

ANCHORS OF ADVOCACY

RENEWING OUR POWER & STRENGTH

May 6-7, 2024 • Rehoboth Beach, DE



*Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence
23rd Advocates' Retreat & Conference
www.dcadv.org/retreat*

We're glad you're here.

None of us can do this work alone. Our advocacy work is grounded in finding ways to repair and prevent harm- not only for the people we serve, but also for ourselves. Our conference theme, ***Anchors of Advocacy: Renewing Our Power and Strength***, offers an opportunity for us to explore the impact of interpersonal violence on our communities as a whole. It's critical that we take time to pause - to think about why we do this work and to find ways to sustain ourselves, our colleagues, and our communities.

We also recognize that this work is *hard*, and we all need time to relax and recharge! This year, we're offering a special track of *wellness workshops*. These workshops will offer a variety of modalities, resources, and strategies to promote self-care and community-care.

DCADV is committed to creating and maintaining a sense of community and inclusion, where all people are safe, welcomed, treated with respect and equity, and have opportunities to thrive. We hope that whatever your identity or experience, you'll feel welcome in the space we're creating, and you'll find discussions that relate to you. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We hope that these two days will offer you an opportunity to engage in self-care, connect with colleagues and friends, and enjoy springtime at the beach!

Courtney Auel Brooke Ann
Joe Marianne Sheri
Jacqueline Nick Anne Jen

This program is funded through the Delaware Criminal Justice Council by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Family Violence Prevention and Services Program.

HELPFUL TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Each day will start on the **3rd floor in the Swan Ballroom**. Continental breakfast will be available each day in the **Sandpiper Room** (behind the Swan Ballroom). There will also be refreshments available in the **Sandpiper Room** during the morning and afternoon breaks.

Free parking is available in the hotel lot for overnight guests. Parking is also available in the hotel lot for daytime guests requiring accessible spaces. Free street parking is available on the streets surrounding the venue for daytime guests. Meters are **not** in effect during our event.

If you are staying overnight at the Atlantic Sands Hotel, **check out is at 11:00 a.m.** To minimize disruption to presenters and other attendees, please make arrangements to check out of your room before workshop sessions begin.

The Atlantic Sands is a **non-smoking facility**. We strive to ensure the comfort and safety of conference participants by encouraging a smoke-free and fragrance-free environment.

Our Exhibit Hall will be available throughout the entire conference **outside of the Swan Ballroom on the 3rd floor**.

We recognize that discussing the many aspects of trauma can be difficult, and at times emotionally overwhelming. If you need to take a few minutes to yourself to reflect, regroup, or recharge, we encourage you to visit our Quiet Room (located in **room 329**, on the 3rd floor, adjacent to the Swan Ballroom). Please seek support from DCADV or other program staff as needed. DCADV staff have **blue flags** on their name badges.

All workshops count toward Training and Education hours for DCADV Domestic Violence Specialist (DVS) Certification. Interested in becoming certified? Please visit www.dcadv.org/DVS to learn more.

In an effort to go green, we will not be providing paper copies of workshop materials. Instead, you will be able to access workshop materials online.

Evaluations and certificates will be sent electronically. Keep an eye on your email for a message from info@cmemails.dcadv.org!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, May 6, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION BREAKFAST	<i>Club Lounge (lobby level) Sandpiper Room (3rd floor)</i>
9:00 - 10:15 AM <i>Swan Ballroom 3rd floor</i>	<p>Welcome & Opening Remarks: Sue Ryan, Executive Director, Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence</p> <p>Keynote Panel Presentation: What Does Criminal Justice Reform Look Like in the DV Movement?</p>	
10:15 - 10:30 AM	BREAK	<i>Snacks available in Sandpiper Room (3rd floor)</i>
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM		WORKSHOP SESSION #1
CRANE (4th floor)	1A) First to Know: How Doulas Support Intimate Partner Victims & Survivors	
SANIBEL (4th floor)	1B) Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in Delaware	
DOLPHIN (4th floor)	1C) Prevention is in Everything: Working Towards a Shared Horizon	
OSPREY (2nd floor)	1D) Building Blocks to Advocacy Wellness: Saying “Yes” to Self-Care	
12:00 - 1:15 PM	LUNCH	<i>Swan Ballroom</i>
1:15 - 2:45 PM		WORKSHOP SESSION #2
DOLPHIN (4th floor)	2A) Dream Studies- Intermediate	
SANIBEL (4th floor)	2B) “Alive but Still Not Free”: Advocating for Criminalized Survivors of DV	
CRANE (4th floor)	2C) Operationalizing Equity Into Advocacy & Organizational Practices	
OSPREY (2nd floor)	2D) Mindfulness for Advocates: Prioritizing Self-Care at Home	
2:45 - 3:00 PM	BREAK	<i>Snacks available in Sandpiper Room (3rd floor)</i>
3:00 - 4:30 PM		PLENARY SESSION
<i>Swan Ballroom 3rd floor</i>	<p>Fortifying Our Anchors: Ways to Strengthen Our Connection to Advocacy</p> <p>Joy Ingram, RAFT</p>	
5:00 - 6:00 PM <i>Kiwi's Kove</i>	<p>FUN AT FIVE NETWORKING EVENT</p> <p><i>Hosted by DCADV's Women of Color Task Force</i></p>	

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION BREAKFAST	<i>Club Lounge (lobby level) Sandpiper Room (3rd floor)</i>
9:00 - 10:15 AM <i>Swan Ballroom 3rd floor</i>	<p>Welcome & Recognition of Domestic Violence Specialists: Courtney Winkler, Training & Outreach Coordinator, Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence</p> <p>Keynote Panel Presentation: Housing Tools for Advocates</p>	
10:15 - 10:30 AM	BREAK	<i>Snacks available in Sandpiper Room (3rd floor)</i>
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	WORKSHOP SESSION #3	
CRANE (4th floor)	3A) Strategies to Identify and Address Signs & Symptoms of Traumatic Stress	
SANIBEL (4th floor)	3B) Advocacy and Technology-Facilitated Abuse	
DOLPHIN (4th floor)	3C) Gender Freedom: Practicing Gender Inclusivity in Victim Services	
OSPREY (2nd floor)	3D) SHIFT: Neuroscience and Breathwork for Advocates	
12:00 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH	<i>Swan Ballroom</i>
1:30 - 3:00 PM	WORKSHOP SESSION #4	
SANIBEL (4th floor)	4A) Dream Studies- Intermediate *REPEAT SESSION*	
CRANE (4th floor)	4B) Helping Professionals Enhance Caregiver Comfort & Communication Skills Around Kids' Sexual Development	
DOLPHIN (4th floor)	4C) Alternate Avenues of Support: Mutual Aid & Community Collaboration	
OSPREY (2nd floor)	4D) Blossom or Burnout: The Million-Dollar Choice for Your Well-being	

Monday, May 6, 2024 | 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM
SWAN BALLROOM (3rd floor)

What Does Criminal Justice Reform Look Like in the DV Movement?

