

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

GCADV

2017 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

At the heart of the fight against domestic violence is social change. As a coalition, we stand not only for the safety, dignity, and justice of victims of domestic violence but also for those who are marginalized in our communities due to their economic status, race, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity, disability, or age. To neglect the needs of our collective community is to ignore our collective humanity. All types of oppression are connected; we will never bring an end to domestic violence without also diving into these issues.

Our 53 member programs work 365 days a year across the state on behalf of domestic violence survivors and their families. Member programs make up this coalition and serve in urban, suburban, and rural communities. In the 2017 fiscal year, Georgia's state-certified domestic violence programs answered **44,372 crisis line calls and sheltered 6,022** victims and their children. **While these numbers are significant and impactful, we know that they do not represent all survivors. There is more work to be done.**

Our work is larger than what GCADV can accomplish on its own. Our work, as simply but profoundly stated in the Movement Strategy Center's "The Practices of Transformative Movement Building," is part of a broad transformative movement which recognizes that everything gets done through relationships and nothing gets done without them. We embrace the relationships we have not only with our member programs but also with emerging culturally-sensitive programs, social justice programs, and members of marginalized communities.

We are all connected by our trauma, trials, and triumphs. As we continue to move in the direction of engaging and empowering those impacted by domestic violence and other forms of oppression, we will move closer to becoming a state and a nation committed to the safety, justice, and healing of all survivors and their families.

Please join us in our continued commitment to collaborate, educate, advocate, and empower!

#We begins with me

The challenge of social justice is to evoke a sense of community that we need to make our nation a better place, just as we make it a safer place. Marian Wright Edelman



Beth Peters
GCADV Board President



Jan Christiansen
Executive Director

Statewide Statistics

Over **700** Georgians were killed by a firearm in domestic violence incidents between 2010 and 2017

Georgia ranked **14th** in the nation for the rate at which women are killed by men.

Georgia's **46** state-certified domestic violence programs:



Answered **44,372** crisis line calls



Sheltered **6,022** victims and their children



Provided **438,557** bed nights of shelter

2,372 victims and children did not receive shelter due to **lack of bed space.**

Conducted **1,580** community awareness & outreach events with **335,370** participants

7,141 GCADV training hours impacted **2,113** advocates

Advocacy: Engaging Men

Men Stopping Violence (MSV)

organizes men to end male violence through innovative trainings, programs, and advocacy. One of MSV's initiatives is the Community Restoration Program (CRP), a community education and advocacy team committed to ending violence against women. MSV's relationship with GCADV has provided us with a meaningful connection to women's voices and experiences, which are central to our work. For example, for the past eight years, GCADV's public policy team has briefed CRP



membership on policy issues before each legislative session. These briefings have helped CRP in its efforts to create personal, cultural, and political change through a range of activities, including presenting to community groups, working with MSV programs, monitoring relevant state and federal legislation, meeting with lawmakers, and even testifying at legislative hearings during sessions of the Georgia General Assembly.

MSV has been a partner with GCADV, Raksha, the Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault, and the Georgia Commission on Family Violence Stop Violence Against Women Day (SVAWD) for over 10 years. This event is important to the work to end gender-based violence because it mobilizes a community of people who are willing and able to educate their legislators on issues critical to the well-being of women and children. Beyond the issues of the day, SVAWD is also a show of strength which reminds legislators of how important ending domestic violence is to their constituents. Our participation in SVAWD provides an opportunity for men to demonstrate our commitment to ending domestic violence by physically showing up and standing with survivors and their advocates.

In particular MSV believes that GCADV has done an excellent job of intersectional advocacy, over the past few years, to stop legislation that would be harmful to marginalized communities, particularly immigrant and refugee victims of human trafficking and domestic violence.

2016-2017 Legislative Highlights

Georgia House Bill 279, will allow victims of domestic violence to file for a legal name change for themselves and their children without being forced to give the customary public notice of their name change.

