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“...The Good Fight”

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2013

April Is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

The month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the United States. The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. **SAAM highlights sexual violence as a major public health, human rights and social justice issue and reinforces the need for prevention efforts.**

The 2013 National SAAM campaign focuses on healthy sexuality and its connection to child sexual abuse prevention. This April, the SAAM campaign is encouraging people to join the conversation and start talking about healthy childhood development to prevent child sexual abuse.

The SAAM campaign provides tools and information on healthy childhood sexual development that adults can use. By learning about the characteristics of healthy sexuality, adults can better identify risks, support healthy boundaries and challenge negative messages.

For more information and to check out the tools and resources for this year's National SAAM campaign, visit the National Sexual Violence Resource Center at: <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/current-campaign>

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month

Spotlight: NO MORE, RING THE BELL, & MAN UP!

Fresh-faced campaigns taking a stand against domestic violence

There are three new campaigns dedicated to ending domestic violence: No More, Ring the Bell, and MAN UP!. These three campaigns take a fresh approach in order to access a wider and more diverse audience. **All information about the campaigns has been taken from their respective websites.**

NO MORE

NO MORE

NO MORE is a new, overarching symbol, like the pink breast cancer ribbon and the yellow support our troops ribbon, that is bringing

together all people, organizations and communities that support ending domestic violence and sexual assault in our society.

NO MORE is spotlighting an invisible problem in a whole new way. The first unifying symbol to express support for ending domestic violence and sexual assault, NO MORE can be used by anyone who wants to end domestic violence and sexual assault.

Our vision is that NO MORE will be everywhere – on websites, t-shirts, billboards. Organizations and corporations, large and small, will embrace this symbol as their own. When an abuse case makes media headlines, you will instantly see NO MORE being tweeted, discussed on Facebook, worn as jewelry and on t-shirts; made

Spotlight: **NO MORE, RiNG THE BELL, & MAN UP!** (continued)

into buttons and posted in classrooms, offices, billboards and grocery stores across the country. NO MORE will help end the stigma, shame and silence of domestic violence and sexual assault. NO MORE will help increase funding to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault. NO MORE will help to change behaviors that lead to this violence.

For more information about the NO MORE campaign, go to: <http://nomore.org/>.

**One million men.
One million promises.**



Ring the Bell

Breakthrough is a unique global human rights organization and a recognized pioneer of innovative social change. Working out of centers in the U.S. and India, Breakthrough creates game-changing pop culture and multimedia campaigns — including video games and music videos — that bring human rights issues and values into the mainstream, making them real and relevant to individuals and communities worldwide.

Breakthrough's current initiative is Ring the Bell: One million men. One million promises, which calls on men worldwide to take concrete action to challenge violence against women. This grew out of Bell Bajao ("Ring the Bell"), a cultural and media campaign launched in India in 2008 which challenges men and boys to take a stand against domestic violence. These initiatives seek to build a culture in which women's human rights thrive, enabling us all to be safe in our homes and limitless in our ambitions.

Bell Bajao's award-winning series of PSAs has been viewed by over 130 million people. The announcements, inspired by true stories, showed men and boys stepping up and ringing the bell to interrupt overheard domestic violence. In 2010, Breakthrough's video vans traveled 14,000 miles through cities and villages screening these PSAs and involving

communities through games, street theatre and other cultural tools resulting in a sustainable, on-ground process of transforming hearts and minds.

Bell Bajao's tools and messages have been adapted by individuals and organizations around the world, including Canada, China, Pakistan and Vietnam. The campaign has won Breakthrough 23 awards including the Silver Lion at the 2010 Advertising Festival held at Cannes.

For more information about the Ring the Bell campaign, go to: <http://breakthrough.tv/ringthebell/>. For more information about Bell Bajao, go to <http://www.bellbajao.org/>.



MAN UP!

MAN UP! is a men's leadership development project to stop violence against women in Central Oregon. Through public service announcements and participation in a variety of community events and prevention activities, MAN UP! hopes to set a standard by leading from example.

There are both small and large scale actions we can take each day to stand up, speak out, and demonstrate to others that violence against women is not acceptable in our community. MAN UP! provides opportunities for men to engage in the issue on a variety of levels—from wearing a MAN UP! button on a backpack or briefcase, to organizing a MAN UP! softball team, to undergoing extensive volunteer and intervention training through Saving Grace.

For more information about the MAN UP! campaign, go to: <http://www.manuphighdesert.org/>.

Far away, there in the sunshine are my
highest aspirations. I may not reach
them, but I can look up and see their
beauty, believe in them, and try to follow
where they lead.

