

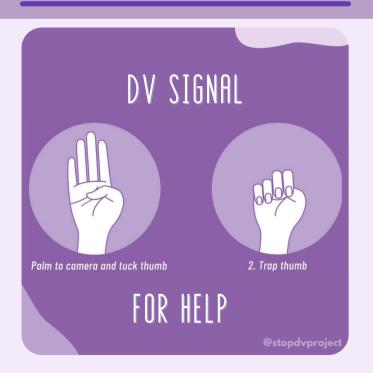
# STOPDV Spring 2022 Newsletter



## WHAT IS STOPDV?

STOPDV is the first domestic violence specialty court in Arkansas that provides not only court advocacy, safety planning, and support to domestic violence survivors, but also free legal services such as representation for eligible petitioners in active order of protection hearings in Faulkner County. Based in Conway, Arkansas, STOPDV was initially funded on October 1st, 2019. We eagerly serve clients in person or via telephone, email or Zoom from the Faulkner County Justice Building, where we primarily operate as a fully functioning court system.

## SIGNAL FOR HELP



Have you heard of the universal hand signal to indicate domestic violence? Find out more on our social media!

## **OUR STORY**

STOPDV was initially founded over twenty years ago by the Honorable Judge H.G. Foster.

While working as a deputy prosecuting attorney, Judge Foster realized that there was a need in the community to help victims who "couldn't hit back". Thus, STOPDV was born, with our name being credited to Judge Reynolds. Our board consists of a legislator, city council and a quorum court member, an attorney, and other community members who are committed to helping survivors of domestic violence. In our first year, we were able to assist 883 clients, far exceeding our set goal of fifty clients. We look forward for continuing to serve our community.

#### What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence (DV) is a pattern of physical, psychological, or sexual abuse, including threats, intimidation, isolation, and/or economic coercion. Domestic violence is used by one person to exert power and control over another in the context of a dating, family, or household relationship.



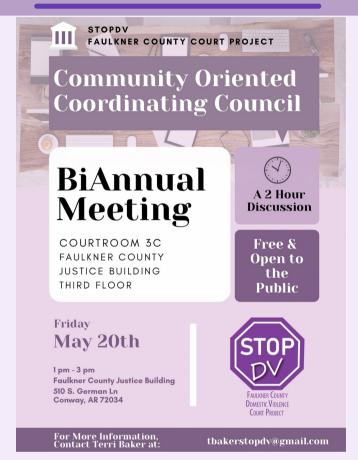
Follow us on Instagram @stopdvproject to see weekly updates!



# What's happening?



#### **COCC MEETINGS**



Our next Community Oriented Coordinating Council biannual meeting will be held on May 20th, 2022, held in the Faulkner County Justice Building from 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

During these meetings, you will have the opportunity to listen to some of the most prominent and passionate leaders in our community towards the fight against domestic violence. Hear all about the differences that they've made right here in central Arkansas by contacting Terri Baker, STOPDV Court Liaison, at (501)764-6401. We can't wait to see you there!

#### SUMMER INTERNSHIPS



#### **OUTREACH DONATIONS**



STOPDV would like to thank Ms. Cortney Kennedy, Faulkner Co. Deputy Prosecutor, for her generous donations of children's items to help meet the needs of our clients.



# **Spotlight Corner**



## 2022 LOUISE FURST AWARD RECIPIENT

# STOP. DV

from left to right, STOPDV Board Chair, Andria Russaw, & 20th Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney, Carol Crews.

Furst Award to the 20th Judiical District
Prosecuting Attorney, Carol Crews. In January
of 2019, Carol Crews was sworn in as the first
woman to hold the position of elected
prosecuting attorney for Faulkner County and
has been a tremendous help to our organization
since we began the very same year. Combined
with a passion to assist survivors of domestic
violence of all ages and her experience in
criminal law, she has been able to be of great
help to those in need of services and spread the
word about our mission.