For decades, advocates have worked to prevent violence, increase safety, and to hold people who use violence accountable for the harm they cause. Significant time and effort has focused on reforming the criminal justice system to more effectively recognize and respond to domestic and intimate partner violence. However, even the best-intended solutions can have harmful consequences. Join a panel of local and national experts to explore the varied efforts to reform the criminal justice system so that our communities can thrive and be safe.



Moderator: Mariann Kenville-Moore, MSW
Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

See the program insert for more information about the panelists.



Monday, May 6, 2024 | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

SWAN BALLROOM (3rd floor)

Fortifying Our Anchors: Ways to Strengthen Our Connection to Advocacy

Being an advocate for survivors of domestic violence is hard work. While often challenging, daunting, and (re)traumatizing, many have chosen to engage in this work and continue to do so despite the drawbacks. In this session, we'll explore why you chose to do this work and what keeps you anchored in advocacy. Instead of focusing on the hardships, advocates will explore the upsides of advocacy and what continual greatness in this field looks like. We'll also celebrate you and the role you play in survivors' healing. Advocates will explore their strengths, how to use them in this work, and how to renew them when they are depleted.

Presenter:



Joy Ingram

RAFT (Resilience for Advocates through Foundational Training)

Joy Ingram is a 'love superhero' whose mission is to spread empathy, compassion, and understanding in a world often overshadowed by chaos and hatred. Born out of a profound belief in the power of love to heal, Joy emerged with a unique set of abilities aimed at uplifting and uniting individuals through the strength of heartfelt connections. In the eyes of Joy, love isn't just an emotion; it's a force that transcends barriers, unites souls, and transforms the world into a place of harmony and understanding. Apart from her time crusading to help people plant love and grow joy, you can probably catch her on the beach sipping coffee and reading a good book.

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM
SWAN BALLROOM (3rd floor)

Housing Tools for Advocates

Domestic violence is one of the largest causes of homelessness, both in Delaware and around the country. The recent housing needs assessment released by the Delaware State Housing Authority demonstrated that 8% of Delawareans are living in extreme housing insecurity - staying with friend or family, living in their cars or other temporary homelessness solutions. Advocates will often be requested to support survivors in maintaining housing or finding housing. This panel will help advocates understand the various aspects of housing supports in Delaware and use hands-on activities to allow advocates to solve problems with guided support.

Panelists include:



Moderator: Dr. Nick Beard (she/her)

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence



Elaine Ansah

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence



Javier Horstmann

Office of the Governor



Shyanne Miller

H.O.M.E.S. Campaign



Tony Sierzega

Community Legal Aid Society (CLASI)

SESSION 1

Monday, May 6, 2024 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1A

First to Know: How Doulas Support Intimate Partner Victims and Survivors

Amber Twyne, Black Mothers in Power

CRANE ROOM (4th floor)

Intimate partner violence has been shown to increase in frequency and intensity during pregnancy and the postpartum period, increasing the rate of maternal mortality and morbidity. Often, doulas are the only professionals with access to the family so closely, as well as to community resources for help. Doula support also extends past pregnancy, and the ongoing connection can also serve survivors dealing with the residual impacts of abuse. During this workshop, attendees will gain a clear understanding of the challenges IPV has on a pregnant or postpartum person, the role of doula support, and how we can collaborate to further the work.

1B

Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in DE

Dawn Culp, Bayhealth

Justin King, Delaware Probation and Parole

Jenna Milecki, Delaware Department of Justice

Stephanie Rodriguez, Turning Point at People's Place

SANIBEL ROOM (4th floor)

Collaboration and communication across systems are critical to effective survivor support. This workshop, featuring a panel discussion with experts in the field, will explore domestic violence victim services and response in Delaware. This multi-disciplinary team of professionals utilizes trauma-informed practices and coordinated responses to provide victim services within their systematic roles in cases of domestic violence. During this session, the panel will walk through various case studies and encourage participants to interact and discuss as a group, with the ultimate goal of improving collaboration to enhance victim safety.

1C

Prevention is in Everything: Working Towards a Shared Horizon

Casey Keene, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Joe Myers, Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

DOLPHIN ROOM (4th floor)

What kind of outcomes do you want for your community? As we work to end domestic violence, we are building the world we want to see: one where individuals and families experience wellness, equity, justice, and safety. Prevention is what allows us to shift the focus from what we want to *stop* to what we want to *achieve* together. It is our hope. It is the social change work you engage in every day as you create and nurture environments where people can thrive. In this workshop, presenters will offer a broad framework for understanding prevention, explore critical lessons learned from CDC's DELTA programs, and draw on examples of existing programming that is impacting meaningful change in Delaware.

1D**Building Blocks to Advocacy Wellness: Saying “Yes” to Self-Care****Joy Ingram, RAFT****OSPREY ROOM (2nd floor)**

In this 90-minute workshop, we will explore boundaries, define our core values, and learn to say a positive "No." Using these tools as building blocks, we will construct a foundation that prioritizes our well-being and practices self-care to build resilience to burnout and stress.

SESSION 2**Monday, May 6, 2024 | 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM****2A****Dream Studies- Intermediate****Lea Sevey and Vanessa Timmons, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence****DOLPHIN ROOM (4th floor)**

A deep dive into the meanings of dreams is presented in this workshop. During this session, we will discuss why trauma dreams have so much power over us and what we can learn from them. False awakenings hold fascinating secrets and gifts that we will explore in this session. You will be able to use these skills when working with survivors who suffer from trauma dreams or to address vicarious trauma that you may be experiencing. We will provide participants with an opportunity to ask questions and get ideas about the meaning of their dreams.

