

Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

March 23, 2009

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1. MNCASA AWARE, April 2, 2009

Join MNCASA for AWARE 2009

Thursday, April 2, 2009, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

MNCASA Office

Kelly Inn, 161 St. Anthony Avenue, Suite 1001, St. Paul, MN

Please join the MN Coalition Against Sexual Assault to celebrate and honor advocates and allies who are working to prevent sexual violence, honor special guests for their work to raise awareness about sexual violence, support MNCASA's growth as a policy leader on sexual violence issues, and commemorate April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Please contact a MNCASA staff or board member, or visit www.mncasa.org if you would like to purchase raffle tickets. Each ticket is \$5.00. Raffle ticket and silent auction information is available at www.mncasa.org.

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2. Prevention Works: Generations of Spirit, Hope & Action, April 7-9, 2009

Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota's annual conference: Prevention Works: Generations of Spirit, Hope & Action, will be held on April 7-9, 2009 at the St. Cloud Civic Center, St. Cloud, MN. For registration information and conference agenda, link to www.pcamn.org or pcamn@pcamn.org

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3. Zumba® with a Purpose, April 18, 2009

Zumba® with a Purpose, April 18, 2009

We all want our children to grow into happy, healthy adults who experience safe relationships. In most cases, this happens. But in 2005 more than 61,000 MN children and adults were sexually assaulted. Of those affected, 80% were female and 29% were under the age of 18. Sexual assault in Minnesota cost more than \$8 billion in 2005...about three times more than costs related to drunk driving. (Costs of Sexual Violence in MN, MN Dept. of Health)

The Sexual Assault Action Team (part of the Alliance for a Violence-free Anoka County) wants to bring more community involvement to this issue. On Saturday, April 18, as part of Sexual Assault Awareness month, the Sexual Assault Action Team will host their first fundraiser, "Zumba® with a Purpose". Set at the Andover Community Center, participants will be invited to Zumba® at their own pace. For those who are not familiar with Zumba®, it's Latin music that makes you want to move even if you don't know how to dance. Dancing is not a requirement ...just a desire to move! And on April 18 we will be moving for a purpose" explains Darcy Fox, a Zumba® instructor and a member of the Sexual Assault Action Team. Money raised will be used to fund the action team's educational efforts and enhance services for Anoka County victims of sexual violence. Educational information and ideas on how community members can be involved in the prevention of sexual assault will also be available. A minimum suggested donation is \$10 at the door.

Saturday, April 18

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (registration at 12:30 p.m.)

Andover Community Center Gym

15200 Hanson Blvd, Andover, MN

Contact:

Sarah Jenkins, Community Outreach Specialist

Anoka County Attorney's Office, Victim Witness Program

(763) 323-5723

Bring your friends/family and enjoy Zumba® at your own pace!

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4. Cyberbullying: Tools and Tips for Prevention and Intervention: a Stop Bullying Now! Campaign Webcast, April 22, 2009

The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) through the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) invites you to attend a webcast entitled: "Cyberbullying: Tools and tips for prevention and intervention: A Stop Bullying Now! Campaign" on April 22, 2009, 3.00-4.30 EST p.m.

At this webcast, experts in the field of bullying prevention will discuss cyberbullying - an emerging phenomenon among youth. Traditionally, bullying has involved actions such as hitting, punching, teasing, name-calling, or intimidation. In recent years the popularity of technology has given children and youth a new means to bullying each other.

Cyberbullying is a serious problem. 18 percent of students in grades 6-8 said they had been cyber bullied at least once in the last couple of months; and 17 percent of 6-11 year-olds and 36 percent of 12-17-year-olds reported that someone said threatening or embarrassing things about them through e-mail, instant messages, web sites, chat rooms, or text messages.

