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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
Friday, October 9, 2015**

**NEW AND NOTEWORTHY**

**Advocacy, Coordination and Collaboration, Outreach and Awareness**

■ ***MNADV Legislative Press Briefing***

The MNADV held a Legislative Press Briefing on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 on Lawyers Mall in Annapolis to highlight significant new legal protections for domestic violence victims that took effect in Maryland on Thursday, October 1, 2015. Presentations were made by MNADV President Lauren Shaivitz, MNADV Legislative Counsel Cynthia Lifson, and MNADV Vice President Laurie Duker. The legislative changes passed in 2015 and 2014, in combination with domestic violence services and safety planning, provide greater protections for victims and their families. The new MNADV brochure, "*Strategies for a Safer Future: A Guide to Obtaining Protective and Peace Orders in Maryland*," was highlighted as an important new resource. Legislative partners, Maryland legislators, government representatives, domestic violence service providers, and MNADV Board members and staff attended the event.

■ ***NNEDV - DV Counts – the National Domestic Violence Census***

The 24 hour DV Counts Census was held this year on September 16-17, 2015. The MNADV is coordinating the state's effort to submit data to NNEDV. Twenty-two Maryland domestic violence programs were asked to participate. So far, 16 of 22 or 72.7% have responded. The extended deadline for submitting the data is Friday, October 9, 2015. In order to have valid state and national data, Maryland's goal is 100% program participation. DV Counts information is used in grant applications, with funders, the media, and the community to demonstrate the important, life-saving work of domestic violence programs and to highlight the need for additional services and funding.

■ ***One Love Foundation – Escalation Workshop Initiative***

The MNADV held a call with domestic violence programs on September 25, 2015 to introduce them to the One Love Escalation Workshop Initiative and to discuss options for the role of domestic violence programs. The MNADV has identified each local domestic violence program in the jurisdiction of every college, university, and private high school in Maryland that One Love has contacted. One Love will begin to connect schools that establish webpages on their website with the domestic violence program in that jurisdiction by linking to the domestic violence program page under Resources. The MNADV is continuing to work with One Love to identify further opportunities for collaboration and to enhance the role and visibility of the domestic violence programs.

■ ***UMD School Social Work IPV Event***

Erin Boguski and Amber Guthrie attended "Building Interdisciplinary Bridges in Health Care to End Intimate Partner Violence" Friday, October 2, 2015 from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at The University of MD School of Social Work and had an exhibitor table. Excellent presenters provided new insights and information to the attendees.

- ***Project Connect Leadership Team Meeting***  
 The IPV Summit (above) was followed by a meeting of the Project Connect Leadership Team, attended by Michaele Cohen. Project Connect in Maryland is a pilot site for a national initiative focusing on reproductive coercion and intimate partner violence. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, family planning and public health clinics, domestic violence programs, and university researchers are working together to increase awareness, education and resources. The MNADV has played in key role in engaging and training domestic violence program staff and providing information and supplies to domestic violence programs. Participating programs that submitted a final evaluation survey received \$200 checks. The MNADV is partnering with DHMH to offer interested programs free male and female condoms, pregnancy tests, and emergency contraception. The MNADV also reviewed and provided feedback on the survey report. The Leadership Team agreed to continue meeting, conducting follow-up, and coordinating with health care and program providers after the end of the pilot grant to expand awareness and education.
- ***Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence***  
 Michaele Cohen and Amber Guthrie attended the Health Care Coalition Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2015. Agenda items included: updates on trainings and hospital-based domestic violence programs, planning for future forums, insurance communication confidentiality, human trafficking, and Health Care Coalition restructuring and transition planning. MNADV Board members Karalyn Mulligan and Joan Stine are also HCC Board members.
- ***Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force***  
 Erin Boguski participated in a conference call to establish a new Interfaith Coalition Against Human Trafficking initiative. They are interested in adapting the IDVC model. Amber Guthrie is coordinating with the Victim Services Committee to hold a Multidisciplinary Comprehensive Human Trafficking Training on November 10, 2015.
- ***Interfaith Domestic Violence Coalition (IDVC)***  
 Erin Boguski and Dominic Goodall are coordinating with the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) to support IDVC's Interfaith Dialogue, which will be held on October 14, 2015. Dominic Goodall is coordinating the speakers for the advocacy presentation and Erin Boguski is coordinating an interactive activity and designing the event program. MNADV will have an exhibitor table at the event.
- ***Culturally-Specific Domestic Violence Service Providers Round Table***  
 New leadership for the Round Table is being identified. The group was provided with an opportunity to complete the VOCA Needs Assessment and specific participants have been recruited as presenters for a cultural competency training series. The first training will be presented by Karamah and DVRP, to be held on November 6. Additional trainings are being planned on serving Asian/Pacific Islander survivors, survivors of specific faiths, and Hispanic/Latin@ survivors. The next meeting is October 26, 2015.
- ***Family Violence Council Subcommittee on Best Practices for Family Justice Centers***  
 Michaele Cohen attended the meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at the Miller Library in Ellicott City. MNADV Board member Joan Stine is also a member of the committee and attended the meeting. The group discussed questions for focus group participants, next steps, and the interim committee report to the Family Violence Council. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 10:00 am.
- ***Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW)***  
 Michaele Cohen, president of MLAW, conducted the regular monthly Board meeting of MLAW on Monday, September 28, 2015. The MLAW Board discussed plans for the annual fall legislative conference scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2015, which will provide a forum for advocates

