

Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

August 27, 2010

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1. Webinar: Promoting Racial Justice to End Disparities for Children, September 9, 2010

This Webinar, presented by Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota and the Working Family Resource

Center, with Salvador Miranda of The Organizing Apprenticeship Project, will focus on Racial Justice - a strategy for change, a strategy for addressing neglect of our children, and the disparities impacting children from the African American and Native American communities.

Participants will explore what it takes to change systems:

Racial Justice focuses on changing systems, institutional practices, and outcomes.

We cannot just be reactive - we must propose equitable solutions and engage in proactive strategies.

It requires ongoing racial consciousness and strategic action - we cannot be color blind or silent.

Date/Time: September 9, 2010 from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

Please register online at:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/947801458>

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2. Benefit Event for Dads Make a Difference, September 16, 2010, Minneapolis, MN

Dads Make a Difference "Always & Forever" Benefit Event

Thursday, Sept 16, 2010, 7:00 PM at Illusion Theater, Minneapolis

Support Dads Make a Difference (DMAD) by joining us for a FUN night at the theater! Start the evening with a delightful social hour that includes a scrumptious dessert reception, cash bar, DMAD program, and silent auction in the Illusion Theater lobby. Then move into the theater for the hit musical revue Always and Forever!

Hitting the stage for a knock-your-socks-off return after years of audience requests, Always & Forever will charm you into love. Set in a 1970's urban neighborhood barbershop, this play mixes wisdom and song to show what love is all about. Using popular '60's and '70's R&B songs like "Can't Get Enough of Your Love," "Stop, Look, Listen," and "When a Man Loves a Woman," this play shows the world of love through the lives of four African American men. Sit back and enjoy this unforgettable show that promises to draw you into a warm embrace. Featuring DMAD Friend & Twin Cities favorite T. Mychael Rambo joined by Dennis Spears, Julius Collins III, and Jackson Hurst.

TICKETS are \$50 and can be purchased online at:

www.regonline.com/dadsmakeadifferencetheater

Or by check to the DMAD Office:

Dads Make a Difference

161 St. Anthony Avenue, Ste 840

Saint Paul, MN 55103

www.dadsmakeadifference.org

DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 7th!!!

A limited number of tickets may be available after the deadline, but no guarantees, so get your tickets NOW!

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3. Archived video link to August 13 SVPN meeting: “Sexual violence is a public health issue...let’s make it a public health priority!”

Thanks again to our fabulous panelists for presenting on this important issue:

Donna Dunn, Executive Director, Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

<http://www.mncasa.org/>

Nicole Matthews, Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition

<http://www.miwsac.org/>

Frank Jewell, Executive Director, Men As Peacemakers and Co-Founder, Minnesota Men’s Action

Network <http://www.menaspeacemakers.org/programs/mnman>

Jeri Boisvert, Executive Director, Office of Justice Programs, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

<http://www.ojp.state.mn.us/index.htm>

Patty Wetterling, Director, Sexual Violence Prevention Program, Minnesota Department of Health

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp/>

If you missed this meeting, the videostream is available for a limited time at:

<mms://stream2.video.state.mn.us/mdh/centerforhealthpromotion081310.wmv>

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4. A message from the Minnesota Men’s Action Network

Greetings from the Minnesota Men's Action Network:

Today (8-26-10) commemorates the 90th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the U.S. constitution which gave women the right to vote. As you know, women have continued their struggle for full

equality under the law and in our social environment for over 100 years. While great strides have been made, the social realities for women related to health, safety, and economic justice continue to undermine their individual and collective opportunities to thrive and often even to survive in our state.

The Minnesota Women's Foundation released their report "Status of Women and Girls in Minnesota" * on June 17, 2010 which gives the most up to date review of women's progress toward equality in the state. In general, this report indicates that gender disparities continue in Minnesota society which adversely affects the lives of women. Economic opportunities and positions of leadership continue to be restricted for women and girls in Minnesota. And this disparity contributes to the overwhelming numbers of girls and women who are sexually assaulted and battered in this state.

The "Status of Women and Girls in Minnesota" indicates that 1 in 3 women in Minnesota are sexually assaulted and/or physically abused in their lifetimes. It is time this violence is stopped. It will be stopped and prevented when the vision of women's full equality is realized in our state. And that will happen when men start becoming allies with the women they know and love to create that society and those social environments where women and girls are valued as equal and respected partners with men at home, at work, in school, in government, in sports, in entertainment, in our faith communities, and in all aspects of our daily lives.

