and Member Organizations met with many of the members of the 150th General Assembly to educate them about the significant issues survivors and their families face. In addition to securing needed financial support for services in the state budget, DCADV advocated for the passage of HB 1 DE's Equal Rights Amendment, provided input on a variety of criminal justice reform bills to ensure that victim safety remained in focus, and drew attention to the needs of under-served teen victims.

A top policy priority for DCADV is establishing victim confidentiality and advocate privilege within Delaware law. Although federal statutes require advocates to maintain victim confidentiality, Delaware's code is silent, creating a potential loophole. HB 215 seeks to close that by providing victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, caregiver abuse, human trafficking, or stalking with clear confidentiality protections when working with community based or college campus victim advocates. HB 215 was introduced in June 2019, and will be worked this coming session.

Survivors continue to identify affordable, safe housing as one of their greatest priorities, and it has been a major focus of DCADV's efforts this year. While this year has seen exciting growth in local programs' access to federal housing funds, survivors' needs continue to outpace available resources. DCADV's policy team has worked to expand key partnerships and collaborations within the state, to strengthen member programs' capacity to access housing resources, and to assure that state housing policies address the specific safety needs of survivors. Our focus on increasing access to safe, affordable housing will continue as will our advocacy to ensure that the housing protections established in the Violence Against Women Act and the Fair Housing Act are implemented effectively.

Throughout the year, the Policy Team worked with members and system partners to identify ways to overcome the many barriers victims experience as they seek safety. By raising awareness, sharing survivors' stories, and building partnerships, we know that we can build a better future for all Delawareans.



ERA Vote in the Senate



Financial Empowerment and Advocacy is the focus of our NNEDV and Allstate Partnership



Advocating for survivors on the Hill with sister Coalitions



Mariann Kenville Moore testifying in the Senate in support of the ERA



February is Teen Dating Violence Prevention Month and we are joined by Governor Carney to raise awareness

## DV & Health

This past year, DCADV helped launched the Domestic Violence – Community Health Worker (CHW) Collaborative Project. Our goal is to create an integrated response to domestic violence and health in Delaware. Through the generous support of the Longwood and Welfare Foundations, Christiana Care Health Systems, and other grants, DCADV secured funds to create a Domestic Violence – Community Health Program Manager to oversee the project, and to pilot a new service within CHILD, Inc. which focuses on improving the safety and health outcomes of survivors in the community. Implementation began in September, and by February CHILD, Inc.'s three DV-CHWs began receiving referrals. Year one of the project has focused on building collaborations and partnerships. Other partners include Westside Family Health, the University of Delaware, the Office of Lt. Governor Hall-Long, and the Division of Public Health.

This community based service, seeks to meet survivors where they are, connecting with them where they feel safe and comfortable, and engaging them in care coordination, counseling and supportive services, and education and empowerment. The project's Health Access Fund gives the Advocates the ability to use flexible funds to meet the immediate and varying needs of survivors. These flex funds have been used to prevent eviction, assist with transportation, support healthcare utilization, and secure food, clothing and other basic needs.

Over 100 healthcare providers and staff have been trained thus far, and we continue to have success in engaging professionals across sectors as we examine ways to better address domestic violence as a health issue. In the coming year, we will be offering addition trainings targeted to doctors and nurses with free credits (CNE and CME) for attendance. DCADV is excited about continuing the work in Year 2 of the project, which will focus on strengthening the referral pathway from healthcare professionals, data-to-action evaluation, and policy and sustainability work.



### **Training & Outreach**

#### **CONFERENCES**

On May 6-7, 2019, 140 domestic violence advocates, service providers, and survivors gathered in Rehoboth Beach, DE, for DCADV's 21st Advocates' Retreat and Conference. This year's theme, "Balancing Healing and Justice: Restoring Ourselves and Our Community," reflected the value and need to sustain our domestic violence advocacy community. As advocates and service providers, we give so much of ourselves to the cause, both personally and professionally; it's important to balance our knowledge and skills with opportunities to reflect and recharge. Conference attendees participated in a variety of workshops to gain tools and insights to their work, all while connecting with fellow advocates and enjoying the salt air. Workshops addressed issues like economic justice and financial literacy; advocacy for survivors through the criminal and civil justice system; building effective collaborations and partnerships; and secondary traumatic stress.

