



ERIE COUNTY COALITION AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE ... founded 1978

The ECCAFV is a member-driven organization which engages in social change activism to dismantle the root causes of domestic violence at the individual, organizational, and institutional level. Our goal is to end domestic violence.

ECCAFV Meeting Minutes ~ Friday, October 10, 2008

Welcome and Introductions: 19 people were in attendance
(Attendance list from the meeting is available to meeting attendees. Contact Kristen Luppino (kluppino@cfsbny.org) for a copy.)

A **Moment of Silence** was held in honor of victims and survivors of domestic violence. Remla Parthasarathy presented the "Memory Chair" – the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence 30th Anniversary Conference held this past summer in Washington, DC had "Memory Chairs" placed in various locations throughout the conference representing victims from all the states in the nation. Those of us who attended the NCADV conference wanted to create a similar experience for each of our meetings. The case of Jessica Gonzalez – a child abduction/murder/domestic violence case in which the Castle Rock, CO Police Department did not enforce existing orders of protection – this case was used for the Memory Chair at the meeting. The Gonzalez case is about how her three children were abducted and then murdered. It is now being brought before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on October 22nd at 3:15 pm. A live simulcast can be heard on-line at www.oas.org. There is strong emphasis on the issue of human rights.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

- The Coalition decided at its September meeting that it would be "going green". Therefore, all future meeting minutes will be emailed for members to print a copy if they would like a hard copy – meeting minutes will be posted at monthly meetings. Since meeting minutes had not been posted on the website and members had not had the opportunity to review them, approval of the September meeting minutes were be tabled until the November meeting.

Finance Update

- The Finance Report was not complete and tabled until the November meeting.

NYSCADV Tips and Trends

- Remla Parthasarathy presented several tips and trends from the NYSCADV. The information is not included in the meeting minutes in an effort to prioritize victim safety and protection.

Education and Training Institute – DV 101

- Greg White reported on the most recent DV 101 that was held on September 18, 2007 in St. Stanislaus Social Center on Buffalo's East Side. There were 34 registrants and 30 people attended the session. Following expenses, the Net Gain for the Coalition was \$278.55
- This training session had the most evaluations returned from participants; evaluation scores and comments scores were very positive.
- The next DV 101 is scheduled for the spring of 2009.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Update

- Kristen reviewed the following events and activities:
 - Calendar of Events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in WNY was reviewed - “31 Ways”
 - The Peace Bridge Walk was attended by approximately 45 people from the U.S. side and 45 people from the Canadian side. A moment of silence was held (bubbles were blown into the wind), the walk was escorted across the bridge by a bagpiper. Four speakers presented during the luncheon at Happy Jack’s Restaurant.
 - The LGBT Training is scheduled for Thursday, October 16th, in Trinity United Methodist Church, Grand Island
 - Spot Light on Domestic Violence is scheduled for Saturday, October 25th in Spot Coffee – Elmwood Avenue location – and will include poetry readings and Women in Black (peace vigil).
 - On Friday, October 10th, Turning the Falls Purple is scheduled to begin at 7:00 pm outside the Visitor’s Center, Niagara Falls.
 - University at Buffalo will hold the “Take Back the Night” on October 14th.
 - Saturday, October 18th, Crisis Services will host the SPCA in a fund raising event.
 - On September 25th there will be a tabling event at the McKinley Mall, Blasdell focusing on domestic violence.
 - Neighborhood Legal Services distributed the NLS August/September 2008 newsletter that focuses on “Your Housing Rights as a Domestic Violence Victims”
 - The YWCA is hosting a Domestic Violence Art Exhibit in the Science Museum on Friday, October 10th.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Update

- Petrina Piro presented the Questionnaires that were sent to NY State Assembly members; responses are being returned. Petrina mentioned the various questions that were included on the questionnaires.

ECCAFV Committees

- Kristen developed an outline of all Erie ECCAFV Committees including the timeline of the committee and who is assigned as members representing the Coalition Executive Committee. Membership from the Coalition is enthusiastically encouraged to participate in the work of these committees. Please consider joining a committee and volunteer to offer your support of this important work.

Funding – ECDVCC Position

- Remla Parthasarathy updated the Coalition members present on a recent meeting that was held to address the funding status of the DVCC position. Future meetings are being scheduled in order to continue the discussion on how to strategize future funding opportunities and that would support this important position for our community. Erie County has had this position approximately for the last 10 years; the position had been held by three previous people. The Mary Byron Award is being explored as a possible funding source.

ECCAFV Monthly Membership Meeting Location

- Remla led a discussion on the Coalition’s Monthly Meeting location that included the current location at 330 Delaware as well as other possible locations. Members felt that 330 Delaware was convenient, and that the room currently works for our meetings especially since our meeting attendance has been smaller. The International Institute, located at 864 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, is another meeting location possibility that was discussed. It was decided to try that location for the November Membership Meeting.

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www.eccafv.org

Updates

- Kristen reviewed the following events and activities:
 - Family Justice Center- October 20th, Andrew Peters from the Buffalo Sabres will be present for the announcement of the Child Advocacy Center (CAC Program) at 1:00 pm.
 - LGBT – Domestic Violence Committee held a fundraiser and raised \$385 and increased the visibility of the group in the community.
 - Citizen’s Task Force Against Child Abuse and Neglect will hold its next meeting on Friday, October 17th at 9:15 am.

Announcements

- A very special thank you to Kristen Luppino for all the work she does for the Coalition and community on behalf of victims of domestic violence – especially during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

New Member Orientation

- A new member orientation was held at the end of the meeting.

Next Meeting and Location

- The **November Monthly Membership Meeting will be held at the International Institute of Buffalo, 864 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY, on Friday, November 14, 2008 – 9:00 am.** Parking is available.