

Network News

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence ~ 220 S. Rock Blvd., Suite 7 ~ Reno, NV 89502

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WINTER EDITION - 2008

Changes and Challenges

SUSAN MEUSCHKE, NNADV EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jimmy Buffet sings "changes in latitudes, changes in attitudes." Change provides a new world view for processing the same old, same old – making it something new. Folks at the Network are used to my mantra: "change is good, change is good," which is not always easy to hear. Change is hard. It seems to happen fast, between one breath and the next. 2007 was a year of profound personal change for me and the beginning of some fairly substantive changes for the Network.

In 2007 (as in other years) the Network experienced staff change. We said goodbye to Drew Thiesen, Catie Elzie, Camille Hayes & Shannon Kluge-Cairns. We said hello to Daela Gibson, Nina Clark, Bonnie Haney, Maria Kies, JiHye Yim, Jill Comcowich, and Ann Kent.

In 2007, the Network launched new projects like the Head Start Training of Trainers which we anticipate continuing into 2008 to provide education and outreach to Head Start staff statewide. We also embarked on a national Training and Technical Assistance Project on Court Monitoring through funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

We began initial work on our Rural Transitional Housing Project with implementation scheduled for 2008 and 2009. Other Economic Justice projects such as the implementation of a financial literacy curriculum, efforts to address issues of domestic violence in public housing, and the expansion of the Jan Evans Fund will crossover the New Year divide.

While we completed the Violence and Disability Access, Coordination and Training (V-DACT) Project, the lessons learned and the tools developed will continue to be an important part of our work in 2008. Efforts to increase accessibility to services, to change attitudes and to provide resources will continue to be part of our work in 2008 and beyond.

Our Statewide Legal Advocacy Project continues to insure that legal advocacy is available in programs throughout

the state. Last year's focus on court monitoring program development should produce concrete results this year.

Last year we helped the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence stabilize and take new flight. While we had no idea of the immensity of the work it would entail, we knew that it needed to be done, and that we were the only organization with the ability to accomplish that. We wish a bright future for the Coalition.

This year we will need to find ways to address the looming funding cuts – at the same time as we are facing increased demand for our services. How much more can we do with less? Are there other funding sources that we need to tap? Can we build a stronger funding base out of the uncertainty of last year? We will find out answers to these questions in the course of the year 2008.

This year we will watch the changes in the political landscape take shape. How will those changes impact our ability to provide services, educate providers and reach out to victims and others about the options that are available? How will those changes impact our ability to address systemic barriers to ending violence and providing better choices for victims and perpetrators?

Yet among all these changes, what doesn't change is the vision of a world without domestic violence. What doesn't change is the belief that no one deserves to be beaten.

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Network News

Changes and Challenges

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What doesn't change is the knowledge that one person can make a difference and together we can change the world.

So, as your "attitudes and latitudes" (and any other 'tudes) begin to

change, think about what remains constant. Help us change and grow while all the time working to end violence in homes throughout Nevada.

Reach out in your community, in

your state and in your nation to make sure that the hard work that goes on each day to support a survivor's right to make changes in her life doesn't take a major step back this year.

Training & Technical Assistance Overview

ELIZABETH STOFFEL, TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MANAGER

In 2007, NNADV's Training & Technical Assistance Department grew by leaps and bounds as we welcomed Daela Gibson and Jill Comcowich to the department as new staff members. We also were fortunate to recruit JiHye Yim, our intern from the UNR School of Social Work, and Ann Kent, our AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer.

As the Training & Technical Assistance Manager, I worked with local domestic violence programs on two major ongoing projects in 2007. What follows are brief updates on the status of these projects, along with our plans for 2008:

Begun 2001, the **Statewide Legal Advocacy Project (SWLAP)** provided resources to support legal advocacy projects within nine community-based domestic violence programs in Nevada. Since its inception, SWLAP has provided legal advocacy services to more than 13,000 victims in Nevada, serving more than 2,200

primary victims in 2007 alone. May presented one of the projects highlights when Marna Anderson and Dawn Dougherty, from WATCH in Minneapolis, MN, helped us facilitate a day-long court monitoring training for our legal advocates. Over the course of the next year, we will expand our work through the development of local court monitoring projects in nine local communities.

