



UDVC Newsletter

Utah Domestic Violence Council

CHANGES IN THE UDVC MEETING SCHEDULE

Last year, the UDVC governance structure was changed. Now, with the governance structure in place and the committees working more than ever, the UDVC has decided to change the meeting schedule to meet on a less frequent basis, to allow for time for committee work and to make the UDVC Community and Business meetings more action oriented. The purpose of UDVC is to lead a collaborative effort to end domestic violence in the state of Utah. With this change in the meeting schedule, the goal is to make the meetings held more productive and to truly become the forum where the DV community

can come together to learn about DV issues and build solutions.

The schedule for the next year, with tentative topics, is as follows:

January: Report on the legislative process from the Government Affairs Committee

February: Economic Justice and Empowerment

April: Local Coalition Reports and discussion

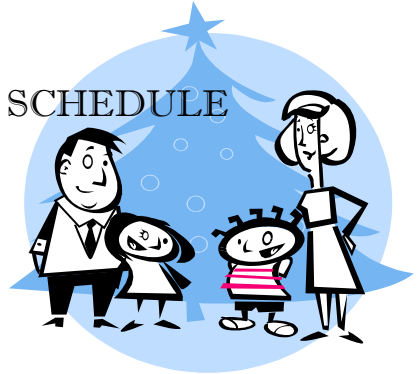
June: Strangulation

August: Best practices

September: undecided

November: Undecided

If you have any recommen-



dations for topics to be discussed at the meetings, please contact Suvi at shynynen@udvc.org.

There will be no UDVC Community meetings held in March, May, July, or November.

The meetings will be held 10:30 am-12:30 pm at the Department of Human Services, 120 N. 200 W., Salt Lake City.

We look forward to your attendance and participation!

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 12-14TH
2007

13TH ANNUAL
UDVC TREATMENT
PROVIDERS
CONFERENCE

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND HIV/AIDS

Starting on November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, over 1,700 organizations in 130 countries will be celebrating **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**. This will continue until December 10th, International Human Rights Day. **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** calls for eliminating all forms of violence against women by establish-

ing a link between local and international anti-violence work, providing a forum for organizers to develop and share strategies, demonstrating the solidarity of women around the world who are organizing against gender-based violence, and creating tools to pressure governments to implement promises to eliminate violence against women.

16 Days campaign is "For the Health of Women, For the Health of the World: No More Violence," chosen to put a focus on connections between violence against women and HIV/AIDS. Women are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS and addressing violence against women is essential to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS and the impact on women and children.

The theme for this year's

Continued on page 4

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHOOSING WHAT MATTERS. BY JUDY KASTEN BELL

Freedoms such as freedom of living where one can afford, freedom of reading a book or magazine, freedom of taking a walk, freedom to shop, to change hair color, to worship are often taken for granted or enjoyed without much thought. Freedom of choice is taken away from a victim of domestic violence. In order to survive, the emotionally, spiritually, financially, and physically abused person must conform to the controller's thoughts and actions. How precious is it to be able to choose what you plan to do for the hour, the day or the week? Living in a domestic violence shelter, talking with a vic-

tim advocate, or speaking with friends and family all need to be safe places for domestic violence victims to be able to think and choose...safe time and safe listening are important to untangle the jumbled thoughts and feelings and choose the next steps. One of my favorite books I've read this year is The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. A quote by one of the wise women in the story is about what matters: "You know, some things don't matter that much. Like the color of a house. How big is that in the overall scheme of life? But lifting a person's heart—now, that matters....The problem is (that people) **know** what matters, but they

don't **choose** it. The hardest thing on earth is choosing what matters."

Let's be about helping people choose what matters in their lives, and sometimes that means stepping back and letting go of the scheduling, the timeline of the action plans, or what is on the agenda for the day...it means responding to people and lifting their hearts so they can make choices for the next steps in their lives. Wishing you all a pause in our busy lives so we can choose what matters and thereby fulfill our work with heartfelt response and action. Happy Holidays.

