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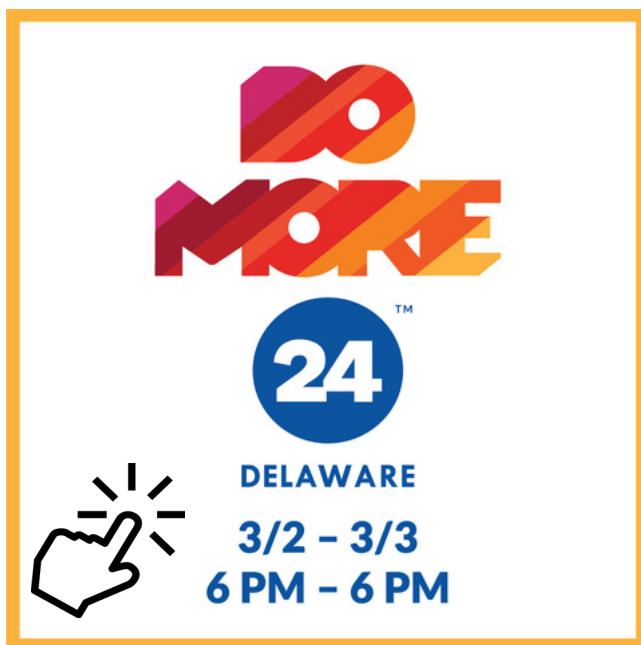
# DCADV

**MARCH 2023**  
Newsletter

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It's almost here! –  
[DOMORE24DE](#) starts at  
**6 p.m. Thursday!** Every  
donation during these 24  
hours will support the  
work of the task forces.

**Get ready to give!**



“ As a survivor of DV, I now know that people do care and that there is help. Years ago, when faced with a life-threatening situation, I wasn't aware of the help that is available. Because I am grateful/thankful that someone helped me, I now commit myself to helping others. It's my passion to spread awareness as well as speak up about DV.

Thank you for saving me and my children!



“ I will use my strength as a survivor to reach back and raise up women who are still struggling to break the chains of abuse.

# A Note from Sue



Dear Friends and Advocates:

As we approach spring, I want to highlight the consistent commitment and hard work of our Member Programs: People's Place, YWCA DE, Community Legal Aid Society, Inc., CHILD, Inc., and the Delaware Center for Justice. Every day these agencies engage in trauma-informed services, responding to and advocating for victims of domestic violence. DCADV is deeply grateful for their resilience and generosity of spirit.

## **DCADV is...**

**Planning** for an April DV101 two-day training and the May Advocates' Retreat and Conference. The May conference will be our in-person conference since 2019. We are excited to network and support the work of advocates, programs, and partners from across the state.

**Advocating** for additional state funding for domestic violence services. In collaboration with member programs, DCADV provides testimony at the Joint Finance Committee hearings, highlighting the importance of domestic violence services and the critical need for increased funding for these services.

**Collaborating** with community partners and advocacy agencies to raise awareness about pending legislation and the impact of the legislation on protecting the rights of victims in the workplace and in housing.

**Continuing** efforts with INVEST DE, a program that supports efforts to increase economic security for victims of violence. In April and May, DCADV will be engaging in financial empowerment training. DCADV staff will also be presenting on the intersection of economic security and the prevention of domestic violence at the Economic Justice Summit in D.C., hosted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence.

**Continuing** work on implementing our Racial Equity Plan. We recently contracted with Healing Equity United, a project of Centering the Margins, to gather input from the Women of Color and the Women Empowered Against Violence in Every Relationship task forces on ways in which DCADV can prioritize racial equity in our work. DCADV recognizes that working toward racial equity is essential in our efforts to end and prevent domestic violence.

We are able to engage in all of this work because of the commitment and dedication of the Board and staff. We are so thankful for the generosity and support of our funders and individual members and donors. Thank you for your ongoing support and your shared commitment to end and prevent domestic violence.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Ryan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue background.

