

# Coalition Chronicles

A newsletter of  
**End Domestic Abuse WI**  
Volume 33 Issue 1

## Continuing the Conversation: Reflections on the 2013 Conference

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### *From the Director, Patti Seger*

To *transform* implies a major change in form, nature, or function. On November 5-6, 2013, nearly 500 people participated in a two-day conference that aimed to *transform the conversation* about domestic and sexual violence. The meeting rooms at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells were buzzing with discussion. The domestic abuse movement in the United States began in the early 70's. Every day, advocates and allies work to meet the needs of thousands of victims and their children. Daily advocacy work that goes on within domestic abuse programs and shelters involves a lot of *doing*, which does not leave much time to think and talk about what domestic abuse really is, how we can change it, how we can prevent it, and how we can end it eventually. For some, taking two days away from the critical work of advocacy may have felt like a luxury. But, our collective conversations about domestic abuse—what's working and what needs to change—are essential if we are ever to achieve transformation. When we take the time to truly transform our conversation, we will move from being reactive to proactive, and we can identify and dismantle the social structures that allow violence to happen.



Wishing all a peaceful, and transformative, Spring!



## Continuing the conversation...

A conference allows us to step out of our normal routine and offers a chance to learn, and to be inspired and re-energized. Often we can retain the feel of such an event more readily than we can recall the content of the workshops. Still, we hope the things that really grab our attention continue to inspire us and inform our work down the road. So we wonder how people continue conversations they engaged in during the conference; are the impact of those discussions still being felt? In February we asked participants to reflect on their experiences. Our questions and their responses appear below.



### *Is there a particular workshop, keynote presentation, or some other part of the conference that stands out in your mind?*

**Nanci Luna Jimenez** and **Jeff Bucholtz** keynotes and presentations were mentioned several times. Comments included, "HE WAS AWESOME!", "Nanci's and Jeff's presentations were amazing," and "Jeff Bucholtz had the greatest impact on me! His breakout sessions and his keynote were thought provoking and rejuvenating."

**Additional responses appear on the following pages.**



**Jeff Bucholtz**

Nanci Luna Jimenez facilitated the conversation, ***Transformational Communication: Tools for Healing and Building Authentic Alliances.***

Click [HERE](#) to see Nanci presenting a 19-minute *TED Talk*, ***What's Power Got To Do With It?***

Jeff Bucholtz presented two workshops, ***Re-Framing Relationships: Realistic Strategies for Preventing Relationship Violence***, and ***Together We Can.*** Click [HERE](#) to see Jeff in a five-minute video presentation, ***Sexual Violence.***



**Nanci Luna Jimenez**

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"I loved the variety of workshops we were able to attend. I had a tough time deciding which to sign up for. All workshops that I attended were helpful and I gained a lot of insight."

#### ***Moving Beyond One-Time Youth Presentations – Jess Kaehny***

"I attended the *Moving Beyond One-Time Youth Presentations* seminar, and since I was so new to the field of Prevention Education and just starting my program, Jess gave some really good tips and structure that I could use to set and outline for my program. She really talked about some of the things that worked for her and that she found successful when she first started. She also gave some examples of different topics that could be covered in presentations." – Rachel Wojasinski, Prevention Education Coordinator, Safe Harbor of Sheboygan Co.

*Since I was so new to the field of Prevention Education and just starting my program, Jess gave some really good tips and structure that I could use to set and outline for my program.*

#### ***Why, What, and How of Trauma Informed Care with Male Batterers – Terri Strodthoff, Jojapah Maria Nsoroma, and Floyd Rowell***

#### ***Rebuilding Resilient Minds, Lives, and Communities Through Trauma-Informed Care Education – Bea Cantelmo***

"The workshop by Floyd Rowell and Terri Strodthoff and another by Bea Cantelmo, both addressing trauma informed care, were enjoyable and very enlightening."