The MN Women's Foundation report not only articulates the disparities found in our state but identifies what each of us can do to support and nurture gender equity in our homes and our communities. In particular, the MN Men's Action Network calls on men to wake up to the realities revealed in this report and step up to the challenge of joining women in this ongoing historical effort to realize the American dream of full equality for all people, and in particular, a mutual understanding of all women's inherent rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Begin today to strengthen your resolve and acknowledge your responsibility to join the growing numbers of Minnesota men (in partnership with women) committed to ending male violence against women, girls and boys. Begin today to create and sustain the social environment where all our people can flourish in an atmosphere of respect. In this way, we begin today, as men, to honor our grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, daughters, aunties, and friends, whom we love and commit to joining them in creating that world envisioned over 100 hundred years ago by the early suffragettes who fought so diligently for women's right to vote and who are among us today continuing that struggle.

* http://www.wfmn.org/research/2010Reports/2010StatusOfWomenGirls_FINAL_web.pdf

For gender equality,
Chuck Derry

Gender Violence Institute
MN Men's Action Network
15510 Huber Avenue NW
Clearwater, MN 55320
gvi@frontiernet.net
320-558-4510

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5. Landmark legislation that strengthens law enforcement and justice in Indian communities: Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010

Washington, D.C. – Sue Else, president of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, issued the following statement commending President Obama and Congress for enacting the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010, landmark legislation that strengthens law enforcement and justice in Indian communities.

“This groundbreaking legislation will help to end domestic and sexual violence in Indian communities. One in three women on Indian Reservations will be a victim of sexual assault or rape sometime during their lifetime. The Tribal Law and Order Act will provide tools to tribal justice officials, strengthen coordination among law enforcement agencies and increase accountability for perpetrators. It is a much-welcomed step toward making Indian communities safer.

“This is a great triumph for all those who have worked for so many years to stop violence against Indian women. The National Congress of American Indians, Clan Star, the Tribes and victim advocates serving Indian women have done tremendous work leading up to this victory.

“We thank President Obama for signing this lifesaving legislation into law. We extend our gratitude to Senator Dorgan for introducing it and to the bi-partisan members of the House and Senate for supporting it.”

For more information and to view video of the signing, please visit
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/07/29/tribal-law-and-order-act-2010-a-step-forward-native-wome>

6. How Health Reform May Affect Victims of Domestic, Sexual, and Dating Violence

By making health care affordable and easier to obtain, health reform allows victims of violence and abuse to have access to services that would treat their abuse and many of the resulting conditions of that abuse before they worsen.

In the new health care reform law, victims of violence and abuse were specifically included in several new protections and programs, and the new law also opens the door to integrating violence and abuse prevention into public health programs, research priorities, and adolescent health initiatives.

See:

<http://www.endabuse.org/userfiles/file/HealthCare/Health%20Reform%20Memo.pdf>

To learn more about the opportunities for advocates and providers, go to:

<http://www.endabuse.org/content/features/>

7. Housing and Sexual Violence Online Collection

This Special Collection includes resources to assist communities in developing more effective strategies to address the multi-layered and complex relationship between sexual violence and housing. See:

http://new.vawnet.org/category/index_pages.php?category_id=1121

8. National Campus Safety Awareness Month 2010: Coming Together to Strengthen Campus Communities Toolkit

This toolkit includes a sample proclamation to be customized by universities, program ideas for events throughout the month of September and beyond, and product information for National Campus Safety Awareness Month materials. See:

<http://www.securityoncampus.org/pdf/NCSAM2010Toolkit.pdf>

9. Report: Sexual Victimization in Prisons and Jails Reported by Inmates, 2008-09

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report (August 2010) includes results from the second National Inmate Survey (NIS-2) which includes data from 167 state and federal prisons, 286 jails, and 10 special confinement facilities operated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the U.S. Military, and correctional authorities in Indian country. It was administered to 81,566 inmates ages 18 or older.

The report includes information on prevalence, circumstances surrounding victimization, facility rankings and variations based on gender, race, educational background, sexual orientation and previous sexual victimization. 4.4% of prison inmates and 3.1% of jail inmates reported one or more incidents of sexual victimization. See:

<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/svpjri0809.pdf>

10. Report: Social determinants of sexual and reproductive health

While the last two decades have seen improvements in access to and utilization of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, progress in many countries has been slow and – after decades of investments – disappointing. Social activists and health analysts have highlighted the potential role that persistent inequities in health play in hindering progress towards achieving international and national development goals.

