Jane Shivas, Interim Executive Director, met with New Jersey Representative John Runyan and Robin Goldberg, an Allstate representative from New Jersey. These photos were taken following Representative Runyon’s address to the NNEDV Legislative Breakfast on Advocacy Day 2013 (June 5, 2013). Jane participated in one day of education about the current legislation and federal funding. She and Robin spend the second day meeting with legislators or their staff members to advocate for their support of increased domestic violence funding and legislation supporting the safety and well-being of victims of domestic violence.

- Upcoming Meetings -

- **Legal Advocates**
  Thursday, September 19, 2013 • 10:30AM–3:00PM

- **Anti-Racism Change Team**
  Monday, September 23, 2013 • 10:00AM–1:00PM

- **Executive Directors/Membership Meeting**
  Monday, September 23, 2013 • 10:00AM–12:00PM

- **Closed ED Meeting RE: Funding/Concerns/Priorities**
  Monday, September 23, 2013 • 12:30AM–4:00PM

- **Domestic Violence Response Team**
  Tuesday, September 24, 2013 • 10:00AM–1:30PM

- **LGBTQ Ally Alliance**
  Friday, September 27, 2013 • 10:00AM–1:00PM

The LGBTQ Ally Alliance of NJCBW invites you to join in the viewing and discussion of one sequence in an acclaimed documentary.

**Film & Discussion**
Friday, September 27th • 10AM–1PM
NJCBW Conference Room

The work we do with our clients often focuses on individual oppression. However, the systems that must be navigated as our clients seek safety are often layered with more subtle manifestations of societal oppression. Join us as we utilize this powerful film to start a dialogue about the causes and consequences of systemic inequality.

All the efforts of this alliance will support the work and mission of the LGBT Task Force.

Please RSVP by Sept. 24th by contacting Sara Zesski at zesski@njcbw.org or call 609-584-8107 ext. 21.
Thursday, September 26, 2013 • 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Intersecting Identities
Tamu King-Lewis and Sara Zesski

People’s perceptions, beliefs and identities are rooted in our color, culture, class, character and context. We bring these identities into our interactions at home, work and into the community. However, as victim service providers we often don’t take the time to explore our own identities and how those affect our interactions with others. This interactive workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to reflect on their own identities and how these identities influence how we do our work. Participants will gain an understanding of the concept of the ‘iceberg’ model of culture and how so much of what survivors present as, is under the surface. The workshop will use film, personal reflection times and group exercises to gain insight into intersecting identities.

2.5 DVS Credits: Diversity

$15.00 Program Staff • $50.00 Non-Program Staff

Click here to register by credit card

Monday, October 7, 2013 • 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Supporting the Educational Needs of Children with Disabilities in Domestic Violence Shelters
Staff of the Association for Special Children and Families

Assisting children’s transition in school after experiencing domestic violence can be a long and complicated task. This transition can be even more difficult if a child has a disability and requires special education services. Families with children with disabilities may feel overwhelmed dealing with the school systems and often require additional advocacy and resources. This training is designed for domestic violence advocates who encounter children with disabilities in their daily work. Participants in this training will learn about the barriers faced by children with disabilities, typical developmental milestones and strategies to support children with behavioral challenges. The presenters will include relevant legal information including IDEA and the McKinney-Vento Acts. Strategies will be presented to advocates on ensuring the educational rights of children with disabilities receiving domestic violence services.

5 DVS Credits: Intervention

$15.00 Program Staff • $50.00 Non-Program Staff

Click here to register by credit card

Wednesday, October 16, 2013 • 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Partner Abuse in the Teen & College Years
Lisa Smith, MS, DVS

We all know of the power of language. In looking at “dating violence” it is essential not to underrate this type of abuse as somehow being not as serious as “domestic violence”. Here are some alarming facts (from loveisrespect.org): One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence. One in 10 high school students has been purposefully hit, slapped or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend. One quarter of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse. Approximately 70% of college students say they have been sexually coerced.

This interactive workshop will explore the dynamics of dating violence in high school and college students. We will discuss the similarities and differences between dating and domestic violence, the challenges and opportunities these populations present as well as looking at intervention strategies.

