

# NEBRASKA COALITION

TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

# **2015 Statewide Report**



Everything begins with an idea.
-Earl Nightingale,
radio personality and author

# A Message from the Chair of the Board



Toni Jensen, Board Chair

Happy Spring to you all!

It has been such a blessing to serve as your Board Chair over the last year, and what a year it was.

As many of you heard at the banquet celebration we had in November, over the past year we completed our Strategic Plan. The best part is that we

completed that plan a year early! There is no rest for the weary, however, as we began working on our next strategic plan over the summer. We have some exciting things coming our way.

Before we leave the past behind and look toward the future, I do want to share with you some of our accomplishments over the past year. We again had a successful banquet where we were able to celebrate some amazing advocates from across the state. The Coalition hired several new staff to help us expand our work and our role in the community. Coalition staff also participated in legislative advocacy at the national level, and Coalition staff members represented our state in national presentations throughout the year.

Looking toward the future, please put our banquet on your calendars for September 28, 2016. It will be a little earlier this year - please make note so that you can celebrate with us. We will also be working to finalize the goals and objectives for our new strategic plan. If you are interested in working with us to accomplish this plan, please let us know!

I am so excited for what the next year has to offer the Coalition. We would not be as successful as we are without the amazing staff that we have. It is my privilege to serve along side of them.

Sincerely,

Toni Jensen Board Chair

# A Message from the Executive Director



Lynne Lange, Executive Director

Dear Coalition allies and advocates.

During the past year we were able to start some powerful conversations around the future of our work, with local, state and national partners. While we are each involved in sustaining our individual programs, we pushed the pause button to share with each other the importance of truly

building our movement - not just our separate organizations. This discussion has created energy around nurturing future leaders for our cause, sustaining ourselves through self-care, and creating spaciousness so that we can thoughtfully impact challenges yet to come.

Our friends at Move to End Violence have taught us about embracing "forward stance" to emphasize proactive and strategic actions to build successful and sustainable movements. It allows us to get out of our heads, where we merely think about social change, to actually embodying that change. Isn't it a liberating concept to envision working in collaboration with a multitude of partners across our nation to truly affect proactive social change? Can you imagine living in a world where sexual and domestic violence are a distant memory and healthy relationships prosper? As we dig deep to unearth the root causes of violence, we can focus our efforts in a strategic direction that will ultimately aid our ability to proactively prevent future violence.

Let's move into our next year together, thinking about what truly drew us to this movement, and the importance of embracing our allies so that we can work in community with one another to make lasting change. Finally, don't forget to breathe!

Sincerely,

Lynne Lange Executive Director

# **Mission Statement**

The Nebraska Coalition to End
Sexual and Domestic Violence enhances
safety and justice by changing the
societal beliefs that perpetuate sexual and
domestic violence.

# **Vision Statement**

We envision a world where sexual and domestic violence are a distant memory and healthy relationships prosper.

# **Core Values**

Accountability
Collaboration
Diversity/Equality
Education
Empowerment/Autonomy
Leadership
Prevention
Safety

# Statement of Philosophy

Abuse is a choice and a practice by which persons achieve power, gratification or financial advancement through the abuse of another person by abrogating that person's human right to dignity, equality, autonomy and physical and mental well being. Therefore, we must work to eliminate racism, homophobia, anti-Semitism, classism and oppression of all traditionally silenced groups. These oppressions are perpetuated by the same systems that profit from violence against women and children and cannot be separated from the overall mission of the Coalition, for the oppression of one is the oppression of all.

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# Network of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs

There are currently 20 community-based domestic and sexual violence programs in Nebraska.