~Lousia May Alcott

Domestic and Sexual Violence in Oregon

Domestic and sexual violence is a problem of epidemic proportions both nationally and in Oregon:

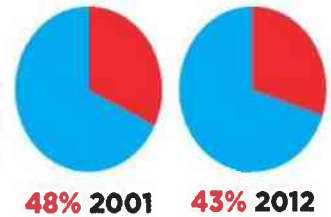
- ◆ Nationally, 1 in 4 women have been subjected to severe physical violence in her lifetime; 1 in 5 women have been raped; and 1 in 6 women have been stalked.
- ◆ Men are not immune—1 in 7 has experienced severe physical violence, and 1 in 71 men nationally report having been raped.
- ◆ In Oregon, nine percent of all women report having been physically assaulted by an intimate partner within the last five years.

A 2010 Centers of Disease Control (CDC) report shows that in Oregon, about 27 percent of women said they've been raped or faced attempted rape at some point in their lives. Fifty-six percent said they have experienced sexual violence other than rape. The CDC report placed Oregon well above the national average in terms of both sexual victimization and rape. (2010 CDC Survey—National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey).

Oregon is taking steps to provide protection to Sexual Assault victims who are not in a family or household relationship with their abuser. On March 19, 2013, the (joint) Judiciary Committee unanimously voted to pass the Sexual Assault Protection Order (HB 2779) and forwarded it for consideration to the Public Safety Ways and Means committee.

FEWER REPORTS, BUT STILL A BIG PROBLEM.

Violent crime has dropped in Portland in the past decade, including assaults. But the percentage of assaults that involve domestic violence has decreased only slightly—from 48 percent in 2001, to 43 percent last year.



Percent of Oregon women who have been a victim of sexual assault: **55**

Percent of all U.S. women: **44**

Percent of Oregon women who have been raped in their lifetime: **27**

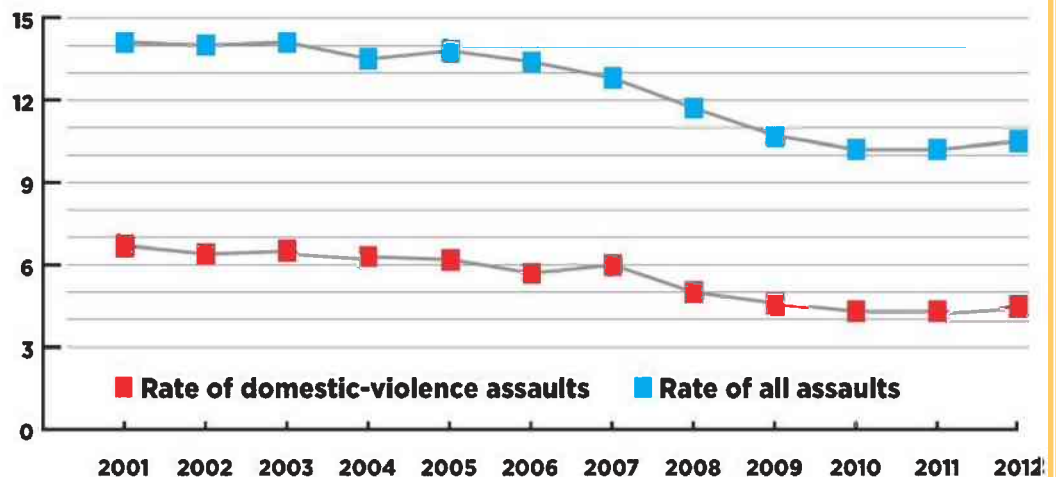
Percent of all U.S. women: **18**

Percent of U.S. women first victimized before 18 years of age: **80**

Number of cases of violence against women that involve an intimate partner: **1 in 5**

Percentage of homicides of women committed by an intimate partner: **46**

SOURCE: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



SOURCE: PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU (NOTE: RATES ARE BASED ON REPORTS PER 1,000 RESIDENTS. RATES FOR 2011 AND 2012 BASED ON POPULATION ESTIMATES.)

If passed by the state legislature, Oregon will be the 20th state in the country to provide this necessary protection to victims. As of April 1, a current version of the bill can be found at: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/13reg/measpdf/hb2700.dir/hb2779.a.pdf>. For updates on the bill, check: <http://apps.leg.state.or.us/MeasureInfo/Measure#measureNumber=2779>.

Graph borrowed from Willamette Week's February 6, 2013 V-Day special issue. V-Day is an international day of activism to put a stop to violence of all kinds against women. To read the full issue, go to: <http://npaper-wehaa.com/willametteweek/2013/02/06/#?page=1> or <http://www.wweek.com>.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

New Challenges. New Solutions.

Each April since 1981, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has helped lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of [National Crime Victims' Rights Week](#) (NCVRW) by promoting victims' rights and honoring crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf. In 2013, NCVRW will be observed April 21–27. The theme for NCVRW 2013 is "New Challenges. New Solutions."

