



Summer 2008
Issue 2



Serving Utah for 15 Years



Utah Domestic Violence Council

Utah Domestic Violence Council's 15th Anniversary

2008 marks the 15th anniversary of incorporation for the Utah Domestic Violence Council and the state wide hotline. Over the years UDVC has reached many milestones and accomplished many goals towards creating a state where domestic violence is intolerable. Please enjoy this commemorative newsletter spotlighting the work of UDVC and the advancements in making domestic violence intolerable.

Inside this issue:

Message From the Chair	2
Accomplishments of UDVC	3
Message From Executive Director	2
Economic Justice for DV Survivors	6
UDVC Where We Are Today	5
An Overview of Domestic Violence Laws	7
PSA Announcement	10

Annual Meeting

On May 20, 2008 the Utah Domestic Violence Council celebrated our 15th Anniversary of incorporation. The annual meeting was held at the Utah State Capitol where council members and invited guests reflected over the accomplishments of UDVC.

Jerry Blackburn, Board chair, and Ned Searle had the opportunity to address the council.

Jerry Blackburn presented the annual state of the council and conducted other necessary UDVC business. During Jerry's remarks he spoke of UDVC's history; where we have come and the work we are currently engaging in.

Ned Searle spoke of the importance of leaving a legacy and path for those future individu-

als who will lead the work and efforts against domestic violence. Following Ned's remarks he lead the council on a day long work effort to decide the four most pressing action plans for UDVC to work on in coming council meetings.

The four chosen action plans, of which the council will ac-

(Continued on page 6)

History of UDVC

Before 1986

From the late 1970's through the mid-1980's the Division of Family Services (DFS- now the Division of Child and Family Services, DCFS) took the lead in organization and activities. During that period, the Council membership was engaged in what might be called the *first wave of advocacy and action* on the

problem of domestic violence in Utah. Among other accomplishments, the state's first shelters for battered women were created, as well as the first specialized treatment programs for court-ordered offenders. Our first state legislation addressing domestic violence also stemmed from this period.

A few specialized treatment programs were scattered here

and there, only one of which was funded by DFS. That program treated offenders referred from the West Valley City Circuit Court, as well as self-referred victims and those sheltered at the YWCA. Legal assistance services for victims was available only in Salt Lake County and Utah County, on a limited basis. An earlier version

(Continued on page 8)

Message From the Chair

Jerry Blackburn

June 2008 has come and nearly gone. As I look back at what we as board and council have accomplished since last June with our Strategic Plan I am amazed until I look at the people that have given; and still do, much of their time to make this council go forward, grow and be recognized.

I noted that there were ten house bills, and five senate bills that were passed that the council supported, much of the credit goes to those in the council that were involved with their influence and assistance.

Yes we have work to do, for next year's legislative effort;

there were ten bills, between the house and senate the council supported that did not make it out of committee. Hopefully we can make a difference next year.

As we approach the day we celebrate our independence, I am reminded of an event in March, that provided, free of charge 21 cars, including a sports car, some SUV's, sedans and vans to survivors of domestic violence. All 21 recipients were selected and qualified to receive a vehicle that best matched their individual needs.

I remember it was a rainy and

very cool day, the spirits of those receiving a car were not dampened; just the opposite, there were smiles and simultaneously tears of joy. Without exception, they all expressed a feeling of independence and freedom from all that we know happens to victims of D.V.

So as we approach the day we celebrate our national independence day, let's think of those who have experienced that individual independence and work to help other do the same.

Have a safe and happy Holiday.

People who are in the throes of violence in their homes and relationships need validation, support and comfort, respite with safety, hope

Message From the Executive Director

Judy Kasten Bell

In a recent discussion regarding human aggression, biology and evolution, it dawned on me that as we theorize on how to end domestic violence, we also need to remember what domestic violence victims and survivors need to contribute to making domestic violence intolerable in our communities. People who are in the throes of violence in their homes and relationships need validation, support and comfort, respite with safety, hope, and as Susan McGee states, "to be surrounded by people who get it."

Mothers who have been physically and/or psychologically beaten need to be with their children. All victims and survivors need their supportive community however they define it – family, culture, faith, education and workplace.

We know this – do we practice it? One phone call I am grateful for after it's over is when someone in a dv crisis calls the office and I find that I can still offer empathy and resources while using my rusty crisis intervention skills. These

calls ground me and remind me of why I still do this work. And why we all need to keep having conversations about ending domestic violence.

