

# NETWORK NEWS



The comprehensive resource on domestic violence

VOL. 11 ISSUE 2, MARCH 2008

A PUBLICATION OF THE OHIO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NETWORK

## **LARGE DEMAND FOR SERVICES SHORT SUPPLY OF RESOURCES**

*Domestic Violence Counts: 2007*  
**OHIO**

The need for domestic violence services in Ohio is illustrated by the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services released last month. *Domestic Violence Counts: 2007* was conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence. The Census collects national and state counts of adults and children who receive life-saving services during a 24 hour period. On September 25, 2007, all 72 of Ohio's domestic violence programs participated in the Census.

The following figures represent information from the 72 participating programs about services they provided during the 24 hour survey period.

### **2,152 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY IN OHIO**

- 905 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 1,247 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
- In just one day, 86% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy, 67% provided legal accompaniment/services, 49% provided children's counseling/advocacy, but only 19% were able to provide transitional housing.

### **684 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED**

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Ohio answered more than 29 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

### **141 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES**

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Ohio reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as housing, childcare, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation. 79% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 47% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

### **1,752 PEOPLE TRAINED**

Individuals across Ohio attended community education and trainings, gaining much needed information on prevention and early intervention.

# LARGE DEMAND FOR SERVICES SHORT SUPPLY OF RESOURCES

## *Domestic Violence Counts: 2007 National Summary*

On the National level, 1,346 out of 1,949, or 69%, of identified domestic violence programs in the United States participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

### **53,203 Victims Served in One Day**

Emergency shelters are intended to provide a short-term living space for victims in response to an immediate crisis and include both safe houses and paid hotel rooms. On the day of the Census, 8,249 adults and 8,432 children stayed in emergency shelters.

Transitional Housing is temporary shelter designed to house residents after their stay in emergency shelter and before they make permanent living arrangements. On the day of the Census, 3,587 adults and 5,053 children were living in transitional housing.

Non-residential Advocacy Services were provided to more than 22,000 adults and 5,000 children on the Census Day. Advocacy services include individual counseling, safety planning, job counseling and training, legal services, accompaniments, support groups for adults and children, and financial skills programs.

### **20,582 Hotline Calls Answered**

On the Census day, local and state hotline operators answered 19,432 calls. In addition, the National Domestic Violence Hotline answered 1,150 calls during the survey period. In total, advocates responded to 20,582 calls in the 24-hour period, equivalent to more than 14 calls every minute!

### **7,707 Unmet Requests for Services**

Programs face multiple barriers that prevent them from providing services to all victims who seek assistance.

Lack of funding was the number one reason they were unable to meet victims' requests. Forty-two percent of domestic violence programs reported budgets of less than \$500,000 a year.

Lack of sufficient staffing critically impacts programs' ability to meet victims' needs. The majority of programs that participated in this survey employed fewer than 20 paid staff and approximately half of those programs operated with fewer than 10 paid staff.

Other problems faced by shelters include lack of shelter space, little or no transportation options, need for more legal services, lack of childcare and children's services, need for more substance abuse and mental health services, language barriers and no bi-lingual staff or translation services, lack of basic supplies for the shelter, and cuts to community education and outreach programs.

### **29,902 People Trained**

Because community education and outreach are essential to ending violence, domestic violence programs offer trainings to their communities as part of their mission. On Census day, participating programs provided 1,521 training and education workshops to the community.

In conclusion, on September 25, 2007, 53,203 adults and children in the United States received services and support from 1,346 local domestic violence programs. While a great number of victims accessed and received services, a total of 7,707 requests by victims for services went unmet due to inadequate funding and resources. This unmet demand highlights the need for additional funding, staffing, and support for local domestic violence programs across the country.

