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#### **WE'RE MOVING!**

We are excited to announce that after 16 wonderful years at our present location, the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence is moving to 2295 Parklake Drive, Suite 130, Atlanta, GA, effective July 1, 2021.

## A Letter from Our Leadership

Dear beloved community,

As we reflect on the past year, amid a pandemic and social unrest, we are proud of how domestic violence programs across the state remained open and dedicated, responding with compassionate services to help survivors, their families, and communities who are counting on us. 2020 challenged us to think differently about outreach, services, and our role in the racial justice movement.

In 2020, GCADV's staff began working remotely and remained connected to domestic violence programs and other professionals virtually. Programs across the state never stopped advocating and working with survivors. During this time of increased isolation, they quickly improvised to provide lifesaving services. Some arranged alternate housing options and utilized technology to limit risks to other survivors and staff.

2020 underscored the urgent need for racial justice. We condemn the injustices, oppression, and killings of Black individuals we continue to witness across America. We denounce the racist and xenophobic violence enacted against AAPI communities. We recognize that our outrage is not enough. We commit ourselves to continue in our journey to becoming an organization that uses its voice as a domestic violence leader and anti-racist organization - to identify and challenge practices that are harmful to communities of color and that perpetuate white supremacy in our state.

During this time, our connections with each other have been more important than ever. Our loving community of organizations, advocates, and partners sustain us. As we continue to confront the enormous challenges our state and country still face, we remain focused on our vision of a Georgia free of domestic violence – where ALL communities can thrive.



Teresa Millsaps
Board President



Jan Christiansen
Executive Director

#### Our Vision

GCADV envisions a Georgia free of domestic violence.

#### Our Mission

Collaborate. Advocate. Educate. Empower.

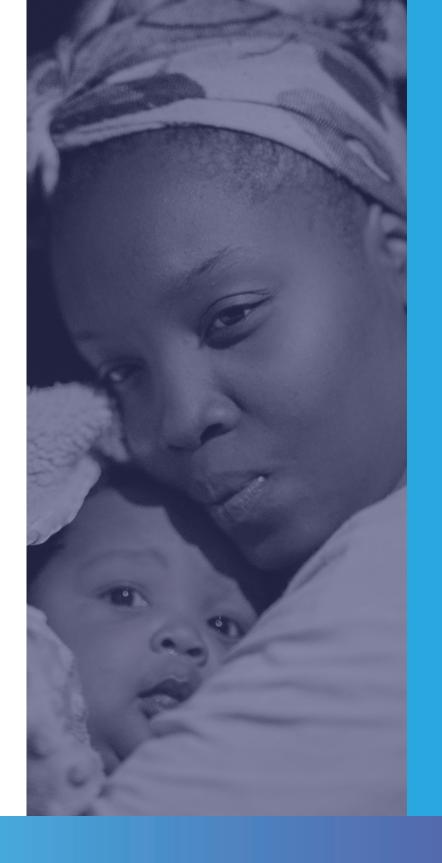
We **empower** survivors and the programs that serve them, we **educate** the public, and we **advocate** for responsive public policy. Our strength is in numbers, as we **collaborate** throughout Georgia to stop domestic violence.

### Our Values

**Equity** – Everyone has access All have the tools they need to succeed, even as needs change over time

Wholeness – Everyone has what they need All can be their authentic selves, feel cared for and are supported to reach their full potentials

Freedom – Everyone has agency All are free to fail, to make decisions, to share and to use their authentic, ethical voice



### Board of Directors

#### Officers

President
Teresa Millsaps, Tranquility House, Cartersville

Vice President
Nancy Bryan, Ruth's Cottage and The Patticake House, Tifton

Treasurer

Marc Effron, White Elm Group, LLC, Atlanta

Secretary
Manisha Lance, Raksha, Atlanta





#### **Members:**

Jamie Bormann, Crisis Line & Safe House of
Central GA, Macon
Amy Cheng, Nelson Mullins Riley &
Scarborough, Atlanta
Kristin Files, Smith & Files, LLC, Tucker
Barbara Gibson, Women's Resource Center to
End Domestic Violence, Decatur
Jaqueline Herrera, The Salvation Army Safe
House, Warner Robins
Ameeta Kalokhe, Emory University School of
Medicine, Atlanta
Monica Khant, GA Asylum & Immigration
Network (GAIN), Atlanta