DCADV hosted two sessions of our signature Domestic Violence 101 training. DV101 is a two-day training designed to provide a multidisciplinary audience with an overview of the dynamics and prevalence of domestic violence, and teaches participants effective advocacy skills that support safety and empowerment across systems. Over 100 people participated in DV101 over the past year.

In September 2018, DCADV partnered with the LGBTQ+ Victim Services Subcommittee of the Delaware Victims' Rights Task Force, to present "Serving LGBTQ+ Survivors of Domestic Violence: Moving Beyond the Binary." This one-day conference brought together advocates and service providers to learn more about some of the unique considerations in providing services to victims/survivors who identify as LGBTQ+. Sarah McBride, National Press Secretary of the Human Rights Campaign and native Delawarean, presented an informative and heartfelt keynote. Other presenters included Mark Purpura, Esq., of Equality Delaware Foundation and Batya Hyman, PhD, MSW, of the Salisbury University School of Social Work.

In April 2019, the Women of Color Task Force hosted "Stop the Madness! A Workshop on Domestic Violence and the Impact of the Courageous Bystander." This half-day workshop discussed the importance of bystander intervention and explored how we can all work together to prevent and eliminate domestic violence. During the event, Carley Canada-Banks was recognized for her outstanding work as an advocate for domestic violence survivors. There was also a featured dance presentation by Pieces of a Dream, Inc., Delaware's only professional modern dance company, that showcased an original work on the societal issue of domestic violence.

### **DVS CERTIFICATION**

Delaware's Certified Domestic Violence Specialists (DVS) continue to lead the DV advocacy community with a commitment to excellence and best practices. Over FY 18/19, two new DVS were certified, and 28 were recertified, bringing our total number of certified specialists to 41.

### TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- In collaboration with the Division of Public Health, DCADV presented a three-part training series "Taking Collective Care: Understanding Trauma and Finding Realistic Ways to Help Ourselves, Our Clients, and Our Organizations Build Resilience." During the series, participants gained knowledge and skills to become more trauma-informed in service provision to clients, as well as in their interactions with coworkers/colleagues.
- Through the DV-Community Health Worker Project, DCADV provided training to project partners at Christiana Care and Westside Family Health Care. DCADV also provided continued training to CHILD, Inc.'s Community Health Advocates to further develop and strengthen the program and partnerships.
- There is a strong and complex connection between domestic violence and trauma for individuals with mental health/substance use disorders. DCADV collaborated with the Mental Health Association in Delaware to offer professional development training to certified peer specialists across the state to increase their skills and knowledge of resources for consumers affected by domestic violence and trauma.
- As part of a continuing effort to develop and enhance the skills and knowledge of the domestic violence workforce, DCADV
  has partnered with the Training Subcommittee of the Domestic Violence Task Force to host a bimonthly Community of
  Practice. These sessions are opportunities for shared learning and focused discussion about emerging issues and
  challenges in the field of DV advocacy and services.



### **Prevention & Community Collaboration**

#### Partnering for Prevention

Over the past year, partnerships have been central to DCADV's initiatives to improve critical determinates of health in several priority areas: *Creating safe and supportive schools; Challenging beliefs and attitudes that contribute to violence; and, Improving economic opportunities through economic justice and financial empowerment.* Much of this work is supported and facilitated by DCADV's Prevention State Leadership Team, comprised of dedicated members from Delaware's domestic violence and sexual violence agencies, organizations and task forces. This past May, the State Leadership Team collaboratively developed a comprehensive state plan, entitled: *Safety and Well-Being for Delaware's Communities: A State Action Plan for Prevention of Domestic & Sexual Violence.* This plan serves as a blueprint for building and sustaining comprehensive domestic and sexual violence prevention efforts over the next five years.