The OVC also produces the yearly [NCVRW Resource Guide](#) to help communities and victim assistance providers promote awareness of crime victim issues. The Guide includes educational content, campaign materials, artwork, a theme video, and multiple public service announcements.

Click the links to explore the [NCVRW Resource Guide](#) ([http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2013/pdf/2013ResourceGuide-](http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2013/pdf/2013ResourceGuide-Full.pdf)

[Full.pdf](#)) and [DVD content](#) (<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2013/themedvd.html>) online. NCVRW Resource Guides from previous years are available to download from the OVC's list of [archived publications](#) (<http://www.ovc.gov/archive/index.html#n>).

For more information, go to: <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/>.



Hot Off the Press: Crime Victim Law Update

2012 Year in Review

The National Crime Victim Law Institute has just released the most recent edition of its Crime Victim Law Update - the 2012 Year in Review. The Update provides a collection of notable cases from 2012 related to victims' rights decided in state and federal courts nationwide. Learn about these important developments in victim law by reading the update at <http://law.lclark.edu/live/news/20812-hot-off-the-press-crime-victim-law-update--2012>.

Events: Have Fun! Do Good!

Bike Back The Night 2013

Date: Thursday, April 25th, 2013

Location: Portland State University Park Blocks

In celebration of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, PSU Women's Resource Center and Portland Women's Crisis Line are collaborating to host this year's Take Back the Night/Bike Back the Night event. This is an event to recognize and speak out in opposition of the violence which occurs against women in our community. The event features keynote presenters, a speakout, resource fair, and entertainment. This event is FREE. For more information, go to: <http://pwcl.org/calendar/events/2013/04/25/>.

Join the Conversation "Our Online Lives: The Intersection of Law, Privacy, and Health"

Date: Friday, April 26, 2013 • 8:30am-12:00pm

Location: Portland State University, Urban Building room 212, 506 SW Mill St., Portland, OR 97201

In honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2013, NCVLI will host a facilitated panel presentation and discussion. Experts will frame and guide the discussion, touching on topics of law, privacy, technology, trauma, media framing, and public discourse. This event is FREE, and attendance at this event may qualify participants for 2.5 hours of general CLE credits in Oregon, pending approval from the Oregon State Bar. For more information and to register, go to: <http://law.lclark.edu/live/events/16823-join-the-conversation-national-crime-victims>.

11th Annual CARDV Mother's Day Run/Walk for Safe Families

Date: Saturday, May 11, 2013 • 8:00am

Location: Second Street and Western Boulevard in downtown Corvallis

The event features a family friendly 5K run/walk and a Fun Walk course on which participants may walk one or two miles. Strollers are welcome on all courses. Registration costs \$20 if paid by 5pm on May 1, 2013 (\$25 after). Funds raised are used to sustain CARDV's shelter program, advocacy services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, and CARDV's community education program. For more information and to register, go to: <http://cardvservices.org/runwalk/>.

5th Annual Amani Center Race Against Child Abuse

Date: Saturday, May 25, 2013 • 8:00am

Location: Columbia View Park in St Helens, OR

All proceeds from this 1 mile (\$20) to ½ marathon (\$50) run directly benefit the Amani Center. The Center is a non-profit organization created to assist Columbia County in responding to child abuse through the child forensic interviewing and medical assessment, treatment of children (birth – 18 years) alleged to have been sexually abused, physically abused, emotionally abused, neglected and/or witnessed a violent crime including domestic violence. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.uberthons.com/raceagainatchildabuse>

2013 National Crime Victim Law Conference

Date: June 7 - June 8, 2013

Location: Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland, OR

NCVLI's annual Crime Victim Law Conference, focuses on rights enforcement in criminal cases, which is a critical but often overlooked component of holistic victim services. The Conference provides participants with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to provide effective legal services to victims of crime. The 2013 Conference is themed Constructing Justice: Making Victims' Rights a Reality, urging us to develop, implement, and share best practices that will achieve justice for victims. For more information and to register, go to: http://law.lclark.edu/centers/national_crime_victim_law_institute/projects/education_and_training/annual_conference/archive/2012/registration_and_tuition.php

Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others.
~Rosa Parks

VAWA Passes!

The Violence Against Women Act 2013

VAWA, A History:

1994:

- ◆ VAWA is initially passed creating the first U.S. federal legislation acknowledging domestic violence and sexual assault as crimes
- ◆ Provided resources for communities to create community coordinated responses to violence.

