

**Precautionary measures against H1N1 Influenza important**

**Q:** Are there materials available for precautionary measures regarding the spread of H1N1 Influenza, also known as the swine flu?

**A:** Yes. As residential and non-residential shelters and programs consider how to minimize the effects and make efforts to prevent the spread of H1N1 Influenza, they might consider the following resources available online regarding current information about the disease, as well as specific considerations relevant to program environments. Multiple sources, such as VAWnet (an online library of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence), the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) offer information advocates might find helpful when preparing for and responding to H1N1 Influenza.

VAWnet has an H1N1/Swine Flu Preparedness and Response Resource Page at: [http://new.vawnet.org/category/index\\_pages.php?category\\_id=994](http://new.vawnet.org/category/index_pages.php?category_id=994). This resource offers specific information for residential and non-residential programs and can be considered for survivors in shelter as well as program staff.

For health advisories and updates visit the DHSS Web site: [www.dhss.mo.gov/BT\\_Response/\\_MedProfs.html](http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/_MedProfs.html)

During a pandemic, employers may track whether employees and their families or associates have contracted H1N1, based on the Americans with Disabilities Act. However, employers are not allowed to discriminate because of this or the employee's national origin. For more information, you might wish to read the EEOC's guidance, "ADA-Compliant Employer Preparedness For the H1N1 Flu Virus." Or visit: [www.eeoc.gov/facts/h1n1.html](http://www.eeoc.gov/facts/h1n1.html).

Several Missouri shelters have reported cases of H1N1 among residents, but none have ceased residential services and have followed standard universal precautions and guidance from the resources above to prevent the spread of the flu.



**alliance opportunities**


**MCADSV REGIONAL MEETINGS**

Location	Date/Time	Regional Rep.
<b>CENTRAL</b> Rolla	Dec. 9 11:30 A.M.	Tracie Lawson (573) 875-1369
<b>KANSAS CITY</b> Synergy	Nov. 20 12:30 P.M.	Beth Savitzky (816) 561-0550
<b>NORTHEAST</b> Moberly	Nov. 19 10:30 A.M.	Contact MCADSV (888) 666-1911
<b>NORTHWEST</b> Sedalia	Dec. 16 Noon	Debbie Wallace (660) 886-9880
<b>ST. LOUIS</b> Safe Connections	Dec. 8 11:30 A.M.	Contact MCADSV (888) 666-1911
<b>SOUTHEAST</b> Cape Girardeau	Dec. 3 11:30 A.M.	Brenda Smelser (636) 931-2700 ext. 196
<b>SOUTHWEST</b> Springfield	Dec. 4 11:00 A.M.	Larry Copelin (417) 869-8332

**UPCOMING MCADSV TRAININGS**

Date/Time/Location	Information
<b>ADVANCED ADVOCACY INSTITUTE</b> December 1-2	MCADSV
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., day 1	(888) 666-1911
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., day 2	
Courtyard Marriott, Columbia	

WATCH YOUR INBOX AND MAILBOX FOR MCADSV'S 2010 TRAINING CALENDAR AND REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE



the latest

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

**MCADSV Conference keynote: A role for everyone to stop violence against women**

In classrooms, courtrooms and countries around the world, Jane Aiken has educated, trained and argued to end violence against women. In many ways, she has witnessed success.

Aiken, the keynote speaker at MCADSV's Annual Conference, is a founding leader of the Missouri Battered Women's Clemency Coalition and argued before the Supreme Court to gain clemency for two women who were denied release by the Missouri Parole Board.

As a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Tribhuvan Law Campus in Kathmandu, Nepal, she contributed to the creation of Nepal's constitution. While she was a Washington University William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law, she directed the university's Civil Justice Clinic. She is currently co-chair of the American Bar Association Women's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and a professor at Georgetown University School of Law. Yet, domestic and sexual violence continue, despite successes regarding the law.

"Even with a legal remedy in place, we don't seem to be stopping the violence," Aiken said. In her address she talked about some of the possible reasons why and suggested different approaches for involving the general public in the movement.

Aiken reflected on the history of the movement, including false assumptions that accompany legal remedies for victims of domestic violence. Even within the legal system, many factors complicate or impede the process, such as a lack of, or failure to enforce, consequences for perpetrators, and the instrumental role of police officers, prosecutors and judges.

The general public might not consider all of the obstacles to leaving a batterer, such as housing, financial



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217 Oscar Drive, Suite A  
Jefferson City  
Missouri 65101  
(573) 634-4161  
(573) 636-3728 fax  
mocadsv@mocadsv.org  
www.mocadsv.org

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**REGISTER ONLINE**

Registration for all MCADSV trainings is online only. Visit [www.mocadsv.org](http://www.mocadsv.org) and click on "member login" to register. Need your username and password? Click on "Forgot Password" and enter your e-mail address.

### Missouri domestic violence programs once again reached 100% participation in DV Counts 2009

All of Missouri's primary purpose domestic violence programs participated in Domestic Violence Counts 2009, the national census of domestic violence services provided in one day. Kansas City was the first MCADSV region to have all member programs report their census numbers. The National Network to End Domestic Violence conducts the census each year.

