



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY: THE NORTH CAROLINA COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



3710 University Drive, Suite 140
Durham, NC 27707

919.956.9124
888.232.9124
FAX: 919.682.1449

Greetings Advocates and Allies,

We are pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report for the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCCADV). We endeavor to make our work reach into all North Carolina communities and our membership is vital to that engagement. The work that is done by Domestic Violence Service Providers (DVSP) to provide support, resources, and safety for victims and their children is immeasurably important. As well, the work of our many state partners enriches the community with valuable resources that further protects the well-being of its citizens.

In 2015, NCCADV initiated and maintained unique programs with partners in many sectors of the state. The organization provided close to 1,860 requests for technical assistance and 70 training events to the domestic violence community. A strong legislative agenda was addressed with many successes through our lobbying and advocacy and we were able to significantly impact domestic violence laws that will better protect victims and hold perpetrators accountable.

Please consider making a donation to NCCADV as we work to create social change through the elimination of the institutional, cultural, and individual oppressions that contribute to domestic violence. Consider your gift as your personal commitment to promoting safe families and communities across North Carolina.

It has been our honor and privilege to support advocates and community members in the work that they do. Together, we can create a North Carolina in which our children have the hope of a future without family violence.

Wishing you peace,

Dana Mangum, MA
Executive Director
North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence

TRAINING INSTITUTE

Each year, NCCADV offers a calendar of statewide training events to help build the skills and information available for local domestic violence advocates and allied professionals. In 2015, we had a number of new trainings, including the following:

- Teen Dating Violence
- Responding to Stalking, “Revenge Porn” and Other Technology-Facilitated Crimes
- Latina/o Advocates’ Institute—a two-day training conducted entirely in Spanish
- Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Clinical Settings
- Reproductive Health and HIV: What DV Advocates Need to Know in North Carolina

In addition to these new trainings, NCCADV continued to provide two sessions of the Advocates’ Institute, which is a week-long training event. Intended for new advocates, and those that feel they need a refresher, the Advocates’ Institute is designed to build skills and competencies around the dynamics of domestic violence and best practices in serving survivors of all ages and identities. The overarching goal of the Institute is to increase the quality of services provided to survivors across the state, and to ensure consistency of those services. NCCADV uses the Advocates’ Institute as an important vehicle to convey its priorities and beliefs about the best way to provide services to survivors of domestic violence regardless of their identities or experiences.

NCCADV provided a total of 70 statewide trainings for 1551 people. Topics covered and not already mentioned include the following:

- Domestic Violence and Children
- Domestic Violence Basics
- Coordinated Community Response
- Serving Immigrants & Latina/o Survivors
- Court Advocacy
- Serving LGBTQ Survivors
- Domestic Violence Investigations for Law Enforcement and Court Personnel
- Technology & Stalking

Training topics are selected by surveying NCCADV’s membership through regional representatives to gather information about training needs, and then training events are distributed throughout the state in an effort to best meet the identified needs. For the upcoming year NCCADV is working on launching an e-learning program that will include

webinars and other distance and electronic learning opportunities. NCCADV is also working to provide additional trauma-informed content in 2016.

PROGRAMS

IPV Healthcare Provider Network Project

In 2015, NCCADV embarked on important work in a new arena: healthcare. In August, the federal Office of Women's Health awarded NCCADV a grant to fund work supporting the integration of domestic violence assessments and intervention into routine medical care. This funding also strongly encourages collaborations between domestic violence service providers and healthcare providers. Only four other such grants were awarded to sites across the county.

In 2013 the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommended routine screening of women of childbearing age. Based on that recommendation, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandated that new plans cover screening and brief counseling at no cost to the patient. In spite of these developments, and the profoundly negative impact that domestic violence has on victims' physical and mental health, it has not yet become routine for health care providers to address domestic violence in the healthcare setting--either in NC or nationally. Over the three year grant period we will work with community partners to: 1) develop a best practices toolkit to guide NC health care providers on how best to identify patients who are in abusive relationships and to provide a brief intervention in the healthcare setting; 2) develop a training curriculum; 3) provide training and technical assistance to pilot sites to assist them in implementing the best practices recommendations; and 4) evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention.

