Domestic violence is not inevitable.

There are a multitude of societal conditions that create an environment ideal for abuse. Lack of stable housing, insufficient mental health and substance abuse services, increasing poverty, reductions in access to health care, inadequate transportation and poor employment opportunities … in many families one, some, or all of these come together to create unstable families. When we address these issues, we are on our way to preventing abuse.

That is why we have joined with community partners who focus on these critical issues. By creating safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments, we make respectful relationship behavior the easy choice for families and communities.

With our network of member programs throughout the state, we have seized the opportunity to help families. Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments enable children to become caring adults. Fathers who cradle their newborns skin-to-skin create a special bond with their babies. This is just the beginning.

We still need shelters to provide safety and immediate housing for survivors of domestic violence and we will continue our work to support them. But we are forging ahead with the critical work of prevention. As a statewide coalition, ICADV is in the position to lead these efforts throughout Indiana. The work has begun.
PREVENTION

The ICADV prevention team works to make respectful behavior the easy and expected choice in all of our relationships.

To this end, ICADV designed and implemented a program to promote skin to skin contact between fathers and their infants. Bonding increases a father’s participation in parenting, potentially decreasing both child abuse and domestic violence.

ICADV also created a new resource to help diverse agencies and communities adopt effective prevention practices. The Prevention Toybox contains five games that translate prevention concepts in concrete and engaging ways. ICADV has conducted trainings and provided the Toybox to prevention practitioners all over the country including a new partnership to provide training for all of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response officers from the US Navy.

ICADV also provides training and technical assistance to support initiatives underway in communities across Indiana. Funding was given to 10 domestic violence programs for a broad range of innovative programs. These include efforts to promote respect in youth sporting leagues, programs to institutionalize safe, stable and nurturing relationships and environments across multiple community settings, youth leadership programs, male engagement programs and programs designed to increase safety and social inclusion for all community members.

ICADV continued to receive Rape Prevention and Education funding to address the risk and protective factors of sexual violence.

Eight programs completed community needs assessments to identify gaps in services, the needs of different populations, resources, and community strengths. They shared their experiences with over 60 preventionists from around the state at ICADV’s first Winter Prevention Institute. To help other programs conduct their own assessments, ICADV developed an online Community Needs Assessment Toolbox.

ICADV’s RPE Coordinator was selected to present an Ignite Talk at the 2015 National Sexual Assault Conference in Los Angeles. She addressed how this assessment process can be used to engage communities and empower local programs to feel more confident about their prevention work.

The ICADV Youth Council increased membership from five to 19 youth from 19 Indiana counties. In 2016 they partnered with the Marion County Council on Youth to hold the fifth annual Youth Empowerment Summit to discuss diversity and safety within schools.

ICADV brought together the Bloomington Inclusion Collaborative, a cohort of nine local and state agencies that work together with people with a variety of disabilities. The goal is to reduce the sexual violence risk factor of isolation for people with developmental disabilities.

The Prevention Institute and Prevent-Connect featured ICADV’s Prevention Specialist in an international webinar with over 500 registered participants. It addressed social cohesion and inclusion as primary prevention strategies and is available online.
TRAINING

ICADV provides training each year for member programs, community partners and the community at large. This year 78 training sessions were provided to 2,200 individuals.

The 33rd annual conference drew nearly 300 advocates and prevention practitioners for two days of intensive training. A new feature was the Prevention Institute that focused on primary prevention techniques.

Sexual assault advocacy services was a topic addressed in trainings that included legal information, the dynamics of sexual assault and ways in which to advocate for survivors.

ICADV partnered with the Prosecuting Attorneys Council for trainings that showed attorneys how to use expert witnesses and helped advocates learn to become one.

Indiana Child Support staff were shown how domestic violence impacts custody, child support and visitations.

Sixteen law enforcement districts were given lethality assessment trainings. These teach officers to ask specific questions when responding to domestic violence calls. It helps officers assess a potentially lethal situation and link victims to community services.

A statewide team published the Fatality Review Report. Its recommendations for change included educating schools to provide assessment and intervention for at-risk students, and working with the Department of Child Services to ensure children in abusive homes get the counseling and services they need.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Legal services expanded greatly in 2016 with the Satellite Attorney Program. Attorneys around the state signed on to provide low cost services to help survivors obtain protection orders, custody, child support, and supervised visitation as allowable under Indiana law in domestic violence cases. These are all areas in which survivors are typically underserved. In the first six months of the program attorneys handled 61 cases.

Training others to understand the legal issues confronted by survivors has a critical impact on the ways in which the legal system works with them. Over 40 trainings were held for county bar associations, court systems and advocacy groups.

ICADV Legal Counsel also takes calls daily from advocates and survivors who need emergency legal help. Protection orders, custody issues and shelter are just a few of the many issues survivors brought to ICADV for assistance.

Immigrant Legal Project

A victim’s immigration status is one way for an abuser to assert power and control. Isolation, threats of deportation and language barriers all create an environment conducive to abuse.

