MAC Is Moving

From MAC’s Executive Director

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Contact Us
I’m not one for New Year’s resolutions, but this year I’ve adopted a key word/theme for 2018: intention. I am working to examine every area of my life and identify a goal and the intentional actions I will need to take to achieve that goal.

The one area of my life that has a profound effect on all other facets of my life is my attitude. While it seems to be kind of a "no duh" realization, I am becoming more aware that subtle differences in my attitude can make a major difference in my future, and that making intentional choices about the language I use will result in attitude changes.

How I talk to myself and others is key to intentionally shifting my attitude. For example, I have consciously made a decision to stop saying what I don’t want and to start saying what I do want. I call that faith. Believing the best, hoping for the best, and moving toward the best.


I find that when I start thinking and saying what I really want then my mind automatically shifts and pulls me in that direction. And sometimes it can be that simple, just a little twist in vocabulary that changes my attitude and philosophy.

Our language can also affect others around us. Gardeners know that you can’t expect to have something to harvest if you haven’t planted the correct seeds, and carefully and intentionally nurtured the seed and soil. We often expect others to produce things that will benefit us without intentionally investing in them for our mutual benefit.

I’m putting this out there for all of you to read so that you can support me in my quest to live intentionally and cultivate an attitude of abundance. As I interact with all of you, push back if I am conveying an attitude of scarcity and fear. I also challenge each of you to make intentional choices about the language you use and the investments you make.

It comes back to this powerful quote from Mahatma Gandhi: “Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”
In Peace,

Bobbi Holtberg

Vu Le: The Census Is a Social Justice Issue

The 2020 Census is approaching and many organizations are already beginning work on how to encourage participation. It is crucial for nonprofits to organize and educate, as the results of the Census determine federal funding, number of representatives and more. In Vu Le’s recent blog post, he outlines the reasons there is a severe risk in communities being under-counted, why that matters, and what we can do about it.

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits: New Tax Law and Charitable Deductions

Beginning in 2018, fewer Minnesotans are expected to itemize their charitable contributions on their 2018 federal income tax returns, an outcome of changes in the federal tax law. This will result in more Minnesotans becoming eligible for Minnesota’s charitable deduction. Nonprofits are encouraged to work with their donors, volunteers, and communities to share information about Minnesota’s deduction. Check out MCN’s guide to all of the updates to Minnesota’s Charitable Deduction.

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: The Difference Between Surviving and Not Surviving

This report discusses the findings from a 2017 survey of over 1,100 domestic and sexual violence advocates, legal services/legal aid providers, social services program staff, and housing/homelessness and anti-poverty advocates. It details barriers survivors encounter when trying to access public benefits programs, cross-sector collaboration and systems-level advocacy, and possible legislative changes to these critical programs.

National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center: New Online Training

SOAR Online is a new series of accredited training modules that will be available online. You can complete them whenever, wherever you like. Each module discusses the SOAR framework and how to apply it where you work to identify individuals who are at risk or who have been trafficked and connect them with the resources they need. If you’d like to be added to the pre-registration list, please sign up by clicking here.

Prevention Institute: Together, We Can Change Norms to Prevent Sexual Violence and Harassment

We need to adopt comprehensive strategies to change the norms that increase the risk of sexual violence and harassment. The Prevention Institute has shared a few examples and invites practitioners and advocates to share more examples and engage in a discussion about the power of norms change. Read here.

Believe it or not, 2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW) is right around the corner. To help your organization plan events for NCVRW, MAC has some great resources for you!

MAC will be coordinating a number of activities for National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, including a
Very special webinar, the Minnesota Identity Theft and Cybercrime Information and Resource Network Advanced Training and Network Launch, and more. Stay tuned for more details!

If you are planning an event for NCVRW, let MAC help you promote it with our online statewide NCVRW Events Calendar. To submit your event for the calendar, please download this Word form, fill it out, save it, and send it back to us. Easy as pie!

Every year in April, the Office for Victims of Crime helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. To help the field prepare for NCVRW, the 2018 NCVRW color palette (PDF 565 kb) and a customizable copy of the 2018 NCVRW Theme Poster (PDF 241 kb) are now available.

This year’s theme—Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims—emphasizes the importance of inclusion in victim services. This year’s theme addresses:
- How the crime victims field can better ensure that every crime victim has access to services and support, and
- How professionals, organizations, and communities can work in tandem to reach all victims.