2B**“Alive but Still Not Free”: Advocating for Criminalized Survivors of DV****Selena Faith and Ellie Williams, Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence****SANIBEL ROOM (4th floor)**

Survivors of domestic violence are too often criminalized and incarcerated as a result of the abuse that they experience. They face substantial challenges within the legal system that lead to frequent arrest and conviction, harsh sentences, and significant barriers to obtaining their release post-conviction. In this workshop, we will explore how and why survivors are criminalized, offer information about the particular challenges criminalized survivors face in the legal system, and provide tools that advocates can use to help end the criminalization of survival.

2C**Operationalizing Equity Into Advocacy & Organizational Practices****Jess Harman, Consultant****CRANE ROOM (4th floor)**

Being equitable and inclusive is more than a mindset. The best way to know if an individual or organization is equitable and inclusive is by observing what they do and just as importantly, what they do not do. This training will present concrete ideas for how to operationalize equity into both individual advocacy praxis, as well as organizational policy and practice. Participants will have the opportunity to analyze the power they have to create change within themselves and their organizations.

2D**Mindfulness for Advocates: Prioritizing Self-Care at Home****Lindsay Beach**, Coastal Alchemy**OSPREY ROOM (2nd floor)**

This workshop is tailored to advocates seeking ways to prioritize self-care, foster resilience and maintain a work-life balance through simple mindfulness techniques. Take 90 minutes for yourself with a mindfulness meditation, writing prompts for reflection, and an opportunity to share experiences with fellow advocates.

SESSION 3**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM****3A****Strategies to Identify and Address Signs & Symptoms of Traumatic Stress****Rev. Dr. Pamela Adams and Rona Harris**, Faithful and Favored, Inc.**CRANE ROOM (4th floor)**

At a progressively increased rate, secondary traumatic stress (STS) continues to have an impact on professionals who are continuously exposed to trauma-related information and service traumatized individuals, with the demand to ensure that self-care and burnout are addressed in organizations. Organizations that provide staff with best practices recognize the importance of retaining their current employees by addressing their personal and professional needs, prioritizing their well-being, and providing them with flexible benefit options (Blueboard Ebook, 2023). In this workshop, participants will explore risk and resilience factors on a personal and professional level, and be able to recognize, prevent, and respond when they see those factors in others.

3B**Advocacy and Technology-Facilitated Abuse****Chad Sniffen**, National Network to End Domestic Violence**SANIBEL ROOM (4th floor)**

This workshop will provide an overview of technology-facilitated abuse (TFA) in abusive relationships. It will focus on knowledge and skills to assist advocates in identifying TFA, assessing how technology is being used, and working with survivors to develop safety plans in response to TFA.

3C**Gender Freedom: Practicing Gender Inclusivity in Victim Services****Bailey Coco and Francisca Moreno**, Domestic Violence Coordinating Council**DOLPHIN ROOM (4th floor)**

Participants will delve into the meaning of gender freedom and its relationship to client empowerment. Through introspective reflection, attendees will explore ways to foster this freedom within client interactions. Deepening their understanding of transgender and non-binary identities, participants will examine the historical and policy factors that contribute to disempowerment. Additionally, participants will celebrate the resilience and strength of the transgender community. By engaging in active discussions and case studies, participants will not only reflect on their current practices but also acquire practical strategies to bring back to their work.

3D**SHIFT: Neuroscience and Breathwork for Advocates****Tara Gush**, Soul Vicality**OSPREY ROOM (2nd floor)**

This workshop is designed for advocates looking to shift their own nervous system and build resiliency. Advocates will learn about the connection between neuroscience, breathwork, and the nervous system. Breathing techniques for stress management will be presented, followed by a full transformative breathwork experience.

SESSION 4**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM****4A****Dream Studies- Intermediate *REPEAT SESSION*****Lea Sevey and Vanessa Timmons**, Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence**SANIBEL ROOM (4th floor)**

See Session 2A for details.

4B**Helping Professionals Enhance Caregiver Comfort & Communication Skills Around Kids' Sexual Development****Kaila Congo and Philinda Mindler**, Children and Families First**CRANE ROOM (4th floor)**

Talking about sexual development is a challenging topic. Information about sexual health and reproductive anatomy are important parts of human development. When caregivers provide age-appropriate, comprehensive information on an ongoing basis, it helps prepare kids to have agency over their bodies. Kids and teens need language that will allow them to tell a trusted adult if they are experiencing types of unwanted touch or sexual abuse. This workshop will help professionals provide caregivers with skills and resources to prepare them to engage their child in learning about healthy sexuality and to be their kids' go-to person when it comes to talk about sexuality.

4C**Alternate Avenues of Support: Mutual Aid and Community Collaboration****Joe Myers**, Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence**DOLPHIN ROOM (4th floor)**

As service providers, we know how important collaboration and communication are to meet the needs of victims/survivors. We are creative problem-solvers and quick thinkers. While we get lots of opportunities to practice these skills, what do we do when we've exhausted all of our options? This workshop will explore ways for our community to band together when the existing structures and supports aren't working.

4D

Blossom or Burnout: The Million-Dollar Choice for Your Well-being

Dr. Eunice Gwanmesia, Eunity Solutions, LLC

OSPREY ROOM (2nd floor)

Domestic violence advocacy is critical, but the emotional toll can be immense. This dynamic and interactive workshop empowers attendees with actionable strategies to prioritize well-being, prevent burnout, and nurture resilience in the context of domestic violence advocacy. Discover how inclusive practices and trauma-informed approaches enhance stress management, resilience, and personal and professional fulfillment. Key topics include identifying burnout signs, implementing self-care techniques, fostering inclusive work cultures, setting boundaries, and harnessing peer support. Gain the tools needed to thrive while making a difference. Join us to choose well-being over burnout and blossom in your advocacy journey.

Fun at
Five

MONDAY, MAY 6TH

5-6PM

KIWI'S KOVE

Join the Women of Color Task Force for networking, music, refreshments, and lots of fun!

EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!





Rev. Dr. Pamela Adams (she/her)

Faithful and Favored, Inc.

