

PEACEWATCH

Center for Domestic Peace Newsletter • Fall 2012

Dear Friends and Supporters,

"It's going to be ok! You have options, and we are here to help." Growing up, I heard those words almost every time my mother answered the hotline as a volunteer in the 80's. I remember her picking up the phone at all hours, ready and available for the women in crisis on the line. And I remember her commitment to the organization called MAWS, as she took off to meeting after meeting, as a board member and support group leader.



I was just a teenager, but her volunteering had a huge impact on my life. Naturally when I was approached in 2010 to join the board of the organization, newly renamed Center for Domestic Peace, I jumped at the chance. I saw first-hand the work it takes to keep families safe in Marin. I also saw how volunteering and committing oneself to a cause such as this can reap untold rewards. Now as board co-chair, I am honored and humbled to fulfill my lifelong dream of following in my mother's footsteps and to bring the voice of my generation to this work.

In this newsletter, we are honoring 35 years of focus and dedication of not only the organization, but of some of the people who commit themselves to healing families year after year. A special acknowledgement goes to several key volunteers and our deputy executive director, who have all been here more than 15 years, and to hundreds of donors who generously gave last year. On the back page, we've highlighted some of our work in the community by showcasing two collaboratives we co-chair – one with the district attorney and one with Marin's mental health professionals. All this and more is what keeps our work in partnership with our community moving forward!

To celebrate this 35 year milestone, please join us on October 11 from 5:30-7:30 pm for an open house at our 734 A Street office. For questions, or to RSVP, please call 415.457.2464.

Toward Peace,

Tracy Kostiuk
Co-Chair, Board of Directors

A 35-Year Retrospective: A Generation of Working Toward Peace

Domestic violence, sexual abuse, intimidation, and harassment of one's partner have been accepted for centuries. Only in the last 35 years have these abuses been confronted, challenged, and changed. Today, many such actions meet the threshold of criminal behavior, punishable by law.

There are now more than 2,000 shelters nationwide for women escaping domestic violence. Yet in 1977, when Center for Domestic Peace (C4DP) was established as Marin Abused Women's Services, there were few if any. A small group of women, who founded the Marin chapter of the National Organization for Women, were determined to put their training from the civil rights movement into action, organizing a hotline and emergency shelter for women in Marin.

They soon learned that they would need to provide more to have a lasting effect, such as long-term housing and support services to re-establish lives. This led C4DP to purchase an additional facility and start a transitional housing program, Second Step.

Next, C4DP sought to address men's violence against women by establishing the groundbreaking Men's Program in 1980, which serves as a nationwide model. WomanKind was launched in 2001 to help women stop their abusive behavior. For a complete list of our milestones, please visit our website: www.c4dp.org.

For the last 35 years, a new generation of youth has come of age in a world where organizations such as C4DP have not only harbored thousands of women and children, but also prioritized safety and empowerment for women, children, teens, and men. The movement to transform the acceptance of this violence has grown and expanded all the way to the White House. Now, a special advisor to the President on violence against women issues exists as a member of the cabinet.

Today we have a deeper understanding of the roots of violence and strategies for prevention. This year, as we celebrate 35 years of work on this issue, we acknowledge and thank all our supporters and collaborators who share our commitment to solve the problem of domestic violence in Marin. We know we cannot and do not do this alone.

Our 35-year celebration is also an opportunity to look to the future and the next generation of activists, community supporters, and organizational leaders who will carry forward our mission.

Most inspiring is the future leadership emerging from children who benefited from C4DP services. There are numerous stories of young adults who are now a voice for violence-free relationships – such as Jennifer and Rocco, two children who met at our transitional housing program and formed a life-long friendship. Both attended prestigious colleges, becoming the first generation in their families to do so. They vowed to break the cycle and live every day to create peace. They were married this past February!

And there are children inspiring children - for example the young man Javier who created the "In a Box" program, which provides women and children in our housing programs with donated items needed during their stay. Javier, awarded a Heart of Marin Youth Award, has even taken his "In a Box" program to the University of Redlands.

All this and more is the wonderful outcome of C4DP's work and the broader social change movement it is part of. At the ground level, we have posed a new conversation and set of ideas about what it means to be human and intimate in a relationship. As these new ideas continue to take hold with upcoming generations, although our work is not done, Center for Domestic Peace is confident in the progress we have made.

