

# Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

## Get Involved with the MCBW/MCASA Candidate Forums

*Danielle Kluz, Communications Coordinator*

The elections coming up in November are crucial to the battered women's and sexual assault movements. Because of redistricting, every seat in the Minnesota State Legislature is up for election. In the last legislative session, crime victim funds were cut \$5.152 million. This will have a devastating impact on programs for battered women and sexual assault survivors, especially the already small pool of programs in this community that serve rural women, communities of color, and other marginalized communities.

Our movement has an excellent opportunity to effect change in

state government with these elections. To better educate candidates, and for candidates to hear the concerns of the movement about sexual assault and domestic violence issues, the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women and the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault have organized 6 Statewide Candidate Forums in conjunction with the Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project's New Laws Training.

At the Candidate Forums, candidates for statewide and local offices will be asked five questions that cover funding issues for our programs, delayed discovery for

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## From Where I Sit...

*Karmit Bulman, Executive Director*

As the old saying goes, the only sure thing in life is change. I write to share news of a change at MCBW.

This last year at MCBW has been one of substantial growth and increased stability. I have been honored to serve as Executive Director during this eventful year. While this year has been both rewarding and successful for me as Executive Director, I have proposed a change that will allow me to focus more on family and outside commit-

ments. In September 2002, I will open a private consulting practice, focusing on organizational leadership and growth. I am pleased that the Board of Directors has accepted my proposal to move into a consultant position with MCBW in September. As an MCBW consultant, I will work on increasing the financial stability of MCBW and providing guidance and support in work planning, strategy, and overall organizational direction. My consultation with MCBW will ensure that

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**"Be critical. Women have the right to say: This is surface, this falsifies reality, this degrades."**

**-Tillie Olsen**

## Summer 2002

### Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women Staff:

**Karmit Bulman**  
Executive Director

**Sandy Davidson**  
Rural Grant Supervisor

**Danielle Kluz**  
Communications  
Coordinator

**Delrita Rudnitski**  
Associate Director/  
Program Coordinator

**Delia Ruiz**  
Financial and Adminis-  
trative Coordinator

**Lonna Stevens**  
Program Coordinator

### Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

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## Program Update: The Initiative for Violence-Free Families at Family and Children's Service

*Minneapolis, MN*

One thousand more guns are locked in Hennepin County, thanks to the efforts of the **Gun Violence Action Team of the Initiative for Violence-Free Families**. We worked with the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners to obtain free child safety gun locks, publicize locations and do public education on the importance of preventing access to firearms by our community's children and youth.

Special thanks to the Domestic Abuse Project, Perspectives, Bloomington Public Health, and the Division of Indian Work for providing their offices as gun lock pick-up sites. The reception staffs of our partner agencies were trained on gun-locking devices by a gun safety expert, Lt. John Losinski of the Hennepin County Sheriff's office.

IVFF staff also distributed a number of gun locks at a booth at the Hennepin County Fair in early August. For more information about this project, contact Lois Gunderson at 612-728-2090.

**The Neighborhood Action Team of the Initiative for Violence-Free Families** has scheduled its third annual **Candlelight Vigil** for October 6 in Minneapolis. Our goal is to double vigil attendance this year. You are invited to join us! Other October Domestic Violence Prevention Month activities we have planned include a graphic arts contest for middle and high school students, marquee messages for neighborhood sites and high schools, a training on domestic violence prevention for all North Side school nurses, staff meeting trainings for medical workers and extensive media outreach.

The Team is excited to support new North Side ef-

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month Candlelight Vigil:

Sunday, October 6 at 7:00 pm

Meet at the southeast corner of Olson  
Memorial Highway & Penn Ave. North in  
Minneapolis.

forts:

- Pilot City Health Care Center was designated a Center for Excellence in Women's Health Care and is collaborating with the Domestic Abuse Project to prevent and provide intervention services for domestic and dating violence;
- He Is Risen Church of God and Christ's HOPE Program (Healing, Overcoming, Preparing & Empowering) will promote safety, healing and transformation for those entangled in family violence.
- A Fremont Health Services group for adolescent boys on a range of health issues.
- A new neighborhood support group for those who have experienced violence at the hands of adult siblings.

