Dear MAC Members and Allies,

It's hard to believe that I have been the executive director at MAC for almost fourteen months. Sometimes we get so busy moving things forward that we forget to look back and celebrate how far we have come. MAC has been blessed with support from our incredible board, donors and funders, allied partners, and stakeholders. As I reflect on the past months, I can dearly see just how much we have to celebrate.

As we look forward, we think National Crime Victim’s Rights Week is an excellent good time to invite all of you to come celebrate with MAC and engage in our work. MAC will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, April 4th from 4:00–6:00 pm at our office located at 155 South Wabasha Street, Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55107.

Please plan to attend and get to know the MAC staff and board. We anticipate having legislators in attendance and will be providing information regarding MAC’s mission, core values, and strategic plans for advancing the response for crime victims. Let us know if you’re coming by scrolling down and clicking on the RSVP link so we can plan for materials and refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you all on April 4th and to linking arms to ensure crime victims in Minnesota are supported and heard.

In Peace,

Bobbi Holtberg
Can you join MAC for the Crime Victims' Rights Week Open House?

**LOCATION**
MAC Offices, 155 S. Wabasha St. Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55107

**DATE AND TIME**
04/04/17 4:00pm-04/04/17 6:00pm

I'll be there!  Maybe - checking my schedule!  Sorry, I can't make it.

The 2017 session of the Minnesota Legislature is moving extremely quickly, with 1701 bills introduced
in the House and 1402 in the Senate so far. March 10, 2017 is the deadline for committees to act favorably on bills in the house of origin, so bills are being introduced at a fast and furious pace right now.

MAC has been monitoring newly introduced bills and attending hearings to bring relevant potential legislation back to our weekly meeting of the Legislative and Public Policy Committee, which is made up of MAC board members, as well as individuals from member programs. The committee discusses, analyzes, and prioritizes bills to ensure that proposed legislation is in the best interest of crime victims, MAC member programs, and public safety. We are also tracking federal legislation.

One piece of hopeful news is that the bills (HF896/SF 803) introduced to request State of Minnesota appropriations for the Department of Public Safety’s Office of Justice Programs match Governor Dayton’s budget proposal of $40,068,000 for fiscal year 2018 and $40,133,000 for fiscal year 2019. These are modest increases in funding from that of the 2016-2017 biennium. MAC will continue to closely watch the progress of these bills.

If there is any legislative activity that requires input and/or action from our member programs, we will be sure to inform you as soon as possible. If you have questions about legislation or policy, please contact Bobbi Holtberg, Executive Director, at 612-940-8090 ext.101 or bobbi@mnallianceoncrime.org.

Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women Releases 2016 Femicide Report:
The 2016 Femicide Report was released on Tuesday, January 31st, 2017. For over 25 years MCBW has been producing the Femicide Report, which provides annual documentation on domestic violence homicide in Minnesota.

The information contained within these 27 years of reports is overwhelming in terms of the numbers of individual deaths that are recorded. The reports list the number of people killed, however they do not reveal the enormous number of people impacted by those deaths, nor do the reports reflect the hundreds of thousands of individuals who, across these years, have experienced domestic violence and survived.

Domestic violence and domestic homicide have a devastating effect on every person living in Minnesota. Each of the victims is someone’s daughter, son, mother, father, sister, brother, family member, intimate partner, friend, neighbor, or co-worker. Our challenge to the community is to not let these deaths go unnoticed but rather to use these brutal murders as a springboard for action.

The Peyton Tuthill Foundation Hearts of Hope Scholarship:
The foundation is accepting applications for college scholarships that will be awarded July 2017 to children who have lost a sibling or parent to homicide to help them reclaim their lives. Please spread the word to young survivors and encourage them to apply for the scholarships. The deadline is May 15, 2017. Applications may be downloaded here.

The Urban Institute: What Could Happen If VAWA Were Defunded
An excellent article that includes valuable information about the impact of VAWA since its inception. Read here.
There’s an App for Everything, Including Fugitives
The FBI has announced a new phone app for identifying and reporting FBI wanted fugitives. Read here.

The Center for Court Innovation: Responding to Trauma Among Young Men of Color
This Planning Toolkit is a blueprint for communities, violence interrupter programs, and traditional victim service providers that want to improve their responses to young men of color who have experienced trauma. The practices shared in this toolkit are based on the Center for Court Innovation’s work with violence interrupter programs, victim service agencies, trauma, and gender-based violence. Download here.

New Website for the U.S. Department of Justice’s Elder Justice Initiative
A new source for information about elder abuse and financial exploitation, with resources about how to report, training, research and victim assistance. Click here.

The Centers for Disease Control: The Cost of Rape in the United States
Sexual violence, including rape, is a serious and costly public health problem in the United States (US). A new CDC article, Lifetime Economic Burden of Rape among United States Adults, published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, shows the financial toll that rape takes on the country. This study is the first to estimate the total cost to society over the lifetime of all people in the US who report being raped.