The **Economic Justice Advocacy Project** was designed to develop a more coordinated approach to issues that are significant to battered women's economic independence and safety. This project is guided by a five-year strategic plan that was developed with the assistance of a Statewide Economic Justice Task Force.

One of the highlights for this project came in September when we brought Lynn Rosenthal, consultant with the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and Sandra Park, Staff At-

torney with the ACLU Women's Rights Project, to facilitate a day-long institute on public housing issues for battered women. The institute was attended by public housing authorities, legal services providers, and domestic violence advocates. During the upcoming year, we plan to disseminate financial literacy curricula to interested local member programs.

In 2008, we will continue working on these projects, as well as leadership development, outcome evaluation, and transitional housing projects. Please call me if there is anything I can do to assist you with your advocacy efforts. I look forward to meeting with you as I travel around the state this coming year.

The SWLAP is funded by the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Program (Grant # 2004-WR-AX-0057), Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Economic Justice Advocacy Project is funded by the Altria Doors of Hope: Domestic Violence Coalitions Program, awarded by the Altria Group, Inc. and the Grants to State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Program (Grant #2004-DW-AX-0057), Office on Violence Against

Open Seats on NNADV's Board of Directors

NNADV's Board Development Committee is currently seeking qualified applicants to fill two At-Large seats on our Board of Directors. At-Large Board members serve a term of two years; each new Board member will participate in an orientation/training and a general education of NNADV's services within the first year of service. The Board meets quarterly (twice in Reno, once in Las Vegas, and once in a rural community each year). Each Board member is assigned to two committees which meet monthly by teleconference. Individuals interested in serving as an At-Large member on NNADV's Board of Directors should contact Nina Clark at the Network (775-828-1115, or ninac@nnadv.org) to receive an application form. You will also need to obtain and submit a letter of nomination from an NNADV member program. All applications must be submitted by March 30, 2008.

Ode to the Road - Staying Connected and Improving Accessibility to Services

JUDY HENDERSON, PROGRAM SPECIALIST—TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

As part of my job, I am fortunate to travel across Nevada to meet advocates from all walks of life who share a passion for helping victims of domestic violence. While traveling across northern Nevada, I can certainly relate to the isolation along highways 80 and 50 that victims may feel after they have made the decision to travel down that long road, fleeing a life filled with abuse.

While the victims are preparing for the journey, and while they are on the road trying to stay connected with family, or when they are looking for domestic violence resources in their new communities, technology is brought to the foreground, and along with it come specific safety concerns. Particularly for a victim with disabilities, using technology can give her independence, mobility, and accessibility that she did not have before. At the hands of an abuser, she is at risk of being denied all of those things.

While advocates assist a victim during the safety planning process, a discussion of technology should be included. Review the technology safety tips below provided by the National Network to End Domestic Violence, <http://www.nnedv.org>.

1. If the victim feels she is in danger, please advise her to use a safer computer that someone abusive does not have direct or remote (hacking) access to.

2. Every program's web site should have an "esc" button, so the victim can leave the site quickly. Let her know that there is always a computer trail.

3. If she thinks her activities are being monitored, they probably are—there are ways to monitor with programs like Spyware, keystroke loggers and hacking tools.

4. It is not possible to delete or clear all the "footprints" of her computer or online activities.

5. If she thinks she may be monitored on her home computer, she should be careful how she uses her computer since an abuser might become suspicious. She may want to keep using the monitored computer for normal activities, such as looking up the weather or recipes. Advise her to use a safer computer to research an escape plan, look for new jobs or apartments, bus tickets, or ask for help.

6. Email and Instant/Text Messaging (IM) are not safe or confidential ways to talk to someone about the danger or abuse in her life. If possible, advise her to call a hotline instead.

7. Computers can store a lot of private information; the emails and instant messages she sends, Internet-based phone calls she makes, web-based purchases and banking, etc.

It might be safer to use a computer in a library, or at a trusted friend's house.