Georgia Senate Bill 201, will require employers that offer sick leave to allow employees to use that leave time flexibly in order to care for sick children, spouses, and other family members. Both Bills came into effect July 1, 2017.

Training: A Shelter's Perspective

Ruth's Cottage and Patticake House (RCPCH) is a triple program private non-profit organization in the Tifton Judicial Circuit of Tift, Turner, Worth and Irwin Counties. Ruth's Cottage provides domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy prevention services including an emergency shelter, crisis line, legal advocacy, and outreach. The Patticake House is our child advocacy center providing forensic interviews, education, and outreach.

GCADV has provided much needed on-site training for RCPCH staff. Training opportunities are difficult for our advocates because of the time and funds needed to attend trainings in metro-Atlanta. Through on-site trainings, GCADV staff learn the needs of our shelter and our staff and make time for questions in a setting where our staff feel comfortable. This has enabled relationships to develop and has fostered a trust that has allowed staff to open up and talk about the issues they face while getting feedback from GCADV.

The Trauma-Informed Training in particular has been critical for Ruth's Cottage staff as for many years the shelter program operated more like a jail than a refuge. This training made our shelter staff more aware of their behaviors and how strongly their words, facial expressions, and actions impacted the residents. We would not even be close to operating in a trauma-informed space without the technical support, materials, and training we have received.

The following are ways that GCADV has helped RCPCH and enabled us to better serve survivors in our community:

1. **Training Opportunities:** Webinars, website trainings, quarterly meetings, Fatality Review Report, brochures/flyers/cards, one day and multiple day trainings, and on-site trainings.
2. **Technical Assistance:** Ability to call and email GCADV staff for suggestions and ideas when confronted with challenging shelter issues and a list-serve tool to ask peers for information.
3. **Leadership and Relationship Development:** Opportunity to serve on the board of directors, participate in call-in shows, quarterly meetings, and on-site visits.

"I think that the work of GCADV is outstanding. It makes me proud to be a board member. I don't take you all for granted." Nancy Bryan, Executive Director of RCPCH and GCADV Board Member



Fatality Review: One Community's Role

The Forsyth County Domestic Violence Task Force is committed to ensuring the safety of victims and their families, holds offenders accountable, and strives to change the climate in the community to reduce domestic violence. The Task Force has a longstanding relationship with GCADV, two of the Task Force members are on the board and GCADV regularly presents at their monthly meetings.

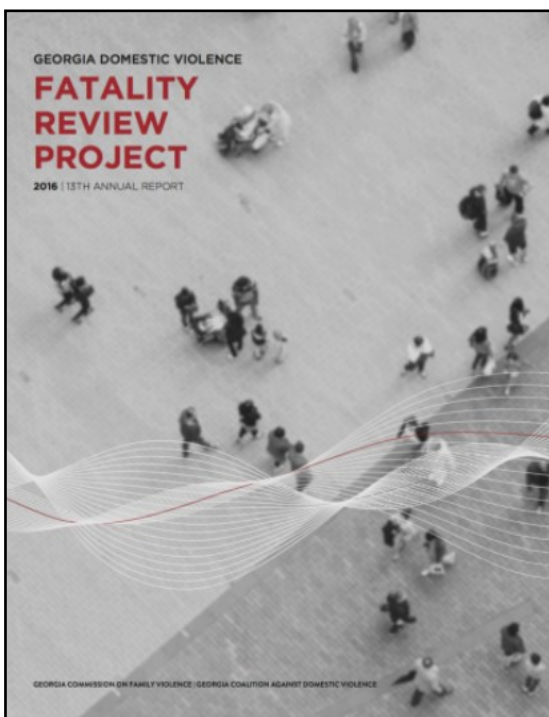
The Annual Fatality Review Report is used as a foundation to help the Task Force develop their annual forum topic and mini-trainings. In addition to the forum, they use the Report's content to engage the community's awareness by educating them with Georgia specific statistics. This relevant information is used by the Task Force when presenting to community members and by other programs when writing grants.

In the **13th Annual Fatality Review Project Report**, the suicide-homicide connection: perpetrators attempted or completed suicide in 38% of cases reviewed by the Project and 37% of perpetrators had threatened or attempted suicide in incidents that occurred prior to the homicide. The high number of reviewed cases involving suicide mirrors statewide data, as murder-suicides account for approximately 30% of domestic violence-related incidents tracked annually by the Project.

Fatality Review Teams in 23 judicial circuits have reviewed more than 100 fatal domestic violence incidents since the Project began in 2004. With the objective of lowering the homicide rate, the Report analyzes data compiled during fatality reviews and provides recommendations for systemic change.

"We use the Fatality Review Report as a tool to advocate for local services to be centered around victim's needs." Michelle Toledo Caiñas, GCADV Board Secretary & Forsyth County Domestic Violence Task Force Chair.

For more information about the Fatality Review Project please go to georgiafatalityreview.com.



In response to these findings, the Project partnered with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities to receive training in the QPR model and has begun conducting trainings for key stakeholders around the state. QPR, which stands for "Question, Persuade and Refer," is an educational program designed to teach the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to respond.

Member Voice: Noor Family Services

Noor Family Services (NFS) was founded in 2015 to fill a need in the community for confidential, culturally-sensitive services and assistance to immigrant communities experiencing “crisis” due to family violence and abuse. The crises faced by survivors in our community are often exacerbated by language barriers, cultural stigmas, and emotional challenges such as loneliness, depression, or just the need for a friendly ear. We found that it was important to not only address the crisis but to also raise awareness of domestic violence in these communities and to engage religious and community leaders in talking about the issue of domestic violence.

As we began serving survivors we realized that we wanted to provide them with better services and to do this we needed assistance with resources and training. I used to receive training from GCADV when I was a Victim-Advocate at Forsyth County Family Haven. I found the training beneficial and wanted to continue to educate myself and my team in this field. This prompted NFS to become a GCADV member.

Being a member of GCADV has had a lot of impact on NSF. It has given us the opportunity to collaborate with other organizations that have a similar vision and mission. One-on-one technical support has enabled us to develop sound programmatic policies. In addition, our organization is able to talk about the challenges that we face.

As NSF has continued to grow and learn more about the needs of survivors in our community, we have added holistic initiatives such as yoga, financial stability, and DV education for men and women. We are developing into a stronger and more sustainable organization that is able to effectively meet the needs of survivors in our community.



GCADV’s Community Rise project helped Noor Family Services (NSF) to secure its first grant. The on-site technical assistance allowed NSF to strategically plan, reach sustainable goals, and maintain its identity in providing culturally specific programs.” Chama Ibrahim, founder of Noor Family Services.

Board of Directors 2016-2017

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Beth Peters, Northwest GA Family Crisis Center, Dalton

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Vanessa Wilkins, Promise Place, Fayetteville

Member Programs 2016 - 2017

Ahimsa House, Inc.

AVLF Safe & Stable Families Project

Awake, Inc.

Beverly Cunningham Outreach Program

Center for Pan Asian Community Services

Cherokee Family Violence Center

Christian League for Battered Women

Circle of Hope

Colquitt County Serenity House

Crisis Line and Safe House of Central Georgia

Dekalb County Solicitors Office, Victims Assistance Program

FAITH-Fight Abuse in the Home

Family Crisis Center of Walker, Dade, Catoosa & Chattooga, Inc.

Forsyth County Family Haven

Gateway House, Inc.

Georgia Commission on Family Violence

Georgia Latin@s Against Domestic Violence

Glynn Community Crisis Center

Harmony House

Haven House

Hope Harbor

Hospitality House for Women, Inc.

