



SEPTEMBER 2022

Newsletter



WHAT A FUN EVENING WE WILL HAVE!

Let's get together for good food, networking, recognition of the award winners and a basket auction with LOTS of great items.

PLUS, a take home goodie bag filled to the brim!

Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022
Newark Banquet & Conference Center

Visit dcadv.org/pre for more information and to purchase your tickets!



The Purple Ribbon Celebration is important to us. It is our annual fundraiser and not only does it raise awareness in the community about domestic violence, it also raises essential funds that DCADV uses throughout the year to support our training efforts, outreach work and our general operation.

A Note from Sue



Dear Friends and Advocates:

DCADV is celebrating the statewide expansion of the Domestic Violence Community Health Worker Project. This expansion was made possible by the very generous grant award from the Longwood Foundation, a foundation that is dedicated to catalyzing and strengthening nonprofits to better serve our communities.

In addition, this project has been generously supported by ChristianaCare's Community Health Equity fund. ChristianaCare's support for community health is evident in their comprehensive commitment to addressing social determinants of health.

Other funders include Highmark Delaware, the Healthy Women Healthy Babies funding through the Division of Public Health, Laffey McHugh Foundation, and the Public Health Management Corporation. We are so grateful to all of the project's funders.

In addition, the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence has contracted with AmeriHealth Caritas Delaware, one of the two Managed-Care Organizations in Delaware, to provide Community Health Worker services to AmeriHealth members who are victims of domestic violence. This new, innovative pay-for-service funding model will lay the groundwork for sustainability. We are so grateful to AmeriHealth for their commitment to addressing domestic violence.

For many victims of domestic violence, the first responder is not law enforcement but their medical provider. This project links medical providers to Community Health Workers who are trained Domestic Violence Advocates able to meet victims where they are at and provide resources that address both safety and health.

This statewide effort is only possible because of the collaboration of domestic violence services providers, including People's Place and CHILD Inc, and healthcare providers and our funders. The Domestic Violence Community Health Workers are mobile, trauma-informed advocates meeting victims of domestic violence in safe locations and providing access to safety and health services. The majority of DV victims served are predominately Black and Hispanic women with children. As a result of working with Community Health Workers, 82% of DV victims serviced said their quality of life has improved. The bottom line: Community Health Workers make an impact by increasing access to safety and health services.

DCADV is honored to be in collaboration with our community and system partners as we expand the DV Community Health Worker Project statewide!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Ryan', written in a cursive style.

Sue Ryan
Executive Director

Purple Ribbon 2022 Award Winners

Corporate Citizenship Award



AmeriHealth Caritas

Delaware

Emmilyn Lawson, Market President/CEO

Jordan Weisman, Psy.D, Chief Medical Officer — Behavioral Health

Brian Citino, Director, Communications and Marketing

Shamira Squirrel, Sr. Specialist, Communications

Joy Harrison, Public Affairs Specialist

Rita Orr, Director of Provider Program and Payment Innovation

Spirit of Advocacy Award



Jeanette Ann Southard, LCSW, DVS

Vision of Peace Award



Stephanie Rodriguez, LCSW, DVS

DV-CHW Update

Expansion of the Domestic Violence - Community Health Worker Project to include Kent and Sussex Counties

The Domestic Violence - Community Health Worker Project (DV-CHW Project) is expanding to a statewide collaborative project, involving healthcare services and domestic violence providers. DCADV serves as the project lead, guiding this public health response to domestic violence. The DV-CHW Project provides life-saving services and care coordination to victims of domestic violence and crucial training and resources to health care providers.

For many victims of domestic violence, the first source of help will not be law enforcement, but rather their health provider. The health provider can connect them to safety resources, including a DV-CHW. DV-CHWs are trained as both domestic violence advocates and community health workers. They meet with victims in safe spaces throughout their community and provide trauma-informed care, connection to resources, and help with safety planning and health needs.

"The DCADV Community Health Worker Project is well thought out," says April Lyons-Alls, Executive Administrator, The Life Health Center. "In its short existence, it has made an indelible positive impact on women who are in vulnerable spaces while also dealing with intimate partner and domestic violence concerns. The CHWs are highly effective in literally meeting people where they are. They provide tangible supports to meet clients' social determinant needs, which really makes a significant difference in their outcomes. These CHWs have a unique skill set beyond the requisite training all CHWs receive. This is what makes this program so effective. DCADV CHWs can effectively navigate the many complex systems their clients will encounter offering emotional support during the process. This new approach is a game changer in the DV space!"

The program has been running in New Castle County for the past few years. Blanche Creech, Associate Director of Domestic Violence and Community Services at People's Place believes having the two DV-CHWs working Kent and Sussex will make a difference for victims.

"We receive requests from domestic violence victims every night, every day. The needs are really just overwhelming," said Creech. "There are many opportunities with health providers who can screen and connect victims to domestic violence services."

Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long says she is proud of Delaware. "There is nothing more important than using the model of community health with domestic violence to show those real results in not only health and economics, but in our community. We have a new model. But, it's not going to succeed without each of us leaning in."

