

Domestic and/or sexual violence programs should never request or require survivors be drug tested

By MCADSV Staff

Q: We suspect a woman receiving our program's services is using drugs. Is it okay if we require or ask her to take a drug test?

A: No. Under no circumstances should domestic and/or sexual violence programs require or request a drug test. Drug testing women receiving a domestic and/or sexual violence program's services conflicts with an empowerment model and undermines a victim's self-determination. The primary role of domestic and/or



sexual violence organizations is not to provide substance abuse treatment services. If a domestic and/or sexual violence program is part of an umbrella organization that also includes a substance abuse treatment program, then each program should have separate policies and procedures for appropriate service delivery.

If a domestic and/or sexual violence advocate suspects a survivor is using drugs, that advocate should speak with her about the issue and, if the survivor desires, help her find appropriate services in the community. Using a positive drug test as a mechanism to deny services can leave a survivor without resources at a time when her drug use can leave her even more vulnerable. As one program leader recently stated, "If she comes to us under the influence of a substance, then it is our responsibility to assist her in finding resources and the strength to change her life as she wants it to be changed."

alliance opportunities

MCADSV REGIONAL MEETINGS

Location	Date/Time	Regional Rep.
CENTRAL Jefferson City	Dec. 5 11:30 A.M.	Rita Westermann (417) 533-5201
KANSAS CITY Independence	Nov. 30 10:30 A.M.	Beth Savitzky (816) 561-0550
NORTHEAST Fulton	Nov. 16 10:30 A.M.	Donna Rodenbaugh (660) 886-9880
NORTHWEST Sedalia	Dec. 13 Noon	Debbie Wallace (660) 886-9880
ST. LOUIS St. Louis	Nov. 14 Dec. 12 9:00 A.M.	Rita Zaggarri (314) 622-4373
SOUTHEAST Cape Girardeau	Nov. 30 11:30 A.M.	Brenda Smelser (636) 931-2700 ext. 196
SOUTHWEST Springfield	Dec. 15 11:00 a.m.	Kathy Barron (417) 256-3408

UPCOMING MCADSV TRAININGS

Location/Date/Time	Information
MCADSV ANNUAL CONFERENCE	
November 8-10 Holiday Inn Select Executive Center/Columbia 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	MCADSV (888) 666-1911
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LAW	
December 6 Holiday Inn Select Executive Center/Columbia 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	MCADSV (888) 666-1911



REGISTER ONLINE

Visit www.mocadsv.org/membership to register for statewide and regional trainings. Need your user name and password? Call MCADSV at (888) 666-1911.

the latest

a bulletin for the members of the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence



Missouri domestic violence service providers urged to participate in NNEDV's national Domestic Violence Counts census

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is working with state coalitions and local domestic violence programs throughout the country to produce a snapshot of services offered on one day. This simple survey will help create a statewide and a national count of how many people are seeking services, how many people domestic violence programs are unable to serve, and the overall scope of services that domestic violence programs are delivering.

More than 60 Missouri programs took part in *One Day in May*, the trial run of this survey administered earlier this year. To provide the most accurate count of services Missouri programs provide, MCADSV urges all domestic violence service providers with a 501(c)3 tax designation to join in this national roll-out of the census.

Participating programs will collect data from 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 2 to 6:59 a.m. on Friday, November 3 and can submit the data through an online form or, if necessary, a fax to NNEDV. All data must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9. MCADSV sent the Domestic Violence Counts packet, which includes all materials needed to participate in the survey, to member programs in September. To request another packet, contact MCADSV at (888) 666-1911.

To learn more about Domestic Violence Counts, join in the final of four identical, informational conference calls hosted by NNEDV on Monday, October 23 at 2:00 p.m. Register for the conference call at www.nnedv.org/census. Contact MCADSV at (888) 666-1911 or NNEDV at census@nnedv.org with any questions.

■ New location for 2007 statewide trainings

PAGE 2

■ Federal grant funds MCADSV partnership with courts and law enforcement

PAGE 2

■ Missouri DV programs to pilot national outcomes project

PAGE 3

■ Allstate provides funds to survivors at five Missouri programs

PAGE 3

■ FAQs: Programs should never request/require a drug test

PAGE 4



718 east capitol ave.
jefferson city
missouri 65101

(573) 634-4161
(573) 636-3728 fax
mocadsv@mocadsv.org
www.mocadsv.org

funding source

Federal grant funds MCADSV partnership with courts and law enforcement

MCADSV is among the organizations that will receive federal funding as a partner in a two-year Department of Justice grant to improve civil and criminal justice responses to domestic violence in Missouri. MCADSV will provide technical assistance to all partners in the project and leadership on the development and content of curricula for project trainings.

This \$1.4 million Grants to Encourage Arrest Program grant is managed by the Office of Courts Administrator.

Additional partners include the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services, and the Board of Probation and Parole.