8. As always, if the victim is in danger she should call 9-1-1. Remember that "corded" phones are more private and less interceptable than cordless phones or analog cell phones. Be aware that the victim may not be able to reach 9-1-1 using an Internet phone or Internet-based phone service, so she needs to be prepared to use another phone to call 9-1-1. Inform the victim where she may go to learn more about free cell phone donation programs.

If you are a new advocate, here is a list of hotline contact information:

National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE) or TTY at 1-800-787-3224

National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-4673

National Teen Dating Violence Helpline at 1-866-331-9474 or TTY 1-866-331-8453 (13-18 years of age)

Nevada Statewide Hotline at 1-800-500-1556

Technology is ever changing. To receive the latest information on safety planning techniques, please contact Judy Henderson to schedule training for your staff and volunteers at judyh@nnadv.org or call 775-828-1115 or 1-800-230-1955.

The Network News is Going Electronic!

Beginning with our Summer 2008 issue, the NNADV's quarterly newsletter will be distributed **VIA EMAIL ONLY**. To ensure your uninterrupted service, please let us know in advance of that date that you'd like to keep receiving the *Network News*, and what email address you want us to use. To sign up for your electronic subscription, email Katy Hanson at KatyH@nnadv.org under the subject heading "email newsletter," and provide your name and preferred email address. If you don't have access to a computer and would like to make arrangements to continue receiving a hard copy, please call Katy at the Network office. You can also contact Katy with questions by email, or by calling 775-828-1115 (Reno/Sparks) or 800-230-1955 (statewide).

How are we doing? The *Network News* is designed as an informative resource for advocates and other professionals working to eradicate domestic violence. Comments, suggestions, and inquiries are welcome. Contact Maria Kies at 775-828-1115 (Reno/Sparks) or 800-230-1955 (Statewide), or mariak@nnadv.org.

Foundations Series Update & Jan Evans Fund

DAELA GIBSON, PROGRAM ASSISTANT - TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

I am currently busy at work formatting the Foundations Series packets into electronic format. For those of you who are not familiar with the Foundations Series, these are information packets focused on specific topics and issues relating to the development of domestic violence advocacy programs and/or shelters. The Foundations Series packets were written and compiled from a victim empowerment perspective. This base of empowerment is clearly defined in the first paragraph of the Philosophical Foundations which is included in every Foundations Series: *“Regardless of how philosophies and practices of programs and advocates vary, they share a belief in empowerment as the cornerstone of domestic violence advocacy. Empowerment restores a victim’s power and control over her own life.”*

Foundations Series topics include confidentiality, board development, working with law enforcement, and

more. The Series offers valuable information on best practices in domestic violence service provision, and many packets also contain samples of forms.

In addition, every Foundations Series packet contains an evaluation form that we ask each recipient to fill out, giving us feedback on the packet materials. The more feedback we get, the better we can make these packets. If you are interested in obtaining any of the Foundations Series packets, please contact me, Daela, at 775-828-1115 or at daelag@nnadv.org.

Combating domestic violence in our communities, which includes challenging societal norms that enable batterers to perpetrate violence against their victims, is one of the things I am most passionate about. I have been here at NNADV for almost a year now, and I am absolutely amazed at what programs in our state accomplish despite the barriers

and obstacles victims face. I came to the Network from Crisis Call Center and I am aware of how little money is available and accessible for emergency situations when a woman is escaping a violent relationship. The Network’s Jan Evans Direct Assistance Fund is a fund set up to aid programs with a grant of less than \$500 to help a victim working to leave a violent home. These expenses could be as small as paying for a rental van to get possessions from a home, or as large as contributing to the first month’s rent at a new apartment.

The requirements and turnaround time for the Fund are minimal, making it easily accessible. But, this fund depends solely on donations. I am encouraging everyone to send some money to the Jan Evans Direct Assistance Fund; encourage your friends and family to do the same! Even a donation of \$5 or \$10 would be very helpful. Who knows what lifeline it could offer to a woman struggling to stay alive?

