

Dear Friends of GCADV,

We entered this fiscal year dedicated to broadening our impact on the lives of survivors of domestic violence. We stretched ourselves to think beyond the traditional models of training, advocacy, and community engagement. We spent a lot of time listening with the intent of learning. We listened to communities significantly impacted by domestic violence who felt that they did not always have a relevant voice in the movement to end violence against women. We listened to incarcerated survivors who are in desperate need of advocacy. We listened to organizations that want to partner with us in new ways to reach diverse communities about domestic violence and its impact on families. Listening to learn has sparked a deeper sense of purpose and new initiatives to ensure that we are effectively meeting the needs of all survivors and engaging a wide range of stakeholders.

The following are three new initiatives GCADV undertook in fiscal year 2016:

Community Conversations - GCADV hosted six Community Conversations in Southwest Atlanta communities to engage community members in solutions-oriented dialogue about domestic violence, resources to help community survivors, and ways to support the efforts of culturally-specific community-based domestic violence programs.

The Clemency Project - GCADV collaborated with the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, the Georgia Innocence Project, the Southern Center for Human Rights, the Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center, Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence, Cherokee Family Violence Center, and other organizations to provide post-conviction relief to battered women incarcerated and parole-eligible in Georgia's prisons.

DVAM Community Relations Campaign - GCADV partnered with Verizon and Blue Cross Blue Shield/Anthem to design and implement our inaugural *Domestic Violence Awareness Month Community Relations Campaign*. The campaign included daily social media content and intensive traditional media engagement. The campaign culminated with GCADV's inaugural *Stand Luncheon: A Movement. An Impact. A Legacy*, hosted by the Atlanta Woman's Club. The campaign enabled GCADV to reach an audience of over 2,000,000 with information about domestic violence prevention and intervention.

These projects, and others, are just the beginning. Domestic violence may not be eliminated in our lifetime, but united as one voice, we are making an impact. Thank you to those who partnered with GCADV and supported us in our work. To those who are not yet engaged with us, we invite you to join us. Bring your voice, your energy, and your ideas to the movement. To learn more about GCADV and our initiatives, please go to www.gcadv.org. Together . . . we are GCADV.



Beth Peters
GCADV Board President



Jan Christiansen

Executive Director



Snapshot of Georgia domestic violence during FY 2016

Georgia ranked 8th in the nation for the rate at which women are killed by men.

1,557 victims and children did not receive shelter due to lack of bed space.

Georgia's 46 state-certified domestic violence programs:

Answered **53,414** crisis line calls

Sheltered **5,390** victims and their children

Provided **332,110** bed nights of shelter

Conducted 2,026 community awareness & outreach events with 298,529 participants

6,000 GCADV training hours impacted 2,000 advocates who served 30,000 survivors

Advocacy

Legislative Highlight: Senate Bill 193

The Georgia Senate passed SB 193 during the 2016 legislative session. This bill helped to close a gap in existing Georgia law and gave prosecutors more tools to hold repeat domestic violence offenders accountable. Senator Charlie Bethel authored the bill after discussions with Bert Poston, District Attorney of the Conasauga Circuit. SB 193 enables local prosecutors to issue a felony charge to someone accused of family violence battery if there is a prior out-of-state conviction for the same charge. It also permits felony arrest of an offender with a past felony-level conviction against the same victim or any family violence conviction against any household member in Georgia.

GCADV worked with the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia to support this bill on behalf of domestic violence victims. GCADV educated member programs and organizations about the bill and sent action alerts to stakeholders. The Senate passed the bill on February 2, 2016, Stop Violence Against Women Day at the state Capitol. The bill became effective July 1, 2016 after it was passed by the House and signed by Governor Deal.

For more information about GCADV's public policy work go to https://gcadv.org/learn/public-policy/





Trauma-Informed Capacity Building

One of GCADV's core focus areas is training. By providing training and technical assistance, GCADV is able to support programs in meeting survivors' needs as well as working in the best interest of survivors. GCADV offers a variety of on-site training and ongoing technical assistance 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.

Trauma-Informed Capacity Building is one of the key trainings offered by GCADV. Its purpose is to support Georgia's domestic violence programs in creating trauma-informed organizations.

Trauma-informed means recognizing that people often have many different types of trauma in their lives. People who have been traumatized need support and understanding from those around them. Effective domestic violence programs have



practices in place that address these components of trauma-informed care: 1) providing survivors with information about the traumatic effects of abuse; 2) adapting programs and services to meet survivors' trauma-and mental health-related needs; 3) providing opportunities for survivors to discuss their responses to trauma; 4) providing resources and referrals to survivors; and 5) reflecting on their individual and organizational practices.

While domestic violence organizations value the principles of trauma-informed care, it's often difficult to apply the concepts to meet the unique needs of domestic violence survivors. GCADV's goal is to assist programs in assessing their organizations' trauma-informed capacity and incorporating trauma-informed practices consistently throughout their organizations.