### Trauma Matters Delaware

Last fall, DCADV was pleased to host a partnership round table to celebrate DCADV's new prevention initiatives and facilitate discussion with Rep. Lisa Blunt-Rochester about the work, current challenges and successes and what is needed to sustain and grow critical prevention efforts. DCADV is energized and hopeful about opportunities, initiatives and collaborations and looks forward to continued partnerships aimed at creating conditions in Delaware where safe, healthy, equitable relationships, families and communities thrive.

#### **Domestic Violence Task Force**

DCADV has been pleased to support the rejuvenation of the Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF). Through strategic planning and focused efforts, DVTF has significantly increased membership and active participation, enabling a more coordinated community response. DVTF now has a robust subcommittee structure, including dedicated work on prevention & social justice, training development, and access to housing resources and protections.

The efforts of Trauma Matters Delaware, with contributions by DCADV, have helped advance the goal of increasing understanding and awareness of the impact of trauma, and with the support of Governor Carney and Executive Order #24 we are making progress in transforming Delaware to becoming a trauma informed state.

#### Wilmington Community Advisory Council

The Coalition addresses IPV both upstream and downstream, and when able works to maximize the collective impact by partnering with like-minded groups such as the Wilmington Community Advisory Council where policy and prevention priorities intersect.

#### DCADV helps create a new Sexual Assault Coalition

DCADV participated in the Sexual Assault Network of Delaware (SAND) strategic planning process and has been a community partner in creating a new Sexual Assault Coalition in Delaware. The strategic planning involved all of SAND's member programs and involved months of meetings. DCADV was one of the agencies that provided funding to retain a facilitator for the planning process and DCADV played a key role in the ad-hoc committee that helped foster the new coalition. The result of the strategic planning is the creation of a new non-profit organization: the Delaware Alliance Against Sexual Violence (DAASV). DCADV continues to offer support and technical assistance as the new agency develops. DCADV is thrilled to be part of the creation of this new Sexual Assault Coalition in Delaware!

### DCADV is Partnering with Nanticoke Tribal Association

DCADV is working collaboratively with Chief Carmine and the Nanticoke Tribal Association to offer resources to victims of domestic violence. DCADV's Policy Coordinator, Marcey Rezac, based in Sussex County, is partnering with Chief Carmine and the Tribal Council to empower tribal advocates to become Resource Guides. Nanticoke Resource Guides will be members of the Nanticoke tribe who can serve as a resource for anyone in the Nanticoke tribal community who may be a victim of domestic violence. The Nanticoke Resource Guides will be able to share information about available services and supports. The goal is to help anyone who may be a victim of domestic violence have access to fellow Nanticoke community members who have information about available resources. Resource Guides will be able to provide culturally responsive support and linkages to community resources for domestic violence victims.

# **Supporting Members, Donors, & Funders**

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. **THANK YOU!** 

### Supporting Members (\$250+)

Sue Bailor Carol Post Linda Wheeler William Wightman III Christine Williams Jeanette Clausen & Alfred Teusher

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### **Corporate/Foundations**

Arsht Cannon Fund Christiana Care Health Systems, Inc. The Allstate Foundation

### In Honorarium

In honor of Laura Beth Connell Craig Nicholson In honor of Jennifer Fertig Michael & Nancy Konsavich In honor of Stacy Falcone Murphy Amber Murphy In honor of Rachel Roberts Linda Barry Mike Dobies Susan Klinefelter Valerie Landon Brenda & Louis Menago

### **Purple Ribbon Sponsors**

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### **Member Organizations**

CHILD, Inc. Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. Delaware Center for Justice People's Place II, Inc. YWCA Delaware

### Government

Delaware Criminal Justice Council State of Delaware Division of Public Health U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control -DELTA FOCUS & DELTA Impact Grants U.S. Department of Heath and Human Services Family Violence Prevention and Services Act - State Coalition Grant U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women - State Coalition Grant

We are proud to receive donations through United Way of Delaware, Delaware State Employees' Charitable Campaign and Combined Federal Campaign, as well as several employee giving programs.