The presenters will be: Susan Limber, professor and bullying prevention researcher from Clemson University; Patti Agatston from Prevention/Intervention Center of Cobb County School District, co-author of "Cyber bullying: Bullying in the digital age"; Mike Tully, attorney and expert on legal and policy issues concerning cyberbullying; and Captain Stephanie Bryn from Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

To register for the webcast, visit <http://www.mchcom.com/liveWebcastDetail.asp?leid=371>. For more information about the webcast, contact Nicolle Grayson at Nicolle.Grayson@widmeyer.com. To learn more about the Stop Bullying Now! Campaign and for various bullying prevention resources, visit www.StopBullyingNow.hrsa.gov

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5. MN Association for Children's Mental Health Annual Conference, April 26-28, 2009

MN Association for Children's Mental Health Annual Conference, April 26-28, 2009

This annual conference offers professionals and families opportunities to:

- improve policy and enhance practices for children (birth to 21) who have or are at risk for mental health disorders;
- acquire skills and strategies that will improve outcomes for children with mental health needs;
- gain knowledge of best practices and latest research in infant, early childhood, and children's mental health and related fields;
- enrich understanding of different perspectives and common goals in support of all children.

MONDAY KEYNOTE: Chandra Ghosh Ippen, PhD will focus on attachment, culture, and trauma as key forces that shape development and perspective, and the need for our treatments and service settings (school, juvenile justice, and social welfare) to be aware of and responsive to these key forces.

TUESDAY KEYNOTE: Ted Bowman, will present, "Meeting At a Busy Intersection: Disruptive Changes, Shattered Dreams, and Resiliency," a framework of resiliency that includes attention to change and loss that children face, including death, divorce, violence, chronic health conditions, and poverty.

April 26, 27 & 28, 2009
Duluth Entertainment Convention Center DECC
Duluth, MN

For more information or to register link to www.macmh.org .

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[6. Restoring the Sacred Trails of Our Grandmothers: Communities Demanding Justice Conference, April 28-30, 2009](#)

Restoring the Sacred Trails of Our Grandmothers: Communities Demanding Justice Conference, April 28-30, 2009

Hold the date for the Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition's 3rd Annual Conference, at the Grand Casino Mille Lacs in Onamia, MN on April 28-30, 2009. For more information link to: www.miwsac.org or call MIWSAC at 651-646-4800 or toll free at 1-877-995-4800.

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[7. Stop It Before It Starts: Preventing Sexual and Domestic Violence Regional Trainings, April and May 2009](#)

Stop It Before It Starts: Preventing Sexual and Domestic Violence

Presented By: Minnesota Men's Action Network: Alliance to Prevent Sexual and Domestic Violence

The U.S. Violence Against Women Act of 2005 states that "nearly 1/3 of American women report physical and sexual abuse by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives".

Why are so many sweet little two year old boys growing up to be abusive males? What in the environment supports this kind of behavior? How has this harm become so rampant, so "normal", in our society?

Come to a daylong training that provides some answers on sexual and domestic violence, its causes, and what you can do in your workplace, school, and community to stop it before it starts. There will be 5 regional trainings on:

Tuesday, April 28, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Mankato State University
Wednesday, April 29, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., University of MN Rochester Campus
Monday, May 4, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Alexandria (location to be determined)
Monday, May 18, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Fond du Lac (location to be determined)
Tuesday, May 19, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Twin Cities (location to be determined)

This training will provide an overview of the problem of sexual and domestic violence in the morning sessions and then move to primary prevention solutions and action planning in the afternoon.

Who should attend: Business leaders, elected officials, educators and school administrators, human services personnel, health professionals, youth workers, law enforcement, school resource and DARE officers, members of faith communities, civic groups, victim services providers, and concerned others. Community Primary Prevention Teams are encouraged. Please promote this training to members of your community!

Presenters: Cordelia Anderson – Sensibilities Inc, Nicole Matthews – Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition, Lindsay Gullingsrud – Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Chuck Derry – Gender Violence Institute, and Frank Jewell - Men as Peacemakers.

This training is free of charge and is supported by grants from the MN Department of Health, the MN Department of Public Safety, and the Bush Foundation.

The MN Men’s Action Network was initiated by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to build a public/private prevention effort that promotes male leadership. To this end, a collaborative effort between the MDH, Men As Peacemakers in Duluth and the Gender Violence Institute in Clearwater has been created to develop a network of men and male leaders involved in primary prevention practices. Current efforts are being supported by MDH, the Bush Foundation, the MN Department of Public Safety and Safe Haven Shelter in Duluth.