DELTA FOCUS

The NCCADV DELTA FOCUS project had many notable accomplishments in 2015. With guidance from the DELTA State Steering Committee (SSC), the state prevention programming and evaluation plans continued to be implemented and updated. Prevention work concentrated in three main areas: 1) systems coordination, 2) colleges/universities, and 3) development of programming around community-level prevention policy.

NCCADV prevention staff continued to provide technical assistance to participants of the 2014 Prevention Institute, a three-day intensive prevention training. We also began to develop a two-day Advanced Prevention Institute for DVSPs and their prevention implementation partners, which will take place in early 2016. In addition, NCCADV launched the Prevent Violence NC website, which contains the latest research and resources to help build community, family, and individual strengths to prevent multiple forms of violence and promote health. NCCADV staff presented on the website at trainings and conferences throughout North

Carolina and to national audiences. In September, Prevent Violence NC was recognized as national technical assistance website Prevent IPV's Tool of the Month.

To assist college and universities in their work to end gender violence on campuses, NCCADV staff released a model dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence prevention and response policy. The model policy includes a guidance document that serves as a general guide for colleges and universities as they develop their policies. The policy has received national attention, becoming the subject of the CDC's first case study on domestic violence prevention strategies at the community and society levels. Moreover, several campuses across the country have incorporated language from the model policy into their own policies.

NCCADV staff worked with two student Capstone teams from UNC-CH's Gillings School of Public Health during 2015. The first student team worked to complete a systematic screening assessment (SSA) process to help link local DSVPs to promising community connectedness initiatives in their communities. The SSA process is a new strategy designed to help identify promising practices in the field that are ready for further program development and evaluation. NCCADV was able to identify several promising practices, and is engaging in ongoing work to prepare one specific site for further evaluation.

The second UNC student team has embarked upon a process to identify promising practices for violence prevention related to housing and homelessness. By identifying best practices for providing safe, permanent housing for victims of domestic violence, NCCADV is looking to increase the ability of victims to move into permanent housing faster and more effectively. Based on the work of both of the Capstone teams, NCCADV staff is planning to identify and support the expansion of models for community-level prevention policies in 2016.

Coordinated Community Response

NCCADV continued its work to enhance systems coordination and response effectiveness across the state by promoting Coordinated Community Response teams (CCR). A CCR team joins multidisciplinary community partners to provide interagency, coordinated response to domestic violence in order to meet the needs of victims/survivors and more effectively hold offenders accountable. NCCADV has partnered with the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCCASA) on the Enhancing Rural Strategies (ERS) project to develop strong multidisciplinary teams in rural counties throughout North Carolina. The project provides technical assistance and training to assist Coordinated Community Response and Sexual Assault Response Teams (CCR/SARTs) at different stages in their development. Several of the teams have created and implemented interagency response protocols to define their collaborative efforts and establish best practices in their response to domestic and sexual violence. The protocols serve as guidelines for how each community can make victims' needs a priority and hold offenders accountable. Newer teams are recruiting key players, building relationships, and

conducting community assessments prior to developing their interagency response protocols. Beyond this project, NCCADV has provided technical assistance and training on collaboration and domestic violence best practices to domestic violence agencies and community partners throughout the state. Through our efforts we continue to make significant progress towards communities developing a more consistently strong and collaborative response to domestic violence.

Latin@ Services Program

In partnership with researchers at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NCCADV has conducted a statewide assessment of services for Latin@ survivors of domestic violence. The results will be used to guide implementation of a comprehensive technical assistance and training plan to support domestic violence agencies in their efforts to better serve Latin@ survivors of domestic violence. As part of this project, we will work intensely with specific agencies by developing a personalized work plan and supporting them in their implementation of this initiative.

