Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

January 30, 2009

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1. Please RSVP by Monday, February 2 for the next Sexual Violence Prevention Network meeting

Please RSVP by Monday, February 2 for the next Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN) meeting, on Friday, February 6, 2009 (e-mail amy.kenzie@state.mn.us)

Join us for the next SVPN meeting on:
Friday, February 6, 2009
9:50 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Snelling Office Park
1645 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul, MN.
Directions: http://www.health.state.mn.us/about/sop.html#location

Topic: What does PREA have to do with me?

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress in 2004. The purpose of PREA is to shed light on and address this very common but overlooked issue. PREA directs states to create victim-centered responses to victims of sexual assault while incarcerated and to develop strategies to prevent prison rape.

The Department of Corrections has focused energy on implementing PREA guidelines in Minnesota: all

prison staff in the eight adult and two juvenile facilities have been trained on the basics of sexual assault/violence; investigative officers have had specialized 40 hours of training in investigating sexual assaults; facility based SART teams recently spent two days with DOC staff and MNCASA designing their response protocols.

What does this have to do with me? We know that the effects of violence within prisons affects more than the prison environment. The vast majority of MN inmates return to their communities and unaddressed physical and emotional health issues of victimization can be the catalyst for ongoing problems and challenges.

Lydia Newlin, DOC Victim Liaison, and Collin Gau, Minnesota Correctional Facility, St. Cloud, will talk about the culture change that is underway in Minnesota prisons, the work of PREA to date, and the vision for preventing prison sexual assault.

Lunch will be provided (no charge) however, an RSVP is Required (by Wednesday, February 4)
Contact Amy Kenzie at amy.kenzie@state.mn.us
Please note: requests for special accommodations must be made by Tuesday, January 27.
(Please provide name, telephone number and type of accommodation needed to Amy Kenzie)

Agenda:
9:50 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Registration
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Welcome, Introductions
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 – Prevention Overview
10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. – Presentation
12:15 p.m. - 12:45 - Lunch and small group discussions
12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. – Prevention Action Activities
1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Resource Sharing, Networking, Wrap up and Evaluations

(Please be sure to bring resources to announce/share)

ANYONE interested in or working in the field of sexual violence prevention is WELCOME TO ATTEND

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2. No More Victims: How we can reduce sex crimes in our communities, February 3, 2009

An innovative, new strategy, with proven results to reduce rates of sexual reoffending, is underway – the Minnesota Circles of Support and Accountability (MnCoSA) project.

Learn about MnCoSA and issues related to sex offenders in Minnesota at a free, informational evening on February 3, 2009. This event is hosted by the MN Department of Corrections and Amicus, both committed to improving public safety by helping people change their lives.

MnCoSA emphasizes relationship-based approaches where volunteers “walk with” an offender as he/she is released from prison and reenters society. On February 3rd, attendees will have an opportunity to learn about the various categories of sex offenders, their post-release lives and challenges, and how community

members may get involved as trained MnCoSA volunteers to help work toward the goal of “no more victims.” Participants will be able to ask questions of staff, current volunteers and others working with MnCoSA.

Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to Joann Dillavou 651-361-7593 jdillavou@fs.doc.state.mn.us . To learn more about MnCoSA visit: www.doc.state.mn.us/volunteer/mncosa.htm

When: Tuesday, February 3, 2009
Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Where: MN Department of Corrections, West Entrance, Lower Level, Itasca Room, 1450 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul, MN 55108

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3. Men’s Rally at the Capitol, February 11, 2009

Men’s Rally at the Capitol. Sponsored by: Minnesota Men’s Action Network: Alliance to Prevent Sexual & Domestic Violence (MNMAN), in support of the 2009 Action Day to End Violence Against Women. Help to create a violence free Minnesota by providing safety, promoting justice, and preventing harm for women and children.