Per Sue Ryan, DCADV's Executive Director, "DCADV is so grateful to work in coalition with our DV services providers, including People's Place and CHILD Inc, our healthcare partners, and our generous funders, including the Longwood Foundation, Christiana Care, Highmark and AmeriHealth Caritas Delaware to expand the Domestic Violence-Community Health Worker project statewide. The Domestic Violence Community Health Workers are mobile, trauma-informed advocates meeting victims of domestic violence in safe locations and providing access to safety and health services."



Thank you to our Funders!

LONGWOOD *foundation*

HIGHMARK  DELAWARE

 ChristianaCare®

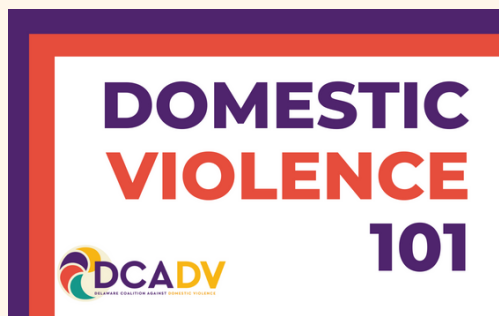
 DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health


AmeriHealth Caritas®
Delaware

The Laffey-McHugh Foundation



Training Update



Learn more at
www.dcadv.org/DV101!

DCADV is excited to host an in-person **Domestic Violence 101 training**- our first since March 2020! 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.

November 16-17, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Dover, DE Registration will open in late September.



Can't commit to a two-day training, but want to learn more about domestic violence and trauma-informed care? Check out DCADV's Online Learning Center! There, you'll find our archive of recorded webinars as well as our self-paced, online training modules. Visit www.dcadv.org/online-training to learn more!

*work
in
progress*



Stay tuned...May 2023

RPE Update

INVEST | DE

The RPE Team at DCADV continues to hold bi-monthly INVEST DE (Integrating Nonviolent Economic Strategies Throughout Delaware). As a refresher, INVEST DE is a workgroup designed to mobilize partnerships among Delawareans who share a common mission to create an economically-just community across our state. This collaborative space of stakeholders exchanges expertise and ideas to help increase the number of data-informed, economically-just policies adopted by workplaces across Delaware. Learn more through our [info sheet](#) on our website.

The group has identified lactation policies as a focus area due to its goal of addressing gender imbalances in the workplace. INVEST DE group members have discussed the development of an evaluation or checklist for best practices for lactation rooms (need-to-have vs nice-to-have). INVEST DE partners and DCADV's RPE team is hoping to collaborate with breastfeeding coalitions both locally and nationally to help support these checklists and materials. DCADV and INVEST DE members are continuing to hold discussions on these policy areas as well as determine the best ways to get information out to local corporations and workplaces and educate individuals on the connection between economic justice and prevention efforts. INVEST DE members hope to encourage businesses to update and enhance their lactation policies based on the recommendations from the group's checklist.



DCADV is pulling together a training series based around the Allstate Foundation's "Moving Ahead" financial empowerment curriculum. This curriculum offers a wide array of information on budgeting, saving, and healthy financial relationships. DCADV has paired this existing curriculum with a prevention module that offers up information about the existing historical factors that may have contributed to financial hardships due to systemic racism and oppression. This four-part training series will kick off the first Wednesday in October (10/5) at The Wilmington Library and will continue throughout the month of October.

[Click here for more information and to register!](#)

Advocacy and Policy Update

Elections

Voting in local elections is incredibly important for issues that prevent and impact domestic violence survivors: funding domestic violence services, providing health equity, and promoting policies that prevent domestic violence. We urge you to contact your local candidates and ask them about their plans on ending domestic violence in Delaware.

There are two upcoming election days in Delaware: Tuesday, September 13th (the primary) and Tuesday, November 8th (the general election.) Check the [Delaware Department of Elections portal](#) to confirm that you are registered to vote, find out where you can vote both on Election Day and earlier, or request a ballot by mail. Questions; contact the Department of Elections at (302) 739-4277.

Reproductive Rights

In June, the Supreme Court released a decision in [Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization](#), reversing *Roe v. Wade* and fifty years of precedent on ensuring abortion access in the United States. DCADV and [other state coalitions](#) across the country were disappointed to see this rollback of constitutional rights. Delaware codified legal access to abortion in 2017, and this legislative session passed [HB 455](#) which expands the types of medical providers able to perform abortion services. It also protects those who perform or obtain abortion services in Delaware post-Dobbs.

These abortion restrictions will disproportionately impact the most marginalized within the US: Black women, indigenous women, other people of color, LGBT people and migrants, and those experiencing domestic violence. Survivors in abusive relationships [often experience reproductive coercion](#), where their partner will sabotage their methods of contraception, force them to become pregnant, or coerce their decision regarding their pregnancy. We will continue advocating for survivors to make the best choices for their bodies and pregnancy outcomes, free from coercion by partners or the state. DCADV is committed to working toward [reproductive justice](#), advocating for Delawareans to make their own decisions about what is best for their bodies, and creating a culture that respects reproductive autonomy and prevents domestic violence.