Wendy Lipshutz, Shalom Bayit, Jewish Family & Career Services, Atlanta
Aimee Maxwell, Victim Integrity Unit, Fulton County District Attorney's Office, Atlanta
Joshua S. Nation, Ascension Counseling & Mental Health, Canton
Jamie Perez, Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers
Foundation, Atlanta
Beth Ready, Forsyth County District Attorney's
Office, Cumming
Steve Teffeteller, Sta-Dry Roofing
Vanessa Wilkins, Promise Place, Fayetteville
Morgan Ward, Emory University, Atlanta

## Member Programs 2019-2020

Ahimsa House

AVLF Safe & Stable Families Project

Boat People SOS, Atlanta Camden Community Crisis

Center

Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc.

Cherokee Family Violence
Center

Circle of Hope

Crisis Line & Safe House of Central Georgia

**Dekalb County Solicitor General** 

**FAITH in Rabun County** 

Fair Haven

Family Crisis Center of WDCC

Forsyth County Family Haven

Gateway Domestic Violence Center

Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN)

Georgia Commission on Family Violence

Georgia Latinos Against Domestic Violence

Glynn Community Crisis Center

Harmony House Domestic
Violence Shelter

Haven House

Hope Harbour

Hospitality House for Women

International Women's House

JF&CS Shalom Bayit Program
Liberty House of Albany

LiveSAFE Resources

MACOSH Healing Network

New American Pathways

No One Alone

**Noor Family Services** 

North Georgia Mountain Crisis

Network

Northeast Georgia Council on Domestic Violence

Northwest Georgia Family Crisis
Center

Partnership Against Domestic Violence

Peace Place

Polk County Women's Shelter

Project Renewal

Project Safe

Promise Place

Raksha

Ruth's Cottage

Safe Haven

Safe Space Property

Management

Securus House

Serenity House

Southwest Georgia Victims
Assistance Alliance

Spalding Co. Sheriff's Office

Victim Service Unit

Support in Abusive Family Emergencies (S.A.F.E.)

Tahirih Justice Center

Tapestri

The Salvation Army Safe House

Tranquility House

Tri-County Protective Agency

WINGS

Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence

## Celebrating 40 Years

October 10, 2019 – Lawyers, advocates, and community supporters gathered at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough to celebrate GCADV's four decades of work to end domestic violence.

GCADV used the occasion to honor those who have demonstrated exemplary efforts in collaboration, community involvement, or philanthropy in the movement to end violence against women. The following individuals and groups have helped to champion positive local and/or statewide change as well as social and/or systems change on behalf of domestic violence survivors.

**Guests of Honor:** Jennifer Thomas and April Ross

In the Trenches Advocate Awardee: Rosemary Stefanoff

Collaborate Awardee: Kim Cabness McCoy

**Empower Awardee:** IPRCE (Injury Prevention Research Center at

Emory)

Impact Awardee: Vicky Kimbrell

Stephanie Davis





#### KING & SPALDING

Alston & Bird Linda Schaeffer, Mediator - U-Resolve, LLC Bob's Red Mill

Ruth's Cottage & The Patticake House The Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys
PeaceStill Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center
Wienberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial Monica Khant Wendy Lipshutz Tori Silas





## Programs and Initiatives

The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence is the state leader in the movement to end intimate partner violence. We help to build the capacity of our member organizations, partners, and allies to ensure safe, compassionate, inclusive, and accessible services to survivors and their children exposed to violence. We do this through training, technical assistance, advocacy, community outreach, as well as a variety of statewide collaborative projects.



