

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



In This Issue

[Member Highlight: Project Safe's teen text line](#)

[DV and LGBTQ community - discussion event AUG 3](#)

[Shop for a Cause, Aug. 26-28](#)

[Training: DV through a Trans Lens](#)

[2015 Fatality Review Project](#)

[GCADV Board 2016-17](#)

[Reflections on 2016...A message from Jan](#)

[Community Conversations with Black and African American communities](#)

[Jazzin' for GCADV!!](#)

[Safe Sacred Space materials for DV and faith communities](#)

Member Highlight: Project Safe's 'Breaking Silence' teen text line



Originally launched in December 2012 with support from Verizon, Project Safe's teen text hotline - **Breaking Silence** - targets teens and young people who prefer to text rather than talk. Operated by trained interns under staff supervision, the text line is an important complimentary service to Project Safe's extensive dating violence/healthy relationship educational programs in schools. Experience operating the text line has revealed that the vast majority of teens want support to process what they're going through. A recent collaboration with Georgia Tech has created custom new software for Breaking Silence, allowing the team to offer a live response to texts as they come in.

Reflections on 2016...

A message from Jan

Dear Friends of GCADV,

This is a special time of year for our organization. We go through the process of both reflecting on our work over the past fiscal year and looking ahead to what we plan to accomplish in the new one.



During the 2016 legislative session, GCADV and its statewide partners helped to pass Georgia Senate Bill 193 (SB193) and Georgia House Bill 827 (HB827). SB193 ensures that a previous family violence battery conviction against the same victim or any family violence conviction against any household member would result in a subsequent family violence battery and would be punished as a felony. HB827 establishes a protocol for local law enforcement for the handling and submission of rape kits to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation for testing. Both bills were signed into law and became effective July 1, 2016.

In fiscal year 2016, we expanded our work in underserved communities in response to the barriers faced by specific populations in Georgia, including survivors of color, survivors living in rural communities, survivors with disabilities, and survivors who identify as LGBTQ. We began by focusing on the African-American community where domestic violence and related barriers to service have had the most tragic impact. GCADV has been hosting a series of Community Conversations which are enabling us to develop a better understanding of the needs of the African American community and African American victims of domestic violence. Our goal, through the conversations, is to partner with the community in breaking down barriers to service and obtaining safe and effective culturally responsive care through our member programs, both mainstream and community-based. For more information see the piece in the newsletter below or go to our [website](#).

Annual text line usage increased over 10 times in its first 3 years of operation. Project Safe recently added 6 counties to its text line service area, bringing the current number of counties covered to 38. Additional counties will be added on a quarterly basis until the text line is statewide by spring of 2017 - thanks to a mini grant from the CJCC.

AUG 3 EVENT
It Happens to Us, Too:
Intimate partner
Violence in the LGBTQ
community

Wednesday Aug 3, 6 PM - 8 PM
Phillip Rush Center
1530 DeKalb Avenue, Suite A,
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

GCADV's Executive Director Jan Christiansen, and Alexis Champion, Training Manager will be among the speakers at this Aug 3 presentation and facilitated discussion on the dynamics of intimate partner violence in LGBTQ relationships. We will explore the unique experiences, challenges and barriers for LGBTQ individuals experiencing intimate partner violence. Learn about current services available to help and contribute to the conversation on gaps that exist in services for the LGBTQ community.

This event is free and open to the public.

HELP KEEP GEORGIA
FAMILIES SAFE - Shop
for a Cause at MACY's
Aug. 26 - 28

We are proud of the work of our Board who provide sound strategic oversight, and our 10 staff members who work tirelessly to train domestic violence advocates and service providers, advocate for social and systems change, carry out our community support programs, manage our operations, and ensure that our resources are used effectively to support our collective mission and vision.

Our goal for fiscal year 2016-2017 is to continue to strengthen the services provided to underserved communities and to ensure that their voices are heard. GCADV is committing its time, energy, and resources to ensuring that survivors of domestic violence, regardless of their ethnicity, geography, ability, religion, or sexual orientation, receive safe, responsive, trauma-informed care, healing, and justice. We want you as partners in this effort and will keep you abreast of how we are collaboratively seeking solutions for the betterment of all victims of domestic violence.

To engage in our work as a volunteer, GCADV member, or donor, please go to www.gcadv.org or contact us at 404-209-0280.

Sincerely,
 Jan Christiansen
 Executive Director

Community Conversations
Breaking down barriers for Black and African-American DV survivors

The 2010 Violence Policy Center's annual report "[When Men Murder Women](#)" revealed the shocking statistic that African American women of color in Georgia were dying at a rate two times higher than the general African American population. Evidence also shows that women of color have less access to local services and resources in our state.