International Women's House

Liberty House of Albany

liveSAFE Resources

MACOSH Healing Network

Men Stopping Violence

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 Safe

Promise Place

Raksha, Inc.

Ruth's Cottage

S.A.F.E., Inc.

Salvation Army Safe House

Safe Haven

Securus House

Shalom Bayit

Sisters Empowerment Network

Spalding County Sheriff's Department, Victim Service Unit

Tapestri, Inc.

Tri-County Protective Agency

Wayne County Protective Agency

Women In Need of God's Shelter (WINGS)

Women of Virtue Foundation

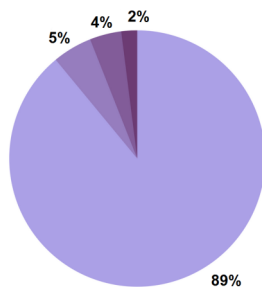
Women's Resource Center



Financials 2016 - 2017

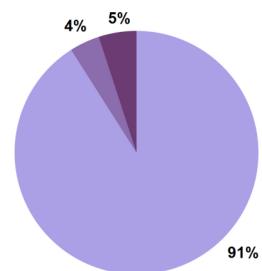
REVENUE

Government	\$1,067,867	89%
Membership	57,017	5%
Contributions	24,259	2%
Other	47,235	4%
Total Income	\$1,196,378	100%



EXPENSES

Programs	1,074,350	91%
Legislative Advocacy	51,508	4%
Administrative	52,673	5%
Total Expenses	1,178,531	100%



Donors 2016-2017

Thank You to all of our Supporters!

Your support makes a difference in the lives of domestic violence survivors and their children across the state of Georgia.

We, collectively, can help to not only transform the lives of survivors but also our cultural and systemic response to domestic violence and abuse. #WeBeginsWithMe

Empower Sponsors

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Programs and Initiatives

GCADV's mission is Collaborate. Advocate. Educate. Empower.

We envision a Georgia free of domestic violence, 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.

We support our mission by:

- Fostering quality services for victims by increasing the capacity of members and service providers.
- Mobilizing a statewide voice to increase public policy development that helps victims and prevents domestic violence.
- Educating the public to take action and prevent domestic violence.

Core Programs

- **Training:** Providing comprehensive survivor focused training and information resources 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 and their families.
- **Public Policy and Advocacy:** Ensuring that the interests and rights of domestic violence survivors are protected and upheld.
- **Statewide Outreach:** Ensuring communities across the state are informed about domestic violence and motivated to create change in the prevention, intervention, and response to domestic violence.
- **24-Hour Statewide Hotline:** 1.800.334.2836 Providing coordinated access to safety and support.
- **Rapid-Rehousing Project:** Connecting survivors to permanent housing resources through three of our member programs.
- **Fatality Review Project:** Enhancing victim safety and batterer accountability through annual analysis and reporting of domestic violence fatalities and the gaps in services and system response.
- **Community Engagement:** Engaging communities and stakeholders to ensure access to safe, compassionate care and justice for all victims.

Disabilities Project

GCADV is partnering with the Georgia Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (GCDHH) to create better services for Deaf or hard of hearing survivors. This project will include a comprehensive needs assessment, training, mentoring, resources, and technical assistance for the advocates and staff at the pilot sites in Hartwell, Rome, Columbus, Atlanta, McDonough, and Lawrenceville.

Child & Youth Project

Child and youth advocates and therapists across the state can now be in the loop with best practices in caring for child witnesses of domestic violence through GCADV's newest project. The GCADV Child and Youth Project provides training, technical assistance, and resources for direct service providers that work with children and youth exposed to domestic violence.

Community Engagement

Community Conversations have been held in four Black/African American and African refugee communities. Efforts are focused on these communities due to Black women making up 55% of female homicides in 2014 (VPC, 2016.) Our goal through these listening sessions is to partner with the community in breaking down barriers to service and obtaining safe and culturally relevant responses.



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