and legislators to present legislative initiatives for the 2016 legislative session. The event will also include a panel of legislators and an advocacy workshop. The MLAW Legislative Agenda supports a variety of issues affecting women and families, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

■ ***Women's Legislative Briefing***

Michaela Cohen attended the meeting of the steering committee on Thursday, October 2, 2015 to plan the 2016 Women's Legislative Briefing, scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2016. The committee discussed sponsors, the program, speakers and seminar topics, the teen track, committees, the timeline, a save-the-date flier, and registration.

■ ***In Plain Sight Conference, Baltimore County***

Alicia Bickoff and Mike Koltz attended the annual, all-day conference in Baltimore County on Friday, September 11, 2015, which included a variety of workshops. The MNADV had an exhibit table at the event, which attracted a broad diversity of participants from the Baltimore metro region.

■ ***Communications and Social Networking:***

- **Social Media:** From September 1 through September 30, 2015, 24 Facebook posts and 22 Tweets were made on social media. On Facebook, 8,413 followers were reached and 3,206 Twitter users were reached. Social media posts on domestic violence awareness will continue throughout Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.
- **E-newsletter:** Two e-newsletters were sent in September, which highlighted the Annual Meeting, 2016 domestic violence conference, upcoming trainings, and the legislative press briefing. These emails were opened 787 times.

## **MNADV Board of Directors**

■ ***MNADV Board of Directors: 2015-2016***

New Board members continue to be solicited to fill vacancies. However, a ballot with a slate of 2015-2016 Board members was sent to paid members for their approval. The new Board will be announced at the Annual Meeting. The first meeting of new Board of Directors will be the annual Board Retreat on Monday, November 16, 2015.

■ ***MNADV Legislative Committee***

- There were no committee activities this month.
- Cynthia Lifson is participating in the Family Violence Council's Working Group on Electronic Harassment and Stalking. Dorothy Lennig and Steve Kroll are co-chairing and Laure Ruth is also participating. The group held its first meeting on Thursday, September 17 and will be meeting for a second time on Tuesday, October 13 at 10 am at the Office of the State's Attorney in Howard County. The purpose of the meeting is to review current laws that deal with these topics and identify areas where language can be adjusted so that these behaviors can be more effectively prosecuted.
- Cynthia is continuing to coordinate with CHANA to present an advocacy workshop for their Board members.

■ ***MNADV Domestic Violence Service Standards Task Force***

The Task Force met on September 18, 2015 to develop nonresidential standards, including intake, case management/service planning, and counseling. The next meeting will be held on October 21, 2015. Additional participation and input from leadership and/or clinical staff at domestic violence programs is needed.

