

In this Issue

[Awareness: Stalking](#)

[Awareness: Human Trafficking](#)

[Nevada's Leadership Voices: Executive Director Kathie McKenna](#)

[Education & Training](#)

[Events](#)

[Public Policy Update](#)

[Organizational Updates](#)

[Advocates Corner: Economic Justice - A Key to Safety](#)

AWARENESS



STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

January 2020 marks the sixteenth annual National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM), an annual call to action to recognize and respond to the serious crime of stalking. To honor NSAM, we encourage you to learn more about the prevalent, dangerous, and frequently misunderstood crime of stalking (SPARC www.stalkingawareness.org/stalking-awareness-month-2020.)

Expand your knowledge by attending SPARC January webinars and exploring their resources for victims, advocates, law enforcement, prosecution, awareness educators, and corrections. Use this information to educate and get the word out about NSAM on social media and listservs, or, write a letter to the editor, an article for a newsletter or ask your community to proclaim January as NSAM.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY



#WearBlueDay - Human Trafficking Awareness Day - January 11, 2020

Intersections of Human Trafficking and Domestic and Sexual Violence

Domestic violence is defined as “a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate setting.”¹ Some common tactics used are intimidation, emotional abuse, isolation, economic abuse, sexual abuse, physical abuse,

and coercion and threats.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act defines severe human trafficking as “(A) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or (B) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion of the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.”ⁱⁱ

Looking at these definitions, it is easy to see how someone can be a victim of both domestic violence and human trafficking. This article will discuss how these issues intersect and may present in clients requesting services. Additionally, it will also provide an overview of NCEDSV Human Trafficking Program Standards and the corresponding tool kit.

Domestic/Sexual Violence and Sex Trafficking

It is not uncommon for U.S. citizen (USC) and immigrant victims of sex trafficking to be forced into commercial sex work by an intimate partner, or spouse. According to National Human Trafficking Resource Center, 31.51% of USC survivors who reported on recruitment methods stated that an intimate partner (boyfriend, spouse, fiancé) introduced them to commercial sex work or prostitution.ⁱⁱⁱ In one prominent case, the survivor agreed to engage in commercial sex work in hopes her trafficker would “love her.”^{iv} She tried to leave several times over four years, but was abused and forced to continue.^v Intervention came when she was beaten so severely she had to undergo surgery for her injuries.^{vi} The hospital called the police, who initially arrested her trafficker on domestic violence charges; after additional interviews, the trafficker was also charged with sex trafficking and other related crimes.^{vii} It is not uncommon for a recruiter to lure immigrant victims into a fraudulent marriage or intimate relationship to import the victims into the United States and force them into commercial sex work or prostitution.^{viii} For example, federal authorities prosecuted more than 50 defendants from the same town in Mexico who used this tactic to further their sex trafficking enterprise.^{ix} This same recruitment tactic has been found in several other cases.

Domestic/Sexual Violence and Labor Trafficking

Frequently, victims of domestic violence (both USC and immigrant) are forced to work in family businesses for little or no wages. In one case, a trafficker married a woman overseas and brought her to the United States.^x When she arrived, she found her “husband” was already married, and was forced by he and his wife to act as a domestic servant and janitor for their family business.^{xi} Her trafficker used physical violence, sexual assault, emotional abuse, and threats against the survivor's family as a means of coercion. However, in many cases, the relationship may start as a legitimate relationship, and then devolve into a trafficking situation.

Use of Power and Control

As advocates for victims of domestic violence, we understand the use of power and control in a violent relationship to subjugate the victim. These same tactics are often used in human trafficking cases. The Trafficking Victim Protection Act (TVPA) defines human trafficking as using force, fraud, or coercion to force someone into commercial sex or forced labor. Because of this similarity, many survivors may not self-identify as a survivor of human trafficking, but more closely identify as a survivor of domestic violence. However, depending on their situation, the services and benefits of working with a human trafficking organization may better benefit the survivor.

NCEDSV Program Standards

NCEDSV worked with a committee consisting of program members and human trafficking programs to develop standards for programs that encounter a human trafficking survivor in their ordinary course of business. The standards do not expect NCEDSV member programs to develop human trafficking programs; however, if a client is identified as a victim of human trafficking and domestic/sexual violence, the standards can help guide your program in long-term service provision, or until a transfer can be made to the nearest human trafficking program. The accompanying toolkit gives forms, sample policies, links to on-line training, screening materials, and additional information that will assist agencies and advocates when they encounter a victim of domestic/sexual violence and human trafficking.

