

The Horizon

The newsletter of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

November 2013

PA SAYS NO MORE

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) launched a joint initiative called PA Says NO MORE, to take a stand against sexual assault and domestic violence in the state on Sept. 4. The PA Says NO MORE campaign includes a website, videos, and advertising involving survivors and advocates.

PA Says NO MORE offers victims and survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence resources, support, and encouragement. Like the pink breast cancer ribbon and the yellow support our troops ribbon, NO MORE is a new national overarching symbol that brings together people, organizations and communities that support ending domestic violence and sexual assault.



Rick Azzaro, chief services officer at YWCA of York, speaks at the launch press conference of PA Says No More at the WITF Public Media Center Sept. 4, 2013.

"We are pleased to announce the launch of a new website and campaign to raise awareness of these crimes in Pennsylvania, provide resources to change the behaviors that excuse sexual assault and domestic violence, and end the stigma that victims of these crimes experience," said Delilah Rumburg, chief executive officer of PCAR.

Sexual assault and domestic violence are far too common in the Commonwealth. Last year, approximately 30,000 Pennsylvanians sought services to help recover from the impact of sexual assault. Another 141 Pennsylvanians lost their lives due to domestic violence.

"About three years ago, I was invited to brainstorm with a group of corporate marketing executives and advocates for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to create a symbol to raise awareness of these issues," Rumburg said. "The idea was to create something that could have instant recognition such as the Pink Ribbon for Breast Cancer or the Red Ribbon for HIV and AIDS. And now we have it."

PA Says NO MORE reminds Pennsylvania that sexual assault and domestic violence are preventable. Efforts to respond to violence alone will not stop perpetration. Programs across the country are adopting a public health approach to preventing first-time perpetration and raising awareness regarding what to do when sexual assault or domestic violence is suspected.

INSIDE: NO MORE CAMPAIGN, PAGE 6

A letter from our CEO

I'm proud to present the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape's (PCAR) quarterly newsletter, *The Horizon*. This fall provided an opportunity for our coalition to engage communities across Pennsylvania in a broad conversation about preventing sexual assault.



PCAR and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) have forged a partnership to use the national NO MORE symbol to put an end to sexual assault and domestic violence. As part of the partnership, PCAR and PCADV launched the PA Says No More campaign on Sept. 4 with support from survivors, advocates and lawmakers.

The staff at PCAR has worked with law enforcement, the District Attorney's Association, PCADV, and the Office of the Victim Advocate to ensure the passage of Senate Bill 681, The Sexual Violence Victim Protection Act, which now awaits a vote in the House.

This edition of *The Horizon* features the work of our talented training team as they provide topical trainings, develop curricula and produce new resources; we are particularly proud to introduce the *Understanding Rape in Prison* information packet. You can learn more about our training efforts on Page 5.

PCAR is grateful for the support of our funders and donors whose commitment to ending sexual violence has made these and many other achievements possible. We look forward to your continued partnership in our efforts.

Together, we can end sexual violence.

Sincerely,


Delilah Rumburg
Chief Executive Officer

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The Crime Victim Center of Erie County has plenty to celebrate in 2013 — its 40th anniversary year.

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PCAR's training and technical assistance team has made leaps and bounds this quarter in their efforts to end sex trafficking and enhance cultural and racial diversity.

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PCAR and PCADV are changing the cultural standards that allow violence to thrive by promoting bystander intervention as a means of primary prevention.

Policy & Legislation Updates – Page 6

The Sexual Violence Victim Protection Act has been enacted in 26 other states and would require offenders to stay away from victims prior to trial.



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This year's conference provided an opportunity to share our expertise with, and learn from, our fellow advocates and preventionists from across the country.

Sexual Assault on Campus – Page 8

College students across the country haven't hesitated to file complaints with the Department of Education.

About the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape is the oldest rape crisis coalition in the country and works to eliminate sexual violence and advocate for the rights and needs of victims of sexual assault.

PCAR—founded in 1975—funds and supports the work of 50 rape crisis centers who serve victims of all ages in Pennsylvania's 67 counties. PCAR provides resources and training on sexual assault-related issues to professionals across the Commonwealth and the country and promotes public policy to provide legal protections for victims and enhance public safety.

Since 2000, PCAR has operated the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) to support sexual assault prevention and intervention across the country. We also support AEquitas to provide prosecutors with the support, training, mentorship and resources necessary to objectively evaluate and constantly reexamine and refine their approach to justice in cases involving violence against women.

