Annual Report FY 2013
Dear Friends,

What a year it’s been for us! We have been hard at work fulfilling our goals in the second year of our four year strategic plan which began in late 2011. One of the biggest announcements for AzCADV is our recent designation of becoming the 24th state coalition addressing both domestic and sexual violence by the Centers for Disease Control and the US Department of Justice.

We look forward to assisting sexual assault providers by providing training, advocacy, support, and expert consultation to assist them in the work they do. We know there is much to be done and a lot for our staff to learn and get up to speed on, but we look forward to the challenge! As you can see throughout the report, our staff has been busy statewide with our core services: training, assistance to shelters and non-residential programs, policy work, special projects, and the Legal Advocacy Hotline.

Our work is truly making a difference for domestic violence victims and survivors in Arizona. We invite you to join us in supporting our new mission of preventing and ending sexual and domestic violence in Arizona.

Thank you,

Allie Bones

We envision living in a world where all relationships are healthy, respectful, safe and loving.

The Coalition is Advocating

AzCADV values working on policy changes that will positively impact many victims at once. In doing this, staff at the Coalition review the latest research and provide information coming directly from advocates when addressing new laws, as well as, other policy changes such as, shelter policies, court proceedings, state and federal funding, training requirements for professionals and more. In 2013, we monitored numerous bills at the Arizona Legislature that had to do with domestic violence, mandatory arrest, child custody, the state budget and Medicaid. We work diligently on efforts to secure Medicaid Expansion available in accordance with the Affordable Care Act at the State Capitol. Additionally we worked with community partners to disseminate information about the Affordable Care Act and the Healthcare Marketplace, ensuring that victims who are in need will be able to access the benefits.

Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act:
In 2013, we collaborated with advocates locally and across the country to pass the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Thanks to our community partners we were able to provide the real time benefits of VAWA to our Members of Congress and stress the importance of expanding this legislation to be more inclusive and benefit all victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Lay Legal Advocacy Hotline
Our Legal Advocacy Hotline, the only one of its kind in the country, continued to provide callers with information about safety plans, the court process, family law issues, protection orders and more. We offered technical assistance to emergency shelters, non-residential programs as well as other professionals throughout Arizona.

We’re committed to helping programs serve victims of domestic violence in an inclusive and empowering way, thereby fulfilling their missions.

During FY 2013, the Legal Advocacy Hotline Received over 2,200 calls from victims and survivors of domestic violence and those calling on their behalf as well as nearly 350 Technical Assistance calls. Advocates in our Legal Advocacy Hotline provide survivors with someone who will listen and talk with them about options, what they want, their safety and resources that may be able to help them relating to navigating the legal system, your legal rights, resource and referral, and safety planning. Numerous calls come through to our Legal Advocates not only from domestic violence survivors but also from advocates and professionals who serve victims and survivors.

Many survivors who talk with our advocates in our Legal Advocacy Hotline often indicate this is the first time someone has actually listened to them.

We Train To Empower Survivors
Through a grant from the Allstate and the Verizon Foundations, we were able to train six partner shelter programs to facilitate groups and individual sessions about economic empowerment using the Moving Ahead Through Financial Management™ curriculum. Available in both English and Spanish, the groups covered topics such as recognizing financial abuse, understanding banking and credit basics, and creating budgeting strategies.
One survivor served by this project fled with her three children from an abusive relationship. While in shelter, she attended several economic empowerment workshops and obtained a protection order, pursued her work authorization, and secured a business license. She expanded her client base, presented her business to the shelter’s board of directors prior to leaving shelter and moving into her own home, and is able to sustain a safe and loving home for her and her children.

The Coalition is Collaborating

Our strength comes from using our collective voice. We speak on behalf of our member programs, Arizona’s advocates, and the thousands of survivors across the state. AzCADV proudly hosts the anti-domestic violence community at numerous annual events to provide opportunities to connect, brainstorm, celebrate and advocate together.

We link Arizona to the national anti-domestic violence movement.

AzCADV helps programs participate in the annual National Network to End Domestic Violence, Domestic Violence Counts: National Census of Domestic Violence Services, to understand the depth of need for services for survivors and their children. In one 24-hour period, 37 programs served 1,487 victims of domestic violence. Sadly, programs had to turn away 152 victims during that period. Programs did not have available beds or enough staff to meet every request, so some victims in Arizona do not find help from conventional sources even when they have the courage to reach out. We use these statistics when advocating at the state capitol, on Capitol Hill, and many places in between.

AzCADV has 35 full member programs whose primary services help victims of domestic violence. We’re also proud to represent 17 Affiliate Members, as well as dozens of Individual and Student Members. Most importantly, we’re honored to have over 50 members who identify as survivors of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review

AzCADV is committed to the statewide efforts in fatality review and provide support to these efforts in various ways including publishing our annual Arizona Domestic Violence Fatality Report. We track domestic violence related homicides and found that at least 139 domestic violence related fatalities occurred in 2012 in Arizona.

While Arizona has one of the highest domestic violence related fatalities in the United States, Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams across the state in Arizona look at homicides in their area to find information about the parties, the relationship, and systemic involvement to identify gaps in the system and make recommendations to close them.

The Coalition is Educating

Our staff provided training to more than 4,000 individuals, including new advocates and those who have been in the movement for years.

Training & Technical Assistance Manager Erin Callinan says, “Training builds a bigger group of allies who are able to stand up for victims by challenging victim blaming and oppression.”

One person who attended training on providing Victim Defined Advocacy shared their experience with us: “This training was dynamic, gutsy, inspiring, and incredibly informative. It was so refreshing to see trainers that were compassionate, interactive, and responsive to their audience. I came to this training with so much anxiety over two particular shelter clients, and they opened my eyes and gave me hope for improving and furthering my ability to advocate. Their resources were extensive and helpful both pragmatically and theoretically.”

The 2012 biennial statewide conference titled “Reframing our Focus: Inclusivity, Advocacy and the Future of the Movement” along with a special Women of Color Leadership Summit held during the conference’s first day brought together nearly 130 advocates and allied professionals in September 2012 from all corners of Arizona. The Women of Color Leadership Summit offered women of color and their allies an opportunity to learn about dynamic leadership within the movement and ways to position themselves to better serve communities of color.

This year’s conference challenged us to re-assess service delivery models, create organizational cultures that support change, and build new and creative partnerships to expand services in our programs.

FY 12-13 Operations

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The 2012 Thrive Gala and Awards Dinner brought together 260 supporters to honor six award winners and dozens of other inspiring nominees. Our 3rd annual event drew upon the energy and excitement of the inaugural Gala and served to encourage those who work tirelessly to give victims hope and support when they have none. Gala guests know that their dedication to empowering the 12 million Americans who experience domestic violence each year is a noble and just pursuit. We look forward to seeing everyone at this annual event for years to come.

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