



Update

Family Violence Coordinating Council Newsletter

September 2011

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**September 9, 2011
Portland Building,
1120 SW 5th Ave,
Room 2b**

Topics:

- **Budget Updates**
- **Nominating Committee**
- **"What to expect at court?" video**
- **DA updates**

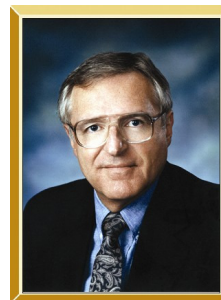
2011 Meeting Schedule

Dear Suzanne,

Welcome to the Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council Newsletter published monthly. If you are having formatting difficulties allow photos to be displayed or add us to your safe senders list.

You are invited to attend the 5th Annual Judge Herrell Awards Celebration!

The family Violence Coordinating Council instituted the Judge Stephen Herrell Award for Outstanding Collaborative Efforts in 2006. This award honors Judge Herrell's work to increase the safety of women and children both locally and nationally as well as his legacy as a founding member of the Family Violence Coordinating Council.



**Stephen
Bennett
Herrell**

Judge Herrell had a significant and lasting impact on the response to domestic violence and on the lives of women and children in this community. His wisdom and foresight led to effective ways to respond to and reduce domestic violence.

His guidance and influence in the early years lead to the development of many successful efforts that still exist in our community. These include specialized domestic violence units in the District Attorney's Office, the Portland Police Bureau and Department of Community Justice.

We also benefit from judge Herrell's work with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in developing a pro-active response to family violence by judges working in Family Court or Domestic Relations. He has had a national impact that is still felt today and will continue in the future.

We hope you can join us for our 5th annual Judge Herrell award celebration held on **October 14th at the**

Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council meets on the 2nd Friday of every month. Upcoming meeting dates are:

September 9

October 14 -Annual Judge Herrell Awards SAVE THE DATE

November 11 No meeting due to Veteran's Day Holiday

December 9

Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, from 12:15-1:30pm. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

2011 Legislative Update: A brief summary of domestic and sexual violence bills.

The following is a summary of domestic and sexual violence issues addressed during the 2011 Legislative session. The session ended on June 30, 2011.

HB 5030: Established the department of Human Services Budget. In this budget \$6.2 million in new funding was allocated to DHS to create a new program allowing DHS to contract with non-profit victim services providers to place domestic violence advocates at child welfare and self-sufficiency offices to provide counseling and safety services to parents who are victims. The budget also set aside funding for oversight of the program and infrastructure support to the non-profit programs across the state.

HB 2244: Exempts records of domestic or sexual violence services or resource center from public records laws. Section 6 pertains specifically to domestic violence resource centers. They were drafted to address the problem presented by the fact that the Gateway Center for Domestic violence Services in Portland, because of its sponsorship by Multnomah County (a public agency), is subject to current public records disclosure laws. The bill exempts the Gateway Center from public records laws, so that it is on equal footing with other domestic violence service providers in its ability to protect victims' records from disclosure.

HB2940: Increases the classification of the crime of strangulation from a class A misdemeanor to a Class C felony in certain circumstances. The elevated penalty applies when (1) the crime is committed in the immediate presence of, or witnessed by, a person or victim's minor child or stepchild or minor child residing in the household, (2) the victim is under 10 years old, (3) the person used or attempted to use a weapon during the commission of the crime, or (4) the person had other previous convictions for certain crimes.

SB 616: Protection for pets in FAPA proceedings. Allows the court to grant, in the issuance of a FAPA restraining order, "other relief that the court considers necessary to...prevent the neglect and protect the safety of any service or therapy animal or any animal kept for personal protection or companionship."

Quick Links

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[Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office](#)

HB 3482: Expands current workplace protections for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking to victims of harassment. In addition the bill expands the types of documentation an employee may use to certify that s/he is a victim, to include evidence from and administrative agency.

SB 293: Expands current housing protections for victims to clarify that early lease termination provisions cover the victim as well as any immediate family members who are tenants.

This is not a complete list of bills. For more information visit the Legislature's website at www.leg.state.or.us/bills_laws or contact Sybil Hebb at shebb@oregonlawcenter.org for a complete list.

New Study of Jailhouse Phone Calls Reveal Insight into Why Domestic Violence Witnesses Recant.

A new study utilizing recorded telephone conversations between men charged with felony domestic violence and their victims hopes to reveal why some victims decide not to follow through on the charges. The researchers studied victims who had decided to recant listening to from 30-192 minutes of recorded conversations for each case.

They listened to and recorded telephone conversations between 17 accused male abusers in a Washington state detention facility and their female victims, all of whom decided to withdraw their accusations of abuse. Researchers analyzed up to three hours of phone conversations. The couples were aware of being recorded through an automated message at the beginning of each call. Such recordings have been approved by the state Supreme Court, and the researchers gained approval from the county prosecutor's office to use the recordings. All the recordings involved cases that had already been resolved.

After analyzing the calls, the researchers identified a five-step process that went from the victims vigorously defending themselves in the phone calls to agreeing to a plan to recant their testimony against the accused abuser.

Stage one: Conversations include heated arguments between the couples, revolving around the event leading to the abuse charge. In these early conversations, the victim is strong, and resists the accused perpetrator's account of what happens.

Stage two: the perpetrator minimizes the abuse and tries to convince the victim that what happened wasn't that

serious. The perpetrator appeals to the victims' sympathy and cast himself as a victim. In one case, the accused perpetrator threatened suicide.