Workshop 3A: Strategies to Identify and Address Signs & Symptoms of Traumatic Stress

Originally from Fayetteville, North Carolina, **Reverend Dr. Pamela Adams** is the Director of Spiritual Life and University Chaplain at Delaware State University. A true Southern Belle at heart, she stands on the values of faith, family, friendship and fried fish! She served proudly in the United States Air Force for 9 ½ years, while simultaneously matriculating through Seminary and obtaining undergraduate, graduate, and terminal degrees in Theology. An expert in the arena of spiritual rehabilitation with over 17 years of experience, she has received training in Clinical Pastoral Education and Family Advocacy at the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the world-renowned Johns Hopkins Hospital, as well as certification in Christian Counseling through the National Christian Counselors Association of Sarasota, Florida. Dr. Adams is the Principal and Owner of Faithful & Favored, Inc. a Lifestyle Management Firm. Faithful & Favored provides emotional and spiritual maintenance tools through Peace Together, LLC, a counseling practice, and The Servant Leader, LLC, focusing on church administration and ministry enhancement. Her empathetic demeanor and compassionate disposition make her a trusted advisor on all things related to spiritual and emotional maintenance. Her desire is for everyone to live a faithful and favored life!



Elaine Ansah (she/her)

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Panelist: Housing Tools for Advocates

Elaine Ansah began her role at DCADV as the Policy Coordinator in 2023. Prior to joining the team, Elaine spent the last year completing a Fulbright teaching grant in Kenya, and spent the previous year working as a Legislative Correspondent in the U.S. House of Representatives. Elaine is a graduate of the University of Delaware and was a chapter president of her Delta Sigma Theta sorority.



Lindsay Beach (she/her)

Coastal Alchemy

Workshop 2D: Mindfulness for Advocates: Prioritizing Self-Care at Home

Lindsay Beach began her wellness journey 7 years ago, exploring alternative methods to heal from relational trauma. After 12 years in high-stress corporate environments, she decided to make a life change during the COVID-19 pandemic. She completed her 200-hr YTT, became a Reiki Practitioner, and created Coastal Alchemy to bring wellness workshops and retreats to others. Lindsay believes that everyone has the capacity for growth and change and strives to create safe spaces for deeper and more meaningful connections with self and others.



Dr. Nick Beard (she/her)

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Panel Moderator: Housing Tools for Advocates

Dr. Nick Beard (she/her) is the Domestic Violence and Community Health Program Manager for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She is attorney at law in New York and Maryland. She completed a PhD in Law and Gender Studies, focusing on the experience of women who experience sexual violence in the asylum system and previously worked for Planned Parenthood of Northern, Central and Southern New Jersey, Common Cause Delaware and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law. In her free time, Nick volunteers for the UD Sexual Offenses Services and the First State Abortion Fund. She lives in Hockessin with her Irish husband and son and English cat.



Bailey Coco (she/they)

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council

Workshop 3C: Gender Freedom: Practicing Gender Inclusivity in Victim Services

Bailey Coco (she/they) is a gender expansive, Black and Italian, queer woman who is passionate about social justice and societal reform. She is a senior at the University of Delaware, majoring in sociology and women & gender studies with a domestic violence prevention services concentration, and minoring in politics & social justice. During her time in school, Bailey has written numerous papers regarding gendered social justice including Queer Domestic Violence Neglect, regarding the way that the LGBTQ+ minority is excluded because of heteronormative society. Bailey acquired an internship at the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and has participated in numerous projects including aiding in writing the Domestic Violence Intervention Standards. They also co-facilitated a training with the DVCC titled *Supporting Hispanic and Latino Survivors*, which taught the way that Hispanics and Latinos are systematically oppressed, even when it comes to domestic violence services. Bailey is very family oriented, and most of her work comes from passionately learning about diverse people and backgrounds with ferocious curiosity. In her free time she is a fashion environmentalist, focusing on conservation and promoting zero waste lifestyle.



Kaila Congo, M.Ed. (she/her)

Children & Families First

Workshop 4B: Helping Professionals Enhance Caregiver Comfort & Communication Skills Around Kids' Sexual Development

Kaila Marie Congo, M.Ed., currently serves as the Team Lead for the Adolescent Resource Center program at Children & Families First. Kaila started as an Educator at CFF in 2019 after earning her master's degree in Secondary Education from Wilmington University. She is a Delaware Futures and Public Allies Delaware alumna dedicated to her community. Kaila resides in Northern Delaware with her family.



Dawn Culp, MSN RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FNE (she/her)

Bayhealth

Workshop 1B: Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in Delaware

Dawn Culp, MSN RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FNE is the Domestic Violence & Gang Consultant and Forensic Nurse Clinical Coordinator at Bayhealth. Dawn has been an Emergency Department (ED) nurse for over 25 years, and has been the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) nurse Clinical Coordinator since 2003. In this role, Dawn presents education to ED staff regarding updates on domestic violence, Delaware laws, and all things in the forensic realm. She also presents lectures on Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury to Bayhealth Critical Care staff. Dawn tracks statistical data for all victims of violence in all four Bayhealth facilities, and been able to use that data for grants to provide continuing education for the Bayhealth community. Dawn has been recognized for her efforts and dedication to serving survivors and creating safer communities. In addition to her clinical and educational roles, Dawn also serves on a number of committees and task forces to improve policies and conditions for victims of crime.



Selena Faith (she/her)

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Workshop 2B: “Alive but Still Not Free”: Advocating for Criminalized Survivors of DV

Selena Faith is a dedicated professional working in the overlapping fields of domestic violence response and survivor criminalization. She serves as the Coordinator of the Justice for Incarcerated Survivors (JFIS) program at GCADV, where she oversees program function through case management and collaboration with a breadth of community partners. She began this role in 2021 through a fellowship position, building upon her background in sexual health and relationship education, and has continued her position with GCADV after the completion of her fellowship.



Tara Gush (she/her)

Soul Vikality

Workshop 3D: SHIFT: Neuroscience and Breathwork for Advocates

Tara Gush (she/her) is a Breathwork and Integrative Coach with 20+ years of experience in education, wellness and behavioral modification. She is dedicated to sharing the empowering and transformational possibilities of conscious breathing, somatic movement and mindfulness to regulate the nervous system and shift lives. Tara understands the importance of finding simple and effective tools that individuals and companies can proactively integrate to manage stress, anxiety and challenges in both the work and personal space. Her own journey through a lifetime of trauma has given her a unique perspective on how to approach and overcome obstacles through connecting the mind, body and breath. Tara integrates a unique, science-based approach in her coaching, based on the latest research in neuroscience to empower her clients for long-lasting transformation and reaching full potential.