Legislative Work of UDVC

Overall, the 2008 Legislative session was very successful. UDVC took positions on over thirty (30) bills on various issues that affected domestic violence, including bills about immigration, parent visitation and custody, animal abuse prevention, etc. We saw favorable results in over three-fourths (3/4) of them. Some of the successes were:

- Victims now have a statutory right to a voice in appeal actions (see HB167);
- Stalking victims have greater protections (see HB493);

- Object rape is better defined (see HB 314) and the statute of limitations for prosecution of some sexual crimes was eliminated (see HB13);
- The state now requires some agencies keep statistic on domestic violence (see SB 242);
- Animal cruelty is now a crime (see SB297); and

The state allocated monies for the DV Linkline, civil legal services and shelters!

Despite the successes, we did have our disappointments. For instance, UDVC once again sadly saw the failure of HB 247

(Domestic Violence and Dating Violence Amendments) though it was a close vote of 32-37, in the House. In addition, a bill was introduced that would make it a crime to “induce” the breach of a protective order. This bill was ultimately withdrawn this year, but it is still likely to rear its head in the future.

In summary, though our legislative session was overall a success, it is evident that education about the dynamics of domestic violence and the impact of legislation on survivors needs to not only continue but increase. Legislatures need to

be made aware of the potential consequences of passing certain laws. And **NOW** is the time to start educating our legislators. We must continue to make a difference as we go into interim and beyond.

A special thanks to Ned Searle, Stewart Ralphs, Alana Kindness and ALL of the members of the legislative committee for their hard work this session. And of course a special thanks to you for your efforts in educating your representatives. Until next year . . .

UDVC Chairs Past to Present

1982-1984 Anne Curran
 1984-1986 Colleen Quigley
 1986-1990 Bob Terragno
 1990-1991 Linda Reaves
 1991-1992 Diane Stuart
 1993-1994 Carol Buell
 1994-1995 Gary Cox

1995-1996 Dawn Hollingsworth
 1996-1997 Linda Whitlock
 1997-1998 Bob Terragno
 1998-1999 Rickell James-Irish
 1999-2000 Kris Knowlton
 2000-2001 Sharon Daurelle

2001-2002 Christine Watters
 2002-2003 Ned Searle
 2003-2004 Stewart Ralphs
 2004-2005 Brandy Farmer
 2005-2006 Craige Harrison
 2006-2007 Asha Parekh
 2007-2008 Jerry Blackburn



UTAH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LINKLINE
24/7 STATEWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INFORMATION AND REFERRAL LINE
1-800-897-LINK (5465)

UDVC Lending Library

In our quest to make Utah a state where domestic violence is intolerable UDVC knows the importance of educating the public about domestic violence, provide accurate data and reports, and provide trainings to the community. As a part of UDVC's education efforts we provide to the community a lending library. UDVC's library provides books, reports and handbooks on a variety of topics, both for checkout or reference only. UDVC also has a collection of manuals and materials from UDVC sponsored trainings and those from various organizations. To help educated the public we have available a completed lending library.

Diversity

- Breaking Barriers: A Complete Guide to Legal Rights and Resources for Battered Immigrants. Edited By: Orloff, Leslye E. and Sullivan, Kathleen
- Sample Tribal Domestic Violence Code Manual: Reclaiming Respectful Family Relationships. Sacred Circle National Resource Center
- Violence in Gay and Lesbian Domestic Partnerships. Harvey, Charles and Renzetti, Claire/ Miley Chain, Chain, Change: For Black Women in Abusive Relationships. White, Evelyn C.

Children

- A Safe Place to Live. Harrison, Michelle A
- When Mommy Got Hurt. Lee, Ilene and Sylwester, Kathy
- Working with Grieving Children After Violent Death. National Organization for Victim Assistance
- Under A Bright and Shining Moon. Hinchee, Kate Jensen
- When Dad Hurts Mom: Helping Children Heal the Wounds of Witnessing Abuse. Bancroft, Lundy

Teens

- Ending Violence In Teen Dating Relationships. Miles, Al
- Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls. Pipher, Mary
- Teen's Guide to Personal Safety and Preventing Sexual Abuse. Herrerias, Catalina