For more information contact: Frank Jewell, Men As Peacemakers, 218-727-1939, frank@menaspeacemakers.org, or Chuck Derry, Gender Violence Institute, 320-558-4510, gvi@frontiernet.net

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8. Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN) meeting: Are We Making A Difference? May 1, 2009

Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN) meeting: Are We Making A Difference? May 1, 2009

Join us for the next SVPN meeting on:

Friday, May 1, 2009
9:50 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

At the Public Health Services Building, Cascade Room, 2011 Campus Drive, SE, Rochester, MN 55904 (link to: <http://www.co.olmsted.mn.us/departments/health/index.asp> (click on map to public health) or link to www.mapquest.com, for further detail.

Huge thanks to our Rochester co-host, Jeanne Martin, Program Manager, DFO Community Corrections,

Victim Services & Restorative Justice.

Topic:

Are We Making A Difference?

For those who must confront the seemingly endless consequences of sexual violence (SV) in our society, it is difficult to tell if we're making any headway on the primary prevention side of the equation. How can we tell if progress is being made, when we're daily confronted with a never-ending flow of victims and perpetrators? Is SV increasing or decreasing? Is SV getting worse in Minnesota, in spite of all that we're doing?

Say what?

To address these questions we will present the temporal trends of sexual violence in Minnesota from five data sources— reports to police, arrests, hospital treatment, student survey, & crime survey. Our data suggests to us that SV may be decreasing in Minnesota. This should be good news.

But so what?

It appears that the utilization of services associated with SV is at best constant over time, and may be increasing. Our data suggests that SV is a contributor to the rapidly rising cost of Minnesota's health care system, as is evident from the rising cost of SV treatment.

And now what?

We're desk jockeys who stare at computer screens all day, crunching numbers. Using the DIKA model (Data -> Information -> Knowledge -> ACTION), we need your insight and ideas in translating data into action.

Presenters:

Dorothy Gondwe, Research Analyst and Jon Roesler, Epidemiologist Supervisor, Injury and Violence Prevention, Minnesota Department of Health

Lunch will be provided (no charge) however, an RSVP is required (by Tuesday, April 28, 2009). Contact Amy Kenzie at amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

Please note: requests for special accommodations must be made by Tuesday, April 21, 2009. 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.

9. 7th Annual Working Together Toward a Violence Free Community Conference, May 5, 2009

7th Annual Working Together Toward a Violence Free Community Conference, May 5, 2009

The Victim Service Collaborative Conference “Working Together Toward a Violence Free Community” will be held:

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

at the Shooting Star Casino, Mahnommen, MN

Registration Fee: \$50 - Includes Continental Breakfast, Lunch, and Conference Materials. Registration Deadline is April 28th.

For more information or questions, contact the Lakes Crisis & Resource Center: call Jodie at (218) 935-5554 ext. 3284 or Jill at (218) 847-8572.

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10. MOAPPP's 18th Annual Conference, May 7-8, 2009

MOAPPP's 18th Annual Conference, May 7-8, 2009

May 7-8, 2009

Earle Brown Heritage Center

Brooklyn Center, MN

Register today for the MN Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Prevention and Parenting (MOAPPP) 18th Annual Conference!!!

The MOAPPP conference offers two days of dynamic speakers, challenging workshops and multiple opportunities to network with Minnesota professionals committed to teen pregnancy prevention and support for pregnant and parenting teens.

Conference brochures (PDF) can be downloaded from the MOAPPP website:

<http://moappp.com/Documents/events/2009/conference/ConferenceBrochure09.pdf>

For more information, please contact conference@moappp.org or call 651-644-1447 x10.

Early registration deadline is Friday, April 17th.

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11. MNCASA takes bold stand against pornography industry!

MNCASA takes bold stand against pornography industry!

At its meeting in September, 2008, the Board of the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault unanimously ratified a policy change that requires MNCASA to prioritize using hotels that do not trade in pornography as sites for official organizational business. By taking this action, MNCASA acknowledges the harm that is caused by sexually degrading/pornographic images of women, men, and children. MNCASA adopted this as another strategy to interrupt the multi-billion dollar business that contributes to the rape culture, the normalization of sexual harm, and that fuels violence using sex.