Save the Date

- The 8th Annual Vision of Hope Gala & Auction will be held on March 29, 2014 at the Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA.
- The 2014 International Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Trafficking will be held at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Wash., from April 22-24, 2014.
- PCAR will host the National Sexual Assault Conference in Pittsburgh from August 20-22, 2014. Proposals for presentations will be accepted until December 16. Visit www.pcar.org and www.nsvrc.org for details about online or paper submissions.

Don't wait for the next newsletter to see what we've been doing - visit us online! 'Like' us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

facebook.com/pcarorg



twitter.com/pcarorg

And don't forget to read our blog at www.pcar.org/blog

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Center Spotlight

When Paul Lukach became Executive Director of the Erie Crime Victim Center (CVC) in November 2010, he inherited a strong rape crisis center that prided itself on the care and support it provided to sexual assault survivors and their significant others. Yet, Lukach knew the center needed to do more to ensure that the public knew about the valuable help that was available at 125 W. 18th St.

“In some ways, we are really the best kept secret,” Special Projects/Volunteer Coordinator Martine Holquist said. “We’re still not the household name that we need to be, so we have been putting a big effort into that, and it is working. We’re getting our name out there more and engaging with the public in many different ways.”

Under Lukach’s direction, the center has increased its focus on promotion, community outreach, and training activities. For example, PCAR trained four CVC employees to be effective trainers on child abuse and Pennsylvania’s mandated reporting statutes. This enabled CVC to train more than 3,200 school employees and business associates at seven school districts and four private parochial schools in Erie County; CVC also delivered assistance to A Safe Place in Warren, Pa., to train approximately 400 school personnel in Warren County during a two-day period before the 2013-14 school year.

The center also provided support to refugees from Syria and (Nepali) Bhutanese, developed a human trafficking task force, spoke with college students about sexual assault, worked with local colleges on Title IX readiness, and formed a child sexual abuse task force with more than 20 local agencies — just to name a few accomplishments during the last two years.

“We got people to recognize the roles that they play in keeping their children safe,” Holquist said of the mandated reporter trainings held at schools throughout the county. “So that was really big for us... We need everyone to know exactly what to do if they suspect child sexual abuse so we don’t have a situation where down the line someone says, ‘I had no idea.’ Children are inherently vulnerable. We are teaching children that you say no, get away, and tell someone. But it only works if adults know what to do. If those adults don’t know their responsibilities or the way that they can help, then we are doing a disservice to those children.”

About the Crime Victim Center

The center served more than 6,600 survivors and significant others of survivors in the Erie community in 2012. The center also provided 579 prevention/education programs including internet safety, bullying, cyberbullying, relationships, youth violence, date rape and sexual abuse to nearly 16,000 students.



The center also is focused on curbing violence in its community through the “Reducing the Impact of Violence by Empowering Teens” program. The program seeks to help students reduce violence by equipping teens to be positive role models for others, providing a safe environment for youth to discuss their opinions and beliefs, and providing knowledge and information to allow youth to come to a better understanding of anger and personal power. PCAR provided CVC with a Special Initiatives Grant in July to develop a formal curriculum for the program, which can then be used by other rape crisis centers.

“When Paul came in, he brought a different perspective, and now we’re able to get into some areas where doors weren’t open to us in the past,” Holquist said. “We’re very thankful to be able to get our message out and help others know what resources are available in their community.”

PCAR fights to end sex trafficking

Training and technical assistance (T&TA) is at the heart of much work done by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. In addition to a dedicated T&TA department, all PCAR staff provide support in their area of expertise. Technical assistance takes many forms; it can be training, responding to a media request, providing information to solidify financial practices or meeting with community members to help prevention efforts or change a systemic response.

Training Team Accomplishments

- There will be a 90-minute panel session at the June 2014 PA Conference of State Trial judges in Hershey, PA, titled "What I wish I knew Before I Tried a Case of Sexual Violence." It will feature Judge Jack Panella and additional panelists to be announced. It will also provide a platform for discussion and introduction to PCAR's updated version of the Sexual Violence Benchbook to be printed Spring/Summer 2014.
- *Understanding Rape in Prison* has been released to coincide with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) taking effect in prisons, jails, community correction facilities and juvenile detention centers. PCAR has been working with the PA Department of Corrections (DOC) to help them meet PREA standards.
- PCAR has created materials on serving people later in life and people with disabilities, mental health issues and drug or alcohol addiction. PCAR hosted this year's annual training around diversity, focusing on racial justice issues.

