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A message from the KCSDV Board of Directors

After 13 years as the executive director of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, Sandy Barnett accepted a position as the vice president of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence. A reception was held in her honor on July 9.

Sandy leaves KCSDV as a strong organization; its leadership at the board and staff level, continuity of funding and statewide partnerships is unparalleled and will lead the organization into the next decade. KCSDV will embrace this change and move to new heights of success with advocacy and social change precisely because of the strength that each board and staff member, direct service program, project partner and supporter brings to this work. With your continued support, this change of leadership will be seamless and we will work together to meet new challenges and reach new successes.

We also announce that Joyce Grover, Esq. has been appointed as the interim executive director. Joyce has worked at KCSDV for more than eight years and she will continue to provide stellar leadership during this time of transition.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Joyce at 785-232-9784, or Sarah Terwelp, KCSDV board president, at 785-331-2034.

Most Sincerely,
Sarah Terwelp, KCSDV board president



KCSDV reports preliminary numbers of services provided to advocates and allies, July 2009 – June 2010

The Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence provides training and support for advocates and allies who are providing direct services to victims and survivors throughout the state of Kansas. Preliminary numbers indicate that KCSDV provided the following support to advocates and allies from July 2009 to June 2010:

- Answered 2,073 requests for technical assistance from advocates and allies
- Trained 2,166 advocates and allies
- Hosted 129 training events

KCSDV staff attended 1,558 hours of training to enhance best practices and learn more about emerging issues in relation to sexual and domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. KCSDV initiatives include, but are not limited to, providing training, technical assistance, capacity building, accreditation standards and legislative advocacy.



February 8-9 is Safe Homes, Safe Streets 2011



Safe Homes, Safe Streets reception attendees.

Safe Homes, Safe Streets (SHSS) is the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence's annual event that bridges public awareness and policy work. For the past seven years, SHSS has been providing information to legislators and the general public about the prevalence of sexual and domestic violence, and the benefits of creating a state in which everyone is safe at home and on the streets.

SHSS features two days full of activities, including a press conference, advocate training, a public policy briefing, a private reception for KCSDV member program staff and a public reception for legislators, advocates and ally organizations. SHSS 2011 will be February 8-9 at the Ramada Convention Center in Topeka.

For more information: Melissa DeDonder, communications coordinator, mdedonder@kcsdv.org, 785-232-9784.

Kansas Commission on Judicial Performance encourages voters to view judicial performance reviews prior to voting on November 2



On September 1, the Kansas Commission on Judicial Performance will be posting judicial performance evaluations for all judges who will stand for retention election on November 2. The commission encourages everyone to review the website www.kansasjudicialperformance.org prior to voting in November.

For more information:
Kansas Commission on Judicial Performance
kcjp@kcjp.ks.gov
785-296-8949

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issues reminder that services need to be available to all survivors, regardless of immigration status

Immigrant survivors face numerous barriers in accessing services for themselves and their children. These barriers are often magnified if the survivor does not possess permanent legal status in the United States. Batterers use a variety of tactics to isolate and intimidate an immigrant survivor, including threatening to have her deported if she attempts to reach out for help. These tactics are often reinforced by the anti-immigrant sentiment that is present in the media and throughout our society. In recent months, the increase in this anti-immigrant public discourse has made an immigrant survivor's path to safety even more daunting.

In an effort to ensure that all individuals retain the right to access services, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently redistributed information clarifying which services must be open to all individuals. These documents include HHS's Domestic Violence Fact Sheet, which addresses the protections that are in place for immigrant survivors. A summary of HHS' clarification follows below:

Are battered immigrants eligible for battered women's shelter services funded by HHS?

