



FREEDOM FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE

THE CCASA CONNECTION

WINTER 2012

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SAVE THE DATE!

- The Public Policy Committee meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 11:30am-1pm. Join us for the next meeting on Feb. 21st! Contact Karen at advocacy@ccasa.org for more information.
- The Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Planning Committee meets every 1st Wednesday 10am-12pm from Dec.-May. Join us for the next meeting on Feb. 1st. Contact Alexa at outreach@ccasa.org for more information.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR BY ERIN JEMISON

Dear CCASA Members, Partners, and Friends:

Happy New Year from CCASA! We hope 2012 is off to a great start and that you are feeling rejuvenated as we look toward a new year of working in partnership to end sexual violence in Colorado communities.

The Winter edition of The CCASA Connection is an opportunity to share what's on tap at CCASA for the coming year, and each year I'm more excited about the progress we're making, the amazing services and programming being developed by our members, and the innovative approaches to ending sexual violence we hear about from all over the state. CCASA's focus over the coming year is to continue to develop resources and programs to assist you in implementing the highest possible standards of service to sexual assault survivors, as well as build our organizational capacity to sustain the services and resources we offer members and other service providers.

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SURVIVOR SPEAKS OUT: **Anna Hanson** Talks Out about Her New Book

How does something like this happen? What if it does? What do you do?

My name is Anna Nettie Hanson, I'm 18 years old, and I was violently raped 6 months ago. I was able to subdue my attacker and call 911, and he recently pleaded guilty. It was a groundbreaking case, and I have done what very few girls my age do. He is currently serving the maximum sentence time for the Class 3 Felony.

We have all heard that women should not walk alone at night. So, really, just don't do that, you know better. But is that the extent of prevention? Is it just

women who are at risk? Is it the creepy strangers that might attack you?

No. No, to all of the above.

Three quarters of victims know their assailant.

I fit in perfectly with this statistic, as so many people do.

This is where my anger comes from. This is where the fear lies. This is where the education is lacking. Schools need to educate sooner. Schools need to stop being afraid of the subject, and simply educate. Education will prevent and protect.

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SURVIVOR SPEAKS OUT: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Counseling and support are vital to helping a survivor of sexual assault. Whether they report the assault or not, they still need the attention and care to become whole again. I am in therapy, and I probably will be for the rest of my life because of what happened to me. I am not afraid to say so, because I am proud of myself for getting the help that I know I need in order to live a healthy life.

Oftentimes, the survivor will be in a state of shock for days to possibly weeks after an attack. Be a strong friend, and help them get the help they need. There is nothing to be ashamed of, and that is one of the hardest things to learn as a victim of sexual assault.

I want to help others learn through my experience, and my book further enables this education. I wrote it accidentally, after 3 months of writing in the middle of

the night when I couldn't sleep – an issue I still struggle with.

My poems are my story, and they are the most unique and diverse of all. My new book is titled: *For Now: Words of the Girl Who Fought Back*. It's a book that expresses every emotion, just as I have felt them. Humor is a release for me as well, so some quirky poems break up the intensity of the book. Beyond that, it gives raw insight into trauma and pain of a young woman directly after a rape. I recommend it for all readers. It will further open your eyes to the horribly stigmatized world of sexual assault.

“IN THE END WE WILL
REMEMBER NOT THE
WORDS OF OUR
ENEMIES, BUT THE
SILENCE OF OUR
FRIENDS.”

– Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

We all have a voice. Find it. Use it.

Thank you,
Anna Nettie Hanson

From Anna Nettie Hanson's new book: *For Now: Words of the Girl Who Fought Back*

WATCH OUT

It's surreal that all of my horrors
Have been recognized and honored
By convicting the perpetrator.

Through justice.

His life is ending, while mine is just beginning.

And when mine begins again,
Oh, it will really begin again.

Watch out, because when I'm back
On my feet,

I'll have a lot of kick.



Anna Nettie Hanson, author of *For Now: Words of the Girl Who Fought Back*
Like the book at www.facebook.com/fornowbook

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The CCASA Staff is planning training events to ensure that learning opportunities are available on at least a monthly basis again this year. Regular webinars that are available to all members and service providers, regardless of your location, will be offered on a variety of topics, including “Using CCASA Resources to Develop Successful SAAM Outreach & Events” on February 8th. We also continue to host spring and fall regional meetings, which include a training component as well as the opportunity for members to network with one another and share resources. We are excited to collaborate with the Colorado Anti-Violence Program (CAVP) to offer training on of Supporting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Survivors of Sexual Assault during this year’s spring regional meeting series—dates and locations are announced on page 4! CCASA is also working with the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence to host the statewide annual conference again this year in Vail (mark your calendar for June 11-13).