Faith Leaders

- Violence in the Family: A Workshop Curriculum for Clergy & Other Helpers. Fortune, Marie M.
- Keeping the Faith: Guidance for Christian Women Facing Abuse. Fortune, Marie
- Responding to Domestic Violence: An Interfaith Guide to Prevention and Intervention. Alpert, Elaine; Miles, Al and Coffey, Vickii

Survivors

- I Closed My Eyes: Revelations of a Battered Woman. Weldon, Michael
- A Private Family Matter: A Memoir. Rivers, Victor Rivas

- The Roller Coaster of My Life. Prael, Liza
- Into the Light: A Guide for Battered Women. Cantrell, Leslie

Treatment

- Solution-Focused Treatment of DV Offenders. Lee, Sebold, Uken
- The Batterer: a Psychological Profile. Dutton, Donald
- Violence in Families: Assessing Prevention and Treatment Programs. National Research Council

Legal

- Defending Battered Women: A Manual for Criminal Defense Lawyers. Wright, Amy
- Interstate Family Practice Guide: A primer for Judges. ABA Center on Children and the Law
- The Impact of DV on your legal practice: A Lawyers Handbook. ABA

Men

- Learning to Live Without Violence: A handbook for Men. Sonkin & Durphy
- Abused Men: The Hidden Side of Domestic Violence. Cook, Philip W.G.

For a complete list of available resources and books please visit UDVC's website www.udvc.org. To check out available resource please contact Kendra Prince at 801-521-5544.



Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed to help answer the UDVC 24 hour DV LinkLine. It is helpful if volunteers have previous DV and/or crises intervention training and who can speak Spanish. If you are interested in volunteering please call (801) 521-5544 or email admin@udvc.org

UDVC Materials for Distribution

UDVC offers a variety of brochures, reports and manuals that are available for distribution to the public. To receive these items please contact UDVC at 801-521-5544 or admin@udvc.org

- Faith Leaders Brochures
- UDVC Main Brochures
- Safety Plan Brochures (English and Spanish)
 - UDVC Press Kit
- Faith Leaders Resource Manual
 - DV Related Deaths Reports
- Dan Jones & Associates DV Study Summary
- No Excuse for Abuse Tear Off Cards (English and Spanish)
 - Into The Light

UDVC-Where We Are Today

UDVC Committee Structure

As a part of UDVC's Strategic Plan the committee structures was re-worked into fewer committees. Each committee is made up of several workgroups. All committees, aside from the Board, are open for the public to join. If you are interested in joining a committee please contact Kendra Prince at 801-521-5544 or admin@udvc.org

- Board
- Public Education
 - DV Death Review
- Professional Education
 - Inter Faith Leaders Work Group
 - Health Care Work Group
- Government Affairs
- Advocacy and Collaboration
 - Diversity Work Group
 - Shelter Work Group
 - Treatment Work Group

UDVC Trainings and Conferences

- UDVC offers an annual conference to the public. In the past the conference was three separate conferences: Shelter, Treatment and Diversity. This year UDVC will be combining all three conferences into one, to be held September 16-19.
- UDVC facilitates live basic domestic violence training around the state of Utah. The course is 24 hours long over three days and features speakers on a broad variety of basic domestic violence subjects, including: Family dynamics and DCFS' role, Legal issues and procedures, Law enforcement and DV, Crisis intervention and much more.
- UDVC offers a four-hour web-based training course titled "The Basics of Domestic Violence," which is designed to explore the complex issue of domestic violence as it affects women, men, and children. Participants learn about power and control in relationships, the cycle of violence, barriers to leaving, and working with victims from diverse populations.

To register or find out more about UDVC trainings and conference please visit our website at www.udvc.org and click on training/licensing option.

UDVC Meeting Schedule

With the adoption of the strategic plan UDVC implemented a new meeting schedule. Meetings are now held six times a year on alternating months.

- Board Meeting: Held on the first Tuesday of the Month from 11:45am-2:00pm at the Community Legal Center. Meetings are held Feb., April, June, Aug., October, December. The board meeting is closed to board members only.
- UDVC Council/Community Meeting: Held on the third Tuesday of the month from 9:30am-12:00pm, with a closed business meeting to follow. The council meetings are held at the DHS building at 120 North 200 West, SLC. Meetings are held Jan., March, May, July, September and November.