Court Monitoring & Rural Legal Advocacy Projects

JILL COMCOWICH, PROGRAM SPECIALIST - TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

This new year fills me with such hope, and I embrace it with great optimism. I am working on an exciting project at the Network. Earlier this year, we received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) to develop a court monitoring technical assistance and training program.

Court monitoring provides a systematic way of examining how the civil or criminal justice system provides for the safety of victims of domestic violence and holds the perpetrators of such violence accountable. Through courtroom observations of the case handling and outcomes of individual domestic violence cases, court monitoring programs can be an effective part of a coordinated com-

munity response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence cases.

Through the NNADV Court Monitoring Project, select statewide coalitions will receive training, expertise, and problem-solving strategies to help them determine whether court monitoring is a tool that can be used within their state, and how to implement this type of tool locally, regionally, or statewide. NNADV has been working with OVW to develop an application process for statewide coalitions to receive technical assistance and training. This next year will be a busy one for the project once the recipients are identified.

As part of its Statewide Legal Advocacy Project, the NNADV will continue working with local domestic violence programs to develop court monitoring projects in their communities that seek to increase victim safety and offender accountability. These projects will be developed in such a way as to build confidence in the community that court monitoring efforts are impartial and designed to help identify problems in the criminal and/or civil justice system response to domestic violence, and to offer solutions to those problems.

I wish you all happiness, health, love, and friendship this new year. And, I look forward to working together with you to make change happen.

GET INVOLVED!

NNADV is a grassroots organization funded by members (annual fees plus member program contributions), grants, and private donations. Financial support is always welcome. Cash or in-kind gifts are accepted throughout the year and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

My Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____

Email: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE:

- To the **Jan Evans Direct Assistance Fund (JEDAF)**; check enclosed
- One time cash gift; check enclosed
- Supplies (copy paper, postage stamps, etc.)
- Equipment or Services: _____

Annual pledge, payment as specified:

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Semi-annually

I would like to become a member, renew my membership, or sponsor a new member!

- \$35.00 Individual Membership fee
- \$10.00 Student/Retired/Limited Income Individual Membership fee
- \$200.00 Organizational Membership fee

Please specify:

- New member
- Membership renewal
- Gift membership for (please fill in below; feel free to use separate sheet for additional names):

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER!

Phone: () _____

Best hours/days to call: _____

Please mail this donation/membership coupon and check(s), payable to Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV), to:

NEVADA NETWORK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
220 S. ROCK BLVD., SUITE 7
RENO, NEVADA 89502

THANKS!

STATEWIDE STATISTICS*

First Quarter FY 2007-08

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTACTS: 14,142

◆ First Time:	9,466	◆ Telephone:	6,201
◆ Repeat:	3,747	◆ Face to Face:	7,941
◆ Follow Up:	929		14,142
	14,142		

BEDNIGHTS:

	Adults	Bdnts.	Children	Bdnts.	Total Adults & Children	Total Bdnts.
◆ Shelter	307	6,336	355	8,214	662	14,550
◆ Safe Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0
◆ Em. Motel	39	123	36	140	75	263
◆ Carry Over	0	0	0	0	0	0
◆ T. Housing	8	537	5	330	13	867
TOTAL:	354	6,996	396	8,684	750	15,680

TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIMARY VICTIMS: 9,466

STATISTICS:

Age:	Female	Male	Race:	
0-12	6	5	Caucasian	3,443
13-17	70	10	African-American	668
18-29	1,906	196	Hispanic	2,090
30-44	2,473	352	Native American	74
45-64	1,163	234	Asian/Pacific Islander	258
65+	147	31	Unknown	2,862
Unknown	2,843	30	Mixed	71
TOTAL	8,608	858	TOTAL	9,466

LOCATION:

Carson	500	Lyon	45
Churchill	1	Mineral	138
Clark	4,791	Nye	77
Douglas	120	Pershing	4
Elko	54	Storey	2
Esmeralda	1	Washoe	2,012
Eureka	0	White Pine	0
Humboldt	5	Unknown	1,672
Lander	2	Out of State	39
Lincoln	3	TOTAL	9,466

*The Statewide Statistics were compiled from quarterly reports submitted by Domestic Violence programs in Nevada.

