onward & upward

2014 - Year in Review

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am honored to serve as the new Executive Director of NCADV. Like you, I’ve been inspired by the great work NCADV and advocates across the country have been doing for the past 35 years! There is also a great deal of work to be done, and we are excited to face the challenges ahead. I have had the privilege of working with some of the most remarkable people and amazing organizations doing this work, all of whom have made commitments to help make the world a safer place. We are especially concerned with addressing the needs of the least privileged among us as we work to reduce intimate partner violence and other abuses of the vulnerable. As a domestic violence survivor, myself, I fully understand how critical our work is at all levels.

As we close out 2014, I reflect on the recent changes at NCADV as well as in the field of our work, feeling energized and excited by the many opportunities to move toward cutting-edge responses to domestic violence. We intend to continue our leadership in both policy and partnership development, advancing the voices of victims, and offering education, training and advocacy. We will continue our growth while providing critical, comprehensive resources and support for those impacted by domestic violence while we remain committed to the influence brought by their expertise and realities.

The accomplishments of this past year are presented in this report as are the goals and intentions we hold for the coming year. We are thrilled to approach our work in some new ways and are anxious to hear of the dreams and plans held by our constituents. We rely on and deeply appreciate the contributions of the many generous allies and supporters of NCADV and our work. Our contributors are as diverse as are the survivors of domestic violence.

I sincerely hope that you are encouraged by the tireless work that many of us have continued, and share our inspiration toward the work ahead of us.

Onward and upward!

Ruth M. Glenn

Executive Director,
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) has worked since 1978 to

Make Every Home a Safe Home

The NCADV works to raise awareness about domestic violence; to educate and create programming and technical assistance, to assist the public in addressing the issue, and to support those impacted by domestic violence.
**MEET THE BOARD**

**Rose Garrity**  
2015 Incoming President of the Board

Rose served as NCADV’s 2014 Board Secretary and has been involved on the board for six years. Rose was the Executive Director of A New Hope Center in New York where she had worked since its founding in 1986. She developed all aspects of this domestic violence and sexual assault program, which began with a single staff member. She helped grow the organization to include 20 staff members and several programs. Rose has written and trained extensively on various aspects of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as economic justice, anti-racism, classism, and other oppressions. Rose is a co-founder of the NY Model for Batterer Programs and developed one of the earliest domestic violence coordinated community response networks in New York. She also oversaw the development of the first domestic violence-related pet rescue project in the northeast. Rose is a well-known writer and trainer and has received numerous awards for her work. She has also served on several other boards, including the NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault. In her retirement she remains committed to social justice activism.

**Barbara A. Blunt**  
2015 Board Member

Barbara is a life-long resident of New Orleans, Louisiana and has served as a domestic violence advocate for many years. She volunteered for the Catholic Charities of New Orleans and was later hired as a residential counselor and court advocate. In the late eighties, Barbara became a member of Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence where she conducted trainings and spoke for victims of domestic violence, especially women of color. She was hired by the YWCA of New Orleans as a crisis hotline advocate, where she did administrative work, screened survivors, and trained counselors and other advocates. In 1990, Barbara became a member of the NCADV Steering Committee, which built partnership alliances, developed information and resources on domestic violence, and worked to ensure financial opportunities were available to domestic violence programs nationally. Barbara has served as NCADV’s Board Treasurer, Co-Chair of NCADV’s Women of Color Caucus and was on NCADV’s recruitment committee. She holds degrees in criminal justice and social work, is a dedicated advocate, and is always available to help anyone who needs resources on domestic violence.

**Marilyn Horsey**  
2014 Outgoing President  
2015 Board Member

Marilyn has served on the board of NCADV since 2000. She began her career as a paralegal and advocate in one of the largest domestic violence programs in Pennsylvania and soon became a respected trainer for the Pennsylvania Judicial system and the Pennsylvania Police Academy.

