# NYSCADV NEW YORK STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

CREATING THE SOCIAL CHANGE NECESSARY
TO PREVENT AND CONFRONT ALL FORMS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.







2023
ANNUAL REPORT

#### **ABOUT NYSCADV**

About NYSCADV: Established in 1978, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV) is the U.S. Department of Health and Services-designated Human clearinghouse, point of contact, resource center and domestic violence in New York. We offer training, support, technical assistance. and advocacy to local service providers statewide. Our mission is to create social change to prevent and address all forms of domestic violence. Through the collective voices of survivors advocates. **NYSCADV** and strengthens public and private responses, prioritizing domestic violence as a human rights issue.



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# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In 2023, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence began our 45th anniversary year. Through coalition building, advocacy, and policy work, we focused our efforts on addressing the critical needs, issues, and challenges that domestic violence advocacy programs across the state are facing.

According to the National Domestic Violence Counts Census, New York consistently has the highest demand for domestic violence services in the country. Domestic violence advocates work tirelessly and with limited resources to support survivors in communities statewide. However, it is clear that there is much more to be done to value domestic violence advocacy services and support survivors in our state.

In this report, you will see the breadth and scope of NYSCADV's work during the past year. This included hosting 56 trainings on a broad range of topics for over 2,883 advocates. In addition, our technical assistance work with advocates, survivors, and allies addressed more than 43 different topic areas.

There is much work ahead of us. With your support, we will make great progress toward our shared goals of preventing and ending domestic violence in New York.

All the best,

Connie Neal

**Executive Director** 

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# OUR TEAM As of December 2023









Training & Capacity Building

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Coordinator







Shelle Hamil Director of Finance fiscal@nyscadv.org

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**Abigail Murat** Training & Capacity Building Coordinator amurat@nyscadv.org



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Economic Justice Project Manager epena@nyscadv.org

Community Health Project Manager

Jennifer Clark Manager of Programs and Operations jclark@nyscadv.org



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

As of December 2023

# BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITEE

Kelly Coyne Board Chair

Terray Gregoretti

Board Vice Chair & Treasurer

Joanne Sirotkin Board Secretary

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Fran Bialy

Amber Brown-Rose

Vicky Cooper

Tabitha Dunn

**Ann Ellsworth** 

**Steve Grimes** 

Kellyann Kostyal-Larrier

Sylvia Lederman

**Amy Pauley** 

**Lindy Powers** 

Lucia Rivieccio

**Allison Ross** 

Melissa Schulz

#### **REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Regional Advisory Council (RAC) brings domestic violence advocates from member programs across the state together to play a vital role in shaping NYSCADV's advocacy and policy development. The Council informs webinar and training topics, addresses obstacles faced by DV programs, and disseminates timely information to programs in their region. NYSCADV is incredibly grateful to the RAC members for their leadership, advocacy and commitment.

#### **RAC Representative**

As of December 2023

#### **Capital Region**

Julie Keegan Unity House of Troy Christine Rodriguz Equinox, Inc.

#### **Central Region**

Megan Dack-Dischiavi Catholic Charities of Herkimer County

Shayne Morris Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County, Inc

#### **Hudson Region**

Jhalishia Slaughter My Sister's Place

#### Long Island Region

Molly England
Empower LI
Ingrid Villagran
The Safe Center, LI

#### **New York City Region**

Alicia Montero Safe Horizon

Kameeza Nizam-Chattoo Sanctuary for Families

#### **Northeast Region**

Laurel Poltilla STOP Domestic Violence BHSN Brianna Reeves STOP Domestic Violence BHSN

#### **Southern Tier Region**

Fran Bialy
A New Hope Center
Rachel Gregory
Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes

#### **Western Region**

Caleigh Skinner
Pinnacle Community Services
Belinda Knight
ACCORD Corp.

#### **OUR WORK**

As a statewide nonprofit membership organization, we focus our work on training, prevention, technical assistance, activism, leadership development, and legislative advocacy. We promote collaboration and best practices, incorporating anti-oppression principles in all our efforts.

#### **COALITION BUILDING**

NYSCADV actively engages in statewide and national advisory committees, coalitions, task forces, and work groups, amplifying the voices of survivors. Additionally, we convene meetings to foster communication and collaboration at local, regional, state, and national levels. With crucial funding from state partners including the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, NYS Office of Children & Family Services, and the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, NYSCADV enhances training and technical assistance for domestic violence service providers throughout New York.

#### TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

NYSCADV provides essential training and technical assistance to member programs and community partners, including in-person or virtual events and training forums. We regularly offer guidance to local programs and allied organizations on state and national laws, rules, regulations, and best practices. Additionally, NYSCADV assists survivors in complex situations involving multiple issues. On an ongoing basis, staff gather vital information about the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs across New York State.

# 2023 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TOPICS

In 2023, NYSCADV provided technical assistance on a wide range of topics related to domestic violence support and advocacy. This year's topics included:

#### Program/Organization Issues:

- Program Sustainability
- Primary Aggressor Screening
- Standards of Service
- Program Management and Supervision
- Confidentiality
- DV and disaster/emergency planning
- Data Collection
- Prevention Program Development
- Developing or enhancing appropriate services for victims who have disabilities
- Housing/Homelessness
- Trauma-Informed Services
- Board Development
- Program Operations/Services
- Program Referral
- Documentation

#### **Other Assistance:**

- Certification
- Statistics/Data/Reports
- Victim service administration and operations
- Economic Empowerment
- Technology Safety

#### **Program Services:**

- Dating Violence
- Safety Planning
- Shelter
- Support Groups
- Child Abuse/Neglect
- Supervised Visitation
- Case Management

#### Legal Issues:

- Orders of Protection
- Civil & Criminal Codes
- Child Custody
- Matrimonial
- Prosecution Response
- Probation and Parole Response
- Court Response
- Lawyer Referral

#### Systems Change/Advocacy:

- Justice System Civil
- Health Care
- Community
   Education/Organizing
- Statutes/Codes/Regulations
- Social Services
- Public Policy Development
- Legislation State
- Local Policies and Practices

## 2023 TRAININGS

NYSCADV hosted **56 virtual and in-person trainings and events,** attracting over **2,883 advocates and allies** across the state and nation. A growing number of elearning trainings are available on demand to provide flexibility for new and experienced advocates.

#### Key training topics included:

- Allstate Moving Ahead Curriculum Training of the Trainer
- ASPIRE NY Conference on Aspirational Masculinity
- Career Empowerment for Survivors
- DV Program Director's Summit 2023
- Expert Witness Training for Domestic Violence Advocates
- Fundamentals & Framework: Understanding Confidentiality & Our Obligations
- Forensic Custody Evaluators Certification Course
- Legislative Day of Action
- Serving LGBTQ Survivors of Domestic Violence: An Introduction to the LGBTQ IPV Network's Service Access Tool
- Hotline Training Series
- New York's Workplace Accommodations for DV Survivors
- Policy and Advocacy Strategy Sessions for DV Advocates, Program Staff, Attorneys, and Legal Professionals
- Primary Prevention Focused Trainings on: Safety in the Digital Age, Engaging Men, Prevention Summit, Youth Engagement
- Technology Safety, From Fundamentals to New Technologies: What Advocates Need to Know
- Regional Restoryation Circles
- Survivors Who Are Criminalized Training Series
- Working with Survivors of Cyber Abuse: Gathering & Admitting Digital Evidence

This consolidated list highlights the diverse and specialized training offered by NYSCADV, including certification courses, conferences, and sessions addressing the complexities of domestic violence.

### **OUR PROJECTS**

NYSCADV's work encompasses a variety of specialized projects, including best practices for domestic violence service providers, economic empowerment, supporting survivors who have experienced criminalization, primary prevention, public policy and advocacy, and more. In 2023, we continued to expand and enhance our work in these areas.

#### FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

NYSCADV's Financial Empowerment Project is supported by the Allstate Foundation and NNEDV's Moving Ahead Financial Empowerment Grant. In 2023 the project supported innovative financial empowerment programs including financial assistance services for survivors such as job readiness, job training, credit building and repair, and matched savings programming.

# VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE: ADVOCACY IN FOCUS

In 2023, NYSCADV launched *Voices Against Violence: Advocacy in Focus*, a new podcast shedding light on domestic violence issues and the advocates driving change. With 45 years of service, NYSCADV leads New York State's fight against domestic violence offering diverse, survivor-centered support. *Voices Against Violence delivers* expert insights and is a resource for both advocates and allies where we examine both the history and future of the movement to end domestic violence.

#### **RESTORYATION**

In 2023, NYSCADV joined 24 other state coalitions and hosted seven Restoryation workshops statewide for domestic violence advocates, including sessions specifically tailored for BIPOC advocates. The workshops incorporated trauma-informed discussion, visual arts storytelling, and expressive journaling in nurturing environments.

Surveys captured the collective experiences of advocates, with a focus on pandemic-related concerns such as sustainability, retention, and organizational care. NYSCADV's participation in this multi-state project ranked second nationwide, informing a larger needs assessment research project on the intersection of Covid-19 and domestic violence advocacy in New York State.