Network News is a quarterly publication of NNADV

220 S. Rock Blvd., Ste. 7 Reno, NV 89502 www.nnadv.org

Issue Date: January 22, 2007 #2007-1

Circulation: 5800—Subscriptions: some are resold at the right price.

Editor/Design/Layout: Bonnie Haney and Judy Herndon

Contributing Editors: Bonnie Haney, Judy Herndon, Jim Mcmorrow, Angela C. ...

Bonnie Haney, Judy Herndon, Ken ...

THANKS!

...TO OUR NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007

INDIVIDUALS:

Roger & Leslie Simon	Grace Davis	Nick Poulsen
Byllie D'Amato Andrews	Nancy Dallas	Kareen Prentice
Lynne Broyle De'Tomas	Linda W. Peterson	Flossie Redd
Joe & Mouryne Dini	Linda M. Gardner	Paula Riley
Martha & Jon Greene	Elynn Greene	Victoria Riley
Patricia Ricciuti Brown	Donna Hall	Sherryl Sanders
Paul Edwards	Bonnie Haney	Maggie Tracey
Rosemary Flores	Judy Humphrey	Cathy Camp
Veronica Thronson	Julio Landero	Richard Cook
Ruby White-Starr	Kathryn Landreth	Estelle Bianchi
Ruth Pearson Urban	Charles McGee	Mary Boyce

TO THOSE WHO GAVE TO OUR HOLIDAY APPEAL:

Patricia Brown	Marylue Griffin
Cathy G. Camp	Jean Perry Joans & Alan Bernhard
Dawn Cox	Mazie Harris Jesse
Dr. Curtis & Teresa Brown	Denise Laxalt
Ellen Buckley	Terry L. McCaskill M.D.
Frankie Sue Del Papa	Sher Muhonen
Renee Diamond	Arnold Pitts, DDS
Jerry & Clare Dye	Victoria Riley
Charlene Eley	Leonard & Marjorie Robinson
Harland & Angela Embree	Meri Shadley
Rosemary Flores	Richard Steinberg
Ona Flowers	Dante & Theresa Vacca
Gov. Jim & Mrs. Gibbons	Angela Wood
Annie Greco	Wal-Mart Carson City
Teri Weathers	Thornton Enterprises
Judith Wright	Sisters of our Lady of Mt. Carmel

ORGANIZATIONS:

Clark County Legal Services
Fallon Police Department
Office of the Attorney General

TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS, THANK YOU!

Linda Reeves	Joan Handling
Stella Barkhurst	Marilyn Horton
Brett Butler	Ester Johnson
Michael Coggeshall	Lynn Kearney
Annie Greco	Wendy Long

TO THOSE WHO GAVE TO OUR BIRTHDAY APPEAL:

Ed & Barbara Johnson
Mary Lee Fulkerson

TO JAN EVANS FUND DONORS:

Meredith Mayeroff
Sharon Chandler & Susan Kohlieber
Patrick & Susanne Riley
Joan S. Zenan

TO OUR R.S.V.P. VOLUNTEERS:

Irene Gallon
Elaine Householder
Flo Martin
Rose Patterson
Marge Rector

TO THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE NETWORK:

AT&T
Cynthia Bagunu
Cathy Camp
Richard Cook
Grace Davis
Annie Greco
Veronica Thronson
Carol Estabillio
Joe & Mouryne Dini
Rosemary Flores
Roger & Leslie Simon

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

1-800-799-7233 /
1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Economic Justice Advocacy Project

ANN KENT, VISTA VOLUNTEER

I was sworn in as a VISTA Volunteer during a ceremony following the VISTA orientation in Provo, Utah with approximately 150 other VISTAs on November 29, 2007. This orientation was the best I have ever attended. It was informative with a good amount of interaction and stimulation. It is now my honor to join NNADV for one year as a VISTA for the Economic Justice Advocacy Project.