The data from this census—what happens, and is accomplished in one day—is a unique and powerful way to describe the magnitude of services that programs provide. During legislative sessions, these numbers are used nearly every day to advocate for increased funding at the state and federal level. The census results also offer a view of the needs in each program's community.

The DV Counts Census Report is expected to be ready in February 2010.

### MCADSV programs chosen for two projects: Capacity building for prevention services and expanding sexual violence services in SV/DV programs

MCADSV is currently leading two intensive technical assistance projects: one for domestic violence programs to focus on prevention; and one for dual (domestic and sexual violence) programs to increase their sexual violence programming. These are referred to as the Capacity-Building Prevention Project and the Dual Programs Building Capacity Project.

The projects are about a year long and offer participants intensive technical assistance and training to incorporate strategies to implement changes. For both projects, MCADSV will follow the model used in the Shelter Rules and Language Access Project, which is designed to allow each program to define and prioritize goals and action steps based on the unique needs of its organization.

#### ► Capacity-Building Prevention Project

The goal of this project is to help domestic violence service providers develop or expand their primary prevention plans. Primary prevention is defined as activities that take place before violence has occurred to prevent initial perpetration or victimization.

Programs participating include: RSVP, Columbia; Russell House, Rolla; Rose Brooks Center, Inc., Kansas City; The YWCA Shelter, St. Joseph; Christos House, West Plains; Family Violence Center, Springfield; Ripley County Family Resource Center, Doniphan; Southeast Missouri Family Violence Council, Bonne Terre; ALIVE, St. Louis; St. Louis Healthy Marriage Coalition, St. Louis; and The Women's Safe House, St. Louis.

#### ► Dual Programs Building Capacity Project

The goal of this project is to help programs that identify as dual domestic and sexual violence programs to increase their capacity to serve sexual violence survivors. It will focus on assisting programs to develop and strengthen their sexual violence services and programming at the local level.

Programs participating include: Jefferson City Rape and Abuse Crisis Service; Kansas City Anti-Violence Advocacy Project; Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence, Fulton; Turning Point, Warrenton; Hope Haven of Cass County, Harrisonville; House of Hope, Lexington; Safe House for Women, Cape Girardeau; Lafayette House, Joplin; Council on Families in Crisis, Nevada; Women's Crisis Center of Taney County, Branson; Safe Connections, St. Louis; and Woman's Place, St. Louis.

### Eighth woman freed through Missouri clemency project

Since the mid-1990s, the Missouri Battered Women's Clemency Coalition, of which MCADSV is a founding member, has sought clemency for a group of 11 formerly battered women. In September, Lana Anderson was released from prison. She is the eighth woman from the clemency group to have been released.

The majority of the women in this group, all victims of domestic violence, were not allowed to introduce evidence of the violence against them by their abusers in their trials and were convicted of capital crimes committed against their abusers. Several were convicted on conspiracy charges for murders committed by others.

Of the original 11 women in the clemency project, those who have been released also include: Shirley Lute, Linda Branch, Mary DeMaria, Shelley Hendrickson, Donna Williams, Vanessa Smith and Esther Skaggs, who died after her release. Three women remain incarcerated—Vicky Williams, in the Chillicothe prison, and Ruby Jamerson and Carleen Borden, in the Vandalia prison. At a recent hearing, they were scheduled for a three-year wait before they can return before the Parole Board to seek release.

### MCADSV Annual Conference

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support and psychological problems. Having children, finding a job and seeking shelter are often unaccounted for complexities.

Aiken spoke to an audience familiar with more of the story, advocates who daily address the often-overlooked difficulties involved in addressing domestic and sexual violence. She recognized the work of those in the room and appealed for more people, like them, who share their passion, energy and perspective.



Pictured above: MCADSV Annual Conference attendees gathered for morning workshops, omelets and door prizes.

"We need to make sure that everyone out there understands domestic violence the way you do, or at least a tenth of the way you do," Aiken said. But many feel too far removed from the topic to be personally involved.

"Most people think that they could never be a victim of domestic violence," Aiken said. "They have compassion for

the victim, but they don't worry that they're going to be attacked...that allows for a distance." Therefore, Aiken suggested a different approach—to borrow from a public health model and help every individual realize the personal effects of domestic violence.

Aiken spoke about the cost involved for the general public. Domestic violence increases violence in homes, schools and the work place. Police resources are disproportionately used for domestic disputes, which diverts them from other crimes. The number one health problem for women is domestic abuse. Sharing the \$5.8 billion cost of domestic violence makes the topic extensive and of concern to everyone, not just batterers and victims.

She cited examples of organizations and campaigns from South Africa to New Hampshire that are engaging the public in the movement. They are using similar social entrepreneur, norm-changing, marketing strategies to help people realize and exercise their power to stop violence.

"We need to have people understand that it's in their interest to say, 'No more violence,'" Aiken said.