The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) Seeking Nominations for the NCJA Outstanding Criminal Justice Programs Awards
These awards honor successful criminal justice programs that use promising practices to address important crime and justice issues in communities. Programs are evaluated using the following criteria:

- Does the program address an important criminal justice issue?
- Does the program demonstrate collaboration among criminal justice and allied agencies or disciplines?
- Can the program provide quantitative evidence of its effectiveness in accomplishing program goals?
- Does the program leverage federal, state, local or other non-governmental funds and resources?
- Can the program be easily replicated in other jurisdictions?

The NCJA will honor these winning programs during an Awards Luncheon at the 2017 National Forum on Criminal Justice in Long Beach, California. Travel expenses will be provided for one representative from each winning program.

Nominations may be submitted online or by hard copy. An individual or agency may nominate as many programs as they wish. Please complete one form for each program. A representative from the state agency administrator (SAA) along with the program director must sign each nomination form. To find the state administering agency in your state, please click here. Forms without these signatures will not be considered.

Nominations for outstanding programs must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. ET on Friday, April 21, 2017. Nominations will be accepted online, or by email to bbroida@ncja.org, or mail to: NCJA, 720 7th St. NW, Third Floor, Washington, DC 20001.

The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project: Spouses Battered or Subjected to Extreme Cruelty by A, E(3), H or G Visa Holders Are Eligible to Apply for Work Authorization

The Violence Against Women Act of 2005 amended Section 106 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide access to legal work authorization for abused spouses of certain work visa holders. The implementation of this law will offer much needed protection to immigrant spouses of work, diplomatic and foreign government employee visa holders.

This will also allow abused spouses on visas obtained based on their marriage to a visa holder abusive
spouse to obtain legal work authorization which will serve as a safety net and bridge so that they can leave abusive homes, support themselves and their children, and sever economic dependence on their abusers.

This work authorization will promote greater reporting of domestic violence, child abuse and sexual violence crimes perpetrated against dependent visa holder spouses and children living in visa holder families. Survivors will be able to flee violent homes with their children and work while they pursue avenues available to them to transfer from legal immigration status dependent on their abusers to other forms of legal immigration status that they are eligible to receive. Most will qualify for U visas based on the battering or extreme cruelty they have suffered. Others may have the specialized skills and knowledge to qualify for their own work based visas.

For more information, click here.

It Happens Here: A Statewide Day to End Domestic Violence

Domestic violence, a pattern of behavior used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, happens here in Minnesota to one in three women.

Empathy happens here for the family, friends, and communities that have experienced the painful death of someone to domestic violence; at least 21 people were murdered due to domestic violence in 2016 alone.

Refuge happens here through over 80 domestic violence programs in Minnesota providing services to over 65,000 victims annually.

Healing happens here through trauma informed treatment and connection.

Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and their children. Economic empowerment happens here when affordable housing is recognized as a human right.

The solutions to end domestic violence happen here, with the commitment of every community in Minnesota.

At noon on March 7, 2017, communities across Minnesota, organized by the Minnesota Coalition for
Every year in April, the Office on Victims of Crime helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), which will be observed in 2017 on April 2–8.

This year’s theme—Strength. Resilience. Justice.—reflects a vision for the future in which all victims are strengthened by the response they receive, organizations are resilient in response to challenges, and communities are able to seek collective justice and healing.

This year’s NCVRW Resource Guide contains a vibrant array of theme artwork that is available for organizations to incorporate into their outreach materials. View the 2017 NCVRW sample proclamation to help inspire the community, raise awareness of victims’ rights, and address unmet needs.

Sign up for the NCVRW Mailing List to receive:

- 2017 Spanish NCVRW Resource Guide digital download;
- Details concerning the National Crime Victims’ Service Awards Ceremony; and
- Information about future National Crime Victims’ Service Award nomination periods.

Rebuilding Financially After Domestic Violence: A Survivor's Journey & Perspective
Sponsored by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Webinar | February 28, 2017 | 10:00 am to Noon
Training Fee: Free
Economic control in an abusive relationship takes many forms and gaining financial self-sufficiency can be the difference between staying in or leaving a violent relationship. This webinar covers building a modest financial foundation and making plans for the future, which are crucial skills you can impart to individuals so they are empowered to make informed, responsible financial decisions to reestablish their lives. Our focused area for this webinar is highlighting a survivor’s journey and perspective on how to truly rebuild financially after leaving a domestically abusive situation. Learn more.

Effective Leadership in Conflict
Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
In Person | March 15, 2017 | 9:00 am to 11:30 am | Location: Children’s Home Society & Family Services, St. Paul
Training Fee: $50 for MCN members / $75 for nonmembers
This workshop will explore the inherent contradiction in our perception of conflict and explore opportunities available to both individuals and organizations during conflict. Presented by Elise Chambers. Learn more.