Sign up for the NCVRW Mailing List to receive:
- Email notification when the 2018 NCVRW Resource Guide is available online,
- Details concerning the National Crime Victims’ Service Awards Ceremony, and
- Information about future National Crime Victims’ Service Award nomination periods.

With 2018 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week less than three months away, another helpful site is the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) Community Awareness Project (CAP) website. There are over 100 previous CAP TIPs designed to help promote NCVRW through victim/survivor outreach, public awareness, traditional and social media relations, and special events. You’ll find lots of innovative ideas and resources that can help you promote 2018 NCVRW.

If you have any questions about the online calendar or planning an NCVRW event, please contact Danielle Kluz.

MAC is pleased to report that the Minnesota Identity Theft & Cybercrime Information & Resource Network (MITCIRN) is now active, and activities have already begun. Here are some of the highlights:
- Many thanks to Suzanne Elwell from the Office of Justice Programs for her wonderful January webinar, “Building Identity Theft Advocacy Skills,” which is now available for all to view on the service provider section of the MITCIRN website.
- We have another free webinar coming up Thursday, February 2nd, from 12:00-1:00 pm. “Consumer Protections & Criminal Tactics: The AARP Fraud Watch Network” will be presented by Jay Haapala, Assistant Director of Community Engagement at AARP. Register today!
- SAVE THE DATE: We’ll be hosting the MITCIRN Advanced Training & Network Launch on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The advanced training will include three training tracks: (1) Investigation & Prosecution; (2) Crime Victim Services; and (3) Prevention.
- There are currently 38 programs signed up to participate in MITCIRN, and it’s not too late for you to join us! Click here to fill out the survey to participate today.

Thank you to our wonderful partners and all those who have participated in our work so far. We are excited to see all of the great things we can accomplish as a network in the months to come!
Recent Minnesota Appellate Decision That Reaffirms Victim's Right to Restitution
Suzanne Elwell, Office of Justice Programs

A case recently decided by the Minnesota Court of Appeals related to restitution reaffirms the victim’s right to receive restitution, and provides clear guidance on restitution in cases where the offender is sentenced to prison.

In State v. Davis, A17-1108 (Minn. Court App. January 16, 2018), the district court had revoked a restitution order entirely based on the defendant’s argument about his inability to pay, stating that defendant’s “potential earning capacity in prison will not enable him to make payments against the restitution while also affording other necessities in prison.”

The court of appeals found that the district court had abused its discretion in revoking the restitution order by taking into consideration only the defendant’s ability to pay and failing to consider the victim’s appropriately asserted amount of economic loss. The court reviewed the legislative history of the restitution statute, which indicates that two factors must be considered in determining restitution—a victim’s need and an offender’s ability to pay. The court concluded that “while an offender’s ability to pay is relevant and appropriate for a court’s consideration when ordering restitution, an offender’s inability to pay cannot extinguish a victim’s right to restitution when that victim has experienced economic loss from that offender’s crime.”

In this case, the offender presented no evidence to substantiate his claim of an inability to afford his basic necessities while incarcerated should he be forced to pay restitution. The court acknowledged various tools that can be employed to collect restitution from an offender while in prison, including statutory provisions allowing deductions from prison compensation and the creation of installment plans. The court stated: “Defendant’s incarceration, in and of itself, is an insufficient basis to deny restitution to a victim.” This case was reversed and remanded back to district court to reconsider the matter in light of the victim’s right to restitution.
Financial crimes including scams, identity theft, and investment fraud, are the most frequently attempted crimes in the United States. Millions of Americans are losing billions of dollars to new scams and others that may seem like the “oldest trick in the book.” Technology has made it easier for criminals to access personal information and financial accounts from around the world. Criminals cover their tracks and investigators often face an impossible task, meaning the best way to prevent these crimes is for consumers and professionals to understand how they work.

Understanding consumer protections along with the criminals’ tactics can help us all protect our own savings and those who may be more vulnerable such as children and some elders. Professionals in a variety of roles have the opportunity and responsibility to prevent these crimes from happening to others.

