

UDVC Newsletter

Volume I, Issue II

December 2003



**THERE'S
NO EXCUSE FOR
ABUSE**

Special points of interest:

- Families with DV in the home get no break over the holidays.
- UDVC new member welcome.
- The 2004 Utah General Legislative Session will begin on January 19, 2003

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DV Heroes Honored

UDVC held its Annual Family Violence Prevention Awards on Monday, October 20, 2003, at the new Salt Lake City Library. The theme for this year's event was "Celebrating Service." Because of this theme, the UDVC Public Awareness Committee decided to recognize DV advocates throughout the state. Their Victim Advocate Programs submitted the Advocates names. All of the Advocates names submitted were placed in a booklet of recognition for the awards event.

Two outstanding victim advocates were selected from the nominees to be honored with special awards of recognition for their outstanding service. Veronica Williams, an ex-

traordinary advocate from the Salt Lake region, was honored for the countless hours she spends volunteering to ensure that underserved victims are better able to access all available services. Vicki Proctor, an incredible advocate in the Provo area, was also honored for her many years as a passionate and caring domestic violence advocate.

The recipient of the individual award was Mr. John Lazareno, of Delta Utah. Mr. Lazareno is a retired teacher of 28 years.

Upon retiring from teaching in Mexico he moved to Utah where he has resided for the last 13 years. Mr. Lazareno continues to teach for the local school district, offering his time to teach ESL, Spanish and GED classes. He has become a respected translator in the Delta courts, with the local law enforcement, DCFS and DV treatment providers. "John has helped me per-



Mr. Lazareno and Family

Story continued on page 3.

UDVC's First Newsletter Was a Success

The response to UDVC's first newsletter was overwhelmingly positive. With only its second issue, the newsletter has grown from four to six pages.



The newsletter will be sent out quarterly.

The deadlines for article submission for 2004 will be the second Tuesday in January, April and July.

If you have any

ideas for newsletter articles or ongoing columns please submit them to Katie Sutton at ksutton@udvac.org. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to be placed on the UDVC mailing list please have him or her contact Katie.

Businesses Need Diversity

I attended the annual dinner for the Utah Minority Bar Association of the Utah State Bar last week. The keynote speaker for the evening was E. Christopher Johnson, General Counsel for General Motors. He is responsible for managing the delivery of all legal services that impact GM's North America Region and its hundreds of attorneys, support staff and outside law firms. Mr. Johnson, an African-American lawyer, talked about the role of diversity in his business. GM strives to make its workforce "look like" the consumers to which they sell automobiles. In fact, legal services outsourced to private firms are required to have a specific amount of the billable hours by women and minorities that match customer demographics. When he is asked if GM's diversity policies have

been a challenge or detrimental to the company, Mr. Johnson replies, that to the contrary, GM's implementation of diversity, throughout the company – top to bottom, has never been an impediment to the company's growth, rather, it has stimulated creativity and productivity. To underscore the support of its minority employees, Mr. Johnson recited the dozen or so GM minority associations that the company actively supports. GM's management feels so strongly about diversity in the workplace, that it filed a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in favor of the Michigan law school and its policy of taking race and ethnicity into account when determining admissions because GM **knows** that businesses **need** qualified employees from all segments of our American society in order to **succeed**.

I would encourage us, as leaders in the domestic violence community, to spearhead efforts to foster diversity, both in our personal lives, and in delivering domestic violence services in our communities. I hope that we will embrace tolerance and diversity, in all its wonderful facets, rather than fear that which is different. We may not have the resources that General Motors has, but we can all make a difference in the spheres of influence in which we operate. I hope that in the coming year, we, like General Motors, will place special focus and emphasis on diversity and do what we can to make it a reality at work and at home.

*Submitted By: Stewart Ralphs
Executive Director, Salt Lake Legal Aid
Society; UDVC Chair*

USPS Releases "Stop Family Violence" Stamp

On October 8, 2003 the United States Postal Service released the "Stop Family Violence" stamp.