Elder Abuse Training
Sponsored by the Minnesota ElderJustice Center
In Person | March 16, 2017 | 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm | Location: Morrison Co. Government Center, Little Falls
Training Fee: Free
Learn to recognize forms of elder abuse, develop an understanding of how to increase victim safety and offender accountability and acquire knowledge about the unique interviewing, investigation and safety planning...
Elder Abuse Training
Sponsored by the Minnesota ElderJustice Center
In Person | March 22, 2017 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm | Location: Grand Arbor in Alexandria
Training Fee: Free
Learn to recognize forms of elder abuse, develop an understanding of how to increase victim safety and offender accountability and acquire knowledge about the unique interviewing, investigation and safety planning needed with elders. Learn more.

Crowdfunding for Your Cause
Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
Webinar | March 28, 2017 | 12:00 to 1:30 pm
Training Fee: $45 for MCN members / $65 for nonmembers
Online giving surged once again last year, far outpacing traditional fundraising growth. In particular, crowdfunding presents an exciting new frontier for nonprofits and causes of all sizes and shapes, especially those looking to engage millennials, who have been shown to connect more deeply with impact versus organizations. Join MCN for this interactive session, which will be chock-full of practical, tactical solutions and actionable insights. Learn more.

Vulnerable Youth Conference: Improving Our Multidisciplinary Approach
Sponsored by the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses
In Person | March 31, 2017 | 7:30 am to 4:30 pm | Location: Mercy Hospital, Fridley
Training Fee: $50 General Admission, $40 MN IAFN Members
Speakers include: Cordelia Anderson, The Impact of Pornography on Youth and Culture; Benny Williams, Community Policing and Street Outreach with Vulnerable Youth; Caroline Palmer, Minor Consent and Confidentiality and Mandated Reporting; and more. Learn more.

Law Enforcement Training on Elder Abuse
Sponsored by the Minnesota Elder Justice Center
In Person | April 6, 2017 | 8:00 am to 5:00 pm | Location: Hermantown Police Department, Hermantown
Training Fee: Free
This training will provide law enforcement with information & strategies to more effectively recognize and investigate elder abuse cases. Attendees will learn to identify forms of elder abuse, describe factors that influence an investigation & learn ways to conduct effective investigations, specifically in cases of financial exploitation and neglect. Learn more.

Families & Children of Incarcerated Mothers
Sponsored by the Task Force on Justice Involved Women and Girls
In Person | April 17, 2017 | 8:00 am to 4:30 pm | Location: Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, St. Paul
Training Fee: $45 for students (+ fee) / $75 for nonstudents (+ fee)
This conference discusses the impact on children and families when mothers are incarcerated and also acknowledges systemic pathways, honors lived experiences, and creates grassroots approaches to tackle issues. Learn more.

Constructive Problem Solving Skills
Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
In Person | April 20, 2017 | 9:00 am to 11:30 am | Location: Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Conference Room, St. Paul
Training Fee: $50 for MCN members / $75 for nonmembers
In this workshop, participants will learn how to assess a problem, determine the appropriate response, and develop skills to apply a variety of problem-solving techniques. The workshop will cover the four basic principles of interest-based negotiation: separate the people from the problem, focus on the interests, invent options for mutual gain, and look at objective criteria. Participants will also learn how, when done well, listening transforms relationships, alleviates the need for decision-making, resolves conflict, and solves problems. Presented by Elise Chambers. Learn more.

Interest-Based Negotiation Skills for Nonprofit Professionals
Sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
In Person | May 26, 2017 | 9:00 am to 11:30 am | Location: Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Conference Room, St. Paul
Training Fee: $50 for MCN members / $75 for nonmembers
This workshop teaches participants how to collaborate in negotiation conversations to achieve great results while
staying true to themselves and their work. Presented by Elise Chambers. Learn more.

Save the Date: 2017 International Courthouse Dogs Conference
Sponsored by the Courthouse Dogs Foundation
In Person | September 28-30, 2017 | Location: Bellevue, WA
Meet old friends and make new ones at our best conference ever! Join us and enjoy our inspirational speakers, learn more about canine fitness, training, and behavior, and cuddle up with the best dogs on the planet. Courthouse facility dogs and assistance dogs in training are welcome, of course. Conference registration cost includes the programs on Friday and Saturday. If you’re able to arrive on Thursday, you can pay an additional fee to attend our popular pre-conference workshops from 3-5 pm. Learn more.

If you have a training or webinar to submit for inclusion in the MAC newsletter, please email the following to Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org by the 26th of each month:

- Training title
- Sponsoring agency/organization
- Date and time
- Location
- Names of trainers
- Cost
- Brief description of training
- How to register (web link preferred, will accept attachments)

Click for February's case updates from the Appellate Court.

Click for the latest employment opportunities around Minnesota.

If you have job postings you would like us to include in our monthly newsletter, please include the following information and email to Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org by the 26th of each month.

- Location
- Job title
- Organization name
- Link to organization’s website
- Link to the job posting
- Closing date
As always, if you have any suggestions for MAC, we welcome your input!

Bobbi Holtberg, Executive Director
bobbi@mnallianceoncrime.org

Danielle Kluz, Training and Engagement Coordinator
danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org

Julia Tindell, Administrative and Volunteer Coordinator
julia@mnallianceoncrime.org

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