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To: [ROACH Michelle](#);
Subject: FVCC Newsletter
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Update

Family Violence Coordinating Council Newsletter

June 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.

In This Issue

[DV Higher Health Costs](#)

[Natal Elder Abuse Study](#)

[County Proclamation](#)

[Economic Justice Training](#)

[Summary](#)

[Trainings](#)

Study Shows that Domestic Violence Victims Have Higher Health Cost for Years After Abuse Ends

Victims of domestic violence endure significantly higher health costs than other women for three years after the abuse ends, a new study finds.

Abuse victims had health care costs that averaged more than \$1,200 above non-abused women for the first two years after the abuse ended and about \$400 above others in the third year. The study was led by Paul Fishman of the Group Health Research Institute in Seattle and is a first to look at how health care costs of abused women change from year to year after abuse ends. This study looked at costs during the years of abuse and then during each year up to 10 years later.

The study involved 2,026 women patients at Group Health Cooperative, a health system in the Pacific Northwest. All women in the study consented to giving researchers confidential access to their medical records. In all, 859 women reported some type of abuse in their adult lifetime and 1,167 reported no abuse. Of those who reported abuse, about one-quarter said their abuse was "extremely severe," while about 39 percent said their abuse was "not severe" or "slightly severe."

Overall, abused women's health care costs were \$585 greater per year than non-abused women during the period of abuse. After the abuse ended, health costs were \$1,231 higher in the first year, \$1,204 higher the second year, and \$444 higher the

Meeting Agenda

June 11, 2010
Portland Building,
1120 SW 5th Ave,
Room 2b

12:15-12:25
Introductions and
Announcements

12:25-12:35 FVCC
Workplan Approval

12:35-1:00 Gateway Center
for Domestic Violence
Services

1:00 -1:30 Bridges to
Housing Evaluation

Announcements

National Coalition against Domestic Violence (NCADV):

Call for Presenters. The submission deadline is June 9, 2010.

Applicants are encouraged to submit presentations that have both a research and practice (i.e., intervention, program, and collaboration) focus. Priority will be given to innovative research or practices that address intervention or prevention efforts for violence against women that intersect with the conference theme "Changing Faces of the Movement." We are particularly interested in proposals that are produced by practitioner/researcher collaborations, and/or that address the following

Conference content tracks: Human Trafficking, Child Custody & Domestic Violence, Leadership, Empowering Young People, Men as Allies in Ending Violence. To submit your idea for a panel or workshop presentation, provide a 250-500 word (double-spaced) description of your research and how it is being, or may be used, as a tool for change. All proposals should be submitted to Barbara Paradiso, DVRAC, Center on Domestic Violence, UCD School of Public Affairs, P.O. Box 173364, Campus Box 142, Denver, 80217-3364. Proposals may also be submitted electronically at:

barbara.paradiso@ucdenver.edu

Questions: Please contact Barbara at 303-315-2736 or [email](#) her.

Youth Cyber Bullying Survey:

The National Crime Prevention Council is conducting a survey to explore how victim service providers are working with youth on the issue of cyberbullying. This survey will explore the extent to which victim service providers become involved in the issue of cyberbullying, how they work with youth who have been cyberbullied, and how often youth reach out and report cyberbullying incidents to them. To participate please visit [the survey](#).

Men Stopping Violence invites you to take their survey. The goal of the survey is to understand current efforts to end male violence against women and to learn about organizations who do not offer initiatives designed to end male violence against women. Men Stopping Violence will use the survey results to help shape public policy decisions and to support

third year. By the fourth year after abuse, health care costs were similar to that of other women.

Other co-authors of the study included Melissa Anderson and Robert Reid of the Group Health Research Institute in Seattle; and Frederick Rivara of the Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center at the University of Washington.

The study was supported by grants from the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and the Group Health Foundation.

Story Source: Adapted from materials provided by Ohio State University.

