CCASA PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

- Statewide!
- Accessible via conference call
- Typically meet the third Tuesday of every month
- No previous Public Policy experience necessary
- Committee Chair = Michelle Spradling; Vice Chair = Terri Livermore
- Contact Karen at advocacy@ccasa.org for more information!
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Victim Rights Changes: House Bill 1053

Comprehensive Bill; Components include:

- Human trafficking to the crimes that are included in the victims' rights statute
- Reasonable efforts to redact social security numbers of victims and witnesses from criminal justice records
- Right to be notified of how to request protection of victim address
- Right to know if a subpoena is requested for records of the victim
- A victim who turns 18 years of age may request that he or she become a point of contact for victim notification, but the victim's designee may continue to receive notification as well, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
STALKING MANDATORY ARREST PROTECTION ORDER: HOUSE BILL 1114

- “Vonnie’s Law”
  - Before a defendant is released on bail, the court shall, in cases involving domestic violence or stalking, issue a protection order.
  - Since current law already included mandatory protection order for domestic violence, this bill was applicable for non-intimate partner stalking.

Are programs experiencing challenges with obtaining protection orders in sexual assault cases?
HUMAN TRAFFICKING & PROSTITUTION: HOUSE BILL 1151

- Oftentimes minor victims of commercial sexual exploitation enter the criminal justice system as “prostitutes”
- Creates opportunity for criminal justice records expungement for juveniles, records sealing for adults
- Mandatory posting of victim services information for escort bureaus and massage parlors
- Allows for seizure, confiscation, and forfeiture of buildings/items used in trafficking
- Victim may seek civil remedies
EXCEPTION TO THE HEARSAY RULE: HOUSE BILL 1085

- An out-of-court statement made by a person with a developmental disability (regarding a sexual assault case) can be admissible in court.
- Designed to bolster chances of prosecutions of perpetrators who target this population.

Rep. Rhonda Fields, Bill Sponsor and Recipient of CCASA’s 2012 Legislator of the Year Award!
OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY BILLS

- **Reduce Barriers to Employment Criminal Records: House Bill 1263**
  - State agencies and DORA must consider in hiring/licensing people with criminal records if (among other things) “the offense is a sex offense and licensure would permit the person to be employed in a position that has contact with vulnerable persons.”

- **Sex Offender Registration - No Fixed Residence: House Bill 1346**
  - Create a registration system for offenders who lack a fixed residence.

- **Collateral Consequences: Senate Bill 105**
  - In seeking relief from collateral consequences of a conviction, offenders cannot have the terms of parole/probation overridden by the court.
DISCIPLINE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS: SENATE BILL 46

- An effort to reverse “zero tolerance”
  - Worked to ensure that restorative justice and victim/offender mediation are not used in school-based sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases
  - Added language to encourage schools to work with victim advocates, where available
  - Codified the need for policies to work in accordance with state/federal laws (mandatory reporting and Title IX)
  - Data collection component

*This bill was added to a School Finance Bill in the Special Session and passed.*
PROTECTION FOR AT-RISK ADULTS: SENATE BILL 78

- Most states require mandatory reporting of abuse/neglect/exploitation of at-risk adults. Colorado currently does not. The bill would:
  - Require each county dept. protective services employee to complete a fingerprint-based criminal history records CBI check.
  - Create a task force to study the problem of mistreatment and exploitation of at-risk adults; and prepare recommendations to the legislature concerning how to require certain persons, on and after September 1, 2013, to report known or suspected mistreatment or exploitation of at-risk elderly adults.
  - CCASA worked to ensure that a victim advocate representative is included on the task force.
FEDERAL POLICY

VAWA and the SAFER Act
RE-AUTHORIZATION OF VAWA

- Significant challenges with provisions to support survivors who are undocumented, LGBTQI, or Native American.

- Your voice matters more than ever!

Now is the time to start calling/emailing/scheduling meetings with Representatives!!

Please visit www.4vawa.org for the latest updates!
DFSA PAYMENT POLICY: RECAP

- If the attending medical professionals determines a DFSA test in warranted, but the victim has not yet decided to cooperate with a law enforcement investigation, the samples can be collected for testing and the Division of Criminal Justice, Office for Victims Programs will pay for the cost of testing.

- The CDPHE toxicology lab should bill DCJ directly.

- Law enforcement will NOT receive the test results without the permission of the victim.

- The victim can contact the CDPHE toxicology lab directly for test results.

- There may be ongoing advocacy needs/considerations in working with survivors who have experienced DFSA, but are not cooperating with law enforcement.

For more information on the payment process, please contact Terri Livermore (Sexual Assault Response Project Coordinator at the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice) at terri.livermore@cdps.state.co.us.
THANK YOU!!
EMAIL ADVOCACY@CCASA.ORG FOR QUESTIONS!

COLORADO COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT
FREEDOM FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE