

Search bar with dropdown menu (site), go button, and text: Web Search powered by YAHOO! SEARCH

Home > YourNews > Camarillo

Over 100 Domestic Violence Survivors and Advocates Converge on State Capitol to STOP Proposed Program Cuts, Advocate for Justice

Camille Hayes
Monday, February 11, 2008

STORY TOOLS

- E-mail story
- Comments
- iPod friendly
- Printer friendly
- 

MORE FROM CAMARILLO

- Dads and Daughters Rock at YMCA Sweethearts' Ball
- 'QUILTS, YARNS' EXHIBIT COMING TO CAMARILLO UMC
- The Dance floors are ALIVE!

When domestic violence victims rebuild their lives after leaving abusive relationships, they must not only see to the basics like housing, childcare and employment, they also must begin to heal their emotional wounds. Many survivors say that a powerful way to do that is by sharing their stories. With this in mind, the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) is hosting its annual Heart To Heart Legislative Advocacy Day on February 12th. The all-day event will bring over 100 domestic violence survivors and their advocates to the State Capitol so they can tell their stories, face-to-face, to California lawmakers.

Participants at this event will include Tracie Stafford, a domestic violence survivor and the reigning Mrs. California. Stafford said she decided to attend because her first experience offering testimony to legislators,

during last year's Domestic Violence Awareness Month, was a turning point in her life.

"It was very emotional for me," she said. "It allowed me to assert power over a situation where I had been powerless. Legislators need to hear from survivors directly, to put a face to this problem. We have to build a bridge between the people who make the policy and the people who live the experience of domestic violence. No one can build that bridge better than survivors."

Stafford will join the other survivors and advocates at the Capitol for a day of legislative advocacy and policy briefings. Many prominent Senators and Assembly members are scheduled to attend, including Assemblymember and Majority Whip Fiona Ma, Assemblymember Todd Spitzer, Assemblymember Alberto Torrico, Senator Sheila Kuehl and Senator Gloria Romero. Senator Romero, the highest-ranking woman in the California Legislature, will deliver the luncheon keynote address. (Please see attached schedule for details.)

Marivic Mabanag, CPEDV Executive Director, said that this type of direct advocacy is especially important now, when all state-funded domestic violence programs are facing 10% funding cuts in the Governor's budget proposal, and victim services are in jeopardy.

"Let me be clear: California's domestic violence programs cannot sustain a 10% cut," Mabanag said. "Advocates and survivors are coming to Sacramento to deliver the message to legislators that domestic violence agencies provide life-saving services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to women and children escaping abuse. These programs protect victims and ensure public safety; our state cannot do without them."

In addition to a legislative briefing in the morning, the Heart to Heart event will include a luncheon awards ceremony in which CPEDV honors its strongest allies in the Senate and Assembly, and afternoon visits when advocates and survivors deliver Valentines and have "heart to heart" talks with their State representatives. Heart to Heart is a unique event bringing together California's

Post a story!
Post a story about your community and more.

Post an event!
Want people to join your event? Spread the word.

Become a blogger!
Use your voice, be heard, share ideas with others.
[Click here to see additional features for Camarillo.](#)

MOST VIEWED **Most Emailed** **Most Commented**

Most viewed from VenturaCountyStar.com

- Victim, suspect named in Oxnard school shooting
- Student wounded in school shooting pronounced brain dead
- Student shot in class
- Daughter held in fatal stabbing of Simi woman
- Officials suspect man of stealing avocados
- Man held after woman found raped and tortured
- Camarillo doctor's emails describe fight for lives in Iraq
- TO man arrested on suspicion of molestation, possessing child porn
- 4 people accused of threatening brothers
- Woman found slain in a Simi Valley house

domestic violence community with the legislators who craft the policy that impacts their lives.

What: Heart to Heart Domestic Violence Legislative Advocacy Day
Where: State Capitol Building Basement, Eureka Room
When: Tuesday February 12th, 2008 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

About the CPEDV

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) is California's statewide domestic violence coalition, with 200 member organizations and individuals. Working at the local, state and national levels for more than 25 years, the California Partnership has a long track record of successfully passing over 100 pieces of legislation on behalf of battered women and their children. As the unified voice for California's domestic violence agencies, CPEDV provides statewide leadership on public policy issues, offers training and technical assistance to domestic violence service providers and promotes public awareness through community outreach efforts. With offices in Sacramento, CPEDV's member programs span the entire state.

Home Furnishings - over 600
James R. Moder crystal chandeliers from \$89 to \$10,000
www.jamesmoder.com

Allegro Classics
Outdoor furniture for modern living - commercial &
www.allegroclassics.com

Fed Cuts Interest Rates Again
Mortgage Rates Hit 26 Month Lows. Calculate Your New
www.LowerMyBills.com



Marketplace

- Classifieds
- Cars
- Homes
- Rentals
- Jobs
- Display Ads

Comments

Post your comment
(Requires free registration.)

Comments on this site are to be used for the discussion and/or debate of issues related to our stories and editorials.

Comments should not stray from the subject of the story or editorial.

We don't allow the following:

- Comments that degrade others on the basis of gender, race, class, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability.
- Disparaging remarks, abusive language or obscene comments.
- Threats, whether obvious or veiled.

We reserve the right to delete comments and/or ban users for these or other reasons we deem necessary.

Comments are the sole responsibility of the person posting them. You agree not to post comments that are off topic, defamatory, obscene, abusive, threatening or an invasion of privacy. Violators may be banned. [Click here for our full user agreement.](#)

Username:

Password:

[\(Forgotten your password?\)](#)

Your Turn:

Preview comment



Scripps Newspaper Group — Online
© 2008 The E.W. Scripps Co.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#)



Comparison shop at [Shopzilla](#) and [BizRate](#).