

Illinois Center for Violence Prevention

Friday, March 18th, 2011

Issue #2

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Mission

The Illinois Center for Violence Prevention fosters safe communities for people at every stage of life. We identify, promote and evaluate the best ways to prevent violence.

From the Desk of the Executive Director

For those of us whose daily personal and professional efforts are creating a safe environment for every stage of life we are fully aware of the numbers. We see the data; we analyze the data; and to try to find the answers within the data. The statistics tell us that we still have much work in front of us.

The following statistics are just a small representation of the statistical data available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/index.html>.

Nationally, child protective service agencies report that 772,000 children were victims of maltreatment; 71% victims of child neglect, 16% victims of physical abuse, 9% victims of sexual abuse, 7% victims of emotional abuse (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2008).

As the population continues to age, fifteen years ago the statistics showed that over one half a million persons age 60 and older were the victims of elder abuse, neglect, and/or self-neglect in domestic settings (National Center on elder Abuse, 1998).

Each year, women experience about 4.8 million intimate partner related physical assaults and rapes, and men are the victims of about 2.9 million like assaults (Tjaden and Thoennes, 2000).

Twenty-five percent of adolescents report either verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse from a partner each year.

The results of a nationally represented survey were presented in a 2007 study that revealed 60.4% of female and 69.2% of male victims were first raped before age 18; 25.5%

of females were first raped before age 12, and 34.9% were first raped between the ages of 12-17; 41% of males were first raped before age 12, and 27.9% were first raped between the ages of 12-17.

Also, in 2007 suicide was the eleventh leading cause of death for all ages with 34,000 suicides in the United States equating to one suicide every 15 minutes.

These statistics are just a minute portion of the story. The data continues to drive us forward and make us even more resolute. The Illinois Center for Violence Prevention continues to provide high quality capacity building tools-both evidenced based and best practices models-to providers statewide. We work collaboratively because we are unified in our objective-to make statistics like these a thing of the past.

Gregory Jackson
Executive Director



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Illinois' Budget Situation

As many people know, Illinois' budget situation has been grim for the last several years. Budget shortfalls for Fiscal Year 2012 had been estimated at \$15 billion and human service providers continue to function with no payment from the State for the current fiscal year. This January, the General Assembly passed, and Governor Pat Quinn signed, a much needed income tax increase, raising it from 3 percent to 5 percent. There was also an increase to corporate business tax; raising it from 4.8 percent to 7 percent. Both



Come out and show your support for Team ICVP in the Wrigley Start Early 5k/10k Run and 1-Mile Pledge Walk.

When: Saturday, April 23, 2011, 9:00am
Where: Chicago's Grant Park Hutchinson Field (Corner of Columbus and Balbo)

This event will benefit efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect. The main beneficiaries of this event are Voices for Illinois Children and Prevent Child Abuse America. ICVP is a participating agency with all direct donations and pledge proceeds going to support our efforts in creating a safe environment for all stages of life.

For those willing to get active, join Team ICVP in one of three event options: 5k run, 10k run, or 1-mile pledge walk. We encourage all to collect pledges in support of Team ICVP. whether it is \$10, \$5, or \$1 per mile, all proceeds will help to support our organization.

Go to www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=7D2VWJ7 to register. Please make sure to sign up as a team member with the Illinois Center for Violence Prevention.

For those willing to strictly make a donation, on-line contributions may be made by visiting: www.icvp.org/donation.asp Your gift of \$35, \$50, \$100 or whatever is significant to you helps sustain and expand our programs.

Want to find out how to get your free Tam ICVP t-shirt and pledge sheet information? Contact Mandy Vukits, mvukits@icvp.org or (312) 986-3200 ext 232.

increases are temporary and will be rolled back over the next several years.

The income and corporate tax increases were much needed steps to help Illinois get back on a more secure financial footing. This additional revenue will help the state to fund vital programs such as education, health care and human services, repair its credit rating, and pay its bills on time.

However, the tax increase was just one piece of a larger plan to help get the state back on track. Illinois still has an estimated \$8 billion in back bills for the current fiscal year that are owed to school districts, human service providers, and contractors. Without this funding, necessary programs will continue to reduce services, layoff employees, and close their doors. the General Assembly is now considering Senate Bill 3, which would authorize the issuing of bonds needed to obtain funds to pay current back bills. This legislation was part of a larger package during the tax increase debate but failed to pass out of the General Assembly.

The Illinois Center for Violence Prevention has been working to advocate for these important steps in bringing Illinois' fiscal house back to order. there is still a great deal of work to be done and difficult decisions lay ahead. The Center will continue in its efforts to ensure the financial stability of Illinois and make certain that programs such as domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers continue to help the people who need it most.

And the 2011 *Vision to Action* Award Goes To.....

The Illinois Center for Violence Prevention has named State Representative Cynthia Soto as a recipient of its 2011 *Vision to Action* award. The award is given to select individuals or organizations that demonstrate exemplary leadership in advancing violence prevention work. Representative Soto will be accepting the award at the 2011 *Art of Peace Gala*.

Violence
does not
just affect
one:
community
income level
people age
back or
it affects
us
all



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Check out our website at:
www.preventingviolence.com

Contact Mandy Vukits at:
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Representative Soto has paid great attention to violence issues, especially those impacting children and youth. She was a legislative sponsor of Illinois Prevent School Violence Act and is also a member of the Prevent School Violence Coalition.

Soto is also a member of the Illinois School Bullying Prevention Task Force. The Task Force was created by the Illinois Prevent School Violence Act and focuses on developing recommendations about policies, procedures and training that address school violence issues.

The *Art of Peace Gala* will take place on **Thursday, October 13, 2011** at Galleria Marchetti. The event will also feature Tommy Bradford of the J. Styles Band. Currently, Mr. Bradford is performing in the Michael Jackson Tribute Tour.

For more information about the event, please contact the development office at (312) 986-9200, ext. 224 or wliccione@icvp.org.



Sexual Violence Against Those With Disabilities Month

The month of March is dedicated to creating awareness of sexual violence against those with disabilities. The U.S. Justice Department Bureau of Justice reported that those with disabilities are 50 percent more likely to be victims of violent crimes compared to those without disabilities. Disabled 12-19 year olds are also more likely to experience victimization. Disabilities can include physical, cognitive and mental health. Such limitations are followed by vulnerability and potential incidences of sexual assault.

Prevention is essential due to the prevalence of sexual assault among persons with disabilities. Prevention consists of lowering risk factors and increasing protective factors. Common risk factors include inadequate sex

education, poor social network, and limited social involvement. Perpetrators look for vulnerable and isolated individuals. Persons with disabilities are often viewed as powerless; therefore increasing the risk for repetitive victimization.

Protective factors include access to financial resources, strong social support systems, and a variety of caregivers (Anderson, 2002). Research shows that proper education is important. For example, caregivers and service providers can be educated on how to properly administer safety information, promote self awareness, plan for emergencies, and steps to take necessary legal action (Anderson, 1992).

Awareness takes place through education campaigns that strive to communicate the reality of the problem. Prevention work includes the promotion of empowerment and strong social networks as well as increased awareness. Further resources can be found at:

www.vadv.org/secPublications/svapwd.pdf.