

the calendar

TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, TRAINING &
NETWORKING THROUGH
MCADSV

VISIT WWW.MCADSV.ORG
FOR REGISTRATION AND
AGENDA INFORMATION

Leadership Institute

■ AUGUST 17-18

Okemos, MI

Annual Meeting

■ SEPTEMBER 9

East Lansing, MI

Criminal & Civil Justice
Institute

■ SEPTEMBER 16-17

Okemos, MI

Building on the Basics
Training

■ SEPTEMBER 21-23

Okemos, MI

LBGT & Allies

Task Force Meeting

■ SEPTEMBER 27

Okemos, MI

WOC Task Force
Planning Meeting

■ SEPTEMBER 30-

OCTOBER 1

Lyons, MI



Traumatic Brain Injury and Domestic Violence Webcast

August 19, 2004

www.nashia.org

This interactive forum features distinguished presenters and critical information for professionals in brain injury and domestic violence. Topics will include identification and screening tools for survivors of domestic violence and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and resources and supports available.

Participants will tune in to the live program and pose questions via e-mail to presenters and other live audience members. The webcast is free, but pre-registration is required. Contact the Web site listed above for more information.

Build an Effective Media Strategy

August 20, 2004

East Lansing, Michigan

This full day training opportunity is offered free (lunch included) to anyone who works with victims in the State of Michigan.

The workshop provides tips and techniques to help crime victims who want to tell their stories and those who want to help them maintain their privacy. The workshop will also talk about approaching the media to get positive attention and understanding for the issues.

For more information, please contact Bonnie Bucqueroux at (517) 349-4752 or Linda Hartwig at (517) 353-6430 at the MSU Victims and the Media Program.

Forensic Nurse Examiner Conference

September 27-29, 2004

Fraser, Michigan

The Forensic Nurse Examiner Conference is sponsored by Turning Point and Macomb Community College Criminal Justice Training Center. Presenters include Jamie Ferrell, Forensic Nurse Consultant, and Catherine Connell, Director of Intervention and Treatment for CARE House. Please contact Renae Diegel for more information at (596) 792-0051.

the Coalition Connection

Your link to cutting edge information on
the issue of violence against women

University of Colorado Officials Blamed for Failing to Properly Oversee Athletic Program

Reprinted by permission from Family Violence Prevention Fund

There is evidence that sex, alcohol and drugs were used as football recruiting tools at the University of Colorado. While there isn't direct evidence that University officials knew about and sanctioned these practices, they were so widespread that officials should have known and should have taken action to stop them.

That is among the conclusions of the Independent Investigative Commission Examining the University of Colorado's Athletic Recruitment Practices, which issued its final report on May 19. The Commission report contains some fifty findings and recommendations for change.

At least nine women have alleged sexual assault by University of Colorado football recruits or players, dating back to 1997. Three have filed lawsuits in federal court against the University.

The Commission says, "It is common knowledge that sex and alcohol are a pervasive part of the American football recruiting experience" and it is "reasonable to believe that Coach Gary Barnett and his assistant coaches knew or should have known about the use of sex and alcohol by recruits." Its report details instances when players paid for sex, deliberately got women drunk, and had group sex. Some of these incidents involved underage girls and subsequent charges of sexual assault.

The Commission accuses Athletics Director Richard Tharp of espousing a philosophy of "plausible deniability" when faced with accusations of misconduct, and of failing to provide adequate sexual assault and sexual harassment prevention training for employees and student athletes.

"The University's leadership must be held accountable for systemic failings that jeopardized students' safety and allowed for ongoing misconduct in the football recruiting program," the report says. (continued on page 2)

July
2004



The Michigan
Coalition Against
Domestic and Sexual
Violence is dedicated
to the empowerment
of all the state's
survivors of domestic
and sexual violence.

Our mission is to
develop and promote
efforts aimed at the
elimination of all
domestic and sexual
violence in
Michigan.

