

Connections for Abused Women and their Children

Natalie Martinez, NBC5, Chicago. Margaret Jones, Board President and David Hiller, President and Chief Officer of the McCormick Foundation . David Schultz, Gladys Zolna, Sarah and Adam Krauser, Junior Board.

David Hiller, President and Chief Officer McCormick Foundation. Brigitte Morel-Curran and Kerry Hackett, Board Members. Jeff Goldman, Board Member and Cory Ryan, CAWC Executive Director.



CAWC raises over \$175,000 at its 25th Annual Gala

NBC Chicago's Natalie Martinez served as the master of ceremonies for CAWC's Sounds of Silence 2011. The event, which was held on March 19 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, Crystal Ballroom, brought together 275 guests to give recognition to the too often silent crime of domestic violence and to celebrate the success of hundreds of victims that CAWC helps each year to rebuild their lives and restore their hopes for violence-free futures.

The attendees enjoyed cocktails, appetizers, silent auction and mystery wine raffle as well as a seated three-course dinner. The event also featured a live auction, led by Jonathon Kraft of Kraft Auction Services, with trips to Las Vegas and Sonoma Wine Country in California, diamond level box seats at upcoming White Sox's games among other items. Dancing with music provided by Style Matters, DJS ended the fun-filled event.

During the event program, CAWC Board President, Margaret Jones, presented its Champion Award to McCormick Foundation for its extraordinary leadership in support of CAWC's mission to end domestic violence. President and CEO David Hiller accepted on behalf of the Foundation.

The proceeds of this year's event will be used to support CAWC's four life-saving services including Greenhouse Shelter and 24-hour hotline, Humboldt Park Outreach Program

(HPOP), Hospital Crisis Intervention Project (HCIP) at Stroger Hospital, and domestic violence services at Haymarket Center. Last year, CAWC responded to over 3200 hotline calls, shelter 273 women and children, and provided counseling, advocacy and support to over 700 victims and their children through its outreach programs, and provided training to approximately 4,000 volunteers, health-care and social service professionals, and the community at large.

CAWC wishes to thank the following generous sponsors of the event:

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Allstate Insurance; BDT Capital Partners; Exelon; Greenberg Traurig; Korn/Ferry International; Kevin and Joanne Krakora; Linda Haynes; McCormick Foundation; Margaret Jones and Mike Ferro; Mesrirow Financial Consulting; Peoples Gas; Reed Smith; Yuri Shishido and Sumit Chandra; Ron Sipiora and Gretchen Bodum; Simple Truth; Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon, and Winston & Strawn.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CAWC is fortunate to have rich collaborations with providers throughout the region. We have more than 130 active networking agreements for health care, child care, transitional housing, and legal assistance-to name just a few.

Since 2007 the University of Illinois, College of Medicine, Learning Service Program, has given second year medical students an opportunity to meet with women at CAWC who have had limited access to health care. Students learn to illicit patients' needs, values and health beliefs; and work on solutions regarding access and continuity of care. The students experience healthcare in a community setting and vulnerable women receive clinical care from UIC faculty at neighborhood clinics.

CAWC staff collaborates with Catholic Charities' Legal Department on their Immigrant Women Project, for legal advice and representation on how to apply for a U-Visa, available to some victims of crime, and self-petition for residency under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). This partnership builds on our capacity to provide legal advocacy at the Domestic Violence Courthouse.

Through the Domestic Violence Mental Health Policy Initiative, CAWC is partnering with Thresholds and Chicago-Read Mental Health Center in a pilot study to build cross-sector collaborations to benefit women suffering the effects of domestic violence and other lifetime trauma and who also have psychiatric disabilities.

One of CAWC's strengths is its ability to help women and children achieve access to additional services. We operate in tandem with an array of other resources that allow us to be as effective as we need to be.

Just as critical is the connection we have to the friends and donors who make our work possible and our community collaborations viable. Thank you for your partnership!

Yours truly,

Cordelia Ryan
Executive Director



10 Domestic Violence Counts Illinois Summary

Domestic Violence Programs throughout the State are meeting the needs of victims but more services are still needed

On September 15, 2010, 57 out of 58, or 98% of identified local domestic violence programs in Illinois participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

2,011 Victims served in One Day .

814 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing pro-

vided by local domestic violence programs.

1,197 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

1,031 Hotline Calls Answered. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 43 hotline calls every hour.

Despite all of the services that were pro-

vided, many programs reported critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare and legal representation. 398 requests for services went unmet because of reality. Of those unmet requests, 180 (45%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 74% of programs reported a rise in demand for services,

while at the same time 91% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

National Network to End Domestic Violence

In Pieces by HPOP Survivor

"When I think about how abuse has affected me, I think about how I used to lie... I used to smile, laugh & enjoy life. Now I frown, cry and feel great amounts of strife. When I think about how abuse has affected my children, I think about how their happiness has been stolen..."