CASE

The CASE Project has intensified its efforts to enhance the capacity of North Carolina's domestic violence agencies to address the vulnerabilities and concerns of children and youth affected by domestic violence. As a cornerstone of our work, we have continued to build awareness of the effects of children exposed to domestic violence through technical assistance and training. Over 5,000 survivors, domestic violence agencies staff, allied professionals and concerned citizens have benefited from the technical assistance and training of the CASE Project.

In 2015, the CASE Project trained and collaborated with domestic violence agencies to screen over 102 children for different forms of trauma. For those children identified in need of referrals, their caregivers were directed to trauma-informed mental health and/or other services. As another means to prevent further victimization and safeguard adult victims and their children, the CASE Project promotes domestic violence agencies' usage of criminal background check services. To date, over 2,500 people were screened for suitability for employment or volunteering at local domestic violence agencies.

The CASE Project has expanded its scope to include technical assistance, training around teen dating violence. As NCCADV grows its work around teen dating violence we look forward to collaboration with other teen dating violence prevention and response programs in the state of North Carolina in years to come.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical Assistance is one of the key services offered by NCCADV. Advocates, survivors, allied Professionals, and the general public call NCCADV to seek support and find answers to their questions related to domestic violence. NCCADV houses current research, best practices in the field, and relevant publications in our Resource Library. We also serve as a conduit to help programs and people connect with one another to share strategies and challenges that better support our collective work. Technical assistance requests include topics ranging from shelter security to nonprofit management to legal issues for survivors. In 2015, NCCADV responded to over 1,860 separate requests for technical assistance.

DIRECT LEGAL SERVICES

Through Federal funding passed through the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission, NCCADV began providing limited legal representation or advice to survivors of intimate partner violence in their domestic violence protective order (DVPO) cases when they would have otherwise gone unrepresented in their DVPO and related hearings. NCCADV hired a staff attorney to provide legal advocacy to survivors most in need. From September 2015 to December 2015, NCCADV provided legal advice or representation to 25 survivors of domestic violence.

POLICY

With its members, NCCADV develops a legislative agenda every year to work with legislators on bills. Below are the DV-related legislation that was passed and that NCCADV worked on during the 2015 session.

Budget

In 2015, NCCADV worked to ensure there were no cuts to Domestic Violence Programs. The budget did not cut funding through the Council for Women for the Domestic Violence Center Fund to be distributed to domestic violence programs. The budget also did not include any transfer of the Domestic Violence Commission or Council for Women to the Governor's Office nor transfer the administration of DV funds to any other department- both of which had been proposed in recent budgets/sessions. NCCADV had raised concerns about the potential for funding delays as a result and the transfers did not happen. The budget also provides \$17 million in funding for both years to of the budget to the Workforce Housing Investment Program (a \$7 million increase) which was supported by NCCADV.

Criminal-Related DV Provisions

- **Expansion of Pretrial Release Conditions for DV Crimes**

NCCADV worked with legislators to pass legislation to expand N.C. General Statute §15A-534.1, Pretrial Release for Crimes of Domestic Violence. This statute helps protect victims of domestic violence by providing that a defendant charged with certain offenses (such as assaults, stalking, and felonies) be held for *up to* 48 hours without a bond so that a judge can set the defendant's conditions of release. Before the expansion this session, this special "hold" only applied to defendants who had committed crimes against their spouse, former spouse, or persons with whom they lived or had lived with "as if married." NCCADV worked this session to expand this protection to victims of dating violence. Now defendants who are charged with these same crimes against anyone whom they are or have been in a dating relationship with, regardless of the sexual orientation of the parties, will be subject to the Pretrial Release Conditions for DV Crimes and the "hold" requirement. This expansion was passed as part of H465 and became effective on December 1, 2015.

