



## DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Breaking the cycle of violence.

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### **The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence Celebrates 25 Year Anniversary**

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE—

In October, DCADV will be celebrating the organization's 25th anniversary! This year's Purple Ribbon Event (PRE) will be held on October 3rd and it will be an acknowledgement of the agency's history and ongoing commitment to end and prevent domestic violence. We will be recognizing DCADV's founding Executive Director Carol Post. Carol retired just a few years ago, but her legacy lives on.

"We are thrilled to come together: supporting members, community partners, advocates and friends – to celebrate Carol, the anniversary and our shared commitment," says Sue Ryan, Executive Director.

The event will be held at the Newark Executive Banquet & Conference Center and tickets can be purchased at [www.dcadv.org/PRE](http://www.dcadv.org/PRE).

2019 also marks the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). This landmark law, passed in 1994, has transformed our nation's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Every five years, the United States has the opportunity to build upon VAWA's successes and evolve to meet survivors' changing needs through reauthorization. Though the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R.1585, a bipartisan VAWA reauthorization bill with key improvements in April 2019, the Senate has not yet passed a companion bill. NNEDV joins its national partners in urging the Senate to pass VAWA 2019 to ensure survivors have access to lifesaving protections and services.

"VAWA helped bring violence out of the shadows and into the national spotlight," said Cindy Southworth, NNEDV Interim CEO and Executive Vice President. "VAWA's passage 25 years ago is due to the tireless advocacy of survivors, advocates, and state coalitions who saw an urgent need for change."

The final VAWA 2019 reauthorization should reflect the provisions in H.R. 1585, which safeguard current protections to ensure all survivors have access to safety and justice. This includes ending impunity for non-Native perpetrators of violence against Native women and children; improving housing protections and providing safe housing options so that survivors do not have to choose between safety and homelessness; increasing investment in domestic and sexual violence prevention; promoting economic security for survivors; increasing avenues for justice; and supporting efforts to reduce domestic violence homicides.

“The improvements proposed in VAWA 2019, especially those that will reach survivors who are most marginalized, are long overdue,” said Monica McLaughlin, NNEDV Public Policy Director. “Today, survivors and advocates share the urgency and impatience of those who first rallied to create a national response to end domestic and sexual violence. Our movement urges Congress to swiftly reauthorize and invest in VAWA.”

### **About Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV) is a statewide, non-profit organization with a membership including domestic violence agencies and programs providing shelter and direct services to adult victims of domestic violence, allied organizations, and caring individuals. Since its founding in 1994, DCADV has engaged in a variety of activities, including public education efforts, training and prevention initiatives, and systems advocacy. DCADV works closely with the criminal justice, health care, education, advocacy and social service communities to facilitate the creation of effective policies and programs for battered women and their children. In all of these efforts, DCADV is a crucial voice for domestic violence victims and their families. More information can be found on their website at [www.dcadv.org](http://www.dcadv.org). They can be reached at 302-658-2958.

### **About National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)**

NNEDV is the leading voice for domestic violence victims and their advocates. As a membership and advocacy organization of state domestic violence coalitions, allied organizations and supportive individuals, NNEDV works closely with its members to understand the ongoing and emerging needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. Then NNEDV makes sure those needs are heard and understood by policymakers at the national level. More information can be found on their website at [www.nnedv.org](http://www.nnedv.org).

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For media only:

The following individuals are available for interviews:

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