Sexual Violence Prevention E-News

November 23, 2011

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1. A message from Patty Wetterling

As the holiday season is fast approaching, I just wanted to say thank you to all of you, our friends and partners, for the incredible work being done to prevent sexual violence. During troubling times of harsh media coverage of sad, traumatic stories on a topic that we all know well, it is important to take the time to revisit what we started with on our five year plan and dare to Imagine a World Without Sexual Violence or Exploitation.

It's so very important to remember not just what we are all fighting against but also, what we are fighting for. In 2009, we brainstormed and selected the words to steer us to that world which would bring more: Trust, Freedom, Equality, Respect, Caring, Respectful Relationships, Dignity, Safety and Confidence.

I get to see that promise in the faces and smiles of my 1 year old, 5 year old and 7 year old granddaughters, my 2 ½ year old grandson, my neighbors' children, the kids on the bus... I hold our work close to my heart as being my life's vision. We are making a difference in the lives of so many children and we make an even bigger difference when we work together.

Thank you for being part of this effort and for believing in a better safer world for all of us. Have a Thankful Weekend and Many happy days in the holidays to come.

With hope,

Patty

Patty Wetterling
Program Director
Sexual Violence Prevention Minnesota Department of Health

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2. 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, November 25-December 10, 2011

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is an international campaign originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute sponsored by the Center for Women's Global Leadership in 1991. Participants chose the dates November 25- International Day Against Violence Against Women- and December 10- International Human Rights Day- in order to symbolically link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that such violence is a violation of human rights.
This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including November 29, International Women Human Rights Defenders Day, December 1, World AIDS Day, and December 6, which marks the Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. The 16 Days Campaign has been used as an organizing strategy by individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women by:

- raising awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at the local, national, regional and international levels
- strengthening local work around violence against women
- establishing a clear link between local and international work to end violence against women
- providing a forum in which organizers can develop and share new and effective strategies
- demonstrating the solidarity of women around the world organizing against violence against women
- creating tools to pressure governments to implement promises made to eliminate violence against women

Over 3,700 organizations in approximately 164 countries have participated in the 16 Days Campaign since 1991!

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3. Free Online Seminar: Introduction to Creating Safer Gender Inclusive Cities, November 28-December 2, 2011

The Gender Inclusive Cities Programme Presents: Introduction to Creating Safer Gender

Inclusive Cities, a free online seminar
November 28 – December 2, 2011

Audience: Municipal government employees, urban planners and designers, architects, health service providers, social service providers, international development workers, police, community organizations, women's organizations, non-profit organizations, academics, media.

Takeaways:

- § Learn why safe and inclusive cities for women are necessary for the attainment of women's human rights
- § Identify relevant partners to work with in order to create safe and inclusive cities for women
- § Develop a strategy for collecting information about women's experiences of safety and inclusion in the city
- § Determine relevant actions to take, within your own occupation and life, to improve women's safety and inclusion

How it works: Over the course of two weeks, registered participants gain access to a series of international articles and video lectures on the topic of creating safer and gender inclusive cities. Participants are also given the opportunity to use discussion forums to post questions, ideas and comments about course material.
Knowledgeable and experienced discussion facilitators, who work in various fields and countries on the topic of safe and gender inclusive cities, will respond to questions and comments as they are presented. Participants will receive certification of completion at the end of the online seminar.

For further information and registration, please contact Melanie Lambrick at Women in Cities International: melanie@femmesetvilles.org .

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4. Webinar: Addressing "Secure Communities": Strategies on How to Advocate for Immigrant Survivors at Risk Under ICE Enforcement Programs, November 30, 2011

Addressing "Secure Communities": Strategies on How to Advocate for Immigrant Survivors at Risk Under ICE Enforcement Programs
This webinar will address some of the recent changes to immigration enforcement guidelines that have been made to better protect victims of crime and witnesses from ICE detention. The discussion hopes to more fully explain these issues, provide additional resources, discuss advocacy strategies, and share promising practices by advocates who have been assisting immigrant survivors detained by ICE and engaging in systems change efforts with local law enforcement, judges and local ICE officials. Time is displayed as CST
Starts: November 30, 2011 2:00PM
Ends: November 30, 2011 4:00PM

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5. Last chance to participate in MNMAN survey

The Minnesota Men's Action Network is conducting a survey to measure male involvement in the prevention of sexual and domestic violence in the state. The survey will be closing on Wednesday, November 23.