# SURVIVORS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED CRIMINALIZATION

NYSCADV continued its efforts to support justice-involved DV survivors by convening regular meetings with our survivor working group and national partners like the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP). Together, we' began developm an online platform housing a wealth of resources for DV advocates, survivors navigating the criminal justice system, attorneys, and family members. The launch is planned for 2024.

NYSCADV also collaborated with Rising Ground to offer a three-part training series covering best practices, trauma neurobiology, and case study reviews to enhance support for advocates. Additionally, we partnered with Monica Szlekovics, a justice-involved DV survivor, to present "The Trauma of Incarceration" workshop, focusing on culturally competent services and the parallels between incarceration trauma and DV.

#### **PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY**

In 2023, NYSCADV was back in person for our Legislative Day of Action, where dozens of DV advocates joined us in a march through the Capitol urging the State to cover significant cuts in federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. We also focused efforts with legislative leaders to elevate the critical need to include DV advocates in cost-of-living increases.

Durinng 2023, several new laws went into effect due to our advocacy efforts including:

- Evaluation of the use of social media to lure victims to traffickers (Chapter 497);
- Prohibiting distribution of "deep fake" intimate images (Chapter 513);
- Providing Hope Cards with OP information to DV survivors (Chapter 538);
- Expanding eligibility for victim compensation by removing the requirement that crimes be reported to law enforcement (Chapter 695); and,
- Creating the Task Force on Missing BIPOC Women and Girls (Chapter 732).

NYSCADV educated the Legislature about the need to increase funding for DV programs and services and improve outcomes for DV survivors in New York's family courts. NYSCADV's policy team also traveled to Washington DC to join DV and sexual assault coalitions from around the country to advocate to save the VOCA Fund.

As required by a 2022 law, NYSCADV collaborated with state officials to develop and offer a mandated training program in DV to New York's forensic child custody evaluators.

NYSCADV thanks the members of its Legislative Committee who helped evaluate policy and its impact on DV survivors and the programs that support them.

# NEW YORK STATE CONSISTENTLY HAS THE HIGHEST DEMAND FOR DV SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY

Each year, Primary Purpose Domestic Violence Programs in New York participate in the National Network to End Domestic Violence's Domestic Violence Counts survey. This is an annual unduplicated count of adults and children who seek services from U.S. domestic violence programs during a single 24-hour period. Coordinated by NNEDV since 2006, #DVCounts takes into account the dangerous nature of domestic violence by using a survey designed to protect the confidentiality and safety of victims.

#### ON JUST ONE DAY IN NEW YORK IN 2023...



Reference: National Network to End Domestic Violence 2023 Domestic Violence Counts National Census

#### PRIMARY PREVENTION

In 2023, NYSCADV reaffirmed its commitment to fostering a statewide community of practice for innovative, community-based prevention strategies aimed at stopping violence before it happens. Our efforts focused on connecting the dots between various forms of oppression and social disparities while continuing to promote prevention approaches that take us beyond awareness to action. We continued our long-standing partnership with the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA) who joined us in co-hosting the Annual Primary Prevention Summit. This year the Summit focused on advancing health equity and racial justice in prevention work, as well as promoting an intersectional lens for engaging men and cultivating youth activism.

NYSCADV, in collaboration with NYSCASA, also supported the **Aspire NY campaign to engage men and boys**, first with a conference in Syracuse featuring Don McPherson's vision of Aspirational Masculinity, followed by five regional trainings.

NYSCADV continued to convene a **statewide Prevention Consortium**, bringing together thought leaders at the state level along with prevention educators with expertise in their communities, to inform NYSCADV's planning for prevention events, training and policy advocacy.

We expanded our **Prevention Toolkit** to focus on the interconnections between various forms of oppression, including more strategies to address issues related to racial, social, educational, and health inequities. Additionally, we continued sharing promising practices through webinars and virtual learning exchanges to support community-based programming.

Our commitment to preventing gender-based violence supports our vision of creating safe and equitable communities.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shapes our actions. Advocates from member programs statewide regularly seek our guidance on legislative changes, complex cases, and strategies for engagement.. NYSCADV responds by mobilizing statewide efforts to address program and survivor needs. Proactively, we equip domestic violence programs with tools, training, and advocacy to support survivors. As the collective voice of domestic violence programs in New York, NYSCADV invites you to join and engage in our statewide efforts to end domestic violence.