#### ***Together We Can – Jeff Bucholtz***

"Jeff Bucholtz's *Together We Can* workshop stands out to me. There were several points he mentioned that I have reflected on and some of which I have used in my presentations to young people. (My notes helped jog my memory.) He shared a story about asking a nun if she had ever been called a slut, and she said 'yes, whenever someone wanted to disrespect or degrade me.' He said the term came from England and was used to describe a single woman who was legally rape-able since she was not the property of her father anymore and had no husband. I liked his interactive, engaging discussion about good sex...sloppy sex...bad sex...regretted sex – and sexual violence – he said sexual violence does not belong on that continuum because the rest involve a choice/were consensual. He mentioned that the term "consensual sex," as in "consensual sex is sexy," is redundant because if it's not consensual, then it's not sex. It's sexual assault. I also liked his point about when girls say that other girls who dress a certain way do that because they don't respect themselves, how this is a dangerous message because it implies that others don't need to respect them either, which can lead to victim-blaming."

*I...liked [Jeff's] point about when girls say that other girls who dress a certain way do that because they don't respect themselves, how this is a dangerous message because it implies that others don't need to respect them either, which can lead to victim-blaming.*

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"I liked the variety of the conference presenters the first day because she encouraged advocates to get together and discuss many concerns we may deal with and it was good to hear from other programs and what they do."

**Video Voyeurism: Creating Comprehensive Legislation and Addressing Victim Impact – Lynn Gahagan and Erin Karshen**

**Patient Victim Outcomes Using the SANE/Forensic "evidence-based model" in Healthcare and Prosecution – Jacqueline Callari Robinson and Audrey Skwierawski**

**Understanding the Healing Journey of Male Sexual Abuse Survivors – Melinda Hughes and Muneebah Abdullah**

**Beyond the Gender Binary – Jude Foster & Nicki Tait**

**Tailoring Your Presentations to Affect Change: Lessons We Have Learned Training DV and SA Service Providers–Ray Maida and Judi Munaker**

**Creating Safety: Six Questions Worth Asking About Her/His POV (Point of View)–Mark Sweet**

**Understanding and Working with Arab/Muslim Immigrant Battered Women and Their Children – Itedal Shalabi**

*During her workshop, Itedal Shalabi, a passionate advocate for victims and survivors in Illinois and Executive Director of Arab American Family Services, offered to connect with Wisconsin programs regarding the needs of their own Arab/Muslim community members. Itedal Shalabi can be reached at (708) 599-2237 or [info@arabamericanfamilyservices.org](mailto:info@arabamericanfamilyservices.org).*

***Tell us a bit about something you learned at the conference, that still informs your work today. What do you still think about?***

"Jeff has innovative ways of examining rape culture that are both thought-provoking and entertaining. He challenges participants to explore their personal beliefs about violence prevention, while teaching them new strategies to lead similar conversations in their communities."

*One of the most helpful techniques I have implemented in my work is...providing my clients with a timed and UNINTERRUPTED period of time in which to share their thoughts and feelings, while others give the gift of simply listening without feedback, judgments or questions....*

"One of the most helpful techniques I have implemented in my work is the listening technique we shared with each other during our large group/keynote address. I find providing my clients with a timed and UNINTERRUPTED period of time in which to share their thoughts and feelings, while others give the gift of simply listening without feedback, judgments or questions, has been especially valuable in my work with groups. This

technique has quickly de-escalated situations involving emotional 'triggered' responses, and allows everyone to feel 'HEARD'". – *Manitowoc County Domestic Violence Shelter and Sexual Assault Resource Center, Victim Support Navigator*

"The discussion about people having unhealthy thoughts and beliefs regarding sex from media and community."

"The impact that media has in perpetuating violence as well as the role it plays." – *Veronica Lazo*

"I still think about the issues of how to be culturally competent in our shelter. It is difficult to help all clients residing in shelter understand that some individuals are (for example) louder speakers than what they may be used to. This type of cultural difference can be re-traumatizing to those who are not culturally competent. How do we work with that?"