Going forward, it is C4DP's priority to further engage younger generations and to promote their leadership. We are committed to instilling in them the belief that they can end the violence, so that in another 35 years, we can all look back and say, "Justice and peace have won out. We did it!"

IT'S OUR ANNIVERSARY!

Please join us for this Open House celebration. Bring your friends, family, and coworkers and help us celebrate 35 years of changing lives - one individual, one family, one community at a time. We will have complimentary refreshments, a short program and a few fantastic raffle prizes. We will also use this opportunity to honor and celebrate Deputy Executive Director, Kate Kain, for her 15 years of service and dedication!!

**Thursday, October 11th
5:30PM - 7:30PM
734 A Street, San Rafael
RSVP 415.457.2464**

Kate Kain – A Lifetime Commitment to Stopping Violence Against Women

Kate Kain joined Center for Domestic Peace (C4DP) in 1997, bringing with her a distinguished background as an activist and expert in the area of violence against women and children.



“As a young college student, I wandered into the first conference on violence against women on the West Coast, where I learned how huge the problem really was. This motivated me to invite all the women in the rural county where I lived to my cabin for ‘consciousness raising.’” From this meeting, Kate established the first hotline and safe houses for victims in the California foothills and later went on to cofound the California Child Assault Prevention Training Center. The Center hosted the first international “Prevention Connection” conference, which launched programs in Japan, Costa Rica, South Africa, Canada, and Native American communities. Kate was also instrumental in the passage of the Maxine Waters Child Abuse Prevention Act of 1984.

During her tenure as Deputy Executive Director, Kate has been responsible for growing C4DP’s professional work teams, service programs, and operations – hotline, emergency shelter, support groups, transitional housing, legal advocacy, programs for abusers, and the business department – as well as Transforming Communities Marin, the agency’s primary prevention program for youth and adults. At the heart of Kate’s professional approach is the spirit of teamwork and collaboration. Under her leadership, C4DP co-founded a countywide coordinated effort to end domestic violence, known today as the Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence Network, in partnership with the District Attorney’s Office. Kate also worked to strategically link the organization with the broader Marin community while strengthening internal capacity, resulting in additional people working more effectively for the same goal: the elimination of domestic violence.

Passionate about the importance of prevention, Kate has also leveraged her expertise from the numerous prevention program curriculums she authored into her work at C4DP, which resulted in development of the Marin Healthy & Equal Relating Program for middle and high school students, parents, and teachers, as well as C4DP’s Teen and Adult Community Action Team programs. Kate continues to play a major role in the on-going development of trainings for mental health and medical professionals, employers, faith leaders, criminal justice responders such as law enforcement, and the scores of community volunteers who seek training from the organization annually.

Kate is motivated to do this work for the long haul, based on the progress she has seen over the years. According to Kate, “What started as helping victims by bringing them to our own kitchen tables and homes has ended in national policy that is eliminating violence against women – and it won’t stop until it’s done worldwide. 30 years ago, 20 years ago, even 10 years ago, I said even though we won’t see the end of violence against women in our lifetimes, we have to keep going. Now that so many parts of our society and community are involved, combined with decreases in domestic violence rates, I’m saying that it is possible!”

Kate, we celebrate your 15 years of accomplishment, hard work, and dedication to Center for Domestic Peace and your direct contributions to the movement to keep families safe in Marin. Thank you! Please join us at C4DP on October 11th at 5:30 PM to help us celebrate her contributions. For more information and to RSVP please call 415.457.2464.

We Applaud You — OUR SUPPORTERS!

Every year at Center for Domestic Peace, we are inspired by the amount of support we receive from the community. Thanks to your generosity and your commitment to domestic peace in our community, we were able to meet our 2011-2012 fundraising goal!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to those who generously gave clothing, household items, bedding, furniture, and volunteered their time. Even the smallest donation of an outfit or a towel can help rebuild the life of a woman in our shelter.

The following is a list of supporters who donated \$150 or more between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Although space limitations prevent us from mentioning all our donors, **we are most grateful to each and every one.**

\$50,000 and above

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Diana Whipple
Ingrid Woods and Steven Cummings
Debra and Wiley Write

Center for Domestic Peace’s 9th Annual Luncheon, In Celebration of Mothers

At this year’s luncheon, over three hundred friends and supporters filled the room on May 11th to raise funds for our direct services and prevention programs. With your help, we brought in close to \$60,000! We want to express our sincere gratitude to Kathryn Keats, our featured speaker, to Dana King, our wonderful emcee, and to Rocco and Jennifer Rodriguez for sharing their personal story of love and inspiration. Thank you, also, to the many businesses and individuals who made this lively and inspiring event a huge success. We hope to see you at next year’s event on May 10, 2013!