We are planning to host the second annual statewide Colorado SART Institute in September and hope that SART teams from across the state, both experienced collaborations and developing teams, will join us. The Institute offers a day and a half of training and resources to support teams in developing and delivering a comprehensive and coordinated response to all sexual assault survivors. You can also expect to see the results from the 2011 Forensic Compliance Evaluation Project early this year, followed by increased training and technical assistance to assist communities with ensuring that survivors have consistent, alternative reporting options and support. Finally, an ongoing CCASA goal is to increase both online and printed materials for members and survivors, as well as to ensure that they are available in Spanish and English. While we have a number of projects in the works, please don’t hesitate to contact us with any particular needs or input regarding resources that would be most useful for you and your program.

Our committees are also hard at work planning for 2012 projects and events. The Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Committee began meeting in December and all CCASA members can look forward to receiving resources and materials even earlier this year in order to assist you in planning April events and activities. The Public Policy Committee continues to be one of CCASA’s most active membership committees and in addition to addressing various policy issues, committee members are exploring new ways to keep you informed, including a weekly policy podcast with the latest news from the Capitol (see page 4 for a look at issues we expect to address during the 2012 session). The Public Outreach Committee (POC) is also gearing up to recruit new members and begin developing the first phase of a media project—stay tuned for more details coming soon!

In addition to these programs and many other projects, I look forward to continuing the progress that CCASA’s Board of Directors has made over the past two years in creating policies and procedures that strengthen the foundation of the Coalition. While the current Board is working on various projects, including partnering with Staff to increase fundraising efforts and begin an inclusiveness initiative, we also continue to recruit new members from each of CCASA’s regions. Please let us know if you’d like to nominate a motivated leader to join our team!

As we start a new year, please know that the CCASA Staff and Board continue to strive to provide you with support and resources that help you do what you do best. Thank you for your tireless efforts to achieve our shared mission of promoting safety, justice, and healing for survivors while working toward the elimination of sexual violence.

Sincerely,

Erin Jemison, Executive Director

POLICY UPDATE: 2012 SESSION BEGINS!

As most of you know, the Colorado Legislative session began on January 11, 2012 and will adjourn on May 9, 2012. During this time, CCASA staff, our lobbyist Annmarie Jensen, and our Public Policy Committee members are busy monitoring what is happening at the Capitol and providing input on how those decisions may affect sexual assault survivors and service providers within our state. If you are interested in learning more and contributing your perspective to public policy work, the CCASA Public Policy Committee may be for you! The CCASA Public Policy Committee is open to all CCASA members and meets the third Tuesday of every month. In order to ensure this is a statewide committee, meetings are accessible via conference call. Please contact me for additional details!

We are also excited to announce that CCASA and the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) are working together on CCADV's annual Legislative Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD). LEAD 2012 will be held in

Denver on Thursday, March 1st. Federal-level policy-making is the focus this year. As you know, much of the funding for domestic and sexual violence services is

authorized and allocated in Washington, DC. LEAD 2012 will explain how we can get to know and influence those in DC who make critically important decisions affecting our work. Special guest speakers will include:

- Rosemary Rodriguez, State Director for Sen. Michael Bennet;
- Sue Windels, District Education Advocate for Rep. Jared Polis' office; and
- Monika Johnson Hostler from the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence. Participation for CCASA members is \$50 per person and members will be reimbursed for mileage, parking, and lodging. Visit www.ccasa.org and watch

for emails with registration information! Thanks for all that you do on behalf of survivors in Colorado!

Karen Moldovan, Program Manager
advocacy@ccasa.org

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, VISIT WWW.CCASA.ORG TO CHECK OUT THE FIRST OF OUR WEEKLY POLICY PODCASTS. WE ARE HOPING THESE SHORT VIDEOS WILL BE ANOTHER WAY TO KEEP MEMBERS AWARE AND INVOLVED THROUGHOUT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

SAVE THE DATE! CCASA SPRING REGIONALS ANNOUNCED!

CCASA's Spring Regional Trainings will address how to effectively serve LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, and intersex) survivors of sexual violence and provide a review of the 2012 legislative session. We are pleased to be partnering with the Colorado Anti-Violence Program (CAVP) in order to provide these trainings. Below is a list of Spring Regional Training dates and locations. Registration will be available soon! Contact Alexa, outreach@ccasa.org, for more information.

- MONDAY, MAY 14TH, GOLDEN, CO
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 16TH, GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO
- FRIDAY, MAY 18TH, GREELEY, CO
- MONDAY, MAY 21ST, PUEBLO, CO
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 23RD, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO

*All trainings will be a full day; times may vary by location.

APRIL IS NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM)!