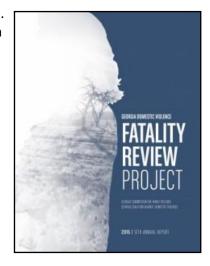
I feel that all staff have developed a new level of understanding of the struggles and challenges survivors face and how traumatic experiences have impacted their lives and influenced their decisions. The training has increased the staff's level of empathy for the survivors they work with on a daily basis. Suzanne Dow, Circle of Hope

Fatality Review Project

Trisha's Story: A Child Witness of Domestic Violence

Trisha lost her mother to a domestic violence homicide at the age of 14. Trisha is one of the 134 minor children who lost a parent or caregiver in the 100 cases reviewed by the Fatality Review Project between 2004 and 2015. In the 12th Annual Fatality Review Project Report, Trisha shares what it was like to grow up in a home witnessing the abuse of her mother, what it was like the day her mother died, and how this devastating loss impacted her throughout her life.

The annual Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project (the Project) critically examines the circumstances that precede domestic violence-related homicides, as well as gaps in service delivery that exist after the homicide occurs. This Project focused on the impact of domestic violence exposure on children, the impact that domestic violence-related homicide has on surviving children and families, and



the issue of murder-suicide and familicide. At least 12,000 children in Georgia are exposed to domestic violence annually and that exposure can have serious, long-term effects.

The Project tracked 17 familicide incidents in Georgia between 2010 and 2015 resulting in 52 deaths. In 2015, Georgia had a significant increase in domestic violence-related homicides. The Project recorded 139 domestic violence-related deaths—the highest number of deaths in the past 10 years.

The Project worked with Fatality Review Teams across the state to carefully craft recommendations that can be applied to any community. The recommendations include evaluating community resources available to families who have lost loved ones to homicide and developing protocols of outreach response to child witnesses of domestic violence and child survivors domestic violence homicide.

For more information about the Fatality Review Project or the 12th Annual Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project Report, please go to georgiafatalityreview.com.

"I hope that my mother's story can help others, and I hope anyone reading this who is in an abusive situation knows that you are important, you are beautiful, and you deserve to be loved." -Trisha, Fatality Review Project 2015

Member Voice

Supporting Domestic Violence Programs Statewide

Vanessa Wilkins is the Executive Director of Promise Place in Fayette County and also a GCADV board member. Promise Place is one of GCADV's 53 member programs across the state.

"As a survivor of domestic violence with three small children, I had to use the services of a shelter. I experienced firsthand the barriers that service providers can unintentionally create for victims who depend on them for their knowledge and expertise. Creating a safe space for survivors and their children to heal is important to me. I feel that this is critical for a successful transition from victim to survivor.



As a member program, Promise Place has access to information and trainings specific to the work we do in providing domestic violence services, educating the community about prevention, maintaining sound governance standards. GCADV's trainings help our budget tremendously as without this benefit the cost to effectively train each staff member would be prohibitive. GCADV also keeps us up to date on current legislative and policy issues that impact survivors of domestic violence."



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Member Programs 2015 - 2016

Ahimsa House, Inc.

Beverly Cunningham Outreach Program Center for Pan Asian Community Services Cherokee Family Violence Center

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Circle of Hope

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Colquitt County Serenity House

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Gateway House, Inc.

Georgia Commission on Family Violence

Georgia Latin@s Against Domestic Violence

Glynn Community Crisis Center

Harmony House Haven House

Hope Harbor

 $\label{thm:loss} \mbox{Hospitality House for Women, Inc.}$

International Women's House Liberty House of Albany

MACOSH Healing Network

Men Stopping Violence

No One Alone

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 to End Domestic

Violence

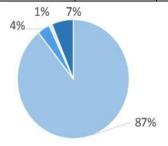
YWCA of Northwest Georgia, Inc.



Financials 2015 - 2016

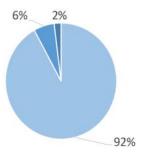
REVENUE

Government	\$1,052,908	87%
Membership	52,017	4%
Contributions	15,341	1%
Other	92,386	7%
Total Income	\$1,212,652	100%



EXPENSES

Programs	1,094,897	92%
Legislative Advocacy	26,950	2%
Administrative	73,857	6%
Total Expenses	1,195,704	100%



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Major Foundation and Corporate Support 2015-2016

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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:** Providing coordinated access to safety and support.
- Rapid-Rehousing Project: Connecting survivors to permanent housing resources.
- Fatality Review Project: Enhancing victim safety and batterer accountability through annual analysis and reporting of
 domestic violence fatalities and the gaps in prevention and intervention.
- Community Engagement: Engaging communities and stakeholders to ensure access to safe, compassionate care and justice for all victims.





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