

COALITION NEWS



HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



THIS QUARTER'S NEWS

A VICTIM'S PLEA TO HER PASTOR

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**THE SEARCH IS OVER: NEW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**STATE OF THE STATEWIDE NEEDS
ASSESSMENT**

ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

**MONEY, MONEY, MONEY,
MONEY**

UPCOMING EVENTS

"A VICTIM'S PLEA TO HER PASTOR"

by Norina

REACH out to me to talk to me

counsel me

guide me

Speak to me with comfort, love & encouragement

Tell me how to have hope and peace in my life again

Tell me Truth

Don't blame me for getting him mad

Don't judge me for protecting myself & my kids

Help me to feel safe

Look into my eyes and speak into my life

Help me

Keep me accountable; it's a difficult time for me to
make right decisions

Offer solutions

healing

Don't lie to me

Listen to my heart

Pray for me

Tell me what God says about domestic violence,
please

Don't turn away

Know what to do

say

I'm being abused

and I don't know what to do

Please help me

LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE: WHICH HORSES ARE STILL IN THE RACE

by Carmen Golay

The following list of bills we have been tracking during this legislative session are still alive and moving forward.



SB1037 SD1 HD1 CD1:

Changes to Strangulation statute. Has passed out of all committees and was amended during conference committee. *Amends the offense of abuse of family or household member by amending the type of physical abuse that constitutes strangulation to include blocking the nose and mouth or applying pressure to the chest. Clarifies that infliction of a visible bodily injury is not required to establish the offense.*

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB1037_CD1_.pdf

HB 295 HD1 SD1:

Has passed out of all committees, sent to conference and conferees have been assigned

Amends the definition of domestic abuse under Hawaii's insurance laws and domestic abuse protective order statutes to include emotional abuse between family or household members. Defines emotional abuse.

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/HB295_SD1_.pdf

HB1433 HD1 SD1:

Appropriations for Address Confidentiality. Has passed out of all committees, conferees have been assigned; first conference committee Wed. April 24

Appropriates funds for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions, operating costs, and equipment to support the Attorney General's Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center in administering the Address Confidentiality Program.

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/HB1433_SD1_.pdf

SB1466 SD2 HD2:

Gun Violence Protective orders

Has passed out of all committees and is now awaiting Governor signature

Establishes a process by which a law enforcement officer, family or household member, medical professional, educator, or colleague may obtain a court order to prevent a person from accessing firearms and ammunition when the person poses a danger of causing bodily injury to oneself or another.

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB1466_HD2_.pdf

HB437 HD1 SD1:

Crime Victim Compensation for Mental Health Services/DV Child Witness

House and Senate Conferees have been assigned

Authorizes crime victim compensation for mental health services for survivors in cases involving a death and for children who witness domestic violence.

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/HB437_SD1_.pdf

SB1047 SD1 HD2:

Creates new Petty Misdemeanor for abuse of a family or household member. *Has passed third reading; conferees assigned; likely to have many changes during conference meetings*

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB1047_HD2_.pdf



Angelina Mercado
Executive Director

THE SEARCH IS OVER: NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Angelina is deeply committed to empowering women and families. Early in her life, she witnessed the intersectionality of domestic violence, race, class, culture and gender in her community. That experience fueled her passion for changing the systems that serve, but too often oppress disenfranchised communities, especially women and children.

STATE OF THE STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Our statewide needs assessment process is moving along and county based focus groups have been conducted on both Kauai and Maui. The attendance at the focus groups has been great and so many community partners have shown interest in sharing their experiences and expertise on the topic of domestic violence and service provision in their communities.

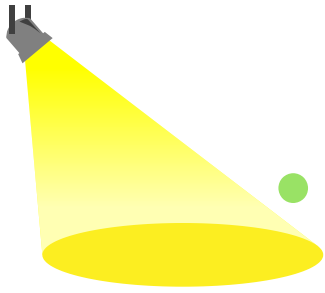
HSCADV would like to thank the “team captains” on Maui and Kauai, Sanoë Kaaihue and Jennifer Carter, for organizing the groups, securing space for us to meet and getting the word out to so many people. Thanks to the Department of Health on Kauai and to Maui College in Kahului for hosting us. We are looking forward to the next round of focus groups, which will be for Hawaii Island and Oahu in the coming months.

Professionals Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/professional-survey2019>

Public Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/public-survey2019>



ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT



"Elyse's ability of give herself to others, her sense of 'other-centeredness' has, through the years, guided, led, and empowered survivors through programs and interventions that relate to safety and self-sufficiency."