As the Economic Justice Advocate, I will address issues that are significant to battered women's economic independence and safety. The five-year strategic plan that has been set in place will guide my duties as this year

progresses. It's been my heartfelt desire to help and give back to the community that came to my aid when I was a victim of domestic violence. I want to make a difference as part of the NNADV and the domestic violence movement, and am especially committed to helping victims/survivors of abuse.

I retired from Federal Government work in May of this year after almost 19 years with the Department of Veteran's Affairs and the Department of Interior. In the mid-80's I spent about nine months as a VISTA Domestic Violence Advocate accompanying victims to court for Orders of Protection and Injunctions Prohibiting Harassment.

I've been a two-time breast cancer survivor; 1980 and 1993. I've experienced the poverty threshold standards set by the government a few times, which bestows me with the empathy and understanding toward others that is needed in my position. Reno has been my home for 12 years. I'm a transplant from the Chicago area, via a 16-year residence in Phoenix, Arizona. I have two daughters and four grandchildren, as well as two brothers in the Chicago area. I use my spare time traveling, walking and keeping in touch with family by way of many evening phone calls. May 2008 be all you hope it to be.

NNADV's Education & Outreach Efforts

KATY HANSON, EDUCATION & OUTREACH MANAGER

In my last article for NNADV's Network News, I mentioned that 2007 was going to be a transitional year for us here at the Network—and we have certainly had our fair share of change over this past year!

The Education & Outreach Department now includes myself plus two full-time staff members. Nina Clark has been serving as the Program Assistant: Education & Outreach at NNADV since August—she oversees the Resource Center and all that comes with it, including the Advocate Certificate of Achievement Program. In the coming months, she will be taking over some additional duties, such as maintenance of NNADV's mailing list, and organization of our volunteer pool. If you need brochures, posters, information packets, a book or video, give Nina a call—she is always happy to help.

We welcomed Maria Kies, who has taken over as the Program Specialist: Education and Outreach, in September. Maria will be working closely with me on many of the duties

of the Education and Outreach Department, including this newsletter and its Spanish language counterpart, *Noticias de la Red*, NNADV's media initiative, and our Monthly Email Alert for Member Programs.

At the end of September 2007 NNADV again held our Statewide Domestic Violence Conference. This 14th annual event, this year entitled "Focus on Tomorrow," was held at the Circus Circus Hotel/Casino in Reno. The conference was a great success this year, with an attendance of almost 200 domestic violence advocates, counselors, legal and health care professionals, and many more.

Thank you to all the speakers and attendees, as well as to the NNADV staff and Board of Directors for their participation in the 2007 conference!

As I look forward to 2008, there is yet more change on the horizon: beginning with our Summer 2008 issue, the *Network News* newsletter will be distributed via email only. So,

to ensure your uninterrupted service, please let me know as soon as possible that you'd like to keep receiving the *Network News*, and what email address you want us to use—email me at KatyH@nnadv.org under the subject heading "email newsletter," and provide your name and preferred email address. If you don't have access to a computer and would like to continue receiving a hard copy of the newsletter, please contact me and we can make special arrangements for you.

As I begin yet another year here at NNADV, I know that our work will continue to be guided by the needs of the hard-working and dedicated domestic violence advocates across the state, and the domestic violence victims and survivors that they serve. I'm excited to see where this work will take us over the next year, and look forward to sharing our successes and challenges with you all as we travel through 2008 together.

From the Resource Center ...

NINA CLARK, PROGRAM ASSISTANT - EDUCATION & OUTREACH

I am a native Nevadan. Yet I was somewhat hesitant about returning to the state after being away for roughly 20 years. Though it has taken me some time to see the beauty of the desert and the cascading mountains around me, I can truly say that the journey has been interesting. Furthermore, it has provided me with experiences that have been life changing. One of the new experiences that brought me joy this summer was working in the garden by the moonlight. I have learned once again, "Never to say never"!

I started as a full time employee on January 2, 2008. My duties vary but

the main focus of my responsibilities is to maintain the resource center. I work with community agencies and advocates providing various resource materials. I maintain the Network's lending library that includes books, videos, manuals, and the Network's Information Packets.

