

**From:** [Family Violence Coordinating Council](#)  
**To:** [ROACH Michelle;](#)  
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# Update

## Family Violence Coordinating Council Newsletter

May 2010

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**Dear Michelle,**

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.

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### Barriers to Restraining Orders

A recent article in Women's ENews Weekly outlined barriers that victims/survivors face in obtaining restraining or protection orders. Only about 20 percent of the 1.5 million people victimized by intimate partner violence every year obtain protection orders, and approximately one-half of those orders are violated, according web site of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Significant and unrecognized barriers for women in accessing protective orders were identified in a September 2009 study funded by the National Institute of Justice in Washington, D.C. The study interviewed more than 200 women in Kentucky who had obtained protective orders, as well as law enforcement officials and victims' advocates. Although this study was specific to Kentucky, the barriers identified are also found in other states. The following lists barriers that might also be barriers in Oregon and Multnomah County.

### Meeting Agenda

May 14, 2010  
Portland Building,  
1120 SW 5th Ave,  
Room 2b

12:15-12:25  
Introductions and  
Announcements

12:25-12:30 Vote on FVCC  
Work Plan 2010-2012

12:30-1:05 County Auditor  
Special DV Report  
Discussion

1:05-1:20 County Budget  
Update

1:20-1:30

- It is often difficult to serve the abuser with notice of a protection order, without which the order cannot be enforced;
- Courthouse employees and law-enforcement officials may also be uncooperative with petitioners and even try to discourage them from filing for protection orders in the first place;
- Judges may view multiple petitions for a protective order by the same victim as undercutting that person's credibility;
- Victims also reported "fear of retaliation, no faith in the justice system, lack of resources or support, embarrassment, fear of being blamed or not believed and fear of child protective services involvement" as factors standing in the way of seeking and obtaining protection orders.

Federal Grant  
Children Exposed To  
Violence

## Announcements

### Domestic Violence Coordinators

**Office (DVCO):** Visit the DVCO website and download our new Domestic Violence Support Group List, we have compiled a list of domestic violence support groups in the Portland Metro area. List includes dates, times, and other logistical information for area domestic violence support groups. To download a copy visit our [website](#)

**Bradley Angle:** I deserve safe, healthy, and loving relationships: Bradley Angle is offering a free 10-week class to explore the necessary skills for building healthy relationships. This class is open to any self-identified LGBTQ person, single or in a relationship: poly, monogamous, open, or exploring. Couples and partners are welcome to sign up together! Group meets Mondays 6:30-8:00pm at Q center, 4115 N Mississippi Ave, May 17- July 19th. Space is limited and registration is required. Please call 503-595-9591 ext 305 for more information or to sign up.

**Department of Defense (DOD):** the DOD released its 2009 Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military. There were 3,230 reports of sexual assault involving military members as either victims or subjects in Fiscal Year 2009. Read the [complete report](#)

**Women's Justice Center Releases New Online Bilingual Guide:** Advocating for Victims of Violence against Women at the District Attorney's Office. [Download](#) the guide or contact the Women's [Justice Center](#) or [Ayuda Para Mujeres](#).

**Battered Women's Support Services:** A Resource for Those Serving Battered Women Who Have Used Force: In recent years, Battered Women's Support Services has become increasingly alarmed by the growing number of women accessing services who have been arrested for allegedly perpetrating domestic violence against their partners. In their experience these arrests are occurring despite the fact that in all cases women were in relationships

- Immigrant victim/survivors may be particularly reluctant to seek protection; and
- Housing discrimination by landlords who use whether a person has a protection order or has had multiple contacts with the police as criteria for screening applicants. Excerpted from: "N.Y. Gov.'s Protection-Order Probe Spotlights Risks" by Tony Richards-WeNews correspondent.

To access the complete article: <http://www.womensenews.org/story/domestic-violence/100423/ny-govs-protection-order-probe-spotlights-risks>

For more information:  
State-by-state information on obtaining protective orders, Womenslaw.org  
<http://www.womenslaw.org/>

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
<http://www.nnedv.org/>

The Kentucky Civil Protective Order Study: A Rural and Urban Multiple Perspective Study of Protective Order Violation Consequences, Responses, and Costs  
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/228350.pdf>

## Sexual Violence within the Context of IPV

Sexual violence poses serious physical and mental health barriers for survivors of domestic violence. In many intimate relationships, sexual assault can become one of various abusive tactics a batterer will use to maintain power and control over a partner. The effects have far reaching impact, causing physical and mental health, consequences that are felt both immediately and many years after the assault.