She also was a grant participant of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & Futures Without Violence. As the Director of Community Relations and Outreach, she held the position of media contact and was sought out as an expert to speak on domestic violence. During this time, she attended the first of many NCADV Lobby Days and conferences. Marilyn eventually was hired by the Workforce Development Program and managed 18 counselors/advocates who worked with survivors of domestic violence and ex-offenders. Today, she works as the Diocese Program Administrator, is a licensed lay minister, and is on several boards in the Diocese of PA.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Cheryl Davis**  
2015 Secretary

Cheryl has a Master’s Degree in Counseling and is a licensed psychotherapist in Colorado. She has been the Manager of the Domestic Violence Unit at the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice and the Program Director for the Colorado Domestic Violence Offender Management Board for 15 years. She also served on the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board for 13 years. Cheryl co-founded and has been the chair of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Offense Crossover Committee for the past eight years. She has extensive direct experience with victim services, victim...
advocacy, and offender treatment management and containment issues. Her experience includes 18 years of providing training on the issues of domestic violence at the national, state, and local levels. In 2012, Cheryl received the Carolyn Hamil-Henderson Memorial Award, recognizing outstanding efforts in providing inspiration and leadership to end domestic violence in the Denver community. Cheryl is also on the board of DOVE (Deaf Overcoming Violence through Empowerment).

Vicky Hales
2015 Treasurer

Vicky has been a banker with UMB Bank for 24 years, where she has held several positions, including her current role as Financial Center Manager, which allows her to coach her clients and team to success. She received Top Producer awards in 2013. Vicky is passionate about volunteering her time to non-profit organizations. She has held many board positions, volunteers regularly with neighborhood groups in Denver’s Capitol Hill community, and was a full-time volunteer with the USO. Vicky has won many awards for her volunteer efforts including the Service to Mankind award presented by the Littleton SERTOMA club for 2009-2010. Vicky’s interest in helping domestic violence victims stems from a childhood spent witnessing violence at home. Vicky is married, has one son and one grandson.

David Lloyd
2015 Board Member

David is a Co-Founder and Partner of LG&P, a global in-store marketing agency twice named by Entrepreneur Magazine as one of the “Hot 100” Fastest Growing companies in the U.S. David’s responsibilities include ownership of the strategic vision for the agency and management of the research, marketing, and client service organizations. Prior to co-founding LG&P, David was Executive Vice President and Director of HMG Worldwide in New York City, where his responsibilities included management of the company’s national sales and marketing organizations and integration of strategic acquisitions. As a recently appointed NCADV Board Member, David brings not only his 28 years of business and entrepreneurial knowledge, but also his personal experience dealing with domestic violence as a child witness. David and his wife were both raised in Toronto and relocated to New Jersey in 1994 where they live with their two children.

Chris McMurry
2015 Board Member

Chris has been involved in the prevention of domestic violence for 20 years through his family’s private foundation, Theresa’s Fund, which was established by his father in 1992 and has helped raise over $40 million for Arizona

HAVING A GUN IN THE HOME INCREASES THE RISK OF HOMICIDE 20 TIMES WHEN THERE IS A HISTORY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

(John Hopkins - Center for Gun Policy and Research, 2010)
programs. In 2014, he founded domestishelters.org: the country’s first online and mobile searchable database of domestic violence programs. Domestishelters.org is operated in partnership with National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. During the last 25 years, Chris has founded and/or led multiple companies through growth and transition, including the country’s largest content marketing company, McMurry/TMG, and technology companies, such as The Amazing Flameless Candle, NJOY and NameSilo. Chris was raised in the Midwest; enjoys sports, business, and travel; and resides in Phoenix with his wife of many years, Bobbi, and the three gentle men they have raised.

Katherine Salazar  
2015 Board Member

Katherine is a director of marketing for Valeant Pharmaceuticals. She has spent the last 15 years of her career developing and executing marketing campaigns for major consumer packaged goods and pharmaceutical companies. Her focus has been on Hispanic and cause marketing campaigns that have led brands to growth in very competitive segments. Most recently, she led the campaign for Valeant’s aesthetic and dermatology divisions, which donated a percentage of sales to a non-profit to help end domestic violence. She is the mother of a wonderful 3-year-old boy, is a domestic violence survivor herself, and holds a Doctorate in Business Administration. She uses her personal experience as a survivor to help other women find freedom from abuse.