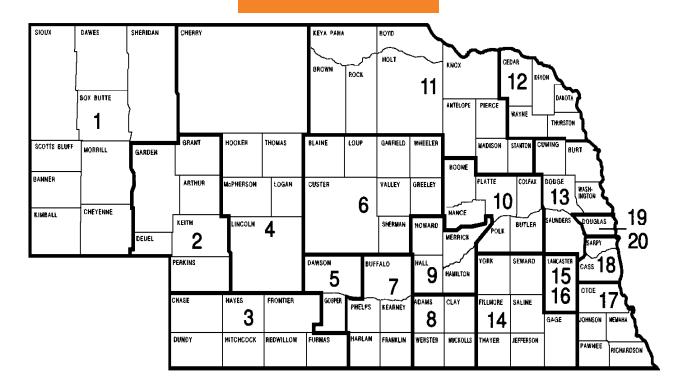
- 1. DOVES Program, Gering
- 2. Sandhills Crisis Intervention Program, Ogallala
- Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Service, McCook
- 4. Rape/Domestic Abuse Program, North Platte
- 5. Parent-Child Center, Lexington
- Healing Hearts and Families, Broken Bow
- 7. The S.A.F.E. Center, Kearney
- 8. Spouse Abuse/Sexual
  Assault Crisis Center,
  Hastings
- Crisis Center, Grand Island

The staff that I worked with went above and beyond to help me, not just as support, but with the protection order and the messenger with court, etc. I feel like for the first time in a long time I can go somewhere without looking over my shoulder.

- Survivor from Eastern

Nebraska

- Center for Survivors, Columbus
- 11. Bright Horizons, Norfolk
- 12. Haven House, Wayne
- 13. The Bridge, Fremont
- 14. Hope Crisis Center, Fairbury
- 15. Voices of Hope, Lincoln
- 16. Friendship Home, Lincoln
- 17. Project Response, Auburn
- Heartland Family Service -Domestic Abuse Program, Papillion
- Catholic Charities -The Shelter, Omaha
- 20. Women's Center for Advancement, Omaha



There also are four tribal domestic violence/sexual assault programs in Nebraska, serving the Ponca, Winnebago, Omaha and Santee Sioux nations.

# **Network Services**

The network of domestic and sexual violence programs offer a range of services for both adults and children who are victims of domestic and sexual violence. Each program provides the following seven core services. Supplemental services vary in each area.

### 24 Hour Crisis Line

Confidential support, information and access to services are available 24 hours a day by calling the program in your area.

### **Legal Referrals and Assistance with Protection Orders**

Programs cannot give legal advice. However, they can provide assistance with obtaining a domestic abuse protection order, emotional support through court proceedings, and referrals to local attorneys.

# **Emergency Shelter**

Providing a safe place to stay is an important service of the programs. Using a combination of shelters, hotels and other options, programs offer people a place to escape further violence.

# **Ongoing Support and Information**

Individual ongoing support is provided to survivors. Support groups for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault are available in many communities. Some programs offer groups for teens experiencing violence, child witnesses, and educational groups for people who batter.

# **Transportation**

Emergency transportation to shelter is available 24 hours a day. Programs also may provide transportation to court proceedings, medical services or to other community agencies.

### **Education and Prevention Programs**

Prevention programs are provided for children, youth and adults on topics such as child sexual abuse, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and healthy relationships. Staff and volunteers are available for presentations to community groups and other organizations.

### **Medical Advocacy and Referrals**

Staff and volunteers are available to accompany survivors to hospital emergency rooms and local medical offices for treatment of injuries or an exam after a domestic or sexual assault.

Nebraska's coalition of domestic and sexual violence programs provide access to safety and shelter across the state.

To locate the program nearest you, visit www.nebraskacoalition.org.

Or Call:

1-877-215-0167 - Línea de Crisis en Nebraska (en español) 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) - National Domestic Violence Hotline, www.ndvh.org 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) - Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network, www.rainn.org 1-866-331-9474 - National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline, www.loveisrespect.org

# 2014 - 2015 Network Statistics

The local domestic and sexual violence programs strive to meet the needs of victims and survivors and to provide a voice to speak on their behalf when needed. Additionally, programs work to hold perpetrators accountable and implement efforts to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

During October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015, the local domestic and sexual violence programs provided the following services.