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(University of Colorado, continued from page one)

Many violence prevention advocates praised the report, and some were angered when the University's Board of Regents turned it over to University President Elizabeth Hoffman to consider the appropriate personnel and policy changes. She is among those criticized by the Commission: "As the University's chief administrator, Hoffman failed to exercise sufficient oversight until pressured by the Governor and lawmakers." Hoffman says she will recommend a series of personnel and policy changes in the next few weeks, and will make a decision about Coach Barnett's future. He is currently on paid suspension.

The Commission is also critical of the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) for lax rules. The report notes, "Nothing in the NCAA rules expressly forbids players or hosts from providing alcohol to underage recruits or from taking them to bars or strip clubs. The NCAA is now reviewing its rules.

The eight member Commission investigated the allegations from March 2 to May 14, 2004, hearing from 56 witnesses. The report is available online at www.coiic.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline
Linea Nacional sobre la
Violencia Domestica
 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
 TTY 1-800-787-3224
www.ndvh.org

Rape, Abuse & Incest National
Network (RAINN)
 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)
www.rainn.org

CAVNET Same Sex Violence Advisory Committee

CAVNET (Communities Against Violence) announces the creation of an Advisory Committee on Same Sex Violence. The Advisory Committee is made up of experts in same sex violence and hate crimes, and their web site is designed to enhance the ability to find resources and information on this subject quickly. To access resources, visit www.samesexviolencelibrary.org. The Advisory Committee is a developing national project, and they welcome new applications. You may contact the Committee by e-mail at mdubin@cavnet.org

Policy Update

Reprinted from the Family Violence Prevention Fund

Many violence prevention leaders were pleased on May 18, 2004 when the House of Representatives defeated a bill that would have denied federal funds to any hospital that failed to investigate the immigration status of patients seeking emergency care. Opponents charged that women in labor, immigrants with contagious diseases and battered immigrant women would be afraid to seek needed medical care.

Abuse of Children and Adults with Disabilities

Sponsored by the Office of Victims of Crime, an online training conference is scheduled for September 9-29, 2004. Benefits of participation include 22 one-hour Webinars offering extensive access to top experts and additional faculty contact hours through January 31, 2005. For information contact www.disability-abuse.com

Equality Now

Through its Women's Action Network, Equality Now distributes information about human rights violations to concerned groups and individuals around the world, along with recommended actions for publicizing and protesting them.

The Women's Action Network is committed to voicing a worldwide call for justice and equality for women. Issues of urgent concern to Equality Now include rape, domestic violence, reproductive rights, trafficking of women, female genital mutilation, and equal access to economic opportunity and political participation. Equality Now was founded in 1992 to work for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women around the world. For more information, contact info@equalitynow.org or visit www.equalitynow.org

VotePower

VotePower is a new, groundbreaking initiative aimed at increasing battered women's participation in the voting process in the 2004 election and beyond.

In addition to the major obstacles battered women confront in escaping violence and rebuilding their lives, these women face distinct obstacles that prevent them from voting. VotePower Action Kits are being distributed in Michigan to assist in efforts to engage in voter mobilization. Watch for more info from MCADSV. The empowerment of battered women through the voting process will represent a major success in efforts to increase civic participation among marginalized groups.

Joe Torre's "Safe at Home"

Reprinted from the Family Violence Prevention Fund

“There can be nothing more devastating to a child than abuse and violence at home. Home should be a sanctuary, a safe harbor from any storm. Yet, for many children, home is a place of danger and fear of an abusive adult.”

Those words greet visitors to the website for Joe Torre's Safe at Home Foundation, www.joetorre.net, which the New York Yankees manager established to develop educational programs to end the cycle of domestic violence. Torre grew up in a violent home. His father, a police officer, abused his mother. Torre's foundation is dedicated to his mother.

The web site offers an introduction to the foundation and includes a section called "What Is Domestic Violence," with straightforward information about the effects of domestic violence on children.

Sixteen Days of Activism Against Gender Violence

Violence inhibits women from reaching their full potential as active members of their community, which impairs the well-being of society. The Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University is encouraging communities to organize November 25 to December 10 and "Take Action" against gender violence.

The 2004 Take Action Kit will be available in August! To access the kit online, go to: www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html, or call (732) 932-8782