**For more information on the Census, visit [www.nnedv.org/census](http://www.nnedv.org/census).**

## OHIO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MURDERS INCREASE WHILE PRESIDENT BUSH SLASHES BUDGET

Over the past year and especially in recent weeks, an unfortunate national spotlight has been cast upon Ohio due to devastating and horrific acts of domestic violence. In just the past month, a Fairfield County woman was murdered and a Portsmouth teacher was critically shot and stabbed in front of her students, each woman attacked by their estranged intimate partners. In a Newark case, a woman stabbed and killed her abusive boyfriend.

These tragedies sadly illustrate the very real dangers women face when attempting to end abusive relationships. In two cases, the victims had obtained protection orders against their abusive partner, and in the third, the deceased batterer had a long history of violence and faced pending felony domestic violence charges.

Names like Jessie Davis and her unborn daughter Chloe, the Veillette family of Mason, and Vandalia's Cpl. Marie Lauterbach and her unborn son Gabriel, are still fresh in the minds of Ohioans. Statistics from the Ohio Attorney General's Office report at least 427 men, women, and children were killed by domestic violence in Ohio in 2006, a rate greater than one per day.

The number of recent domestic violence homicides and attempted homicides is just one indicator of the prevalence of domestic violence. It is imperative that people know that leaving can be very dangerous, but help is available and needs to remain available. In addition to providing emergency safe housing, Ohio's domestic violence programs also provide legal advocacy, safety planning, individual and group counseling, and other victim services.

Local domestic violence programs save lives and protect victims and their children from further violence. Despite the obvious and

critical need, their continued operation is by no means assured. Ohio's programs provide an unbelievable amount of service given the current funding levels. The unfortunate reality is that Ohio programs do report a critical shortage in staff and resources to assist all victims seeking services. President Bush's 2009 budget proposes to cut by one-third the essential funding which was authorized by Congress last year through the Violence Against Women Act. The President, legislators, and all elected officials in the United States and Ohio must continue to provide adequate levels of funding so that the needs of all domestic violence victims may be met. Although we have made great progress over the last several decades, these recent horrible and heart-breaking tragedies reveal the continuing need for expanded services.

### **ODVN Welcomes Amy Smith, Financial Manager**

Amy Smith is the new Financial Manager at ODVN. Amy graduated from Wright State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Financial Services major. Her coursework included retirement planning, employee benefits, risk management, investments, insurance, and tax planning for individuals and corporations.

After completing her degree, Amy began working at Columbus Speech & Hearing Center, which provides speech/language, Occupational Therapy, and hearing services for children and adults. During her time at CSH, Amy had a variety of responsibilities, including posting cash receipts, insurance billing, and accounts receivable.

**WELCOME AMY!**

## Merging Prevention and Intervention Agendas: Collaboration not Competition

By: Jo Ellen Simonsen, Prevention Trainer and Technical Assistant

Statewide and nationally, there is an emerging focus on the *prevention* of all forms of family violence, including intimate partner violence. Most recently, The Anthem Foundation of Ohio (AF-Ohio) commissioned and released the *White Paper on Improving Family Violence Prevention in Ohio*, produced by the Health Policy Institute of Ohio. The goals of the joint project are: “to increase awareness of the scope and consequences of family violence in Ohio; to identify realistic and promising policies and programs for prevention; and to build support for implementing recommended policies and programs.” AF-Ohio has also funded four community-based Family Violence Prevention projects around the State and a statewide capacity-building initiative housed at ODVN.

Similarly, in 2002, ODVN successfully competed on behalf of Ohio communities for federal dollars from the Centers for Disease Control and Injury Prevention DELTA Project, which focuses on the primary prevention of Intimate Partner Violence, a source of funding that is committed through 2008 and looks promising for 2009 and perhaps beyond. The funding also provides, in part, for the development of a state strategic plan for the prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. A statewide multi-disciplinary consortium has been convened to draft the plan and the process is actively underway.