Journal Reference: Paul A. Fishman, Amy E. Bonomi, Melissa L. Anderson, Robert J. Reid, Fred P. Rivara. Changes in Health Care Costs over Time Following the Cessation of Intimate Partner Violence. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, 2010; DOI: 10.1007/s11606-010-1359-0.

The study appears online in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Science Daily article overview of study findings is available online. To read full article visit their site, <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/04/100426131559.htm>

National Elder Abuse Incidence Study

June 15th, 2010 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Multnomah County, providing an

opportunity to bring attention to often marginalized survivors. The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study (National Center on Elder Abuse, 1998) found that more than 500,000 persons aged 60+ were victims of domestic abuse and that an estimated 84% of incidents are not reported to authorities. With the population of persons 65 projected to be twice as large by 2030 as it was in 2000, it is imperative that domestic and sexual violence service providers look closely at the intersection of age and violence.

A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF ELDER ABUSE IS SPOUSE/PARTNER VIOLENCE

- A study of 257 older women ages 50-79 found that 32% had experienced physical abuse or threat from their partners at some point in their lives. (Mouton, 1999)
- In a 5-year study done of 1057 victims 65 and over receiving domestic violence program services, 71.2 % reported physical abuse. (Lundy, Grossman, 2004)

ABUSE IN LATER LIFE TURNS DEADLY

- 8% of all women in single female victim/single male offender homicides reported in 2003 were 65 years of age or older. (Violence Policy Center, 2005)
- 25% of homicide-suicide perpetrators age 55 years and older have a history of domestic violence. (Mulhurs, Cohen, 2005)

SEXUAL ABUSE OCCURS IN LATER LIFE

both organizations and institutions to engage men to end male violence against women. If you know of other experts in your field whose knowledge and input would be valuable to our efforts, please forward this survey to them. To begin the survey, please [click here](#) If you have questions or comments contact organizers at [their website](#)

African Women's Coalition (AWC) Special Meeting: African women unite and join the discussion of the future of African Women's Coalition. AWC founders and AWC Board member representatives invite you to join them to plan strategies for mobilizing the membership. Saturday June 5th 3:00 at the AWC office 1125 SE Madison St. Suite 210, Portland. Call 503-972-4930 for more information.

Bradley Angle Offers LGBTQ Group: *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.

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

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[Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office](#)

- A study of 284 cases of sexual assault against victims age 60 and older revealed that 70% of the victims were assaulted in their homes; 23.2% were assaulted while living in an institution, and 4.8% were assaulted in other locations. (Burgess, 2006)
- More than 60,000 rapes of women older than 50 years of age are reported annually. (NCEA, 2005)

For more information visit the National Clearinghouse of Abuse in Later life <http://www.ncall.us/>

County Proclamation - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15th

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
For MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming June 15, 2010 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Multnomah County

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners finds:

- June 15, 2010, is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Initiated in 2006, the day is in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action which recognizes the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue. Governments, agencies, educational institutions, professionals in the field of aging, religious groups and many others will promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by organizing on this day to raise awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.
- Elder Abuse is most often defined as any act that harms a senior or jeopardizes his or her health or welfare.
- The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study (National Center on Elder Abuse, 1998) found that more than 500,000 persons aged 60+ were victims of domestic abuse and that an estimated 84% of incidents are not reported to authorities, denying victims the protection and support they need.
- Multnomah County's Adult Protective Services handled 8,400 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation in Fiscal Year 2008-09.
- Elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation are very serious issues that cause widespread justice and social problems. Elder abuse is:
 - * Overwhelmingly perpetrated by the victims' own family members;
 - * Elder abuse victims tend to be older, very frail and often dependent on their abusers for basic, life sustaining care.
- Elder abuse is also a very serious health issue. According to research:
 - * Almost 11% of people ages 60 and older, or 5.7 million, reported suffering from some form of abuse within the past year alone;
 - * Elder victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation have three times the risk of dying prematurely;
 - * Nationally, seniors lose a minimum of \$2.5 billion each year to financial abuse and exploitation. In Multnomah County, the Financial Abuse Specialist Team was able to recoup more than \$1.6 million in money and services for seniors.
- Eliminating abuse of older persons has been the goal and mission of the Multnomah County Adult Protective Services program and it initiated a countywide Interagency Committee for Abuse Prevention (ICAP). The committee - made up of judges, law enforcement, the district attorney's office, Aging and Disability Services employees and others - meets regularly to discuss elder abuse issues.

