

# VOICES FOR PEACE



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) PREVENTION, PARTNERSHIP & AWARENESS NEWSLETTER

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Volume 1

## Welcome to the New DV Newsletter

Believing that communication is key to any good relationship, the DV Section of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, OES Victim Services Branch (VSB) strives to provide better customer service by establishing this newsletter. In an effort to strengthen the lines of communication, and improve our partnership and collaboration with the DV field, our hope is that this quarterly newsletter will promote prevention, partnership, and

awareness, surrounding DV and related, relevant issues.

Our goal is to utilize this newsletter for announcements, updates, and as a tool for exchanges with the DV field (i.e. publishing policy questions and answers, discussing training topics, and/or answering general questions).

The DV field is invited to share ownership by submitting articles, best practices that may be highlighted,

topics for discussion, creative arts and a host of other items that may be of interest to the DV field, at large.

Please join us as we go forward, and help to make California a trend setter and leader in prevention, partnership, and awareness in the DV field.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Lacy, MSW, Chief  
Domestic Violence Section  
Victim Services Branch

### Scott's Corner

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the new Domestic Violence Newsletter, "Voices for Peace." This is a challenging and exciting time in the field of Domestic Violence, and I am very pleased about the collaborative relationship that is evolving between our DV Section and the field. We, as an agency, are striving to improve our services to you and as such we are looking forward to partnering with you on the May 2008, Domestic Violence Conference.

This newsletter is only one of the many ways in which we hope to improve our provision of customer service and communication with you. I believe that many changes are on the horizon in the field of DV and that by working together we can only become stronger and create a safer state for all victims.

Thank you for your hard work and support in the DV field. Let's have a great 2007/2008 year.

Scott Frizzie, Deputy Director

### NAME OUR NEWSLETTER!

The winner of the "Name Our Newsletter" Contest is...  
"VOICES FOR PEACE" and the winner was Women Shelter of Long Beach.

## OES DV STAFF UPCOMING CHANGES IN OES/VS

Hello to all,

It is a pleasure to be able to be a part of the first domestic violence newsletter before my departure as the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Branch Chief. Very soon, due to a reorganization of the Victim Services Branch, you will have a new Branch Chief who will be able to focus and devote more time managing these two important Sections—Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. I, on the other hand, will be managing the

Children's, Victim/Witness, and Victim Justice Sections. As such, I will continue to work on important issues such as domestic violence within these three particular Sections at OES. It has been my pleasure knowing all of you and your agencies, I wish you all well, and thank you for your dedication and hard work throughout the years.

Sincerely,  
Ann Mizoguchi, LCSW, Chief  
Victim Services Branch

## Violence Against Women (VAWA) S\*T\*O\*P News

VS has contracted with the California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), School of Social Work to conduct a survey to determine priority areas for the VAWA S\*T\*O\*P Implementation Plan. Two meetings have been held with Implementation Plan members, who are serving as subject matter experts for guidance pre- and post survey. The research team is being led by Dr. Francis Yuen of CSUS. The results are being finalized by Dr. Yuen and his team at CSUS.

## OES DV STAFF HIGHLIGHTS Interview by Krystal Lewis

Meet "MATTHEW SEE" Newest DV Staff Member

Q. Where were you born?

A. I was born in Northern California.

Q. Where did you go to school and what activities did you participate in?

A. Pepperdine University, Masters of Public Policy with specializations in American Politics and International Relations. I was a member of the intercollegiate rugby team. Also, I attended Prairie Bible College where I received my Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Intercultural Studies. As an undergraduate, I made all conference in basketball and participated in student government.

Q. How would your friends describe you in 3 words?

A. Father, Dancer, Writer.

Q. What made you apply for work in the Domestic Violence Field?

A. I applied because of the substance of this type of work, and the desire to make a difference in people's lives.



Previously, the work I did while in Iraq, it also made a difference. And, on a personal level, I want to set an example for my children. For my girls, I'd like to show them what type of person to look for one day. For my son, I'd like to show him the type of man he should become.

Q. What type of work did you do in Iraq?

A. While in Iraq, I worked in civil-military operations, civil affairs, and combat operations and I received the Bronze Star Medal.

Q. What qualities do you bring to the field of Domestic Violence?

A. Analytical mind, compassionate and caring heart, proficiency, and a wealth of experience in working with different kinds of people. Also, I have a solid, educational background in Intercultural Studies and Public Policy.

Q. What are the three things you want the DV field to know about you regarding your hobbies, and interests?

A. I am a competitive amateur ballroom dancer, and am currently training towards competing at the championship level.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to add?

A. I am looking forward to working with each of you.

# A New Beginning

By Lisa Lacy-McGriff

Dedicated to all DV Shelter Workers

I woke up this morning  
 freed from the chains that use to bind.  
 Clear from the mental confusion that  
 previously controlled my mind.  
 Free to grow, be, and become  
 Because long time ago, when I was in  
 need you cared enough to walk with me  
 You gave me a safe place to begin again.  
 And taught me how to trust in a friend.  
 You gave me hope when I had none.  
 And encouraged me to stand strong,  
 when home was where I wanted to run.

You showed me that I was not alone.  
 And I could make it on my own.  
 Through grace and you, I found my  
 wings  
 And with them, the freedom  
 That it brings.

I woke up this morning and smiled  
 instead of sighed  
 as I felt my husband  
 lying next to me  
 sleeping so peacefully.  
 A good man  
 gentle, loving, and kind.

Looking at him, I thought about you.  
 For this time,  
 I knew how to wisely choose.

Due to the shelter and love you  
 wrapped around me.  
 While teaching me that I am worthy  
 and deserve to live free.

I woke up this morning,  
 and marveled as I opened my eyes.  
 The sunlight reminded me  
 that I was oh, so happy, oh so free.  
 I remembered my past  
 filled with hospitals and police,  
 Who knew one day  
 That I would know so much peace.

As the warmth of the sun  
 caressed my skin, my husband pulled  
 me closer to him.  
 I laid there with silent tears falling from  
 my eyes  
 As I thanked God that I no longer  
 had to live a lie  
 I thanked him, for sending me to you  
 A person who's dedicated their life  
 To helping women like me  
 find worth and truth.

I woke up this morning and smiled  
 because I was free.  
 And living the way God intended me to  
 be.  
 The miracle being  
 I WOKE UP!