This new policy directs MNCASA staff, board and volunteers when traveling on official MNCASA business to inquire if a potential lodging site is “clean,” e.g., does not provide in-room pornography for purchase or viewing. While it may not be possible in all circumstances to find alternative lodging if this is not a “clean hotel,” we believe that by simply requesting this lodging option and making a conscientious consumer decision we are refusing to condone the marketing of women, children and men.

MNCASA challenges others to adopt a similar organizational policy. By taking action, we can let the hospitality industry know what will speak to our values as consumers. A collective voice has always proven to be a powerful force in moving social justice efforts forward.

For more information about this MNCASA clean hotel policy, contact Donna Dunn, Executive Director, MNCASA donna@mncasa.org

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12. Minneapolis steps up new anti-prostitution efforts!

From the 9thWard E-News (thank you Suzanne Koeplinger for sending this!):

City Steps up New Anti-Prostitution Efforts

Anti-john billboards include a new web address where the public can view arrestee mug shots: www.johnspics.org.

Electronic billboards and tougher prosecution are two ways Minneapolis is getting tough on people who try to solicit prostitutes in the city. Clear Channel Communications is donating space on electronic billboards to send a clear message to would-be johns. The billboards feature a blurred mug shot and a reminder that Minneapolis now posts photos of people arrested for soliciting prostitutes on its website, www.johnspics.org.

“Prostitution harms the family and the entire community,” said Ninth Ward City Council Member Gary Schiff, who came up with the idea for the billboards and expanded website. “To those who come into Minneapolis looking for a prostitute, these billboards send a message loud and clear: You will be caught and your neighbors, your coworkers and your family will find out.”

The Minneapolis City Attorney’s office has recently changed its prosecution standards to get tougher on johns. City attorneys will now seek convictions on all those who solicit prostitutes in Minneapolis, including first-time offenders. Previously, johns who were first-time offenders in Minneapolis would complete a restorative justice

and education program as part of their probation to prevent a conviction from appearing on their record. Under the new plea standards, johns will still complete a restorative justice and education program, but their criminal record will now include a conviction. Restorative justice programs work with criminals to understand the personal accountability of their crimes and how it impacts the community.

“Prostitution is not a victimless crime,” said City Attorney Susan Segal. “Street prostitution damages our neighborhoods and the prostitutes themselves often are as much victim as offender. To further combat this problem we are strengthening our focus on the demand side of the prostitution equation—the johns. With our new, tougher plea bargaining standards, we want johns to know there are real consequences for their actions. We’re also seeking legislative changes to make clear that prostitution activity involving vehicles on the street is a gross misdemeanor crime. We want the word to get out that soliciting prostitution is not okay in our city, on our streets, or in our neighborhoods.”

The Minneapolis Police Department will continue to conduct “john stings” in areas where prostitution has been a problem. According to Third Precinct Inspector Lucy Gerold, “Our aggressive enforcement efforts have not been enough to change this behavior. We need a campaign like this that tells everyone that these are family neighborhoods and not the marketplace for prostitution.”

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13. New Book: Combating Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: A Call to Action

Combating Violence and Abuse of People with Disabilities: A Call to Action is a new book by Nancy M., Ph.d. Fitzsimons, a professor at Mankato State University who participates in MDH Sexual Violence Prevention Action Teams. The book, published by Brookes Publishing, costs \$25.51 from www.amazon.com.

People with disabilities are four to ten times more likely to experience violence and abuse, including sexual abuse, than those without disabilities. This book empowers everyone -- professionals, families, and self-advocates alike -- to solve and prevent this problem. It tells how to help people with disabilities learn concrete ways to arm themselves against violence and abuse. It also helps concerned people learn to identify situations that might make a person vulnerable, recognize the indicators of abuse and financial exploitation, and take appropriate action. The book presents ways to eliminate personal, societal, and organizational barriers that perpetuate violence and abuse and make the most of supportive services and systems.

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14. New Report: False Reports: Moving Beyond the Issue to Successfully Investigate and Prosecute Non-Stranger Sexual Assault

End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) staff co-authored a new article entitled: False Reports: Moving Beyond the Issue to Successfully Investigate and Prosecute Non-Stranger Sexual Assault.

