



Domestic Violence Community Leadership Team **Community Initiatives on Domestic Violence**

Public Awareness

- In 2016:
 - Developed and distributed “I Stand Up, I Don’t Stand By” cards that provide 5 ways for people to stand up and intervene if they see or hear abuse happening. Provided training at Charlotte Housing Authority.

- In 2012-2013:
 - Developed and aired Public Service Announcements regarding DV impacts on children. The PSA’s were aired over 300 times in partnership with Justice Initiatives, Mecklenburg County Community Support Services (CSS)/Prevention and Intervention Services and WAXN/WSOC-TV. The PSA can still be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45a-PJv-Bso&feature=share&list=UUNyWJ2sbPK3AftvjUxs1RpA>


- In 2011-2013:
 - Created the eNOugh Campaign to increase prevention and public awareness about DV in the workplace. Service providers in Charlotte experienced a 26% increase in referrals from the National DV Hotline.
 - Billboard campaign on major Mecklenburg thoroughfares
 - Website and link to PSA’s can be viewed at <http://enoughviolence.com/>

- In 2009-2010:
 - Provided public awareness through DV Billboard about adult victims of DV (English & Spanish)
 - Trained School Health Nurse. Dr. Shanti Kulkarni, UNCC developed and conducted training.
 - Created My Next Girlfriend prevention video
 - Developed the Love Speaks Out speaker’s bureau

- In 2007:
 - Consolidated Domestic Violence Speaker’s Bureau (CSS/Prevention and Intervention Services & Safe Alliance) that provides ongoing domestic violence public awareness throughout the community

Domestic Violence Data Collection


- Created a comprehensive community Domestic Violence Vision
<http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/CommunitySupportServices/Pages/DVCLT.aspx>
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- Created the DV Data Warehouse, updated annually, which contains law enforcement and health and human services DV – related data
 - Developed the County’s DV Index

Primary, Secondary & Tertiary Prevention Efforts

- Department of Justice-Office of Violence Against Women Grants
 - Received a 2016 Transitional Housing Grant to serve DV survivors fleeing their perpetrators. (Mecklenburg Community Support Services Department in partnership with Safe Alliance and Community Link)
 - Care grant for CSS Prevention and Intervention Services, Children Services Programs provides services for DV child observers 5yo & under.
 - Supervised Visitation & Safe Exchange Center grant provided funds for planning and operating supervised visitation and safe exchange for families in which DV compromises safety. SVSE opened 2014 with Federal and County funding. SVSE Consulting Committee continues to meet quarterly.
 - SHARE grant provides for enhanced prevention and intervention services for teen dating violence with a focus on teen GLBTQ dating violence; partnership between CSS, Safe Alliance and Time Out Youth
- Governor’s Crime Commission Grant provides funds for the Supervised Visitation Center operations and security.
- Johnson C Smith University was awarded Dept. of Justice grant to combat violent crimes against women on campus. The award is made by the department’s Office on Violence Against Women under its Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking On Campus program.
- Expanded DV Services in the N. Region of Mecklenburg County (Huntersville, Cornelius, and Davidson Police Departments, CSS/Prevention and Intervention Services/Safe Alliance partnership, Safe Alliance DV Advocate). Made possible through funding and partnership between Mecklenburg County, Safe Alliance, Huntersville, Cornelius and Davidson.
- Built 80 bed DV emergency shelter
- Upgraded Hotline phone system, including merging sexual assault crisis hotline with DV hotline
- Specialized DV trauma-informed clinicians (CSS/Prevention and Intervention Services) serving children 2-18yo
- Created 6 CSS/Prevention and Intervention Services DV liaison positions housed at Department of Social Services (DSS). Five (5) are part of the DV/Child Welfare partnership and are housed at DSS/Youth & Family Services and one (1) is part of the DV/Public Welfare (WorkFirst Program) and is housed at DSS/Kuralt.
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools adopted a DV in the Workplace Policy in October 2013.

Criminal Justice Related

- Hired DV Victim Detective/Advocate Huntersville Police Department (Huntersville Police Department)
 - Lethality Assessment Protocol by all seven police departments in Mecklenburg County, in partnership with CSS PISD and Safe Alliance. Lethality Assessment Protocol implemented in all of
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the Mecklenburg law enforcement jurisdictions through a partnership led by Matthews Police Chief Hunter, the Criminal Justice

- Advisory Group and Community Support Services Department. CMPD and Huntersville initially trained in 2012. Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson, Matthews, Mint Hill and Pineville trained in 2016.
- Passage of HB24, effective 12/1/13, with increased monitoring/accountability for perpetrators on supervised or unsupervised visitation
- Implemented the Legal Representation Project (Safe Alliance)
- Created the DV Fatality Review Team; passage of legislation to form (2009), re-authorization (2013) & expansion to include Mecklenburg, Pitt, Alamance (SL2013-70) & Wake (SL2013-270) counties. Buncombe County pursued legislation in the NCGS to be authorized as a DVFRT.
- The North Carolina General Assembly, at the request of Mecklenburg County, enacted two pieces of legislation to increase penalties for people who commit abuses in the presence of children. The first piece of legislation redefines “in the presence of” a child to include sight or hearing. The second provides that the offender who commits a felony knowingly in the sight or hearing of a child under the age of sixteen can receive a greater consequence by creating a new statutory aggravating factor. This addition gives the court the ability to impose a longer active or suspended sentence. (G.S. 14-33 Misdemeanor & “in the presence of a minor” and G.S. 15A-1340.16(d) Aggravating Circumstances-Felony Sentencing)
- CMPD revised its DV Directives in June 2016, in part as a response to recommendations from the Mecklenburg DV Fatality Review Team. The Directive says that officers shall conduct a thorough background search of all parties utilizing all available databases to include: KBCOPS, CAD Event Search, CJLEADS, NCIC/DCI.

