



# Coalition Against

## RAPE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

WINTER 2011

### Our New Place

**Mission Statement**  
**The mission of the Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence is to advocate for and provide support to individuals who have been affected by domestic and sexual abuse. We are committed to a community based approach through direct services as well as social and systemic change.**

For the past 6 years in CARDV's current location, there has been a sweet, quiet little house standing twenty yards away. With the expansion in services that is happening and new staff and volunteers joining the cause, our office is nearing full capacity. In the "How can we make this work?" spirit that drives CARDV, the vacant house we can see from our office is now ours! Renovations are under way as we prepare to move counseling services to the new building. We hope to have the house in working condition by February of this year.

The house will be the home to staff, volunteers and participants of the new counseling/training center as well as survivors' regular counseling sessions. The new project is a major step in assisting victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault

in achieving sustainable safety by overcoming the trauma which has occurred in their lives and learning to cope, as well as helping children who have experienced violence in their home. A small group of children will participate in counseling sessions by a contracted therapist specializing in trauma-recovery for children. Anonymous qualitative and quantitative data will be compiled over the course of 2012 to produce a model to be used by not only CARDV, but other programs that could effectively provide services to children.

Potential future plans for our new office space include group therapy sessions, spiritual counseling, and a training center. We couldn't be more excited about what this means for the victims and survivors in our community. There is always more that we can do, and we will continue to raise the bar for standards of advocacy, this new office space is just the beginning.

### From the Executive Director...

Of all the social ills which are in our society I believe domestic abuse and sexual assault are the most difficult to understand and even more difficult to address. I also believe they have an extremely profound impact not only on the individuals who have been victims but on our community at-large. People who have never experienced abuse often find it difficult to imagine why women don't leave and how abuse can continue for years. Relationships almost never start out abusive. It is important to realize that love and intimacy precede abuse, which often makes it very difficult to break away.

For more than 15 years CARDV has provided services to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. We have seen an ever increasing need and have worked diligently to provide for this need. This past year has been one of growth and change. The number of victims we served increased by more than 40%. We have also increased the number of staff, the number of trained volunteers, added new programs, and have purchased additional office space. All this was accomplished by an amazing staff which

I refer to as the 'Dream Team' and with the support of our community, both for which I am truly grateful.

As we begin a New Year I feel extremely blessed to be a part of the work which CARDV has done and continues to do. This is a very exciting time as we seek to expand and enhance our services with our ultimate goal being that someday every person is assured a life free from abuse.

- Jerrie Bell

## In Our Community

CARDV services saw an increase in 2010. The following statistics represent this expansion:

965 Total Participants

848 Crisis Intervention Hours

2068 Case Management Hours

284 Court Advocacy Hours

1802 Crisis Line Calls

While these numbers reflect an increase in overall services,

we've seen a notable increase in sexual violence services specifically. Sexual Violence is a significant problem in the United States. It is a topic that, in 2011, still seems to be a "taboo" discussion in public; however, silence continues to "normalize" or "minimize" an unacceptable act. In a society where the threat of sexual violence is constant, women are forced, either consciously or unconsciously, to constantly sacrifice their independence

in an attempt to keep themselves safe.

CARDV and the local colleges are collaborating to form a Sexual Assault Task Force. Members from CARDV, Westminster, and Williams Woods University will be holding monthly meetings in order to create Prevention/Education and Direct Services to individuals affected by Sexual Assault.



Above is the new property recently purchased by CARDV.

## Volunteer Highlights

*"Ordinary riches can be stolen, real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you."*

*-Oscar Wilde*

CARDV wouldn't be the same without our incredible volunteers! This amazing group of caring people dedicate themselves year-round to the betterment of CARDV in so many ways. Here's a brief 'annual report' of activities that volunteers worked on in 2010:

- Run errands & provide transportation for clients
- Childcare
- Answer the crisis line
- Office work
- Lobby at state legislature
- Pick up and deliver donation boxes
- Clean out the new house
- Assistance with community presentations
- Garage sales
- Assist Bea with school presentations and yoga
- Staffing volunteer fairs, health fairs
- Research-survey of clients

- Painting
- Handmade Mother's Day gifts
- Taping up tear-off flyers
- Prepare and present class to Children's Division workers
- Prepare detailed client resources guide

Remember to take some time to take care of YOU. **A great big THANK YOU to all volunteers!**

