



DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Breaking the cycle of violence.

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Much Needed Program Garners Support from the Arsht-Cannon Fund

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE—

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence is so grateful to the Arsht-Cannon Fund for their support of the Domestic Violence-Community Health Worker Project (DV-CHW Project). The \$10,000 contribution focuses on training healthcare providers on the intersection of health and domestic violence, including best practices around screening patients.

The DV-CHW project is collaborative, integrating domestic violence services with health services. DCADV will work in partnership with Child Inc, Westside Family Health Care and Christiana Care to build capacity to assess for domestic violence and to provide a warm-referral to a community-based service. The Arsht-Cannon Fund is an important part of this project. This project also addresses gaps in service delivery and improves access and engagement of health and safety services, especially within minority and uninsured/underinsured communities. The DV-CHW is a resource for the healthcare clinic and the community service program, creating easily accessible advocacy.

The project's DV-CHWs can provide information on available resources, help with safety planning and assist with emergency needs. Additionally, two of the three DV-CHWs are bilingual in Spanish and English, ensuring the service is accessible and helping to break down barriers for Hispanic victims and patients.

Domestic violence (DV) can have a chronic and long-term health impact on individuals, children, and communities including, depression, heart disease, substance abuse, unintended and teen pregnancies, asthma and obesity. Studies have also found that women who experience DV are at increased risk for headaches, chronic pain, as well as acute and chronic injuries.

For many victims of DV the first source of help will not be law enforcement, but rather their healthcare provider. Victims of DV who may be too frightened to involve the police or the courts because of retribution by their abuser may seek assistance and counseling through their doctor. The healthcare provider's role as a first responder highlights the pressing need for well-trained medical staff able to identify DV and respond with safety resources and supports.

The healthcare provider can refer to a DV-Community Health Worker (DV-CHW) who meets face-to-face with the victim to address safety and health concerns. These meetings can occur onsite at the healthcare provider's location or at a safe place in the community.

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. They can be reached at 302-658-2958.

About the Arsht-Cannon Fund

The Arsht-Cannon Fund was created in 2004 from the estate of the Honorable Roxana Cannon Arsht and S. Samuel Arsht. Roxana was the first woman appointed judge in Delaware and was inducted into the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women.

Samuel was a partner at Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnel and a corporate attorney. He chaired the committee to revise the General Corporate Law in 1967 that made Delaware a more favorable place for businesses to incorporate.

Roxana and Samuel's daughter, Adrienne Arsht, now chairs the foundation's advisory committee.

The Arsht-Cannon Fund was created to "preserve, support, protect, and defend the best interests of a civil society." The fund is currently focused on improving the quality of life for all Delawareans by increasing educational opportunities and access to healthcare for Hispanic Delawareans.

The Arsht-Cannon Fund has donated more than \$8.3 million to non-profits focused on educational programs, access to healthcare, and special youth programs.

For more information, visit arshtcannonfund.org.



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For media only:

The following individuals are available for interviews:

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