You can find the standards and the toolkit in the Resource section of Coalition Manager. Additionally, you can contact Lisa Lynn Chapman, Technical Assistance Coordinator, at 775.828.1115 x 40 or lialc@ncedsv.org for more information.

LEADERSHIP VOICES

KATHIE McKENNA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, No To Abuse



Can you discuss the programs and services No to Abuse provides?

No To Abuse is a program under Nevada Outreach Training Organization. There are multiple programs: Domestic Violence (No To Abuse), Elder Abuse, Differential Response, Title IVB, the Children's Advocacy Center and the Family Resource Center. The Domestic Violence program provides help with services, personal and household needs, advocacy and shelter placement for individuals and their children when abuse has happened, both male and female. The Elder Abuse provides the same services as the Domestic Violence, just to seniors. Differential response works with DCFS with cases that don't quite qualify for removing the children from the home (usually environmental, educational neglect, etc). Title IVB works with families directly or court ordered for family training such as Life Skills, Parenting, Anger Management, etc. The Children's Advocacy Center provides advocacy, services and forensic interviews for children who have been physically and/or sexually abused. The Family Resource Center helps those in need of a hand up for housing, energy assistance, clothing, household goods, furniture etc.

You recently became the Executive Director. What have some of the highlights been so far? Challenges?

I am new to the social services field, being a telecom executive for the last 30 years. This was supposed to be my laid-back, going into retirement position. Was I mistaken! But with that said, I have found this position very rewarding and fulfilling to be able to help those in need. I do have a tendency to be a fixer, and that has been a huge cultural shift as I have found I cannot fix everyone, all the time. I have also focused on reducing our operational expenses to enable us to spend more on direct client services.

What is it like serving survivors in Pahrump?

It can be difficult. We are a small community which seems to have a high rate of domestic violence. September 2019, we lost our domestic violence shelter to a loss in grant funding.

We have been busy reworking grants to direct money to enable us to get another shelter; should be January 2020. It is truly a hardship to not have a shelter in Pahrump as we have to take the client and children to Vegas, where many times they are full. We have struggled this holiday season as we have had two women, both with 3 children each, that we have struggled to find temporary housing for.

What are some things you would like to highlight about your program that the community may not be aware of?

With the various programs that we have under Nevada Outreach, I think many do not realize the entirety that we can help an individual, domestic/sexual violence or otherwise. The Family Resource Center has the ability to help in the whole; clothing, energy assistance, household goods, furniture, along with our other programs for classes and support groups. It really is a one-stop shop to be able to help these victims' get back on their feet.

Where do you see this movement going in the next 10 years and how do you hope to be a part of that?

I truly enjoy being a part of this organization and helping people, especially those who have had a rough life. I hope that federal programs, like the Family First Prevention Act, that looks to help individuals before they are in serious trouble financially and psychologically, will become more prevalent in all areas of support and need.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

UPCOMING:

January 10th, 2020

Project ECHO UNR School of Medicine

Training Topic: The Impact of Sexual Harassment & Domestic Violence on the Workplace for Healthcare Providers presented by Training Coordinator Judy Henderson

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



February 10-11, 2020

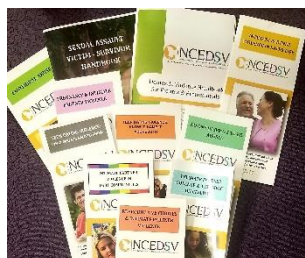
Expert Witness Training

Training Topic: This training is for direct service professionals and university-level researchers with a minimum of five (5) years' direct service or research experience.

Where: Las Vegas, NV

Cost: Free Limited travel scholarships are available for individuals outside of Clark

Click here for more information: <https://www.ncedsv.org/event/expert-witness-training/>



BROCHURES

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

EVENTS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING DAY

January 11, 2020: <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>

RENO'S WOMEN'S MARCH

January 18th, 2020 11:00 AM-3:00 PM: <https://www.ncedsv.org/event/renos-womens-march/>

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

February 7th, 2020 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM: <https://nevadawomenslobby.org/all-event-list/centennial-celebration-of-womens-right-to-vote/>