Once their voices were loud and triumphant as they played on and on...forever. Violence has torn apart through us so harshly...our family is no longer together. I wish I could somehow convince you. Dating and domestic violence are true."

Dr. Kimberly Joseph, MD Division Chair, Trauma ICU and Prevention, Department of Trauma John H. Stroger Cook County Hospital New CoChair of CAWC's HCIP program

CAWC is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kimberly Joseph as the new cochair of its Hospital Crisis Intervention Project at Stroger Hospital. Dr. Joseph replaces Dr. David Levine who served as the project's former co-chair.

In partnership with Dr. Joseph and John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital, CAWC is able to provide life-saving services at the critical time in which victims of domestic violence seek medical care as well as train all levels of healthcare professionals within the hospital as to how to identify and appropriately refer patients needing domestic violence services. This collaborative project has been serving victims and their families since 1992.

A Survivor Story as read at CAWC's Sounds of Silence Gala

My name is Laura. And I have two children - John who is 13 and Daniel who is 5. In August of 2010, I reached out for help from CAWC through its 24-hour hotline. I was enduring the physical violence of being pushed against walls, having my hair grabbed, being slapped and even having hot soup thrown in my face. I was also enduring the emotional abuse of constant name calling, belittling, and being made to feel that what was happening was my fault - that somehow I deserved it. I know that my children were suffering as well from all they saw and heard within

the walls of our house.

I explained to CAWC's hotline counselor that I had few resources, felt very alone and saw no way out of my situation. From that first contact with CAWC, I felt the caring and respect that they had for me. The counselor/advocate helped me to begin to understand that I didn't have to live with this violence in my life. She helped me to identify some options and told me about the services of Greenhouse Shelter.

I am one of the lucky ones that found CAWC and Greenhouse Shelter. Dur-

ing my stay not only did I and my children receive a refuge from our abuser but I received important information regarding my legal rights. I participated in individual and group counseling as did my children where we all learned about domestic violence, safety planning and more. We learned that the violence was not our fault. Greenhouse was the start of the bridge from my former life of painful chaos to one full with promise and peace.

It was not an easy journey. Having to overcome many obstacles along the way but with the help of my

counselor/advocates, I was able to obtain my own apartment with my children away from our abuser. I was able to secure employment as a Dental Assistant. I am beginning to regain my self-esteem.

My life has positively changed due to the contributions and support of CAWC. I am now stronger due to all the information, advocacy and support I received. CAWC has given me and my children the opportunity to rebuild and start a new chapter in our lives. Thank you CAWC.

New Board Members at CAWC

CAWC is happy to welcome four new board members:

Jennifer Bluestein, Director of Attorney Professional Development, Greenberg Trauring, LLP.

Richard Dobson, Manager Gas Supply (PGL/NSG), Integrity Business Support, LLC.

Oscar Romero, General Counsel, Bridgestone Retail Operations, LLC- Credit.

Dianne Sciacca, Chase Legal and Compliance Department, JP Morgan.

SAVE THE DATE - SEPT. 13, 2011

Walk the Course Against Domestic Violence Help Support CAWC ! Presented by Avon Foundation for Women

What: During the PGA Tour's BMW Championship, participants walk 18 holes to raise awareness of domestic violence and help raise money to benefit CAWC and other domestic violence programs throughout the area.

The walk is a project of the Avon Foundation for Women, PGA Wives Association, & BMW Championship. During the Walk you will have an opportunity to watch many of your favorite professional golfers as they practice for this championship event.

When: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 Start time for the Walk 6pm.

Where: Cog Hill Golf and Country Club
12294 Archer Road, Lemont, IL 60439

Get Involved: Visit www.WalktheCourseAgainstDV.org to register, volunteer, or donate. Call Anne Borg at 773-489-9081 ext 21 with questions.

Register online individually or with a team for this great event!

CAWC's Junior Board is recruiting new members.

If you are a young professional and want to get involved, contact Anne Borg at 773-489-9081 ext 21 to learn more about becoming a CAWC Junior Board Member.

The role of Junior Board members is to increase awareness of the crime of domestic violence and to help raise additional resources to support CAWC and its services.



Stay Connected to CAWC

Visit our Facebook Page!

Be sure to visit CAWC's facebook page at Connections for Abused Women and their Children to view our new PSA video about children and domestic violence- "Just because they don't say it, doesn't mean they don't see it."

Information about news and upcoming events are posted on a regular basis.

To help support the services of CAWC, please go to our website at www.cawc.org to donate now.