# **People Served**

§ 19,407 people received direct services

# **Shelter Services**

- \$ 40,482 shelter beds provided
  - 1,201 adults and 1,257 children and youth received shelter services

# **Crisis Line Calls**

§ 51,010 calls to the 24 hour crisis lines operated by the network of programs

# Supportive Counseling and Advocacy

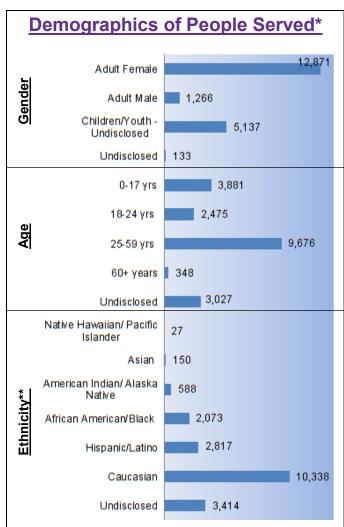
When reporting statistics, programs had the option of including either the number of contacts or the number of hours. Therefore, the number of contacts does not include the number of hours listed.

### Adults

- § 50,305 service contacts for individual support/advocacy
- § 6,890 contacts for group support/
  advocacy

### Children/Youth

- § 4,773 contacts made for individual support/advocacy
- 1,563 contacts made for group support/advocacy
- 2,576 other contacts were spent providing additional services to children and youth



\*This report includes the statistics provided to the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence by the local domestic and sexual violence programs. These numbers reflect only the services provided by the programs. They do not include services provided to victims/survivors by other agencies (i.e., police, medical). Therefore, this information should be seen as a conservative estimate. The actual number of victims, survivors, and services provided in Nebraska is likely to be much greater.

\*\*Some survivors may have identified as more than one ethnicity.

# 2014 - 2015 Network Statistics continued

# **Prevention/Educational Programs**

- § 3,426 prevention/educational programs were conducted
  - § 66,169 individuals attended\*
- An additional 1,391 awareness activities were provided

# **Batterer Intervention Services**

- § 262 people received batterer intervention services provided by the local network of programs
  - X This includes 1,757 service contacts provided through individual counseling and
  - 1,044 service contacts provided through group education

# 2015 Direct Services by the Nebraska Coalition

In addition to the direct services provided by the network of programs, the Coalition provided the following direct services between January - December 2015 (the Coalition's fiscal year) through the Immigrant Victims Relief Project.

The Immigrant Victims Relief Project is a joint project between the Coalition and the Center for Legal Immigration Assistance (CLIA). It is funded through the rural grant program, which started on October 1, 2013. The project allowed Coalition attorneys and Bureau of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accredited staff at CLIA to provide legal assistance to victims/survivors with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitions, U visas, T visas, and related filings before the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

- Coalition and CLIA staff provided legal assistance to immigrant victims of violence seeking relief through immigration options provided under the Violence Against Women Act and the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Coalition and CLIA staff:
  - A assisted 118 victims/survivors of violence as primary petitioners; and
  - x assisted 53 other qualifying family members (qualifying family members include parents, spouses, children under the age of 21, or siblings under the age of 18).
- X The rural grant also funds the Línea de Crisis, a 24-hour hotline for Spanish speaking victims/ survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
  - A Hotline staff took 47 calls from victims/survivors; and
  - k hotline staff took an additional eight calls from individuals who were not victims/
    survivors, such as friends and family members, and from the programs for assistance
    in interpretation/translation with Spanish speaking clients.

<sup>\*</sup>There may be some duplication in the numbers. A person may have attended several events offered by local domestic and sexual violence programs.

