Mission

The mission of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence is to end personal and institutional violence in the lives of women, children and men.

The WVCADV works to transform social, cultural, and political attitudes through public awareness, policy development, community organizing, education and advocacy in ways that promote values of respect, mutuality, accountability and non-violence in local, statewide, national and global communities.

Staff

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Board of Directors

Patricia Bailey, Women's Resource Center, Beckley
Marissa Collett, Lighthouse, Inc., Weirton, Vice-Chair
Debra Fair, Lighthouse, Inc., Weirton
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Amanda McComas, Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, Huntington
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Teresa Shumate, Shenandoah Women's Center, Martinsburg, (Interim)
Harriet Sutton, Hope, Inc., Fairmont, Treasurer
Marcia White, Women’s Aid In Crisis, Elkins
Joyce Yedlosky & Tonia Thomas, Coalition Statewide Office, Elkview
We have continued to strengthen our efforts in the area of public awareness by educating the public as we work to change the attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate violence.

Funding was allocated to print and update some of our awareness materials, on understanding the impact of domestic violence on adults and children, outreach to victims in later life, safety planning cards and understanding dating violence and healthy relationships. Additionally, the Verizon Foundation graciously provided funding for re-design of our website and develop a media guide to maintain website and social media communications. The new website design will launch in early 2015. Our public awareness efforts all reflect our priority to ensure that the public knows about the life-saving services provided by our 14 licensed programs across the state.

Domestic Violence Prevention Day at the Legislature
In partnership with the WV Women’s Commission, WVCADV held its annual Domestic Violence Prevention Day at the Legislature. Advocates, board members, allies, and survivors met with their state legislators to talk about the importance of domestic and sexual violence services.

Morgantown High Students who participated in DV Day

WVCADV Funding
In a difficult budget year for our state, state funding for licensed domestic violence program grants and child prevention and advocacy program was cut in the Governor's budget. Collaborative advocacy with the legislators achieved bipartisan support and restoration of the cut funds. However, the governor used line item veto power to cut the funds again. Collaborative advocacy continued including press releases, media interviews and hundreds of advocates, children and families flooding the capitol with their message to restore needed funds. Legislators overwhelmingly supported the restoration of the funds through a special session utilizing excess lottery funds to pay for the cut funds.

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Related Issues that Completed Legislation:

- A federal court case decision defined a standard required for federal enforcement of domestic violence provisions. The state definition of battery and domestic battery was revised to match the federal standard.
- The passage of the “emergency interruption” bill created new misdemeanor offense when someone prevents a legitimate call to emergency services.
- The new development of a SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Commission to develop a protocol for sexual assault forensic exams in every county.
- A new restriction of parental rights for child custody/visitation when the child is conceived as a result of sexual assault.
- Victim Compensation Fund provisions were amended to: add sexual assault forensic exams as a qualifying report to receive funds; extend time frame for reporting to 96 hours; increase amount of relocation costs; permitting use of autopsy reports; and requiring criminal charges be filed to receive claim “unless the claimant is an adult or no criminal charges were filed for reasons other than the desire of the claimant and a law enforcement agency confirms that the available evidence supports a finding that a crime occurred”
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Advisory Council
The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Advisory Council, a statewide collaboration of domestic violence advocates, activist and members from allied organizations, came together to address domestic violence within the LGBT community. LGBT Advisory Council activities included:
- Participation in quarterly meetings and conference calls.
- Organization of Pride Parade and Festival activities.
- Education on issues and policy initiatives pertaining to LGBT communities.

Advocacy of Color Network (ACN)
The Advocacy of Color Network (ACN), a statewide network of activists and allies who identify as a person of color, continued to provide guidance to the Coalition to enhance the quality of culturally specific services to victims of domestic violence and to undo racism and other forms of oppression. ACN participated in the following activities:
- Quarterly meetings and conference calls.
- Coordination of the Stand Against Racism statewide event.
- The Women of Color Network (WOCN) Training and Technical Assistance Project. This project launched the WOCN Leadership Opportunities within the domestic violence field for members of underrepresented groups. WOCN selected five advocates from West Virginia to participate in this project. Three advocates to participate in the WOCN Leadership Academy and two advocates to participate in Aspiring Allies Project.

WVCADV White Aspiring Allies Group (WAAG)
WVCADV supports the work of the Advocacy of Color Network. We value the work, thought, experience, insight, guidance, leadership and challenge provided by members of the Advocacy of Color Network WVCADV is committed to strengthening non-violent communication between and among us; to facilitating ongoing dialogue on racism and oppression; to increasing anti-racism efforts, policy and practice within the workplace; to creating safety in the workplace, at meetings, etc. This group will meet periodically via conference calls and in-person venues. The WAAG will work in conjunction with the Advocacy of Color Network.

WVCADV educated 3,530 individuals in 24 trainings in 2013-2014
WVCADV provided statewide and community-based training to help advocates and allied professionals strengthen their supportive services to survivors. WVCADV offered 24 free separate training events that engaged 3,530 participants throughout West Virginia.

One of our major focuses continues to be the strategic enhancement of professional development opportunities available through WVCADV’s Advocate Certification Project. The Certification Project is dedicated to assisting people with obtaining the education they need to become valuable members of the domestic violence response in West Virginia. Trainings are comprised of basic and advanced workshops to best accommodate the varying degrees of professional experience held by those who serve anyone impacted by domestic violence.
WVCADV FY2013-2014 Expenditures

Contracts: Professional and Agencies $236,250  Program, Legal Aid of WV, and Training and other Contractual Services
Travel/Training $130,553  Training Mileage, Meals, etc, Staff Travel, WVCADV Meetings, and Committee Travel
Programmatic Salaries/Benefits $294,073  All Salary Except Administrative
Administrative Salaries/Benefits $72,196  Finance Manager and % of Team Coordinators
Public Awareness $6,000  Public Awareness and Printing
Occupancy Costs $135,046  Costs of running office: Lease, Utilities, Phone, Postage, Office Supplies, All others
Assistance to Victims/Miscellaneous $25,222  Empowerment Fund, Fundraising, and Miscellaneous
Total Expenses $899,341

WVCADV FY2013-2014 Income

Federal Grants $659,028  LAV, DVSA, STOP, RURAL, FVPSA, and GTEA
State Grants $169,963  State DV, DHHR CPS Training, and Legal Services To Domestic Violence Victims
Private Foundations $41,414  Claude W Benedum, Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Verizon
Contributions $100,846  Individual, Corporate Contributions, Donations of Microsoft Software
Other Income $45,649  Interest, Speaking Fees, Certification, Fundraising
Total Income $1,016,901
Highlights from
The West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV) was incorporated in 1981. In 1988 the Board of Directors hired two Team Coordinators to staff the organization. Today the Coalition employs a staff of seven employees, contracts with a Technology Team of two, and holds working agreements with other professionals and agencies.

Comprised of fourteen autonomous, licensed domestic violence programs and a Coalition statewide office, WVCADV recognizes the critical need to forge strong links between advocates in the battered women's movement and professionals in other agencies and organizations throughout the state. Every aspect of the Coalition's intervention, prevention, and social change work includes an analysis of the impact of oppression in peoples' lives and in creating viable options for safety.