

## ***Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence***

# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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### **HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN – HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL**

**Reno, NV**—the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence joins human rights organizations around the world celebrating November 25<sup>th</sup> as the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**. This day also marks the beginning of the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign**, which ends on December 10<sup>th</sup>, the **International Day of Human Rights**. The 16 Day Campaign links violence against women with human rights, emphasizing that such violence is a violation of basic human rights.

Women and young girls are subject to many forms of human rights violations solely on the basis of their gender. At least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten or abused in her lifetime, most often by a member of her family or someone she knows. In Nevada, women are subject to violence in their homes at alarming numbers: during these next 16 days, Nevada's domestic violence hotlines will receive 2,432 calls for help; during that same period, women and children fleeing a violent home will spend 2,720 nights in shelter provided by a local domestic violence program.\*

As Nevada's domestic violence agencies honor the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**, we urge communities across the state to take part in the work here at home: donate to your local domestic violence program, volunteer at the shelter, "adopt-a-family" to share the spirit of the holiday season, or tell your friend that violence against women is wrong.

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\* These numbers represent a projection based on statistics collected from Nevada's domestic violence agencies by the National Network to End Domestic Violence: *Domestic Violence Counts: 07*, NNEDV 2008. See attached.

The 16 Days Campaign will end on the **International Day of Human Rights**, December 10, 2008. On that day, the world will celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, completes, “Violence against women continues to persist as one of the most heinous, systematic and prevalent human rights abuses in the world. It is a threat to all women, and an obstacle to all our efforts for development, peace and gender equality in all societies.”

This historic event presents a valuable opportunity to educate our communities about human rights. The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence invites the media to join domestic violence advocates as they exhort, “Human Rights for Women – Human Rights for All”, insisting that everyone is entitled to a life free of violence and fear, regardless of one’s gender.

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***About [NNADV](#):***

*The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence was founded in 1980 to work toward the elimination of domestic and sexual violence against all persons. As Nevada’s statewide domestic violence coalition, NNADV is an inclusive network that supports its member programs, and educates the public at large. Our agency is based in Reno, but our member programs span the entire state. Affiliated agencies include: Advocates to End Domestic Violence of Hawthorne, ALIVE of Yerington, Committee Against Domestic Violence of Elko, Committee to Aid Abused Women of Reno, Domestic Violence Intervention of Fallon, Domestic Violence Intervention of Lovelock, Safe Embrace of Reno, S.A.F.E. House of Henderson, Safe Nest of Las Vegas, Tahoe Women’s Services of Incline Village, and Winnemucca Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc. Provisional members include: Family Support Council of Minden, and NO TO ABUSE of Pahrump.*