

the calendar

TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, TRAINING &
NETWORKING THROUGH
MCADSV

VISIT WWW.MCADSV.ORG
FOR REGISTRATION AND
AGENDA INFORMATION

Hiring and Screening
Practices for Employees
and Volunteers
■ MAY 24TH
Webinar

Women of Color
Institute
■ JUNE 21ST & 22ND
Dearborn, MI

Child Abuse and
Neglect Reporting
Laws in Michigan
■ JULY 27TH
Webinar

National Center for Victims of Crime 2007 National Conference: *Advancing Practice, Policy and Research*

June 18-20, 2007

Washington DC

This joint conference of the National Center for Victims of Crime and the National Crime Victim Bar Association will feature a distinguished array of experts highlighting the latest advancements in the field. The 2007 Conference will build on the overwhelming success of the first National Conference in 2005, which drew more than 800 participants. OVW Grantees can allocate grant funds to attend this conference. The Conference agenda includes such topics as: Child Victims, Victims with Disabilities, Victims and Technology, Victims' Rights and Public Policy, Violence Against Women, Older Adult Victims, Indian Country, and many more. For complete agenda and registration information, visit:

www.ncvc.org/ncvc/Main.aspx

National Organization for Women (NOW) 2007 National Conference

July 13 - 15, 2007

Dearborn, MI

For the first time in 30 years, Michigan and the NOW Detroit Chapter will host the National Conference! Network with feminists from around the country and the world. Attendees can expect to discuss the 2008 election, listen to feminist politicians and participate in workshops and skill building sessions. There will also be an Elections Plenary as part of NOW's Political Action Committee as well as the introduction of the Young Feminist Leadership Institute designed for the development of younger feminist leaders. For complete information, visit: www.now.org/conference

2007 Minority Women's Health Summit

Women of Color: Addressing Disparities, Affirming Resilience, and Developing Strategies for Success

August 23-26, 2007

Washington DC

Convened by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health, the goals of this summit aim to build on the knowledge gained in the previous conferences and identify distinct health issues disproportionately impacting minority women so that programs can be improved. Also highlighted will be successful models of health promotion and prevention that can be replicated in communities across the country. For more information, visit: www.womenshealth.gov/mwhs

the Coalition Connection

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

The National Center for Victims of Crime Launches New VictimLaw Database

The National Center for Victims of Crime recently launched VictimLaw, a comprehensive, on-line database of state, federal, and tribal victims' rights laws and protections. Developed with funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, and the U.S. Department of Justice, VictimLaw is a unique and groundbreaking resource, offering free, user-friendly access to information that until now has been difficult to locate. The database includes more than 15,000 victims' rights statutes (state and federal), tribal laws, constitutional amendments, court rules, and administrative code provisions. Future additions to the database will include state attorney general opinions and summaries of court decisions related to victims' rights. VictimLaw will offer regular updates to the information in the database. Researchers can search under each of the following rights: the right to attend, to compensation, to enforcement, to be heard, to be informed, to protection, to restitution, and to the return of property. VictimLaw offers four ways to search: by topic, legal term, jurisdiction, and citation. Visit: www.victimlaw.info.

The launch of VictimLaw coincided with National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22-28, an annual observance commemorated in communities throughout the country. For more information about VictimLaw and opportunities to promote use of the database, please see www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_VictimLaw170

If I am Missing or Dead Makes NYT Best Seller List

NNEDV announced on May 3rd the book "If I Am Missing or Dead," authored by Janine Latus, made the New York Times best sellers list! This powerful memoir chronicles Janine's abusive marriage while interweaving the story of her sister Amy's tragic death. The book release has likely garnered significant attention for NNEDV and its newly renamed Amy's Courage Fund, formerly the Direct Assistance Fund. Amy's Courage Fund provides direct assistance to victims fleeing abuse. NNEDV has also launched a new website in conjunction with the renaming of the fund. Visit the new website at: www.nnedv.org

May
2007



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.

MCADSV

3893 Okemos Rd.,
Suite B2
Okemos, MI 48864

Phone (517) 347-7000
Fax (517) 347-1377
TTY (517) 381-8470
general@mcadsv.org

Visit us on the
World Wide Web at
www.mcadsv.org

New Report on Sexual Assault of Native Women in the U.S.