FOND FAREWELLS

Rita Smith  
2014 Outgoing Executive Director

In July 2014, Rita Smith resigned, after 22 years of serving as Executive Director of the NCADV. Rita’s service to the NCADV was marked by her fierce advocacy for battered women and for ending all forms of violence in intimate relationships and families, including the effects of oppression, poverty, and violence. Rita’s contributions to the Battered Women’s Movement and to other progressive work across the United States stands as an honored example of dedication, passion, commitment, and love for humanity.

Rita will continue to serve survivors of intimate partner violence and other abuse as she exerts her expertise in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable among us.
Peggy Payne
2014 Outgoing board member

Peggy is the Chief Executive Officer of Quigley House, Inc. in Florida, and has worked in the violence against women and children’s movement for more than 25 years. She has participated and facilitated at the National District Attorneys Advocacy Center and has provided a remarkable amount of training throughout the nation, including training for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Conference, the Southeastern Regional Domestic Violence Conference, the United States Army, law enforcement agencies in North and South Carolina, Kentucky and Illinois, the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, South Carolina Department of Social Services and others. Peggy has served as a long-time board member for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and was a former board member of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Peggy has also served as the Vice President of the South Carolina Network of Child Advocacy Centers.

Lois Galgay Reckitt
2014 Outgoing board member

Lois is a graduate of Brandeis and Boston Universities with an advanced degree in marine biology. Since 1979, she has been the Executive Director of Family Crisis Services, an emergency refuge for women and children fleeing domestic violence. She helped grow this small agency into the most comprehensive domestic violence resource center in Maine. Between 1984 and 1989, Lois served as the Executive Vice President of the National Organization for Women in Washington, DC before returning home. As a volunteer, she co-founded both the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Maine Women’s Lobby. Lois served for 15 years on the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy as well as on the Board of Compensation for the victims of abuse at the Baxter School for the Deaf.

DEPARTING STAFF
Danni Lederman
Maria Luisa O’Neill
Christine Krumholz
In July of 2014, NCADV lost a beloved fore-mother, Tillie Black Bear. Tillie was an honored and beloved leader in the battered women’s movement and was a founding mother of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She was also a founder of the South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Notably, she was the first woman of color to chair the NCADV.

Tillie was the recipient of many awards and acknowledgements for her work and dedication to the issues of violence against women.

Tillie is survived by a loving family and her extended “family” of colleagues, friends, admirers, and grateful survivors of domestic violence who have benefited from her tireless work.

*Tillie was a leader, an inspiration, a teacher, a mother, and in many ways part of the soul of our movement.*

She will be sorely missed as we move forward in the work of ending violence against women and children.
MEET THE STAFF

Ruth M. Glenn
Executive Director
rglenn@ncadv.org - ext. 105

Before becoming the Executive Director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Ruth was employed by the Colorado Department of Human Services for 28 years and served as the Director of the Domestic Violence Program (DVP) for the last nine of those years. Ruth has worked and volunteered in the domestic violence field for more than 19 years and holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado, Denver, Program on Domestic Violence, as well as a degree in Communications.

Ruth has served on many domestic violence program and funding boards, provided hundreds of presentations on domestic violence victimization and survival, testified before the Colorado state legislature, appeared on local and national television, and provided consultation, training and technical assistance on a local and national level on victim/survivor issues as they relate to domestic violence. Ruth has also served as a funding reviewer for several local and national victim-centered funding entities. A survivor of domestic violence herself, Ruth has shared her experiences in many venues, including an introduction for Vice President Joe Biden during the 20th Anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (2014). She was also featured in a domestic violence speech given by President Barack Obama in 2011.

Ruth grew up in Riverside, CA and moved to Colorado in the late 80’s where she raised her son. She now calls Colorado home and has three wonderful grandchildren, and a great granddaughter.