February 11, 2009
11:00 a.m.
South steps of MN State Capitol

For more information on the Minnesota Men’s Action Network, please visit:
www.menaspeacemakers.org/programs/mnman

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4. A benefit for the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC), March 19, 2009

A benefit for the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC) at the home of : Raymond and Kathy Berlin rbklb@earthlink.net , 437 Oak Creek Drive So., Vadnais Heights, MN, 55127

Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 7:00 9:00 PM.

Featured Speakers: Suzanne Koepplinger, MIWRC Executive Director and Lindy Liphart, MIWRC Healing Journey Participant

MIWRC is a non-profit organization providing excellent work in improving the lives of American Indian women. Featured by Twin Cities Public Television in an award winning documentary, this organization is key to providing life-changing services to women and their children struggling to overcome barriers to success.

Please come for an evening of social networking, a brief presentation about the work of MIWRC,

and some light refreshments.

This will be a good opportunity to learn about aspects of our community that we generally don't hear about in the media; the obstacles to success many American Indian women face and how some have found the resources and support to overcome them.

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5. First Strike: Connecting Domestic Violence and Animal Cruelty, March 27, 2009

A Community Approach to Confronting Abuse
Hosted by the Link Coalition of Minnesota and Humane Society University

Abuse and violence do not occur in a vacuum. Many times signs of domestic violence will show on the faces of multiple members in the household - spouses, children, the elderly, and the pets. Additionally, the acts of violence committed by the perpetrator often reach beyond one agency's focus and will affect many agencies simultaneously.

Learn how inter-agency communication and cross-training benefits everyone's primary mission: protecting victims and preventing violence. Find out what resources already exist in your community and how to utilize them to help prevent and eliminate abuse and violence.

Workshop Topics:
- The Connection between Interpersonal Violence and Animal Cruelty: An Overview
- Animal Cruelty Investigations and Safe Haven Programs
- Domestic Violence Dynamics
- Tales Kids Tell
- Building Community Collaborations
- Discussion Forum

Date/Time: Friday, March 27, 2009, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Cornerstone (in the Special Events Room), 1000 East 80th Street, Bloomington, MN 55420

Tuition: Early Bird Rate: $75 (ends February 20, 2009)
Regular Rate: $85 (register by March 13, 2009)
Register early - Space is limited. (Cancellation fee is 25% of the registration fee. No refunds will be given after March 20, 2009.)

Humane Society University reserves the right to cancel this workshop due to low enrollment.
To learn more and to register, please visit
http://www.humanesocietyu.org/workshops_and_classes/first_strike_mn.html.
For More Information, please contact Frances Gaeta at Fgaeta@humanesociety.org or 301-548-7731.

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6. From Dr. Seuss to Porn: Countering Normalization of Sexual Harm, April 21, 2009

Living in a sexually toxic society means we're all affected and desensitized, to varying degrees, in both our personal and professional lives. To be effective, prevention requires recognition of these problems, as both a public health and public safety concern, as well as engaging others who care about children's and society's health. This session includes activities for discussion and action planning.

Attend this workshop and learn:
- To understand the normalization of sexual harm and its relevance to prevention.
- To identify four factors that normalize sexual harm
- To identify three actions for prevention.

Presenter: Cordelia Anderson

April 21, 2009, 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Schwan's Center — At National Sports Center
1700 105 Ave. NE, Blaine, MN 55449

Cost: $25. Certificates of attendance available.
For more information contact:
Donna McDonald — Violence Prevention Coordinator, Anoka County Community Health Department
763.422.7047, donna.mcdonald@co.anoka.mn.us

About Cordelia Anderson:
Cordelia Anderson has over 30 years of experience promoting healthy development for children and preventing harmful behaviors. Her expertise has earned her national recognition as a speaker and consultant. She is a board member of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and she has appeared on local and national media programs, including the Oprah Winfrey show.

Sponsored by the Anoka County Child Abuse Prevention Council and Connexus Energy

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7. Report examines media's influence on adolescent sexual behaviors

Managing the Media Monster: The Influence of Media (from Television to Text Messages) on Teen Sexual Behavior and Attitudes is intended to inform practitioners and programs about what research says about adolescents and media influence. The report, published by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, examines how the media influences sexual knowledge, attitudes, and behavior -- both positively and negatively.

