

**Eastern Shore Coalition
Against Domestic Violence
(ESCADV)**

P.O. Box 3
Onancock, VA
23417



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www.escadv.org



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This newsletter was printed with support from a contract from the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Program Grant #17-A3415SA15 awarded by the Department of Criminal Justice.

**We provide the following
services to Accomack
and Northampton
Counties:**

- 24-Hour Hotline
- Emergency Shelter
- Individual Counseling
- Safety Planning
- Crisis Intervention
- Support Groups
- Legal Advocacy
- Referrals
- Case Management
- Children's Advocacy
- Community Outreach

**We serve men, women and
children.**

**Our services are FREE
and CONFIDENTIAL.**

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to access ESCADV**

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Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ESCADV)

THE ADVOCATE

May/June 2017

Shining the light against domestic & sexual violence

From the President's Desk:

Dear friends,

As my tenure as President of the Board of ESCADV comes to a close, I've been asked to reflect on my time here.

One of the interesting and challenging parts of being a Board President is fitting into an organization at a specific time in its history. I had the opportunity and what I consider the privilege to join the ESCADV Board in a time of crisis, and then participate for five years to see it grow into a thriving, responsive member of the Eastern Shore community. Our mission and vision have driven this remarkable and outstanding growth.

We are providing service to approximately 200 people a year. We average 20 people a night in our shelter for men, women, and children. AND for FY2017, 85% of our clients have anonymously reported they have not returned to their abusers and have begun to change their lives.

All of this success is accomplished by four integral parts of the organization. The first and not necessarily most important, an outstanding Board of Directors, who continue to maintain focus and energy to sustain and nurture the organization to do this hard work. Thank you to the past members of the Board and a special thanks to retiring member Carol Tunstall for her invaluable financial counsel and steadfast support. While it is sad to see members move on, it is a pleasure to announce the addition of four new Board members: Dave Vaughn, Mozella Francis, Ed Weber, and Catherine Fredholm, who will continue the mission.

The second essential part of our success is provided by the wonderful staff of advocates and employees. They have become a strong team who save people and change their lives. They abound with energy, compassion, creativity, and resilience. They are our first responders and they make the difference for our clients' lives. Thank you every day!

ESCADV would not be where it is without the important third part, our loyal, steadfast, creative, group of volunteers! They work tirelessly to fill in the gaps, from stuffing envelopes, sorting our donations, to creating written material, to answering

phones, and to supporting clients and their families. Every organization needs this help to keep the wheels turning. Thank you all.

The fourth essential part I want to thank is the Eastern Shore community for understanding and rising up to the issues of violence.

Thank you, for we have started and will continue the conversation about what one does for victims of violence. Thank you for continually supporting us financially as well as with goods and services and genuine caring. ESCADV has proudly served the Eastern Shore for over thirty years and will continue because we can count on your support!! Thank you for "taking care of your own."

Thank you, all of you, for my opportunity to serve. It is true that one gets more out of giving than receiving. As I said, it has been a privilege to be a part of this organization, and I wish all four parts of ESCADV continuing engagement and success.

Peaches Dodge

Our Staff

Shelley Strain
Executive Director

Jeanette Searle
Director of Operations

Maria Alfonso
*Shelter Coordinator
Hispanic Services Advocate*

Felicia Trower
*Accomack County
Client Services Advocate*

Marie Dennis
*Northampton County
Client Services Advocate*

Fatima Peart
*Sexual Assault
Client Services Advocate*

Kathy Custis
Children's Services Advocate

Kentoya Garcia
Volunteer Coordinator

Dottie Swisher
Administrative Assistant

Brianna Young
Intern

Board of Directors

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President

Kent Sudman
Vice President

Arventa Smith
Secretary

Carol Tunstall
Treasurer

Alice Brown

Rebecca Creed

Cynthia Eddy

Mozella Frances

Catherine Fredholm

Sharron Parker

Carol Rush

Dave Vaughn

Ed Webber

Kim Whitelock

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Alternatives to Violence

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positive
difference!

ESCADV
EASTERN SHORE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Freedom through empowerment because love should not hurt

LGA Invitational Golf Tournament
August 23, 2016
Eastern Shore Yacht and Country Club



In America, one woman is fatally shot by a spouse, ex-spouse or dating partner every 14 hours. Per the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence as of June 8, 2017 there have been 272 domestic violence gun related fatalities since January 1, 2017.