- **Training:** Providing comprehensive survivor focused training to domestic violence programs, first responders, healthcare providers, and others.
- **Technical Assistance:** Providing hands-on guidance and support to domestic violence programs across the state to ensure high quality care as they work directly with survivors of domestic violence and their families.
- **Public Policy and Advocacy:** Ensuring that the interests and rights of domestic violence survivors are protected and upheld through effective policies within Georgia's systems.
- **Statewide Outreach:** Ensuring communities across the state are engaged, informed, and motivated to create change in the prevention, intervention, and response to domestic violence.
- 24-Hour Statewide Hotline: Providing coordinated access to safety and support.
- **BRIDGES Deaf Advocacy Program:** Connecting Deaf survivors with the community of support they need to build lives free from domestic violence.
- Community Engagement Project: Working with marginalized and historically oppressed communities and the programs that serve them to increase access and address program sustainability.
- Child & Youth Project: Working with therapists and child advocates to ensure children exposed to domestic violence are receiving services rooted in best practices.
- Justice for Incarcerated Survivors Project: Working for the release of incarcerated survivors imprisoned for hurting or killing their abusive partner or committing a crime under duress from their abusive partner.
- **Economic Justice Initiative:** Working with diverse systems, stakeholders, and social justice movements to achieve policies that create greater economic equality for survivors and center their input towards meaningful, individualized, and financially sustainable futures.
- Trauma-Informed Capacity Building Initiative: Supporting domestic violence organizations in the process of creating services and environments that minimize the impact of trauma and promote resiliency, healing and wholeness.

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# GCADV's Origin Story

For 40 years, the Georgia **Coalition Against** Domestic Violence has advocated for the elimination of violence from our society. While GCADV grew out of the Georgia Council on Abused Women, the splinter group that left the Georgia Network **Against Domestic** Violence due to their inclusion of sexual orientation in their nondiscrimination clause. GCADV once again embraces and actively advocates for the elimination of violence from our society against *all* people. GCADV continues to be committed to healing from the homophobia and racism that has penetrated the domestic violence movement in

Georgia.

The Network officially incorporates in 1982 and has already been advocating for state funding for shelters in Georgia. It is estimated that 566,000 families are living in violent homes in Georgia and shelter programs are reaching less than 3.000 of them. The Network advocates that the state support the established programs in Georgia and expand services to women throughout the state.



GNADV's first "Lobby Day" to raise awareness of issues affecting women and domestic violence shelters in Georgia.



A member of GNADV discusses the need for state funding for shelter programs with a State Legislator.

1985

In the summer of 1988. the Women of Color Task Force introduces an Affirmative Action plan for the Georgia **Network Against** Domestic Violence. The plan requires that the Executive Board consist of 25% Women of Color. The Georgia **Network Against** Domestic Violence has 2 years to comply with this plan.



Representatives from member programs meet to discuss issues affecting women in Georgia.

**GNADV** becomes

Georgia Advocates for

Battered Women and

Children (GABWC).

The other coalition

forms the Georgia

Council on Abused

There continues to be

disagreements and

discord between the

two coalitions in the

early 1990's.

1990

Women (GCAW).



Members at a Georgia Network Against Domestic Violence Leadership Meeting.

1989

Coalition on Family violence, misintreprets new parameters of DHHS funding to mean that money can no longer be divided and must be given to the coalition with the most statewide representation. Georgia Advocates for Battered Women and Children (GABWC) is seen as the minority with only 5 members and struggle to be seen as vital to the domestic violence movement in Georgia and are unable to maintain steady funding & staff. The Coalition on Family Violence thrives and implements a statewide hotline.

The Georgia Council on Abused Women (GCAW),

now called the Georgia

From 2000-2001 GCADV has a number of successful initiatives across Georgia. They also try to restart the Women of Color Task Forces and host meetings regarding the development of these task forces. GABWC closes its doors sometime in 2001. Because of the steps that GCADV has been taking to address forms of violence against ALL women, the GABWC board finally feel that there is no longer a need for two coalitions.

1979/1980

Domestic violence

Georgia develop a

violence services

available to victims

called the Georgia

Domestic Violence.

Over 25 advocates

meet for the first

network meeting

experiences, meet

and began gathering

central resource list

the groundwork for

future group action.

for the state. This laid

other advocates,

information for a

to share their

**Network Against** 

network of domestic

advocates from

Georgia Network Against Domestic Violence.