**For more information on The Initiative for Violence-Free Families at Family and Children's Service:**

4123 E. Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55406

Phone: (612) 728-2094

Email: [k.girardeau@famchildserv.org](mailto:k.girardeau@famchildserv.org)

Web: [www.ivff.org/ivff/index.html](http://www.ivff.org/ivff/index.html)

## Welcome to the Newest MCBW Member Programs!

The MCBW Staff and Board of Directors would like to extend a hearty welcome to the newest member programs of the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women:

- The Hennepin County Attorney's Office Domestic Abuse Service Center, Minneapolis, MN
- Mahnom County Victim Resource Program, Mahnom, MN
- OutFront Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- Praxis International, Duluth, MN

A complete list of MCBW member programs can be found on our web site at [www.mcbw.org/members.htm](http://www.mcbw.org/members.htm).

*If you are interesting in joining the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, please turn to page 6.*

# Many Voices, One Vision: Reclaiming Our Movement The 2002 MCBW Annual Statewide Conference

A time to gather...

A time to learn...

A time to reclaim our movement!

Get your date book out and mark down November 6-8, 2002. Brainerd, Minnesota is going to be the place to be for those days. Yes, the rumors are true. MCBW will be holding our Annual Statewide Conference at Cragun's Conference Resort and you are cordially invited to join us!

This year's theme is *Many Voices, One Vision: Reclaiming Our Movement*. The conference will focus on energizing and organizing the Minnesota movement to end violence against women and children. This will be a time when we engage in discussion on how to reclaim the battered women's movement in Minnesota— how to better engage ourselves in our work, how to mobilize the state to work to end domestic violence, and how to change systems that perpetuate domestic violence.

We will feature national and regional speakers, such as Deborah Tucker of the National Training Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence and Mark Wynn, a retired officer of the Nashville Police Department.. There will be a special discussion panel of men working to end violence against women. And don't forget about all of the breakout sessions. There will be an opportunity to learn new methods of working with battered woman and children for everyone— those who have worked in the field for years and the brand-new advocate. Whatever you're interested in learning more about, there's bound to be a session for you. Some of the planned sessions are: Window Between Worlds (a creative art program for the healing of battered women and children), fundraising for your program, battered women defendants, working with deaf/hearing impaired battered women, creating policies for working with LGBT battering, and working more effectively with judges.

The 2002 MCBW Statewide Annual Conference will not only be a time for learning but a great chance to network, collaborate, and socialize with others working to end violence in Minnesota. There will be entertainment and social gatherings every night and plenty of time to just hang out and enjoy the great amenities of Cragun's Conference Resort.

The best part of the conference is that the conference fee (not including lodging/meals) is free to everyone who works for a MCBW member organization or is an individual member of MCBW. Non-members are more than welcome to attend but will pay a \$300 conference fee, as well as lodging and meals.

If you, or your organization, do/does not belong to MCBW but subscribes to our mission and would like to take advantage of this amenity of belonging to the coalition, please turn to page 10 for more information on how you can become a member.

The rate for 2 nights of lodging and 5 meals at Cragun's will be \$190 total per person in a shared double room. Persons who wish to stay in a single room will have to pay an extra rate. At the time of reserving your room at Cragun's you will have to make sure that you have a roommate who will be sharing your room.

Your program should have already received a conference brochure and registration form. **Conference registration forms will be due back to the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women no later than September 30, 2002. The conference brochure is also online at:**  
[www.mcbw.org/conference/confmain.htm](http://www.mcbw.org/conference/confmain.htm).

This conference will be an extraordinary occasion for those of us in the Minnesota battered women's movement to learn from each other, to inspire each other, to have fun, and to reclaim our movement. Please join us in Brainerd November 6 through 8!

If you have any questions about the 2002 MCBW Annual Statewide Conference, please call Danielle Kluz at 651-646-61277.



## Get Involved with the MCBW/MCASA Candidate Forums

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sexual abuse cases, disparities for non-white communities, and the possibility of establishing an independent state body that would take leadership on funding and policy issues relating to domestic and sexual violence. There will also be an opportunity for audience members to ask questions of the candidates.

Everyone is invited to the Candidate Forums. Survivors, women of color, Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender women, staff members of domestic violence and sexual assault programs: **YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!** Join our movement to make a difference in the upcoming elections. If you would like a flyer to post in your community about the forums, please email Danielle at [dkluz@mcbw.org](mailto:dkluz@mcbw.org).

### Schedule of MCBW/MCASA Candidate Forums:

**ALL FORUMS ARE 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, August 22  
Fortune Bay Hotel and Casino  
1430 Bois Forte Road, Tower**

The August 15 forum in Lanesboro was a BIG

### From Where I Sit...

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all organizational obligations and planned activities are carried through.