For several years GCADV has engaged in a number of specific efforts to address the disproportionate impact domestic violence (DV) has on Black and African American communities. In fiscal year 2016, GCADV began hosting *Community Conversations* to engage people who identify as Black or African American about their experience with DV.

This series of informal, facilitated conversations explores the relationship between DV and violence in these communities at large, as well as other community challenges such as economic security, housing, policing, etc.

The *Community Conversations* will enable GCADV to:



**Friday Aug 26 - Sunday Aug 28
Macy's (any location)**

GCADV is selling Savings Passes for \$5 to use Friday, August 26 through Sunday, August 28 at any Macy's location. Save 30% on select regular, sale, and clearance items!

Consider using your Savings Pass to help a member agency by also purchasing bedding, towels, women's and children's clothing. For more info on how to purchase your pass click [here](#).

**UPCOMING GCADV
TRAINING: Domestic
Violence Through a
Trans Lens**

This interactive, dynamic training will center on the experiences of Trans and Gender Nonconforming survivors of domestic violence and explore patterns of coercive control in their relationships. It will include best practices for serving these survivors.

**Training Registration Deadline:
Aug 5th
Click to [Register!!](#)**

If you have any questions, please contact Alexis Champion at 404-209-0280, ext. 23 or achampion@gcadv.org

2015 FATALITY REVIEW

- better understand the impact of DV on Black and African American individuals and communities
- better understand how to engage Black and African American communities in discussions about DV and the resources needed
- better inform our statewide and systems advocacy work
- establish support mechanisms for small-scale community-based programs that serve DV survivors
- develop a model approach for addressing DV in unserved and marginalized communities which can be shared with our members to build their capacity

This important work will empower these communities to develop and own solutions to the challenges they face.

For more information please contact Shenna Morris, smorris@gcadv.org

Jazzin' for GCADV - October 22, 2016

GCADV invites you to join us for an amazing night of music, food, and friends.

Picture the scene. It's a beautiful fall evening and you're in the mood for jazz. How better to satisfy your craving than to join us at **Jazzin' for GCADV** at the Solarium in Decatur! You'll get to listen to the acclaimed smooth sounds of the PR Experience, enjoy substantial hors

PROJECT

In case you haven't seen it yet...in Spring 2016 the Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project published the 2015 Annual Fatality Review, critically examining the circumstances preceding that year's DV-related homicides and making recommendations for change. Access the full review [here](#)



GCADV 2017-2017 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Beth Peters - Pres.
Katie Bates - Vice-Pres.
Linda Schaeffer - Treas.
Michelle Toledo-Cainas - Sec.

Members

Tangela Beard
Aparna Bhattacharyya
Dorothea Blanton
Veda Brown
Nancy Bryan
Roderick Cunningham
Silke Deeley
Michelle Johnson
Lou Lauria
Teresa Millsaps
Carrie Montagna
Joshua Nation
Adrienne Sims
Dee Simms
Vinita Shrivastav
Vanessa Wilkins

d'oeuvres and delicious beverages and all while supporting GCADV's critical work.

Tickets go on sale beginning August 15, with discounts for staff of member programs. Early bird discounts apply until September 15.

New SAFE SACRED SPACE materials!



Following from the successful June 14 webinar: *Engaging the Faith Community in your coordinated community response to domestic violence*, GCADV and the Georgia Commission on Family Violence have published new resources for this important area of work. **Safe Sacred Space: A Training Guide for Family Violence Task Forces** includes tips for conducting a successful training and a training outline complete with a suggested script. **Safe Sacred Space: A Manual for Faith Leaders** provides more in-depth information for faith leaders themselves to use in their response to domestic violence.

Links to download or request a copy of these resources can be found at <http://georgiafatalityreview.com/resources/>

For help, call the

**STATEWIDE DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE HOTLINE
1-800-33-HAVEN
(1.800.334.2836)**

About GCADV

Our Mission: Collaborate. Advocate. Educate. Empower.

GCADV envisions a Georgia free of domestic violence. We empower survivors and the programs that serve them, we educate the public, and we advocate for responsive public policy. Our strength is in numbers, as we collaborate throughout Georgia to stop domestic violence.

www.gcadv.org



Copyright © 2015. All Rights Reserved.

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 114 New Street, Suite B, Decatur, GA 30030

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by jchristiansen@gcadv.org in collaboration with



Try it free today