On October 11, 2003, a dedication for the stamp was held in Denver, Colorado. Present at the dedication were Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colorado); Rita Smith, Executive Director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Donna Peak, Controller and Vice President of Finance for the U.S. Postal Service and Ellis Burhoyne, District Manager of the Colorado/Wyoming District of the U. S. Postal Service.

"The 'Stop Family Violence Stamp' allows every American to contribute to a nationwide effort to end domestic violence. By using the stamp on their cards and letters, our customers will help bring before the

public eye a problem that is too often ignored." Stated Donna Peak regarding the importance of the new stamp.



Six-year old, Monique Blais, from Santa Barbara California, drew the image on the stamp. Monique was originally chosen to model for the stamp. During a break in the photo session Monique started drawing what she thought best-represented domestic violence. This drawing is the image seen on the stamp today.

The funds raised by the purchase of this stamp will be transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with the Stamp Out Domestic Violence Act of 2001. President Bush signed the proclamation of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October 8, 2003. At this time several new domestic violence initiatives were announced, because of these initiatives it is unclear exactly how the proceeds from the stamp

will be allocated within the Department of Health and Human Services, but it is anticipated that DV programs at the local level will benefit from the proceeds of the stamp sales.

The USPS has printed 125 million of the "Stop Family Violence" stamps. They can be purchased by phone at 1-800-STAMP-24, online at www.usps.com/shop and by visiting your local post office, through December 2006. A pane of twenty stamps costs \$9.00.

Imagine how much money would be raised if we all used these stamps on our holiday cards this year– what a gift to give! UDVC encourages everyone to purchase and use the "Stop Family Violence" stamps to show support in the ongoing effort to eliminate domestic violence.

This article was adapted in part from a press release by the U.S. Postal Service on October 8, 2003.

January Calendar

January 5
12:00pm, Box Elder County DV Coalition Mtg

January 6
9:30am, UDVC Exec. Comm. Mtg W/UDVC Committee Chairs
12:00pm, Carbon County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 7
12:00pm, Grand County DV Coalition Mtg.
12:00pm, Tooele County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 8
1:00pm, Juab County DV Coalition Mtg., @ Workforce Services
4:00pm, Beaver County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 9
12:00pm, UDVC Legislative Group Mtg.

January 12
4:00pm, Beaver County DV Coalition Mtg.
10:00am, Summitt County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 13
12:00pm, SLADV Coalition Mtg.
12:00pm, Weber County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 14
9:00am, UDVC Interfaith Leaders Comm. @ Westgate Business Plaza
12:00pm, Washington County DV Coalition Mtg.
10:00am, Uintah/Duschane/Daggett County DV Coalition Mtg.
11:30am, Cache/Rich County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 15
Kane County DV Coalition Mtg. @ DWS
12:00pm, SLADV Law Enforcement Committee Mtg.

12:00pm, Iron County DV Coalition Mtg.
12:00pm, Tri-County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 19 (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)
? 12:00-1:30pm, UDVC Family Violence Advisory Comm. @ CVR Bldg
? 1:30pm, UDVC TX Comm. Mtg.: @ Cornerstone Counseling
? 3:30pm, UDVC Appropriations Comm Mtg. @ Cornerstone Counseling

January 20
8:30am, UDVC Membership Comm. Mtg @ DHS
8:30am, UDVC Public Awareness Comm. Mtg. @ DHS Bldg
10:00am, UDVC Regular Mtg. @ DHS
12:30pm, UDVC Shelter Comm. Mtg. @DHS
12:30pm, UDVC Gov't Affairs Comm. Mtg. @ DHS Bldg.

January 21
10:00am, Garfield County DV Coalition Mtg.
3:00pm, Millard County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 23
12:00pm, UDVC Legislative Group Mtg.

January 27
12:15pm, Davis County DV Coalition Mtg.
1:30pm, Utah County Coalition Mtg.