Dr. Eunice Gwanmesia (she/her)

Eunity Solutions, LLC

Workshop 4D: Blossom or Burnout: The Million-Dollar Choice for Your Well-being

Dr. Eunice Gwanmesia, a distinguished thought leader with over 25 years of experience in healthcare, education, diversity, equity, and inclusion advocacy, is the award-winning bestselling author of “The Power of Your Identity...” book. She has received numerous accolades for her outstanding contributions, including the prestigious 2022 Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award and the Lisa Blunt Rochester Legacy Award- for her excellent performance in the Enrich Delaware program 2023. Throughout her remarkable career, Dr. Gwanmesia has taken on various roles, from being an RN in diverse medical facilities to dedicating 13 years as a nursing educator at Delaware State University. In 2004, she made a significant impact by establishing Always Care Health Services trade school, where she successfully graduated over 200 Certified Nursing Assistants. In 2017, Dr. Gwanmesia founded Eunity Solutions, a consulting company committed to empowering executives and leaders in healthcare, education, and corporate sectors to build inclusive workplace cultures where everyone feels they belong and thrive.



Jess Harman (she/her)

Consultant

Workshop 2C: Operationalizing Equity Into Advocacy & Organizational Practices

Jess Harman (she/her) is a Queer survivor, anti-violence advocate, speaker, trainer, and consultant. She has recently collaborated with the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence to create a tailored training curriculum for improving services and increasing organizational capacity to LGBTQIA+ survivors. She has over 10 years of experience working with survivors of sexual/domestic violence and sex trafficking, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people experiencing severe and persistent mental illnesses, individuals impacted by substance use, people experiencing homelessness, and people living with HIV/chronic health conditions. Her career has primarily focused on anti-violence advocacy, program development, supervising anti-violence advocates, training curriculum development, training working professionals how to equitably work with trauma survivors utilizing best practice methodologies, and co-facilitating strategic diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives. She has presented training at a variety of state and national conferences. Jess holds a bachelor’s degree in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies with a minor in History from the University of Kansas. She is currently pursuing a MSW, Master of Social Work, from Missouri State University with a Graduate Certificate in Conflict and Dispute Resolution. She is currently the MSW Student Representative on the National Association of Social Workers’ Missouri Chapter Board of Directors and co-chairs the chapter’s Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging committee.



Rona Harris (she/her)

Faithful & Favored, Inc.

Workshop 3A: Strategies to Identify and Address Signs & Symptoms of Traumatic Stress

A Dover, Delaware native, **Ms. Rona Harris** is masters prepared in Human Services with a Marriage and Family Therapy emphasis. With over 20 years of professional experience Ms. Harris is an advocate for meeting her clients where they are through case management, psychiatric social work and assisting those in need as a housing specialist. As a community development manager, Ms. Harris understands the importance of revitalizing communities through addressing social determinants of health in the areas of financial empowerment, home ownership, youth programming, and coaching services. She is skilled in the areas of mindfulness practices, trauma, addiction, mental illness, and criminal addictive behaviors just to name a few.



Javier Horstmann (he/him)

Office of the Governor

Panelist: Housing Tools for Advocates

Javier Horstmann serves as a Policy Advisor for Governor John Carney focusing on housing policy. In that role, Javi, a native of Delaware, works to find innovative and effective policy solutions to incentivize and grow Delaware's affordable housing stock. Through that work, Javi believes that housing is a fundamental right and works with federal, state, and local elected officials, as well as state-stakeholders to ensure that every Delawarean has access to that right. Previously, Javi has served as Chief Policy Advisor at the Delaware State Housing Authority. He has also formally served as Policy Advisor for Delaware Governor John Carney, focusing on housing and finance policy. Javier holds a B.A. in Political Science and Public Policy and M.P.A from the University of Delaware.



Casey Keene (she/her)

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Workshop 1C: Prevention is in Everything: Working Towards a Shared Horizon

Casey Keene (she/her) believes that social change is both possible and necessary. A survivor of childhood trauma and mother to two inspiring children, her passion is nurturing resilient and equitable communities where all children can thrive. With more than 20 years of experience in gender-based violence advocacy, Casey knows that our work must be grounded in and guided by the needs, priorities, and leadership of those with lived experience at the intersections of violence and oppression. As the Director of Programs & Prevention at the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV), Casey works to advance the special projects and resource development initiatives of the Programs & Prevention Team. These include PreventIPV, VAWnet, the Domestic Violence Awareness Project, and the Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV) Leadership Forum. Casey is a lifelong learner and Licensed Social Worker who earned her Master's in Social Work from Temple University.



Mariann Kenville-Moore, MSW (she/her)

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Keynote Moderator: What Does Criminal Justice Reform Look Like in the DV Movement?

Mariann Kenville-Moore, MSW (she/her) is the Director of Advocacy & Policy for the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV). In this position, Mariann works with local and national partners to address and prevent domestic violence through advocacy, policy development and legislation. Mariann is a social worker, with over 35 years of service to the people of Delaware. She spent her early career in various positions with the Division of Family Services providing direct service to children and families in cases involving child abuse and neglect, and later as an administrator developing programs and training on child welfare issues. She retired from state service as the Director of Victim Service in the Department of Justice, where she managed the statewide program; developed and implemented policies, programs and legislation; and provided direct services to victims of crime. In addition, she teaches as an adjunct faculty member at Delaware State University for the School of Social Work in the College of Health & Behavioral Science. Mariann values the role that non-profits have played in the movement to end family violence, and volunteers on local boards of directors. Mariann earned her Master's degree in Social Work from Rutgers University and her undergraduate degree in Sociology from the University of Delaware.



Justin King (he/him)

Delaware Department of Correction, Probation & Parole

Workshop 1B: Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in Delaware

Justin King, M.S. is a Probation and Parole Supervisor in the Domestic Violence Unit in Sussex County. Justin has an Associate's and Bachelor's degree in, Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Management. Justin began with Probation and Parole in 2011, and spent the first 8 years monitoring sex offenders and domestic violence cases. In 2019, Justin was promoted to Supervisor and began supervising the Domestic Violence Unit. Since being with the Domestic Violence Unit, he has helped streamline the 24-hour services, increased interaction with domestic violence community partners, and worked with legislators to draft and adopt laws, in regards to multiple criminal justice related matters. Justin has completed the State of Delaware's Leadership Development Program, the DOC Leadership Program, the Delaware State Police's Leadership Program, and the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy training.