We deeply appreciate the support of all our partners.

Peace Builder \$5000



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of Marin • LeeAnn Bartolini • Lina Lunera • Liz Sebahar • Lou
Bartolini • M Clothing • Mad Rags • Marin Brewing Company
Marin Cleaners • Marin County Fair • Marin County Mart
Marin County Sheriff’s Office • Marin Sonoma Concours
d’ Elegance • Marin Joe’s • Matt Taddei • Maura Prendiville
M’Gee Johnston & Don Russo • Milena Dixon • Milvali • Mimi
the Sardine • Morton & Bassett Spices • Moylan’s • Neiman
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Ruth Livingston Interior Design • Sausalito Police Department
Saylor’s Restaurant & Bar • Singer’s Marin • Sol Food • Sorella
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Disney Museum • Todd Hawley • Toss Designs • Twin Cities
Police Authority • Upper Cervical Health Centers • Woodlands
Pet Food & Treats • Yankee Pier

Center for Domestic Peace Celebrates Volunteers

Ellen Sigman:

Ellen Sigman began volunteering with Center for Domestic Peace eighteen years ago. “I was saddened by the stories I heard in the news about domestic violence and thought I might be able to help in some small way,” she says. As a survivor herself, she uses her experience to assist other women in similar situations by facilitating support groups, answering our 24-hour hotline, conducting shelter intakes, and providing child-care. What motivates Ellen is watching women come forward, helping one another and forming friendships. Ellen states, “Women are just amazing. I’ve grown so much from this experience, and I feel I have been able to make a difference in people’s lives.”



Over the past eighteen years, Ellen has observed higher levels of awareness about the problem of domestic violence and resources available to victims. She now sees younger woman, single mothers, and older women use our services more than ever. “As more women become aware of their situation I think they finally realize this is not right, and they ask for help. Thank goodness we have places such as Center for Domestic Peace for them to come to.”

Gwen Mauvais:

Seventeen years ago, Gwen Mauvais started volunteering at Center for Domestic Peace. She has worked in many capacities as a support group facilitator, 24-hour hotline advocate, and domestic violence community outreach speaker. Over the years, Gwen has been inspired by C4DP’s growth, particularly the work now done providing legal advocacy services and leading overall countywide coordination with law enforcement and other providers. Gwen was also there ten years ago when we launched the now annual Mother’s Day luncheon. But most of all, Gwen loves the work she does with the women who use our services.



A survivor of domestic violence herself, Gwen states, “I’m most inspired to see women empower themselves, with our guidance, by moving forward with confidence that they are capable of anything... I love to hear the many success stories of hotline chats, support group sharing and connecting, shelter safety and support, transitional housing opportunities, and the list goes on. I have learned that most women all want the same thing: to be treated with kindness, respect, and courtesy, which are all expressions of LOVE.”

24-HOUR HOTLINES

English	415.924.6616
Spanish	415.924.3456
Men’s	415.924.1070



MARIN COUNTY
COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE
TO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NETWORK

CCR to DV Network A New Expanded Collaborative Open to the Public

In 1998, Center for Domestic Peace, along with the Marin County District Attorney, launched the county’s first multi-agency collaboration focused on refining the community’s response to domestic violence. Originally the Marin County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, its main goal has been to apply national best practices locally, creating policies and procedures to better address victim safety and hold perpetrators accountable. With as many as 27 agencies involved in a typical domestic violence case from the criminal justice system, courts, medical facilities, etc., seamless collaboration is key to an effective system.

Over time, this group expanded, and is now open to the public. It has a new name, the Marin County Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence Network (CCR to DV Network). Hosted by Center for Domestic Peace and the Marin County District Attorney’s Office, the group includes all government, nongovernment, community-based, and individual practitioners who work with those affected by domestic violence.