# Nebraska Coalition Statistics\*

# Training, Education, and Technical Assistance to the Network\*\*

- Responded to 4,766 telephone/email requests for information
- X Conducted 21 on-site visits, including two peer reviews
- Provided 33 network specific trainings, totaling 126.75 hours attended by 357 people

# <u>Training, Education, and Technical Assistance to Other</u> Agencies\*\*

- Responded to 1,382 telephone/email requests for information
- Provided 58 trainings in multidisciplinary forums, totaling 277.75 hours and attended by 1,836 people, including:
  - \$ 56 statewide or regional trainings/webinars in Nebraska
  - One statewide No More in Nebraska conference
  - One training in another state
- X Convened and/or attended 153 meetings on collaborative initiatives and enhancing services
- Reviewed batterer intervention programs, including four in person reviews

# **Publications and Resources**

- Shared information and resources through 5,045 mailings to the network of programs and 2,612 mailings to other agencies
- Distributed three issues of the No More in Nebraska newsletter
- Distributed 70,759 copies of brochures and other materials

# **Public Awareness**

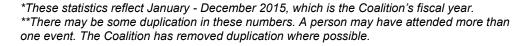
Attended three events sponsored by local organizations (not including events where Coalition staff provided presentations)

# **Public Policy**

- X Convened and/or attended 19 meetings with elected officials
- Sponsored webinars related to legislative updates to inform advocates and allied organizations about issues related to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking
- Provided analysis of proposed legislation and direct lobbying efforts to advocate for victims

# **Staff Development and Training**

Attended a combined total of 93 state and national teleconferences, webinars, meetings and trainings to keep current about emerging issues













# Safe for the Sentence



For the past several years, the Nebraska Coalition, the Nebraska Crime Commission and the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) have partnered to improve the response to survivors of sexual violence in detention. The state of Nebraska has dedicated funds for a variety of tasks related to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) implementation and supporting survivors in detention facilities. This includes a Prison Advocacy Coordinator position at the Nebraska Coalition. Marla Sohl began in this position in April 2015.

One of the primary goals of this new position is to develop and implement a confidential statewide hotline for incarcerated victims of sexual assault detained in Nebraska's state facilities. To lay the foundation for this goal, Marla attended portions of NDCS's Pre-Service training, a training academy that all new corrections employees must complete. This training focused on the unique culture of prison, including everything from the overall structure of NDCS to conducting searches. It provided a strong fundamental understanding of the daily occurrences in correctional facilities, an imperative perspective for service provision to victims living in this system. The PREA Coordinator for NDCS also arranged and accompanied Marla on tours to all 10 facilities in Nebraska. This enabled Marla to have a first-hand look at the facilities and to meet with the Wardens and the PREA Compliance Managers for each facility.

The Rape/Domestic Abuse Program (RDAP) of North Platte has agreed to answer the Prison Sexual Assault Hotline. They have received specialized training on prison culture, dynamics of sexual assault within confinement, investigative processes, resources, referrals, and how to safety plan with this very uniquely un-empowered population. Additionally, the majority of the RDAP staff went with the Prison Advocacy Coordinator to tour the Nebraska State Penitentiary.

In an effort to secure confidential options, the Coalition is now established as a privileged mail site for NDCS inmates. As a privileged mailing site, victims can send and receive mail from the Coalition without it being read. This may increase sexual assault victims' ability to reach out for help without worrying about being overheard on the phone when calling the hotline, or that their private experiences will be read about when standard security mail screenings are conducted. This kind of privacy within an institution where privacy is virtually unavailable is a great option for victims. Additional activities of the Prison Advocacy Coordinator have included cross training for corrections personnel and community advocates, creation of protocols and memorandums of understanding, creation of a brochure for victims and survivors, and serving as a liaison between correctional personnel and community domestic and sexual violence advocates.