While prevention has long been recognized as an essential component to ending family violence and its elevation as a priority has been highly anticipated, now that the movement for prevention is upon us, is it welcomed? Consider a recent policy analysis of eleven major national and global interpersonal violence agendas spanning 1990-2006, presented by Dr. Mary P. Koss, of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman Arizona College of Public Health, at the American

Psychological Association’s February Summit of Violence and Abuse in Relationships. Koss performed a qualitative and quantitative analysis of agendas forwarded by the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, the World Health Organization, and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, among others. She found 85 distinct recommendations, with the largest number of recommendations pertaining to prevention. Likewise, the highest degrees of consensus across agendas were in Advocacy (75%), Prevention (50%), Funding (50%) and Data (44%). Chronologically, momentum for any given consensus area was most realized in prevention where recommendations doubled over the sixteen years studied. Yet calls for the funding of prevention, particularly school-based prevention, had quieted across the agendas by the year 2000. There is no denying that the increasing expectations on an overburdened and under-funded field are unnerving to even the most seasoned advocates.

So how do we reconcile our desire for upstream approaches that prevent the onset of violence (in fact the likely key to ending family violence) without sacrificing our commitment to justly serve victims and address family violence where it has been perpetrated? I would suggest that the approaches are not at all in opposition, rather quite complementary and synergistic. So many of the supporters who are advancing prevention are compelled to do so at the behest of the survivors and victim families, that they have served in earlier professional incarnations in the field as victim advocates, volunteers or hotline workers. I can personally recount numerous survivors offering me their encouragement to continue education and awareness efforts so that more families might not experience the devastation of family violence they had known. It is their stories that most convincingly demand we

## Merging Prevention and Intervention Agendas (continued from page 4)

heed the call for prevention, and it is their stories that best inform our work.

There also exists a symbiotic relationship between intervention and prevention where the interests of both causes are served. While prevention of family violence can and should take many forms, it is most frequently approached from a public health perspective. The first step in the public health model is to define the problem in terms of prevalence, magnitude, severity and, to the degree possible, root causes. This required step creates additional pressure on systems and institutions to collect stronger data on incidences—much needed data collection improvements which can be equally utilized for design and delivery of prevention as well as victim advocacy or batterers' intervention services. Defining the problem also affords opportunities to advance sexism as a root cause for gender-based violence, or in the very least, identifies perpetration as the key modifiable event for preventing family violence.

Prevention and intervention are inextricably linked in models forwarded by the Institute for Community Peace (formerly the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention). The Institute (ICP) identified the five following developmental stages for realizing community peace: Creating Safety, Understanding Violence, Building Community, Promoting Peace, and Building Democracy and Social Justice. ICP suggests that the stages are linear, but not always consecutive.

The first step, Creating Safety, is defined as stopping the crime, providing crisis intervention, acknowledging the pain and loss, and healing the victims and community. It is only with attending to this critical intervention step of Creating Safety that violence prevention and hence peace promotion are achievable.

Prevention and intervention are also related by nature of the continuum on which they exist. Primary prevention is aimed at preventing the occurrence of family violence before it starts. Secondary prevention and tertiary prevention are focused on mitigating the short and long-term effects of family violence respectively and preventing reoccurrence; both are clearly consistent with victim advocacy and batterers' intervention programming. Prevention not only protects families and promotes peace, but it also intends to lighten the burden on programs so that they may maximize intervention resources while continuously improving quality.

Finally, the collaborative nature of family violence prevention drives home the movement's historical aim to reframe family violence from what was once considered a private family matter to a community priority requiring community solutions. Community-based prevention has the inherent capacity to transcend siloed approaches. It expands the circle of voices calling for an end to family violence, creates opportunities for broader partnerships that attract resources for addressing family violence, and shows promise for effectively elevating family violence as an issue of universal consequence.

### Ohio's Prevention Momentum

Copies of the *White Paper on Improving Family Violence in Ohio* and information on upcoming regional forums scheduled for Youngstown, Parma, Toledo, Lima, Cincinnati and Zanesville are available by calling the Health Policy Institute of Ohio at 614-224-4950 or by visiting <http://www.healthpolicyohio.org>.