(Continued from page 1)

tively work on to help further create a state where domestic violence is intolerable, are:

- Create a means for Data Collection and System Accountability for DV in the State of Utah and

UDVC

- Identify Gaps and Enhance Services to Underserved Communities
- Create a Public Education Campaign About the Intersection Between DV and Child Abuse and Available Wrap Around

Services

- Support Local Coalitions to Facilitate Community Response for Referrals and Resources for Victims of DV

Economic Justice for DV Survivors

Hello,

With summertime here, the Utah Department of Health welcomes new changes to help improve access to health insurance for Utah's uninsured. Please see below for details:

PCN

Apply in July! PCN will open enrollment for all uninsured adults (ages 19-64) July 1-31. Since October 2007, PCN has only accepted applications for parents who have children under age 19 at home. But in July, PCN will enroll all adults who qualify. At the conclusion of July,

PCN will close enrollment for all adults.

For more information or to apply, call 1-888-222-2542 or visit www.health.utah.gov/pcn.

CHIP

Beginning July 1, CHIP will implement changes to plan co-payments, deductibles and some covered services, as passed in the 2007 Legislative session (H.B. 218). The CHIP benefit plan is now actuarially equivalent with commercial health insurance. To view the new co-pay summary, visit <http://www.health.utah.gov/chip/resourcematerials.htm> after July 1. The savings from

this increased cost sharing will help cover more children.

The CHIP Van will continue to tour the state, helping families apply and get the coverage they need. If you know of an upcoming event in your community, please contact Benjamin Sparks at (801) 538-6577 or bsparks@utah.gov.

Eligible families can apply at the CHIP van, call 1-877-KIDS-NOW for an application or apply online at www.health.utah.gov/chip.

Kolbi Young
Public Relations and Marketing Coordinator
Utah Department of Health

OUR COMMUNITY

Events In Your Community

July

- July 16-18, UDVC Live Basic Training, Brigham City
- July 15, UDVC Council Meeting

August

- August 18-22, UCASA 40 hour rape crisis advocacy training. Hill Air Force Base, Clearfield, Utah
- August 27-29, UDVC Live Basic Training, Sanderson Center, Taylorsville, Utah
- August 5, UDVC Board Meeting

September

- September 16-19 17th Annual UDVC Conference

An Overview of Laws on Violence Against Women

Violence against women is a historical problem. Laws often reflect values and attitudes widely held and deeply rooted in culture. The word “family” derives from the roman word “familia,” signifying the totality of slaves and servants belonging to a man.

The Code of Hammurabi - 1800 B.C. - officially decreed the wife was subservient to her husband, who was head of the household; he had the right to inflict punishment on any member of the household for any reason. The code permitted men to physically punish their wives for such activities as walking outside with their faces uncovered or attending public functions without their husbands’ permission.

Canon law and religious doctrine were similar. Around 1140 AD the church codified its rules stating a wife was obligated to submit to the punishment of her husband. It was Canon law that set the general principals that guided all of Europe on the subject of woman until the 16th century.

In medieval Europe, feudal law made wives their husbands’ chattel (property, like livestock) with wifely disobedience enforced by community punishment such as iron muzzles with spikes that depressed the tongue, known as “Public Chastisement.”

In 1641, the first law against wife abuse anywhere in the western world was written into the Massachusetts Bay colony by Puritans. It stated: “Every woman shall be free from bodily correction or stripes from her husband, unless it is his own defense upon her assault”.

New England Puritans laws came before English laws and attitudes, however, when the English Puritans came to power under Cromwell, they did not pass legislation against wife-beating.

The Puritans became concerned about “public morality” and moral law rather than criminal behavior between parties.

With the exception of the New England colonies, there was no special concern about family violence and no family violence laws were passed from 1672 until the mid 1800's.

The British “Rule of Thumb” concept for wife restraint (men were allowed to beat their wives with a whip, rod, or rotten no thicker than his thumb) directly influenced American law. Woman, especially married woman, were discriminated against and treated with inferior legal status. Laws concerning marriage were related to physical coercion against them.

In 1824 the Mississippi Supreme Court gave husbands the right to “moderately chastise his wife without being amenable to prosecution for assault or battering to prevent discredit and shame to all the parties involved.” In 1862 North Carolina Supreme Court ruled, “The law permits a husband to use towards his wife the degree of force as necessary to control an unruly temper and make her behave herself and unless some permanent injury be inflicted to gratify his own bad passions, the law will not invade the domestic forum, or go behind the curtain. It prefers to leave the parties to themselves, such as best mode of inducing them to make the matter up and live together as man and wife should...” This principal continued to be the one standards by which men were permitted to beat their wives, even after the practice was made illegal.