Topics include: (1) an overview of what is currently known about the effects of sexual content in the entertainment media young people typically use; (2) a review of 25 evaluated, peer-reviewed interventions from 19 countries on how effective media interventions have been in addressing adolescents' reproductive health and recommendations to consider when developing media interventions; and (3) a review of more than 20 media-based-interventions for sexual and reproductive health that have been conducted in the United States. A snapshot of health behavior theories and additional resources are included.

The report is available at http://www.thenationalcampaign.org/resources/monster/Media_Monster.pdf.

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8. New study on stalking from the U.S. Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics

Stalking is more prevalent than previous studies have shown and causes victims to make significant life changes, fear for their safety, and seek help from friends and family members, according to a new study from the U.S. Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics.

An estimated 3.4 million persons said they were victims of stalking during a 12-month period in 2005 and 2006. About half these victims experienced at least one unwanted contact per week, 11 percent had been stalked for five or more years, and one in seven moved as a result of the stalking.

For more information link to Family Violence Prevention Fund:
http://endabuse.org/content/features/detail/1129/

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9. Special Collection of Online Learning Tools on Violence Against Women

This collection provides a sampling of available Online Learning Tools with subject matter related to violence against women prevention and intervention. Materials included in this collection have four key components: they are 1) free, 2) available online, 3) interactive, and 4) self-guided.

The resources can be used for the purposes of staff development (by individuals), or as tools for trainers (in groups). This Special Collection provides a discussion of considerations for using Online Learning Tools, including potential applications and benefits and limitations. Tools include: Online Classes/Tutorials/Courses, Slideshows & PowerPoint Presentations, Podcasts/Audio, Videos, Web Conferences, Toolkits, Quizzes, and more.

This collection was developed by the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC).

Tools include:

* Online Classes/Tutorials/Courses
* Online Slideshows & PowerPoint Presentations
* Podcasts/Audio
* Videos – Lectures, Workshops, Trainings
* Web Conferences
* Online Toolkits
* Quizzes
* Other
* Tools with Associated Costs

Access this Special Collection at: http://new.vawnet.org/category/index_pages.php?category_id=867

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10. Minnesota's IAASA Program Highlighted in RAINN Newsletter

Outstanding Community Partnership
IAASA - Itasca Alliance Against Sexual Assault, Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Itasca Alliance Against Sexual Assault has been collaborating with the local two-year campus, Itasca Community College for the past 6 years, specifically with the Psychology Club, in developing community needs assessments. Over the years they completed three primary human services based research projects with the larger community, law enforcement, and with the campus itself. With the last project, students made it very clear that they would like to have sexual assault resources on campus. So, with both agencies in agreement, they proceeded to establish a program called Support Within Reach.

The college offered space for an office and the organization now provides staff hours twice a week on campus. They have an advisory committee that is comprised of IAASA, college staff and faculty representatives, and many students. The program has grown and evolved and now offers support services on campus to those in need and prevention education/awareness activities throughout the year. One of the other positive outcomes of this collaboration has been an increase in IAASA volunteers. Students are eager for professional experience and feel a need to help their greater community. IAASA just finished a volunteer training with 4 new student volunteers that assist them with their after hours crisis line and there are several more on the waiting list for the spring training.

To learn more link to the RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) Newsletter:
http://apps.rainn.org/email-templates/affiliate-newsletters-01-2009/index.html
or check out the IAASA Facebook page.

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11. A message from the Prevention Institute

We at Prevention Institute are thrilled that Congress is investing in community prevention by targeting resources to communities to improve health in a coordinated, systematic way. This is an important opportunity to prevent illnesses and injuries in the first place, and to reduce costs in the health care system from treating preventable problems after the fact. It is vital that injury and violence be considered as part of these community prevention efforts. While the House version of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 explicitly includes injury and violence prevention, the Senate language is more general.

