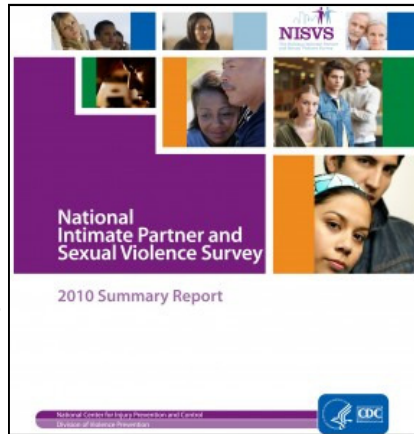




## 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey Released

Centers for Disease Control has released a new survey measuring sexual violence, intimate partner violence, and stalking in the United States. The Fact Sheet highlights some key statistics.



[http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS\\_FactSheet-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS_FactSheet-a.pdf)

- 1.3 million women were raped during the year preceding the survey.
- Nearly 1 in 5 women have been raped in their lifetime while 1 in 71 men have been raped in their lifetime.
- 1 in 6 women have been stalked during their lifetime. 1 in 19 men have experienced stalking in their lifetime.
- 1 in 4 women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner while 1 in 7 men experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner.
- Sexual violence, intimate partner violence and stalking continue to be a serious public health issue. The survey data show that nearly 1 in 2 women (44.6%) and 1 in 5 men (22.2%) experience sexual violence other than rape throughout their lifetime. This may include behaviors such as sexual coercion, unwanted sexual touch and non-contact forms of sexual violence. (<http://preventconnect.org/2011/12/16695/>)

PreventConnect will host the web conference "Findings from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: Implications for Prevention" on February 1st & 2nd, 2012. Register at [PreventConnect.org](http://PreventConnect.org).

Look for [Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic & Sexual Violence](#) on facebook. Get updates, training announcements, great articles and information. Also check out the DELTA Project (D.V. Prevention) and Teens Preventing Dating Violence facebook pages.



## New Mission Statement

*The Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (LAADSV) is a coordinated community effort to prevent domestic and sexual violence through community education and collaboration, to promote safety for victims and families, and to hold abusers and perpetrators accountable.*

## Join LAADSV

Any individual or agency may join LAADSV. Members benefit from training, agency collaboration, and domestic and sexual violence information. Annual membership dues are \$40. For more information on becoming a member or attending our trainings please contact Jo Ann Wassenaar at [wassenaj@gvsu.edu](mailto:wassenaj@gvsu.edu) or 616-331-2748. Membership applications are available online at [www.laadsv.org](http://www.laadsv.org).

## Meeting Schedule

In 2012, LAADSV meets at 7:30 a.m. at GVUS Holland Meijer Campus, 515 S. Waverly Rd. in Holland on the third Tuesday of every other month:

January 17	July 17
March 20	September 18
May 15	November 20

## Newsletter Submissions

Submit articles, agency news, upcoming events, and campus awareness activities to the LAADSV E-Newsletter to share with the community.

Email: [LesleyC@aplaceforwomen.org](mailto:LesleyC@aplaceforwomen.org)

# 2012 Strike Out! Bowling Tournament



**Date:** Sunday, March 18, 2012  
**Location:** Century Lanes, 478 E. 16th Street, Holland MI 49423  
**Time:** 5:00-8:00pm  
**Fee:** \$50 per bowler

Sign your friends and colleagues up for the 5th Annual DELTA Project *Strike Out Domestic and Sexual Violence* Bowling Tournament fundraiser. Bowl on a team of two in support of prevention education! Your support provides over 100 school presentations on healthy dating relationships each year, annual sexual assault prevention programs at local colleges, and valuable community trainings. Your registration fee includes three games of bowling, shoes, and a pizza dinner. Enjoy the 50/50 raffle and red pin strike prizes!

Ways you can help:

- ◇ Register to bowl
- ◇ Recruit six bowlers to fill your lane
- ◇ Sponsor a Bowler for \$50
- ◇ Sponsor a Team for \$100
- ◇ Sponsor a Lane for \$300



Register to bowl or donate online: <http://delta.aplaceforwomen.org/contact/upcoming-events/>.



## Parents' Corner

Starting to date as a young teen can be very exciting and in this age of technology teens are getting to know their dating partner through texting and social networking.

Talk to your teen about the risks of digital dating abuse and the pressure to send sexts or nude photos. Digital dating abuse includes:

- Unwanted, repeated calls or text messages
- Privacy violations, like breaking into email or social networking accounts
- Pressure to "sext" and send nude or private pictures or videos

For tips on starting the conversation with your teen about sexting and digital dating abuse visit: [http://www.giverespect.org/respect/parents\\_corner/teens\\_and\\_technology/digital\\_dating\\_abuse/conversation\\_starters/](http://www.giverespect.org/respect/parents_corner/teens_and_technology/digital_dating_abuse/conversation_starters/)

For more information about talking with your teen about healthy relationships, visit the RESPECT! campaign of Futures Without Violence: [http://www.giverespect.org/respect/parents\\_corner/](http://www.giverespect.org/respect/parents_corner/).

*That's Not Cool* is a national initiative for teens that helps prevent digital dating abuse. [www.thatnotcool.com](http://www.thatnotcool.com)

## ***Strengthening Families Protective Factors: Building Strong Families***



In 2009, the Ottawa County Stop Child Abuse and Neglect Council (SCAN Council) partnered regionally to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to prevent child maltreatment. The framework that emerged as a regional way to support families was the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework. This framework was developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable foundation.

This framework is a way for communities to assess and think about the services available to families. When considering a program to implement, organizations and their partners can determine where families need additional support and services. This framework also provides human service providers with new opportunities for collaboration and building partnerships. An example of implementing the framework can be demonstrated through Social Connections. Isolation is a risk factor for both child abuse and neglect and domestic violence. Agencies can partner together to provide special events or opportunities in existing programs for families to develop friendships and support among each other. By providing families with the opportunities to develop social connections, the risk of isolation and the risks associated with this isolation is lessened. By connecting through this common goal, organizations can leverage funding and share resources to provide effective and efficient (and often more) activities and programs in their community.

Implementing the Protective Factor Framework does not take a large amount of money or a significant shift in services for organizations. It requires looking at the community in a potentially new way and asking the question of where does the organization I work for or my program fit. Parents can also implement the Protective Factors in their own life by looking for the places of strength already there and finding resources to bolster areas you may need additional support.

For more information on the Strengthening Families Protective Factors or for assistance in implementing the framework, please contact the Ottawa County SCAN Council Facilitator: Leigh Moerdyke at 616-396-2301 ext 127 or [lmoerdyke@pathwaysmi.org](mailto:lmoerdyke@pathwaysmi.org).

### **Strengthening Families Protective Factors:**

**Parent Resilience:** The ability to bounce back from difficulty and to have the hope to overcome challenges.

**Social Connections:** Building trusting relationships with and among families provides a support system that can help build parenting skills and reduce risk.

**Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development:** Parents with knowledge about parenting and their own child's development have more appropriate expectations.

**Concrete Support in Times of Need:** When families have their basic needs met, there is less likely to be violence and child abuse.

**Nurturing and Attachment:** It's important for children to form bonds with their parents early.

**Social Emotional Competence of Children:** When children are able to effectively identify and express their feelings, they are also more likely to share their emotions and problem solve with peers.



*Tony Porter*  
Featured Speaker  
**Center for Women in Transition**  
**REACH FOR THE STARS**

April 12, 2012



Center for Women in Transition is pleased to announce that Tony Porter will be the keynote speaker at the Reach for the Stars event at the Midtown Center in Holland on April 12, 2012. Tony Porter is internationally recognized for his efforts in ending domestic violence against women. A dynamic speaker, educator, and activist, Porter has been working in the social justice arena for over twenty years. Porter's message and goal is to end violence against women perpetrated by men. Porter hopes to achieve this through encouraging men to take an active role in domestic violence prevention and through the promotion of healthy manhood.

Tony Porter is the visionary and co-founder of A Call to Men: The National Association of Men and Women Committed to Ending Violence against Women. The organization challenges men to reconsider long held beliefs about women and aims to engage men in domestic violence prevention with the help of non-profit organizations, corporations, colleges, and government agencies. Trainings and workshops done by A Call to Men provide tools for developing healthy manhood, engaging men in the discussion of domestic violence on college campuses, practical approaches for working with men who batter and other related areas A Call to Men believes that ending and preventing domestic violence is primarily the responsibility of men and encourages men to take an active role in the issue. Ultimately, A Call to Men aims to shift social norms about manhood to create a more just society.

Porter is the author of *Well Meaning Men...Breaking out of the Man Box – Ending Violence against Women*. In this book, Tony Porter “invites ‘well-meaning’ men to leave the sidelines of silence for the playing field of action in ending violence against women.” Porter’s message encourages men to take on active roles in ending violence against women.

Porter has delivered his message of accountability to many colleges and universities, non-profit organizations, the United States Military Academy, and the National Football League. Tony Porter has served as a consultant to The White House Commission on Violence against Women and Girls and the Department of Justice Office of Violence against Women. Porter is a faculty member of the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services Academy of Addiction Studies and also specializes in developing social justice models for human service organizations.

Tickets are \$100 and will be available starting February 1st at <http://aplaceforwomen.org/>.