Historically our culture has regarded the issue of sexual assault within confinement as little more than a joke. However, the implications for the victim and the community are no laughing matter. The majority of prisoners will eventually re-enter communities. Those who have experienced assault during incarceration will experience complications related to this trauma. Unidentified or ignored trauma often festers and creates further complications for the survivor. Re-entry into the community is a difficult transition for anyone coming from the prison population; re-entry with unattended trauma increases the likelihood of failure dramatically. The Coalition is excited about providing resources and supportive services to inmate survivors across the state through the hotline, set to begin in early 2016.

# 2015 Coalition Conference and Awards Reception

n November 5, the Board of Directors hosted the annual *Envision.Empower.Engage.* awards banquet. Held during the *No More in Nebraska* conference, the banquet celebrated the work of the Coalition, the local domestic and sexual violence programs, and community partners. A special thank you to the sponsors of the event (listed below).

Award recipients included: **The Allstate Foundation** – Corporate Partner of the Year, accepted by local Allstate agent Saundra Earnest; **Keri Berry**, Phelps Memorial Health Center, Holdredge – Community Partner of the Year; **Jennifer Ponce**, DOVES Program, Scottsbluff, Prevention Advocate of the Year; **Nikki Gausman**, The SAFE Center, Kearney – Sexual Violence Advocate of the Year; and **Stacey Dirks**, Voices of Hope, Lincoln – Domestic Violence Advocate of the Year. **Michelle Zinke**, Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, Lincoln, also was honored in recognition of 15 years with the Nebraska Coalition and 20 years as part of the movements to end domestic and sexual violence.



Award recipients, left to right: Saundra Earnest, on behalf of The Allstate Foundation; Keri Berry; Stacey Dirks; Nikki Gausman; Jennifer Ponce; Michelle Zinke.













(I will) practice more self-care and be more mindful of how each of us may see things differently, we can still have the same vision of a community free of violence.

-Participant at No More in Nebraska conference, in response to the question "What will you do differently in your work as a result of this conference?"

# Highlights 2015



# **Overview of Funding**

The following is a 2015 summary of funding for the Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (formerly the Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition). The fiscal year for the Coalition is a calendar year (January - December).

Nebraska Health and Human Services: \$424,340

- Rape Prevention and Education: \$298,926
- Nebraska Health and Human Services: \$64,335
- R Preventive Health and Health Services: \$61,079

### U.S. Department of Justice - Violence Against Women Act: \$392,334

- Grants to State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions: \$204,763
- Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Grant: \$187.571

Nebraska Crime Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, U.S. Department of Justice - \$232,770

- Sexual Assault Services Program: \$195,527
   Prison Rape Elimination Act JAG: \$37,243
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Family Violence Prevention and Services Act: \$232,444

The Allstate Foundation: \$44,084

Moving Forward Grant: \$43,580

Donation: \$504

The NFL Foundation: \$19,795

**Program Membership Dues: \$17,091** 

Fundraising Events: \$14,988

**Individual and Organizational Donors: \$12,523** 

In Kind Donations: \$7,750

Miscellaneous: \$7,223

Community Services Fund: \$5,424

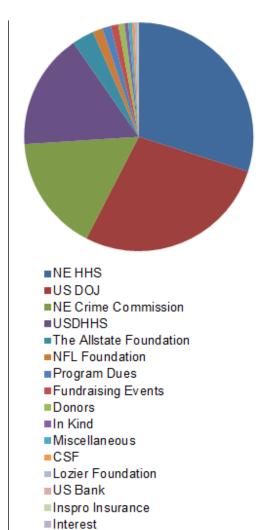
Lozier Foundation: \$5,000

**US Bank: \$1,500** 

**Inspro Insurance: \$850** 

Interest: \$686

Total: \$1,418,802



# **Coalition Donors**

onations of all amounts are vital in order to sustain the work of the Coalition. Without this ongoing assistance, the Coalition would be unable to provide capacity building services and resources. The following list includes donors during the 2015 calendar year, including donors for our annual silent auction and banquet. If a name has been inadvertently omitted from these lists, please contact the Coalition. The Coalition is grateful for the generous support from donors. The Coalition also thanks the anonymous donors for their support!