"Working together against violence."

"At the *Trauma Informed Care for Male Batterers* workshop, the presenter stated that they started getting more progress and cooperation from the men in group when they focused more on 'What happened to you (as a child)?', versus 'What did you do, why did you do what you did (DV crime)?' Focusing on that approach in our own group seems to be effective in getting participants to understand the connection between their upbringing and their actions and beliefs." – *T. Ziffer, Social Worker, Racine Correctional Institution*

"I liked the exercise that Nanci Luna Jimenez did. It was uncomfortable but also very powerful."

"At the workshop, *Tailoring your Presentations to Affect Change*, the presenters shared some strategies for how to bridge the gap between one's professional identification and who the audience is that you're presenting to. For example, advocates often feel unprepared or unqualified to train law enforcement

officers on DV, but by acknowledging the differing professional perspectives and by sharing that you are speaking to them on behalf of the survivors you work with, it may help to diffuse some of the tension or resistance that arises when people are being 'trained' by someone who is not in their field."

***Advocates often feel unprepared or unqualified to train law enforcement officers on DV, but ... sharing that you are speaking to them on behalf of the survivors you work with, may help to diffuse some of the tension or resistance that arises when people are being "trained" by someone who is not in their field.***

"At some level, often unrecognized, we all have our existential innocence and removing the blocks to its realization is essential for a change to non-violence. Somewhat congruent with trauma informed care is this thought by Nobel Laureate Gandhi: "Non-violence which is a quality of the heart cannot come by appeal to the brain." – *PEACE un Ltd. Progressively Eliminating Aggressive Conduct Economically, John Kulish, WI Certified Batterer Treatment Provider, 920-321-8121, jsk@bayland.ne*

***[The batterer intervention group facilitators] started getting more progress and cooperation from the men in group when they focused more on "What happened to you (as a child)?", versus "What did you do, why did you do what you did?"***

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“The power of collaboration from the last speaker.”

“How to work with or be inclusive of people who identify as LGBT and how to avoid alienating certain people from the movement.”

“Being more creative about educating teens about dating violence and healthy sexuality. Using their world to educate is smart. Various music and song lyrics, commercials, movies, etc., to help youth be better consumers of media as well as reflect on how it plays a part in their relationships.”

– Helen Kobussen, Prevention Specialist, Sexual Assault Crisis Center-Fox Cities, Inc.

“I still reflect on what a great opportunity we had to connect to each other. It is always wonderful to be surrounded by such hard-working, inspiring, and

motivating individuals!” – Rose Hennessy, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

“I still think about how WI needs to change the laws about video voyeurism and revenge sharing of pornographic pictures.”

“I attended mostly breakout sessions that had to do with diversity topics. The speakers were willing to do DV 101 when working with that particular diverse group.” – Sherri Larsen, Diversity Advocate with New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Services

“How to talk about rape culture without saying ‘rape culture’”.

“I think about the way we talk with participants and the way we work with trauma survivors.”

“I am still thinking about how we can simultaneously hold onto

conflicting narratives about accountability and victimization. The subject of *Understanding the Healing Journey of Male Sexual Abuse Survivors* challenged us to think about and feel these contradictions because the lines are blurred for perpetrators who have been victimized as children. We embrace trauma informed principles when we ask victims and survivors not, ‘what’s wrong with you?’ but ‘what happened to you?’ I am thinking about that for people who have committed the crimes. I really feel that this is at the heart of our work right now, being able to separate what a person does from who they are and feeling compassion for the person who perpetrated acts of violence against another...and preventing them from hurting again.”

### ***Tell us about a meaningful conversation you had at the conference, or something memorable that a presenter said.***

“After attending these sessions, many programs were eager to invite Jeff to their communities. It was great to see their excitement about a speaker and [to hear them] discussing how his message could benefit their communities.”