Jaquelyn Gonzales
Administrative Assistant
jgonzales@ncadv.org - ext. 102

Jaquelyn was hired as NCADV’s administrative assistant in 2014 after volunteering for NCADV for several years. She currently provides critical support to the staff and organization and manages NCADV’s daily administrative needs.

Gretchen Shaw
Development Manager
gshaw@ncadv.org - ext. 107

Gretchen Shaw has worked within the domestic violence field for more than 15 years. She has an extensive background in communications and project management, writing and developing marketing and educational materials, and grant writing and research. Gretchen currently serves as the Development Manager for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence where she has worked since moving to Denver from Alabama in 2000.

In addition to her fundraising role at NCADV, she manages social media and communications, and continues to develop and write materials for the organization. Her most recent work, Exposing Reproductive Coercion: A Toolkit for Awareness-Raising, Assessment, and Intervention, written in collaboration with the National Organization for Men Against Sexism and the Feminist Women’s Health Center, was introduced in February 2015.

Sylvia Torralba
Project Manager
storralba@ncadv.org - ext. 104

Sylvia began working at NCADV as the office manager in 1998. A domestic violence survivor herself, she brought passion for her work and helped to develop and lead NCADV’s Remember My Name™ project. Among her many responsibilities, she manages this living memorial dedicated to those who have died as a result of domestic violence. In 2002, Sylvia became NCADV’s Membership Director and has increased membership annually since then through the recruitment and solicitation of local and national
members. She produced NCADV’s *National Directory of Domestic Violence Programs: A Guide to Community Shelter, Safe home and Service Programs*. Sylvia will be the lead on developing and coordinating a new NCADV project she created, “When I Was Here,” and is managing NCADV’s Cosmetic and Reconstructive Support program.

**Rachel Graber**
Public Policy Manager
rgraber@ncadv.org

Rachel Graber has worked in human services for seven years as a school counselor, an intern at Meskwaki Child and Victims Services, and a public policy intern at the Women’s Resource and Action Center. As a school counselor, Rachel became frustrated by the structural, cultural, and societal barriers her students faced in their personal, academic, and professional lives. She left education to obtain a degree in social work and now passionately pursues macro-level change. Rachel currently leads NCADV’s legislative affairs in Washington, DC. She sits on the National Task Force for Domestic and Sexual Violence, a national public policy collaboration between violence against women organizations, organizes NCADV Congressional briefings and legislative events, lobbies Congress on issues related to violence against women, and helps mobilize efforts to influence national legislation aimed at protecting and providing safe alternatives for victims of domestic violence.

**Volunteers and Interns**
NCADV welcomed the support of three fabulous volunteers and an intern in 2014: Oliver Brown, Erika Edwards, and Nicole Kegler. Oliver helped research names and stories of the lives of victims killed by abusers for NCADV’s Remember My Name™ project, Erika worked for several months to update NCADV fact sheets, and Nicole provided her expertise and skills in public relations for several projects and publicity endeavors.

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"We know that domestic violence touches so many people’s lives including our own. Domestic violence is a serious ongoing issue that needs to be exposed more openly to the public. Everyone you meet in life has seen or experienced some type of domestic violence or abuse. No matter what gender, how old, or young, people need to feel comfortable talking about their problems with domestic violence or else this issue will continue to be a problem that people will be afraid to face. This is why we try our best to help support NCADV on a daily basis and are proud to call them one of our partners. Thank you NCADV!"

— John Gornik, Bead Relief | Wear Your Charity
1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate at some point in their lifetime.

(CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL REPORT, 2010)
Domestic Shelters

NCADV partnered with Theresa’s Fund in August 2014 to launch Domesticshelters.org. Domesticshelters.org is the first online and mobile searchable database of over 3,400 domestic violence programs in the U.S and Canada. Domesticshelters.org provides family, friends, and victims of domestic violence the fastest, easiest way to find help based on their location, language, and service preferences. Since its inception, the website has helped 150,000 people and is proving to be an invaluable resource to the professional community, the media and others in need of inter-agency data, referrals, and state/national statistics.