#ORANGE4LOVE

February 11, 2020: <https://www.breakthecycle.org/orange4love>

CHALK FOR LOVE

February 24th, 2020: <https://www.breakthecycle.org/chalkaboutlove>

NCEDSV PUBLIC POLICY

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV) is beginning to compile legislative ideas and policy concerns for the upcoming 2021 Legislative Session. To kick things off, NCEDSV will be holding its first open policy brainstorm idea call on January 15th at 11:30am. This call is open to all. To register for the call, please click here (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HTSVL7S>). If you are unable to attend the phone call, you can submit policy concerns or ideas that you want brought to our attention by completing the survey here (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TFSY6CT>)

2019 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT RE-AUTHORIZATION

Both Senator Ernst and Senator Feinstein have introduced competing VAWA re-authorization bills in the US Senate. While there has been talk about returning to the table to find a bipartisan compromise on their competing VAWA bills, NCEDSV along with our national partners at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), the National Task Force (NFT), and the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (NAESV) are advocating to encourage that the bipartisan bill contains no rollbacks and meets the needs of all survivors. A comprehensive VAWA bill will include no exemptions to nondiscrimination provisions, no undermining the integrity of tribal courts, address the needs of undeserved communities, keep guns out of the hands of abusers and increases access to safe housing and invests in prevention. Until a comprehensive VAWA bill is introduced with no rollbacks, Senator Feinstein's bill S.2843 is the preferred VAWA bill of NCEDSV and our national partners.

FISCAL YEAR 20 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS

On December 16th, the final FY20 appropriations packages were released. The appropriations will fund all government programs and avoid a federal government shutdown. The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), was increased to its highest level ever at \$175 million. This includes an allocated \$7 million to tribes in addition to the 10% set aside. Overall VAWA numbers were increased. Including small increases to the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), Transitional Housing, Legal Assistance, Rural and Youth Programs. \$50 million has been secured from the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) program to fund domestic violence specific housing. Compared to \$3.5 billion in FY19 only \$2.54 will be released from the VOCA fund for FY20. This will go to fund tribal set asides, VAWA programs, and the VOCA State Victim Assistance funds. The decrease in funding is a reflection of shrinking deposits into the VOCA account.

For any questions regarding State or Federal policy, please contact NCEDSV Policy Specialist **Serena Evans**.

ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE



NCEDSV CELEBRATES OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY

During our 40th anniversary year, we know we can be proud of a past filled with challenges and triumphs; confident in a present that offers opportunities and openings for real change; and excited about a future where violence is not a way of life for far too many families. The 40th anniversary

is celebrated with the ruby gemstone which symbolizes energy & passion. Turning 40 means to us that we will continue to have the energy and passion of our mission of being the statewide voice advocating for the elimination and prevention of violence by partnering with communities. This year we will celebrate our birthday by highlighting communities all over Nevada with our Traveling Purple Purse, because we know that statewide efforts begin in local communities. Follow the travels of the Purple Purse here: www.ncedsv.org/travelingpp

BOARD RECRUITMENT

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 Executive Director Sue Meuschke at suem@ncedsv.org to obtain an application packet.



ADVOCATES' CORNER

ECONOMIC JUSTICE - A KEY TO SAFETY

by Lisa Lynn Chapman, JD, NCEDSV Technical Assistance Coordinator

When I was an advocate, it was easy for me to focus on the significant issues: safety, shelter, getting someone out of town, protection orders, and divorce. I could even have conversations about what options were available for a surprise pregnancy. However, the thought of having a conversation around money seemed too intrusive. My family never talked about money, so I really never knew how to have that conversation. And I was living paycheck to paycheck. Who was I to speak to anyone about money? So, other than a necessary budget for a program or benefit, I never really spoke to clients about money.

It wasn't until I was leading a support group, and we started talking about financial abuse, did I realize that my clients were very interested in learning more. So, instead of a two-night talk on financial abuse, I downloaded the Allstate Financial Empowerment curriculum, and we went through six weeks of talking about money, finances, credit, retirement, and mortgages. I felt intimidated, over-my-head, and quite frankly like a fraud. I was thinking, "if they only knew I was eating ramen and Chef Boyardee this week..."

After that experience, I knew I needed to expand my knowledge and advocacy to include Economic Justice. Most of the articles I read were about paycheck fairness, increasing the minimum wage, changing punitive banking practices that affect low-income persons and stopping the predatory (high interest payday loans) lending industry. As I researched, I learned how much the Economic Justice movement intersects with the Anti-Violence movement. If the minimum wage was increased, my clients could afford apartments. If there was equal pay, then my clients may not be as dependent upon their abusive spouses. If judges would order child support or rent/mortgage payments with TPOs, clients may not go back. But I had no idea how to work this into my advocacy other than, "Let's make a budget" or "Let's look at your credit score."