- **Creation of a Statutory Aggravating Factor**

NCCADV, as recommended by the Mecklenburg County DV Fatality Review Team, worked with legislators to create a new statutory aggravating factor which recognizes the harm witnessing domestic violence causes to children. This session, legislators created a new aggravating factor which allows a judge to punish a defendant more severely if the defendant committed a felony in the presence (defined as sight or hearing) of a minor child. This legislation also amended the definition of "presence" for the misdemeanor crime for "Assault in the Presence of a Minor Child" (N.C.G.S. §14-33(d)) to mean "sight or hearing." This legislation was passed as part of H465 and became effective on December 1, 2015.

- **Creation of a New Crime: Disclosure of Private Images**

NCCADV worked with primary sponsor Rep. Bryan and other legislators on the passage of legislation which, for the first time in North Carolina, criminalizes the dissemination of explicit images distributed without the consent of the pictured individual. The law applies when a person discloses an image of a person they had a "personal relationship" with (according to N.C.G.S. §50B), that person is "identifiable" by the image, and the person depicted gave the offending person the image consensually during the relationship and expected the image to remain private. A violation of the law for all offenders 18 years and older is a class H felony. It is a misdemeanor for first-time offenders under the age of 18, and a felony for subsequent offenses. Commonly referred to as a "Revenge Porn" law, the "Disclosure of Private Images" legislation was passed as H792 and became effective on December 1, 2015.

- **Expansion of Cyberstalking Law to Criminalize Use of GPS Devices**

NCCADV worked with legislators on expanding our current cyberstalking law to further protect stalking victims. This session, legislators amended N.C.G.S. §14-196.3, to explicitly prohibit the use of an electronic tracking device (GPS) on vehicles. NCCADV worked with legislators to ensure that the exceptions to the law for when persons could use a GPS device legally did not include loopholes for DV abusers to track their victims. A violation of the law is a class 2 misdemeanor. The legislation was passed as S238 and became effective on December 1, 2015.

- **Amendment of 50B-4.1(d) in Response to NC Court of Appeals Decision**

NCCADV worked with legislators to respond quickly to the NC Court of Appeals decision, *State v. Jacobs*, issued Feb. 17, 2015. The *Jacobs* decision reversed sentencing enhancements for a domestic violence abuser due to the way N.C.G.S. §50B-4.1(d), a sentencing enhancement statute, was drafted. NCCADV proposed new language for N.C.G.S. §50B-4.1(d) which clarified that enhancements refer to *convictions* of the detailed offenses and not to the person charged or convicted. This legislation was passed as part of S60 and became effective on December 1, 2015.

Civil-Related DV Provisions

- **Revision of Civil Hearing Recording Statute in Response to NC Court of Appeals Decision**

NCCADV partnered with the NC Administrative Office of the Courts to respond swiftly to the NC Court of Appeals *Stancill v. Stancill* decision which jeopardized the safety of domestic violence victims. After the Court of Appeals ruled in *Stancill* on June 16, 2015, that pursuant to N.C.G.S. §7A-198 all ex parte hearings for domestic violence protective orders must be recorded, domestic violence victims faced barriers to obtaining ex parte orders all across the state. Not all district courtrooms have recording equipment and even after a courtroom is secured, a court clerk and deputy are needed to operate the courtroom. These additional requirements often caused delays, some that lasted several hours, thus lessening the effect of emergency protection. NCCADV and allies worked with legislators to develop a statutory clarification to N.C.G.S. §7A-198 so that ex parte hearings would not have to be recorded, eliminating these dangerous roadblocks to lifesaving protective orders. This legislation passed as part of H59 and became effective July 31, 2015, just a little over a month after the *Stancill* decision.