- ***MNADV Development Committee***  
**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner** - Thursday, October 22, 2015 at La Fontaine Bleue in Glen Burnie.
  - The Development Committee held a conference call on Monday, September 28, 2015 to discuss details and follow-up related to the upcoming Annual Meeting. The Committee was updated on and discussed sponsorships received, registration and ticket sales, awards/honorees, decorations, and gifts.
  - ★ As of October 7, 2015, the MNADV has received 23 sponsorships for the Annual Meeting: 1 diamond sponsor (Cerebral Lounge); 3 platinum sponsors (MNADV Board of Directors, Decision Science and International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 37); 6 gold sponsors (ElderSAFE, Kissinger Financial Services, Inc., Maryland Live! Casino, Draper and McGinley, Michael Cohen, Senator Susan Lee); 6 silver sponsors (Amy Johnson and Matthew King, Dave and Carol Sargent, Gene Morris, Constellation, CHANA and Sue Hecht); 7 bronze sponsors (La Fontaine Bleue, Voiance, BECO Management, Rosemary Raiman, Calvin Stewart, JFW Accounting Services and Maryland National Organization for Women).
  - ★ As of October 7, 2015, 63 tickets have been sold; awardees, honorees, and staff comprise another 34; and, a number of sponsors will use complimentary tickets. The deadline for early bird tickets at \$55 was September 30, 2015; after October 1, tickets increased to \$65 each.
  - MNADV staff continues to work with Clean Cuts and Cerebral Lounge to create a short video that will be shown at the Annual Meeting.

## **Training and Technical Assistance for Service Providers**

- ***2016 Statewide Domestic Violence Conference Planning Committee***
  - The conference planning committee held a call on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 to discuss workshop proposals, finalize the agenda, and discuss sponsors. The next meeting will be held in-person on October 15 to review workshop proposals.
  - The workshop proposal deadline has been extended through October 9, 2015.
  - The conference will be held on June 3, 2016 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Annapolis and will feature Anna Melbin from Full Frame Initiative as the keynote speaker.
  - Sponsorships and exhibitors are now available. Board participation in recruiting sponsors is needed.
- ***Shelter Directors' Group***  
 The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2015 and the topic is Technology and Safety. This will be the last meeting of 2015.
- ***Service Animal Working Group***  
 The working group is currently adapting a model protocol for service animals for Maryland, developed by the Washington State Coalition, to provide guidance for victim service providers. A draft of guidance is being developed and the resource will be released in conjunction with a statewide training. The next meeting/call will be held on Friday, October 9, 2015 and will focus on the section on non-residential domestic violence services and service animals.

■ **Domestic Violence Trainings**

**Completed Trainings**

- September 24, 2015 - Statewide Crime Victim Resources Workshop, featuring presentations from the Address Confidentiality Program – Anne Hoyer; Maryland Community Services Locator (MDCSL) – Amy Billing; Criminal Injuries Compensation – Scott Beard; and VINE – Nakita Long
- September 29, 2015 – Anne Arundel County WIC
- October 6, 2015 – LGBTQ in Allegany County

**Upcoming Trainings**

- October 14, 2015 – Interfaith Dialogue (for faith leaders; all are welcome)
- October 27, 2015 – Screening and Safety Planning with High Danger Victims in Western MD (for DV Service Providers)
- October 29, 2015 - Faith and Safety: Partnering with Faith Leaders to Support Older Victims of Abuse (open to the public/for faith leaders; co-sponsored by MNADV)
- October 30, 2015 - Supporting Teens Through Reproductive Coercion and Dating Abuse (Child Welfare Academy)
- November 2, 9, 16, 2015 – Trauma-Informed Care for Family and Children’s Services of Central Maryland, Carroll County Shelter Staff
- November 6, 2015 – Domestic Violence Through the Lens of Marginalized Communities: Improving Our Response with KARAMAH in Gaithersburg (open to the public)
- November 6, 2015 – Trauma-Informed Best Practices for Children Impacted by IPV Charles Co. DSS (Child Welfare Academy)
- November 10, 2015 – Multidisciplinary Comprehensive Human Trafficking Training (Western MD) (all are welcome)
- November 13, 2015 - Screening and Safety Planning with High Danger Victims (for DV Service Providers)
- November 16, 2015 – UMD Shady Grove School of Nursing Students
- December 4, 2015 – Clinical Forum (for DV Service Providers)
- January 20, February 17, March 16, April 20, and May 18, 2016: Five day Comprehensive IPV training at GBMC in Baltimore
- June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, 2016: Five day Comprehensive IPV training at Laurel Hospital

■ **Technical Assistance for Domestic Violence Service Providers**

Amber Guthrie and Erin Boguski continue to provide technical assistance to service providers as well as site visits and training and resources specific to individual program needs.

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**Lethality Assessment Program (LAP)**

**Maryland**

■ **Technical Assistance**

Staff provided technical assistance during 5 LAP meetings and 5 LAP trainings.