1982

The agency resolves to do anti-racism work & support women of color in the assumption of leadership roles. Challenges facing women of color in shelter programs include few women of color on staff, shelters being viewed as white programs, a lack of diversity of board members, primarily white management at shelter programs, and the inability for shelter programs to retain people of color on boards for long periods of time. A Women of Color Taskforce is created by

women of color.



1988

The first Southeastern Regional Women of Color Task Force.

GNADV's mission statement, which includes nondiscrimination based on a person's sexual preference, comes under fire in 1989. Both member programs and politicians take issue with this clause. Reluctantly, the Network does change their non-discrimination policy and removes sexual preference from its wording. Regardless, at the end of the legislative session in 1989, the state funding for the Georgia Network Against Domestic Violence is cut. A second coalition is formed by programs that had oppposed GNADV in this struggle.

1993-1996

Neither agency

until 1993, when

funding becomes

receives state funding

available through the

Department of Health

and Human Services

(DHHS). GABWC &

GCAW apply for the

DHHS grant together

the funds.

for two years and split

1997

1999

2000-2001

Because of this division within the movement, both coalitions are less effective than they can be and continue to struggle with one other over funding and representation, as well as with society as a whole to make domestic violence an issue that is taken seriously. In 1999, the Georgia Coalition on Family Violence changes their name to the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence.









### Statewide Statistics

1041 Georgians were killed by firearms in domestic violence incidents between 2010 and 2020.

Georgia ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> in the nation for the rate at which women are killed by men.\*

Georgia consistently ranks among the worst states for the rate at which women are killed by men.

In FFY 2020 Georgia's 47 state-certified domestic violence programs:

Sheltered **5,617** victims and their children

Provided 119,877 bed nights of shelter

**15,694** victims and their children were **turned away** from domestic violence shelters due to lack of bed space.

\* Violence Policy Center (2020). When Men Murder Women - An Analysis of 2018 Homicide Data.

Other state statistics provided by the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

13,512 GCADV training hours impacted 6,661 advocates

## Advocacy

#### **Stop Violence Against Women Day**

On February 4th 2020, supporters across the state of Georgia gathered at the Capitol to urge legislators to support proposals which seek to enhance the safety of intimate partner and sexual violence survivors, their families, and Georgia communities. This year's issues included:

- 1) Measures that strengthen safety for victims of domestic violence and address perpetrators' ownership or possession of firearms.
- Roughly 70% of domestic violence deaths in Georgia, each year, are committed using firearms.
- Over 930 Georgians were killed by firearms in domestic violence incidents between 2010 & 2019.
- Neighboring states Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida, have enacted similar legislation.
- Over 17 Georgia counties have already implemented similar local protocols and practices to aid in domestic violence perpetrators' ability to comply with ownership and possession requirements.
- States that have laws which restrict access to firearms by individuals subject to domestic violence restraining orders see an 8% to 13% reduction in intimate partner homicide rates and a 25 percent reduction in intimate partner gun homicides in their cities.
- 2) Measures to include dating partners in the definition of family violence.
- Including dating partners would provide them with access to broader protections and the appropriate resources and responses needed in maintaining safety.
- States that include protections for dating partners have seen an 11% reduction in the total rate of intimate partner homicides.
- Neighboring states Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee have enacted similar legislation.
- 3) Measures that prevent the unintended arrest of victims.
- Changing O.C.G.A 17-4-20 language from "primary physical aggressor" to "predominant
  aggressor" will assist law enforcement in better identifying which party has a history of using
  abusive tactices in order to control.
- 14 states have passed similar legislation, including fellow southern states Alabama and Louisiana.

**2019-2020 Legislative Highlight: Georgia Senate Bill 477** which clarifies that law enforcement should arrest the "predominant" aggressor in family violence situations passed. The bill came into effect January 1, 2021.

## Training

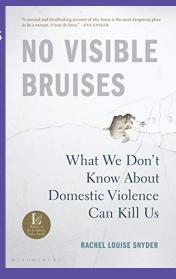
2020 brought significant changes to GCADV's training program. GCADV offers a variety of trainings to domestic violence programs and other professionals to strengthen our state's response to domestic violence and ensure that victims receive the best advocacy services possible. While we usually provide both on-site training to domestic violence programs as well as web-based courses, this year

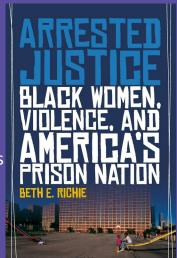
we adapted our training curriculum to fit a virtual format to reach advocates working from home and in programs across the state. Below are some examples of trainings GCADV has developed for advocates and partner organizations.