Sue Ryan  
Executive Director

# Advocacy & Policy Update

The Coalition has renewed our policy advocacy with the [152nd Delaware General Assembly](#). There are a number of new legislators, and policy staff members have been working since last November to introduce our work and raise awareness of the needs of victims.

DCADV will be prioritizing our policy work to ensure that our efforts are focused and clear. To learn more about our priorities visit the [DCADV Advocacy Page](#). Our top priority continues to be ensuring that core domestic violence services (shelter, hotline, legal support, counseling, advocacy) are maintained, and that funding increases to support rising costs and needs. Our advocacy will be focused on the [GA Joint Finance Committee](#). Speaking of which, it's not too late to contact members and ask for their support to increase domestic violence service lines.

We plan to participate in local advocacy days this spring. Please mark your calendar for April 26, 2023, as a Crime Victims' Rights Week Advocacy day for all victims of crime. DCADV is also planning a legislative advocacy day on May 17, 2023, with a focus on our economic justice work which is integral for prevention.



**Legislative Alert**  
DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



**You are not alone.**

If you or someone you know is in a dangerous or unhealthy relationship, local domestic violence advocates are available to help **24/7** by phone.

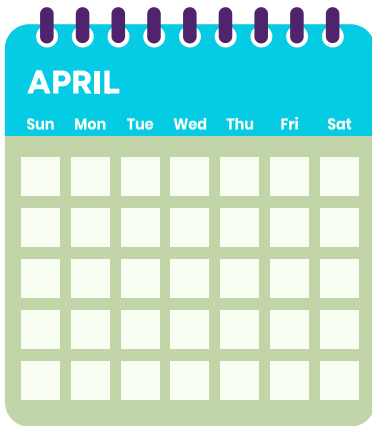
**We're here to help.**

**Domestic Violence Hotlines**  
New Castle County: 302-762-6110  
Kent & Sussex Counties: 302-422-8058  
or en español 302-745-9874

[DCADV.org](http://DCADV.org)

For more information, visit the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence at DCADV.org. This program is funded through the Delaware Crime Victim Service Council by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime.

# Training Update



## DV 101

DCADV is excited to host an in-person Domestic Violence 101 training this April! DV101 provides an overview of the dynamics and prevalence of domestic violence and teaches participants effective advocacy skills that support safety and empowerment across systems. This training is ideal for folks who are newer to the field of domestic violence services.

**April 5-6, 2023 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Dover, DE**

[Register Here](#)

# 2023

DCADV's 22nd Advocates' Retreat & Conference

## ENVISIONING PEACE

Expanding Access and Equity

**The Advocates' Retreat and Conference  
is heading back to Rehoboth Beach  
on May 1-2, 2023!**

For more information about workshops, registration, and exhibit/sponsor opportunities, visit [www.dcadv.org/retreat](http://www.dcadv.org/retreat).

# FREE four-part series



Creating a money plan can be tricky, but experts are available to help! Join the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence for a **FREE** four-part workshop at the Milford Public Library.

We'll talk about how credit scores work, making a budget & sticking to it, working with banks, building financial stability, and creating healthy relationships with money. Note: Attendance is capped at 50.

[Learn more and sign up!](#)

When?

Four-part series, each Monday in April  
11 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Where?

Milford Public Library  
11 S E Front St.  
Milford, DE 19963



It's FREE!



Bus passes may be available upon request. Please email [prevention@dcadv.org](mailto:prevention@dcadv.org) for more information.

# Meet DCADV's staff members!

**Erin Ridout, MSW, MPH** is the Domestic Violence and Community Health Program Manager for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV). In this position, Erin collaborates with community partners to address domestic violence as a public health issue, manages an integrated, community-based service delivery model, and engages in policy advocacy around Community Health Worker sustainability. Erin is a social worker by training who has worked with children and families around issues of abuse and neglect at the state and local government levels, often collaborating across disciplines to work towards a cohesive multi-disciplinary response. Additionally, Erin has worked in direct service in the fields of domestic violence and counseling.