The month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the United States. The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. This April, the 2012 Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) campaign centers on promoting healthy sexuality to prevent sexual violence. The national theme of SAAM is "It's time...to talk about it!" We hope that you will work with your communities to develop events and outreach in April and help to break the silence around sexual assault in Colorado!

The CCASA SAAM Planning Committee has been working hard to create and revise resources for CCASA members. Member agencies can expect to receive a SAAM organizing

CD with resources like a media kit, video PSAs, film screening guide, sample letters to the editor, and more in mid-February. To assist members in using these resources and planning events in their communities during April, we will also be hosting a webinar on Wednesday, February 8th from 1-2pm entitled, "Using CCASA Resources to Develop Successful SAAM Outreach and Events." You may register for the webinar by visiting the CCASA website, www.ccasa.org. The webinar is free to CCASA members and only \$10 for non-members.

Look for more information about SAAM events and resources on the CCASA website! For questions about SAAM planning and to access the organizing CD, contact Alexa at outreach@ccasa.org or 303-839-9999.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO CCASA'S PROGRESS IN 2011

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Alpine Accounting Services, Inc. | Anne Guarnera | Ashley Riley Lopes | Sarah Vaine |
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| Kemi and Shane Chavez | Amy Jackson | (NREL) | The Crown Family |
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| Deena Davies | Steven and Gail Jemison | Diana Nguyen | The Denver Foundation* |
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| Elaine Fischer | Miriam Kapner | Julie Polly | Your Cause Sports |
| Lonnie Giroux | Laurie Knight | Patricia Postema | Keith Wipke |
| Dana Glogovsky | Diana Larson | Alexa Priddy | |
| Judy Graff | Andrea Layton | Consuelo Redhorse | *In-kind Gift |
| Great West Life♦ | Sean Lieske | Carolyn Roberts | ♦ Corporate Match |
| | Adam Lioz | Cathy Rodriguez | |
| | Terri Livermore and Michael Valdez | Stacey Saggese | |

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: ADVOCATE SAFEHOUSE PROJECT'S SISTERHOOD EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Expanding on our values of empowerment and relationships, the Advocate Safehouse Project (ASP) has developed a new avenue of serving our community with the Sisterhood Exchange Program (SEP), a local and global sisterhood linking women of East Africa and Garfield County, Colorado. The Sisterhood Exchange Program (SEP) represents a unique collaboration of inspired grassroots activists including the IMANI Women's Workshop in Eldoret, Kenya, the Organic Health Response on Mfangano Island, Kenya, and the Advocate Safehouse Project in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. This program seeks to improve the lives of rural women by connecting HIV+ women and men from different communities around the globe into one social support network. The goal of the exchange program is to model "positive living," increase social solidarity, and train in entrepreneurial craft making.



The connection of the Sisterhood Exchange Program to Western Colorado blossomed from the unique relationship between ASP and the Imani Workshop. For the past three years, we have worked with Elsie Rotich, Imani Outreach worker, to purchase hundreds of Imani Workshop handcrafts to be given as race awards at our annual fundraiser, the Mother's Day Mile. Last May, Rotich traveled to Glenwood Springs, as an "Imani Ambassador" to participate in the Mother's Day Mile and to share the Imani Workshop with the Colorado community.

In true "exchange" fashion, this past summer, ASP's Race Director of the Mother's Day Mile, Nancy Reinisch, traveled to East Africa to visit the Imani Workshop and the Ekialo Kiona Center and serve as the "Colorado Liaison" to the Sisterhood Exchange Program. After sharing in their friendship and crafts training, Reinisch placed an order with the new Mfangano artisans for

121 "Sisterhood Kitenge Aprons" to be given away as race awards at the 2011 Mother's Day Mile.

For the past two years, expert tailors, bead makers, and paper makers from the Imani Workshop have traveled six hours to the remote Mfangano Island to train members of the Organic Health Response, a non-profit community organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of HIV in the Suba District of Lake Victoria. OHR's newly-constructed Ekialo Kiona Center

(Suba language for "Worldwide") hosts not only the island's only solar-powered Internet lab, but also provides the workshop space for the evolving crafts cooperative. The cool shade of the Ekialo Kiona Center provided the foundation for the crafts groups from Imani and Mfangano to meet and develop their partnership. Together, they created the

Sisterhood Exchange Program, aimed at helping Mfangano Island residents learn to create and market indigenous crafts.

In August 2010, the Sisterhood Exchange Program officially opened its doors at the Ekialo Kiona Center and sewing machines could be heard clicking through the halls! Thanks to the support and donations of individuals and organizations from Garfield County, the Program was able to provide travel expenses for Imani teachers, purchase four treadle sewing machines, local fabrics, sewing supplies, beads, and paper making tools, and provide seed money for the next order.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM OR TO DONATE TO THE CAUSE, VISIT ORGANICHEALTHRESPONSE.ORG.