I have recommended to the MCBW board that a logical next step is hiring an Executive Director who spends a significant amount of time on lobbying and public policy initiatives. Delrita Rudnitski will serve as interim Executive Director and will continue her role as program coordinator and staff supervisor. Program staff members Lonna Stevens, Danielle Kluz, and Sandy Davidson, and financial coordinator, Delia Ruiz will continue to build the strong program and membership services you have seen during the past year. This team is strong, dedicated and talented, and will continue their great work.

Over the last year at MCBW, we have built strong financial and internal office systems, which ensure accountability to members, funders and battered women. We have expanded member program ser-

**Thursday, August 29  
Northwestern Technical College  
900 Highway 34 E, Detroit Lakes**

**Thursday, September 12  
Faith Lutheran Church  
335 Main Street South, Hutchinson**

**Thursday, September 19  
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church  
2200 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington**

**This is a statewide candidate forum with candidates for Governor and Attorney General.**

**Thursday, September 26  
Community Bible Church  
1117 Benson Road, Montevideo**

success. Please join us for the forum in your area!

vices, which are responsive to member program needs. MCBW has set new direction for being an inclusive, responsible, and supportive "hub of the wheel" for programs that serve battered women and their children.

MCBW is in an excellent position to hire an executive director who will provide strong legislative advocacy. I hope to continue to strengthen the financial security of MCBW. The program staff will continue to provide great programs. The MCBW Board is active, strong and accountable. This new structure will be a sure step towards an even stronger MCBW.

Thanks to all of you for the support and enthusiastic participation you have shown this past year. It has been an honor leading this organization. I look forward to an ongoing partnership as I move into my new role in September.

Please know that MCBW is in good hands and will continue to thrive in serving as the statewide voice for battered women and their children.

## The MCBW Women of Color and Native American Women's Network

*Lonna Stevens, Program Coordinator*

The MCBW Women of Color Network has collaborated with the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault Women of Color Committee to organize for the upcoming elections! We will be hosting four meetings prior to the elections. All meetings will be from 11 am to 2 pm. The Network/Committee has collaborated with UNITY V.O.T.E. to register new voters in the battered women's and sexual assault movements.

We will provide voter registration/voter education to educate members about legislative policies/issues that affect communities of color. We will be providing training on the legislative process and what we can do as women of color about issues that affect our communities, our lives, and our people.

If you are interested voter registration in your community, please contact Emily Chen or Lonna Stevens. We plan to continue legislative organizing throughout the legislative session to update and send alerts that women of color can organize around.

For more information on the MCBW Women of Color and Native American Women Network, please contact me at 651-646-6177 or [lstevens@mcbw.org](mailto:lstevens@mcbw.org).

### MCASA/MCBW Women of Color Legislative Committee Meeting Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>
Aug 26	Mending the Sacred Hoop	202 E. Superior St.	Duluth
Sept. 16	YWCA Midtown	2121 E. Lake St.	Minneapolis
Oct. 14	Central MN Sexual Assault Center	15 Riverside Dr. NE	St. Cloud
Nov. 1	Women's Consortium	550 Rice St.	St. Paul

## Unity V.O.T.E. (Voter Outreach, Training and Education)

Unity V.O.T.E. began as a metro area effort that has extended to a statewide, multicultural campaign intended to promote political involvement among people of color, regardless of political party membership.

The campaign focuses on two key areas:

1. Voter outreach activities—voter registration, education, and “get out the vote” techniques to make the process less intimidating.
2. Candidate forums to bring candidates and issues in front of our audiences so that our political presence is felt and our voices are heard.

Community organizations, houses of worship, corner stores, barbershops and beauty shops—places we know and trust— will play a major role by utilizing the Voter Outreach Tool, distributing educational information, advertising events, and having on-site voter registration available to membership and patrons.

The campaign goal of Unity V.O.T.E. is 20,000 new voters registered and a 25% increase of voting in the African American community. Other communities of color will develop similar goals.

The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women/ Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault Women of Color Legislative Committee is working with Unity V.O.T.E. to organize communities of color around Minnesota for the elections. Information on getting involved with Unity V.O.T.E. will be available at the MCBW/MCASA Candidate Forums around the state, along with voter education and registration materials.

If you would like to know more about Unity V.O.T.E. or get involved, please call Lonna Stevens at 651-646-6177 or Emily Chen at 612-313-2797.

