

VOICES

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AWARENESS: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

October has been nationally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness month since 1989 to bring awareness and spotlight to the issue of domestic violence. Many people, agencies, and communities across the country come together to support those who have experienced domestic violence and are on a journey to healing and empowerment. Here is a list of different activities happening during [Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#).

During October we ask our communities to mourn those who have died, celebrate with those who have survived and to rededicate ourselves to building communities where domestic violence no longer exists. This year the theme is "'#1thing" awareness + action = social change". What is your #1Thing? Share with us on social media.



LEADERSHIP VOICES

JESSICA CISNEROS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Safe Embrace

Jessica started working with survivors and their children in the child welfare system in Clark County in 2006. She started as a case manager for a non-profit and eventually was promoted to supervisor and then to a program director. After moving back to Reno, she worked for NCJFC as a Site Manager working with courts across the nation on best practices and the intersection between child welfare and domestic violence. In December 2017, she joined the Safe Embrace team. She was hired as the Program Director and officially became the Executive Director in June 2019.

Safe Embrace is a non-profit committed to ending the cycle of domestic and sexual violence in our community, offering a wide variety of prevention and intervention services that are survivor-centered and trauma-informed.

Some of their largest successes include expansion of their co-ed safe house to 32 beds, incorporating a housing first and rule reduction model in all residential programs and expanding their outreach and prevention education programming.

Jessica was called to the movement in graduate school, when she was able to work

alongside some professors who taught her about coercive control and intimate partner violence. "It was not until I started working with survivors and their children that I began to see the unique needs of this population. While the work we do is challenging, seeing our survivors overcome their situations is inspiring," she said.

She believes that ending domestic violence is a multi-faceted approach and a combination of both prevention and intervention strategies. "It really does take an entire community and not one agency can do it alone," she said. "I believe that social norms and acceptance about violence need to change and that prevention education can be extremely successful in interrupting the intergenerational cycle of violence."

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

UPCOMING:

October 14th

NV Health Conference

Training Topic: Sex Trafficking: An Overview for Service Providers

Register here: <https://immunizenevada.org/conference>

October 16th

VAAN Institute

Registration Closed

Training Coordinator Judy Henderson with NCEDSV will make three presentations: In Her Shoes, Stalking, and Abuse in Later Life

Learn more here: <http://vaan.nv.gov/>

January 10th

Project ECHO UNR School of Medicine

Register here: <https://med.unr.edu/echo/clinics/public-health>

Training Topic: Intimate Partner Violence: A Public Health Priority for EMS Providers presented by Training Coordinator Judy Henderson

BROCHURES

Check out our new brochures [here](#).

PAST

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS: AN EMPOWERMENT APPROACH

Thank you to everyone who attended our 2019 Annual Conference, Sept. 23-25th at Circus, Circus in Reno, NV. The three-day conference featured inspirational plenaries and workshops addressing tools for ending domestic and sexual violence for advocates, community organizations and survivors statewide.

To see more photos, follow our [Facebook page](#).

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



EVENTS

DVAM

For a list of all of the DVAM events throughout the state, [visit our website](#).

Annual Award Luncheon

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Award Luncheon on September 25th, where we honored NCEDSV's Executive Director Sue Meuschke for her 30 years of service and to many more!

LAS VEAS PRIDE FESTIVAL

Stop by our tent on October 12 at the Las Vegas Pride Festival. [View event](#)

NCEDSV PUBLIC POLICY

On September 12, 2019, the Nevada Supreme Court issued an opinion that requires jury trials as an option for offenders of domestic violence misdemeanors. At issue is a law passed by the 2015 Nevada Legislature that prohibits an individual convicted of domestic violence battery from possessing a gun. This law, which mirrors federal law, increases the penalty for a domestic violence conviction so the batterer will be charged with a crime serious enough for a jury trial.

This is reversal of their 2014 opinion. NCEDSV is concerned this opinion will likely make it more difficult for domestic violence victims to be protected from their batterers because of cost and infrastructure barriers in the Nevada court system.

Find out more here.

For any questions regarding State or Federal policy, please contact NCEDSV Policy Specialist [Serena Evans](#).

ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

Open Positions on the NCEDSV Board of Directors

The NCEDSV Board of Directors has two (4) openings—2 program at-large seats (must be affiliated with a member program – staff, volunteer or board member) and 3 community at-large (not directly affiliated with a member program) seats- all are three-year terms. All

terms begin with the January 2019 Board meeting. NCEDSV Board applicants must be committed to NCEDSV's mission, vision and values.

The Board of Directors is the governing body of NCEDSV. Directors serve as trustees on behalf of our membership and are thus responsible for ensuring that the organization meets both legal and ethical standards for nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations. The Board's most important role is to provide oversight of all activities and funds. The Board plays a critical role in ensuring that the organization has what it needs to carry out its mission, and that it does so legally, ethically, and effectively. Specific duties and responsibilities include the following: setting the vision, mission, and organizational goals; making sure the organization has the resources it needs; making sure those resources are well managed; making sure the organization carries out its mission with effective programs; hiring, supervising, and evaluating the Executive Director; establishing personnel policies and procedures; enhancing the organization's public image. To effectively carry out these job duties, Board members are expected to:

- Commit 4 to 10 hours per month to the work of this Board and of the organization, and any extra effort that may be required in relation to fundraising events or other special activities.
- Attend Board meetings regularly, including all 4 of the Board meetings each year.
- Review agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings.
- Serve actively on at least one standing committee and attend committee meetings regularly, attending at least two-thirds of the scheduled committee meetings as well as special meetings as needed.
- Participate in the following fundraising activities: make a personal financial contribution to the organization each year; identify prospective donors and assist in fundraising initiatives; buy tickets, attend, and participate in the planning and marketing of the organization's fundraising events.

Applications are due October 15, 2019. We strongly encourage individuals who have been active members of NCEDSV to consider board membership. NCEDSV is committed to representing all survivors of domestic and sexual violence and strives to have a broad range of representation. Please contact NCEDSV to obtain an application packet.