- **Authorization for E-filing Statewide**
NCCADV provided assistance to the NC Administrative Office of the Courts in their pursuit of legislation to authorize electronic filing statewide for domestic violence protective orders (50B orders) and civil no-contact orders (50C orders). The authorization is codified in N.C.G.S. §7A-343.6. This legislation was passed as part of H465. The authorization became effective immediately and the revisions to the relevant portions of N.C.G.S. §§50B and 50C became effective December 1, 2015.
- **Authorization to Electronically Transmit/Fax DVPOs Across Counties to Facilitate Service**
Legislators passed a bill which helps protect domestic violence victims by allowing for domestic violence protective orders (50B orders) and civil no-contact orders (50C orders) to be transmitted electronically or by fax from clerks of court to law enforcement agencies in other counties for the purpose of serving the defendant. Often times an enormous barrier for victim safety is just getting the defendant served with a copy of the protective order. This legislation should help facilitate faster service on defendants who live in a county other than one in which the order was filed. This legislation was passed as SB192 and became effective August 5, 2015.
- **Amend Child Custody Laws/Presumed Shared Parenting**
NCCADV spoke out against this legislation which in its original version sought to eliminate the “best interest of the child” legal standard for determining the award of child custody and replace it with a presumption of “shared parenting,” eliminating the requirement of the court to consider all relevant factors including acts of domestic violence between the parties, the safety of the child, and the safety of either party from domestic violence by the other party. Legislators responded to the concerns of NCCADV and other stakeholders and preserved the “best interest of the child” as the ***legal standard***. The legislation which passed moved the “shared parenting” considerations to a “policy” position but did not substantively change the legal standards by which custody is considered by a judge or awarded to parents. This legislation was passed as S519 and became effective on October 20, 2015.

Other DV-Related Bills

- **Firearms Bill**
Comprehensive firearm legislation was introduced this session which included several provisions directly dangerous to domestic violence victims. The current law includes a lifetime prohibition for applicants who have convictions for certain violent misdemeanors from obtaining a concealed carry permit. The legislation as introduced proposed to change the lifetime ban to just a 3-year ban. NCCADV worked with Rep. Rena Turner to run an amendment to the bill to maintain a lifetime ban for persons convicted of violent misdemeanors such as simple assault, assault inflicting serious

injury, assault with a deadly weapon, assault on a female, assault on a child under 12 years old, assault in the presence of a minor, stalking, child abuse, violation of a domestic violence protective order, and domestic criminal trespass. In addition, NCCADV worked with the Sheriffs Association and other allies to work with legislators to ensure that Sheriffs maintain the ability to issue pistol permits after a background check. This legislation passed as HB562 and included various effective dates.

- **Revising Statutory Scheme for Sex Offenses**

Legislation was passed this session which reorganizes, renames, and renumbers various sexual offenses (including forcible rape, statutory rape, forcible sexual offense, and statutory sexual offense) to make them more easily distinguishable from each other. These changes were made pursuant to a recommendation of the NC Court of Appeals as part of its decision in *State of North Carolina v. Slade Weston Hicks Jr.* This reorganization will affect the Administrative Office of the Court forms for filing a domestic violence protective order (DVPO) since a basis for obtaining a DVPO is that the defendant committed “any act defined in G.S. §14-27.2 through G.S. 14-27.7,” the former N.C. statutes for sex offenses. This legislation was passed as HB383 and became effective December 1, 2015 and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

- **Elimination of Certain Forms of ID and Elimination of Sanctuary Counties/Cities**