5 DVS Credits: Diversity

$15.00 Program Staff • $50.00 Non-Program Staff

Click here to register by credit card

Wednesday, October 23, 2013 • 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Your Family Tree: How Does it Affect Your Work?
Tracy Durkin

Relationships with coworkers, supervisors, supervisees and clients can elicit strong emotional reactions which may actually be more related to our families of origin than to these current relationships. We each played roles in our families, and we may, knowingly or unknowingly, replay those roles in work settings, which, like families, involve close contact with the same group of people on a very regular basis and sometimes require the same sorts of navigation and negotiation. In this workshop, participants will learn to construct a genogram, a tool used by family therapists and others to record large amounts of information about an individual and her relationships within her family of origin and other important social systems. After we have each drawn our own detailed genograms, we will examine what significant patterns or stories emerge and how those narratives shaped who we are and how we interact with life. We will play close attention to issues of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, addiction and mental health, physical health and illness/injury, power and control dynamics. Participants will identify the family dynamics—some positive, some negative—which they may be playing out in the work setting. They will learn how to recognize their own family-related emotional triggers and to develop strategies to reduce reactivity and maximize calm and confidence in their work settings.

5 DVS Credits: Values and Attitudes

$15.00 Program Staff • $50.00 Non-Program Staff

Click here to register by credit card
Want to be an Anti-Racist Ally but don’t know how? Here’s a tip from the White Aspiring Allies to People of Color:

Mobilize and organize to respond to issues without needing prompting from people of color.

On July 16th, 180 hosted a full-day training by Evan Stark PhD, entitled “The Battered Mother’s Dilemma: Reframing child maltreatment in the context of Coercive Control”. This training, made possible by funding from DCF, was for 180 staff and victim advocates, as well as over 60 case workers, supervisors and management staff from our local DCPP offices, along with several of our community partners. We were fortunate to have several staff from our Superior Court Family Division, including one of our Judges, also attend. We were filled to capacity with over 125 attendees, and were honored to have Lisa Von Pier also attend and provide welcoming remarks to our attendees.

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Rachel Coalition is honored to again host our Florin Education Series Women to Women Luncheon, an annual community education program offering different perspectives on domestic violence.

This year’s program will feature Randy Susan Meyers speaking on “What Happens Next: When Mother Asked the Impossible and Father Did the Unthinkable.” Ms. Meyers is a novelist whose book, The Murderer’s Daughter, explores the lifelong effects exposure to domestic violence has on children. The Murderer’s Daughter and Ms. Meyers’ new novel The Comfort of Lies, have both received critical acclaim.

The event will take place on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at the Cedar Hill Country Club in Livingston, NJ from 11:30am–2:00pm. The cost is $45.00 and reservations are required. For more information, please call 973-765-9050 ext. 1708.

What are the biggest challenges you face in working with families impacted by domestic violence?

SAVE THE DATE
WomanRising Inc.
A Celebration of Service
Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 6pm
Liberty House Restaurant, Jersey City
For additional information: 201-333-5700
A fund raising event to help victims of domestic abuse in Somerset County

We invite you to join us for an exciting culinary experience featuring food and wine pairings and dinner presentation by Dolce Executive Chef Paul Bogardus.

Your support is crucial to the Resource Center of Somerset to continue to provide programs and services to people affected by domestic abuse.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities and reservations, please click on the link below.

Harvesting Help & Hope Sponsor Information

Help & Hope August 2013

The Success of Group Counseling Innovation keeps clients motivated toward empowerment

Lisa Blum, Associate Executive Director - Program Services for the Resource Center points out, "Group counseling is particularly effective because it not only provides education and insight into personal issues, but it allows participants to build a support network and reduce the isolation that is part of living with abuse; learn from others’ experiences; and let them know that they are not the only ones facing the problem of domestic abuse."

Group programs focus on three primary areas. Psycho-Educational Group - designed to provide clients with an understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse and offer validation of their experiences through different topics covered over eight weeks. Therapy Group - less structured and without curriculum or time limit, focuses on group members supporting each other. The Resource Center also has Groups for Children, based on their ages.

To get the most out of the group experience for their clients, our staff is quite innovative and dynamic when starting a group program. Depending on the specific needs of survivors, groups can form for parents of victims of abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence victimization (in cooperation with Women’s Health and Counseling Center, Somerville) and substance abuse and domestic violence co-victimization (held on site at Great Expectations, Somerville.)

Groups that are now forming include teen dating violence victims for ages 17 to 21 and a self-help group for clients who have completed counseling and still need support.

We are always keenly aware of the emerging needs of our clients. The clinical staff is preparing for new challenges for empowerment of victims including a Financial Empowerment Group (funded by a grant from the Allstate Foundation), an all-male survivors group, a mom’s group to explore the effects of domestic violence on children and an older adults group for those feeling the stresses of later-in-life relationships.

If you would like to share news from your program to include in the next Update, please e-mail a brief summary and up to two photos to Eleni Hoffman at hoffman@njcbw.org. Deadline for November submission is 10/30/13 at 10AM.