



# DCADV



**SEPTEMBER 2023**  
Newsletter

October is right around the corner which means **Purple Ribbon 2023** is getting closer!

The Purple Ribbon Celebration is DCADV's annual awareness event held each October during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Members of our community, survivors, service providers, advocates, and friends will gather to celebrate our partnership and shared work to prevent and end domestic violence.

The evening promises to be a fun night that includes a full buffet dinner (NEW this year), live music from Paul Sedacca, a basket auction filled with awesome items (items going LIVE soon), and the opportunity to hear from the award winners and visit with old friends and new ones!

Event Date/Time: Oct. 5th from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Event Location: Executive Banquet & Conference Center, Newark DE

**Please RSVP by Sept. 28th.**



[Learn more and purchase tickets!](#)

**2023 Social Change Champion**



**2023 Advocacy Champion**



# A Note from Sue



Dear Friends and Advocates,

The summer has been a busy time for DCADV and we are looking forward to a number of fall events and collaborations!

DCADV welcomed a new staff member: Joe Myers, Prevention Director. Joe is leading our prevention team and prevention collaborations with member programs and community partners. Joe is highlighted below in the newsletter.

DCADV also has a new DV – Community Health Program Manager: Monica (Nick) Beard. Nick had previously been DCADV's Policy Coordinator and brings to this new position her passionate commitment to safety and health equity. Nick is also highlighted below.

DCADV's Community Mental Health project has developed new resources that address the impact of DV on mental health. As part of the work, we will be engaging in a fall awareness campaign posting ads on buses and using radio spots in both English and Spanish to highlight how DV can have a profound impact on emotional and mental health and to share available resources and supports. This same Community Mental Health Project has also supported Delaware State University's MSW program by providing stipends for MSW interns placed at DV shelters and programs.

DCADV will also be joining Senator Gay, Senator Townsend, Representative Minor-Brown and representatives from the Victim Advocacy Community to review and update Delaware's Victim Bill of Rights.

Coming up soon in October DCADV will be hosting its annual **Purple Ribbon Event**, an opportunity to network and celebrate the dedication of DCADV's member programs and the DV Advocacy community. We will also hear from our 2023 award winners! We hope you can join us on Thursday October 5th!

In closing, I want to share DCADV's gratitude for our member programs, community partners, supporters and funders. Many thanks to all of you - our members, community partners, donors, and friends - for your continued support!

Peace,

Sue Ryan



**SUPPORT VOCA**

Lifesaving services for millions of survivors are in jeopardy. There's a **#Crisis4Victims**. Don't allow **\$700 million** to be cut from victim services.

**#VOCA**  
**#Crisis4Victims**

DCADV has an **urgent advocacy request** about the federal Victims' of Crime Act Fund, otherwise known as VOCA. We need Congress to work together to find solutions to stabilize the Victims' of Crime Fund, and need your help raising awareness to this issue.

In 2021, Senators Coons and Carper, and Representative Blunt Rochester championed efforts to pass the VOCA Fix Act, and it is working. Although grateful for their efforts, recent fees and fines collected have not replenished the Crime Victims Fund to maintain current funding levels. As a result, national advocates and the DE Criminal Justice Council project **another shortfall of VOCA grant funds by Spring 2024**.

VOCA is the largest and most crucial funding source solely focused on meeting the needs of victims of crime. Projected cuts will have significant consequences to services and supports to victims of crime in Delaware and nationally. Just 2 years ago the Delaware Joint Finance Committee averted a similar shortfall and included a one-time \$3,000,000 funding solution passed by the DE General Assembly. Those funds have offset cuts to federal grants over the past two years, but that **funding is running out**.

Currently, Congress has until **the end of September** to pass the federal budget. Victims and those impacted by violent crime deserve real solutions to stabilize the Victims' of Crime Fund. When we met with DE's delegates in June we urged them to avert the shortfall and to stabilize VOCA funding in the upcoming budget. **We join victim advocacy groups across the nation and ask that Congress include \$1.9 billion for VOCA in the FFY 24 budget.**

Please take a moment and contact our Federal Delegation to tell them how important VOCA funding is to Delaware victim services. Click [here](#) to link to our ActionNetwork page and send an email today!





## DELTA AHEAD

Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances  
Achieving Health Equity through Addressing Disparities

**Through this DELTA  
AHEAD Project, we  
hope to contribute to  
a healthier, safer  
Delaware.**



DELTA AHEAD is the latest Intimate Partner Violence Prevention grant partnership between The CDC and State Domestic Violence Coalitions across the country, including DCADV.

Starting in March of 2023, we began a five-year grant project with the hope of creating a safer Delaware through the promotion of Health Equity in order to prevent IPV. We are doing this in partnership with many other organizations, including two of our member programs: Child Inc. and People's Place.