# SPRING 2022 INTERN SPOTLIGHT



Leah Crafton, Order of Protection Support Intern

Prior to my internship with STOPDV, I had no idea there was an organization that specifically helped domestic violence victims navigate the complexities of the court system, especially in Arkansas. Upon hearing this, I immediately knew this was something I wanted to be apart of, and I am eternally grateful that I reached out to them. The team at STOPDV is endlessly passionate about their work, and their heart is at the center of what they do. It really makes one feel like they are actively making a difference in their community, and their efforts at STOPDV go far beyond just serving Conway. My internship at STOPDV has been an amazing opportunity and I have truly learned so much in the short time I've been here.

As someone who hopes to enter the social work field relatively soon, my time at STOPDV has made me want to continue my work within the area of domestic violence. I am so grateful for everyone at STOPDV and for allowing me to have such an informative and genuinely life changing experience!



# **Useful Info & Resources**



#### STOPDV DROPBOX OPTION



We now have a drop box available for petitioners looking for an option to drop off a completed and notarized order of protection packet.

While we recommend going over the paperwork with our Crisis Intervention Specialist, we understand there may be a limited amount of time that you can safely drop off a petition. If you have any questions regarding your petition, please contact Amy Johnson, at (501)764-6396.

#### **National Phone Resources**

National Dating Abuse Helpline: (866) 331-9474 National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233 (Text 'LOVEIS' to '22522' if you are unavailable to speak over the phone.)

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: (800) 537-2238

National Network to End Domestic Violence: (202) 543-5566

#### **National Phone Resources**

AR State Police: (501) 618-8000

AR Coalition Against Sexual Assault: (800) 656-4673 AR Coalition Against Domestic Violence: (501) 907-5612

012

AR Commission on Child Abuse, Rape, & Domestic

Violence: (501) 661-7975

The Rise House Crisis Hotline: (866) 358-2265

Women & Children First: (800) 332-4443

#### NEW WEBSITE TRANSLATOR

#### JUNTOS PODEMOS. JUNTOS LO HAREMOS. ALTO A LA VIOLENCIA DOMÉSTICA (DV).



STOPDV es una organización sin fines de lucro establecida para ayudar a las víctimas a navegar a través de los sistemas judiciales de Arkansas.

Check out our new website translation feature by clicking the option under the 'More' tab on our website at wecanstopdy.org!



## **Contact Us & More**





#### **@stopdvproject**



#### **@StopDV**



#### The Rise House of Conway 24-Hour Hotline: (866)358-2265



#### Staff Contact Info (left to right)

Heather McKinney, Protection Order Attorney, (501)764-6452, hmckinneystopdv@gmail.com

Terri Baker, Court Liaison, 501)764-6401, tbakerstopdv@gmail.com

Victoria Simmons, Court/Child Victim Advocate, (501)764-6178, vsimmonsstopdv@gmail.com

Amy Johnson, Crisis Intervention Specialist, (501)764-6396, ajohnsonstopdv@gmail.com

Cristal Ramirez, Compliance Court Advocate, (501)764-6195, cramirezstopdv@gmail.com

### **How Can You Support STOPDV?**

Donate to STOPDV by texting 'STOPDV19' to 44-32, using our Square or our PayPal link below to make a tax-deductible donation.

#### Square:

https://checkout.square.site/merchant/ML6G3YW9FZBB7/checkout/BWPIVRF5PRTHSEDN4TXSBDW2

PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/donate?

token=vVcQ2IH1fH9pbTT4c6-

 $Gz 2 Nnin HBz tz bw 6 Fh 63 V bc spf Klq WW i M\_fie Madn Op 1 JYXE 494 Fyreice Ui CZ$ 

#### **Arkansas Victim Rights**

Arkansas legate law (Act 873 and Arkansas Victim Rights Law/Act 1262) provides these protections to victims:

- As a victim of a crime, you are entitled to specific information about the criminal case and the legal process involving the criminal case.
- During criminal proceedings, you have the right to be present and be provided with a separate waiting area away from your abuser.
- You have the right to make an impact statement in person or in writing, detailing how the crime against you has affected your life.
- Once the criminal proceeding is finished, you have the right to have a post-conviction no contact order.
- If your abuser is found guilty and the judge's sentence includes incarceration, you have the right to be informed thirty days prior to the release, parole, furlough, pardon, plea, bail or at the time of escape through notification programs such as VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)

Thank you to all of our donors, sponsors, funders, volunteers, board, staff members, and community partners. None of this would be possible without you!