



HAWAI'I STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We kicked off the summer on a high note after a successful legislative session and in-person annual conference.

The 2023 legislative session marked a milestone in the coalition's recent history: we presented a [policy agenda](#) that was representative of member programs statewide on opening day at the Capitol to all 76 legislators, the Lieutenant Governor, Governor, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Sen. Mazie Hirono. With your support, [we successfully passed eight bills that directly affect survivors of domestic violence](#) and testified on bills addressing 15 other issues that affect survivors including firearms, the SAVIN program, abortion, paid family leave, and early childhood education. Our legislative priorities were included in Hawai'i Children's Action Network's Policy Agenda, the Hawai'i Women's Coalition Policy Agenda, and the Hawai'i Women's Legislative Caucus Package – executing a strategy to broaden support for domestic violence issues and participating in other coalitions with intersecting issues.

We had the pleasure of hosting you at our 20th Annual Conference: Reimagining a Path to Safety and Health in June. After months of planning, it was a joyous (and exhausting) day of learning, fellowship, and networking. Personally, I left inspired by all of you in our movement and honored to walk alongside you.

In August, we were rocked by the news of the devastating fires in West and Upcountry Maui. Our hearts broke for the many lives lost and the devastation to the community. We also worried deeply about the lives of our advocates and program staff in Maui and their loved ones. We knew that while they were experiencing their own trauma, they would be also tending to the essential needs of their community and ensuring that domestic violence services were available in Maui. Our worries deepened because we know that [domestic violence increases/intensifies during natural disasters](#).

The staff at the coalition decided to focus on supporting our member programs and their staff so that they could serve survivors – we know they are a trusted community voice in Maui and elevated the need to include preventing and responding to gender-based violence in the federal, state and local response to the Maui fires in the weeks that ensued.



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The impact of natural disasters on domestic violence and our nation's failures in crisis response is well documented. So much so that it is [Pillar 6: Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Response of the \(first-ever\) National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence](#). You can imagine our deep, deep disappointment when it has and continues to be met with silence at the federal and state levels. We are grateful to the community partners and smaller offices at the state level who see the importance of centering survivors during a crisis and are participating in our outreach efforts.

We were further saddened when the legislature announced six working groups to develop recommendations for Maui's long-term recovery and not one of those groups was focused on gender, gender-based violence, or victims of crime.

Immediately following the fires housing, food, and basic necessities were priority. In the weeks that followed, disregarding a plea to consider gender-based violence in the crisis response is irresponsible. We've already heard of survivors trapped in Lāhainā in the early weeks experiencing more domestic violence. Recently, we've learned of abusers using coercive control tactics to obtain custody of children from survivors staying in non-congregate housing in Maui due to the fires.

In today's press conference, Governor Green spoke about prioritizing healing. I question how we can do that without prioritizing the needs of survivors of domestic violence in recovery.

It's clear that as service providers we must continue to elevate the needs of survivors in policymaking so that it is no longer an afterthought. The fires in Maui have exacerbated the state's housing crisis. I also call on us to rethink the current housing options for survivors escaping domestic violence and demand more of our state and local legislators for long-term housing solutions that center survivors.

Especially in Maui, we must hold abusers accountable. The criminal justice system should not allow them to use the fires as another tool of power and control against their partner and their children.

There is still much work we need to do to center survivors in our communities.

Yours in service,

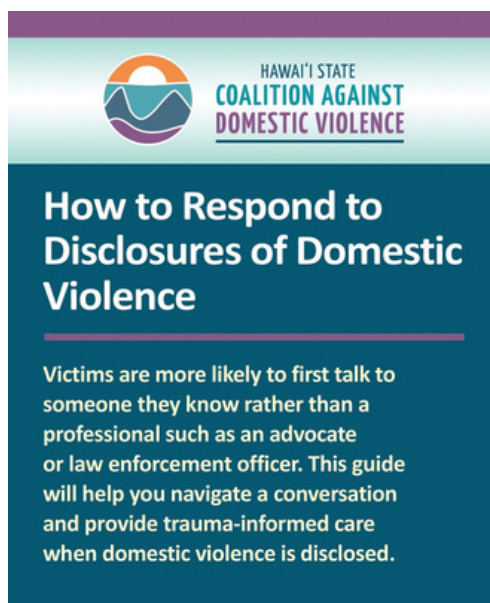


NATURAL DISASTERS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

Following the devastating fires in West and Upcountry Maui, HSCADV has provided a [Resource Guide on Natural Disasters and Domestic Violence](#). Following a natural disaster, rates of domestic violence can increase, therefore it is imperative to bolster services and support for individuals and families impacted by the fires.



This [natural disaster power and control wheel](#) from the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence illustrates what domestic violence can look like after a natural disaster.



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HSCADV has a guide on [How to Respond to Disclosures of Domestic Violence](#) that can help individuals navigate a conversation if someone discloses that they are experiencing domestic violence. The guide is available to download in multiple languages. If you would like to receive physical copies, please contact info@hscadv.org.



