

Balancing the Scales



Inside this issue:

Sexual Abuse Prevention Month	1
MAC's Mission	
Spring Advocate Training	2
Community Highlights	
Silent Auction	
OJP Conference Scholarships	
MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS Director's Corner	3
MAC Exists to Help!	4
MAC Contact Information	

April is National Sexual Abuse Prevention Month

"Participating in opportunities to speak out about the crime of sexual assault is an important step to stopping this violent crime against women. During April 2008, designated as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, I encourage everyone to use the resources being publicized and to participate in events, discussions, and programs to increase public awareness about this crime that affects 1 in 6 American women. Working together, we can change attitudes, continue to support victims, and hold perpetrators responsible."

Cindy Dyer

Office on Violence Against Women, United States Department of Justice

Help Raise Awareness About Sexual Assault

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) has compiled several resources and publications related to sexual assault. You are encouraged to visit these sites and download these resources to help raise awareness about sexual violence in your community or workplace. Working together, we can raise awareness, change attitudes, and help prevent sexual assault.

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations
- National Training Standards for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiners
- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Virtual Practicum
- National Institute of Justice Rape and Sexual Violence
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Sexual Violence Prevention
- Tribal Justice and Safety in Indian Country
- U.S. Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response
- OVW's Public Awareness Campaign Web site on domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, and dating violence.

For information regarding events in Minnesota, please visit the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault at www.mncasa.org

MAC Service Directory

This summer MAC will be offering a Service Directory to all it's members. Look here for updates every quarter and keep your directory up to date with :

- New Members
- Contact information
- New services available in your community

Minnesota Alliance on Crime's Mission

To provide a statewide alliance for crime victim programs while promoting the advancement of services in Minnesota through education, resources, and legislation.

Our vision is to put victims' rights at the forefront of Minnesota's response to crime.

We're On the Web!
www.mnallianceoncrime.org

Minnesota Alliance on Crime

MAC's New Website

www.mnallianceoncrime.org

Attention ALL MEMBERS!

MAC is offering 5 Scholarships to the 21st Annual Conference on Crime Victims May 28- May 30, 2008, at Cragun's Conference Center in Brainerd, Minnesota

- Scholarships include single room occupancy for May 28th and May 29th as well as Full Conference Registration.
- Any Minnesota Alliance on Crime member (program or individual) is welcome to apply.

DEADLINE: April 21, 2008.

Silent Auction UPDATE: We are still accepting donations for our Silent Auction on May 29th. If you have a new item or gift basket to donate, please let us know or bring it with you to the conference.



THANKS so much for your Support.

Community Highlights and Upcoming Events

April 13th—19th National Crime Victim Rights Week

Visit Office for Victims of Crime, national website for free tools for your program: <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrv2008/welcome.html>

April 18 Spring Victim Advocacy Training <http://www.maddmn.org/pdf/SpringTraining2008.pdf>

April 19 Walk A Mile In Her Shoes

A Walk to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault and Gender Violence

Registration starts at 7:00 a.m. Walk begins at 8:30 a.m.

Burnsville Center, Burnsville This nationwide event gives men the opportunity to stand up and "walk-the-walk" to raise awareness about sexual violence and educate the community about support services. For more information, contact the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program (SAFE), Fairview Ridges Hospital Attn: SAFE, 201 East Nicollet Blvd., Burnsville, MN 55337 or 952-892-2714.

April 23-24 Strengthening Families to Prevent Child Abuse 2008 Conference

University of Minnesota Continuing Education and Conference Center

1890 Buford Drive, St. Paul. The theme of this year's Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota annual conference is: Prevention Works: Igniting Change for Families. For more information or to register, visit www.pcamn.org

May 28-30 OJP Conference on Crime Victims "Victims—The Real Story" Cragun's Conference Center, Brainerd, MN. Visit www.ojp.state.mn.us for more information. (scholarships available through MAC)

June 7 Walk Like MADD 5k Walk www.walklikemadd.org

June 24th MADD Victim Vigil www.maddmn.org

Spring Victim Advocacy Training

Friday, April 18, 2008 Time: 9:30 AM -3:00 PM

- Co-sponsored by Minnesota Alliance on Crime and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.
- Featuring Harbir Kaur of ElderCare Rights Alliance and Mike Schumacher of Hennepin County Victim Witness Program
- Space is limited, so please register early!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 15, 2008

Meet the MAC Board Members

Mike Schumacher (Treasurer)

Mike Schumacher works in the Hennepin County Attorney's Office as the Legal Service Specialist Supervisor (AKA Victim Advocate) He has been with Hennepin County for 22 1/2 years. Mike works with General Crime Cases including homicide and criminal vehicular operation/homicide cases. Mike's hobbies include collecting and exhibiting Icelandic stamps/covers.