## Regional Training: MCADSV Conference "30 Years of Social Change"

CARDV sent five employees to the 2010 Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) in November. More than 200 advocates gathered at MCADSV's Annual Conference, Nov. 3-5, to celebrate 30 years of social change achievements. The keynote speakers at this year's Annual Conference spoke about the accomplishments of the past, inspired advocates to

meet the challenges of the present, and called upon the vision and leadership of advocates to create the movement's future. Keynote speaker Sue Else, President of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) described the work of NNEDV, the national membership organization of state coalitions. This includes a variety of efforts, from federal

a recent partnership with Dr. Phil that brings accurate violence against women to about 9 million viewers of each of his television programs. Sue credited the work of advocates in Missouri and MCADSV as being leaders whose work in challenging environments provides models for other states and programs supporting sexual violence. Keynote speaker Colleen Coble, MCADSV's Chief Executive

Officer, focused on the stories of advocates and the Coalition through its 30-year history, highlighting the humor in the successes and mishaps of our community of advocates. The large group broke up into specialized workshops. CARDV's Nancy Foster presented, on behalf of coworker Gail Reynoso, about advocacy in a multicultural world.

## What is Equal Access?

CARDV's Equal Access Program (EAP) is designed to ensure that all victims of domestic and sexual violence, regardless of race, age, religion, immigration status, language, physical ability, sexual orientation, etc., can access culturally and linguistically competent services from our agency. This program maintains a bilingual victim advocate, Gail Reynoso, who provides direct assistance to Spanish speaking victims in their first language. Interpreters

are used for other languages (which included Cantonese and Tagalog in 2010). EAP also ensures access to immigration assistance for undocumented clients; ASL interpreters and an on-site videophone for the Deaf; assistance in accessing SSI and SSDI for clients with disabilities; and other flexible services designed to meet the needs of underserved populations in and around Callaway County. CARDV is a member of the Central

Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition (CMSHTC). Gail worked with CMSHTC to provide several trainings on working with adult survivors of sex trafficking in 2010. Gail also gave a number of presentations in Spanish about domestic and sexual violence throughout Mid Missouri. EAP coordinated with LEAD (Leadership through Education and Advocacy for the Deaf) in Columbia to provide services to numerous deaf clients, and

worked with the fourth year William Woods ASL class to learn simple emergency ASL phrases. CARDV continues to expand and enhance its outreach program to underserved populations.

**If you speak another language, or are interested in helping the EAP with outreach, education, interpretation, etc...Please call Gail Reynoso at CARDV.**

## CARDV Staff

The adage, 'A business (profit or non-profit) would be nothing without its employees,' doesn't ring any truer than at CARDV. Providing quality victim services is incredibly difficult work and individuals who do it well truly have a gift. As is often said in our office, it is not a job, but your life's work.

I would like for you to meet these incredible women who provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse 24-hours a day

365 days a year.

Nancy Foster – Director of Operations

Gail Reynoso- Equal Access Coordinator/Victim Advocate

Mary Ann Harper – Sexual Assault Coordinator/Victim Advocate

Carolyn Garner – Counselor/Volunteer Coordinator

Bea Wallace – Public Educator/Research Coordinator

Anne Stinson – Victim Advocate  
Mary Marshall – Night/Week-end Victim Advocate

Cassie Davis – Night/Week-end Victim Advocate

In future issues of our newsletter you will have an opportunity to learn more about the Staff at CARDV and the work they do here.

-Jerrie Bell, Executive Director

## CARDV 54a



*"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."*

*-Mother Teresa*

Items for Donation:

Toiletries  
Diapers  
Furniture  
Gas Cards  
Blankets Pillows  
Toys  
Office Supplies  
Women's Clothing  
Children's Clothing

**GO PAPERLESS!!**

If you would like to receive the CARDV Newsletter by email and currently do not, please send an email to: [astinson@cardv54a.com](mailto:astinson@cardv54a.com)

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Volunteer Opportunities:

CARDV relies on its faithful volunteers for a variety of tasks throughout the office and out in the community. Because we take confidentiality and respect of the nature of our work incredibly seriously, there is a required 40 hours training period for all volunteers who work directly with clients. After graduating the training, volunteers may choose their own specialties based on individual abilities. And creativity is encouraged! If you have an idea for a new project it will always be heard. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, please contact Carolyn Garner at 573.642.1418 or via email at [cgarner@cardv54a.com](mailto:cgarner@cardv54a.com).

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