Alongside survivors who have been impacted by the fires, some domestic violence advocates and program staff have also lost everything. HSCADV created a fundraising campaign to support advocates and staff while they continue to help survivors, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to those who have been affected. **We are immensely grateful to everyone who has donated and helped us reach our goal of \$10,000.**

COALITION UPDATES

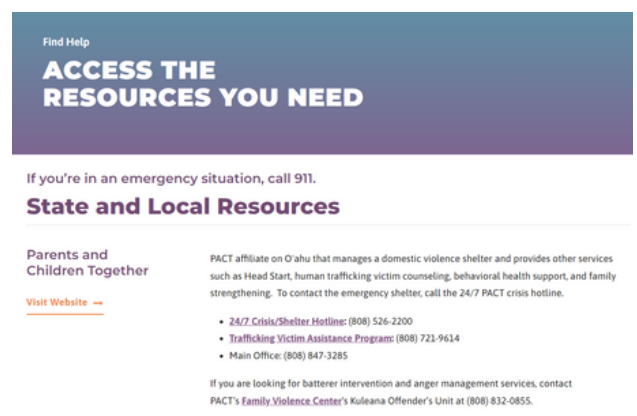
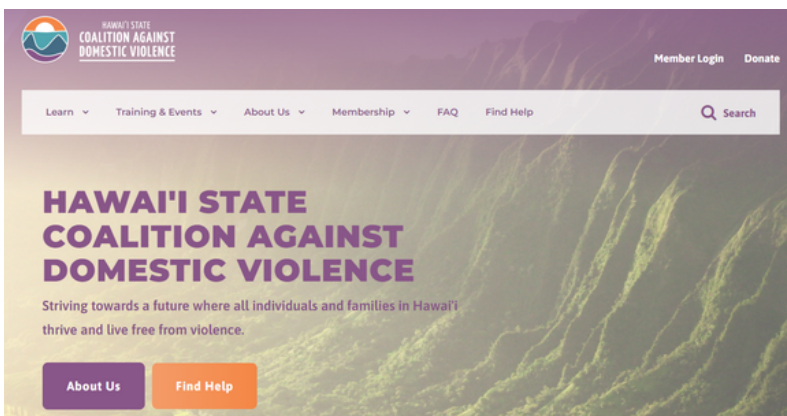
NEW

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GUN VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDER AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDER?



Read the new technical assistance bulletin to learn about the important differences between gun violence protective orders (GVPOs) and Domestic Violence Protective Orders (DVPOs). The bulletin includes a chart for victim advocates that compares the similarities and differences between each protective order. This bulletin can be used by advocates with their clients to determine which type of order may be the most appropriate for them. [View the GVPO and DVPO chart.](#)

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!



We are excited to announce that our new hscadv.org website has officially launched! It has a new, refreshed look, and resources have been updated, including local and national domestic violence data. [Check out our new website!](#)

2023 HSCADV CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



Mahalo to our title sponsor, AlohaCare, and all 200 participants who attended the first in-person conference in four years! The conference garnered much interest from our member programs and community members from all major Hawaiian Islands, and we are grateful to welcome everyone together. Check out the conference highlights!



2023 HSCADV CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

AWARDS CEREMONY

During the Awards Ceremony, we honored this year's **Star Advocate, Genia Stith**, for her leadership and knowledge in navigating several complex systems; **Community Partner, EPIC 'Ohana**, for their commitment to uplifting survivors; and **Lifetime of Service Awards** to **Dennis M. Dunn** (Director, retired, Victim/Witness Kōkua Services) and **Nanci Kreidman** (CEO, Domestic Violence Action Center) for their exceptional contribution to the domestic violence movement in Hawai'i these past decades. Congratulations to all our award recipients!



Pictured (left to right): Nanci Kreidman, Dennis M. Dunn, Clover, Angelina Mercado (HSCADV), Asha Autele and Ashley Viluan (EPIC 'Ohana), and Genia Stith

HSCADV CONFERENCE IN THE NEWS!

Luke: Despite progress, domestic violence survivors still grapple with stigma, lack of support



Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke took the stage to discuss the latest in domestic violence prevention across the state and nation on Thursday. (Hawaii News Now)

Domestic violence changed her life. Now, she's trying to end the cycle for other Native Hawaiian women



Dr. Dayna Schultz at Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence conference. (Hawaii News Now)



Annual conference sheds light on domestic violence and how to help protect victims



We are honored that this year's conference was covered by Hawai'i News Now and KITV. Check out the articles and the video below!

- [Luke: Despite progress, domestic violence survivors still grapple with stigma, lack of support](#)
- [Domestic violence changed her life. Now, she's trying to end the cycle for other Native Hawaiian women](#)
- [Annual conference sheds light on domestic violence and how to help protect victims](#)

2023 HSCADV CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

MAHALO

Mahalo to the following organizations and individuals for their support in making the 2023 HSCADV Conference a success.

Title Sponsor



ALOHA CARE

Funders



Exhibitor



Event Support



and Mike for the photograb!

Thank you to our individuals volunteers and volunteers from Chaminade University and Hawaiian Airlines.