For more information on the DELTA Project, the Ohio Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Consortium or the State Strategic Plan for Prevention, please contact ODVN's Prevention Programs Director, Rebecca Cline, at [rclineodvn@aol.com](mailto:rclineodvn@aol.com) or 330-725-8405.

Visit our Online Prevention Toolkit at [www.odvn.org](http://www.odvn.org) and look for the ODVN Prevention Tab.

## One Reason Why She Stays: Economic Abuse

By Rachel Ramirez-Hammond, MSW

You work full-time, but you have no benefits with your job. All of your paychecks are directly deposited into a bank account that you can't access, but your paycheck wouldn't be enough to support you and your children. Your abusive husband is a business executive and makes a lot more money than you make. You live in a nice neighborhood that you could never afford on your salary alone. You and your three children get insurance through your husband's job, and your daughter has severe asthma. Your husband has hit you once before, but his emotional manipulation and economic abuse continue to escalate. You consider your husband to be abusive, but you are convinced the first thing your husband would do if you were to leave is to threaten to cancel you and your children's insurance coverage. Then he would hire a fancy lawyer and begin an ugly custody fight. His children love him very much, even though at times they are frightened by his outbursts, and they are very close to his parents, who help with childcare. Leaving would mean a custody battle you can't afford and might lose. It could mean losing access to critical healthcare for your children. It would mean moving to another neighborhood and pulling your children out of the school they love. You would need to find childcare for your baby, who currently stays with your husband's mom during the day while you work. You no longer want to be in this relationship, and you know that abuse could escalate, but you just can't figure out how you would make life work if you left.

This scenario is all too real and provides some answers to society's biggest question about domestic violence: "Why does she stay?" While there are dozens of valid reasons why women stay in abusive relationships, survivors often report that their financial reality is one of the main, if not primary, reasons why they remain with their partners. Abusive partners can often sabotage a woman's finances and financial options by restricting access to the

money she earns at her job, not allowing her to obtain employment, or causing her to lose her job due to harassing her at work. In the larger social structure, women must also deal with sexism which impacts their educational opportunities, their employment choices, and ultimately how much money they will earn. Today women earn an average of 77 cents for every dollar men earn, and women are over-represented in low-wage occupations that do not offer benefits.

Economic justice means that women and girls have equal access to a living wage, educational opportunities and trainings. The other side of economic justice is that women and children would not have to fear for their safety when they access other basic resources such as housing, childcare, or medical care due to a man's violence or unjust social policies that value men over women. Economic justice means that women can make safe decisions about their relationships without regard to the financial impact of those decisions. Safety and autonomy are tied to economic justice. Survivors cannot become self-sufficient or make realistic choices for themselves and their families without access to financial resources.

The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) recognizes the critical role economics play in violent relationships and the impact economic abuse can have on a woman's future. ODVN has increased its focus on issues of economic justice in the context of domestic violence through new innovative initiatives created to address the economic reality of battered women. We provide training and technical assistance on how domestic violence programs can integrate an economic justice component into their program. In order to better prepare domestic violence program staff and allied professionals in understanding the need for economic justice and learn effective ways to provide assistance to survivors, ODVN developed a new Training

## **Economic Abuse**

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Institute training. Short Changed: Economics and Abuse, a part of the Anti-Oppression series, provides individuals with the opportunity to learn about economic justice at the systems and individual level. This training also integrates a newly published curriculum from the Allstate Foundation, Moving Ahead through Financial Management. This expansive curriculum is designed specifically to address issues of economics and finances with battered women.

The core component of Moving Ahead Through Financial Management is a series of five guidebooks, covering financial abuse, relationships, and diverse perspectives, financial fundamentals, building a financial base, creating long term financial success, and financial strategies for immigrant and refugee women. The curriculum also has a survivor workbook and an advocate manual that compliment the guidebooks. In October 2007, ODVN was one of fifteen state coalitions that received a grant from the Allstate Foundation to partner with two local domestic violence programs to implement individual and group workshops on economic empowerment.