"You know, some things don't matter that much. Like the color of a house. How big is that in the overall scheme of life? But lifting a person's heart— now, that matters."

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Stewart Ralphs for receiving the 2006 Governor's Award from the Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-Violence Coordinating Council on November 28th!

Congratulations to the Salt Lake Area Domestic Violence Coalition Peace on Earth Awards 2006 recipients: Detective Suzanne Williams (SL City PD); Judge Ronald Kunz (West Jordan Justice Court); Sarah

Southerland (Survivor, Author, President of NASF); Keri Jones (YWCA); Lana Pech (Utah Domestic Violence LINK Line); David Litvack (State Representative); Ricki Landers (West Valley City Victim Services); Officer Ben Derrick and Northstar Productions (Sandy City TDV video); Gregory Remington, Greg Anderson, and Benjamin Danise (Murray City).

Welcome to Sherri Michel-Singer, the new DCFS Domestic Violence Program Administrator. She will also be joining us on the UDVC as an Ex-Officio member. Sherri brings with her a wide range of knowledge on child welfare issues, including in domestic violence, and experience working in Florida, Oregon, and Ohio. We look forward to the new ideas and exciting changes she will bring to the position. Welcome, Sherri!



Stewart Ralphs receiving the 2006 Governor's Awards

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LINKLINE
1-800-897-5465
FOR UTAH SPECIFIC DV INFORMATION
24 HOURS A DAY/ 7 DAYS A WEEK

casa de esperanza



Acculturation Continuum

Casa de Esperanza developed the following acculturation continuum as part of a comprehensive manual, *Latino Families and Domestic Violence* (2003). The following chart demonstrates stages of acculturation. Each stage presents Latinos with unique challenges and opportunities. Because the chart represents a continuum, there are many shades and nuances within the stages.

It is important to note that there is no natural progression in this tool. It is not assumed that “assimilation” is the goal of acculturation. It is also not assumed that individual members of a Latino family are at the same stage of the acculturation continuum. Some factors that will affect acculturation stages include: age at immigration, interaction with mainstream individuals and institutions, relationships that are maintained with the country of origin, and choices about customs/ languages practiced at home.

The continuum is to be used as a tool to: increase understanding of Latino realities; increase awareness of the opportunities and challenges inherent in acculturation; and improve your organizational response to Latino communities. Visit our website at www.casadeesperanza.org for more information on the acculturation continuum and other tools available through Casa de Esperanza.

Stage	FEELINGS, THOUGHTS, ACTIONS	EXAMPLES
Isolation	Feeling disconnected Feeling depressed Culture shock Marked language difficulties	Marco comes to Minnesota from El Salvador. To protect his family from the uncertainty of this new place, he leaves his wife and children behind. He has few friends and is having difficulty finding a job because he speaks Spanish.
Adaptation	Increased comfort with immediate surroundings Maintaining own traditions Increased ability to teach others from one’s own culture about mainstream culture	Oscar plays in a weekend Latino soccer league. Each Saturday his teammates ask his advice about problems they encountered during the week in this new country.
Biculturalism	Feeling equally comfortable in one’s own group and the mainstream culture Maintaining important traditions from one cultural group and incorporating new traditions from mainstream culture	Ana works in a large corporate office where she is a successful sales manager. She is also comfortable at home with her family and cultural traditions. Speaking English at work and Spanish at home—she moves easily between her two worlds.
Assimilation	No longer practicing traditional cultural activities Language of origin is not the language most spoken at home Surroundings and social group reflect majority culture	María and her family celebrate Anglo cultural traditions and holidays. She maintains no connection with her homeland or distant relatives there.

 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND HIV/AIDS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

During these 16 days, take a few moments to read the fact sheet and learn more about this international health issue. Take action: write a letter to the editor, contact your congressman, or take the opportunity to volunteer with a local domestic violence or AIDS organization. For more information, go to www.endabuse.org.