AG Jennings in collaboration with the DE ACLU has set up the AG's Abortion Legal Helpline which can be reached at (302) 992-8096 or toll-free at (877) 312-2366. The Helpline will provide free legal advice to anyone in need of guidance after the Supreme Court's June Dobbs decision, including: "know your rights" guidance and referrals to Delawareans seeking abortions; patients seeking to travel to Delaware to obtain an abortion; people and organizations providing support to these patients; and healthcare providers, including victim advocates. DCADV staff members are also available to assist with questions as well.

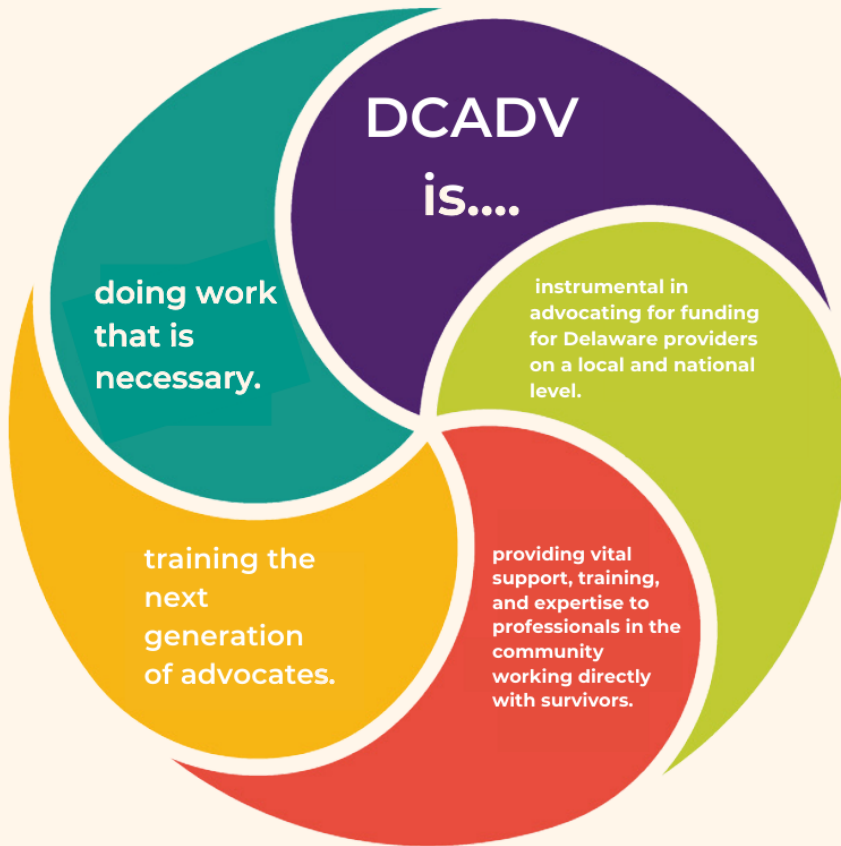
Legislative Update

DE's General Assembly finished its regular session on June 30, and before ending worked on a variety of bills we were tracking. This included the state budget bill which did not include increases for DV service programs. This was disappointing, but we made progress with educating legislators about the needs of victims and those of DV service programs. That advocacy did lead to increases for a number of service providers in the annual [Grant in Aid](#) bill and also resulted in a \$3 million one-time set aside for the Criminal Justice Council to ensure that trauma-informed victim services weren't cut despite expected cuts to federal grants.

Efforts to advance housing rights and reform the eviction process stalled at the end of session. Although disappointed, DCADV is committed to working with other advocates to build awareness and support for needed changes to DE law.

Improvements to the criminal code related to [Strangulation](#) were introduced and passed at the end of the session. DE prosecutors are hopeful that the changes will improve their ability to prosecute these types of crimes, and we are grateful for the leadership of Rep. Griffith and Sen. Gay in addressing this serious type of violence.

Join us as a member!



We can't do our work without **YOU!**

Now more than ever we need individuals to help support the mission and philosophy of the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Be part of a movement to end and prevent violence by becoming a supporting member through a tax-deductible contribution.

Visit www.dcadv.org/membership for more information and to join!

Member Benefits

- Membership within a statewide coalition working to end and prevent domestic violence.
- Early notification and registration for DCADV events.
- Invitation to our Annual Meeting which is held in December of each year and name recognition in the annual report.
- Discounted price for DCADV events, trainings, and conferences.
- The membership fee is 100% tax-deductible and 100% of the fee directly supports the work of DCADV.



Did you know that many corporations offer matching programs to their employees? Check with your company and your support of DCADV could double!

DCADV Staff

Sarah Bear, Prevention Director
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Nina Jones, Administrative & Financial Assistant
Mariann Kenville-Moore, Director of Advocacy & Policy
Nikki Kerchevale, RPE Program Manager
Jacqueline Greenidge Nix, Director of Finance & Operations
Brooke Ophardt, Training & Prevention Specialist
Erin Ridout, DV & Community Health Program Manager
Nicole Rinier, Prevention Policy Specialist
Sue Ryan, Executive Director
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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!



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