For more information about the Allstate Foundation's curriculum, Short Changed: Economics and Abuse, or other questions pertaining to economic justice and/or financial literacy, please contact Rachel Ramirez-Hammond, Training Coordinator, at 614-781-9651, Ext. 222 or [rachelr@odvn.org](mailto:rachelr@odvn.org).

## **Doing the "Right Thing" with Women Arrested for Domestic Violence**

*By Reiko Ozaki, LISW*

On September 14, 2007, ODVN sponsored a one-day statewide training titled "Working with Women Arrested for Domestic Violence" in Columbus, Ohio. This was a long awaited training for many who work in batterers intervention programs across the state as they have been struggling to do the "right thing" with court-ordered women. Likewise, police officers, judges and probation officers sought information and assistance in dealing with women caught in the system as offenders. Approximately 100 participants came from throughout and outside of Ohio to be part of this important training.

Our featured presenter was Susan L. Miller, PhD, a professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware. She is not only a renowned researcher on women's use of force, but also an advocate in the battered women's movement for many years. The panel members who shared their experience in working with this population included Sondra Fronimo, MA, LPC, Melymbrosia Associates, Inc. in Canton; Donna Gardner, MSW, LISW, Clinical Program Director at Artemis Center for Alternatives to Domestic Violence in Dayton; Mary Hendrickson, MA, LPC, Executive Director at New Directions Domestic Abuse Shelter of Knox County; and Beth Meeks, MS, LSW, Executive Director at Open Arms Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services in Hancock County.

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## Doing the “Right Thing”

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Dr. Miller argued that the widespread use of pro-arrest policies across the country created a gender-neutral approach to a gendered problem of domestic violence. In her research, Dr. Miller found that approximately 5% of women were “true” perpetrators, 30% used force when nothing else worked to stop their partners’ abuse, and 65% used force to defend self and children. Her discussion from the research was confirmed by the panel: women in their programs in Ohio were usually victims of often long-term abuse who used force against men who had been abusive to them.

Dr. Miller’s suggestions to the audience included discouraging dual arrest, more training, safety planning for women, and providing intervention services that address needs of women among others. We must have a better understanding of domestic violence and conduct assessments at each phase in the system so that we can identify “true” perpetrators, the needs of all parties involved, and do the “right thing” after all.

Dr. Miller’s book, *Victims as Offenders: Women’s Use of Violence in Relationships* (2005), is available at the ODVN Clearinghouse. You may request handouts from this training. Please contact Tana Carpenter (tanac@odvn.org) for Clearinghouse materials and Reiko Ozaki (reikoo@odvn.org) for technical assistance and training on topics related to batterers intervention.

### Save the Date: September 18 & 19, 2008 Two-Day Training with Emerge

Emerge, the first batterers intervention program in the U. S., will be in Columbus to train those who work with men who batter.

Please check our website [www.odvn.org](http://www.odvn.org) for registration information in July.



The comprehensive resource on domestic violence

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# PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

*By Nancy Neylon, Executive Director*

## OHIO

### **HB 247 - Civil Protection Orders in Dating Relationships**

Introduced on May 30, 2007 by Rep. Edna Brown (D-48), the proposed legislation would expand the jurisdiction of the juvenile court to issue civil protection orders to a juvenile who has experienced violence in a dating relationship. The bill has been assigned to the Juvenile and Family Law Committee and has had sponsor testimony and a number of proponent and opponent hearings.

### **2005 VAWA Certifications**

The 2005 VAWA requires states to provide certification on two issues to preserve VAWA funding. The first issue requires that courts notify domestic violence offenders about federal firearms prohibitions affecting the respondent in protection orders and defendants in criminal domestic violence cases. Ohio is partially in compliance with this as the Supreme Court of Ohio has adopted protection order forms that warn defendants and respondents subject to such an order of their firearm prohibition. There is no mechanism for domestic violence defendants when a protection order is NOT issued and will require a statutory change.

The second issue requires the State to certify that the criminal justice system (law enforcement, prosecutors) to not ask or require a victim of a sexual offense (regardless of age) to submit to a polygraph examination as a condition for investigating, charging or prosecuting such an offense. This will require a statutory change.