During her presentation Sexual Violence within the Context of Intimate Partner Violence, Dr Nancy Glass, Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Associate Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health, provided local domestic and sexual violence advocates training on the prevalence of sexual violence in relationships, the health effects of intimate partner forced sex, and existing resources both nationally and internationally.

Prevalence of IP Sexual Assault:

One study shows that of people who reported sexual violence, 64% of women and 16% of men were raped, physically assaulted, or stalked by an intimate partner. This includes a current or former spouse, cohabitating partner, boyfriend/girlfriend, or date. \*

One out of every three women worldwide will be physically and/or sexually violated or psychologically abused during her lifetime by an intimate or ex-intimate partner, with rates reaching 70 percent of women in some countries (WHO Multi-Country Study, 2005).

Oregon sample of 154 abused women nearly half (48.1%) reported forced sex by an intimate or ex-intimate partner in

where they were being abused. They have written two resources in response to this growing problem which are now available. Follow the link below to access full PDF versions of [When Battered Women Are Arrested](#) - A resource for front-line workers

**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](#) or via fax: 503-988-3710.

## Quick Links

[FVCC](#)

[Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office](#)

the past year.

Oregon women age 20-55 years, nearly one-third (31%) reported that they had experienced one or more types of violence including threats of violence, physical assaults, sexual assaults, or stalking by an intimate partner in past 5 years.

Health effects of Intimate Partner Forced Sex: Survivors of intimate partner sexual assault report serious health outcomes, even after the violence has ended. With many reporting poorer quality of life, and functional status as compared to women who report never experiencing IPV sexual assault.

Unintended pregnancy  
Reproductive coercion  
Adolescent Pregnancy  
Risk of homicide, low self esteem  
Cervical Cancer  
Pelvic pain, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, Infertility  
Examination

Online Resources:

[WHO Multi-country Study](#) on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women: Initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women's responses  
[Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force](#): Provides Training, Information and Resources to Organizations and Communities to Prevent Sexual Assault

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Sexual Assault and Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines](#)

[Measuring Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Perpetration](#): A Compendium of Assessment

[Danger Assessment](#)

\*Fisher, S., Cullen, F., Turner, M., 2000. The Sexual Victimization of College Women. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.  
Many of Multnomah County anti-violence programs provide dual services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Contact the [Portland Women's Crisis Line](#) 503-233-5333 for referrals to sexual assault services, groups, and resources.

## NNEDV: 24 hour Census of DV Shelters and Services

"A caller asked me today if I knew of a safe bridge she could sleep under."

~Oregon Advocate, NNEDV 2009

shelter counts~

On September 15th, 2009, 83% of the domestic violence programs in the United States participated in the national domestic violence census. Oregon domestic violence shelter providers joined domestic violence programs throughout the

United States and territories in participating in the fourth annual National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 1,648 participating programs.

#### Victims Served in One Day

65,321 Victims Served in one day

32,524 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency housing

32,797 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services.

On September 15, 2009...

4 women were murdered by their intimate partners

7 children were killed by their fathers in domestic violence homicides.

9,280 request for services were unmet because of limited resources.

72 percent of programs have less than 20 paid staff.

68 percent of programs reported that lack of jobs has led to an increase in the number of victims unable to exit shelters or transitional housing.

7 babies were born to mothers living in shelters

NNEDV released the report on March 8, International Women's Day. The full report is available online <http://www.nnedv.org/census>

## Multnomah County Budget Update

The Coordinating Council Budget Committee has reviewed the program offers that county departments have forwarded to the Chair of the County Commission for possible inclusion in his proposed budget. That budget will be released on May 13 and will be reviewed by the Board of County Commissioners over the next month. Final adoption of the county budget for July 2010 through June 2011 (FY11) will occur on June 10th.

A brief description of each of the program offers related to domestic violence intervention or prevention that were submitted to the Chair will be available on our [website](#). The FVCC Budget Committee reviewed all of the program offers and prioritized them as indicated in the brief description. In addition, they sent letters to the Chair and the Board of County Commissioners informing them of the prioritization and recommending full funding of all of the offers submitted.