Jay Haapala is Associate State Director of Community Engagement with AARP Minnesota and leads the state’s Fraud Watch Network which serves to educate consumers about fraud, scams and identity theft. He and AARP Fraud Fighter volunteers have met with over 500 community groups across the state, law enforcement officials, and fraud investigators, to learn how people are being targeted right here in Minnesota. He has worked and served in the Minnesota nonprofit sector for 18 years building volunteer programs and now is doing the same to build a network of fraud fighter volunteers with AARP.

About This Training:
The February 2018 MAC Fundamentals in Victim Services Training is a two-day general crime advocacy training for prosecutorial-based victim advocates to develop core advocacy knowledge and skills to provide victim-centered services.

This training will cover:
- The role and importance of the advocate;
- Working in collaboration with other criminal justice professionals;
- Ethics in advocacy;
- Crime victims’ rights;
• Systems change advocacy;
• Understanding bias, privilege, and oppression;
• And MORE.

The training will feature interactive modules to appeal to different styles of learning, with a combination of lecture, small group work, roleplay, and games.

This is a repeat of the training MAC held in June 2017.

**Training Location:**
Holiday Inn & Suites
75 37th Ave South
St. Cloud, MN 56301

**Who Should Attend:**
Registration preference is for prosecutorial-based crime victim advocates (for example: county or city attorney’s office victim/witness advocates) who have been working in the field for one year or less. We **highly encourage** victim/witness advocates from programs newly funded by OJP to **attend**. Prosecutorial-based advocates with more experience who would like a refresher training to strengthen their understanding of core advocacy may participate, too.

Community-based advocates who wish to attend may join the waiting list. To join the waiting list, please email Danielle Kluz danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org.

**Training Fees:**
- **FREE** for MAC members, plus **travel and meal reimbursement if applicable**. (Not sure if you’re a MAC member? **Check here**. Want to join MAC before registering? Email Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org.)
- **$50** for non-MAC members.

**Travel and Meal Reimbursement:**
To support member participation in this training, MAC will provide the following support to MAC member attendees:
- **Mileage reimbursement** for one round trip for one vehicle per organization traveling more than 60 miles roundtrip.
- **Reimbursement for one hotel room** at the Holiday Inn St. Cloud (at MAC’s group rate of $93.00 per night) on Tuesday and/or Wednesday nights for each program traveling more than 60 miles roundtrip to the training. **You must make your hotel reservation yourself by January 22, 2017 to receive the special group rate.** See below for more information.
- **Reimbursement for breakfast Wednesday and Thursday** for organizations staying overnight on Wednesday and Thursday night.
- **Reimbursement for lunch on Wednesday and Thursday** for all MAC member attendees.

MAC will reimburse member organizations, not individuals after the training after members have submitted receipts. MAC will only reimburse members who attend the entire training.

**Lodging:**
MAC has negotiated a special rate of $93.00 per night (plus taxes) at the **Holiday Inn St. Cloud** for training attendees. You must make your hotel reservations by January 22nd by calling (320) 253-9000 and requesting the room block for “the training for Minnesota Alliance on Crime.”

**Registration Deadline:**
Friday, February 16, 2018 or when space fills. Our last Fundamentals training sold out quickly so **register early** to ensure your place!

**Questions?**
Contact Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org.

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**Minnesota Office of Justice Programs:**
Assisting Crime Victims Training

A one-day training for professionals who work with crime victims.

Wednesday, March 14, 2018
8:30 am - 4:00 pm: lunch provided

Northwest Area Foundation
60 Plato Blvd, Fourth Floor, St Paul, MN 55107

Sessions:
- Crime Victim Reparations: Financial assistance available to victims of violent crime. Danielle Kitto (OJP)
- Crime Victim Rights: Overview of Minnesota statutory crime victim rights, Suzanne Elwell (OJP)
- Working Lunch Session: Staff from the Minnesota Alliance on Crime will lead a discussion with members and allies about its activities and initiatives, current issues in crime victim rights and services, and concerns from the field. Bobbi Holtberg and Danielle Kluz (MAC).
- Advocates and reparations: Danielle will review common questions posed by advocates, conduct a hands-on exercise on how to fill out the reparations application form, explain the loss of support application process, present case scenarios for discussion, and do a practical walk through of the appeal process, explaining how an advocate can assist victims in that process. Danielle Kitto (OJP).
- Crime victim issues–lightening round: A fast-paced, but interactive, discussion of hot topics related to crime victims including cameras in the courtroom, victim impact statements, victims who are also defendants, post-conviction advocacy, restitution collection, data issues, represented victims, and preventing statutory rights violations. Suzanne Elwell (OJP)

POST, CEU, and CLE credits available.