Stage Three: The accused abuser uses the sympathy of the victim, the couple bond over their love for each other and position themselves against others who 'don't understand them'.

Stage four: Involves the perpetrator asking the victim to recant her accusations against him and the victim complying.

Stage five: The couple constructs the recantation plan and develops their stories.

The results of this study could help prosecutors and other victim advocates as they work with abuse victims in the criminal justice system. Findings challenge the existing belief that victims recant because the perpetrator threatens her with more violence.

Researchers highlight how emotion-based techniques of abusers may make it difficult for victims to disentangle themselves from violent relationships and encourage a model of advocacy that emphasizes victim education. The study recommends that Advocates counsel victims up front and let them know the sympathy appeals and minimization techniques that their husband or boyfriend is likely to use on them.

To view full article
visit <http://researchnews.osu.edu/archive/vicrecant.htm>
The study was funded by the Criminal Justice Research Center at Ohio State and the Group Health Foundation of Seattle.

For more information contact:
Amy Bonomi, (614) 292-4753; Bonomi.1@osu.edu
Jeff Grabmeier, (614) 292-8457; Grabmeier.1@osu.edu

Trainings

September 8th, 2011 (8:30-10:30am): Recovery Networking Breakfast For Women's Services, Multnomah County Southeast Health Clinic, 3653 SE 34th Ave., Portland OR 97202. This is an ongoing monthly meeting that focuses on community networking and resource sharing. If you have questions contact Susan Montgomery at (505)988-3064 ext. 24304.

September 13, 2011 (10:00-12:00pm): Tri-county Batterer's Intervention Meetings, Tri-county BIP Network, Multnomah County Building, 501 SE Hawthorne, 97202, Rm 525 Copper Room.

September's topic will focus on specific aspects of a good working relationship between victim advocates and BIPs. BIPs are asked to bring copies of their partner's packets that they mail to the partners of the abusive men they work with. No registration required. Anyone is welcome to attend.

September 13, 2011 (10:00-12:00pm): WEBINAR-MoneyTalks: what's money got to do with domestic violence?

A new webinar series to promote economic justice. MoneyTalks will take on topics that will help you understand how economics affect survivors of domestic violence. Contact Traci Underwood at traci@wscadv.org for upcoming trainings calendar and registration information.

September 20th, 2011 (9:00am-12:00pm): Advocating For African and African American Survivors of Domestic Violence. Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council Monthly Training, Multnomah County Southeast Health Clinic, 3653 SE 34th Ave, Portland OR 97202.

An informative workshop focused on understanding the strategies and best practices for working with African and African American survivors of domestic violence. Participants will learn how to provide culturally competent advocacy and safety planning. And receive resource list for working with African and African American survivors. Presented by members of the African & African American Domestic Violence workgroup. Registration is not required.

For more information please contact Vanessa Timmons at 503-988-9166 ext. 26266 or vanessa.timmons@multco.us

Free Online Training: Domestic Violence: Fundamentals for Community Corrections Practice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA). This training provides critical information and supervision strategies to community corrections professionals who supervise domestic violence cases. For more information about the training, including registration instructions, please visit: <http://www.appa-net.org/dv/index.htm>

SAVE THE DATE: November 1 & 2, 2011: Arte Sana's Fourth Nuestras Voces (Our Voices) National Conference, South Padre Island, TX. Join a national gathering of Latina victim advocates, prevention specialist, survivors, and allies promoting the engagement of Latinas as agents of change in addressing gender-based violence. Visit http://arte-sana.com/arte_sana.htm for registration information.

2nd World Conference of Women's Shelters to be held on February 27 - March 1, 2012! You can [register](#)

[now](#) for the 2nd World Conference of Women's Shelters (WCWS), which will bring together shelter advocates and grassroots

Announcements:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Events Calendar:

The Domestic Violence Coordination Office is compiling a DVAM events calendar. If you would like your event included please send the name of event, date, time, location and contact person to Vanessa Timmons at vanessa.timmons@multco.us no later than September 23rd, 2011.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) seeking new members for their Domestic Violence Council:

The DHS and OHA domestic violence council is seeking new members. They are looking for community partners, DHS and OHA representatives. Contact April Schott, Administrative Assistant, Children Adults and Families, Dept of Human Services, 503-945-6107 or email her at april.r.scott@state.or.us

Administration Launches "Apps Against Abuse" Technology Challenge to Help Address Sexual Assault and Dating Violence:

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius launched a national competition to develop an innovative software application, that provides young adults with tools to help prevent sexual assault and dating violence. For additional information and submission guidelines visit their website <http://challenge.gov/HHS/199-apps-against-abuse> the winner of the challenge will be announced in October 2011.

Domestic Violence Coordination Office offers a new version of the Domestic Violence Resource Manual:

This version of the manual is focused on Vulnerable Populations and provides information and resources for working with vulnerable survivors of domestic violence. The manual includes information on safety planning with vulnerable survivors and working with vulnerable perpetrators. For more information contact Vanessa Timmons at vanessa.timmons@multco.us

NEW RESOURCE: Online compilation of articles on gendered nature of DV:

This compilation of free articles addresses the issues of woman's domestic violence against men. To access the collection visit the site Domestic Violence and Gender: An XY collection <http://www.xyonline.net/content/domestic-violence-and-gender-xy-collection>

Note: We would like to hear about innovative domestic violence resources, new projects within your programs and updates on your existing services. Please let us know by sending your information to *Update* editor Vanessa Timmons via email: vanessa.timmon@multco.us or fax: 503-988-3710.

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