Violence Against Women and Children and HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet

Women are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS

- Women make up almost 57% of adults living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa. Three-quarters of all women living with HIV/AIDS live in that region.
- Worldwide, young women aged 15-24 are three times more likely to be infected with HIV than are males their age.
- Women are at least twice as likely to acquire HIV from men during sex as vice versa because of biological factors.

Children are increasingly affected and many are without services entirely.

- 2.3 million children under age 15 are currently living with HIV/AIDS.
- One child dies of AIDS-related causes every minute of every day.
- 15 million children have been orphaned by AIDS, and less than 10% of them receive support or services from outside their communities.

Violence against women and children is widespread.

- One in three women around the world will be coerced into sex or physically or sexually abused in her lifetime. One in five women will survive rape or attempted rape.
- Between 20% and 50% of women indicate that their first sexual experience was forced.
- 20% of girls and 10% of boys experience sexual abuse as a child.
- Nearly 50% of all sexual assaults are committed against girls 15 years or younger.
- 60% of women whose first sexual experience was forced later experience sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner, compared with only 25% of those whose first sexual experience was not forced.

Violence puts women and children at risk of HIV and prevents them from caring for themselves.

- Violence against women is associated with an increased risk of acquiring sexually transmitted infections, a risk factor of HIV.
- Fear of violence prevents women from negotiating safe sex.
- A study in South Africa found that women who have been forced to have sex are almost six times more likely to use condoms inconsistently than those who have not been coerced.
- Children who are sexually abused are more likely to engage in behaviors known to be risky for HIV as adults. They are also more likely to experience or perpetrate sexual or domestic violence.
- Young HIV-positive women are ten times more likely to have experienced violence than HIV-negative women the same age.
- A multi-country WHO study found that fear of violence was a barrier to HIV disclosure for an average of 25% of participating women. In some countries the proportion was as high as 86%. Women who do not disclose their HIV status are unable to receive treatment or counseling, or prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) services.
- Between 3% and 15% of women in sub-Saharan Africa who disclose their HIV status report negative reactions, including abandonment and violence.

"He used to force me to have sex with him. He would beat me and slap me when I refused. I never used a condom with him. . . . When I got pregnant, I went for a medical check-up. When I gave birth, and the child had passed away, they told me I was HIV positive. I cried. The doctor told me, "Wipe your tears, the whole world is sick."

*—Interview with Harriet Abwoli, Mulago, January 9, 2003, conducted by Human Rights Watch for the 2003 report, *Just Die Quietly: Domestic Violence and Women's Vulnerability to HIV in Uganda**



Resource for Survivors:

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Thanks for believing in me.

Meet Wendy.

Having left an abusive marriage with her three children, Wendy moved to Salt Lake City to be near her family. Knowing she needed to find a way to support herself and her family, Wendy enrolled in the PHP Successful Employment Program.

Although she didn't have much formal employment experience, PHP helped Wendy identify her marketable skills and learn how to excel in the workplace. With the encouragement of her volunteer PHP mentor, Wendy applied for a temp job with First Security and was accepted.

Wendy's manager was so impressed with her enthusiasm and willingness to learn that she offered Wendy a permanent position in the mortgage division when First Security became Wells Fargo. Wells Fargo has provided Wendy with job training, education and advancement opportunities that she never dreamed possible.

Highlights:

- Stable employment for 7 years
- Receiving 4 promotions
- Increased income by over \$14 per hour
- Hasn't received financial assistance for 6 years.

**205 North 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84103
801-583-5300
www.phputah.org**

For women struggling to leave abusive relationships and find a steady job to support their family, People Helping People is a great resource.

People Helping People is dedicated to reducing the number of children living in poverty by teaching low-income single mothers how to become successfully employed and financially self-sufficient.