Health inequity is defined as "inequalities in health deemed to be unfair or to stem from some form of injustice. The dimensions of being avoidable or unnecessary have often been added to this concept." Read on: http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599528_eng.pdf

11. Report: Immigration Detainees at Risk of Sexual Abuse

The 24-page report, "Detained and at Risk: Sexual Abuse and Harassment in United States Immigration Detention," describes documented incidents and allegations of abuse. It also discusses

recent proposals by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to address the issue. Human Rights Watch emphasized that the agency should make improvements swiftly to improve oversight of the entire detention system and ensure accountability. See:
<http://www.hrw.org/node/92630>

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12. Web Resource: Data Resource Center

The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data Resource Center provides information on how data are collected and used in the states. Funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the purpose of the Center is to provide information to researchers, practitioners and members of the public interested in finding, using, or understanding domestic and sexual violence and stalking data. Please note that JRSA does not collect data, but is a resource for assisting you to find the information that you need.

For more information link to: <http://www.jrsa.org/dvsa-drc/index.html>

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13. Web Resource: Pornography Harms

This site is dedicated to providing the most accurate peer-reviewed research on the harm from pornography, along with relevant news and opinion. Link to: <http://www.pornharms.com/>

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14. Web Resource: New Sexual Health Website

The Minnesota Family Planning and STD Hotline has announced that it has a new and improved website at www.sexualhealthmn.org which provides updated services including web chat and text messaging, in addition to the toll-free hotline 1-800-78FACTS.

As texting and web-based communication have become primary communication sources for many Minnesotans, the hotline aims to provide up-to-date options for confidential health education. By offering personalized text messaging and web chat options, users will be able to easily access information in the format that is most convenient and accessible to them.

Established in 1978, the Minnesota Family Planning & STD Hotline serves the entire state of

Minnesota. The Hotline provides reliable, medically-accurate, and confidential information about family planning and sexual health, as well as referrals to low-cost and free clinics. The hotline services are sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health, and operated by Family Tree Clinic in St. Paul.

For more information about the hotline or to order promotional materials that are available please contact us at info@sexualhealthmn.org or call 1-800-78FACTS. Visit us on Facebook and Twitter!

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15. Sex-Trafficked Girls: What's the Story in N.Y., Mich. and Minn.? (Ms. Magazine article)

“Jailing Girls for Men’s Crimes” in the summer issue of Ms. cited a study revealing that hundreds of girls aged 17 and younger are sold for sex each month in Georgia. Well, the numbers are just in from a study of three other states: New York, Michigan and Minnesota.

Sponsored by the Women’s Funding Network, the report documents high and increasing rates of commercial sexual exploitation of adolescent girls. The study tracked the sale of girls on the Internet and through escort services (although girls are also sold on the street and at hotels, which the study did not track).

Here are the numbers of sex-trafficked girls in May 2010 in these three states, and the increase over February 2010:

State	May '10	Feb '10	Increase
New York	3,213	2,880	+11.6%
Michigan	141	117	+20.5%
Minnesota	102	80	+27.5%

These numbers are shocking. To put them in perspective, the study compares the domestic sex trafficking of minors with other social problems such as teen suicide and cutting, breast cancer deaths and car accidents. Here are some sample comparisons:

In New York, more girls are commercially sexually exploited in one month (3,213) than the number of teens who committed suicide (54) or were hospitalized for self-inflicted injury (1,222) in one year or the number of women of all ages who died of breast cancer in a year (2,715).

In Michigan, more girls are commercially sexually exploited in one month (141) than there are women and girls under age 25 who were killed in car accidents in one year (106).

In Minnesota, more girls are commercially sexually exploited in one month (102) than there are teen girls who died by suicide, homicide and accidents combined in one year (29).

Read on:

<http://msmagazine.com/blog/blog/2010/08/17/sex-trafficked-girls-whats-the-story-in-n-y-mich-and-minn>

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16. Schools want to delete the cyberbully (Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune article)

Schools want to delete the cyberbully

JEREMY OLSON, Star Tribune

For years, Kate Jenson's daughter was inseparable from her best friend, whether at home, at the movies or online. Then, just before sixth grade, the friendship ceased -- replaced by a very different kind of contact online. The former friend's e-mails turned nasty, calling her daughter a "bitch" and threatening to start rumors about her. Jenson didn't have a clue until her distressed daughter revealed the hurtful notes. "Somehow," she said, "the distance of e-mail made it easier to be cruel."

