



Women's Crisis Support ~ Defensa de Mujeres

Celebrating over 30 years of building a safer community for women and children in Santa Cruz County.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—IT IS YOUR BUSINESS!



Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) began as a "Unity Day" in 1981 for domestic violence victim advocates to connect and organize. Now, October is a time to celebrate those who have survived domestic violence, and to mourn those who have died because of domestic violence.

Domestic violence is a deliberate pattern of aggressive behaviors that one intimate partner does to the other to gain power and maintain control. It is not marital conflict, a lovers' quarrel, or a private family matter. It is a serious social problem, and everyone has a role to play in creating a community that does not tolerate domestic violence.

Besides devastating psychological consequences for the family, domestic violence also carries a high financial price tag for society. A cost-benefit analysis done for the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 found that each non-fatal incident of domestic violence costs an average of \$27,000 in police response, property loss, medical and mental health care, victim services, and lost productivity. Our local Domestic Violence Commission reports at least 1,948 incidents of domestic violence last year. This would place the cost to Santa Cruz County at over \$52 million annually! Since domestic violence is about 50% underreported, the cost could be over \$100 million.

Domestic violence is everyone's business.

DVAM Activities for 2008

The Wizard of Oz

The Fox Theater will present a benefit showing of *The Wizard of Oz* on Saturday, October 25, at 10:00 am. This family friendly event will feature an Oz Costume Contest and a Raffle. Suggested donation is \$5 for children and \$7 for adults. Door proceeds to benefit WCS~DdM!

Unity Day

WCS~DdM will partner with Walnut Avenue Women's Center to host Unity Day on Monday, October 6, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm at 175 Walnut Avenue. WAWC will host a quilting table and WCS~DdM will display the *Clothesline Project*, T-shirts adorned with artwork created by survivors of domestic violence.

Children's Art Display

Artwork created by children working with the WCS~DdM Children and Youth Program will be displayed at the Santa Cruz Public Library during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Responsibility & Opportunity Seminar

On October 16, WCS~DdM will host a seminar for Health Care Providers on screening patients for domestic violence and their legal responsibilities. For more information, go to wcs-ddm.org.

VIOLENCIA DOMÉSTICA

¡ES ASUNTO SUYO!

Octubre es el **Mes de Crear Conciencia sobre la Violencia Doméstica**. La violencia doméstica es un patrón de comportamiento agresivo e intencional que una persona ejerce sobre su pareja íntima con el propósito de ganar poder y mantener control sobre esta. No es un simple conflicto matrimonial, una pelea de amantes, o una cuestión familiar privada. La violencia doméstica es un problema social serio, y cada uno de nosotros tenemos la oportunidad de crear una comunidad libre de violencia.

Actividades del Mes de Crear Conciencia sobre la Violencia Doméstica

The Wizard of Oz

Se presenta el *Wizard of Oz* por el beneficio de Women's Crisis Support ~ Defensa de Mujeres; 25 de octubre de 2008, a las 10:00 de la mañana (las puertas se abren a las 9:30); en el teatro Fox, 15 calle Maple, Watsonville. Donación sugerida: \$5/niños, \$7/adultos. Esto es un evento para toda la familia que incluya una rifa y un concurso de disfraces de la película.

Día de Unidad

Lunes, 6 de octubre, a las 3:30 - 5:30 de la tarde, en 175 calle Walnut, Santa Cruz. El Centro de Mujeres Walnut Avenue presentará una mesa de coser un edredón y Women's Crisis Support ~ Defensa de Mujeres exhibirá el Proyecto de Camisetas, hechas por sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica.

Exhibición del Arte de los Niños

Obras de arte creadas por los niños que trabajan con el Programa de Niños y Jóvenes de WCS~DdM serán exhibidas en la biblioteca pública de Santa Cruz durante el Mes de Crear Conciencia sobre la Violencia Doméstica.

Responsabilidad y Oportunidad

En el 16 de octubre, WCS~DdM presentará un seminario para que proveedores del cuidado médico aprendan sus responsabilidades legales cuando se sospecha la violencia doméstica, y aprendan las maneras eficaces de hablar con los pacientes sobre la violencia doméstica. Para más información, consulte en wcs-ddm.org.

Hard Times for Non-Profits

The continuing economic downturn is making it very difficult for non-profits to stay above water. As we see in the news each day, even some major for-profit businesses cannot keep afloat.



WCS~DdM has taken hits this fiscal year in nearly all of our government grants and foundation funding. We have had to work very creatively to avoid cutting services.

We believe that our fiscal responsibility in past years and our strong leadership team are helping us now to weather immediate crises; for example, the State budget problems. We are very proud of the fact that, despite the severe funding cuts, we've been able to maintain critical services for women and children in Santa Cruz county. The support we receive from the community is now more important than ever.



Long-time WCS~DdM Board Member Bob Katz was recently honored with the Pro Bono Award from the Santa Cruz County Bar Association.

Congratulations Bob!



2008 WCS~DdM Board of Directors

Anastasia Torres-Gil, *President*
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Services

All services are available in Spanish and English and are free or low-cost.

- 24-hour crisis line: peer counseling, advocacy, information and referrals for women, teens and children.
- 24-hour in-person hospital emergency response to domestic violence and rape survivors.
- Emergency Shelter.
- Temporary Restraining Order assistance and court accompaniment.
- Counseling for survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- Community Education trainings and presentations for schools, professionals and community groups.
- Neighborhood outreach.
- Workshops for families.
- Domestic Violence support groups:

Watsonville, Tuesdays 5:30-7:00 Spanish
 Santa Cruz, Tuesdays 6:00-7:30 Spanish
 Santa Cruz, Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 English

**24-Hour Crisis Line 685-3737
 (M-U-J-E-R-E-S)**

Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00
 425-4030 or 722-4532

Servicios

Todos los servicios son disponibles en español e inglés, y son gratis ó a bajo costo.

- Línea de crisis las 24 horas: consejería individual, abogacía, información y referencias para mujeres, jóvenes y niños.
- Respuesta de emergencia en persona las 24 horas en hospitales para sobrevivientes de asalto sexual ó violencia doméstica.
- Refugio de emergencia.
- Asistencia con ordenes de restricción temporal, y acompañamiento a la corte.
- Consejería para sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica ó asalto sexual.
- Entrenamientos y presentaciones en escuelas, para profesionales y grupos comunitarios.
- Alcance comunitario.
- Talleres educacionales para familias.
- Grupos de apoyo para sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica:

Watsonville, Martes 5:30-7:00 español
 Santa Cruz, Martes 6:00-7:30 español
 Santa Cruz, Miércoles 6:30-7:30 inglés.

**Línea de Crisis 24 Horas 685-3737
 (M-U-J-E-R-E-S)**

Horas de Oficina:
 Lunes-Viernes 9:00-5:00
 425-4030 o 722-4532



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Crisis Line: (831) 685-3737

1537 Pacific Ave, Suite 300, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
 220 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076

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