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Welcome to the October Newsletter!

October 11th, 2011



ANTI-VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP of Philadelphia

Together we can end the cycle of violence.

This Month's News...

Welcome to the October issue of the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia's newsletter! Here you will find updates on the latest events, news and information on AVP, its partners and the world of violence prevention and victim aid. Here's what this month's newsletter includes...

- AVP's Campaign for Children needs your support
- Families of Murder Victims welcomes a new employee
- We welcome James Madden to the board
- Therapist Molly Schmall and her teens' screenprinting project
- And much more!

Read on to get the inside scoop.

Hello Donors, Supporters and Friends,

This October newsletter is the first of many to come. The Anti-Violence Partnership is comprised of Student Anti-Violence Education, Families of Murder Victims, the West/Southwest Victim Services center, and AVP's own counseling center- an alliance that continually fights against violence and its effects in the greater Philadelphia community. With each of these programs doing incredible and much-needed work, we feel its important for our volunteers, donors and

About Us



The Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia is a unique organization helping children and youth resolve conflict nonviolently, while assisting victims and their families to rebuild their lives in the aftermath of violence. Our mission is to end the cycle of violence in Philadelphia through comprehensive and collaborative programs.

[Visit our website](#)

Or call us at 215-567-6776
for more information

Our Board

Anthony Johnson
Chair

William McEwan
Treasurer

Nicholas A. Caruso
Razelle Frankl, PhD.

supporters to be abreast of this important work.

Starting with this issue, we will be sending out a monthly newsletter detailing recent news and events. Articles and subjects may include upcoming or successfully-completed events, updates or changes to programming or staff, case studies or client profiles, and relevant social, legal and political news. We hope that this newsletter will serve to further strengthen the bond between The Anti-Violence Partnership and its supporters.

Happy reading!

Teen Support Group Screen Printing Project



Healing comes in many fashions. For the adolescents of AVP's Teen Co-Victim of Homicide support group, creativity has helped them cope with their losses. Local artist and AVP supporter Robin Turnage recently received the Leeway Foundation Art and Change grant and has used it to form a healing t-shirt project with AVP's teens. Each teen designed and created their own t-shirt while the group came up with a unifying theme of angel wings across the shirt backs to symbolize their coping community. Both Turnage and support-group leader Molly Schamel have seen a great deal of interest and success in this project and plan to continue on with it in the Fall semester.

James Madden

Violet Melton

Sarah Snyder

Katherine Wade, Esq.

Deborah Spungen, MSS,

MLSP

Founding Director

Executive Director-

Julie Rausch, MSS, MLSP

Meet our New Board Member!

The Board of Directors has a new member- James Madden. Madden is the Senior Vice President and Director of Client Service of Hillview Capital Advisors, LLC and a member of the firm's Investment Committee. Madden graduated from Wake Forest University and went on to pursue his M.B.A. at the University of Georgia.

Families of Murder Victims Welcomes a New Employee!



Families of Murder Victims recently brought on a new Preliminary Hearing Coordinator, Amanda Bee. Ms. Bee will be working as FMV's first line of contact with families of victims. As a Preliminary Coordinator, Bee will be attending hearings two days a week, checking in with families about hearing dates and expectations, communicating with the DA and ensuring the family knows what support services are offered.

Bee graduated from La Salle University with a BA in Psychology and has since been working for the non-profit "Back on My Feet"- an organization promoting self-sufficiency and confidence through running in the homeless population of Philadelphia.

FMV has also recently welcomed back AVP founder Deborah Spungen who will be working in the Families of Murder Victims office one day a week to provide staff training and debriefing as well as attend court hearings.

A Call for Support: The Campaign for Children

Through AVP's many branches, the partnership works with a variety of people, organizations, and groups to cope with and prevent violence in communities. Yet, one of the most salient issues AVP must combat today is children's exposure to violence. It



has been estimated that a staggering one-third of children in high-crime neighborhoods have witnessed a homicide and 70% have witnessed a serious assault before the age of 15. This exposure to violence can

lead to emotional and physical problems in their daily lives. Ongoing and intense exposure can harm children's natural, healthy development.

That's where AVP steps in. With both preventative and coping services, AVP hopes to provide help where there is none. The Student Anti-Violence Education (SAVE) program provides children with the skills they need to identify and choose non-violent conflict resolution. Last year alone, SAVE reached 800 elementary, middle and high school students in Philadelphia's urban communities.

The Anti-Violence Partnership Counseling Center aids families and children that have been exposed to violence by offering individual, group or family therapy. Last year, 75 children received therapeutic services in the counseling center and over 50 students received counseling at Overbook High School.

While the Anti-Violence Partnership continues to do great work, it can only do so much with current resources. With limited funding, the waiting lists for counseling services are growing. That's where you can help. The Campaign for Children needs support from people like you to continue the work they do for children and families in need. Please consider a donation, great or small, to AVP's Campaign for Children and give a child the care he or she needs.

[Click here for more information](#)

Victim Services Director to Speak at California Conference

Myra Maxwell, director of the South/Southwest Victim Services Center, has been asked to speak on issues of violence at next month's United Methodist Conference in Pasadena, CA. Myra, who is also a Methodist minister here in Philadelphia, will be speaking on violence as a result of substance abuse and substance abuse as it relates to victimization

during a workshop on church and recovery communities.

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