We all know that finances are one of the primary reasons why victims stay or go back. So, if money is one of the keys to safety, why was I never taught how to have an appropriate and meaningful conversation with clients?

Fast forward several years, one of my first projects at the Coalition was to start a micro-lending project. I was excited and thrilled. This is Economic Justice in action! With assistance from the Allstate Foundation, NCEDSV established the L.I.F.E. Microloan program. This program allows qualified applicants to borrow up to \$500 interest-free.



NO MORE FINANCIAL ABUSE

Financial abuse is experienced in 98% of abusive relationships.

#endDV #NoMore
nnedv.org



Borrowers pay back the loans with payment no higher than \$41.67 per month. Here is the [link](#) to the materials. (If you cannot access the materials, please reach out to Lindsay Yates at programtalv@ncedsv.org for access to Coalition Manager.)

The basic requirements to qualify for a L.I.F.E. Microloan are:

- Be a survivor of domestic or sexual violence working with an NCEDSV member program
- Meet with an advocate at the member program at least 3 times
- Have enough income to pay personal expenses and the life loan

The first microloan can be used for any purpose designated by the client. We will send a check to the vendor. And yes, clients can apply for additional loans once their current loan is paid off.

I am sure some advocates are thinking, "Meet with me? What am I supposed to do at this meeting?" First, NCEDSV is creating guidance for each of these three meetings to help advocates work effectively with their clients. These will focus on budgeting, credit, and how to complete the application.

Advocates must have meaningful conversations with their clients about budgeting and credit as the L.I.F.E. Microloans are a credit-building tool. What does this mean?

NCEDSV is a credit reporting lender. At the beginning of the loan and the end, NCEDSV runs a credit report. During the life of the loan, NCEDSV reports to the credit agencies the payment history. At the end of the loan period, NCEDSV will inform clients about changes to their credit scores. Recently, a survivor applied and paid off her L.I.F.E. Microloan. She was uncredited (zero credit score). After repaying her microloan, she established a score of 605.

It is pretty easy to see how the L.I.F.E. Microloan fits into the economic justice framework. By assisting survivors with their financial needs, the loan also helps to establish or improve credit. Establishing or improving credit can be vital to survivors. We know that credit issues complicate getting housing, sometimes getting a job, and transportation. Each of these elements is important to a survivor's safety and independence.

NCEDSV also offers these loans to advocates, as well. It is important to us that advocates are in financially healthy places. Also, please keep reading Voices. Throughout this year, I will be including articles focusing on financial education to help advocates feel more comfortable discussing finances and, hopefully, feel better about your own finances.

So, what if a client doesn't qualify for a L.I.F.E. Microloan? NCEDSV still offers the Jan Evans Direct Assistance Fund (JEDAF). The JEDAF provides grants/scholarships to survivors up to \$500. It is a resource of last resort. So, clients cannot be eligible for a L.I.F.E. Microloan to be eligible for the JEDAF. We don't want to demoralize clients by having them submit an application with all the documentation and be rejected. Instead, during the budgeting conversation, fill out the budget for the L.I.F.E. Microloan and send it to me at

lialc@ncedsv.org or Toni Beauchamp at admincoord@ncedsv.org to review. If we determine this person is eligible for JEDAF, we will let you know so you can proceed in the way that is the best for your clients.

In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to me, at lialc@ncedsv.org or via phone 775-828-1115 x 40. I am happy to talk with you about economic justice, L.I.F.E. Microloans, and basic financial information.

ⁱ National Domestic Violent Hotline, <https://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/abuse-defined/> accessed 11.8.2019

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ⁱⁱⁱ Sex Trafficking in the U.S. A Closer Look at U.S. Citizen Victims, Polaris Project, <https://polarisproject.org/sites/default/files/us-citizen-sex-trafficking.pdf> accessed 11.6.2019

^{iv} Fact Sheet: Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence, The Human Trafficking Legal Center, <http://www.htlegalcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/Human-Trafficking-and-Domestic-Violence-Fact-Sheet.pdf> accessed 11.6.2019.

^v Ibid.

^{vi} Ibid.

^{vii} Ibid.

^{viii} Ibid.

^{ix} Ibid.

^x Ibid.

^{xi} Ibid.