- CAFY Training on September 21
- Montgomery County DHR Training on September 22
- Statewide Hospital LAP Coordinators Meeting on September 23
- Carroll County Regional Meeting on September 24
- Carroll County Community College on September 24
- HopeWorks of Howard County Victim-Initiated Training on September 25
- Montgomery County Family Justice Center Meeting on September 30

- House of Ruth/Bon Secours Hospital Meeting on September 30
- Federal Probation Lethality Factors Training (Baltimore) on October 7
- Federal Probation Lethality Factors Training (Greenbelt) on October 8

■ ***Upcoming LAP Trainings and Meetings***

- YWCA LAP Coordinators Meeting on October 13
- Frederick Mental Health Association Training on October 13
- LAP/High-Danger Safety Planning Training (WRMC) on October 27
- Prince George's County Regional Meeting on October 28
- Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission Training on November 2
- LAP/High-Danger Safety Planning Training (YWCA) on November 13
- Frederick County Regional Training on November 23
- Statewide LAP Coordinators Meeting on November 23

■ ***LAP in Healthcare***

Staff is working with Carroll Hospital Center and Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland, Anne Arundel Medical Center, Med-Star St. Mary's and Walden/Sierra and University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center to implement or expand the LAP in the hospitals. Staff held a statewide meeting for hospital LAP coordinators on September 23 to discuss the healthcare rounds training, data, role play activities and the release of information.

■ ***LAP in Departments***

Staff continue to provide technical assistance to three Maryland state departments (DHR, DPSCS and DJS).

■ ***LAP Data***

LAP data for calendar year 2015 is in the process of being collected.

***National***

■ ***LAP OVW-TA Grant***

- Training is scheduled for several jurisdictions in Virginia on October 19-22; Corpus Christi, Texas on November 12; and Menomonie, Wisconsin on December 4.
- Additional trainings are being scheduled for Brazos, Texas; Missoula and Ravalli Counties, Montana; and Hawaii.
- Applications from four different sites are being assessed: Cedar Rapids, Iowa; St. Joseph, Missouri; Castle Rock, Colorado; Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

■ ***LAP Advisory Council***

- The next LAP Advisory Council quarterly teleconference will be held on November 4.
- The body-worn camera committee held two teleconferences, one on September 28 and October 7. The committee will continue hold bi-weekly calls to develop body-worn camera standards for the LAP.
- A LAP core elements committee has been convened to identify LAP core elements, best practices, acceptable adaptations and which practices do not meet the standard of the LAP. This committee will begin holding teleconferences later this fall.

■ ***OVW-TA Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative (HPDI)***

- The MNADV continues to coordinate with OVW, Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center and several national consultants to manage this award.
- LAP implementation for Pitt County, NC and Contra Costa County, CA began on October 1.

- Staff are working with non-selected sites in Phase I, specifically White Plains, NY and Winnebago, IL. A LAP train-the-trainer session is being scheduled for White Plains, NY in December 2015.
- Staff will attend a national TA2TA provider meeting on November 17-19 in Bethesda, MD under this award and the LAP TA award.

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- ***Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) Project***

- The MNADV continues to provide on-going technical assistance to the eighteen county-based teams.
- Staff will provide a statewide training to DVFRTs on membership and active engagement on November 5.

- ***Domestic Violence Homicide Database***

Staff continues to collect homicide information for July 2014 – June 2015. The MNADV, in collaboration with local DVFRTs, developed the *Standards for Classifying a Domestic Violence-related Fatality*.

- ***Judicial Initiative Exploratory Committee***

The committee held its fifth meeting on September 21, 2015 at GOCCP. The focus of the meeting was to discuss research conducted by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, New York's judicial guide and Maine's use of ODARA. The next meeting will be scheduled soon.

## **Administration**

- ***Fiscal Year 2015***

MNADV staff is finishing up all fiscal year 2015 grants that ended on September 30, 2015. The two national grants continue into FY 2016. Final narrative and financial reports will be submitted to funders in October 2015 and a final financial statement will be presented to the Board of Directors when the fiscal year 2015 expenditures are finalized.

- ***Fiscal Year 2016***

A tentative fiscal year 2016 budget is being prepared for the Board's approval in October 2015. The MNADV is awaiting official confirmation of new grant awards from GOCCP and approval of budget changes from OVW. Changes in the FY 2016 budget will be made as the new grants are received and changes approved. These changes will be presented to the Board for approval.

- ***Personnel, Financial and Operational Policies and Procedures***

The MNADV is continuing to revise the personnel, financial and operational policies and procedures to ensure compliance with federal requirements, to clarify MNADV internal policies, and to ensure the effective operation of the organization.