***Being more creative about educating teens about dating violence and healthy sexuality. Using their world to educate is smart.***

***I am still thinking about how we can simultaneously hold onto conflicting narratives about accountability and victimization. The subject of Understanding the Healing Journey of Male Sexual Abuse Survivors challenged us to think about and feel these contradictions because the lines are blurred for perpetrators who have been victimized as children.***

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"I find myself thinking back to quietly sitting with another conference attendee. I think both of us were feeling a little exposed and vulnerable and had come to the [rejuvenation]

*I find myself thinking back to quietly sitting with another conference attendee. I think both of us were feeling a little exposed and vulnerable ...making a bracelet while we just talked about our past, our children, our lives, and our hopes for the future left me feeling rejuvenated.*

room looking for a respite. Making a bracelet while we just talked about our past, our children, our lives, and our hopes for the future left me feeling rejuvenated. I was able to connect with another, re-group, and I also had a pretty reminder of the time I spent at the conference." – Manitowoc County Domestic Violence Shelter and Sexual Assault Resource Center, Victim Support Navigator

"I had a great opportunity to speak with Jeff Buchholz regarding the state of prevention and the evolution of the movement. While challenging to recognize all the work that needs to continue, it was great to think about the successes that have been already been achieved!" – Rose Hennessy, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

"I learned a lot about the role of Victim Advocates and the thankless job they do. It is amazing how much these staff put out there for their clients."

"Many of us have been wounded and impacted by violence in one way or another, but in order for us to help, support and empower others we must be transformed; empowerment and transformation begin within." – Veronica Lazo

"Since so much of my program is going to involve working with youth and teens, educating about teen dating violence, many of the conversations that we had in the *What Can DV Programs Do about Teen Dating Violence?* session really stayed imprinted in my mind. One of the other attendees talked about how they were able to really utilize the schools in interacting with the kids. They were able to basically set up an office one or two days out of the week and be in the

On the evening of November 5, Ruth Nichols (of End Abuse) read her poems, *At The Women's Shelter* and *Available Rags*, printed below and on pages 9-10.

### ***At The Woman's Shelter***

***She said I was quiet when she met me.***

***I can't remember that.  
I remember heavy blankets  
falling over those voices,  
muffling my own sobs and those howls  
that woke me at 3 to write.  
I remember how tenuous  
the ground felt  
as it settled.***

***I practiced getting through each day  
taking cues from those around me  
when to smile, when to hush a child.***

***She said I was quiet  
when she met me.***

***Quiet as a volcano  
after the blast flung away the burden  
on its shoulder.***

***Thunder rose with the ashes  
circled the earth on the wind.***

***Things settle,  
work begins—  
cooling, crystallizing—  
seeds germinate in new fertility  
christened by the rain.***

***Eagles and wolves explore.***

***Fire becomes me—***

***I don't expect to be quiet  
so long  
again.***

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middle of high schools. By being in the schools and becoming a familiar face, their program was able to really connect with the kids on their own territory where they are most comfortable. Not only that but they were also able to be available to them on a more constant basis. I really loved this idea, and in time would love to take my program in a similar direction.” – *Rachel Wojasinski, Prevention Education Coordinator, Safe Harbor of Sheboygan Co.*

“Defining what ‘good’ sex is. Changed my way of thinking about materials presented to our community's youth.”

“When Nanci had one of her workshops, we all got together in groups and spoke about how we can change things now; that was powerful.”

“Listening to other participants speak to me about their own experiences being victimized was an enlightening experience.” – *T. Ziffer, Social Worker, Racine Correctional Institution*

***I liked the inclusion of all races/backgrounds working together and trying to understand each other better.***

“I liked the inclusion of all races/backgrounds working together and trying to understand each other better.”

“At the *Tailoring your Presentations to Affect Change* workshop, the presenters talked about a framework that they use to help the law enforcement officers that they train understand the impossible choices that victims of domestic violence face - these are: to stay and be passive, to stay and fight back, or to leave and be at greater risk of homicide. When it's put that way - these really do seem like impossible choices to make!”