The Network’s first objectives are to answer the following questions on a countywide basis:

- What do we know about making victims safer and holding abusers accountable in Marin?
 - How do we know when we’re off track, and how should we fix the problems victims and their children face?
 - How do our systems intervene and overlap?
 - What is the best way to analyze gaps and trends in order to increase victim safety, offender accountability, and involve our entire community in reducing this crime?
- As a first step in answering these questions, a countywide survey was done this past spring, with more than 250 respondents from 15 different professions. The survey results will reveal:
- Who’s doing what in Marin to respond to or prevent domestic violence;
 - What’s working and what could work better to reduce the violence; and
 - What policies and procedures need to be put in place to increase victim safety and abuser accountability.

The results will be public this fall and available on our website at www.c4dp.com/ccr-dv-network. For more information, please contact Laura Martinez at 415.526.2544

CCR to DV Network participants include:

- Batterer Intervention Programs
- Child Protection
- Criminal Justice
- Counseling
- Education
- Immigration
- Judicial/Court
- Legal
- Medical
- Mental Health/Therapeutic
- Prevention/Outreach
- Social Welfare
- Substance Abuse
- Victim Advocacy

Mental Health Professionals Team Up with C4DP!

The past 30 years have seen a substantial growth in research documenting the co-occurrence of domestic violence and mental health trauma among victims. Newer understandings can help practitioners and advocates address mental health trauma in the context of ongoing domestic violence. Recently C4DP hosted a training with more than 95 national and local mental health professionals, designed to expand upon and build new collaborative approaches to case management.

As a result, a new group formed in Marin to provide mutual case consultation for mental health professionals and domestic violence advocates. This forum, to meet monthly, provides an opportunity to review mental health treatment plans in the context of ongoing domestic violence. The goal is to increase the use of both lethality assessments and safety planning during treatment, as well as mental health treatment during emergency shelter stays. It is hoped that victims, abusers, and their children will benefit from a multidisciplinary healing effort that will also increase victim safety, hold abusers accountable, and build upon children’s natural resiliency.

If you would like more information, please contact Laura Martinez at 415.526.2544.

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**CENTER FOR DOMESTIC
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Home of Marin Abused Women’s Services

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San Rafael, CA 94901-3923

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www.centerfordomesticpeace.org

October Domestic Violence Awareness Month Activities

Ways you can participate: Wear a purple ribbon in solidarity; shine a purple light in your window, office or storefront; raise a purple flag at your school; create a design for “Chalk It Up For Domestic Peace” (see below).

Launch Event: October 3 - 11:45AM - 1:00PM, Marin Civic Center Cafeteria. The Marin County Probation Department, along with the Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence Network and Center for Domestic Peace will be hosting informational booths with local law enforcement, the District Attorney office, victim advocates, batterer’s intervention providers and other community partners to provide information and resources on domestic violence.

Chalk It Up For Domestic Peace: Join teams of volunteers as we leave our chalk art across the county, answering the question, “What does peace in the home look like.” Please visit www.c4dp.org/events for more information. Be sure to submit your pictures of your artwork by October 8 for your chance to win a \$100 gift certificate to Whole Foods!

35 Year Anniversary Celebration: October 11 - 5:30PM – 7:30PM, 734 A Street, San Rafael. Join us for our open house celebration - complimentary refreshments, raffle and short program. For more information and to RSVP, please call 415.457.2464.

Financial Education for Victims of Domestic Violence (Presented only in Spanish) (Educacion financiera para victimas de violencia domestica), October 17 - 6PM-8PM, 734 A Street/Training Room A, San Rafael. Spanish speakers will learn about economic abuse, domestic violence and poverty, safety planning, budgeting, savings, housing search and how to use the self-sufficiency calculator. RSVP to Encarny Aguado-Amsems at 415.456.8347.

Teen Dating Violence Online and In-Person: Best Practices for Providers Training: October 26 – 9:30AM – 3:00PM, Four Points by Sheraton, San Rafael. Join us along with Break the Cycle- a national organization working to end teen dating violence. RSVP to 415.526.2544.

Dia de los Muertos A Resultado De Violence Domestica, Day of the Dead as a Result of Domestic Violence: October 30 – 12PM – 2PM, Center for Domestic Peace, 734 A Street, San Rafael. Join us for this memorial and reading of the names of those killed by domestic violence. RSVP to 415.457.2464.

The Silent Witness – a collection of life-size silhouettes of domestic violence victims with a narrative of how each was killed will be on display at Center for Domestic Peace.

Please contact Marla Hedlund, Development and Community Relations Manager, for information or to volunteer 415. 526.2543 mhedlund@c4dp.org