The certifications for both issues must be complete by December 31, 2008.

### **HB 418 - Animal Cruelty**

Introduced by Rep. Brian Williams (D-41), the legislation adds the phrase “companion animal

that is in the complainant’s or alleged victim’s residence” to the criminal and civil domestic violence statutes for possible inclusion in protection orders. The bill also requires a psychological evaluation and counseling of not less than six months for juvenile offenders of animal abuse.

### **SB 244 - Stalking**

Introduced on October 30, 2007 by Sen. Tom Sawyer (D-28), the bill would allow for electronic monitoring of stalkers in civil stalking protection orders, if the stalking had been going on for more than one year and by “clear and convincing evidence” affected the “health, welfare and safety” of the alleged stalking victim and presented a continuing danger to the victim to be protected. The cost of the electronic monitoring would be assumed by the stalker and administered by law enforcement. Electronic monitoring could also be ordered for violations of stalking protection orders. Some of the proposed language in the bill significantly changes current anti-stalking civil protection orders. These are the changes in the burden of proof from preponderance of evidence to clear and convincing evidence, which is requiring a higher standard than is typically required in civil protection order cases. The definition of stalking is changed to affecting the health, welfare, and safety of the victim for electronic monitoring to be ordered.

### **SB 228 - Victim Notices**

Introduced by Sen. Steve Stivers (R-16) on October 24, 2007, the bill would require automatic notices to victims of first, second, and third degree felony offenses of violence regarding the release or transfer of prisoners by county prosecutors. The bill also expands victim participation in parole board hearings and requires five years of post-release control for offenders who commit first, second, or third degree felonies of violence.

**SB 231/HB 280 Enhances Domestic Violence Penalties For Pregnant Women And Requires Abortion Clinics To Post Signs**

These bills were introduced in the Senate by Sen. Gary Cates (R-4) on October 4, 2007, and in the House by Rep. Michelle Schneider (R-35) on June 27, 2007. The bills would increase the penalty for causing or attempting to cause harm to a family or household member who the offender knew was pregnant at the time of the offense to a fifth degree felony. The bill would also require abortion clinics and ambulatory surgical facilities to post signs of a certain size and typeface in a conspicuous location stating “no one can force you to have an abortion” and other verbiage. The bill also provides penalties for doctors who fail to post such signs.

**HB 395 - Return of Personal Property After Termination of Civil Protection Order**

Introduced by Rep. Jim Hughes (R-22), the bill requires the court, upon issuance of an ex parte or final civil protection order, to provide a notice that details and requires a written request from the respondent to law enforcement for the return of any personal property, including firearms, upon termination or dismissal of the protection order. It also requires an affidavit that the respondent is not under any state or federal firearm disability. Failure to file a timely written request will result in the disposal of the property.

**HB 294 - Prohibits Health Insurers from Excluding Coverage for PTSD**

Introduced by Rep. Ted Celeste (D-24) on August 9, 2007, the bill requires that no individual or group health care insuring corporation, policy or contract, no public employee benefit plan shall exclude coverage for the diagnosis or treatment of post traumatic stress disorder. A violation is an unfair and deceptive practice in the business of insurance.

**FEDERAL**

**Federal Budget**

While still reeling from the cuts to victim services programs in the 2008 fiscal year federal budget, the President’s proposed 2009 fiscal year federal budget promises even more devastating cuts to the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and inadequate funding to the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA). The President’s budget includes a decimating \$120 million cut from VAWA and the elimination of the balance of the VOCA fund, a \$2 billion loss leaving crime victims with no services in 2010. The President’s budget is just the first step in the federal appropriations process. Congress must now decide what to include in their proposed budget. It is critically important that Ohio Representatives and Senators are contacted to urge them to support full funding for VAWA and FVPSA and to restore the VOCA fund. To find out who your Representatives and Senators are, visit [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

**Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Reauthorization (FVPSA)**

The FVPSA funding has to be reauthorized for FY 2009 along with the CDC/DELTA funding. The reauthorization of these funds will comprise the major legislative educational effort this year in addition to FY 2009 appropriations. The FVPSA funds provide from \$35,000 to \$45,000 in funds to almost every Ohio domestic violence shelter. They are a major source of funds, primarily used for staff salaries.

