Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence
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Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence

our mission
The mission of the Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence is to mobilize and support member programs and allies to end intimate partner violence.

Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Our programs
There are 15 regional domestic violence programs in Kentucky. First opened in the early 70s to provide 30-day emergency shelter for victims of spouse abuse, today's programs have expanded their services to meet the complex needs of domestic violence survivors and their children.

In addition to providing a safe, secure environment for victims/survivors and their children, programs now offer a variety of supportive services to both shelter residents and non-resident participants.

Kentucky’s programs are also committed to preventing future domestic violence through public awareness and community education efforts.

Our programs’ services include:
- Legal/Court advocacy
- Case management
- Safety planning
- Support groups and individual counseling
- Children’s groups and parenting classes
- Housing assistance
- Financial education, budgeting, and help in reaching economic independence
- Access to Individual Development Accounts, free tax preparation, and job search assistance
- Drug and alcohol services or referrals to substance abuse programs
Domestic violence is defined as a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviors that one person uses against another to gain power and control over that person. Partners may be married or not married; heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning; living together, separated, or dating. Domestic violence knows no boundaries; victims can be of any age, sex, race, culture, religion, educational level, employment, or marital status. Although both men and women may be abused by their intimate partners, over 85% of victims are women.

The Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence Association (KCADV) is a coalition of Kentucky's fifteen domestic violence programs (shelters) providing services to victims of domestic violence and their children. In addition to advocating on behalf of victims of domestic violence, KCADV assists the fifteen domestic violence programs by providing resources, training, and technical assistance. In FY 2014, Kentucky’s domestic violence programs sheltered 4,008 victims and their children for 163,463 resident days; provided nonresidential services to an additional 22,510 individuals; and responded to over 23,620 domestic violence-related calls. Unfortunately, Kentucky’s shelters were unable to provide shelter to almost 2,500 victims and children due to lack of space and staff.

defining domestic violence

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what is KCADV?

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what KCADV does

- Provides a strong, statewide voice on behalf of domestic violence victims and their children.
- Coordinates, in conjunction with other state organizations, an annual Violence Against Women conference.
- Administers a federal grant geared to increasing community awareness and providing information and education on domestic violence issues in rural Kentucky.
- Administers state and federal funds that go to fifteen of Kentucky’s domestic violence programs serving as Primary Service Providers in the Area Development Districts.
- Provides training on various domestic violence issues.
- Maintains a Clearinghouse on domestic violence and related issues, and responds to local, state, and national inquiries relating to domestic violence.
- Advocates for state legislative initiatives to increase protection to domestic violence victims and their dependent children, as well as continuing to push for increased state funding for domestic violence programs.
- Operates a Certification Program for all domestic violence program staff requiring 30 hours of classroom instruction, required readings/viewings, and a mentoring component.
- Works with national domestic violence and victim’s organizations on efforts to pass federal legislation impacting domestic violence victims and programs.
- Provides networking opportunities for program directors and program staff.
- Provides legal assistance to domestic violence program and attorneys representing domestic violence victims.
- Serves on a variety of statewide councils, committees, boards, and task forces related to domestic violence.
- Promotes public awareness of domestic violence.
- Administers a federal grant to ensure the interstate enforcement of domestic violence protective orders including the development of a nationally recognizable protective order form.

the history of KCADV

Kentucky’s first domestic violence shelter opened in Louisville in 1977 and by 1980 there were six shelter programs serving battered women and their children in the Commonwealth. The Kentucky Domestic Violence Association (now known as the Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence, KCADV) was founded in 1981 by the staff of the existing programs as a statewide coalition whose membership was to include all domestic violence programs in Kentucky. Its purpose was to provide mutual support, information, resource sharing and technical assistance; to coordinate services; and to collectively advocate for battered women and their children on statewide issues. KCADV and its members have advocated for changes in state laws to help victims of domestic violence since 1982. The group’s efforts have helped pass legislation addressing warrantless arrest, emergency protective orders, marital rape, and increasing resources for victim services.

prevent
empower
support

The Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence’s goal is to create awareness and help combat domestic violence in the Commonwealth.