Your greatness is not what you have. It is what you give.

How could **you** help ESCADV and survivors of domestic and sexual violence on the Eastern Shore?

Give your time and talents – Volunteer with us! We offer a wide variety of short and long-term opportunities to get involved. We have a fun, flexible, and rewarding work environment where you can put your energy and interests to work helping others. Contact Kentoya Garcia at kgarcia@escadv.org to learn more.

Donate items – We always need paper products, cleaning supplies, and nonperishable food items. Contact Maria Alfonso at malfonso@escadv.org to learn more.

The Power to Give Back: Client Success Stories

At ESCADV, the goal is to help clients find success. Recognizing that success will look different for every client, below are highlights of some of those success stories.

- A Hispanic woman was able to return to her previous home state and regain custody of her children, finding safe living accommodations for herself and her children.
- Kids who were acting out in school were able to be a part of developing a plan to improve their behaviors. With this support, they were able to succeed in being promoted to the next grade level.
- A woman with medical issues was able to apply for medical coverage and get treatment for her medical concerns.



- A young mother was able to save enough funds to rent a home of her own for herself and her two small children.
- A woman who arrived to ESCADV speaking almost no English has improved her English speaking and is volunteering with local agencies.
 - A male victim was able to find housing free from violence after being sheltered by ESCADV.
 - Children with a history of school truancy were able to improve their attendance with support from the Children's Advocate and coordination with the school.

These are just a few examples of the many positive things ESCADV clients are able to achieve on their journey to a better life.

The Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ESCADV) is registered with The AmazonSmile Foundation as one of their charities. This foundation is affiliated with Amazon, the online company where you can buy just about anything you need. So, when you make a purchase on their special website, their foundation donates a portion (typically a half-percent – .05% of your purchase price to ESCADV. You don't have to do anything once you register for this free program.



How does AmazonSmile work? Amazon has set up a special website smile.amazon.com which 'mirrors' the main amazon.com website. You will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as you would on Amazon.com, with the added bonus that the AmazonSmile Foundation makes a donation to ESCADV at no extra cost to you.

How can you sign up? Go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer, tablet, or mobile phone. You may also want to add a bookmark to make it easy to return and start your shopping. On your first visit, make sure you select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchase.

What products are eligible for charitable donations? Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

Can you use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile? Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, etc. and other account settings are also the same.

Sound easy? It is, and every time you lift your finger and click on an item to buy, you are helping the ONLY domestic violence shelter on the shore through the works and deeds of the Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence. PUT THE WORD OUT for Amazon Smile!



Your support helps to heal and create positive change for families!

Thank you to our donors from Give Local 757!

On May 9th, 2017, the Eastern Shore Coalition Against Domestic Violence was one of 200 local nonprofits that participated in Give Local 757. This was an 24-hour online fundraising campaign that lasted from mid-night to midnight with donations started at \$10. Each donation will continue to bring safety to the women and children in your community affected by domestic and sexual violence. This money will continue the operation of the ONLY domestic violence shelter on the shore.

Judith Allen & Mike Graham
Anonymous(4x)
Megan Ames
Nicole Ayres
Martin Betty
Alice & Wayne Brown
John Burdiss, Attorney at Law
William & Margaret Byrd
Sue & Russ Connors
Rebecca Creed
Deborah Daniels
Anne Dodge
Peaches & Eric Dodge
Cynthia Eddy
Eunice Esposito
Mozella Francis
Richard & Jean Freeman
Croxtton Gordon & Elizabeth Goldstine
Richard & Karen Hatch
George & Wilma Heinrichs
Tom & Liz Jauck
John Kellam

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Arventa Smith
Shelley Strain
Peggy Tilghman
Kent Sudman & Carol Tunstall
Dottie Swisher
Melody Vaughn
Krista Vereno
Melissa Watterson
Ed Webber
Michele Whitaker



Economic Impact of Domestic Violence

from DomesticShelters.org

Most of the time domestic violence is discussed in the context of types, incidents, inter-personal dynamics and information on escaping and recovering from violence. Domestic violence also has an enormous economic impact from increased healthcare costs to workplace issues such as safety and productivity.



When medical care is needed following an assault, the average number of healthcare visits by type of service, if the service is required as a result of the assault, is



64% of victims of domestic violence indicated that their ability to work was affected by the violence.