**Individuals** 

Ahrendt, Paul and Kathy Anderson, Clayton Bartling, Monica Braun, Monica

Burns, Mary Lou Stone

Cue, Carla DeGraff, Judith Duhacheck, Heather Earnest, Saundra Engler, Millie Forbes, Lisa Gallatin, Jo Ann

Hargesheimer, Richard and Christy

Harms, Nancy Hasenauer, Glenda

Heinisch. Steven and Rosie

Hurst, Gwen Imray, Jean Jensen, Toni Koepke, Suellen Lambert, Charla Lange, Lynne

MacTaggart, Christon

Manzer, Jamie Metzger, Marcee Muessel, Grant Myers, Kelsie Olson, Linda Patent, Carmen Patent, Keisha Patent-Nygren, Megan

Phillips, Marilyn Rose, Jay Sanford, Robert Schoenleber, Emily Skretta, Sara Sohl, Marla

Stamm, Lisa Tuck, Mary Lynn Wasserburger, Hilary Zinke, Michelle

**Organizations** 

Allstate Giving Campaign

Bling by Zing

**Bright Horizons** 

Center for Legal Immigration Assistance

Center for Survivors

Domestic Violence Council

Haven House

Healing Hearts and Families Heartland Family Service Hope Crisis Center

Inspro Insurance

Lincoln Fire and Rescue Lincoln Public Schools Mainstreet Flowers Meier Cork and Bottle **Omaha Storm Chasers** 

Parent-Child Center Rape/Domestic Abuse Program

The DOVES Program The Friendship Home The S.A.F.E. Center

**US Bank** Verizon

Voices of Hope

Wenzl's Collision Center

Women's Center for Advancement

Donors through the

**Community Services Fund\*** 

Barnes, Rebecca L. Batman, Renee F. Berg, Bruce E. Blake, Chris Bougger, Jason Broussard, Bruce Bugay, Laura M. Canney, Mark E. Crosby, Randi M. Eurich, Karen K. Foster, Gwendolyn A. Garcia, David S. Gerhart, Patrick L.

Gettman, Joyce L.

Gordon, Randall Green, Michelle M. Harker, Karen R.

Haufle, Rebecca S. Havener, Peggy A.

Henninger, Charlene D.

Hoffman, Michael W.

Karnatz, Lisa Kluge, Russell Lange, Lynne Linder, Coleen C. Lindgren, Lori Lvons, William H. Maxwell, Zachary McLeese, Stephanie Mellick, David W. Melvin, Joyce C. Miller, Braidan Miller, Mary-Jo

Morgan, Jacqueline S. Naries. Charlotte M. Nelson, Michelle Palser, Stacia

Patent-Nygren, Megan C. Pearson Anderson, Julie

Pirtle, David E. Ring, Barbara R. Sanchez, Manuel Schmidt, Janet L. Schroeder, Maricia Schwindt, Martha L.

Sexton, Liz Stalling, Heather Storz, Debra S. Striman, Brian D. Tharnish. Diane M. Timmerman, Candace

Uridil, Laura Wallman, Dale A. Watchorn, Andrew Wesslund, Kellie T. Zinke, Michelle



The Coalition also thanks the donors through the Allstate Giving Campaign and the Community Services Fund that did not wish to be recognized publicly.

\*The Community Services Fund donors reflect the 2014 campaign.