In its first year, the grant will fund domestic violence trainings for criminal justice personnel. During the second year, advocates will be invited to attend regional coordinated community response trainings that will bring together those trained in the project's first year.

The grant will also provide for safety audits of existing domestic violence response systems, enhance protection order registries and electronic transmittal of warrants, and fund a domestic violence Resource Prosecutor in the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services.

MCADSV announces new location for 2007 statewide trainings

MCADSV is pleased to announce a new location for its 2007 statewide trainings: the Marriott Courtyard in Columbia, Missouri. This brand-new training facility will better meet the needs of both MCADSV members and trainers.

Special room rate

MCADSV training attendees can take advantage of a special group room-rate of \$89.00 plus tax per night. The rate applies to deluxe king rooms and double queen rooms. To guarantee the group rate, attendees must make reservations three weeks prior to the training. Refer to the group code MCAR when making reservations.

New lunch options

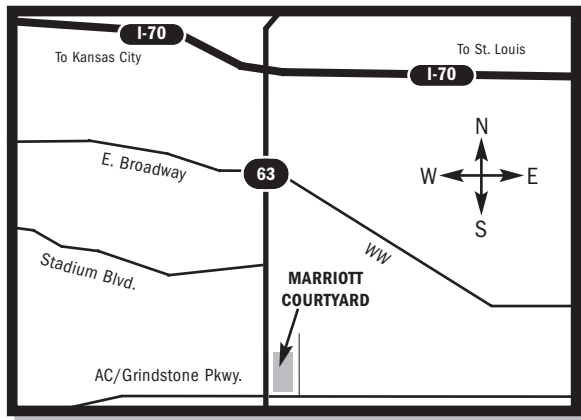
The Marriott Courtyard will offer lunch options new to MCADSV statewide trainings, including a baked potato and salad bar and a Western Round-up Buffet, in addition to favorites such as the Taste of Italy and Mexican Fiesta buffets. Complimentary coffee and tea will be served all day.

Brand-new facility

Opened in 2005, the Marriott Courtyard features an indoor swimming facility with a pool, hot tub, Jacuzzi and whirlpool, a fitness room, wireless Internet access thorough out the facility, a 24-hour café and a Bennigan's Grill and Tavern.

Getting there

From Highway 70, take Highway 63 south to the AC/Grindstone Parkway exit. The hotel is east of 63.



mcadsv recognition

Allstate Foundation grants funds to survivors at five Missouri programs

Five Missouri programs have received funds for domestic violence survivors from the Allstate Foundation Education and Job Training Direct Assistance Fund:

Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center—\$800; Haven House—\$1,000; Harbor Lights—\$1,000; Family Violence Center—\$1,000; and The Safe House for Women—\$1,000.

Although the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) has temporarily closed the application process for this fund, the Allstate Foundation is committed to continuing this resource and is currently working to secure more funding. NNEDV has started a waiting list for those interested in applying for the grant. For an application form or for more information, contact Laura Zahnd, Program Development Specialist, at (888) 666-1911.

Don't miss the 2006 Annual Conference!

Attendees must register by noon on Tuesday, October 30. Visit www.mcadsv.org/membership for details.

Missouri DV programs to pilot national data collection and outcomes project

Missouri has been selected as one of four states to pilot Documenting Our Work (DOW), a national project to develop data collection and outcome measures to accurately capture the impact of federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) dollars on survivors' safety and wellbeing. In Missouri, FVPSA funds are distributed by the Department of Social Services (DSS) as Domestic Violence Victim Assistance (DVVA) grants. Though developed with FVPSA in mind, this exciting project could produce a standardized way for programs to measure outcomes for all state grantors.

In late October, MCADSV staff and regional representatives will receive training on DOW and, by the end of 2006, will replicate the training regionally to domestic violence programs that receive FVPSA funding. Those programs will be expected to begin collecting information in January 2007. All MCADSV members are encouraged to participate.

A national workgroup of coalition directors, local program directors, evaluation specialists and state administrators developed the DOW tools and processes with the goal of creating an evaluation process that will produce meaningful outcomes without being burdensome to program staff or survivors. In the end, grantees will be required to provide only two outcomes: 1) As a result of contact with the domestic violence program, ___% of domestic violence survivors will have strategies for enhancing their safety, and 2) As a result of contact with the domestic violence program, ___% of survivors will have knowledge of available community resources.

These tools and processes will provide a method for critical analysis of the domestic violence movement concerning strengths, weaknesses, history and future direction; provide a systematic way of understanding the impact of the domestic violence movement's efforts; and encourage accountability to survivors of domestic violence, including underserved populations.

MCADSV is also developing equivalent outcome measures for sexual assault service providers. Participation in this portion of the pilot is voluntary, but collecting standardized outcomes provides an opportunity for Missouri programs to illustrate the importance of these services.