January 28
12:00pm, Emery County DV Coalition Mtg.

January 30
12:00pm, UDVC Legislative Group Mtg.

Awards Event Cont.

sonally by assisting with appointments, assessments and he attends classes when needed. John has even taken home the book, 'Learning to Live Without Violence', so that he would be better prepared for his translation skills with this specific population. John is a quiet hero, that through his volunteerism, we have treatment services for the Spanish speaking population in Millard County", Judy Monarque said.

The honoree for the Family Violence Prevention Organization Award was Hampton Superior Dry

Cleaners, of Ogden, Utah.

About 10 years ago, Allen Hampton Jr. was approached

by YCC in Ogden to see how much the cleaners would charge for washing the quilts used by the DV Victim Assistance Center. His father, Allen Hampton Sr., who has since passed away from cancer, thought about it for a few moments then answered "How about free?" Hampton's Superior Dry Cleaners has continued this service to the community ever since, without any fanfare or question. Sheila Richins said, "It's just a good deed done in quiet. As manager of the shelter, I cannot express enough gratitude for the thousands of quilts that have been cleaned, and the tremendous amount of money this selfless, quiet service has saved us."

The UDVC Executive Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Kate Jensen Hinchee. Kate has worked in the domestic violence field for over 24 years and served in many capacities, within the state system and the private non-profit

sector. She most recently had worked as the Domestic Violence Program Specialist for the State of Utah, Division of Child and Family Services. Kate recently moved to Florida to pursue other dreams. Her absence in the field of domestic violence within the state of Utah will certainly be felt and she will be missed greatly.

During the awards event Ned Searle, the State Domestic Violence Coordinator under the Office of the Lt. Governor, presented Governor Leavitt's Declaration, declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the State of Utah.

There's no possible way to thank each individual that gives selflessly to help in the ongoing movement to help eliminate domestic violence, but UDVC would like to say, "thank you," to all of you.



Alan Hampton Jr. with Brandy Farmer, Co-chair UDVC

Peace for the Holidays

It's November 24th and I just listened to holiday music while eating lunch. We are already in the midst of the "happiest time of the year," right? After months of meetings on how to keep people safe and reduce the violence in families, I am ready for a break. However, it was poignantly pointed out to me in an email that many families will not receive a break. In fact, for some the violence will escalate, and for others it will continue without stopping for anything. Families are isolated, children are told that siblings who move out are no longer part of their family, and beatings continue for any for no reason except to exert power and control. It makes me want to work harder and understand better how to make a difference. A recent summary article, "Integrating Community Building and Violence Prevention," (Institute for Community Peace and Family Violence Prevention Fund) provides some direction for those in community organizations and those in DV organizations to come together and work on violence prevention. A few of the statements the authors started with:

- Violence prevention often focuses on individual change and community building engages the whole community
- Violence prevention works with public safety and victim services, and community building works for economic and social equity
- Violence prevention focuses on a specific problem and community building works for broader community change



Questions to consider: How can we increase the understanding of each others' practices? How can violence prevention better emphasize community engagement? Are there existing models for integrating community building and violence prevention strategies? Do we understand the term "community accountability?"

The members of UDVC are engaged in good work assisting families experiencing DV and in improving the many systems that respond. The 23 local domestic violence coalitions are working to bring members of their community together who are first responders and others to figure out how to stop domestic violence in their communities. For UDVC, at the state level, one question might be- how can we strengthen and support the local community efforts and broaden the picture to integrate the concepts of community building and violence prevention? There are many organizations/agencies in Utah engaged in excellent community building work. Is it time to work more closely together? I believe the answer is yes. Perhaps next year at this time, the holiday music will bring more peace.

Submitted By: Judy Kasten Bell

Executive Director, UDVC

UDVC's Website Unveiled

UDVC's new website is up. It went active on October 17, 2003. The UDVC Website Ad-hoc Committee has worked many months to get the website up and running and they have done a fabulous job!