Under DELTA AHEAD:

- Child Inc. will continue offering programming to adults, families, and youth in the Sparrow Run Community in New Castle County at their Family Resource Center and Kids Place. These programs will help build community connectedness as well as teach helpful skills and tools to help residents thrive in their communities.
- People's Place will continue it's Real Relationships curriculum, a series of healthy relationships workshops, for youth in schools and community spaces, in Kent and Sussex counties. They'll also be working to expand their Hanging Out or Hooking Up IPV health screening tool from the School Based Community Health Centers into more health networks in the community.

In order to help make a more economically just Delaware, under DELTA AHEAD:

- DCADV will be expanding its INVEST Delaware (Integrating Non-Violent Economic Strategies Throughout Delaware) project. This will connect us with business stakeholders around the state with the goal of making their workplaces more supportive of their employees, providing resources that can reduce the likelihood violence, and increase employee satisfaction and retention.
- Child Inc. is also expanding their efforts to connect their clients to state and non-profit resources. The goal of this program is to provide their clients with more support around food security, housing, or other economic supports.

# Task Forces



»» [Learn more about the task forces and sign up!](#)

Join DCADV's Women of Color Task Force on Zoom for real talk about women and money...

**Financial Wisdom for DV Survivors... and You**  
**Thursday, October 26, 6:30-7:30pm.**



Host Carolyn Morgan, LCSW, and trainer Carley Davis, MS, DVS, will provide tools to overcome or avoid financial pitfalls and financial abuse/victimization. Our panelists will share their money experiences, choices and mistakes. And, become part of the real talk during the Q&A!

Stay tuned as more information is available.

## Save the Date



### Paid Family Medical Leave & Your Workplace

We hope you'll join us for a panel discussion about paid family medical leave. Learn more about the opt-in process and how it can benefit both employers and employees!

»» More information coming soon! ««



This event is funded through the DE Division of Public Health Rape Prevention and Education Services Grant.



## Meet a DCADV staff member!

**Ama Amponsah** (pronouns she/her/hers) is the Community Health Coordinator and Trainer for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV). In this position, Ama collaborates with member programs and community partners to address and improve the public health response to domestic violence in Delaware and nationally. Ama's work has included providing trainings and resources to different healthcare providers and their support staff, coordinating statewide efforts to build awareness of DV, the available services, trauma-informed screening practices, and supporting project evaluation and continuous quality improvement efforts. Ama also works with the Training and Outreach Coordinator, assisting with planning, implementing, and presenting trainings, activities, and conferences on domestic violence to advocates, survivors, social service providers, law enforcement, and community members. Ama holds a B.A. in Anthropology from Washington College.



In her spare time she loves to kick back and play the sims!

Coming up in October

# EVERY1 KNOWS SOME1

Domestic Violence Awareness Month



# 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.



## DCADV Staff

Ama Amponsah, Community Health Coordinator & Trainer  
Nick Beard, DV & Community Health Program Manager  
Mariann Kenville-Moore, Director of Advocacy & Policy  
Joe Myers - Director of Prevention  
Jacqueline Greenidge Nix, Director of Finance & Operations  
Brooke Ophardt, Economic Justice Policy & Prevention Coordinator  
Sue Ryan, Executive Director  
Shelby Statham, Prevention Policy Specialist  
Jen Uro, Communications & Fundraising Manager  
Courtney Winkler, Training & Outreach Coordinator

## Staff Updates

**Joe Myers**, Prevention Director, joined the DCADV team on June 6th. Joe comes to us from the Crime Victims Center of Chester County in PA where he was the Director of Prevention and Education. Joe is passionate about the work of primary prevention and he brings years of experience in sharing and engaging in violence prevention strategies.

As DCADV's Prevention Director, Joe is managing DCADV's prevention efforts, working collaborative with member programs and community partners to foster and develop primary prevention strategies to address risk and protective factors of intimate partner violence.

**Monica (Nick) Beard** began her new role as DV-Community Health Program Manager on August 7th. Nick had been working at DCADV as the Policy Coordinator. She has promoted policy efforts that impact the health and safety of DV survivors. She has been a passionate advocate for health equity and safety for DV survivors.

As the DV-Community Health Program Manager, Nick will manage the DV-Community Health Advocate program, partnering with member programs and healthcare partners to develop and enhance a statewide program that provides mobile health and safety advocacy for DV survivors.

## Board of Directors

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Nancy Castellanos, Co-Chair	Cierra Hall-Hipkins
Jayce Lesniewski, Secretary	Dedra Handy
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David Bever	Susan Miller
Kim Blanch	Jennifer Naccarelli
Michael Casson	Deianna Tyree-McDuffy
Blanche Creech	

# 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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## Member Agencies



eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**



June 2023