## Are You an MCBW Member? Join Us In Ending Violence Against Women and Children!

If you, or your organization, haven't already become a member of MCBW, we urge you to do so now. In this era of drastic funding cuts to domestic violence programs in Minnesota and increasing incidents of violence against women and children, now is the time to act in support of the programs and services MCBW provides to end domestic violence.

**There are three different kinds of membership available:**

**Voting member organizations:** This membership is open to battered women's programs in the state of Minnesota which are incorporated as a non-profit organization designed primarily to serve battered women and their children and which provide crisis intervention, advocacy, protective housing, referrals, peer support, and/or children's services. Programs that meet the above criteria but are a sub-group of a larger non-profit corporation which is not incorporated for such purposes may become voting members as long as the above criteria is met.

**Supportive non-voting organizations:** Organizations that pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW may join as supportive non-voting members.

**Supportive non-voting individuals:** Individuals who pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW may join as supportive non-voting individuals.

**Membership enables MCBW to:**

- Provide technical assistance to programs providing services to battered women and children.
- Provide regular informational mailings.
- Coordinate the Rural Violence Against Women Child Victimization Enforcement Project.
- Provide training on domestic violence topics statewide and nationally.
- Provide public policy and legislative advocacy to end domestic violence.
- Produce this newsletter and the MCBW web site.
- Coordinate the annual MCBW Statewide Conference.
- Serve as an informational clearinghouse— locally, statewide, and nationally .
- Maintain and display the Clothesline Project throughout the state to raise public awareness of violence against women and children
- Update and release the annual Femicide Report.
- Update and develop cutting-edge educational and training materials.
- Provide staff support to statewide networks such as the Women of Color and Native American Women Network, the Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Gay Network, the Gender Think Tank, the Youth and Children's Advocacy Network, and the Minnesota Network of Abuse in Later Life.
- Provide leadership for grassroots efforts to end violence against women and children.

Your new or continuing membership will allow the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women to continue this good work on the behalf of battered women and children.

If you have questions about MCBW membership, please call Danielle Kluz at 651-646-6177.

## MCBW Membership Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization or Individual Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Crisis Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

All voting and non-voting members must support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW as indicated by a signed application and are encouraged to participate in coalition meetings and network activities.

### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED:

\_\_\_\_ VOTING MEMBER ORGANIZATION (see page 10 for descriptions of types of membership)

\_\_\_\_ SUPPORTIVE NON-VOTING ORGANIZATION

\_\_\_\_ SUPPORTIVE NON-VOTING INDIVIDUAL

**A voting member must file with MCBW its current organizational documents. Please check and submit the following materials with your application.**

\_\_\_\_ Mission or philosophy statement

\_\_\_\_ Current Board of Directors list

\_\_\_\_ By-laws

\_\_\_\_ List/description of counties or area of service

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

The MCBW membership fee is based on the annual budget of member organizations or individual income. Each voting member organization is entitled to one vote. Voting organizations with multiple satellite offices will receive bi-weekly mailings and other member benefits for each satellite office for which an additional supportive non-voting membership application is filed.

#### ANNUAL BUDGET

Supportive Non-Voting Individual Member

\$ 0 – 49,999

\$50,000 – 149,000

\$150,000 – 299,000

\$300,000 – 499,000

\$500,000 and over

#### MEMBERSHIP FEE

\$75.00 minimum

\$75.00 minimum

\$125.00 minimum

\$175.00 minimum

\$225.00 minimum

\$275.00 minimum

**Enclosed is a check for \$**\_\_\_\_\_

(Please make check payable to *Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women*)

Member organizations and individuals agree to support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW as indicated by the signature below:

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

## Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

1821 University Avenue West,  
Suite S-112  
St. Paul, MN 55104

Voice/TDD: (651) 646-6177  
Crisis Line: (651) 646-0994  
Fax: (651) 646-1527  
Email: [mcbw@mcbw.org](mailto:mcbw@mcbw.org)  
Web: [www.mcbw.org](http://www.mcbw.org)



Community  
Solutions Fund™

### 25 YEARS!!!

MCBW will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a Gala Event on Saturday, April 26th, 2003 in the Twin Cities! Save the date, mark your calendars. Come celebrate 25 years of speaking out on behalf of battered women and their children. Stay tuned for more details...

I want to help stop violence against women by supporting the mission of MCBW. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution.

\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$250    \_\_\_ \$500    \_\_\_ Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed form with contribution to the address above.  
We thank you for your generous support of MCBW.