Yes. Battered women's shelters receive funding from a variety of Federal sources, including Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funding from the Office for Community Services in the Administration for Children and Families. These funds are administered through a designated state agency. There are no immigration restrictions included in FVPSA, and HHS has not designated FVPSA monies as a federal public benefit program that requires verification of immigration status. Other important points to remember about FVPSA funding include:

- FVPSA-funded programs may not discriminate based on national origin. 42 U.S.C. 10406.
- Formula grant-funded activities must address ethnic, cultural and language-diversity issues. 42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(C).
- States must document procedures that they have developed and implemented to assure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided FVPSA-funded services. 42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(E). Most, if not all, states have statutes or policies protecting the confidentiality of information provided by a victim of domestic violence to a domestic violence counselor or advocate.

Complete information and additional materials can be found on their website: [hhs.gov](https://www.hhs.gov). In addition, nonprofit charitable organizations, including sexual and domestic violence organizations, have no obligation to inquire about the immigration status of persons who seek their services unless doing so will either determine whether the person may qualify for an immigration remedy, or will determine if additional referrals are needed. KCSDV recommends that if a conversation about status is required, the conversation should be handled carefully. Begin the conversation by asking "do you have any immigration concerns," rather than asking "what is your status?"

The republication of the HHS Domestic Violence Fact Sheet does not change existing law, but it does clarify that services protecting life or safety must be inclusive to everyone — a reminder about the importance of providing safe, confidential services to all survivors and their children.

For more information:

Pam Jacobs, immigration projects attorney, pjacobs@kcsdv.org, 785-232-9784.

Tribal Law and Order Act works to improve safety, accountability and justice for Native American survivors

Native American women are victims of violent crime, including sexual and domestic violence, at a rate three and a half times greater than the national average. In July, President Obama signed the Tribal Law and Order Act, which will work to help the Federal Government address the unique public health and safety challenges that confront tribal communities. The Tribal Law and Order Act will work to strengthen tribal law enforcement and the ability to prosecute and fight crime. Because one in three Native American women will be raped in her lifetime, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act will require health care facilities to implement standardized practices to improve services provided to victims of sexual assault. As a result, more women will be able to get the care they need for healing, and consistent standards will aid in the prosecution of perpetrators of violent crimes against women. The Act focuses not only on prosecution, but also on crime prevention. It reauthorizes and improves programs to prevent and treat alcohol and substance abuse. Because men and boys play a critical role in global efforts to end violence against women and girls, the Act also reauthorizes programs that improve opportunities for at-risk Indian youth.

You can watch the video of the signing, which includes a moving introduction from Lisa Marie Iyotte, survivor, and read more about the Tribal Law and Order Act from Lynn Rosenthal, White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, and a transcript of President Obama's remarks at whitehouse.gov

Child Welfare Project enhances services for survivors, collaboration with the child welfare system

Child maltreatment is closely linked to adult domestic and sexual violence — more than 30 studies illustrate a co-occurrence rate of between 30 and 70 percent. Despite these statistics, nationwide intervention strategies historically came from two distinct systems working independently of each other. This approach created many challenges, including the following:

- Children were sometimes removed from homes where a protective parent, also a victim of abuse, had been providing safety and care for the children.
- Protective mothers were afraid to seek support for their children and themselves because they feared losing custody of their children either to the state or to the perpetrator.

Sexual and domestic violence advocates nationwide recognize a need to collaborate with the child welfare system to enhance support and services for survivors and their children. In 2002, the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence began collaborating with the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, division of Children and Family Services on the KCSDV Child Welfare Project.

As a result of this collaborative project, more than 500 child welfare professionals and sexual and domestic violence advocates statewide have received training on best practices related to the intersection of sexual and domestic violence and child welfare. New tools and resources have been developed, including a desk reference guide for child welfare professionals and a resource guide for children's programming advocates working in sexual and domestic violence advocacy organizations.

The KCSDV Child Welfare Project has enhanced collaborative relationships at both the community and state level. Relationships have been strengthened between child maltreatment investigators, case managers and service providers, and sexual and domestic violence advocates. Sexual and domestic violence advocates and child welfare professionals provide guidance and evaluation for the work on this project.