The article begins by reviewing up-to-date research suggesting that the rate of false reporting for sexual assault is in the range of 2-8%. It also critiques prior research suggesting that the rate of false reporting is far higher, and explores the reasons why this issue is so challenging for professionals in the field.

Questions addressed in the article include the following:

How many sexual assault reports are false?

What is the actual definition of a false report?

But what if part of the report is false?

The article concludes with a discussion of how professionals can work to overcome these challenges, and how to handle the frustrating reality of "real" false reports.

For more information, readers are directed to resources such as the On-Line Training Institute (OLTI) module (www.evawintl.org/evaw_courseware/) and materials developed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (www.theiacp.org) and the Oregon Attorney General's Office Sexual Assault Task Force (www.oregonsatf.org).

The full citation for the article is: Lonsway, K.A., Archambault, J., & Lisak, D. (2009). False Reports: Moving Beyond the Issue to Successfully Investigate and Prosecute Non-Stranger Sexual Assault. *The Voice*, Vol. 3, No. 1. Alexandria, VA: The National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women, American Prosecutors Research. Available at: http://www.ndaa.org/publications/newsletters/the_voice_vol_3_no_1_2009.pdf.

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15. FUNDING ALERT

Volume 4, Number 10 FUNDING ALERT is available on line:

http://new.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/FundingAlert-V4N10.pdf

The FUNDING ALERT provides a synopsis of the available funding that can be used by individuals and/or agencies working to end domestic violence and sexual assault.

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

GOVERNMENT GRANTS:

- OVW Recovery Act Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault
- Rigorous Evaluations of Existing Child Abuse Prevention Programs Grant
- National Resource Center for In-Home Services
- National Resource Center for Tribes
- National Resource Center for Child Welfare Legal and Judicial Issues
- Services for Survivors of Torture Program: Technical Assistance to Organizations and Institutions Providing Direct Services to Torture Survivors
- Services for Survivors of Torture Program: Assistance to Torture Survivors Through Direct Services
- Discretionary Funds for Refugee Microenterprise Development Projects
- Technical Assistance to ORR Funded Refugee Programs and Services to Asylees
- Community Economic Development Projects
- Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative FY 2009 Competitive Grant Announcement
- Development of Comprehensive Drug/Alcohol and Mental Health Treatment Systems for Persons Who are

Homeless

-National Resource Centers on Older Indians, Alaska Natives & Native Hawaiians

PRIVATE GRANTS:

-Indigenous People's Fund

-Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence

-Quaker Go Grants

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16. Calendar

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 2, 2009, MNCASA AWARE, St. Paul, MN. For more information link to: www.mncasa.org

April 7-9, 2009, Prevention Works: Generations of Spirit, Hope & Action, St. Cloud, MN. For more information link to: www.pcamn.org

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 18, 2009, Zumba® with a Purpose, Andover, MN. For more information contact Sarah Jenkins, 763-323-5723.

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 22, 2009, Cyberbullying Webcast. For more information link to www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov

April 24-25, 2009, Sowing Seeds of Academic Change, Nurturing New Paradigms, Minneapolis, MN. For more information link to: <http://www.avahealth.org>

April 26-28, 2009, MN Association for Children's Mental Health Annual Conference, Duluth, MN. For more information link to www.macmh.org

April 28-30, 2009, Restoring the Sacred Trails of Our Grandmothers: Communities Demanding Justice Conference, Onamia, MN. For more information link to www.miwsac.org

April-May, 2009, Stop It Before It Starts: Preventing Sexual and Domestic Violence. Various locations around the state. For more information contact Frank Jewell frank@menaspeacemakers.org or Chuck Derry gvi@frontiernet.net

May 1, 2009, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For more information contact:
amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

May 5, 2009, 7th Annual Working Together Toward a Violence Free Community Conference, Mahnomon, MN. For more information call Jodie at 218-935-5554 ext. 3284 or Jill at 218-847-8572.

May 7-8, 2009, MOAPPP Conference, Brooklyn Center, MN. For more information link to www.moappp.org

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 contact:
amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

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 contact:
amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

Please note: This distribution list is brought to you by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) with support from the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Contributed items are solely the responsibility of the contributors, and do not necessarily represent official views of, or endorsement by the MDH or the CDC.

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