**April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)**

SAAM raises awareness of sexual violence and its prevention through special events, highlights sexual violence as a major public health issue, and reinforces the need for prevention efforts.

For more information, visit: <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/>

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
From ODVN's Resource Center

*Materials from ODVN's Resource Center may be borrowed for free by ODVN members and Ohio residents. For more information or to borrow resources from our clearinghouse, please contact Tana Carpenter, 1-800-934-9840, Ext. 224.*

**Safety Planning with Children [2006] (DVD)**

This video explores ways that children who have been traumatized by domestic violence can begin to gain a sense of personal power and control. Safety Planning with Children focuses on a child's own personal safety, helping them understand that it is not the role of children to keep their family safe from a violent parent. When children learn to stay out of fights, avoid getting trapped in a room where abuse is occurring, find a phone to call for help, and escape to a safe place, they also increase the likelihood of avoiding physical injury. Safety Planning With Children contains basic information for those children living in families where there is domestic violence. The program can help domestic violence shelter programs train new and current employees so they can develop the knowledge and skills necessary to create effective safety plans with children. The accompanying discussion guide provides additional information, including activities for use in shelter settings and a list of resources children's advocates have found helpful. This video is 32 minutes long and does have accompanying print materials.

**Survival from Domestic Violence: Stories of Hope & Healing [2005] (DVD)**

This film presents stories of women who transformed their lives after living through domestic violence. The steps they took to create safety, build a support system, and find independence are described. Through their first hand accounts, they give other victims hope that healing and recovery is possible. This DVD is about 14 minutes long.

**Breaking Out of "The Man Box" [2006] (DVD)**

A Call To Men radically challenges the socialization of men by examining the social norms, cultural and traditional images of manhood that have created an environment that supports, tolerates and often encourages men's violence against women. The founders of A Call To Men provide concrete solutions and practical approaches toward ending men's violence against women. These men provide great insight into the construct of sexism and courageously challenge the privileges and entitlements given to men. This highly sought after educational tool is unique in its ability to be affirming and respectful to the experiences of women while expressing genuine care and hope for men. This video is 30 minutes long and does not have any accompanying print materials.

**The Quiet Storm Project [2001] (DVD)**

Designed for use as a stand-alone learning module or can be easily integrated into an existing domestic violence prevention curriculum. There are three segments to this video set: Portrayal of a true story, filmed using a narrative/feature film format, three actual survivors under 25 years old tell their story, and three actual perpetrators tell their story. Each segment is between 40 and 48 minutes long and there are accompanying print materials with this DVD.

This newsletter is funded in  
part by the  
U.S. Department of  
Health & Human Services.



**Financial Tip from our Financial Manger  
Amy Smith**

**Tax Rebates**

The new economic stimulus package includes tax rebates for many Americans. The Treasury Department has stated they will begin sending checks in early May. The fastest way to receive your rebate is to file your 2007 taxes by the April 15 deadline. Use Direct Deposit to further expedite the process – even if you are not entitled to a refund on your taxes. The IRS will use the banking information for your rebate.

To qualify for a full rebate, single taxpayers must have between \$3,000 and \$75,000 in Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). Joint filers must have between \$3,000 and \$150,000. Those who make over these limits are subject to a phase-out of 5% of income over the limit amount. For example, if you make \$1,000 more than your particular limit, your rebate would be reduced by \$50. There is a limit on the rebates of \$600 for an individual and \$1,200 for a couple filing jointly. In addition, \$300 will be paid for any child who was 16 years old or younger on December 31, 2007.

Updates regarding rebates can be found on the IRS website: <http://www.irs.gov/>.

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**April 13-19, 2008 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week**