# Board of Directors, Staff and Members

# Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

### 2015 Board of Directors

Christon MacTaggart, Chair, Papillion
Hilary Wasserburger, Vice-Chair, Gering
Bob Moyer, Treasurer, Lincoln
Kelsie Meyers, Secretary, Norfolk
Suellen Koepke, Parliamentarian, Broken Bow
Monica Bartling, Scottsbluff
Jim Blue, Lincoln
Mary Lou Burns, Lincoln
Dawn Conley, Papillion
Heather Duhachek, Omaha
Toni Jensen, Lincoln
Keisha Patent, Lincoln
Jay Rose, Lincoln



2015 Coalition Board of Directors. Not Pictured: Bob Moyer, Suellen Koepke, Jim Blue, Mary Lou Burns, and Heather Duhacek.

### **2015 Coalition Staff**

Lynne Lange, Executive Director Sarah Balcom, Domestic Violence Program Coordinator

Carly Beusch, Project Attorney
David James, Fiscal Manager
Ashley Jameson, Bilingual Administrative
Coordinator and Legal Assistant
Michelle Miller, Sexual Violence Program
Coordinator

Lili Obakpolor, Bilingual Administrative Coordinator and Legal Advocate Celina Olivo, Bilingual Legal Advocate Robert Sanford, Legal Director Marla Sohl, Prison Advocacy Coordinator Rachel West, Prevention Coordinator Michelle Zinke, Training and Resource Coordinator

# **Network Membership**

Bright Horizons, Norfolk
Catholic Charities - The Shelter, Omaha
Center for Survivors, Columbus
The Bridge (formerly the Crisis Center for
Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault), Fremont
Crisis Center, Inc., Grand Island
Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Services,
McCook

DOVES Program, Gering Friendship Home, Lincoln Haven House, Wayne

Healing Hearts and Families, Broken Bow Heartland Family Service - Domestic Abuse Program, Papillion

Hope Crisis Center, Fairbury
Parent-Child Center, Lexington
Project Response, Auburn
Rape/Domestic Abuse Program

Rape/Domestic Abuse Program, North Platte Sandhills Crisis Intervention Program, Ogallala

SAFE Center, Kearney
SASA Crisis Center, Hastings
Voices of Hope, Lincoln

Women's Center for Advancement, Omaha

# **Organization Membership**

Domestic Violence Council, Omaha Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Niobrara



2015 Coalition Staff. Not Pictured: Lili Obakpolor and Celina Olivo.

# Fund a New Future

The Coalition envisions a world where domestic violence and sexual assault are a distant memory and healthy relationships prosper.

# Won't you help to fund this new future?

There are many ways to support the work of the Coalition and the network of local domestic and sexual violence programs.

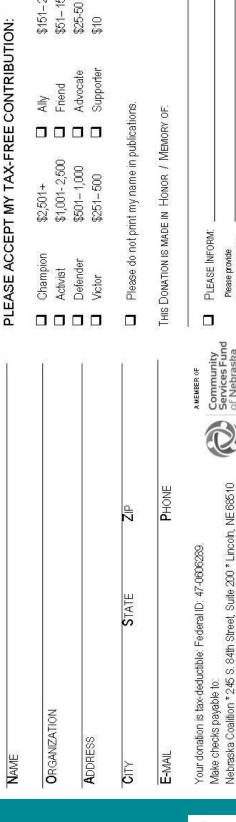
Financial support is greatly appreciated. This can be provided by becoming a member of the Coalition and/or by making a tax deductible donation to the Coalition. Donations from private donors are crucial as they provide unrestricted funds that can be used for projects such as Josie's Fund, public policy work and training costs that are not covered by a grant.

You can also support the Coalition and local programs by working to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The first step is to become informed about the issues. The next step is to get involved with primary prevention efforts and to support healthy relationships of all types.

For more information, contact the Coalition at 402-476-6256 or your local domestic and sexual violence program.

www.nebraskacoalition.org

# Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence



Nebraska's coalition of domestic and sexual violence programs provide access to safety and shelter across the state.

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www.rainn.org

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This publication was made possible by Grant Number 2014 G991540 from the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2014-MU-AX-0008 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



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www.nebraskacoalition.org \* www.stepupspeakout.org