Like Jenson, Minnesota is getting a rude awakening to cyberbullying -- online harassment that as many as one in five teens have experienced. With another school year soon to begin, Twin Cities school districts are busily responding to the phenomenon, which has increased as teens have acquired cell phones with video and text capabilities and joined social networking sites that can spread rumors, insults and images in seconds.

The Anoka-Hennepin district, for example, has produced a video in which students detail the risks of texting mean or sexually explicit messages. Police departments are warning students that possession of certain explicit images can be a felony, and training school-assigned officers to trace offensive or harassing messages to their sources.

Technology vs. maturity

Cyberbullying often comes up when dramatic cases are in the news, such as the suicide this year of Phoebe Prince in Massachusetts and the harassing of Jessica Leonhardt, 11, after the Florida girl posted profanity-laden video on YouTube. State officials say the problem is broader than the

headlines suggest.

Nine in 10 teens now have cell phones. Teens also are more tech savvy than their parents and teachers, and adept at accessing unapproved websites at school. What they don't have, experts say, are coping skills to deal with the blizzard of insulting e-mails and texts when they become targets of bullies, who can be friends, enemies or even online pranksters who exploit teens' fragility.

Cyberbullying is an extension of old-fashioned schoolyard bullying. But it can cause more harm because the bullies can be relentless and because their messages can reach a wide audience and entice others to pile on, said Nancy Riestenberg, a prevention specialist with the Minnesota Department of Education.

"Because you don't see a person's face -- so you don't see a person's reaction to what you've done -- it's like you didn't really do anything," she said. "For a lot of people, seeing somebody's face stops them. They have this opportunity to empathize."

Cyberbullying heightens the risk of suicidal thoughts and anxiety, yet perpetrators often have no idea how much pain they cause, said Maureen Farrell, restorative practices coordinator with the Carver County Sheriff's Office. More of her mediation cases have involved cyberbullying, which she predicts will increase without prevention efforts because it is easy and takes little bravery. Read on: <http://www.startribune.com/local/101230909.html>

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17. Funding Opportunities

NSVRC Funding Opportunities: <http://www.nsvrc.org/opportunities/funding>

VAWnet FUNDING ALERT VOLUME 5 NUMBER 14

August 6, 2010

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence & National Sexual Violence Resource Center

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 FUNDING:

~Cooperative Agreement Program for the National Academic Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention (U01)

~State Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)

~FY 2010 Coalition for a Healthier Community

~Strategies for Women Executives in Corrections

FELLOWSHIPS

~Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in

Health Policy Research: 2010-2011 Call for Applications

~2010 Open Society Fellowship

PRIVATE FUNDING

~2010 Open Meadows General Grant

~Jeanne Meurer Indigenous Women's Fund

~Ellen Dougherty Activist Fund for Young Women

~Edie Windsor Fund for Old Lesbians

~India Fund

~Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence in Underserved Communities

PRIVATE FUNDING

~Enterprise-based Solutions to Poverty

~Fourth Annual Global Youth Social Entrepreneur Competition

~Strong Communities: Engaging Citizens, Strengthening Place, Inspiring Change

~Community Relations Program

~Skoll Awards for Social Entrepreneurship

~Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars

FELLOWSHIPS

~Fellowship Program on Tribal Youth Justice

~The Doris Duke Fellowships for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

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18. Calendar

Note...For additional events (to attend or promote) link to the MN Center Against Violence and Abuse (MINCAVA) electronic clearinghouse (a great resource for MN events, articles, and more!):

<http://www.mincava.umn.edu/types/11>

For another excellent resource, link to the Advocates for Human Rights Calendar:

http://www.advrights.org/The_Advocates_Events.html

* September 1-3, 2010, National Sexual Assault Conference, Los Angeles, CA. For more information link to CALCASA: <http://calcasa.org/nsac/>

- * September 9, 2010, Webinar: Promoting Racial Justice to End Disparities for Children. For more information link to: www.pcamn.org

- * September 12-15, 2010, 15th International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Trauma, September 12-15, 2010, San Diego, CA. Link to: www.IVATCenters.org

- * September 16, 2010, Dads make A Difference “Always & Forever” Benefit Event, Minneapolis, MN. For more information link to: www.dadsmakeadifference.org

- * September 18, 2010, Walk for Children to End Child Abuse, St. Paul, MN. For more information link to: www.pcamn.org

- * November 5, 2010, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For information contact: Amy.Kenzie@state.mn.us

- * November 1-2, 2010, Arte Sana National Conference, Dallas, TX. For more information link to: http://www.arte-sana.com/arte_sana.htm

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