



GEORGIA ADVOCATE E-NEWS

Advocating for Advances in the Domestic Violence Movement

GEORGIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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We need your help.

DONATE

Click to learn more.

Get Involved in DVAM



Click the links below to get involved in DVAM this year!

[Calendar of DVAM Events](#)

[Purple Purse Challenge](#)

[#PurpleThursday](#)

Wear purple Oct. 19 & snap a pic to share on social media!

DVAM: Reflecting on our History and Forging a New Horizon

A message from Jan

Dear Friends of GCADV,

The first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed 30 years ago in October 1987. That was the same year of the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline.



In 1994 Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). In 1995, the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) was created to administer financial and technical assistance to communities to enable them to develop programs, policies, and practices to end domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This was the result of a grass roots coalition of bold, courageous advocates and survivors pressing Congress to recognize the severity of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Some would say that we have come a long way, however, in Georgia, statistics have remained relatively steady for the past few years . . . approximately 50,000 dv crisis line calls answered and approximately 5,000 survivors and their children sheltered annually. These statistics are alarming to those of us who are a part of the domestic violence movement and should be alarming to our society as a whole. Our work is to not only to ensure safety and justice for survivors, but to also call for individuals and communities to take an active part in promoting the social change needed to end gender-based violence and create a world where all are safe, respected, and able to reach their full potential.

Where will we be in the next 30 years? What will our work look like? My hope is that we will all come to see that violence against women is connected to the bigger WE. That all oppression contributes to violence against women. That racism, homophobia, poverty, homelessness, over-criminalization, and privilege are recognized as contributing to violence against women and girls. Ultimately, our work will be in concert with the all of those working towards a "Beloved Community"

New Survivor Project

[The Survivor's Project](#) is a series of true stories and podcasts about survivors of domestic violence. Our goal is to give voice to those who have been silenced by shame and fear, motivate communities to change laws, provide resources, and eradicate societal stigmas. These are real stories of abuse told from those who survived, or those who continue the fight for justice for those who did not. This project is done in partnership between GCADV and writer, Caroline L. Huftalen.



Caroline L. Huftalen began her professional writing career as a journalist after graduating from the University of Buffalo with a degree in English and Theatre. Huftalen received her MFA in Writing at SCAD-Atlanta where she was the founding editor of Ivy Hall Review. As survivor herself, Caroline begins the [Survivor Project](#) with her own story of abuse which led to her arrest. Her hope is that this project saves lives and may be a way out of the darkness into a new life.

Read the first part of the monthly series [here](#).

Meet Teresa Millsaps, GCADV's New Board Vice President

Teresa Millsaps has worked with victims of domestic violence for over 21 years. Teresa is the new Executive Director at Tranquility House in Cartersville, GA.

which recognizes and values the human dignity of ALL.

Sincerely,
Jan Christiansen
Executive Director

What is Financial Abuse?



Financial abuse, like other forms of abuse, is used to control others. The goal is to control a person by preventing access to money or other financial resources. It often begins subtly and progresses over time. Financial abuse includes manipulation, intimidation, and threats.

GCADV helps its member organizations to recognize the underlying causes of financial abuse and ways to best serve those impacted. Additionally, we engage in economic justice work to ensure that economic institutions and the systems that support them empower those impacted by financial abuse.

Financial Abuse might include:

- Controlling how money is spent or taking the paycheck
- Withholding money or "giving an allowance"
- Withholding basic living resources, medication, or food
- Not allowing a partner to work or earn money
- Stealing a partner's identity, money, credit, or property
- Trying to get their partner fired from work by calling repeatedly, showing up, or causing a disturbance

Financial Freedom for Survivors



Purple Purse
Allstate Foundation

The Allstate Foundation Purple Purse Moving Ahead Grant is designed to help survivors obtain financial freedom through job readiness and asset building. The grant project, managed by Leona Williams, GCADV Special Projects Coordinator, includes workshops that assist survivors with financial management and help them identify signs of financial abuse.

The project also enables some of our community-based member programs (such as Noor, Raksha, Circle of Hope and New American Pathways) to provide comprehensive support to the survivors that they serve.