**Virtual Frontline Training:** To continue providing this essential training for new domestic violence advocates, we moved this 3-day training onto an entirely virtual format. The virtual version of our Frontline training consists of a combination of online recorded webinars and e-learning modules. Live sessions focus on discussion, interaction, and Q&A time to supplement and enhance the content learned via our training website.

Reading groups: This year GCADV initiated a new form of training – a virtual book club! In partnership with co-facilitators from CJCC and GCFV, we led two reading groups, held virtually over a series of sessions, where we discussed No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Will Kill Us by Rachel Louise-Snyder and Arrested Justice: Black Women, Violence, and America's Prison Nation by Beth Richie. The reading groups were a great success, and we were thrilled to speak directly with author Rachel Louise-Snyder, who joined us for a virtual Q&A.

**Training website:** The training website continues to grow in content and in users who are accessing the site. In 2020, we added many new recorded webinars, including Teen Dating Violence 101, Self-Care for the Advocate: Preventing Burnout and Compassion Fatigue, Danger Indicators and Risk Factors: An Overview, and Barriers to Escaping Domestic Violence. The training website is a free resource for anyone interested in learning more about the dynamics of domestic violence visit: **training.gcadv.org.** 





### BRIDGES

BRIDGES provides free and confidential services for survivors of domestic violence, including emotional support, safety planning, systems advocacy to access community resources, education about the dynamics of domestic violence, and collaboration with community partners. BRIDGES also breaks the isolation of abuse by connecting Deaf survivors to services provided by our partners in Georgia, including domestic violence program shelters, community-based domestic violence programs, and the Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

404-381-8282 VPN info@bridgesfordeaf.org

If you or someone you know needs help - Deaf-friendly and non-judgmental - contact BRIDGES.

BRIDGES helps Deaf survivors build lives free from domestic violence.



### Racial Justice

This year we were faced with a moment of reckoning. The murder of George Floyd broke the collective heart of this country. The endless list of Black lives senselessy stolen is in full view, turning away is no longer an option.

GCADV has committed itself, over the last ten years, to addressing the oppression of Women of Color (WOC) within the domestic violence movement and amongst those impacted by domestic violence. Black women in particular are disporportionally impacted by domestic violence and are murdered at more than twice the rate of White women. We continue to seek advancement for WOC within our movement and to end domestic violence in all communities.

We recognize that we have invested significantly in systems that inflict violence on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. We acknowledge BIPOC's historical trauma and lived experiences of violence and center those traumas and experiences in our commitments to move forward. We stand with the Black Women leaders in our movement, for whom isolation, risk, and hardship are now particularly acute. And we are grateful to the Black Women, Indigenous Women, and Women of Color - past and present - who have contributed mightily to our collective body of work, even as it has compromised their own health and well-being.

It is time to transform not only oppressive institutions, but also ourselves. We support the promotion of community-based practices that resist abuse and oppression and encourage safety, support, and accountability. We have spent decades building our movement's voice and power. How we use them now will define us in the years ahead. Let our actions show that we did not stand idly by. Let them show that we learned, changed, and will continue to demonstrate that Black Lives Matter is a centering practice for our work.

### Justice for Incarcerated Survivors

GCADV's Justice for Incarcerated Survivors Project works for the release of incarcerated survivors imprisoned for hurting or killing their abusive partner or committing a crime under duress from their abusive partner. A national study by the Vera Institute of Justice found that 86% of women who have ever been jailed also report surviving sexual assault and 77% have experienced intimate partner violence.

Working with a team of volunteer lawyers and advocates, the staff of the Project investigates cases, provides critical information to the parole board about the impact of domestic violence on each project participant, creates parole applications, and assists women to rebuild their lives when parole is granted.