Abolition of wife-beating first appeared in 1871 in Alabama. The court stated: “the privilege, ancient though it may be to beat her with a stick, to pull her hair, choke her, spit in her face or kick her about the floor, or to inflict upon her like indignities, is not now acknowledged by our law.”

In the late 19th century the Women’s Christian Temperance Union was the only organization that fought for the

protection of women. They were instrumental in laws that were passed in 20 states from 1873-1891, “permitting an injured party to sue the saloon keeper or owner of the saloon for damage caused by injury inflicted by an intoxicated person.”

By the 1890's the perception of family violence as a crime began to fade. By the 20th century, society continued to consider domestic violence as a “family matter.” while statutes existed that dealt with criminal acts of assault, rape, threats to harm or destruction of property, the relationship between parties interfered with the enforcement practice in the domestic domain.

In the early 1890's the Women’s Rights Movement brought attention to realities of domestic violence. Crisis intervention approaches were developed in order to mediate in a domestic assault. There were still no laws available to allow law enforcement to arrest if the assault did not occur in the officer’s presence. Battered women advocates began lobbying state legislature to give police the authority to make a warrantless probable cause arrest in domestic violence situations.

In the mid-70's after litigation charging laws enforced with failure to protect women who were assaulted by men they were married to, the department began to treat domestic violence as a crime.

The 80's brought growing arrests across the country followed by the enactment of civil protective order for victims of domestic violence. The battered women syndrome was recognized as a defense for women who killed their partners while acting in self-defense.

Condensed from: “Historical Legal Response to Violence Against Women

*Kathy Frederick, Department of Social Services,
Adult Protection Specialist, Kentucky*

of victim advocacy services was operating within the West Valley City Police Department, supported with federal funds. The DFS domestic violence service budget for FY 1986 totaled \$367,746 (from the [DFS Family Violence Annual Report](#), prepared by Ann Cheves in August 1986).

January of 1986 through June of 1987

Early impressions of the UD-VAC in 1986 were of some degree of confusion about direction. Most of those who contributed to the earlier advancements had now moved on to other pursuits. The Council, at this point, lacked any clear sense of purpose that could bridge the needs and interests of service providers and DFS, law enforcement and human services, or rural and urban communities. In retrospect, this period was a hiatus between the winding down of the first wave and the beginnings of a second one that was soon to follow.

A group of service providers had actually organized another coordinating body, the *Utah Spouse Abuse Task Force*, in January of 1986. This second group grew out of shared concerns that the UD-VAC— as an official advisory body to the DFS Board— could not serve as the host organization for an active advocacy effort for legislative and policy changes. It was within the Task Force that the idea first emerged to generate a comprehensive and concerted effort to change Utah's domestic violence laws and police practices. The Task Force developed a set of objectives in November of 1986 that focused heavily on public education, advocacy for legislation and funding, and inter-agency cooperation between law enforcement and human services. These Task Force objectives were later considered by the Council and ultimately adopted verbatim as the UD-VAC Global Goals at some

point in late 1988 or early 1989. They are stated here, in summary form, since these goal statements articulate the major themes that were to dominate Council direction and activities at least to the end of the 1980's:

- Document the extent and consequences of domestic violence in Utah
- Educate the general public and elected officials about domestic violence dynamics and services
- Advocate for improved legislation and police practices
- Advocate for funding for a full, statewide continuum of domestic violence services
- Encourage cooperation between service providers and law enforcement agencies

Share information on program design and intervention strategies

The Task Force and the Council continued to operate separately for many months on somewhat parallel paths, with some degree of membership overlap. Following a great deal of discussion and negotiation, the concerns that were brought about by the Task Force were ultimately resolved and it was merged with the UD-VAC in June of 1987

July of 1987 through February of 1990

As the newly constituted Council came together and began to gain direction and momentum, it would prove to be the beginning of the *second wave of advocacy and action*. The need for a major initiative on domestic violence advocacy, in the broadest sense of that term.