For more information and to register, click here.

Other Trainings and Webinars

From Trauma to Resilience: Comprehensive Trauma-Informed Care Training
Sponsored by the Gunderson National Child Protection Training Center
In Person | January 31, 2018 | 8:00 am to 4:30 pm | Hennepin Square Office Building, Minneapolis
Training Fee: $125

Studies have shown that adverse childhood experiences and traumatic events can have a lasting, negative impact on a person’s health and well-being. This new training is designed to help you develop the unique skill set needed to support individuals who have experienced adverse childhood experiences and traumatic events. Learn more.

Workshop Series: Hearing Their Voices - The Persistence of Violence Against Native American Women and Girls
Sponsored by the Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center
In person | February 1, March 2, April 2, May 3, 2018 from 4-6 pm | Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center, Minneapolis

Gain an understanding of the historical experience of colonization and its impact on violence against Indigenous women and girls; learn the jurisdictional challenges that exist in Indian Country based on court decisions and federal law grounded in genocide or erasure of Indigenous peoples; and identify solutions to the legal and jurisdictional problems. Presented by Patina Park, J.D., executive director of MIWRC. Learn more.

Mapping Gender: Shedding Empirical Light on Family Courts’ Treatment of Cases Involving Abuse and Alienation
Sponsored by the Battered Women’s Justice Project
Webinar | February 9, 2018 | 2:00-3:30 pm

This webinar discusses a national empirical study of custody courts’ responses to domestic violence, child abuse, and parental alienation claims. The study examined electronically published opinions in custody and visitation cases concerning abuse and parental alienation allegations. While the pilot study originally sought to examine gender bias in application of parental alienation claims, some stunning additional findings emerged, including the high rates at which mothers lose custody, the stark impact of child abuse allegations, and the gendered impact of parental alienation claims. Learn more.
Screening, Assessment, and Intervention Model for Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration and Co-Occurring Combat-Related Conditions
Sponsored by the Battered Women’s Justice Project
Webinar | February 14, 2018 | 2:00-3:30 pm
This webinar will introduce BWJP’s new resource, the Screening, Assessment, and Intervention Model for Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration and Co-Occurring Combat-Related Conditions. The guide’s authors will present a model for understanding military and veteran-related intimate partner violence (IPV) and examine IPV’s relationship to co-occurring conditions common among current and former service members. Learn more.

Training for Advocates Working in a Child Advocacy Center
Sponsored by the Minnesota Children’s Alliance
In person | February 14-16, 2018 | Holiday Inn, Mankato, MN
Training fee: $60
Through hands-on practice, participants will learn how to put advocacy principles into action, including: conducting a focus group to improve programming; changing organizations and systems; creating programs and interventions that meet victims’ needs; and practicing skills for effective crisis intervention and advocacy, problem solving and decision making around the toughest issues in advocacy work. Learn more.

Case File Review: What Do Sexual Assault Cases Look Like in Our Communities?
Sponsored by the Battered Women’s Justice Project
Webinar | February 22, 2018 | 2:00-3:30 pm
Based on a toolkit that the Sexual Violence Justice Institute (SVJI) developed, this webinar will explain the process and framework for reviewing sexual assault case files as an evaluative measure for sexual assault response teams (SARTs). This webinar addresses why multidisciplinary teams conduct case file review and will offer practical tips and tools to use case file review. Learn more.

Analysis of the Strength of Legal Firearms Restrictions for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence and Their Association with Intimate Partner Homicide
Sponsored by the Battered Women’s Justice Project
Webinar | February 26, 2018 | 2:00 -3:30 pm
Dr. April Zeoli from Michigan State University will discuss the very important findings from her recently published research exploring the relationship between different types of firearms legal prohibitions and reductions in intimate partner homicide rates. This quantitative policy evaluation considered data from forty-five states over thirty-three years, and shows significant correlations between specific prohibitions and a reduction in intimate partner homicide. Learn more.