#### 2023 ORGANIZATIONAL ASSOCIATES\*

Organizational Associates are agencies, programs, or entities in New York that are concerned with domestic violence and intimate partner sexual violence, that have paid annual dues, and that subscribe to the mission, philosophy and purposes of NYSCADV.

- Arbor Development
- Bent Not Broken
- Healing Hands International
- Korean American Family Services Center
- Legal Services for the Hudson Vally
- Liberty Resources
- Northern Manhattan Improvement Project
- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Three Sisters Program
- Seven Dancers Coalition
- Violence Intervention Project
- Zonta Club of Jamestown
- Rahama

<sup>\*</sup>This list only reflects the names of organizations and/or programs that have provided their permission to be included in NYSCADV materials.

#### 2023 PROGRAM MEMBERS\*

Program Members are private, nonprofit, non-governmental organizations and programs that are licensed by the New York State Office for Children and Family Services or have local New York Department of Social Services contracts to provide domestic violence services, who have paid annual dues, and who adhere to the mission, philosophy and purposes of NYSCADV.

- Advocacy Center of Tompkins County
- A New Hope Center
- Barrier Free Living
- Brighter Tomorrows
- Catholic Charities of Delware,
   Otsego and Schoharie Counties
- Catholic Charities of Herkimer County, DV Program
- Catholic Charities of Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties-DVP of Warren and Washington
- Center for Safety and Change
- Child & Family Services of Buffalo New York
- Community Action of Greene County, Inc.
- Crisis Services
- Delaware Opportunities
- Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes, Inc.
- Family Services, Inc.
- Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc.
- First Steps To Heal Incorporated
- Grace Smith House
- H.O.P.E of Western New York-Community Services for Everyl

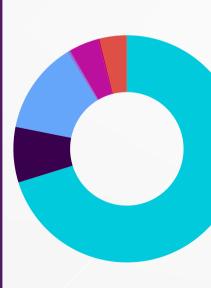
- HELP USA
- Hopes Door
- Lewis County Opportunities
- Mechanicville Area Community Services Center, Inc.
- My Sisters' Place
- Oswego County Opportunities
- Pinnacle Community Services
- Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center
- RESTORE, Planned Parenthood of Western NY
- Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes
- Safe Horizon
- · Sakhi for South Asian Women
- Services for the Underserved
- St. Lawrence Valley Renewal House
- STOP Domestic Violence-Behavioral Health Services North, Inc.
- The Family Counseling Center of Fulton County, Domestic Violence Program
- The Retreat, Inc.
- The Safe Center LI, Inc.
- Unity House
- Victim Assistance Center of Jefferson County
- Victim Resource Center of the Finger Lakes d.b.a. Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes
- WARM (We All Really Matter) Inc.
- Womankind
- YWCA of Syracuse and Onondaga County
- Allegany County Communities of Rural Development (ACCORD Corp.)
- YWCA of Cortland
- YWCA of the Mohawk Valley

# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## **2023 INCOME**

Government Grants	\$1,341,101
Membership Dues	\$76,642
Contributions	\$166,265
Training & Conferences	\$10,330
Investment Income	\$6,155
Total Income	\$1,600,493

### **2023 EXPENSES**



Salaries & Benefits	\$1,029,291
Consultants, Fees, Lobbying Expenses	\$191,414
Rent & Office Expenses	\$115,929
Conferences & Training	\$61,872
Subcontract to Programs	\$56,910
Travel	\$42,391
Insurance and Bank Fees	\$10,829
Dues	\$3,784
Fundraising Expenses	\$170
Misc. Expenses	-\$3,754
Total Expenses	\$1,508,834

## **THANK YOU**

We want to thank staff, regional advisory council, and baord members who transitioned from NYSCADV in 2023.

Staff: Keegan Burke, Brittni Gulotty

Board of Directors: Katie Fiore, Kate Krug, William Rivera

Regional Advisory Council: Amber Brown-Rose, Juana Francisco, Nicole

Maggiotta, Stacy Osborn, Adriana Ruvalcaba

## **OUR DONORS & SPONSORS**

We would like to sincerely thank all our private, individual, and foundation donors. Your support strengthens the coalition's work and the services we provide daily to domestic violence programs.

We especially send a note of gratitude to:

- The Allstate Foundation
- GJ Attitude
- Metabolic Meltdown

We appreciate everyone who provided us with a contribution, initiated a Facebook fundraiser, etc. Large or small, these donations enabled NYSCADV to respond quickly to the needs of DV service providers and survivors.

The generosity of our community and the network of friends and colleagues across the state is amazing. Your support makes a tremendous difference in the lives of survivors and helps us to fulfill our mission of preventing and ending domestic violence in New York State.



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