The Immigrant Legal Project began in 2015. ICADV gives advocates the tools to help victims in a culturally sensitive manner and work to secure legal immigration status for survivors when possible. The ability to legalize a victim’s immigration status allows them to leave an abusive home, become self-sufficient, work and provide for themselves and their children.
ADVOCACY

Working to advocate for systemic and societal change, influence public policy, and the allocation of resources is key to the mission of ICADV.

In the 2016 Indiana legislative session, ICADV supported a number of legislative bills. Several that passed addressed protections for survivors of domestic violence.

HEA 1069 updates Indiana’s domestic battery statute to protect family and household members and to toughen a few penalties. SR 40 is a resolution to urge study of GPS tracking in civil protection order proceedings, relying on statistics from ICADV.

A notable legislative victory was the hearing and subsequent withdrawal of SB 36. It keeps in place the law that states those with two or more alcohol convictions in the past three years cannot procure gun permits.

ICADV fought for SB83 that would require insurance companies to provide coverage to “innocent co-insureds;” that is, victims of domestic abuse. It was disappointing it did not pass but the bill will be refiled in the next legislative session.

SB 343, to require protection orders that would specifically allow for possession and removal of a pet, was not heard this year. However, the Protection Order Committee of the Indiana Judicial Conference did agree separately to amend their instructions for filing to specify that relief requested can include possession and removal of pets.

PROGRAM SERVICES

With 92 member programs throughout Indiana, a primary responsibility of ICADV is to offer them support and services.

ICADV certifies Batterers’ Intervention Programs, designed to provide individuals who use violence with the skills to change the behavior, beliefs, and attitudes that support their use of violence against intimate partners. This year ICADV certified five new BIPs, bringing the total number of certified programs in the state to 25.

In partnership with the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, ICADV is charged with ensuring consistency of basic services provided around Indiana. During the year, ICADV conducted 13 Peer Reviews that assessed the policies, procedures, and facilities of each state funded domestic violence program.

To further support program directors, ICADV continued its bi-monthly Director’s Training Institute. This series provides program directors with training on how to develop policies and procedures, boundaries and ethics, grant writing and management, funding, and non-profit finance.

ICADV has received positive feedback on this training series and will continue to provide new and relevant trainings for directors.

Technical service is an important ICADV service. ICADV staff fielded over 1,200 requests for technical assistance from member programs, partners, and allies.
DEAF and HARD OF HEARING

In 2015 ICADV received funding to specifically address the needs of survivors who are Deaf and hard of hearing. With a coordinator on board, ICADV quickly took on the task of carrying out a plan to address the unique needs of this group.

ICADV and the Indiana School for the Deaf entered into a partnership to create a Safe School Environment initiative to prevent bullying and other forms of violence for students.

Training took the forefront when ICADV collaborated with the Indiana Governor’s Council on People with Disabilities. They provided American Sign Language interpreters so Deaf and hard of hearing participants could attend the annual ICADV conference. Additionally, ICADV provided two separate intensive trainings to 50 professional ASL interpreters on Trauma Informed and Legal Interpreter training. The unique dynamics of domestic and sexual violence within the Deaf community were presented to more than 100 professionals in five regional trainings.

ICADV’s Legal Department began providing support to Deaf and hard of hearing survivors with legal guidance on protective orders and other legal education.

In partnership with DeafALIVE and the Indiana School for the Deaf, ICADV created and produced five videos in American Sign Language on a variety of topics related to Domestic Violence issues.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Helping people understand the complex dynamics of domestic violence is a key public awareness goal. For that reason, ICADV provides a variety of resources for victims of domestic violence as well as the many individuals and agencies who work with them.

Brochures address specific issues such as teen dating violence, elder abuse, impacts on children, and the law. Distributed to the public and member programs, these materials provide the public and advocates with materials to help them better understand the impact of domestic violence.

Communication lines are always open between ICADV, its members and friends. Electronic newsletters are sent regularly to more than 4,000 individuals. These publications provide relevant news articles from around the country, training calendars, public policy updates, legal news and other important information.

Social media is expanding and so is its visibility with ICADV. Regular facebook and Twitter posts have increased exposure 16% in one year, a number that will certainly grow.
**THIS YEAR IN INDIANA**

- 52 people died from an act of domestic violence.
- 9,414 men, women and children stayed in a domestic violence shelter.
- 15,852 people received non-residential services.
- 6,911 people were denied shelter because there was no room.
- 66% of abusers were a spouse, former spouse or other family member in the home.
- 75,735 calls were made to crisis lines.

Numbers were compiled from the 48 state-funded domestic violence programs during the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. All programs are members of ICADV.

**ON ONE DAY IN INDIANA**

- 1,863 survivors (619 children and 612 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing.
- 632 adults and children received counseling, legal advocacy, support groups and other non-residential assistance.
- 522 domestic violence hotline calls were answered.
- 255 requests for services went unmet. 184 of those were for housing because there were not enough beds available.

Numbers were compiled on September 16, 2015 when each of the identified domestic violence programs in Indiana participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

**FINANCIAL POSITIONS**

- **Revenue**
- **Expenses**

In January 2016 ICADV and other organizations from Indiana and around the U.S. sent representatives to the Driving Change Conference that focused on the identification of and response to high risk domestic violence cases.
Laura Berry was honored with the 2015 Voices for Victims award from Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller.
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