“Even among DVO facilitators there appears to be a growing acceptance of the illusion of DV gender symmetry which is, of course, substantiated only by junk pseudo-science. But it gets the press and influences decisions at many levels (*i.e.*, law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, policy makers, funding entities, victims presented with internet 'facts' by the abusive partners, *etc.*).” – *PEACE un Ltd. Progressively Eliminating Aggressive Conduct Economically, John Kulish, WI Certified Batterer Treatment Provider, 920-321-8121, jsk@bayland.ne*

“I had a very meaningful conversation with a sexual assault advocate about how white women can be involved in the movement with women of color.”

***Redefine victims to include women AND CHILDREN (not just girls).***

***I was impressed with CJ and Karen's presentation that showed the historical trauma of Native American boarding schools and mental health institutions. I had never thought of the similarities of these two groups.***

“The need of more advocacy/collaboration work between attorneys and advocates. It was a great conversation!”

“Redefine victims to include women AND CHILDREN (not just girls).” – *Helen Kobussen, Prevention Specialist, Sexual Assault Crisis Center-Fox Cities, Inc.*

“Most of my conversations were getting caught up with programs that I have not seen in a while and letting them know where I am currently working. In particular it was healing conversations with past trauma that



had occurred in my life and starting a new program. I was impressed with CJ and Karen's presentation that showed the historical trauma of Native American boarding schools and mental health institutions. I had never thought of the similarities of these two groups. They did a great job!" – Sherri Larsen, Diversity Advocate with New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Services

"Some students created shirts that said 'I love consensual sex' and asked me what I thought. I told them I liked what they were trying to do but that all sex is consensual, if it's not consensual, it's rape".

"Shame is a shitty motivator." - From *Beyond the Gender Binary*

***Continuing the conversation theme...if you could bring anybody to the table to explore a topic more deeply, who would you choose to have a conversation with, and what would you discuss?***

"We are continuing the conversation with Jeff...He is also doing the keynote and workshops at the Teen Summit in March."

***...the role of advocacy when a survivor is incarcerated***

"Jude Foster. As an advocate within the criminal justice system, I would discuss ways of increasing the rate of reporting of sexual abuse within LGBT populations and how to make people feel safer and more comfortable with the process. Marion Mullins. I have continued questions about PREA and the implications for the criminal justice system specifically as it relates to juries and convicting offenders who commit sexual assault within a prison. I also would discuss the role of advocacy when a survivor is incarcerated."

"Legislators and prosecutors, to see the impact of sexual violence."

***Legislators and prosecutors, to see the impact of sexual violence.***

## ***Available Rags***

***Grandpa cut the rags.  
Big hands, big scissors,  
old style summer afternoons with the White Sox  
on the little black and white t.v.***

***In the whitewashed cellar  
Grandma's loom drummed.  
If you were big enough she'd let you try.  
Rags became rolls of rugs  
cut apart and tied,  
stacked and priced.***

***I wonder what you thought of, Grandma,  
why you labored  
as you wove those rugs—  
Years of hunger, moments of birth?  
The anger you couldn't show  
when he slapped you round,  
or drank the grocery money,  
showing some woman a good time in Chicago.***

***The slap thump rhythm of your loom was a time  
machine  
taking you back to your immigrant mother—  
on a journey to your ancestors in Finland—  
women weaving linen, weaving rags,  
centuries locked together on the warp strings.***

**Poem continued on next page**

"I would continue a conversation with the gentleman I met who was involved in batterers' treatment groups. We had a great opportunity to discuss the relationship between offender treatment and prevention, and make the connections and discuss implications for both. However, we just got to skim the surface!" – Rose Hennessy, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

"Jeff Buckholz – How do we engage more men in anti-violence work."