This is your last chance to fill out the survey. If you have already filled it out, thank you.
If you are interested in participating in this survey, please follow this link to the survey.
The survey consists of 12 or fewer questions, depending on which survey you are being asked to participate in. We estimate it will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete.
Please follow this link to the survey.
Thank you for your time and for sharing your perspective.

Sean Elmquist
Minnesota Mens Action Network Program Assistant
sean@menaspeacemakers.org
~~www.menaspeacemakers.org/programs/mnman~~ (link removed)

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6. Call for Presentations: 2012 C OJP Annual Conference on Crime and Victimization

The Office of Justice Programs is accepting applications to present at the 2012 C OJP Annual Conference on Crime and Victimization. The Call for Presentations information and application is available on the OJP website. The application deadline is Friday, December 2, 2011.

Mark your calendars! The OJP Annual Conference on Crime and Victimization will be held May 30- June 1, 2012. The Conference brochure, complete with workshops, registration, lodging, scholarship and award nomination information, will be mailed out in March 2012.

If you have questions about the Conference or the Call for Presentations, please contact Alicia Nichols alicia.nichols@state.mn.us or 651.201.7318.

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7. Pledge to Prevent Violence

Pledge to prevent violence! Show your support for a safe and healthy world by creating a custom badge for your Facebook page. You badge, which you can post to your Facebook

profile page, will link to the VetoViolence Facebook fan page and encourage others to take the pledge to help prevent violence. Together we can make a difference!

Add the VetoViolence Pledge widget to your website:
http://www.vetoviolence.org/pledge.html

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8. NSVRC offers online special collection on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Online Resource Collection. This collection of online resources provides information and tools for caretakers, organizations and communities assuming the responsibility of preventing child sexual abuse. Through basic information on child sexual development, defining sexual abuse, and learning effective strategies we can prepare to take action steps toward prevention.
http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/preventing-child-sexual-abuse-online-resource-collection

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9. Article: Waging war against youth prostitution

November 21, 2011, Waging war against youth prostitution
By Sarah McKenzie, editor, THE JOURNAL
// Women's Foundation of Minnesota launches MN Girls Are Not For Sale campaign //

The Women's Foundation of Minnesota is spearheading a five-year, $4 million campaign to fight the prostitution of girls in the state. The foundation, based in the Mill District, has raised $2.6 million so far and plans to award its first round of grants totaling $340,000 to agencies and nonprofits in January.

While it's difficult to determine how many girls are being sold for sex, the foundation points to recent research estimating that on average, 213 girls are sold four to six times per day through Internet listings and escort services. That number does not include (prostitution occurring in hotels or on the street.

The campaign comes as law enforcement agencies around the state have reported a dramatic increase in youth prostitution. The foundation cites a study showing that the number of adolescent girls prostituted on Internet classified ads and escort services spiked by 166 percent in a 10-month period in 2010 compared to the year before.

There are a variety of problems that put young girls at risk for prostitution, said Lee Roper-Batker, president and CEO of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota. The average age girls get recruited into prostitution is 13. Some start as young as 11, according to the U.S. Justice Department. "Poverty is a common theme," she said. "Young women who are vulnerable — maybe there is sexual abuse at home or conflict at home."

Law enforcement officials across the state reported that the Internet is the major driver in sex trafficking. “The Internet has done for selling girls exactly what Amazon did for selling books,” Roper-Batker said. “There’s that increased anonymity that men have in being able to buy a girl and essentially have her delivered to their door.”

Youth prostitution is a major problem across the state, and according to the FBI, the Twin Cities ranks among the 13 largest centers in the country for the prostitution of girls.

Minneapolis City Attorney Susan Segal praised the work of the foundation to tackle the problem. She met with the foundation a few years ago to see if they were interested in working on the issue after the city was noticing more girls being picked up for prostitution. “I applaud them for doing [the campaign] because this issue of sexually exploited kids — it’s here,” she said.
“It’s in Minneapolis, it’s in the suburbs, and trying to raise the profile of this issue so that we can start seeing it and really responding to it in a more effective way is critical.” Segal said she’s convened a group with Minneapolis Police Lt. Nancy Dunlap to explore how the city can best thwart youth prostitution. “In Hennepin County [the girls] have only rarely been charged with prostitution because law enforcement recognizes them as victims, but as a consequence they have largely just been falling through the cracks,” she said.