PCAR receives grant funding to focus on specific subjects relating to sexual violence, such as sex trafficking. Our T&TA department recently organized two regional trainings on gangs and sex trafficking. This training better educates law enforcement, advocates and prosecutors on how gangs – from small street-level gangs to large international gangs – traffic girls and young women for revenue.

Working with the PA District Attorneys Association and a focus group of prosecutors, PCAR will create guide cards for prosecutors on the subject of sex trafficking. These cards will provide indicators of sex trafficking; dynamics and behaviors of victims, traffickers and purchasers; and current legislation in PA.

Members of the T&TA department have educated rape crisis centers about human trafficking and creating human trafficking response teams. Working with a focus group of PA Judges, PCAR will design content and select presenters for a series of webinars on various topics around sex trafficking in PA. These webinars will be available Fall 2014.



VISION OF HOPE

Gala & Auction

Supporting the prevention of child sexual abuse

Saturday, March 29, 2014
6:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.
Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA

To RSVP call 1-800-692-7445, ext. 150

NO MORE CAMPAIGN, FROM FRONT

Pennsylvania Says No More

Advocates across the nation recognize a need to dedicate as much time, staff, and funds as possible to stopping sexual assault and domestic violence before it starts. This means changing the cultural standards that allow violence to thrive by promoting bystander intervention as a means of primary prevention.

Prevention strategies include:

- Working with children, their parents, and caregivers to set expectations for healthy communication.
- Working with schools, workplaces, and in other community settings to change cultural standards.
- Saturating communities with healthy relationship messaging and responsible bystander behaviors.
- Encouraging policies and leaders that set an expectation for healthy relationships and communities.

PA SAYS
NO MORE

TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

Sexual assault and domestic violence can be prevented. Visit [visiting www.pasaysnomore.com](http://www.pasaysnomore.com) and learn how.

PCAR supports SVVPA

Legislation that would provide sexual assault victims with a civil remedy requiring the offender to stay away from the victim prior to trial is currently proposed in the Pennsylvania Senate. Legislation similar to Senate Bill 681—The Sexual Violence Victim Protection Act—has been enacted in 26 states and has unanimously passed the Pennsylvania Senate in prior sessions.

PCAR, its board and member programs support the passage of this bill to enable victims of sexual violence to be protected and comfortable reporting to law enforcement.

The protection order would prohibit the defendant from having contact with the victim, stop the defendant from harassing or stalking the victim and grant other appropriate relief.

The bill, if approved, also would allow an adult victim or the parents or guardians of a child victim to ask the court for protection from his or her offender for a time period of up to 36 months at no cost. A victim does not need to show that the offender's conduct indicated continued risk of harm to the victim in order to obtain an extension of the act when the offender is about to be released after his/her sentence concludes.

The victim must pursue charges to file the protection order.

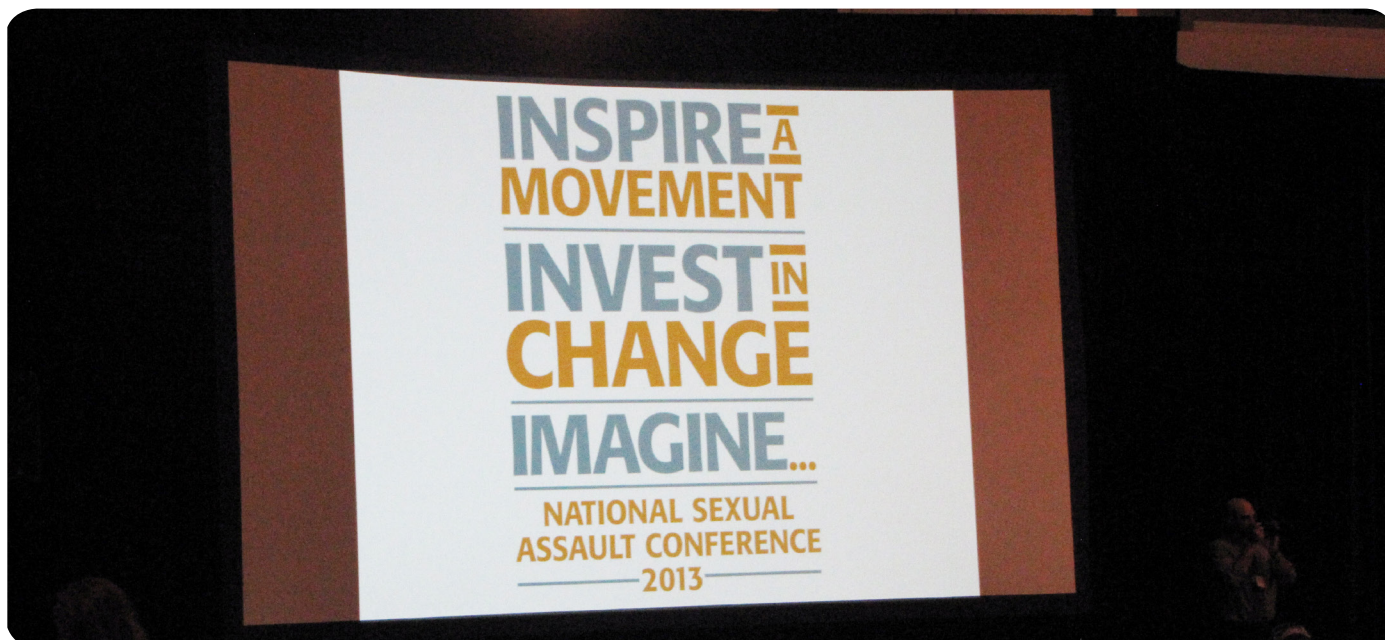
The bill could be a huge benefit to those who reside, work or attend school in close proximity to their offender. Currently, only intimate partners can receive a protection order.

