



CRIMINAL JUSTICE WEEKLY

KARHLTON F. MOORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OCJS

VOL. 5, ISSUE 33

WWW.OCJS.OHIO.GOV

OCTOBER 22, 2008

A PUBLICATION OF THE OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
A DIVISION OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

SPECIAL EDITION—DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week Four—Ohio Family Violence Prevention Center (FVPC): The Ohio Family Violence Prevention Center (FVPC) is housed within OCJS. The goal of the FVPC is to implement public awareness programs that educate Ohioans, identify state and local family violence prevention programs, encourage coordinated service delivery systems, coordinate and implement family violence prevention training and education throughout the state of Ohio and to strengthen the justice system's response to family violence through relevant legislative and judicial initiatives.

The FVPC also has an Advisory Council whose mission is to provide guidance, encourage coordination and promotes action by government, the private sector and citizens to understand, prevent, and respond to domestic and family violence. The Advisory Council is made up of

representatives from state agencies, defense counsel, faith community, judiciary, law enforcement, non-profit agencies, probation departments, prosecution, service providers, Supreme Court and other appropriate constituencies.

The Program Director of the FVPC is Chrystal Alexander, who has worked in the Victims Services field for more than 10 years. She is a Nationally Registered Victim Advocate through the National Office of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and a State Registered Victim Advocate with Senior Standing in the state of Ohio. Prior to her duties as Program Director for FVPC she served as the Director of Victim Services for Delaware County, Ohio. As the first director of this program under the auspices of the Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Alexander was responsible for working with victims/survivors of violent felony crimes.

The FVPC is available for questions or if help is needed in the aftermath of family violence, domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other crime in which you or your family was the victim/survivor. The FVPC can be reached at 614/466.0306 for assistance, resources and referrals.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV). The intent was to connect domestic violence advocates and service providers across the country who were working to end violence against women and their children. All editions of the *Criminal Justice Weekly* in October will be devoted to Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

TRAINING/RESOURCES

Calendar of Events: The Ohio Domestic Violence Network's website contains information on various events that are being held around the state in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. *To view the calendar, visit <http://www.odvn.org/>*

Department Website Dedicated to Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Because OCJS, through the

Department of Public Safety, is committed to helping victims of domestic violence in every effort to ensure their safety and independent, violent-free lifestyle, a Website has been developed for the month which includes valuable resources and information. *Visit the Website at: <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/domesticviolence.html>*

Cell Phone Collection: OCJS hopes to raise awareness of this very serious crime by partnering with Verizon Wireless during the month of October to collect unused and/or inactive wireless phones. Phones are refurbished and distributed to potential victims by participating domestic violence organizations and police departments. The phones are programmed with 911 and other emergency phone numbers to provide protection 24

TRAINING/RESOURCES CONTINUED

hours a day, 7 days a week. *If you would like to donate, please send phone (s) to OCJS, 1970 West Broad St., 5th floor, Columbus, OH 43218.*

Clothesline Project Display: Thanks to CHOICES, Eliminating Domestic Violence of Franklin County and the Ohio Department of Health Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Program, OCJS will have a Clothesline Project (CLP) display in the Vern Riffe Center and Rhodes State Office Tower in Downtown Columbus during the month of October. The display will educate, document and raise awareness to the impact of domestic violence through shirts decorated by the victims. It is a vehicle for women affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. The shirts are hung a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against women. *For more information, please visit <http://www.clotheslineproject.org/index.htm>*

Men, Women, Sex & Violence: The Flora Stone Mather Center for Women at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) and the Office of Developmental Programming at John

Carroll University (JCU) will host "Men, Women, Sex & Violence" by Jackson Katz on October 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Kulas Auditorium at JCU and October 28 at 7:00 pm in Strosacker Auditorium at CWRU. Katz's Mentors in Violence Prevention program is the most widely utilized gender violence education curriculum in college and professional athletics. *For more information, visit: http://www.jcu.edu/campuslife/tab_character.htm or <http://www.case.edu/provost/centerforwomen/>*

Crisis Management: Domestic Violence in the Department: ACTION OHIO will be hosting this seminar on October 28 from 9 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. at the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Bromfield Administrative Building, in Reynoldsburg. Speakers will include: Aviva Kurash, MSW, Project Manager, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); Ret. Corporal Dave Thomas, formerly with the Montgomery County (MD) Police Department; and Akron Police Department's Domestic Response Unit. The seminar will highlight practical strategies, resources and tools including the IACP Policy on Domestic Violence

by Police Officers and the impact of domestic violence on the department and its response to this crisis. Cost is \$25; scholarships are available. Certificates of participation are recognized by OPOTA and will be received by all trainees. *For more information, contact Phyllis Carlson-Rheim at 614/825.0551, actionohio@sbcglobal.net or visit <http://www.actionohio.org/>*

Domestic Violence Advocacy Fundamentals Training: The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) will be facilitating this three-day training is designed to increase core knowledge and skills for advocates and students. Lectures, small group activities, role plays, audiovisuals and exciting discussions are utilized to enhance the learning experience. In addition to covering core information, facilitators will explore the components of domestic violence activism. Participants will also receive the Domestic Violence Advocacy Fundamentals Training Manual. The training will be held November 5-7 in Mansfield; registration deadline is October 30. *For more information, please visit: <http://www.odvn.org/>*

GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

2008 Justice Assistance Program-Law Enforcement (JAG LE) Funding

Available: OCJS is pleased to announce the availability of 2008 Justice Assistance Program-Law Enforcement (JAG LE) funding to provide essential law enforcement services in Ohio. JAG LE funds projects that reduce crime, increase public safety, and support the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS). Per Ohio Revised Code Section 5502.62 (C) (6), all law enforcement agencies must be compliant with reporting crime statistics, using either OIBRS or Uniform Crime Reporting, in order to receive funding

through OCJS. Programs under criminal justice departments that are consistently reporting crime statistics are the only law enforcement agencies eligible for OCJS funding pursuant to Ohio law. Funds will be used for: Hiring, training, and employing on a continuing basis new, additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel; paying overtime to employed law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel for the purposes of increasing the number of hours worked by such personnel; and purchasing equipment. Seven-month awards will be issued from February 1, 2009 to August 30, 2009. If

your agency will receive 2008 JAG funds directly from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance, you will not be eligible to apply for this JAG LE solicitation through OCJS. *Applications must be postmarked or hand delivered to OCJS by November 17, 2008. For more information, please visit OCJS' website <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/funding/reports.htm>. Please call 614/466.7782 with questions.*

OCJS CONTACT

KRISTEN CASTLE, EDITOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE WEEKLY: kcastle@dps.state.oh.us; 614/728.8732