2000:

- ◆ VAWA is reauthorized for the first time
- ◆ Legal assistance programs are created to help victims
- ◆ Dating violence and stalking are included in the legal definitions of crimes

2005:

- ◆ VAWA is reauthorized for the second time
- ◆ Prevention becomes a new focus area
- ◆ Landmark housing protection for survivors are established
- ◆ New funding is allotted to start up Rape Crisis Centers
- ◆ Culturally and linguistically specific services are created

2010:

- ◆ Congress allows VAWA to expire

2013:

- ◆ February 12th VAWA is passed in the Senate 78/22
- ◆ February 28th VAWA is passed in the House 286/138
- ◆ March 7th VAWA is signed into law by President Barack Obama
- ◆ VAWA is reauthorized for the third time

March 7th, President Obama signed the Reauthorization of The Violence Against Women Act (S.47) into a law. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was first authorized in 1994, and created funds and an atmosphere for change around the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault. For the first time the judicial system, law enforcement, health care, and domestic violence/sexual assault centers were able to come together and create a coordinated response to the growing epidemic of domestic violence and sexual assault. Fast forward seventeen years to 2010 when congress allowed VAWA to expire which caused programs to suffer and put victim services in jeopardy.

New Provisions in VAWA 2013:

With the signing of VAWA, new provisions have been given to communities and agencies to combat the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Now there are programs and resources for all victims of violence including: Native women, immigrants, LGBTQ victims, college students and youth, and public housing residents. Wording has been altered to include male victims as well.

Native American victims of abuse are often at a loss when it comes to prosecuting non-tribal offenders. Their

courts do not have the authority to try non-native perpetrators even if the violence happened on tribal lands. VAWA amended this by giving tribal courts the authority to try non-tribal offenders for certain crimes committed on tribal lands including: domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders.

The rate of domestic and sexual violence among the LGBTQ community is just as high if not higher than that of the heterosexual community. Before VAWA 2013, the LGBTQ community was an underserved population due to sexual orientation discrimination. VAWA 2013 clarifies that LGBTQ individuals and programs can receive funding through VAWA, opening a door for victims to receive help with greater ease.

The reauthorization of VAWA in 2005 was monumental in creating housing protections for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, making harder for victims to be discriminated against and unjustly evicted from public and assisted housing.

VAWA 2013 expands these protections to individuals in all federally subsidized housing programs, explicitly protects victims of sexual assault and creates emergency housing transfer options.

(continued on page 7)



Sexual Assault
Awareness Month



www.nsvrc.org/saam

VAWA Passes! *(continued)*

Immigrants, such as victims of human trafficking, who are victimized in the United States are giving special roads to visas and citizenship through previous authorizations of VAWA. The 2013 reauthorization strengthens these provisions through changes to the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act and by strengthening provisions around self-petitions and U Visas.

College students are often overlooked as victims of domestic violence (specifically dating violence), but they have some of the highest rates of domestic violence. VAWA 2013 requires schools to maintain a record of all dating violence incidences on campus as well as report those findings. Schools are also required to make plans on how to prevent violence

on campus as well as making sure victims are educated on their rights and resources.

How Effective is VAWA Really?

VAWA was enacted to create and support comprehensive, cost effective responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Since 1994, VAWA funded programs have drastically improved federal, tribal, state, and local responses to these crimes. Reporting has increased by 51% by women and 37% by men. Intimate partner homicides have decrease by 34% for women and 57% for men. Non-fatal intimate partner violence against women has decreased by an amazing 67%. VAWA is cost effective. In the first six

years, VAWA saved tax payers over \$12 billion dollars.

None of us ever expect to be victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking, but the truth is we can be. And if we ever are in need of services, protection, or support we know there will be a VAWA funded agency close by that can help us.

Article written by Cathy Robertson and published on the Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council, Inc. website at <http://apcouncil.wordpress.com/2013/03/14/the-violence-against-women-act-2013/>.

**We never know how high we are/ till we are called to rise,
and then, if we are true to plan,/ our statures touch the skies. ~Emily Dickinson**

They Did What?!?

A Tennessee woman triggered a police response after she attempted to trick her sister into thinking she had killed her husband.

"I was doing an April Fools' Joke," the Tennessee woman, 52, told WKPT 19. "I said, 'Helen, I shot my husband, I'm cleaning up the mess, let's go bury him in Blackwater.'"

The joke worked a little too well, however, and a relative ended up calling the Kingsport Police Department.

Officers arrived at the woman's home and took the prankster into custody, according to Times News. She was not arrested, however, and her husband later arrived home unharmed.

For her part, the woman said perhaps people should be careful about attempting April Fools' jokes on gullible relatives, but she also didn't seem to be too upset by the brouhaha.

After all, the joke did prove the effectiveness of her local police department.

"The response," she told WKPT19, "was excellent."

Oregon Department of Justice Domestic Violence Newsletter

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There is no job more interesting than the one we do. And, as they say, truth is stronger than fiction. So, if you have a funny or disturbing anecdote, send it my way!