Remember My Name™

Since 1994, NCADV has been memorializing the many women, children, and men killed by domestic violence in the U.S. through the Remember My Name™ (RMN) project. RMN was created 20 years ago by Ms. magazine and NCADV to bring awareness to the issue of domestic violence, honor those who have lost their lives, and spotlight the all-too-common outcome of abusers’ actions. Each year, a memorial poster lists the names and ages of those killed by an abuser and the state in which they died. To date, NCADV has collected over 10,000 names from across the U.S. from family, friends, and others who want to remember and honor those they have lost. The year 2014 marked the 20th anniversary of Remember My Name™, which will be expanding in 2015 through When I was Here™, a more in-depth arm of the program aimed at personalizing the lives of each victim through memories and information shared by those who knew them.

HIV/AIDS and Intimate Partner Violence

NCADV partnered with Ensync Diversified Management Systems, Inc. to provide a series of webinars on the intersection of intimate partner violence and HIV/AIDS. The free webinars provided front-line domestic violence advocates and HIV/AIDS activists with tangible tools to assist survivors of intimate partner violence with accessing resources for HIV and locating information on domestic violence.
Exposing Reproductive Coercion Toolkit

In tandem with the Feminist Women’s Health Center and the National Organization for Men Against Sexism, NCADV produced a toolkit about reproductive coercion called *Exposing Reproductive Coercion: A Toolkit for Awareness-Raising, Assessment, and Intervention*. The toolkit was created to bridge the gap between the fields of reproductive health and domestic violence. It provides credible, unbiased information on the topic of reproductive coercion.

The Cosmetic and Reconstructive Support Program™

The Cosmetic & Reconstructive Support Program™ (CRS) of NCADV was created to connect survivors of domestic violence to medical associations and professionals. Assistance is available for those who need medical treatment to repair injuries inflicted by an intimate partner. Currently, NCADV assists victims with the application process to two medical programs, FACE TO FACE and Reconstructing Hope. NCADV also refers those in need of different services to other entities, associations, and organizations. Over 5,600 people approached NCADV for assistance in 2014 through CRS and were referred to various medical associations and others for assistance.

Webinars on Financial Education

NCADV partnered with the National Endowment for Financial Education in 2014 to provide a number of webinars aimed at helping victims of domestic violence build a financial foundation and make plans for the future. Attendance for each webinar was consistently beyond capacity, indicating a great need for the information.

Information and Referral Program

NCADV regularly receives general requests for assistance from victims, survivors, their friends and loved ones, and others wishing to support those they know who are being abused. In 2014, 5,062 people sought help from NCADV. These people were assisted in finding local and national resources.
CAMPAIGNS

Cellular Recycler
NCADV’s cell phone and e-waste recycling partner, Cellular Recycler, collected 28,411 phones and helped raise over $71,000 for NCADV in 2014. These funds supported NCADV’s efforts to provide resources, information, and support to thousands of victims and survivors of violence in 2014.

The Pixel Project
The Celebrity Male Role Model Pixel Reveal campaign, part of The Pixel Project and NCADV, was officially launched to the public on International Women’s Day 2014. Numerous campaign efforts, including Google Hangout sessions, and smaller targeted fundraisers were utilized to raise awareness about global violence against women. The project raised over $10,000 in 2014 for NCADV and The Pixel Project.

Drive Against Domestic Violence
In October of 2014, Dr. Ben Talei and his brother Nathan drove across the country in a special vinyl-wrapped mini Cooper to raise awareness and funding for NCADV and the Face-to-Face program of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. Their efforts raised over $16,000 before they started the drive and they continue to raise funds and awareness for NCADV. In addition to being an ever-vigilant fundraiser, activist, humanitarian, and all-around great person, Dr. Talei performs plastic surgery and is the Director of The Beverly Hills Center for Plastic & Laser Surgery. Learn more about Ben and his practice at: www.beverlyhillscenter.com.

AWARNESS & EDUCATION

Membership Survey
NCADV conducted an online survey of its member domestic violence programs in November 2014 to ensure that member interests were being represented in the work we do. The goal was to learn about the programs’ policy and programming needs as well as what their shelters and clients may be experiencing. Survey results revealed that victims of domestic violence still have an extensive need for quality legal representation; domestic violence programs and shelters are still struggling to provide programming and services because of lack of funding; and NCADV training, information and resources, and policy representation at the national legislative level are valued as part of NCADV membership.