"I will bring two different groups to the table. I will first bring men to the table to have a conversation and discuss ways in which we can work together to end violence against women and girls. I will bring everyone serving victims to talk about a holistic approach to providing services, where we not only focus on the victim but on the family. Often time we forget that victims are also mothers, sisters, daughters and friends and that she is not the only person that suffers." – Veronica Lazo

**...talk about a holistic approach to providing services, where we not only focus on the victim but on the family**

"I am not sure who I would bring. I would like to discuss the importance of people - men, women and children - learning and being exposed to physical touch that is neither aggressive nor sexual. For example, professional massage therapy, which can release much tension and help people feel grounded." – T. Ziffer, Social Worker, Racine Correctional Institution

**How do we engage more men in anti-violence work?**

*You wove a warmth of wool  
to layer around your pain—  
You wove away the old man's beery presence.*

*Into this you never knew you wove  
the small girl reading comic books  
on the back porch.*

*Grandma, your rugs are almost gone now.  
They decomposed under these feet  
as I struggled to follow your path.  
Now, in the winter after your death  
I find one in a shed;  
as I pick it up it crumbles, shreds.*

*My neglect feels unforgivable—  
like my hopeless attempts at being you.*

*I did not comprehend  
that you would not always be weaving in your  
room  
amid the stacks of rugs  
and thinking of me.*

*I find a scrap halfway down the hill  
tiny flowers on white.  
Rags to rags  
Dust to dust.*

*I will never play your shuttle song,  
pound that beater,  
making as much as I can from available rags.  
But I too have peered into the dark centuries  
and as much as I admired your steel,  
I now fear the fire and cold that made you  
and I fear the hardness even more.*

*I won't soothe myself into endurance—  
I ask for guts, not serenity.  
Scissors in my own good hands  
I will cut new fabric to fit my shape.*

*Your rugs  
blown in shreds to the four corners  
are as much an offering as I can make.  
Remember me in the spirit world  
as I cry for forgiveness and strength.*

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"I would love to talk with Leticia Nieto about the framework she describes in her book, *Beyond Inclusion, Beyond Empowerment: A Developmental Strategy to Liberate Everyone*, and strategies for engaging our communities in meaningful conversations using this framework."

"Everyone contributed a great deal. It would be hard to pick one person."

"It would have to be all three of the aforementioned: Bea, Terri, and Floyd. Per Gandhi, meta-physical aspects utilizing the heart rather than the head would be the main topic." – PEACE un Ltd.

*Progressively Eliminating Aggressive Conduct Economically*, John Kulish, WI Certified Batterer Treatment Provider, 920-321-8121, [jsk@bayland.ne](mailto:jsk@bayland.ne)

"I would have someone who is extremely culturally competent come to the table and help me figure out how to manage cultural differences that may be re-traumatizing to clients in shelter. Communal living is re-traumatizing by itself, without adding in the cultural pieces. This makes it an even more complex issue. We can embrace the diversity we see but how do we do so while keeping everyone on a healing path?"

*...utilizing the heart  
rather than the  
head ...*

"I would love to continue addressing how white women can work better with women of color—as professional partners, and as advocates for those we serve."

*...how to manage  
cultural  
differences that  
may be re-  
traumatizing to  
clients in shelter.*

"I would like to talk to more programs that deal with a diverse population and see how they work with their clients and how to meet their needs. I think that our community is a very diverse population and sometimes we do not get included in the conversation for the size of our City of LaCrosse and not being close to Madison or Milwaukee." – Sherri Larsen, Diversity Advocate with New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Services

"THE GUY! HE WAS AWESOME! The last speaker. I would like to hear more about his work and the power of knowing your community and working together!"

"I would talk with survivors to hear what they needed, what was helpful and what wasn't, and how we could better serve them and their children. I would also like to talk with perpetrators to hear why they do what they do, to hear about their trauma (likely have had trauma), and what they think would be better ways to stop IPV and SA. I would like to discuss mental health issues with community and state wide players to better develop services for those in need."