Erin earned her Master's degree in Social Work from UNC Chapel Hill in North Carolina and her undergraduate degree in Women's Studies from the University of Mary Washington in Virginia. Recently, Erin completed her Master's of Public Health degree from the University of Delaware, focusing on the policy and practice issues of health equity.

Fun Fact: Erin played rugby for ten years and can play the baritone ukulele.

Why this work is important to me: I identified as a feminist from an early age and that identity really drew me to this work initially. As I have grown in the field, the ongoing issues of equity and social justice have really framed the importance of this work for me. The overlap of oppressions and inequities with gender-based violence highlights the need for accessible and collaborative responses – it is that need that drives my work with our incredible partners.



**Courtney Winkler (she/her)** is the Training & Outreach Coordinator at DCADV. If you've attended any of DCADV's trainings or webinars, you'll recognize Courtney; she coordinates training, technical assistance, and support to member programs and community partners on domestic/intimate partner violence, trauma-informed care, prevention, and related topics. She is also the primary contact for the DCADV Domestic Violence Specialist Certification Program.

Courtney is a core faculty member for the Delaware Victim Assistance Academy (DVAA), and serves on numerous committees and task forces. While this work wasn't her initial career goal (she started as an elementary school teacher!), Courtney's passion for education, domestic/sexual violence prevention, and helping others has sustained her in this field for almost 20 years. She thrives on helping others be the best they can be, whether personally or professionally.

Outside of work, Courtney adores spending time with her nieces and nephews. She's an avid baker and enjoys sharing her homemade treats with others (which her coworkers appreciate!). Courtney also loves the beach, strolls through Longwood Gardens, and watching RuPaul's Drag Race.

# Member Agency News



Looking for an opportunity to provide direct services? DCADV's member organizations work directly with people impacted by domestic violence through hotlines, shelters, legal services, community-based advocacy, and more.

These links are posted for informational purposes. If you have questions about positions at one of these member agencies, please contact them directly.



5K Race Against Domestic Violence  
Autumn Arch Beer Project  
Sunday, May 21st.

[Learn more and sign up!](#)

Save the date for the Combined Campaign for Justice Cup on August 7, 2023 at the DuPont Country Club! This golf outing raises funds to support Delaware's three civil legal aid agencies: Community Legal Aid Society, Inc., Legal Services Corp. of Delaware, and Delaware Volunteer Legal Services. More details and registration information will be available here later this spring: <https://delawareccj.org/our-events/>.



## DCADV Staff & Interns

Ama Amponsah, Community Health Coordinator  
Nick Beard, Policy Coordinator  
Rachel Emile - DSU Intern  
Nina Jones, Administrative & Financial Assistant  
Mariann Kenville-Moore, Director of Advocacy & Policy  
Jacqueline Greenidge Nix, Director of Finance & Operations  
Brooke Ophardt, Training & Prevention Specialist  
Erin Ridout, DV & Community Health Program Manager  
Sue Ryan, Executive Director  
Shelby Statham, Prevention Policy Specialist  
Jen Uro, Communications & Fundraising Manager  
Courtney Winkler, Training & Outreach Coordinator

## Board of Directors

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Nancy Castellanos, Co-Chair  
Jayce Lesniewski, Secretary  
Kathrin Schmalzing, Treasurer  
Rene Baldrey  
David Bever  
Kim Blanch  
Michael Casson  
Blanche Creech  
Carley Davis  
Cierra Hall-Hipkins  
Dedra Handy  
April L. Lyons-Alls  
Elizabeth McCourt  
Susan Miller  
Jennifer Naccarelli  
Deianna Tyree-McDuffy

[Job opportunities at our member agencies](#)



## Member Agencies



## STAY IN CONTACT

Want to know what the Coalition is up to? Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter for the latest and greatest!



[www.dcadv.org](http://www.dcadv.org)

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