Injuries, including from violence, are the leading cause of death for persons aged 1-44 years and a leading cause of death, hospitalization and long-term care placement among elderly populations. Injuries and violence cost $117 billion annually in direct health care costs. Estimates are much higher for lost productivity costs (a study by a CDC researcher estimated more than $320 billion in 2000 alone). Violence is also a factor in the development of chronic diseases which account for a majority of pre-mature US

deaths, lost productivity and the majority and fastest growing percentage of our healthcare spending. Injuries and violence affect everyone and disproportionately affect low-income communities and communities of color.

Injuries and violence are preventable. Supporting injury and violence prevention in the economic stimulus bill as part of community prevention can yield a substantial return on investment as shown in a number of research and economic studies and provide meaningful employment.

Please share this broadly and click here to learn more. For more information, see:

Preventing violence before it occurs: Directions for improving outcomes for young people, our cities, and our economic recovery and growth, a Prevention Institute memo highlighting opportunities for improving safety and well-being in our nation's urban areas while saving money and stimulating the economy.

Reducing Inequities in Health and Safety through Prevention, a platform released by Prevention Institute and the Health Policy Institute at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, which indentifies concrete steps for the new administration and congress to take to substantially reduce health inequities and their associated costs.

Healthy People, Healthy Places, a transition document co-released with PolicyLink, that focuses on chronic disease and identifies important connections between the prevention of chronic disease and safety.

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12. Calendar

February 3, 2009, No More Victims: How we can reduce sex crimes in our communities, MNDOC. RSVP to Joann Dillavou 651-361-7593 jdillavou@fs.doc.state.mn.us . To learn more about MnCoSA visit: www.doc.state.mn.us/volunteer/mncosa.htm

February 6, 2009, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN), What does PREA have to do with me? For more information contact: amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

February 10-11, 2009, Action Day to End Violence Against Women. For more information link to www.mncasa.org

March 14, 2009, 14th Annual International Women's Day Conference: Transforming the World through Women's Voices, Minneapolis, MN. For more information link to: http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/International_Women_s_Day6.html.

March 19, 2007, a benefit for the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC), Vadnais Heights, MN. Contact: Raymond and Kathy Berlin rbklb@earthlink.net

March 27, 2009, First Strike: Connecting Domestic Violence and Animal Cruelty, Bloomington, MN. Contact: Frances Gaeta at Fgaeta@humanesociety.org or 301-548-7731.

April 14-15, National Conference on Primary Prevention of Violence Against Women, Washington, DC. For more information link to:
http://mencanstoprape.org/conference/

April 15-17, 2009, Annual MnATSA Conference, Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park, MN. For more information link to: http://www.mnatsa.org/

April 21, 2009, From Dr. Seuss to Porn: Countering Normalization of Sexual Harm, Blaine, MN. Contact: Donna McDonald 763.422.7047, donna.mcdonald@co.anoka.mn.us

April 24-25, Sowing Seeds of Academic Change, Nurturing New Paradigms, Minneapolis, MN. For more information link to: http://www.avahealth.org

May 8, 2009, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For more information link to:
www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp

May 12-15, 2009, International Conference: Bridging Perspective in Intervening With Men Who Batter, Minneapolis, MN.
For more information link to: www.bridgingperspectives.org

May 21-22, 2009, A Call to Men National Conference. New York, NY. For more information and to register online, please visit A Call to Men's Web site http://acalltomen.org/

May 27-29, 2009, Fifth National SART Training Conference, Seattle, WA. For more information link to:
http://www.sane-sart.com/

June 15, 2009, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. For more information contact Char Thompson, chart@mnall.org

August 7, 2009, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For more information link to:
www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp

September 9-11, 2009, National Sexual Assault Conference, Alexandria, VA. For more information link to:
http://www.nsvrc.org/nsac/

November 6, 2009, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For more information link to:
www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp

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