To begin with, Utah's laws were inadequate, since they failed to provide for either sufficient victim protection or abuser accountability. With few notable exceptions, local law enforce-

ment agencies were making virtually no arrests in domestic violence cases and were providing no specialized training to officers on recent advances in intervention strategies. Of the small percentage of victims who risked filing criminal charges on their own, the vast majority chose— and were allowed by prosecutors— to drop the charges before their abuser came to trial. The process of obtaining a protective order was extremely complex and difficult for victims, unless they were among the fortunate few who had the help of legal assistance services.

In addition, the general public was misinformed about the dynamics of domestic violence, and many long-held myths were still accepted as conventional wisdom. Such myths had to be dispelled and the public better educated if we were to have any success in making the radical changes needed in public policy and legislation.

Funding resources available for basic services needed by this population were woefully deficient. Despite the growth in the service system through the early 1980's, many battered women in Utah still had to travel across multiple county lines to get to a shelter. Some shelters were often full to capacity, at which times they had to place victims and their children in relatively unsecured locations, such as motel rooms. Victim advocacy programs were few and far between, as were treatment services.

From June of 1987 through the end of the state legislative session in 1990, the UD-VAC undertook a number of ambitious and, ultimately, successful initiatives to address these problems:

- Membership of the UD-VAC was broadened to include police officers and local prosecutors, for the first time. Law enforcement involvement in the Council facilitated many impor-

tant discussions and policy changes regarding the intersection of police and human service interventions in domestic violence situations.

- A public awareness campaign was created to change public attitude by developing an energetic and productive plan that included production of radio announcements; sponsorship of legislative open houses at shelters; design and printing of informational brochures; and creation of educational packets for church leaders and clergy.
- A domestic violence needs assessment survey was completed which quantified the extent of the problem in Utah. A victims survey was also conducted.
- The Council was successful in persuading DFS to assign a full-time specialist to domestic violence services.

The statewide service system continued to evolve and expand with the addition of new shelters, treatment programs and victim advocacy services. DFS and Federal funding for services increased steadily and domestic violence victims became eligible for Crime Victims Reparations funding.

The most significant achievement of this period, however, was a comprehensive legislative initiative that resulted in landmark changes in domestic violence statutes and law enforcement procedures. The initiative was begun in the summer of 1988 and carried through to the end of the legislative session in February of 1990.

By 1988, there was a growing national climate favoring mandatory arrest for domestic violence offenders. There were only a few police jurisdictions in Utah that preferred a pro-arrest policy. West Valley City had successfully adopted such a policy in 1982, combining it with aggressive prosecution and court-

ordered treatment for offenders that utilized a “plea in abeyance” approach. Sandy and West Jordan would follow with similar policy changes in 1989.

Mandatory arrest was first discussed in a UDVAC meeting in late 1987 and early 1988. Council meetings also included reports on the shortcomings of Utah’s protective order process. The Council explored strategic options for organizing an initiative and a committee was created to get it started. Two legislative “champions” were identified who were willing to take the lead on these issues: Republican Representative Mont Evans of Riverton and Democratic Representative Joanne Milner of Salt Lake City.

The Legislative Task Force was set up in 1989, staffed by the Office of Legislative Research and General Council. Membership included senators, house members, a circuit court judge, prosecutors, police officers, and various UDVAC members. After hearing testimony from numerous witnesses, and reviewing key reports and research findings provided by staff, the group attempted in vain to outline a consensus plan. As the time drew near for the Task Force to complete its work, a majority decided to draft four separate bills for consideration in the 1990 session. All four pieces of legislation passed both houses of the legislature in the 1990. They were:

HB 52: Which mandated that police officers *shall* arrest or cite domestic violence offenders if there is probable cause a crime has been committed and , further, allowed courts to hold a plea in abeyance if the offender seeks treatment;

HB 53: Which provided for state funding of treatment services and established DFS as the contracting source;

HB 54: Which mandated that

those charged with a domestic violence offense are to have no contact with the victim for a prescribed period; and

HJR 3: A joint resolution (i.e., doesn’t have the force of law) which urged prosecutors not to drop domestic violence cases simply because the victim requests it.

From this point on, the task would be to ensure that all police jurisdictions formally changed their policies and procedures on domestic violence cases to bring them in line with the new law and that they provided training to their officers on those changes. Similarly, the Council also helped to monitor local jurisdictions’ compliance with the changes that had been legislated in the protective order process.