Jenna Milecki, Esq. (she/her)

Delaware Department of Justice

Workshop 1B: Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in Delaware

Jenna Milecki, Esq. is a Deputy Attorney General at the Delaware Department of Justice and is the current Unit Head of the Domestic Violence Unit. She has been a prosecutor working in New Castle County, Delaware since graduating from Widener Law School in 2012. During her time at the DOJ, she has tried cases in various units within the office, ranging from misdemeanor offenses to sexual assault and homicide cases. In her current position, she handles domestic violence felony cases, as well as the supervision of domestic violence prosecutors who handle intimate partner and familial violence cases and child abuse cases in Superior Court, Family Court, and the Court of Common Pleas. She also addresses issues in domestic violence investigations and prosecutions throughout the State. In her time in the Special Victims Unit and in her current position in the Domestic Violence Unit, she has focused her career on the protection of vulnerable victims, including women and children. She hopes to continue to support victims in the cases she prosecutes and to improve the criminal justice process for those affected by crime.



Shyanne Miller (she/her)

H.O.M.E.S. Campaign

Panelist: Housing Tools for Advocates

Shyanne Miller is Black American woman, born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware. Shyanne Miller earned her bachelor's degree in Wildlife Conservation from the University of Delaware, and her Masters in Sustainable Development from SIT Graduate Institute. She specializes in policy advocacy and community organizing. Currently, she is the Progressive Governance Director for Delaware Working Families Party. She also served as Campaign Manager for the Building People Power Campaign at the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. She is a volunteer with Network Delaware. She focuses on fighting racism through reforming the criminal justice system and promoting democratic, economic justice. Shyanne's passion is to support anti-racist efforts by building the ability of all community members—regardless of race, gender, age, ability, or experience-- to participate in the political process in order to promote social justice.



Philinda Mindler, LCSW (she/her)

Children & Families First

Workshop 4B: Helping Professionals Enhance Caregiver Comfort & Communication Skills Around Kids' Sexual Development

Philinda Mindler is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She is the Program Manager for the School-Based Therapeutic Program (SBTP) and Adolescent Resource Center (ARC) at Children & Families First (CFF) and leads both teams in providing services school based services state-wide in Delaware. She has 20 years of experience in providing reproductive health counseling and education to adolescents. Philinda currently provides trauma-focused therapy and is trained in Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). She is a trainer at the Brain Science Training Institute at CFF.



Francisca Moreno (they/them)

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council

Workshop 3C: Gender Freedom: Practicing Gender Inclusivity in Victim Services

Francisca Moreno (they/them) is a queer, Latine trainer and political activist currently residing in Wilmington, DE. Presently, they are the trainer and educator at the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council in Delaware. They graduated in 2022 with a B.A. in Criminal Justice and Women & Gender Studies with a concentration in Domestic Violence Prevention and Services from the University of Delaware. They train on the dynamics of domestic violence with an emphasis on intersectionality, acknowledging how peoples identities impact the way they experience domestic violence. In their free time, Francisca enjoys watching reality television, reading sapphic books, and making people laugh.

Joe Myers (he/him)

Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Workshop 1C: Prevention is in Everything: Working Towards a Shared Horizon

Workshop 4C: Alternative Avenues of Support: Mutual Aid & Community Collaboration

Joe Myers (he/him) is the Prevention Director at the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence. After studying Philosophy and Women's and Gender Studies at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, he worked for a local comprehensive crime victims' and rape crisis center in Chester County, PA, for nine and a half years. Joe started his career at the center as a Prevention Educator and left as the Director, working to grow partnerships with the organization infuse primary prevention strategies into all of their education efforts. Joe started at DCADV in June of 2023 and is contributing to the DELTA AHEAD Project for the state of Delaware.



Cindene Pezzell, Esq. (she/her)

National Defense Center for Criminalized Survivors

Panelist: What Does Criminal Justice Reform Look Like in the DV Movement?

Cindene Pezzell, Esq. is the Director of the National Defense Center for Criminalized Survivors at BWJP (formerly known as the National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women). Cindene oversees the Defense Center, where she and her colleagues provide specialized technical assistance to defense teams, including attorneys, expert witnesses, advocates, and criminalized survivors. Cindene is an experienced trainer who designs and conducts programs around the country on topics related to advocating for and defending charged and incarcerated victims of intimate partner violence. Cindene also develops legal materials and resources related to defense-based advocacy, and consults on policy and legislation impacting criminalized survivors. Cindene is a former assistant public defender with the Defender Association of Philadelphia, where she focused primarily on trial work. During her final year as a public defender, Cindene practiced exclusively in family court, providing criminal defense to people accused of crimes related to alleged violations of civil protection orders.



Stephanie Rodriguez, LCSW, DVS (she/her)

Turning Point at People's Place

Workshop 1B: Fact or Myth: Domestic Violence Victim Services and Response in Delaware

Stephanie Rodriguez, LCSW, DVS (she/her) serves as the Program Director for Turning Point at People's Place. Stephanie began her victim advocacy journey in 2011 advocating for victims of sexual violence. Over the past 10+ years, she has held worked in a variety of roles in the field including shelter/advocacy services, Domestic Violence Therapist, and DELTA Prevention Program Supervisor. In June 2020- the height of the pandemic-Stephanie became the Program Director for Turning Point. During her tenure as Program Director, Stephanie has been dedicated to seeing treatment and advocacy in the domestic violence field grow, with the ultimate goal of keeping survivors and their children safe, and preventing violence before it begins. Stephanie has launched a Level V treatment program that is being implemented in Sussex Correctional Institution- the first of its kind. Moreover, Stephanie has created partnerships with Bayhealth to allow medical residents who are in their Community Health Organization rotations to complete hours of training and observation within Turning Point and its various service programs. Stephanie has also been instrumental in advocating for specialized domestic violence community health advocate services to be brought to Kent and Sussex Counties in Delaware. Stephanie was presented with the "Vision of Peace" award by the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 2022. Stephanie is an active adjunct professor for several local colleges and universities and teaches courses related to psychology and trauma. Stephanie is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and maintains certifications as a Domestic Violence Specialist in both Prevention and Direct Service/Systems Advocacy. She earned her Master's and Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Delaware State University and also has dual associate degrees in Human Services and Drug and Alcohol Counseling. Stephanie is currently working on her Doctorate in Social Work at Delaware State University.