RoJean O'Malley

I live in Montevideo, Minnesota and am the General Crime Victim Witness Coordinator for Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle and Yellow Medicine Counties. I started this position in October, 2000 so I am on the eighth year in this office, which is in the courthouse in Montevideo. As coordinator of the Victim Witness Office, I assist victims of all crimes and refer those who require specialized services to other collaborative service providers to ensure the best services possible to victims. We have a hectic, but very happy home and love spending as much family time together as we can. I'll have to admit, retirement is very appealing to me but as all advocates know, being able to help people and enjoy what you do is very rewarding. This position entitles me to help make a difference in people's lives everyday, at a time when it is most important for them. It also sends me home each evening counting my blessings.

Mary Radunz

I have been with the Benton County Attorney's Office as the Victim Assistance Coordinator since Sept 2000. I have worked in victim assistance positions since 1992. As the coordinator I assist victims of all crimes within Benton County. I am a "one person show" except for when I am lucky enough to have an intern! This past year I have been very lucky and have had a couple fabulous interns. I enjoy mentoring college students and I appreciate the opportunity to pass on the knowledge I have gained over the years. Having them here also helps me look at things from a new perspective, and reminds me where I have come from, and where I want to go. I have been a member of MGCVC/now MAC for the past 7 years and have been a board member for 4 or 5 years. I truly enjoy the work on the board and would encourage any MAC members to join us in our efforts.

Carol Haselmann

My Name is Carol Haselmann, and I work as Victim Services Coordinator for MADD Minnesota. I have just started my second year with MADD. I work with families and victims of drunk driving crashes throughout the state and travel quite a bit as a result. I have a 16 year old daughter and we live in Minneapolis. I am brand new to the MAC Board and very excited to be working with MAC to help raise awareness, communicate and educate people across Minnesota.



Director's Corner

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever had."

Margaret Mead

Dear MAC Members and Friends:

It has been a busy winter at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime, formerly, Minnesota General Crime Victim Coalition. Our board voted, unanimously to approve our vision: *To put victims' rights at the forefront of Minnesota's response to crime.* We also continue to strengthen our goals of providing relevant resources to our membership; supporting and advancing legislative issues that improve crime victim rights; providing educational opportunities; and developing and enhancing funding opportunities for our Alliance.

On March 6, advocates and survivors gathered at our 3rd Annual Day on the Hill event to learn how to effectively communicate with elected officials, celebrate previous success at the capitol and learn about current legislation relevant for victim advocates. The survivors who shared their stories inspired me to continue working on behalf of our Alliance to advocate for crime victims and their advocates.

As you commemorate National Crime Victim Rights Week, April 13-19th please keep in mind that the work you do on behalf of victims, witnesses and survivors does not go unnoticed, nor unappreciated. Thank you for all you do and continue to do for those affected by crime in Minnesota! If you are a current MAC member, please apply for a *full scholarship* to the Conference on Crime Victims this May. If you are not a MAC member, please consider updating your membership today.

Sincerely,

Leah Sweet

Director, Minnesota Alliance on Crime



Minnesota Alliance on Crime

2332 Lexington Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Phone: (612) 940-8090
Website: www.mnallianceoncrime.org
Email: ed@mnallianceoncrime.org

We want to share your program information with other members! Please email any upcoming trainings, program changes, successes or stories you want to share so we can include it in future newsletters. Contact us at ed@mnallianceoncrime.org or visit us on the web at www.mnallianceoncrime.org

DO YOU HAVE UNUSED RESOURCES??

MAC is looking to expand our resource library, and asks that members forward on any unused resources or duplicates they may have lying around.

These resources may be of great value to our membership!

MAC EXISTS TO HELP!

In the early 1990's, several crime victim service providers around the state began meeting informally for the purpose of providing support and to share knowledge and resources with each other. This group of dedicated individuals identified the need to become more organized in their efforts. Out of this need, the Minnesota General Crime Victim Coalition was born and was incorporated in 1993. For the first years, MGCVC operated only with volunteer help, then in 1998 an Executive Director was hired. In 2007 the MGCVC changed it's name to Minnesota Alliance on Crime or MAC. Today's membership includes around 70 members from all areas of victim services: community-based programs, law enforcement, prosecution, and probation agencies. We are working together by "joining hands across Minnesota" to better assist victims and further their rights statewide.

Minnesota Alliance on Crime
2332 Lexington Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113