

Utah Domestic Violence Council  
205 North 400 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

**2005 Family Violence Prevention Awards Presented  
During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

Contact:	Craige Harrison UDVC Chair 801-328-8891, Ext 3313	Judy Kasten Bell UDVC Executive Director 801-521-5544 801-920-1327 Cell
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“As we recognize and celebrate the work of several individuals and one organization in their efforts to end domestic violence in our state, we must, nonetheless, somberly remember that domestic violence deaths are still taking place in Utah,” states Craige Harrison, UDVC Chair. Regrettably, to date this calendar year, UDVC has documented 24 domestic violence related deaths. In 2004, twenty-three people died as a result of domestic violence.

Monday, October 17, 2005, the Utah Domestic Violence Council will recognize Kern River Gas Transmission Company, Judy Monarque and Rickell James-Irish at an awards luncheon for their efforts to end domestic violence and in recognition of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness month. Two domestic violence advocates will also be recognized for their work in responding to domestic violence in their local communities.

“Although, we do not know how many lives are saved every day with the resources, services and trained domestic violence advocates available in our communities, we do know that the work of local domestic violence coalitions to bring public awareness and resource information into communities is most effective when neighbors, co-workers, friends and relations of families living in domestic violence involve themselves by listening, sharing resource information and holding the perpetrator accountable. This is when we begin to observe a lessening of domestic violence in Utah,” notes Judy Kasten Bell, UDVC Executive Director.

For information, help and resource information, call the Utah Domestic Violence LinkLine 24 hours daily at **1-800-897-5465**.

**MORE**

Following are the recipients of this year's awards:

**Family Violence Prevention Award – Kern River Gas Transmission Company**

Kern River actively involves its employees by supporting community efforts to end family violence through an employee contribution plan and a golf tournament. The proceeds fund training involving play therapy for children living in domestic violence environments. The company also provides appropriate toys for the children during their therapy. In addition, Kern River contributes funds to assist domestic violence victims with needed hotel nights and gas cards, essential safety components for victims and stretched resources.

**Family Violence Prevention Award – Judy Monarque**

Judy works for the Division of Child & Family Services as a licensed domestic violence therapist. She assisted the Eastern Region of Utah which had been without licensed perpetrator treatment for 5 months by providing the much needed services in addition to her daily position in Utah County. In doing so, Judy traveled through road closures, snow-packed and icy roads, boulders and blizzards. In addition, she completed many assessments and conducted many group therapy sessions on Friday evenings and Saturdays.

**Executive Lifetime Achievement Award – Rickell James-Irish**

Rickell began her work in the field of domestic violence in 1990. Over the years, she was instrumental in changing domestic violence laws and implementing many innovative ideas in the southwest region of the state. As the current Division of Child & Family Services Southwestern Region Domestic Violence Coordinator, Rickell pioneered many partnerships between human services, law enforcement and the judicial system. Rickell is seen as the catalyst of coordination and implementation of many components to protect women and children experiencing domestic violence. She is viewed as a trailblazer and a finisher by those who know her.

Note to Media: Please join us if you would like to report on the awards event:

Monday, October 17, 2005 12:00 -1:30pm  
The Gathering Place at Gardner Village  
1100 West 7800 South #23  
West Jordan

Program will be from approximately 12:15 – 1:15pm  
Awards will be presented and Holly Mullen, Salt Lake Tribune, is the keynote speaker.