Utah became only the 13th state to adopt mandatory arrest. Our state code now unambiguously stated the legal stance that advocates had worked for nearly a decade to establish: that domestic violence is against the law and the law will be enforced.

After February of 1990

In the following years, the Council established a standing Legislative Committee, later changed to the Government Affairs Committee. That group remained active and organized themselves into two sub-committees: a Statutory Team and an Appropriations Team.

The Statutory Team had continued to refine existing laws—especially those governing the protective order process – and develop new ones, including legislation on spousal rape, expansion of victim advocacy services, insurance coverage for battered women, and domestic violence offences committed in the presence of children.

From 1990 through 1998, Federal and State appropriations for domestic violence services were

increased by several million dollars, including funds for shelters, offender and children’s treatment services, and additional DCFS positions assigned to domestic violence duties in the regional offices.

The UDVAC incorporated in 1993 in response to the opportunity to receive federal funding for support. In 1994 the Council became independent of DCFS and assumed a role of advisory to the newly created Cabinet Council. Secretarial staff was hired in 1997. UDVAC, as a newly designated not-for-profit organization in 1998, took over the administration of the federal funding. Administrative staff was hired in 1999- a development that would have been inconceivable through the first 10 to 15 years of the Council’s history. With the creation of the current nine working committees, a staff of two, and numerous accomplishments, certainly we are well into the “*third wave*.”

The Council is now in more of a steady-state mode, with the history, expertise and resources to serve the ongoing responsibilities of adding to and refining the service system, increasing the funding levels, seeking necessary policy changes, and improving public awareness and understanding of this problem.

2000 and Onward

The work of Utah Domestic Violence Council continues to move forward. In 2002 additional federal funds became available and the decision was approved to hire a diversity coordinator. Because of the work of the Diversity Coordinators, cultural competency is being woven into all of our work. In the process, it was determined that UDVAC should move into private space and leave the Department of Human Services. By 2003 all staff (3) were full time. At the 2003 or 2004 Annual Meeting, it was voted upon to drop the word “Advisory” from

the name of the Council. In 2004 the Training Coordinator Position was created. By 2006 there were 12 committees operating in a variety of issues with the 36 member council and 5 full-time paid staff.

As UDVC has grown and developed it has furthered its community outreach and training in order to raise awareness of domestic violence. The staff and council have been actively involved in planning and sponsoring 3 annual conferences, a diversity leadership forum, a quarterly newsletter and support for 22 local domestic violence coalitions. UDVC took over operating the Basic Skills and Knowledge Training and has standardized the curriculum which is now offered 6-8 times per year covering all regions of the state. A 4 hour web-based curriculum was created which is accredited by the Utah Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The UDVC website was created, developed further and approved.

In Fall of 2004, the Domestic Violence LinkLine moved from the Community Services Council to UDVC. The Domestic Violence LinkLine now operates 24 hours daily and has assisted 65,000 people since its beginning in 1993.

In 2007 UDVC approved the work of a year long Strategic Planning Committee to create a Board of Directors, support a new vision and mission, and reduce the 12 committees to four Committees which have a total of seven workgroups.



*205 North 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84103
Phone: 801-521-5544
Fax: 801-521-5548*

Utah Domestic Violence Council

Our Vision is: Envision a world where everyone lives free from fear.

Our Mission is: to create a state where domestic violence is intolerable.

Please visit us on the web:

www.udvc.org

Dear Friends,

As part of a grassroots movement to make domestic violence intolerable in Utah, the Utah Domestic Violence Council is asking everyone to take part of a statewide Public Service Announcement Campaign about Strengthening Family Relationships. Periodically, we will send out a PSA to read at any meeting that you attend—work, community, book groups, religious gatherings, family reunions, etc. Each one is only 30-seconds long and perfect for sharing during announcements. Healthy relationships are important to all of us, so help us spread this message to everyone! For more information or to download the PSAs, visit us at www.udvc.org.

Sincerely,
Public Education Committee
UDVC



This is a Public Service Announcement from the Utah Domestic Violence Council:

▶ Leading by example is important to raising a successful family. Being an example teaches respect, work ethic, and social appropriateness.

Being an example is not saying negative things about your partner, using physical force to get what you want, or neglecting the needs of your dependents. This teaches children that abusive relationships are unacceptable.

If you or someone you know is experiencing an abusive relationship, please call the Domestic Violence LinkLine at 1-800-897-LINK (5465).