Lea Sevey (she/her)

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Workshops 2A and 4A: Dream Studies- Intermediate

Lea Sevey (she/her) is a certified dream analyst and has been studying dreams for over 30 years. She has taught classes in community colleges in Oregon and at conferences across the country. Lea has been in the S/DV services field for over 20 years and holds a Master of Science degree in human services and a bachelor's degree in administration of justice. Lea is the Operations Specialist at the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, prior to that she was an executive director of a S/DV program for 17 years. In her free time, Lea enjoys writing (she's written three novels) and spending time with her husband and Golden Retriever.



Tony Sierzega (he/him)

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. (CLASI)

Panelist: Housing Tools for Advocates

Tony Sierzega is a staff attorney with Community Legal Aid Society's (CLASI) housing unit. He joined CLASI upon graduation from Temple University's Beasley School of Law in 2018, and now provides free legal representation for low-income tenants in eviction matters and litigates housing discrimination complaints. As part of his eviction and fair housing practice, Tony frequently represents survivors of domestic violence. He is the proud father of a cat, P.G.(Purrlysses S. Grant). P.G. may not have saved the union like his namesake, but did save Tony's sanity during 2020's worst lockdown moments.



Chad Sniffen (he/him)

National Network to End Domestic Violence

Workshop 3B: Advocacy and Technology-Facilitated Abuse

Chad Sniffen has worked or volunteered in the movements against domestic and sexual violence as a prevention educator, survivor advocate, researcher, women's self-defense instructor, and board member since 1999. He has worked for community domestic violence and rape crisis programs in California and Arizona; for campus programs at the University of Arizona and the University of California, Davis; and for state and national programs in California, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. Chad is currently a Senior Technology Safety Specialist for the National Network to End Domestic Violence's (NNEDV) Safety Net project. Safety Net focuses on the intersection of technology and gender-based violence and works to address the impact of technology on the safety, privacy, accessibility, and civil rights of survivors. He earned a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Arizona in 2007.



Vanessa Timmons (she/her)

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Workshops 2A and 4A: Dream Studies- Intermediate

Vanessa Timmons is the executive director of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and has been a writer, activist, and women’s health advocate for over 25 years. She attended Marylhurst University’s Multidisciplinary Studies Program in Portland, Oregon, and has continued her formal education through certificates and training, including the Interpersonal Neurobiology of Trauma Certification Program at Portland State University. Vanessa has served nationally as a Northwest regional field organizer for the National Organization for Women, and currently serves on the National Network to End Domestic Violence Board of Directors, and National Women of Color Network Public Policy Committee.



Amber Twyne (she/her)

Black Mothers in Power

Workshop 1A: First to Know: How Doulas Support Intimate Partner Victims & Survivors

Amber Twyne is a Certified Doula and Childbirth Educator, enrolled in Midwives College of Utah pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Midwifery and working as a Program Coordinator under Black Mothers in Power, for a doula cohort with lived-experience with domestic violence. Her own past of intimate partner violence, obstetrical trauma and infant loss was the catalyst for beginning birth work professionally and supporting single mothers, Black families, teen parents, and domestic violence survivors. Her long-term goal is to be a homebirth midwife in the state of Delaware and support efforts to make home births reimbursable through insurance, including Medicaid, to give low-income families options and access.



Ellie Williams (she/her)

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Workshop 2B: “Alive but Still Not Free”: Advocating for Criminalized Survivors of DV

Ellie Williams is the Director of the Justice for Incarcerated Survivors Program at the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She provides post-conviction legal representation to survivors of domestic violence whose conviction is tied to abuse. Before attending law school, Ellie worked extensively with survivors of domestic and sexual violence in shelter, court, advocacy center, and hospital contexts. She speaks fluent Spanish and has also worked extensively with immigrant survivors. Ellie has represented survivors in both family and criminal law contexts, and she is a contributor to recent versions of the Georgia Domestic Violence Benchbook. She has done research for the National Family Violence Law Center, and last year, she published an article in the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law focused on the criminalization of survival and international human rights law.

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So no advocate walks alone...

RAFT supports organizations and advocates to cultivate human-centered workspaces through foundational wellness practices, resources, and training to build resilience and promote a positive gender-based violence advocacy ecosystem.

Free RAFT resources include:

- A series of 5 interactive, virtual workshops about boundaries, values, shame, strengths and gratitude.
- 5 monthly support calls for advocates, leaders, and advocates that also identify as survivors.
- Regular Blogs and Podcasts
- Downloadable content including informational posters, coloring pages, research, worksheets, and leadership tools.



For more information
and resources
scan this QR Code

SAVE THE DATE!

PURPLE RIBBON 2024

October 3, 2024



Let's celebrate the Coalition and the DV Community, and honor our award winners!

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releasing old traumas & thought patterns

while

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302-344-6108

Delaware is the traditional and current homeland of the Lenape and Nanticoke People who have lived in this region for thousands of years.

Lenape, whose name means “the People,” are “the first people of the first state.” The Lenape hold nature as sacred, and they are committed protectors of the environment.

The name Nanticoke means “people of the tidewaters.” The Nanticoke are proud of their ancestors, culture, and their tribal community today.

DCADV engages in this land acknowledgement to note both the historical and current strength of the Lenape and Nanticoke People, to advance equity, and to highlight the importance of working in collaboration with our Tribal partners to end and prevent domestic violence.



Scan to learn more about the Lenape People.



Scan to learn more about the Nanticoke People.

DCADV is grateful for the opportunity to partner with and support Delaware’s tribal communities.

DCADV is committed to **engaging in action** that builds our relationship, offering support, and sustaining our commitment to our Tribal communities.