This survey represented the beginning of NCADV’s increasing efforts to reach out to its constituency for ideas and information that better serve victims of domestic violence.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Partnership
Valeant Pharmaceuticals partnered with NCADV in October 2013 to help bring awareness to the issue of domestic violence. Their support enabled NCADV to research and create information about domestic violence and its impact on health. Dermatologists and others in the dermatological field were provided information and resources specific to assisting clients who may be victims of domestic violence. In addition to these resources, NCADV created updated fact sheets on domestic violence, a new website, and materials about domestic violence for free download and use.

Benevon-Sponsored Webinars
NCADV partnered with Benevon, a fundraising education company, to deliver several webinars aimed at teaching shelter programs how to create sustainable funding. These highly-popular trainings clarified ways programs can categorize and market their work and programming to local communities to nurture new donations and secure stronger, more profitable relationships with private funders for long-term support.

Social Media Expansion
NCADV expanded its email and social media presence in 2014 by increasing the frequency and quality of postings on domestic violence and the issues that influence and exacerbate it. NCADV ended 2014 with more than 104,000 active followers: 80,648 via Facebook, 7,956 via Twitter, and 15,429 via Constant Contact.
2014 marked the 20th year since the passage of the original Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Since VAWA was enacted, intimate partner violence has dropped by 67%. After a difficult legislative process, VAWA was reauthorized in 2013. This important legislation continues to ensure all victims receive justice and support and now includes American Indians and LGBT victims.

2014 was also a banner year for funding violence against women programs.

The “cromnibus” budget deal increased funding for VAWA by $8 million and $1.5 million for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), resulting in funding for both programs at their highest level. The increased funding improves background checks for firearms and combats gun violence. It also releases to the states an unprecedented $2.36 billion from the Crime Victims’ Fund. This was an enormous victory not only for victims of domestic violence but for victims of all crimes.

2015 Legislative Funding Efforts

While we are celebrating our legislative success over the last year, we are also looking toward the future. In the coming year, we will focus our efforts on three key areas:

1. Funding for service providers
2. Gun safety
3. Employment/Debt (Financial independence for survivors)

We are currently working with legislators and colleagues in other organizations to draft and promote bills addressing each of these issues.

Funding For Service Providers

NCADV will focus on two federal funding streams in 2015: FVPSA and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). FVPSA is one of the primary sources of federal funding for domestic violence direct service providers; FVPSA-funded programs provide direct services to over 1.2 million victims annually, respond to 2.7 million crisis calls, and educate almost 5 million adults and children. It is due to be reauthorized this year. NCADV is on the steering committee of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, a task force comprising representatives from domestic violence organizations around the country, including culturally-specific organizations and those serving traditionally marginalized communities. The committee is tasked with updating FVPSA to reflect current needs and best practices. We anticipate the reauthorization process to take a few years.

We are also encouraging legislators to amend the current VOCA statute. The Victims of Crime Act established the Crime Victims Fund (CVF), comprised of federal criminal fines, forfeited bonds, forfeiture of profits from criminal activity, additional special assessments, and donations by private parties. After setting aside funding for child abuse and victim-witnesses, the Office for Victims of Crime distributes this money to states and territories via formula grants. States use this money to fund victim services and compensate victims for crime-related losses.

Although disbursements from the CVF are mandatory, appropriators determine how much is released in the annual federal budget. Disbursements have not kept pace with deposits in recent years. In fiscal year 2013, $3 billion was deposited into the CVF, but only $730 million was appropriated. Almost $11 billion is currently in the CVF, being used as an appropriations offset for the Department of Justice. This is not taxpayer money, and it should be used as intended - to support victims. We propose the following changes to VOCA:

- Require annual disbursements to equal the average of the previous three years’ deposits
- Set aside a direct funding stream for tribes
- Decrease the program match requirement
- Expand allowable service areas
- Allow spending on infrastructure and technology
- Provide funding for state planning
**Gun Safety**

NCADV is continuing to push three fixes to outdated federal firearm prohibitions. Currently, a person who has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor crime of domestic violence toward a spouse, former spouse, cohabiting intimate partner, or co-parent is prohibited from owning firearms.