Her former position was at the Cherokee Family Violence Center and is Chair of the Cherokee Local Inter-agency Planning Team. She has filled the roles of: Support Group Facilitator, Shelter Director, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Assessor, Program Director, and Community Specialist. She has listened to more than 3000 victims share their stories and needs. She is regularly utilized as an expert witness in both criminal and civil hearings. Teresa is passionate about the safety and well-being of victims in their relationships and has continued her education in trauma, motivational interviewing and client centered services.

GCADV 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

- Katie Bates - Pres.
- Teresa Millsaps - Vice Pres.
- Marc Effron - Treas.
- Michelle Toledo-Cainas - Sec.

Members

- Tangela Beard
- Nancy Bryan
- Shandra Dawkins
- Barbara Gibson
- Michelle Johnson
- Lou Lauria
- Wendy Lipshutz
- Carrie Montagna
- Joshua Nation
- Beth Peters
- Beth Ready
- Dee Simms
- Vinita Shrivastav
- Clint Walker
- Vanessa Wilkins

National Resources

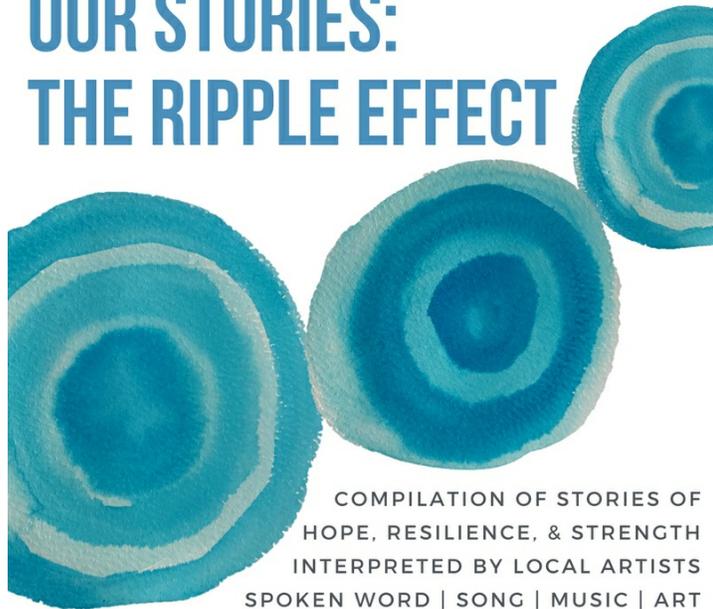


You can get involved by participating in our [Purple Purse Challenge](#) next week! Join the Challenge [Here](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

GCADV ANNUAL STAND EVENT

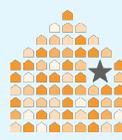
**OUR STORIES:
THE RIPPLE EFFECT**



COMPILATION OF STORIES OF HOPE, RESILIENCE, & STRENGTH INTERPRETED BY LOCAL ARTISTS
SPOKEN WORD | SONG | MUSIC | ART

Our Stories: The Ripple Effect
November 4, 2017 Doors open at 6:00 pm
Switchyards Downtown Club
151 Ted Turner Drive NW, Atlanta

Nothing that we experience happens in isolation. We are



NNEDV

**National Network to
End Domestic Violence**
nnedv.org/

NNEDV is the leading voice for domestic violence victims and their advocates. NNEDV offers a range of programs and initiatives to address domestic violence.

WomensLaw.org
Because knowledge is power.

womenslaw.org

A project of NNEDV providing legal information and support of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

**For help in Georgia,
call the STATEWIDE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOTLINE
1-800-33-HAVEN
(1.800.334.2836)**

all connected by our trauma, trials, and triumphs. **Our Stories: The Ripple Effect** shares the powerful stories of two domestic violence survivors through interviews, spoken word, art, and music. Their stories reflect the struggles of overcoming abuse and strength of the human spirit. Join us for this special evening to benefit the work of GCADV. Together we empower domestic violence victims and survivors

Bites until they're gone, beverages and mystery boxes for sale, and the Allstate Purple Purse and a live painting will be auctioned off following the panel.

Tickets are on sale [here](#).

Ticket sales end October 27!

\$25 for General Seating

\$50 for Stand Patron

-Seat in front two rows and two drink tickets

(Limited to 20 tickets)

For more info go to <https://ourstories-therippleeffect.eventbrite.com> or contact Hannah Morgan at hmorgan@gcadv.org 404-209-0280 x 24

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

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