I have worked with families and children my entire career, lately with Head Start, both in Oregon and California, working as an Education Assistant/Librarian. I have worked in different capacities providing educational training and resources pertaining to Early Childhood Education and Quality Child Care. My love of reading

and gaining more knowledge has made this work with educational resources a perfect fit. My passion remains strong and the rewards for working with families and children are too numerous to count.

In my spare time I enjoy gardening, sun bathing, water sports, and traveling. I hope someday to retire to Mexico on the Baja coast. I feel at home at the Network and enjoy working with a great group of positive women who feel the passion in the services that are provided regarding domestic violence.

Project Updates - Education & Outreach

MARIA KIES, PROGRAM SPECIALIST - EDUCATION & OUTREACH

As a recent addition to the Network staff, I would like to take a brief moment to introduce myself. I was born and raised in northern Finland, surrounded by beautiful forests and strong, dedicated women. I have always felt a strong passion toward feminism, equality and human rights. I feel that working in a non-profit organization dedicated to the eradication of domestic violence and to endorsing positive social change, has been a natural continuation as well as a wonderful opportunity for me to become part of the movement.

During the last quarter, I have accrued most of the previous Education and Outreach Program Specialist's duties. The majority of my ongoing tasks form an integral part of the Network's interaction with the domestic violence advocates, local agencies, and the community at large. Keeping people informed and connected is an ever-changing and challenging task, in which input is essential. Interaction is by definition a multidimensional affair, and your feedback is always greatly appreciated. While you enjoy the winter season and the cozy, wrapped-in-a-blanket nights, I want to encourage you to keep your eye on the media, and share your thoughts with us about how to best

direct our message of ending domestic violence to the public.

As most of you know, NNADV's Resource Library provides the most recent information available on issues concerning domestic violence. Our latest addition to the series of Information Packets for victims and advocates is centered on the topic of diversity. Creating the packet and working in collaboration with program directors and community members has been an exceptionally educational and fascinating venture. In the process, I have gained a more profound understanding of the different obstacles, barriers and oppressions people from marginalized and underserved communities are facing. I am confident that every step taken on the path toward a truly egalitarian society will in the end result in a less violent environment for all.

Among other projects, the Education & Outreach Department staff is in the process of revising the Advocate Certificate (AC) Program. We would like to congratulate those students who have completed their course of studies, and encourage those who are currently completing coursework. The AC Program is a

distance-education curriculum designed by NNADV for individuals working with people affected by domestic violence. Through the course of studies, participants have the ability to fortify their understanding of this issue, as well as to accrue new tools and ideas on how to improve their responses to abuse. As we now have roughly 30 active students, we are able to enroll new students swiftly. Please contact Nina or myself, Maria, at the Network if you are interested in enrolling or have any further questions about the Advocate Certificate Program.

At the moment I am impatiently waiting for yet another winter storm, the snow and dark skies. After witnessing just three seasons in Nevada, I am falling in love with it more and more – and the spring is yet to come! Please let me know if you have any special needs – contact me at the Network via email at mariak@nnadv.org or at 775-828-1115. I am looking forward to a great year of collaboration with all of you.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2007-WF-AX-0016, awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

National Domestic Violence Hotline Calls: Nevada Demographics

The National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) is a project of the Texas Council on Family Violence in Austin, Texas. NDVH (1-800-799-SAFE/7233 or 1-800-787-3224 TTY) provides empowerment-based crisis intervention, information, and referral to victims of domestic violence and their friends and families. NDVH and ndvh.org operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in over 150 different languages; a TTY line is also available for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing. All calls to the Hotline are anonymous.

During fiscal year 2007, the National Domestic Violence Hotline received a total of 1,990 contacts from callers in Nevada. Of these calls, 1,381 (69.4% of the total number of Nevada calls) came directly from victims/survivors of domestic violence. 257 of these calls (12.91%) were from family/friends, and 95 (4.77%) were from batterers. 1,794 calls (90.15% of the total) were from females, and 188 calls (9.45%) came from males.