Likewise, a person subject to a permanent protective order in which the victim is a spouse, former spouse, cohabiting intimate partner, or co-parent is prohibited from possessing guns. However, this prohibitor does not extend to dating partners and abusive dating partners are not prohibited from owning guns. Nearly half of those killed by intimate partners are dating partners. The law needs to be updated to respond to this reality.

Similarly, under federal law, people convicted of stalking are not prohibited from owning firearms. Research shows that a history of stalking is a key indicator of lethality—a vast majority of intimate partner homicide victims were stalked before being murdered. Keeping guns out of the hands of stalkers will save lives.

Finally, federal firearm prohibitors do not extend to temporary protective orders. The length of temporary protective orders vary by state, but they usually extend from two weeks to a month. Victims/survivors are at the highest risk of severe violence in the immediate aftermath of leaving their abusive partners, and yet this is the period of time not covered by federal firearm prohibitors.

We are also involved in other gun-related initiatives that are still at the planning level. We do not anticipate strong political will to enact gun safety laws, but we will continue to advocate for them nevertheless. Smaller demonstration projects may be more politically feasible.

**Employment and Debt**

Financial independence is a crucial factor in a victim’s ability to leave an abuser. Many abusers try to sabotage their victims’ careers in order to gain or maintain financial control. As many as 50% of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault lose their jobs as a result of their victimization, because employers do not have comprehensive company policies to respond appropriately to abuse.

Many states have laws protecting victims and survivors from being fired as a result of their victimization; several states do not. Therefore, we are asking the federal government to:

- Prohibit firing a person due to her status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
• Prohibit discrimination against a job candidate due to her status as a victim
• Allow victims up to 30 days paid leave if necessary
• Provide unemployment insurance if a victim has to leave her job as a result of her victimization
• Prohibit insurance companies from charging higher premiums to victims

In addition, many victims have debt they cannot repay and poor credit scores, because their abusers took out loans and racked up credit card debt in the victims’ names. We are asking the federal government to pass legislation allowing judges to declare victims’ debt to be the result of coercion. After such a ruling, the victim’s debt would be forgiven and her credit score restored.

Furthermore, NCADV participated in the National Link Coalition Biennial Summit Meeting on October 7, 2014 in Phoenix, AZ. The agenda included issues related to child welfare, protection and prevention, domestic violence, elder abuse, veterinary medicine/forensics, law enforcement, prosecutors, public health/One Health, social work/treatment/academia, animal care & control, and European and Latin America perspectives. Among the accomplishments highlighted for 2014 were: The Paws Act (Pets and Women’s Safety) animal abuse and domestic violence Federal Bill introduced to protect pets of domestic violence survivors, H.R. 5267.
ON A TYPICAL DAY, THERE ARE MORE THAN 20,000 PHONE CALLS PLACED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINES NATIONWIDE.

(NNEDV REPORT, 2013)
ONWARD & UPWARD

New Website Launch

NCADV launched a newly-designed and updated website on January 30, 2015. The new website offers an easy-to-navigate format and provides updated information about domestic violence, resources, and programs structured to empower victims of domestic violence.

Expansion of our Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery Program

NCADV will be expanding the support offered through our Cosmetic and Reconstructive Support Program™ (CRS). CRS is structured to connect qualifying survivors of domestic violence with medical professionals who are able to provide free or low-cost medical services to repair their injuries. This can be a critical step to healing from abuse. Currently, NCADV refers to only a few medical associations and professionals and does not widely advertise the availability of the program. Because we receive thousands of requests for services, our intent is to make CRS a vastly more inclusive program to assist more of those in need of medical services for injuries and medical conditions that resulted from being abused.

Conference 2016

Planning will begin for NCADV’s next national conference to be held in 2016. Further details will be publicized via NCADV’s website, email list, and social media outlets when updates are available.