ELYSE ESPINOSA

Domestic Violence Action Center

Elyse has been with DVAC for 5 years this June. In her first couple of years, she worked as an EXPO court outreach advocate before moving up to the lead advocate position during her third year. She is now the acting EXPO Program Supervisor and has been in this role for the past two years. The EXPO program is designed to assist survivors when they petition for restraining orders. As we know, it is one of the most vulnerable—physically and emotionally—times for the survivor. Elyse loves her current position because "it is the best of both worlds". She states "My mother is a teacher, and she often brought me to school with her; so I grew up in the classroom. Teaching is in my genes, and I love that my current role allows me to continue providing direct services to clients, while also mentoring and training staff". She loves connecting with clients, making them feel heard and safe. Elyse also is always learning from her clients, stating "there are so many humbling moments that keep me grounded and push me to reexamine things from another perspective". As inspiring as this work can be, there certainly are days where she feels like she's been steamrolled. Elyse keeps up a self-care plan that addresses her physical, emotional and mental health. Exercise, spending time with friends and partner, and signing in a chamber choir are three ways that she recharges and finds balance.



ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

**JASMINE JIN**

Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

"Jasmine recently assisted an undocumented immigrant and victim of domestic violence. Jasmine provided legal counsel and advice on the VAWA Self Petition, which provides protections for immigrant victims married to an abusive US citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident. Through her outreach to vulnerable communities, Jasmine was able to connect the immigrant victim with free legal services at the Hawaii Immigrant Justice Center at Legal Aid. In addition to her work with Legal Aid, Jasmine is a shelter advocate for PACT's Ohia Program."

Jasmine has been an AmeriCorps State and National member with Legal Aid for 2 years. For those who aren't familiar with what AmeriCorps does, it's a federal program akin to the PeaceCorps where service and volunteerism is focused on building and strengthening underprivileged communities, but within the US. She lived in LA & NYC for 7 years, and has always been active in public interest work, from passing out food to homeless individuals on Skid Row in downtown LA, to working as an advocate in the Manhattan Borough Housing courts where immigrant families, PTSD victims from 9/11, and other under- and unrepresented litigants face eviction.

Upon returning to Hawaii, Jasmine worked awhile in the private legal sector and in the First Circuit Criminal court. Her current work with Legal Aid has definitely been a rewarding but bittersweet experience because "I see first-hand the systemic issues that Hawaii faces including homelessness and scarcity of affordable housing, and the lack of more comprehensive services to address domestic violence and mental health. I do what I can because the need is for assistance is great, and there have to be folks who can fill that need".

To balance the demands of work, Jasmine utilizes her strong support system of friends and family. She hikes, swims and goes out on dinner dates with friends. She also enjoys the occasional street festival or music concert.

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

Grants and Funding Updates

Keep watch for information on funding and toolkits here (you can sign up for email alerts):

<https://safehousingpartnerships.org>

Hawaii Women's Fund grant application for spring has closed, but will open again in the fall:

<https://womensfundhawaii.org/grant-application/>

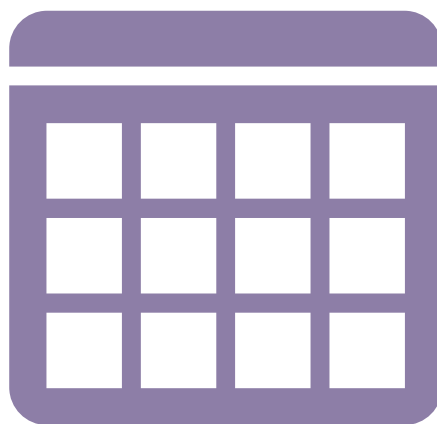
Hawaii Community Foundation has several open grants:

<https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/grants/open-applications>

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was due to the State Attorneys General office on April 15, 2019. Notification of awards we anticipate in June, with contracts beginning July 1.

Housing & Urban Development: We anticipate the HUD notification of funding will be released in mid-May. We plan to hold a series of conversations including webinars with our national technical assistance providers for all member programs who are considering applying for the HUD domestic violence set-aside monies.

UPCOMING



EVENTS

WEBINAR TITLE

Confidentiality & Informed Consent, Tonia Moultry, NNEDV

Renter's Rights & Eviction in Hawaii, Isaiah Feldman-Schwartz, Lawyers for Equal Justice

Tech Safety, NNEDV

Reunification Process Basics for DV Advocates, Child Welfare Services

Immigration 101 for DV Survivors, Hawaii Immigrant Justice Center

Working with Trafficking Survivors and Service Providers

DATE

May 7, 2019

August 13, 2019

September

October

November

December

MEETINGS

Membership Meeting

Advocate Hour

Shelter Committee

DATE

May 30, 2019
9am-1pm
Aug 29, 2019
9am-1pm

TBD June 2019

May 30, 2019
1:30pm-3pm
Aug 29, 2019
1:30pm-3pm