PHP Employment Training Programs are designed to teach women to be self-reliant, persistent, resilient and success-

ful. They use a two-tiered approach, offering free, open-enrollment workshops and long-term mentoring. PHP programs are successful because we develop a long-term, personal relationship with the clients through which they are able to help the women

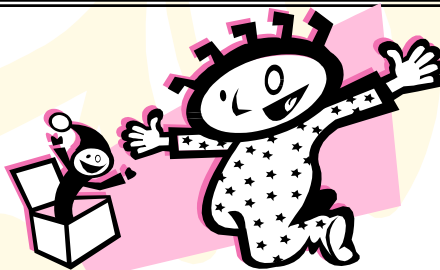
- Overcome the fear of losing public assistance
- Identify their employment struggles
- Build self-confidence
- Develop a winning attitude
- Overcome barriers to employment
- Persevere through the job search process
- Make connections with potential employers through monthly mini job fairs.

The services of PHP are offered to single mothers with no income or low income. To get started, attend a weekly overview to learn more about the program and call Kayleen at 801-583-5300, or email at ksimmons@mentors4women.org. You may also contact Kayleen if you are interested volunteering to become a mentoring coach.

Used with permission from the PHP website

BUY FOR CHARITY, HELP UDVC!

UDVC has registered with a website called BuyForCharity.com to receive a certain percentage of everything you purchase through the merchants on their website. How does this work? Start your shopping at www.buyforcharity.com and register for your favorite organization (the Utah Domestic Violence Council!). Then click on the merchant links to access their online stores and shop as you would normally. It's that easy! The merchants listed on the BuyForCharity website have agreed to pay a commission for all purchases made through www.buyforcharity.com. Once the pur-



chase is confirmed, the commission percentage will be sent to the charitable organization you designate to receive it.

Some of the retailers available at BuyForCharity.com include: Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Old Navy, Travelocity, 1-800-Flowers, eBay, PetSmart, Office

Max, and over 200 others!

Thank you so much for participating. There is no additional cost to you or us, and this is just one small way in which you can help to support the great work that we do here at UDVC. Let your friends and family know that not only did they receive a fabulous gift from you this holiday season, they also contributed to a great cause to eliminate domestic violence in Utah!

****Disclaimer:** UDVC is not responsible for the purchases made through the buyforcharity.com website.

Peace and Joy

Giving and Helping

Holiday Greetings

Thanking you for your wonderful work and support this past year. Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

Love, The UDVC Staff



Love and Light

Happiness and Gratitude

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED DEATHS

'Tis the season for peace on earth and goodwill towards all humans, and as we enjoy this special time of year, let us take a moment and pause to remember those who will not be celebrating this year because their lives have tragically been cut short by domestic violence. The Utah Department of Health recently released their Domestic Violence Related Homicide and Suicide Report for 2005 with 65 people losing their lives. This year, the UDVC DV Related Deaths Committee has counted 24 to date, and will hold a press conference the first week of January to announce the final number. Domestic Violence is a tragedy—so many families are impacted by it and are spending this holiday season

missing a loved one lost to domestic violence. Let us all work together to bring peace into our own lives and those around us. Let us work together to eliminate domestic violence and make sure next year, more victims of domestic violence and their families will feel that peace in their lives.

DV Related Deaths 2006 (up to November 30th)

Art Backus, Joanne Carlson, Joseph Shawn Perkins, Linda Elliot, Curtis Elliot, Cassandra Bryan, Anoinette Corum, Arthur B. Henderson, Jose Raul Cruz, Moises Santu-

ario, John Matthew Ruiz, Ryan Todd Oman, Larry Van Camp, Michelle Carter, Martin James Sessions, Laura Hauck, Monte Clynn Moss, Tina Rene Evans, Grace and Robert Erno, Maria Rivas, Jamie Vance, Anoulack Bphanphonsavat, Tonja Nash.

For more information go to www.udvc.org/deaths_2006.pdf.

For the Utah Health Department 2005 DV Related Deaths Report go to <http://health.utah.gov>.