The MN Girls Are Not For Sale campaign is about reaching the girls before they can be victimized. Organizers have three primary goals. First, they are pushing for legislation that would include all girls under the age of 18 who have been sold for sex in the state as victims of a crime entitled to safe housing and other services. The Minnesota Safe Harbor Law passed last legislative session applies to children under the age of 16 involved in prostitution.

Jeff Bauer, director of public policy for The Family Partnership, a Minneapolis-based advocacy group, was involved in lobbying for the safe harbor law last session. He said national leaders working on child sex trafficking around the country are watching Minnesota closely to see what impact the law will have on protecting girls. “Our success in implementing the Safe Harbor provisions over the next three years will not only change the lives of girls here in Minnesota, but catalyze similar change all across the country,” he said.

Campaign organizers are also working on decreasing demand for sex with girls through educational outreach and public awareness efforts. Thirdly, the foundation is working on mobilizing the public to get involved in fighting the problem.

Finding a way to shelter youth rescued from prostitution is another major goal. Currently there are only two shelter beds in the state for girls formerly involved in prostitution. “Housing is a critical issue we hear about over and over again,” Roper-Batker said. “Homelessness is a big trigger [for prostitution].”

The foundation said there’s many ways people can get involved with the campaign, including getting educated about the issue, donating money and contacting local lawmakers.

Roper-Batker is confident campaign organizers will make a difference in the lives of girls victimized by sexual exploitation. “We’ve really got the spotlight on this issue now and we feel

the movement has some muscle," she said.
Article site:
http://www.downtownjournal.com/index.php?&story=17666&page=65&category=92

For more information about MN Girls Are Not For Sale, visit http://www.mngirlsnotforsale.org/.

Reach Sarah McKenzie at smckenzie@mnpubs.com.

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10. Book Recommendations

1-Olga Trujillo's The Sum of My Parts http://www.olgatrujillo.com/

Olga Trujillo's childhood was marked by such extensive violence and sexual abuse that she developed the ability to observe scenes from her life as though they were happening to someone else.
Blocking herself from the terrors of her real life, Olga began to "go away in her head" and create alternate senses of herself, or parts—distinct personalities that allowed her to compartmentalize and temporarily forget her father's attacks so that she could make friends and attend school like any other child.
Dissociative identity disorder (DID) had taken hold. Formerly known as multiple personality disorder, DID helped Olga to function, but this disorder is associated with horrifying flashbacks, suicidal thoughts, mood swings, memory loss, panic attacks, and the confusion of not knowing one's true identity.

The Sum of My Parts is the story of Ms. Trujillo's courageous struggle to understand and overcome the psychological aftereffects of her abusive childhood and an inspiring look into the remarkable power of the human brain to protect itself at all costs.
After years of relying on a complex network of fragmented memories in order to function and survive, Olga learns to integrate her parts through psychotherapy and begins to see the whole picture of her life for the first time.
Today, Olga Trujillo is an attorney, speaker, and advocate for victims of domestic violence and child abuse. This memoir of triumph over the most devastating conditions will enlighten and inspire anyone whose life has been affected by violence, abuse, or trauma.

2-Christine Stark's Nickels http://www.christinestark.com/

Nickels follows a biracial girl named "Little Miss So and So", from age 4-1/2 into adulthood. Told in a series of prose poems, Nickels' lyrical and inventive language conveys the dissociative states born of a world formed by persistent and brutal incest and homophobia. The dissociative states enable the child's survival and, ultimately, the adult's healing. The story is both

heartbreaking and triumphant. Nickels is the groundbreaking debut of Minneapolis-area author and artist Christine Stark.

"Christine Stark has crafted a language and a diction commensurate with the shredding of consciousness that is a consequence of childhood sexual abuse. She brings us a wholly original voice in a riveting novel of desperation and love. Every sentence vibrates with a terrible beauty. Every sentence brings the news."
--Patricia Weaver Francisco, author of Telling: A Memoir of Rape and Recovery

"To be taken into the mind of a child can be an enchanting adventure, but to be taken into the mind of a child who is abused, confused, and taken for granted is a lingering, livid journey. I applaud her fortitude to bring an olden--too long ignored-- truth out of the darkness with blazing, innovative light."
--MariJo Moore, author of The Diamond Doorknob

"In Nickels, Christine Stark, powerfully portrays the story of abuse and its impact on our lives. When this beautifully written and compelling story leaves, you are left wanting more. It's riveting; a book that will capture you from the beginning and carry you through the end. Everyone should read this book."
--Olga Trujillo, author of The Sum of My Parts

"...a perfect genius that makes the impossible in expression, possible; the unknowable in experience, knowable"
--Anya Achtenberg, author of The Stories of Devil-Girl

§ Mark your calendar for a Book Release Party with Christine Stark & Olga Trujillo — Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 7:00pm with Rebecca Waggoner and Olga Trujillo at The Loft Literary Center.