h. Multnomah County's [Gatekeeper](#) Program also assists vulnerable seniors and those with disabilities who need help by training people who they come in contact with in their everyday lives to look for signs of distress.

i. All residents should watch for signs of abuse such as physical trauma, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, fear of family members, friends or caregivers, or financial exploitation.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaim:
June 15, 2010, is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. We urge all public agencies, the private sector, advocates and citizens to commit to building safer communities for our elder residents.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of June, 2010
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Submitted by: [Commissioner Shiprack](#)

Follow this [link](#) to view a video on the County's efforts and how you can help.

Summary of May 26 Economic Justice Training

On May 26, 2010, the [Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office](#) and the [Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence](#) (OCADSV) sponsored the training on Economic Justice for Domestic Violence Survivors featuring trainer Kim Pentico from the National Network to End Domestic Violence. This training focused on increasing advocates' knowledge of economic issues to help survivors gain and maintain safety and independence. The trainer provided information about economic barriers facing domestic violence survivors and specific strategies to help survivors. For example, one strategy to help survivors establish safety and preserve their interests is to take half of the couple's joint funds (or 75% if the couple has joint children) immediately upon leaving, but to also keep all receipts to document how this money is spent. More information for survivors and advocates is available at <http://www.clicktoempower.org/>.

The trainer provided additional information about economic barriers facing survivors, such as the National Low Income Housing Coalition's "[Out of Reach](#)" publication, which lists the amount a person needs to make in order to afford rental housing in communities around the country. Co-trainer Sailor Holliday from OCADSV also led a discussion on local resources for domestic violence survivors, including a free 8-week financial education class through [Bradley Angle House](#), and the [VIDA Oregon](#) program, offering education and asset-building assistance by providing \$3 in matching funds for every \$1 a participant contributes to an "Individual Development Account" to build assets for a specific goal.

Trainings

June 26-27 2010 (9am-4pm): The Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center, Portland Oregon. International Advocate Volunteer Training, this training prepares you to become a volunteer advocate on the only international toll free domestic violence hotline in the USA. These are advanced trainings and recommended for advocates with prior training, work experience or educational background in domestic violence. Training will cover obstacles that impact American domestic violence and child abuse victims overseas, legal issues, role playing and topics specific to answering calls on the international toll free hotline. Volunteers without prior experience may still attend but would need to complete a basic domestic violence self-study course or attend a partner organization's training prior to taking shifts on the international hotline. Continental breakfast and lunch provided both days. Registration deadline is Tuesday, June 22nd. For more information please visit our website, <http://www.866uswomen.org> or contact Caitlin McGuan at caitlinm@866uswomen.org or call 503 203-1444

June 28-30, 2010: Oregon Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Sunriver Resort, Sunriver Oregon. Brick by Brick: Advocates and Survivors Building Economic Justice" The OCADSV Staff and Board are proud to present to you the 2010 Annual Conference. These workshops are intended to support your continued ability to provide the life saving services that you do. Everyone is sure to find a variety of workshops that will help you in serving the survivors in your area, as well as some cutting edge fun. For conference fees and online registration visit the OCADSV website at <http://www.ocadsv.com>

Note: Does your organization sponsor a conference or training that you would like to have listed in the Update? If so please let us know about it. Send conference/training information to Update editor Vanessa Timmons via email: vanessa.timmon@co.multnomah.or.us or via fax: 503-988-3710. Be sure to include registration deadline and name of person to contact for additional information.

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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