Amnesty International released a new report in April, "Maze of Injustice: The failure to protect Indigenous women from sexual violence in the USA," documenting the numerous human rights violations associated with the sexual assault of Native women in the United States. Access the official report electronically at: www.amnestyusa.org/women/maze/report.pdf

Also see "Maze of Injustice" co-author and researcher Sarah Deer's article "Deer: Demanding Justice – Anti-rape Activism in Indian Country," describing her experience collaborating with Amnesty International and contributing to the report at: www.ncdsv.org/images/Deer_Demanding%20Justice.pdf

Traveling Photo Exhibition Available to Organizations

More than 400 women have been abducted and murdered since 1993 in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua, Mexico, bordering El Paso, Texas. In a significant number of cases, the brutality with which assailants abduct and murder the women goes further than the act of killing. Families of the victims have refused to be quiet about the needless loss of their loved ones and, with help from activists from across the world, continue to seek justice and solutions to the issue of femicide.

Amnesty International is sharing the photo exhibition "Femicide in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua, Mexico," making it available for organizations to bring directly to their communities. Through 27 striking photos and an accompanying narrative, the exhibition highlights different aspects of the situations in Juárez and Chihuahua, the struggle for justice, and scapegoating by authorities.

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New Sexual Assault Report from the U.S. Department of Justice

Sexual Assault During and After Separation/Divorce: An Exploratory Study, was prepared as a Federally funded final report for the U.S. Department of Justice by Walter S. DeKeseredy, Ph.D, Criminology, Justice & Policy Studies at the Univ. of Ontario Institute of Technology. The purpose of the study is to illustrate that separation or divorce alone does not solve the issue of violence against women by their current or past partners.

Though the report has not been published by the U.S. Department of Justice, The National Criminal Justice Reference Service has made it available electronically at: www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/217591.pdf

Get Expert Answers on Prosecuting Sex Crimes

A CBS News.com blog by Katie Couric highlights Linda Fairstein's expert responses to 10 questions on this important subject. Fairstein led the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office for twenty-five years, and according to CBS News.com, is "one of the pioneers who literally changed the way sex crimes are prosecuted—and discussed—in this country..." In addition, she is the author of a new bestselling crime novel titled "Bad Blood." Visit Katie Couric's blog at: www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2007/03/08/couricandco/entry2549241.shtml

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Visit the Apple Blossom Boutique at
www.mcadsv.org
and purchase gifts and books to support our efforts on behalf of the state's domestic & sexual violence survivors

The Survey Says....

In a single day, more than 1,667 adults and children sought services from Michigan domestic violence shelters and service providers. The results come from *Domestic Violence Counts: The National Census of Domestic Violence Services* (NCDVS), an unduplicated count of critical DV services received nationwide in one day, and conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) alongside Harvard University researchers.

With participation from 48% of Michigan local domestic violence programs, 509 adults and children were living in transitional housing programs designed specifically for domestic violence survivors, and 227 requests for service were unfortunately unmet due to lack of resources. For the full 2006 report and to fill out a web form for updates on NCDVS 2007 census rollout for DV Counts, visit: www.nnedv.org/census

New Electronic Resource: Building Victim Assistance Networks with Faith Communities

This Office for Victims of Crime e-publication provides information for victim service providers seeking to engage faith communities in providing improved services to crime victims. The publication is based on lessons learned from the Faith Community Initiative developed through the OVC-funded Vermont Victim Services 2000 Demonstration Project. The document specifically addresses the need for collaboration, elements of collaboration, victim needs from a faith-based perspective, lessons learned, and issues unique to faith-based victim assistance.

To view the entire e-resource, visit: www.ovc.gov/publications/infores/faith_based_vict_asst/welcome.html

FREE Domestic Violence Informational CD

How to Recognize, Respond to, and Provide Resources to End Domestic Violence was released by The National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCDVS) and the Avon Foundation to answer important questions for the general public. Domestic Violence programs and advocates can use the free CD for resource sharing initiatives in the community. This learning tool will help answer questions such as: what should someone do if someone else shares a painful secret of domestic violence, and where can victims turn for help.

Though it is not intended to make its audience experts, the CD will inform non-advocates about domestic violence so they will feel comfortable talking to a possible victim and to help share basic information and resources. For more information visit: www.ncdsv.org/ncd_corporate_avon.html#free or for a free copy: e-mail name, address and phone number to: info@avonfoundation.org and include the text "CD Inquiry" in the subject line.

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For more information on the injustices of the Juárez and Chihuahua situations or to learn about bringing the exhibition to your community, visit: www.amnestyusa.org/women/juarez/photoexhibit.html

**National Domestic Violence Hotline
Línea Nacional sobre la Violencia
Doméstica**

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