3-Erica Staab's The In Between
http://ericastaabdotcom.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/cover.gif

The In-between is a concept that we all have experience with, but not a lot has been written about. The moments in-between the pain or trauma when the wound is no longer throbbing, but yet it is still so tender to the touch, that time when the scar hasn't yet formed to protect the tenderness beneath.
It is something that can be applicable to death of a loved one, or the deaths of dreams, slights, hurts at the hand of another, the derailment of what we had planned, the cumulative losses we experience over the course of our lives.

This book is for anyone who is in the mist of their own "In-Between", when life is a little much and you could use a cheering section. A book for those moments when you need to be reminded you aren't alone. It is intended to be a Gift Book to share with others, for those occasions when your heart is

full but you can't find the words and you would like to offer someone a tangible piece of support.

A book to help remind you that where you are is exactly where you need to be, a reminder that healing takes time, that love will find a way, and that hope wins out one healing moment at a time. It is also a book for those moments when those words sound hollow and empty.

This gift is intended to meet you wherever you are at in your In-Between.

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11. Web Resources

Minnesota:

- Cordelia Anderson www.cordeliaanderson.com
- Minnesota Battered Women's Coalition www.mcbw.org
- Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse MINCAVA www.mincava.umn.edu
- Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault www.mncasa.org
- Minnesota Department of Health Sexual Violence Prevention Program www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/svp
- Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/Pages/default.aspx
- Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition www.miwsac.org
- Minnesota Men's Action Network ~~www.menaspeacemakers.org/programs/mnman~~ (link removed)
- Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota www.pcamn.org
- The National Child Protection Training Center http://www.ncptc.org/
- The Advocates for Human Rights http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/

National:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Sexual Violence Prevention

http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/sexualviolence/index.html

- National Alliance to End Sexual Violence National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

- National Coalition to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation www.preventtogether.org

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) www.nsvrc.org

- Prevention Institute www.preventioninstitute.org

- PreventConnect www.preventconnect.org

- VAWnet Violence Against Women National Online Resource Center http://www.vawnet.org/

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12. Funding Opportunities

- VAWnet features sources of government and private funding that are available to support projects or organizations working to end violence against women, or to provide opportunities for individual survivors. Government funding resources includes information on the 26 United States Federal grant-making agencies, portals to federal, local, and state government funding resources, and opportunities from the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and the Department Centers for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Private funding resources include grants, scholarships, fellowships and/or awards for individual women available from foundations, charities and private trusts. http://www.vawnet.org/grants-funding/funding-opportunities.php

- Grants.gov is a source to FIND and APPLY for federal grants. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is proud to be the managing partner for Grants.gov, an initiative that is having an unparalleled impact on the grant community. Learn more about Grants.gov and determine if you are eligible for grant opportunities offered on this site. www.grants.gov

- NSVRC - Opportunities. This section provides information about funding (and volunteer, job and educational opportunities, as well as award nominations of interest to those in the fields of sexual violence prevention and intervention).

Announcements are added daily and organizations are invited to submit volunteer opportunities, job listings, and calls for papers, abstracts and proposals for journals, anthologies and conferences. http://www.nsvrc.org/opportunities

- MINCAVA. The Minnesota includes information and resources on a number of violence topics and includes a section on funding. http://www.mincava.umn.edu/types/10Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.

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13. 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!) For another excellent resource, link to the Advocates for Human Rights Calendar

November 28-December 2, 2011, Introduction to Creating Safer Gender Inclusive Cities free online seminar, contact Melanie Lambrick at Women in Cities International: melanie@femmesetvilles.org

November 30, 2011, Addressing "Secure Communities": Strategies on How to Advocate for Immigrant Survivors at Risk Under ICE Enforcement Programs

Mark your calendar for 2012 SVPN meetings:

February 3, 2012, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For information contact: Amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

May 2, 2012, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For information contact: Amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

August 10, 2012, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For information contact: Amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

November 2, 2012, Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN). For information contact: Amy.kenzie@state.mn.us

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