UDVC would like to give a special thanks to the members of this committee: AJ Hunt, Juan Rivera, and Marcella Montemurro.

Now that the website is up

and running, Katie Sutton will be updating and making changes to the website as needed. If you have any comments, concerns or questions about the website please contact her.

Council Membership

UDVC would like to welcome its two newest members: Jerry Blackburn and Joene Nicolaison.

Jerry Blackburn has worked and volunteered within the Domestic Violence field in the Salt Lake community as well as across the state for many years. He worked as a "Safe at Home" team leader with the Utah Attorney Generals Office. Jerry has presented



and facilitated during many domestic violence related trainings throughout the state. He is currently serving as the Co-chair for the UDVC Interfaith Leaders Committee. It is great to have Jerry on board!

Joene Nicolaison, pronounced "Joni Nickle-lie-sen", is the Executive Director of the Segó Lily Center for the Abused Deaf. She is also a counselor and case manager at the

Utah Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Joene has an extremely high level of experience when it comes to serving individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing and/or have other disabilities and she is a very welcome addition to the UDVC!

UDVC is extremely excited to have our two newest members join the team. There are still seats available on the UDVC and anyone can apply. If you would like an application please contact the UDVC staff or Membership Committee Chair, Judy Monarque.

Utah's 2004 Legislative Session To Kick Off Soon

The 2004 Utah General Legislative Session will begin on January 19, 2004.

Some of the key issues that could possibly effect domestic violence during the 2004 General Session include: Social Security Offset to Un-



employment Insurance, Use of Credit or Loss Histories for Insurance Rates and Eligibility, Child Welfare Proposals, Divorce Issues, Emergency Services Management: E911, Marriage Preparation Education, and Information Technol-

ogy Governance. For a complete list of the 2004 Legislative Session's Key Issues please go to: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/session/2004/sessiondocuments/2004keyissues.pdf>.

Each year during the Legislative Session the UDVC has a special legislative group that meets. They meet weekly to discuss the upcoming bills that may affect domestic violence services, funding and programs throughout the state.

This UDVC Legislative Subcommittee meets on Fridays. The following Monday the UDVC staff sends out a Legislative update, through email, called the "Legalert". The "Legalert" helps to

keep the domestic violence community in Utah informed and updated. Included in the "Legalert" is the bill's name, purpose, sponsor, fiscal note information, the status of the bill and UDVC's position. Last year UDVC tracked the progression of nine different bills.

If you are on the UDVC mailing list you will receive the weekly "Legalert". If you know of anyone who would like to receive the "Legalert" that is not already on our mailing list please ask them to contact Katie Sutton at ksutton@udvac.org.

For more information on Utah's Legislature please visit the Utah State Legislature home page at: <http://www.le.state.ut.us/>.

Happy Holidays
from UDVC

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If you have any comments or events to add to this newsletter please contact Katie Sutton
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There's no Excuse For Abuse

*Find us online at
UDVAC.org*

For domestic violence information call:
1-800-897 LINK

Mission Statement

To lead a collaborative , statewide effort to eliminate domestic violence.

Philosophy

- Domestic Violence is a crime.
- Domestic Violence is preventable.
- Victims/survivors are not to blame.
- Perpetrators are responsible for their own actions.
- The most effective way to reduce domestic violence is through coordinated, community efforts.

Goals

- Support laws that provide protection and accountability.
- Educate public and professional entities to understand and effectively address domestic violence as a critical social issue.
- Provide effective resources for victims perpetrators, families and communities.

An Overview

Established in the late 1970's, the Utah Domestic Violence Council (UDVC) represents various public and private providers, and advocacy and allied agency group from rural and urban Utah working in collaboration with the Governor's Cabinet Council on Domestic violence and 23 local coalitions, the UDVC coordinates intervention and educates about key legislation and resource development. Projects include six resource libraries across the state, various free publications , training, conference coordination, awareness campaigns and technical assistance.

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