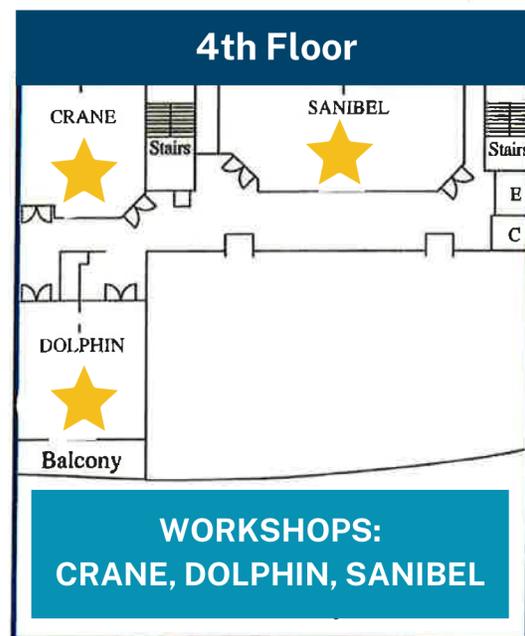
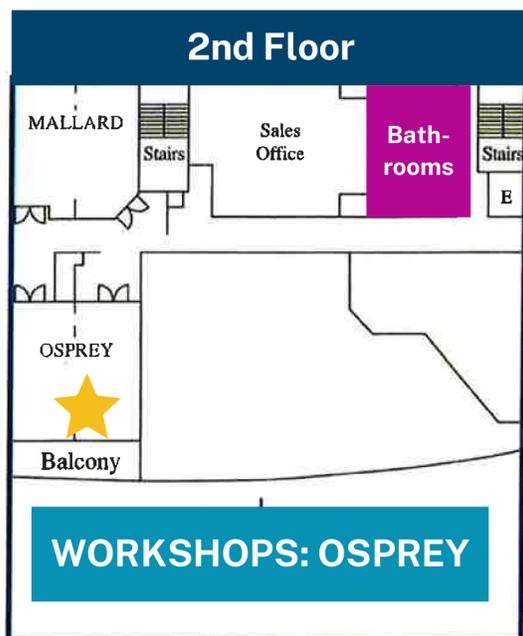
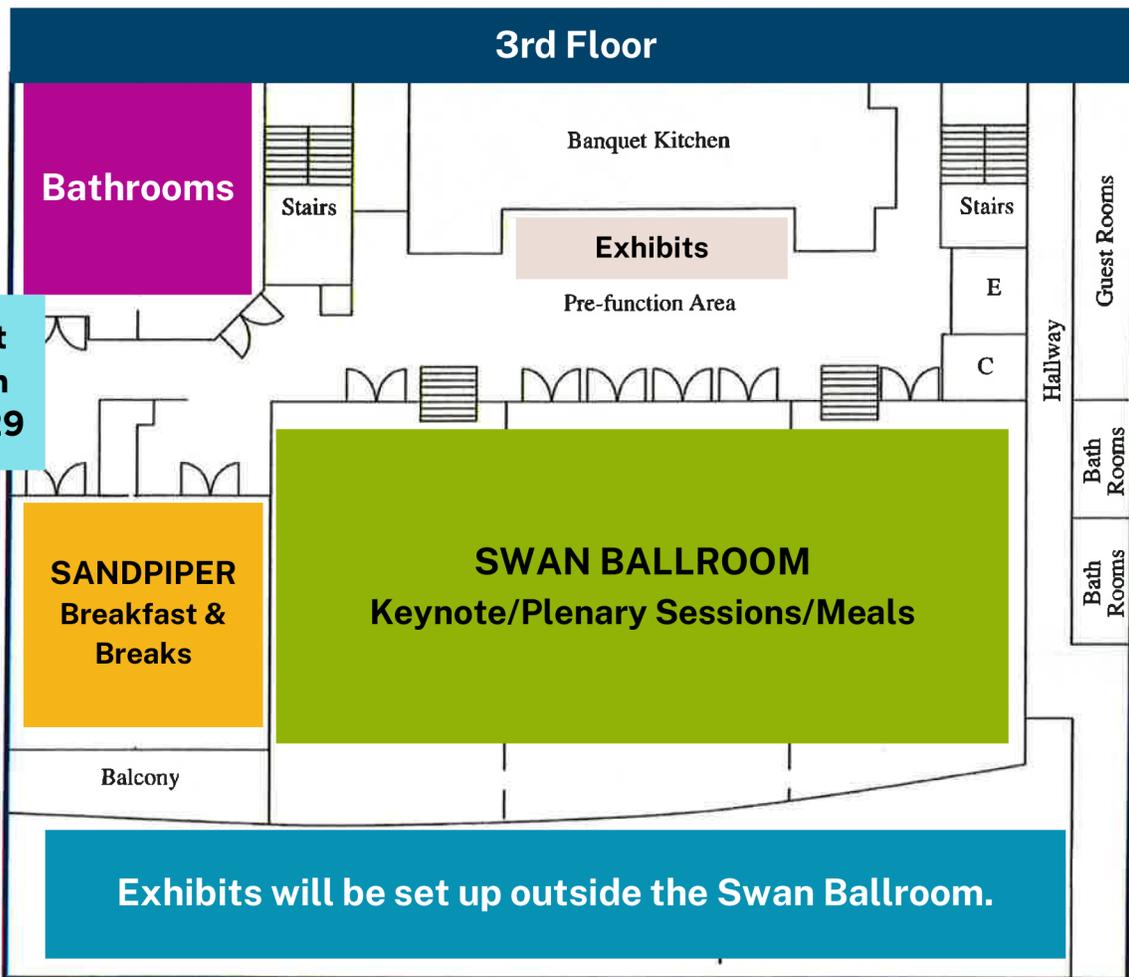
DCADV has and will continue to **advocate for state funding** to support the work of the Lenape and Nanticoke People.

DCADV will continue to **partner with** the Nanticoke Indian Association to provide training on domestic violence.

DCADV has provided **financial support** to help in their efforts to expand their website to include community resources.

Founded in 1994, the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence (DCADV) is Delaware’s federally recognized state domestic violence coalition. The staff, board, members, and volunteers of DCADV work with our member organizations and allies to support the empowerment of victims of domestic violence and their children through access to services and legal remedies. DCADV also seeks to change the societal conditions that support sexism, racism, homophobia, and other oppressions and which contribute to the continued presence of domestic and sexual violence in intimate relationships.

The Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence envisions a First State where safe, healthy, equitable relationships, families and communities thrive.



The FUN AT FIVE EVENT will be held in Kiwi's Kove on the Boardwalk level. REGISTRATION and INFORMATION are located in the Club Lounge behind the Lobby.