PCAR worked with law enforcement, the District Attorneys Association, the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Office of the Victim Advocate to ensure that the language in this bill would be agreeable to those who would be affected.

Contact members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives to express your support for this bill. To find your legislator, visit www.legis.state.pa.us.

National Sexual Assault Conference

The National Sexual Assault Conference, hosted by the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA), gave the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape an opportunity to provide training and technical assistance to an enormous audience of 1,200 fellow advocates and preventionists, in addition to learning new approaches to help end sexual violence. Lynn Rosenthal, White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, spoke at this year's conference, held in late August at the Loews Hollywood Hotel in Los Angeles.



The National Sexual Assault Conference, hosted by CALCASA, begins in the Ray Dolby Ballroom at the Loews Hollywood Hotel Aug. 28 in Los Angeles.



Attendees of the National Sexual Assault Conference, hosted by CALCASA, gather for breakfast outside the Ray Dolby Ballroom at the Loews Hollywood Hotel Aug. 28 in Los Angeles.



The National Sexual Assault Conference, hosted by CALCASA, begins in the Ray Dolby Ballroom at the Loews Hollywood Hotel Aug. 28 in Los Angeles.



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Students setting bar on ending rape

College students across the country haven't been shy about filing complaints to the Department of Education (ED) in 2013. Annie Clark and Andrea Pino, students at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, established a national coalition after they filed two complaints with ED. Through the IX Network, students are speaking out about the egregious mishandling of sexual violence cases on campuses. Students in Pennsylvania are key players in this wave of activism.

Betrayal and trauma of students and staff have been accounted for in complaints filed to ED. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), in tandem with laws overseen by the Office for Civil Rights, including Title IX, requires schools to provide crime reports and support and accommodate survivors of sexual violence.

Students at Swarthmore College near Philadelphia connected with the IX Network and filed both a Clery complaint and Title IX Complaint to these divisions of ED. Complaints have also been filed by students at Occidental College, University of Southern California, University of California at Berkeley and Dartmouth College. Students and faculty have been helping each other file, primarily

through End Rape On Campus (endrapeoncampus.org).

Student and staff testimonies identify experiences where students, despite seeking support from their colleges, have been left to manage their trauma alone and have suffered academically and emotionally. Colleges have responded to complaints in ways that demonstrate little knowledge or understanding of how non-stranger rapists operate, declaring alleged perpetrators are "good guys" who would never "do that." Some consequences given to perpetrators include suspension until the victim graduates, to have all charges dismissed by the college or, at some institutions, to simply write book reports.

Students are turning to the government to reform school procedures and hold not only perpetrators accountable, but also those who implement school-based response and support systems. Students are working through social media, reporters like Kingkade from the Huffington Post and Perez-Peña from the New York times, and building coalitions. Students are seeking support in holding schools accountable for transforming their systems with survivors at the heart of the change.

— *By Mia Ferguson, co-founder of EROC, Swathmore Class of 2015*