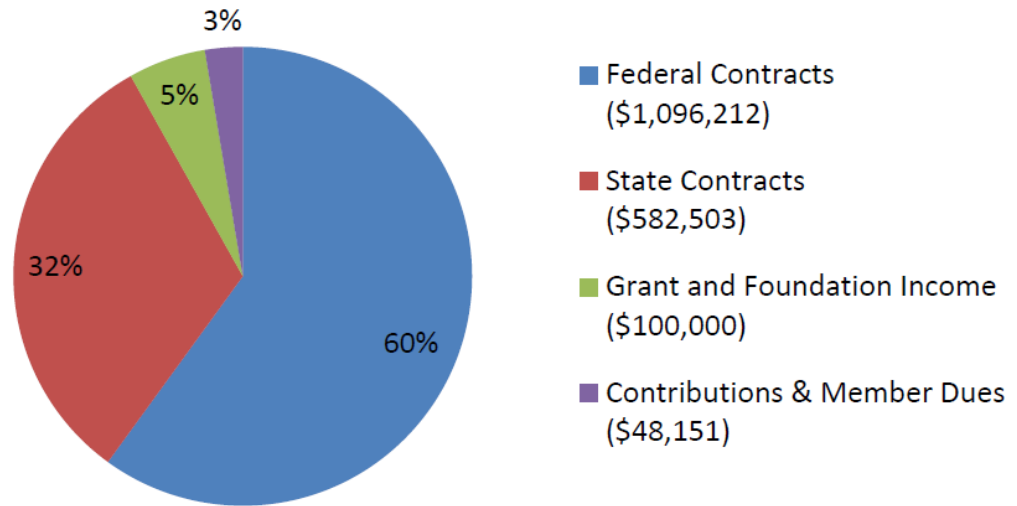
Legislation was passed during the last week of the session which NCCADV is concerned will further endanger immigrant victims of domestic violence. Legislators passed a law which prohibits any government official, including law enforcement, judges, and magistrates, from accepting a matricula consular or other similar document (other than a valid passport) or any identity document not expressly authorized for that purpose by the General Assembly for purposes of establishing identity or residency. In addition, the legislation prohibits cities and counties from establishing policies which restrict the collecting of citizenship and immigration status information or sharing of that information with federal authorities. NCCADV knows that fear of deportation is an enormous barrier for immigrant survivors in seeking safety and assistance from law enforcement. In addition, NCCADV is concerned that immigrant survivors may now not be able to show proof of identity and residency to law enforcement to obtain the assistance they need when having suffered physical and sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner. NCCADV will be working with our DV Service Programs and advocates across the state to gather information about the potential harmful impact of this legislation. This legislation was passed in HB318 and became effective October 1, 2015.

FINANCAL INFORMATION 2015



2015 Income by Source

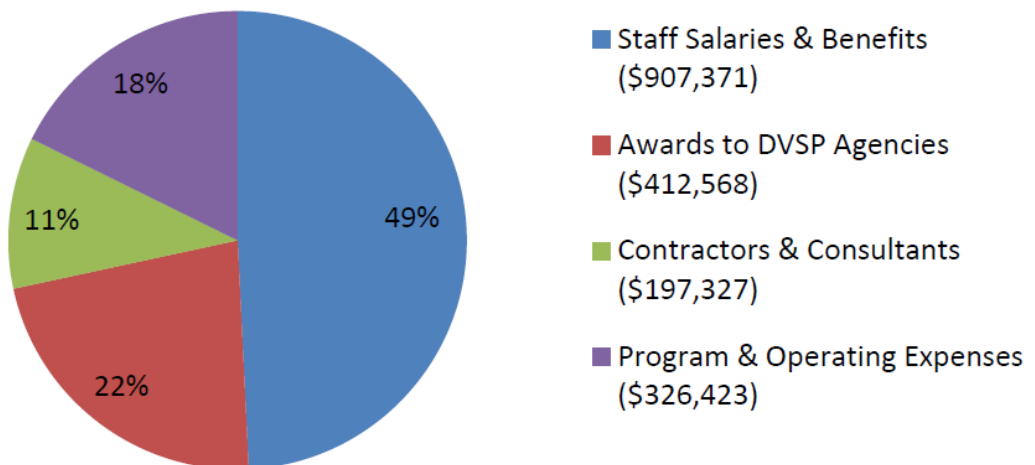
Total Annual Income \$1,826,866



Unaudited

2015 Expense by Category

Total Annual Expenses \$1,843,690



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