Great strides have been made through this project, but there is more collaborative work to be done. Survivors experience many barriers as they try to access safety and support from many systems working independently of each other. One of the greatest barriers for survivors is shared across all systems — perpetrators frequently use children as a means to abuse the protective parent. Perpetrators often threaten to "take" the children, and when these threats are used in conjunction with custody and parenting time litigation, they continue to jeopardize the safety of survivors and their children. Until all systems are working to protect survivors and their children, the work of the KCSDV Child Welfare Project must continue.

For more information: Kathy Wood, child welfare projects team leader, kwood@kcsdv.org, 785-232-9784.

You can be a resource for survivors in your community

KCSDV hosts more than 100 training events each year for advocates and allies, including social workers, health care and mental health professionals, attorneys, educators and more. Visit the KCSDV training calendar to find an event to suit your needs. Bookmark this link and check back often because new events are added throughout the year. Host a workshop or community presentation. Contact your local sexual or domestic violence advocacy program to learn how you can host a workshop for your organization or employees. See the map below for contact information. Get involved. To learn more about local events and volunteer opportunities, contact the sexual or domestic violence advocacy program near you. See the list below for details.



Where to find services and support for survivors in Kansas

Kansas Crisis Hotline 888-END ABUSE (888-363-2287)

Kansas' 30 sexual and domestic violence advocacy programs provide a variety of crisis intervention services and long-term support for survivors and resources for communities. All services are free and confidential.

Atchison	DV/SA	DoVES	800-367-7075 or 913-367-0363
Dodge City	DV/SA	Crisis Center of Dodge City	620-225-6510
El Dorado	DV/SA	Family Life Center of Butler County	800-870-6967 or 316-321-7104
Emporia	DV/SA	SOS, Inc.	800-825-1295 or 620-342-1870
Garden City	DV/SA	Family Crisis Services	800-275-0535 or 620-275-5911
Great Bend	DV/SA	Family Crisis Center	866-792-1885 or 620-792-1885
Hays	DV/SA	Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services	800-794-4624 or 785-625-3055
Hutchinson	DV/SA	Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center	800-701-3630 or 620-663-2522
Iola	DV/SA	Hope Unlimited	620-365-7566
Kansas City, KS	DV	El Centro, Inc. Así Se Puede!	913-281-1186
Kansas City, KS	DV	Friends of Yates Joyce Williams Center	913-321-0951
Kansas City, MO	DV/SA	KCAVP	816-561-0550
Kansas City, MO	SA	MOCSA	816-531-0233
Lawrence	SA	GaDuGi Safe Center	785-841-2345
Lawrence	DV	The Willow Domestic Violence Center	800-770-3030 or 785-843-3333
Leavenworth	DV/SA	Alliance Against Family Violence	800-644-1441 or 913-682-9131
Liberal	DV/SA	Liberal Area Rape Crisis and DV Services	620-624-8818
Manhattan	DV/SA	The Crisis Center, Inc.	800-727-2785 or 785-539-2785
Mayetta	DV/SA	Prairie Band Potawatomi Family Violence Prevention	866-966-0173 or 785-966-2932
Newton	DV/SA	Harvey County DV/SA Task Force	800-487-0510 or 316-283-0350
Overland Park	DV/SA	Safehome	888-432-4300 or 913-262-2868
Pittsburg	DV/SA	Crisis Resource Center of Southeast Kansas, Inc.	800-794-9148 or 620-231-8251
Salina	DV/SA	Domestic Violence Assoc. of Central Kansas	800-874-1499 or 785-827-5862
Topeka	DV/SA	YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment	888-822-2983 or 785-354-7927
Ulysses	DV/SA	DoVES of Grant County	620-356-2608
Wichita	DV	Catholic Charities Harbor House	866-899-5522 or 316-263-6000
Wichita	DV	StepStone	316-265-1611
Wichita	SA	Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center	316-263-3002 o español: 316-263-2044
Wichita	DV	YWCA Women's Crisis Center	316-267-7233
Winfield	DV/SA	Safe Homes, Inc.	800-794-7672 or 620-221-4357