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

CCASA is once again partnering with the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) to host the Annual Conference for advocates and allied professionals from across the state. The conference is a time for agencies and individuals to unite in their work to end domestic and sexual violence. At the conference, participants have the opportunity to share, discuss, and explore the connections and creative solutions essential to our work. Please save the date, and join us in Vail from June 11-13th.

Annual Conference Call for Proposals

We look to you to share your knowledge of best practice, current trends, and cutting edge topics. Advocates and survivors of sexual violence are encouraged to submit proposals. Submit your proposal by 5:00 p.m. February 13, 2012. For a list of information, suggested topics or to submit your proposal using our online submission form visit the CCASA website at www.ccasa.org.

Have a question? Contact the Conference Coordinator, Marci Whitman, at 303-521-0201 or conference@ccadv.org



COLORADO MOBILIZES FOR TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH!

As you may know, February marks Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM). One in three teenagers reports experiencing physical or emotional abuse in their relationships.¹ We know this crime has many devastating effects for teens and their families. A cross-sectional survey using data from the national 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey of U.S. high school students found that girls who considered suicide were one and a half times more likely to report being victims of physical dating violence.² Both sexual assault and reproductive coercion can also be a component of teen dating violence. As February approaches, we encourage your program to learn more about supportive resources available for teens impacted by this crime. Two excellent websites to visit are www.breakthecycle.org and www.thatsnotcool.com.

This year will also mark the first annual Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Rally in Colorado! The event will be February 21, 2012 from 12 –1pm at the Wellington Webb Building in Denver. Although the event is in Denver, programs across the state can submit a short video, highlighting efforts to address and end teen dating violence in your community. The rally will feature a montage of all the video clips! To learn more about how you can participate, please contact Tomei Reif, Program Coordinator for the Domestic Violence Program at the Colorado Dept. of Human Services, at tomei.reif@state.co.us.



1 Halpern, et. al. American Journal of Public Health. 2001.

2 Howard, Donna; Wang, Min Qi; Yan, Fang. 2009. Psychosocial Factors Associated with Reports of Physical Dating Violence among U.S. Adolescent Females. *Adolescence*. 2007, Summer;42(166):311-24. Available at http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m2248/is_166_42/ai_n21052946/?tag=content;coll

WEBINARS

“The Practice of Trauma-Informed Care: Developing Support Groups for Sexual Assault Survivors”

Thursday, January 19th*

Noon-1:30pm

Presented by Janine D’Anniballe and Emily Tofte from Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA)

Support groups are very effective during the healing process for survivors of sexual assault. This presentation will outline the ways in which Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA) constructs trauma-informed support groups for primary and secondary survivors of sexual assault. In addition to key considerations for constructing groups, presenters will discuss new and unique ways to integrate body movement techniques into support groups.

*Members may request a recording of this previously presented webinar.

“Using CCASA Resources to Develop Successful SAAM Outreach & Events”

Wednesday, February 8th

1:00-2:00pm, MST

Presented by Alexa Priddy, CCASA, and Michelle Wolff, 17th JD SART

Many agencies and individuals throughout Colorado plan and facilitate annual events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) each April. This interactive webinar is facilitated by CCASA staff and SAAM Planning Committee members and is designed to help agencies and individuals better understand how to use/implement CCASA SAAM events and resources. We will also provide an opportunity for networking and idea sharing amongst CCASA members and partners. This webinar is ideal for those who are designated by their agency or community to coordinate SAAM events, as it will help you in that process. Participants will receive information on the resources and events developed by CCASA (to be released to CCASA members on February 15th) and how to make them effective in your community. Participants are also encouraged to bring their SAAM ideas to the webinar to share with others. If you have questions about this webinar, please contact Alexa at CCASA at outreach@ccasa.org or 303-839-9999.

**All CCASA webinars are FREE for CCASA members and \$10 for non-members.*

WELCOME! NEW CCASA MEMBERS IN FALL 2011 AND WINTER 2012

Agency Members

Brighton Police Department, Victim Services
 Colorado Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center
 Domestic Safety Resource Center
 Federal Heights Police Department, Victim Services Unit
 Kit Carson County Victim Assistance Program
 Peterson Air Force Base, Sexual Assault Prevention Program
 Sexual Offense Resource Services (SORS) in Grand Junction
 University of Colorado–Colorado Springs

Individual Members

Kelly Binder
 Daniel Church
 Jill Cimino
 Jamie Gibbs
 Jody Ginger
 Lonnie Giroux

Sue Hummer
 Barbara James
 Tywana Jones
 Caeleigh Shellhart
 KC Steele



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CCASA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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VICE CHAIR
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