*...the power of  
knowing your  
community and  
working together!*

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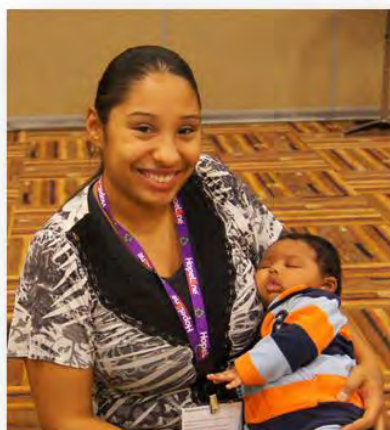
## Photo Gallery



Left to Right: Antonia Vann, Congresswoman Gwen Moore, Ozara Ode



Congresswoman Gwen Moore



Stephanie Ortiz and son



L to R: (seated) Kelly Seim, Bryanna Mertens, Cassandra Deterville,  
(standing) Sue Sippel, Sara Meier



L to R: Judy Woller, Mary Fontanazza, Beth Plautz



L to R: Jen Schanen, Julia McLester,  
Alice Skenandore





L to R: (seated) Elizabeth Harris-Hodge, Yolanda Morris  
(standing) Veronica Lazo, Ellen Allen, Jess Kaehny



Mai Xiong



Mark Sweet



L to R: Veronica Clark, Rose Hennessy, Ana Price, Alice Sykora



L to R: (standing, back row)  
Brooke Stephany,  
Jamie Stephany

(standing, front row)  
Kim Marble-Follis,  
Christa Grande

(seated)  
Cherri Stilwell,  
Pam Malin,  
Joan Karan,  
Amy Judy

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## End Abuse Report Back

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin is committed to continuous analysis and improvement of its support and assistance to member programs. In 2011, End Abuse began strategic planning and capacity building to assess its current state of operations, and to strategize for the future. One outcome of this process was that staff identified three core functions of End Abuse: Advocacy, Connections, and Education & Awareness. Corresponding workgroups were then formed to identify innovative and new ways to fulfill End Abuse's mission.

Recently, each work group reviewed the *Transform the Conversation Conference* evaluations and discussed what went well, what was challenging, and what we would recommend for future conferences. We also discussed the ways that the conference is shaping our current and future work. Below, each group summarizes how it envisions **continuing the conversation** within End Abuse.

*We will continue the conversation by exploring what it means to be a trauma-informed organization, including challenges associated with making that shift. We will also focus on inclusivity and ensuring that all voices are heard.*

### Advocacy

The **Advocacy Core Function Group** works to ensure that End Abuse's agency-wide advocacy efforts are consistent with its mission, and provides a forum for assessment, improvement, implementation, and evaluation of our efforts in this area. We focus on four elements: support of member programs; social change; support of all victims and survivors; and policy development.

### Connections

The **Connections Core Function Group** works to improve, implement and evaluate End Abuse's efforts to communicate and connect with members, programs, donors, volunteers and other local and national partners. We focus on strategic relationships, marketing, social media, community organizing, evaluation, and development of resources, leadership, and policy.

*We look forward to developing the new relationships that we formed at the conference. It was especially great to make new connections with sexual abuse programs and constituents. We value the opportunity to learn about what our peers are doing and look for future opportunities for collaboration.*

### Education and Awareness

The **Education and Awareness Core Function Group** works to ensure that End Abuse's awareness and education efforts are consistent with its mission, and focuses on assessing and improving End Abuse's efforts in this area. Major goals in the coming year are: to expand education opportunities for members, expand awareness of our organization, develop more inclusive services and support, and increase our education and connection to young people.

*After the conference we received follow-up inquiries for training related to human trafficking for non-traditional audiences, immigration and family law issues, and historical trauma. The conference created momentum and provided great opportunities to work towards our goals.*



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to end abuse of girls and women.  
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## THANK YOU!



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