Individuals age 25-35 years made 517 calls to the Hotline from Nevada (25.98% of the total), while callers age 36-45 years made 329 calls (16.53% of the total). 18-24 year olds called 187 times (9.4% of the total), and 46-55 year olds called 151 times (7.59% of the total). The majority of calls made to the Hotline from Nevada came from the Las Vegas area—1,396 calls (or 70.15% of the total); 206 calls (10.35%) came from the Reno area; 119 calls (5.98%) came from Henderson; and, 44 calls (2.21%) came from Carson City. *(Continued on page 9)*

NNADV's Administrative Department

GRACE BUTLER, OFFICE MANAGER

This is always an exciting time of year as we have finished the work around our conference and head into the New Year. We are now able to report on the progress the Network has made, and focus again on what we want to make of the upcoming year.

During our conference we sold many new items and were able to raise funds in our silent auction, which is always beneficial to our cause (not to mention fun, too!). Thanks so much to all of our wonderful volunteers who gave so tirelessly to help make this year's silent auction a success!

We have had a couple of changes that are both exciting and sad.

The exciting part is adding Bonnie Haney to our staff as our accounting assistant. Bonnie came to the Network with a strong office background, which enables us to work more productively, and to help focus on more projects. Having Bonnie on board has allowed me to free up some of my time from the general bookkeeping of the Network, to finding more grant funding and to working more closely on budgets. This is an exciting endeavor for me, as I always enjoy the financial part of my job, as well as the writing.

The sad part is seeing Shannon leave the Network after so many years of service. Shannon has been a wonderful part of the Network

staff, and will be sorely missed.

With each year, I get more optimistic about the new members and organizations joining the Network. I would challenge each of you to get involved with the Network either through donation of your time, or through a financial donation – both are critical to the success of NNADV. If you are interested in serving on our fundraising committee, please feel free to give me a call – we are always looking for new, fresh ideas. Lastly, I'd like to recognize Martha Drohobyczer for giving thanks with NNADV for her happy memories.

As always, thanks for being an integral part of the Network!

BONNIE HANEY, ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

I started at the Network in September as an accounting assistant. I believe that coming to the Network has been a true blessing for me. I have always wanted to be able to make a living doing something that will make a difference in this world. After working in a title company, in the foreclosure world, it feels wonderful to contribute to such a great cause, and be in the same room with other truly dedicated women.

My family consists of my husband Rick and our rescued, spoiled little beagle, Beajo. Rick and I both grew up in Rockford, Illinois, and have traveled up and down the east coast for eight years with the Navy. My background is in civil service and I

had my first civilian job with the title company in Reno in 2004. My husband and I came to Reno the first time from southern Maryland in 2004, and stayed until 2006 before being transferred to Tennessee. We were transferred back here in April 2006.

Since I have started working at the Network, a whole new world has opened up for me. I was hired to help Grace Butler with NNADV's accounting functions. I have also been learning with Shannon Kluge-Cairns about some of the duties of the administrative assistant, which I have accrued since she left. In the future I hope to have an opportunity to help out the other departments, and see how they work toward the very im-

portant cause of eliminating domestic violence. My niece was a victim of domestic violence and working at NNADV has helped me to understand more about what she must have gone through.

In my spare time, Rick and I love to go to the different shows all over town. My husband is part of the Masterworks Chorale and Reno Philharmonic singing groups, so we are involved with them as well. We hope to travel to more places here on the West Coast. My thanks to the great group of women in this office, for making me feel so welcome. I am anxious to see what the future holds for me here.

National Domestic Violence Hotline Calls: Nevada Demographics *Continued from page 8*

In regards to call outcomes, the majority of National Domestic Violence Hotline calls coming from Nevada were given a referral—1,524 calls, or 76.58% of the total number of calls; 656 individuals (32.96%) were assisted with safety planning, and 491 individuals (24.67%) were given crisis intervention services.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline and Liz Claiborne Inc. also operate loveisrespect.org the *National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline (NTDAH)*, a 24-hour national web-based and telephone helpline created to help teens (ages 13-18) experiencing dating abuse. Teens and parents anywhere in the country can call toll free: 866-331-9474, or log on to the interactive Web site, loveisrespect.org, and receive immediate, confidential assistance.



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