You, your friends or organizations you are involved in can provide input about funding priorities you support to the Commissioners in multiple ways.

Email, write or call them. Phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the [County's website](#).

Attend and testify at public hearings scheduled for:  
**Tuesday May 25th** 6-8pm; 10301 NE Glisan, Portland

**Thursday May 27th** 6-8pm, 600 NE 8th Street, Gresham, Multnomah County East Building, Sharron Kelley Conference Rooms A&B

**Wednesday June 2nd** 6-8pm, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, Board Room - 1st Floor.

## **National Survey Looks at TANF Responses to Family Violence Survivors**

According to a national survey of service providers released on March 17th, family violence survivors are not getting the help that they need from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The survey of 600 staff members from domestic violence programs, legal aid and anti-poverty agencies who work with survivors on TANF-related issues completed the survey in late 2009.

The survey finds that when TANF works well there is significant impact on survivors lives, however many family violence survivors face numerous barriers in accessing TANF programs. Barriers included indifferent or hostile staff, inadequate benefits, and policies and procedures that prevent many survivors from getting the resources they need to escape abuse.

Just 14 percent of survey respondents said that the TANF family violence responses work well in their states, and 43 percent said fewer than half of family violence victims were able to access TANF benefits. The survey found that:

Victims are not consistently and effectively screened or notified of family violence specific responses, waivers or protections.

Respondents say the requirements that victims "prove" that they have experienced violence is a significant barrier.

61 percent say victims frequently don't disclose violence because they fear it is unsafe to do so.

73 percent say fear of child protection system involvement is a significant factor.

Survey organizers at the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV) reported their deep concern surrounding their findings and hope that this study will lead to policy reforms in the way domestic violence survivors interact with TANF. The full report is available online at <http://www.legalmomentum.org/assets/pdfs/not-enough-what-tanf-offers.pdf>

## Trainings

**May 7th, 2010** (8:30am-4:30pm): Sensitivity and Competence: Understanding Domestic Violence and the African American, with Dr. Carolyn West and Tony Porter, Presented by SOVALTI, Oregon Convention Center. Engage with practitioners in critical discussions about domestic violence counseling and treatment. In this symposium, you will learn best practices and researched based strategies for working with African American men and women. Registration fee \$175.00. Discounted rates available to groups of five or more from local DV, BIP, and social service organizations. To register or for additional information contact Tim Logan at 503-936-2904 or [email](#)

**May 10th-14th, 2010:** Women of Color National Call to Action Institute and Conference. Westin New Orleans Canal Place, 100 Rue Iberville, New Orleans, LA 70130. This historic event will feature a two day Institute for WOC, Men and Mainstream/White women, and 2 day Conference with several workshops, panel discussion, critical conversations and a Cultural Bazaar celebrating local talent. Register online visit the [website](#); or contact WOCN at 1-800-537-2238 ext 142.

**May 13th, 2010** (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 a long standing opportunity for providers of and advocates for women's recovery services to partake of a hosted light breakfast, meet community partners, share information, and identify new resources. If you have questions contact Susan Montgomery at (505)988-3064 ext. 24304.

**May 18th, 2010** (10:00am-12:00pm): Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council, Multnomah (FVCC) County Southeast Health Clinic, 3653 SE 34th Ave, Portland OR 97202. Advocate Forum; Join us for the advocate forum; discussion will focus on the new Gateway Center opening and resources, strategies, and challenges advocates encounter when seeking housing for domestic violence survivors. Advocate forum is an opportunity for domestic violence and sexual assault advocates to have open discussion, share ideas and gain support around issues that they encounter in their day to day work. Bring your questions and ideas. This is a free workshop and registration is not required. For more information please contact Vanessa Timmons at 503-988-9166 ext. 26266 or [vanessa.timmons@co.multnomah.or.us](mailto:vanessa.timmons@co.multnomah.or.us)

**May 20th, 2010** (10:00am-12:00): The Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF) webinar: "Addressing the Demand of Sex Trafficking" The webinar is being offered in 2-2 hour sessions the first is May 20th 10am - noon and the second is May 27th also 10am - noon. To register please visit: [this site](#)

The FVCC seeks to develop a coordinated community response that includes the domestic violence response system and community and social systems.

Newsletter feedback and article ideas are always welcome. Send comments to [Vanessa Timmons](#)

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