This work began in 2015, originating from a gathering (with GCADV, the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, the Georgia Innocence Project, Project Safe, and many advocates from domestic violence programs) to discuss the need for clemency services for incarcerated survivors. Originally called the "Clemency Project," GCADV and an advisory group developed criteria and survey information to begin identifying and speaking with survivors in Georgia's state women's facilities. In March and early April of 2016, 45 incarcerated women were deemed eligible for parole assistance services.

Over the past few years from 2018-2020, GCADV has renamed our clemency work "Justice for Incarcerated Survivors" and has expanded to work in all four of Georgia's state women's prisons with over 100 active cases. Simultaneously, the Project has developed a pilot

program with Alston & Bird LLC in which volunteer attorneys represent project clients pro bono and build parole packets to advocate for early release.

By providing services to this underserved group, we believe that incarcerated survivors can heal and that they are a part of our community. We strive to create new restorative approaches and options for survivors that prioritize accountable, community-based responses. We affirm the lives and self-determination of ALL survivors.



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### Financials 2019-2020

#### Revenue

Fed/State Awards: \$1,489,940

Membership Income: \$61,240

Contributions: \$298,243

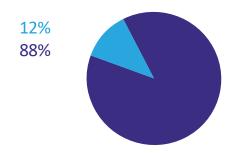
Other Income: \$33,235

Total: \$1,882,658



#### **Expenses**

General and Admin: \$212,963
Programs: \$1,495,440
Total: \$1,708,403



### Allstate

With assistance from the Allstate Foundation, furthering GCADV's Don't Knock the Hustle program, GCADV was able to support 950 advocates and survivors who took part in financial literacy and economic independence initiatives. Through Promise Place, Amani Women Center, and Pearls of Resilience - financial health, literacy, and centering survivor skills for entrepreneurship, were made possible in some of Georgia's most underserved communities.



## Google

With assistance from Google, GCADV was able to expand our Don't Knock the Hustle Match Savings program to provide \$500 for 200 survivors. Individuals who identify as domestic violence survivors are provided with these funds toward their independent entrepreneurship and business endeavors.



### Donors 2019-2020

Thank you to all of our supporters! Your support makes our work possible. Together we can help to transform the lives of survivors and their families. Together we can create thriving communities. Together we can save lives.

#WeBeginsWithMe

**Empower Donors** 

Aimee Maxwell Ameeta Kalokhe Beta Zeta Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. in honor of Vanessa R. Banks **Cousins Properties** Foundation Inc. **Delta Community** FIS Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority Keith McGaha King & Spalding Meunier Carlin & Curfman LLC Moxie/Zenith **Nelson Mullins** 

Northcrest House
Concerts and Simple
Friend
Stephanie Davis
Collaborate Donors

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Kathyrn Solley

Kimberly Jones

Kristin Dorage

Laura Snider

Louis Lauria

**Gus Garay** 

M.E. Hollingsworth

Sarah Cook in honor of

Jeffrey Willever

Francisco Marrero

Club

Girlfriends Bible Study

Fit for a Queen of Atlanta

Community Builders
Monica Khant
Northwest Georgia
Family Crisis Center
PeaceStill
Ruth's Cottage & The
Patticake House
The Georgia Association
of Black Women
Attorneys
Wendy Lipshutz
Wienberg Wheeler

Hudgins Gunn & Dial Maya Gupta Michelle Toledo Cainas Melissa Messina Meredith Schwartz Barbara Gibson Vanessa Wilkins Monica Barnard Morgan Ward Amanda Holcomb Peter Duitsman Donja Gordon Elizabeth Peters Raashed Raziuddin **Betty Gittingre Spencer Scarvey Carie Summers** Victoria Collins Christell Bakken Stell Simonton Chris Grippa Donna Jones Beth Malone Jamie Bormann Ellen Drucker

Friends of GCADV
Beth Malone
Brunessa Dayton
Elisabeth Huhn
Elizabeth Ready
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Jake Brown
Jamie Perez
Joanna Pavlak
Katherine Harris
Melissa Quintana
Rubie Carrero
Sarah Sandlin
Seressa Graham

GCADV regrets any inadvertent omission of donor names



@gcadv







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