Veterans & Family Court: The Family Law Veterans’ Diversion Program
Sponsored by the Battered Women’s Justice Project
Webinar | February 28, 2018 | 2:00-3:30 pm
This webinar will examine the Family Law Veterans’ Diversion Program in Orange County (CA) Superior Court. Begun in 2010, this program is designed to address the unique needs of military veterans and their families when involved in family court proceedings. It provides assessments/treatment for posttraumatic stress (PTS) and traumatic brain injury issues; addresses protection for intimate partners and children during the treatment process; and assists veterans in avoiding statutory ramifications of a domestic violence finding. Learn more.

Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Case Management Training
Sponsored by Yellow Medicine Victim Services and WRAP Yellow Medicine
In person | March 21 from 12:00 to 4:00 pm OR March 22 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm | Yellow Medicine Training Room, Granite Falls, MN
This free training will assist those who respond to victims of domestic violence. The course will include an overview of domestic violence lethality; red flags for violence; best practices in domestic violence response; introduction to stalking and stalking evidence; and strangulation. Learn more.
Femicide Report Release Press Conference:
9:00 a.m.
Press Conference Room B971, Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul, MN

Domestic Violence Homicide Memorial Reception:
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Program begins at 4:00 p.m.
St. Paul College Club, 990 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN


To honor the lives of those we have lost to domestic violence, we will host a memorial and reception at the St. Paul College Club in St. Paul. The memorial will include reading the names of the 2017 victims of domestic violence homicide and a display of the 2017 Clothesline Project, a visual memorial that bears witness to the violence our communities face. The Clothesline Project and Femicide Report emphasize the immeasurable impact of domestic violence on our families, schools, workplaces, communities – and ultimately on the quality of life in Minnesota.

Please RSVP by Thursday, January 25, 2018
RSVP is not required but is appreciated
Becky Smith | 651.646.6177, ext. 115 | bsmith@mcbw.org

Please feel free to invite others via Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/events/895939823898767/

Parking information: Street parking is available. Additionally, there is a paid parking ramp on S. Victoria St. between Grand Ave. and Lincoln Ave., 3 blocks from the College Club. There is also free parking in the lots behind Anthropologie, Salut, and Chipotle on Grand Ave. between S. Milton St. and S. Victoria St., 2 blocks from the College Club.

Accessibility information: There is a driveway that meets the front entrance. The front entrance has four concrete steps with a metal railing. There is an ADA compliant ramp up to the back entrance. The program will be ASL interpreted. There will be a variety of light snacks and beverages offered before the program. Please direct any questions and/or concerns around accessibility to Becky at bsmith@mcbw.org.

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Sexual Violence Prevention Network (SVPN) Meeting

Co-hosted by the Minnesota Department of Health Sexual Violence Prevention Program and the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA)

Date and time: February 9, 2018, 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Location: Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN
Presenter: Becky Dale, Chief Operating Officer, Minnesota Communities Caring for Children

Cost: Free

Description: What does NEAR Science have to do with sexual violence prevention? You may have heard about the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study. It is one piece of a puzzle that some are now looking at more comprehensively in combination with other related fields as NEAR Science: Neurobiology, Epigenetics, ACEs and Resilience. Come hear more about NEAR Science and how Minnesota Communities Caring for Children is partnering with communities around the state to share this knowledge and engaging community wisdom to build self-healing communities.

Click here to register.

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**2018 Session Line Up**

February 23 | 10 a.m. - noon | St. Paul | FREE

Join over 100 nonprofit leaders to hear directly from leaders of the legislative caucuses as they share their priorities for the upcoming session, identify issues that they think will dominate the debate, and give their ideas on how nonprofits can be a resource to decision makers and their staff.

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**Let MAC help your organization get the word out about your training or event!**

If you have a training or event to submit for inclusion in the MAC newsletter, please email the following to Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org:

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

Please send by the 27th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

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Click for the latest published decisions from the Minnesota Appellate and Supreme Court.
Click for the latest victim service employment opportunities in 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 27th 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!

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The Minnesota Alliance on Crime connects systems, service providers, and victims to advance the response for victims of all crime. MAC is a membership coalition of 77 crime victim service providers in Minnesota, including prosecution-based victim/witness programs, community programs, law enforcement agencies, and individuals committed to supporting crime victims. We support our membership through training, technical assistance, resources, public policy and legislative initiatives, and networking opportunities.

For more information about MAC, go to www.mnallianceoncrime.org.