Public Policy

We will continue working to include victims’ and survivors’ voices in future Lobby Days with lawmakers and calls to action.

Membership enhancements

NCADV will expand its services and benefits for NCADV members including instituting a monthly newsletter and a member-only section of our website.

Financial Education enhancements

NCADV will be conducting webinars on financial education throughout 2015 for victims and survivors wishing to learn more about their finances and for advocates and allies working to assist them.

Speakers’ Bureau

NCADV will be implementing a speakers’ bureau aimed at giving a voice to domestic violence survivors and their allies.

Male Victims of Domestic Violence and Women’s Use of Violence

NCADV will be producing information about and resources for male victims of domestic violence in addition to women’s use of violence.
"I truly admire the NCADV and am in awe at all that they achieve. The NCADV is an incredible resource for me and my patients. I do charity and volunteer work for domestic abuse patients, but my abilities as a surgeon are limited to treatments and talking. The NCADV has never failed to save the day, dealing with situations I can’t even wrap my head around. They are truly able to change lives and achieve what most people believe to be impossible in the worst of situations. This is why I have devoted so much energy and time into fundraising for them - because they can do things I could never do. Most importantly, every dollar raised actually makes a difference instead of just vanishing into thin air. I am truly grateful for the NCADV and all of its members who are not only angels at heart, but quite possibly magicians in all that they do."


“The collaboration with NCADV has made a world of difference as we rapidly work to fulfill the potential of domesticshelters.org to become the country’s most sought-out domestic violence resource, which in effect means more people are finding help faster and easier than ever before.”

– Chris McMurry, Founder of Domesticshelters.org

“Cellular Recycler is proud to support the NCADV and victims of domestic violence through our cell phone recycling program. In 2014, the recycling program raised $71,977.94 for the NCADV sent 911 emergency phones to battered women’s shelters, and kept over 25,000 cell phones out of landfills in the United States.”

– David Barnett, Director of Business Development

WE THANK YOU

NCADV also extends a sincere thank you to all of our 2014 donors. We are humbled by your generous support and are grateful to you for enabling our efforts to assist and empower victims and survivors of domestic violence.
"ENSYNC appreciates NCADV partnering with us this year on our continuing efforts to provide training to advocates and health care workers on the intersection of intimate partner violence and HIV/AIDS.

We were able to reach nearly 500 people through the efforts of NCADV, which not only brought advocates to the table, but provided webinar hosting for our trainers. Thanks!"

- Christine McMillon, CEO, ENSYNC Diversified Management Services, Longwood, Florida

"NO MORE is proud to support the work of NCADV and we’re thankful that your organization has been a big part of shaping our mission. Through NCADV’s work with survivors and their families, crisis shelters and policy makers have worked together to bring greater awareness to the issues of domestic violence to the NO MORE community."

- Jill Morris, DV & SA Field Liaison, NO MORE Project

“2014 was The Pixel Project’s fifth year of partnership with NCADV, specifically in collaboration on the Celebrity Male Role Model Pixel Reveal campaign which aims to raise $1 million to be shared by both our organizations and highlight the importance of getting men and boys to support stopping violence against women and girls. Through these five years and all the changes and challenges of the campaign, NCADV has been a steadfast, patient, and supportive partner - a testament to their long-term commitment to the movement to end domestic violence and other gender-based violence."

- Regina Yau, Founder & President - The Pixel Project

“The National Endowment for Financial Education collaborated with the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to present quarterly webinars on financial education titled “Rebuilding Financially After Domestic Violence.” The webinar session is based on a project posted on www.financialworkshopkits.org. Growing in popularity, the webinar session has exceeded capacity, reaching affiliates, chapters, and volunteers involved in helping those facing domestic violence."

- Mary “Jeannette” Schultz
  National Endowment for Financial Education

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NCADV.ORG

Denver Office (Main)
1 Broadway, Suite B210
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (303) 839-1852
Fax: (303) 831-9251

Washington Office (Public Policy)
2000 M Street NW, Suite 480
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 467-8714