## **Share Your Bystander Story!**

Thank you for helping to create a world without violence. Concerned community members like you help to make our community safer by confronting attitudes and behaviors that allow violence to continue. It takes courage, strength, and commitment to step in to end sexual violence. The National Sexual Violence Resource Center is collecting stories of Engaged Bystanders. Share your story online at:

[http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/bystander/share-your-stories#Read\\_intro](http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/bystander/share-your-stories#Read_intro)



On December 28, 2011 by presidential proclamation, January 2012 was proclaimed as National Stalking Awareness month. The *2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey* found that one out of every six women and one out of every nineteen men in the United States have been victimized by stalking behavior. Further, that at least seventy-five percent of these stalking incidents involved repeated unwanted phone calls, voice or text messages. To help better understand and detect stalking behavior, we should first know how Michigan defines stalking. Stalking is defined as:

***“a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another individual that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested and that actually causes the victim to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.”***

“Willful course of conduct” is defined as:

***“a pattern of conduct composed of a series of 2 or more separate noncontinuous acts evidencing a continuity of purpose.”***

Anyone who stalks another, as defined, potentially subjects themselves to criminal penalties. Michigan has two types of stalking statutes. First, misdemeanor stalking (MCL 750.411h) is punishable by not more than one year of incarceration and/or \$1,000.00. If a minor is the victim of this stalking behavior then the matter becomes a felony and the maximum penalty increases to five years and/or \$10,000.00. Second, aggravated stalking (MCL 750.411i) is a felony punishable by not more than five years and/or a fine of \$10,000.00. If a minor is the victim of aggravated stalking then the maximum penalty increases to ten years and/or \$15,000.00. Under any of these statutory sections the court is permitted to place the offender on a five year term of probation. Whether or not criminal prosecution occurs, a victim of stalking may obtain a personal protection order to prohibit further unconsented contact, the violation of which carries a maximum penalty of 93 days in jail, a \$500 fine, or both.

Victim’s can protect themselves from stalking behavior by doing some or all of the following.

1. Report the behavior to law enforcement
2. Tell friends and family of your concern
3. Change your routine travel routes and time
4. Choose to walk with a friend
5. Change your telephone number and keep it unlisted
6. Change your social media accounts and be selective in who you identify as a friend
7. Seek emotional support from those you trust

As a community, prevention efforts can begin early through education which promotes healthy and respectful relationships. Locally, the Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (LAADSV) sponsors the DELTA Project which seeks to educate youth and young adults about the characteristics of a healthy and respectful relationship. Through a continued awareness of stalking, our community can help in the education and detection of stalking behavior. Once identified, the community can better provide support to the victim and the justice system can hold the offender accountable.

Craig E. Bunce  
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
Ottawa County

For tips on promoting the prevention of stalking visit this link:  
<http://stalkingawarenessmonth.org/awareness>.

## Teaching and Seeking Consent: Addressing The Dangers of Victim Blaming

This past semester, I had the pleasure of talking with over 70 groups of teens and college students about dating violence, healthy relationships, and how to safely step in as an empowered bystander. Students have shared many insights about learning how to speak out against violence, educate others, and help their friends. With all of these positive experiences, we still come across victim blaming as a common misperception among some adult and teen audiences. A recent survey of high school students participating in the DELTA curriculum showed the following:

In terms of seeking consent: before the session, 32.7% (68) of students reported being *somewhat or very likely* to ask their partner if it was OK before kissing or touching them compared to 55.3% (115) after the session.

In terms of victim blaming attitudes: before the session, 63.6% (133) of students reported that they were *very unlikely* to blame a girl for being raped because of what she wore compared to 71.8% (150) after the session, which shows a decrease in victim blaming.

In a recent campus event on preventing sexual assault, an adult male in a position of authority stated that men just want sex more and that women need to be clear and consistent by saying no. When encouraged to ask one's partner for consent it was stated that "It's not like you're going to say 'Can I touch your boobs?'" It was also suggested that women not lead men on by changing their mind when engaging in sex. This thinking insults men's capacity for self control, undermines the fact that many men seek healthy and respectful relationships with women, devalues the importance of seeking consent, and serves to blame victims.

By placing the responsibility solely on women to be the gatekeepers of their bodies and to resist the sexual advances of men we are holding women to a set of unrealistic "good girl" rules of self-protection. These rules insist that a woman must assume responsibility for reducing her risk and preventing her own sexual assault by using the buddy system, being aware of her surroundings, watching what she wears, covering her drink, carrying a whistle, learning self defense, etc. And if she is raped ultimately the person society blames is her because she was supposed to be a better gatekeeper of her body. Why are we instead not focusing on teaching males and females how to ask for and seek consent so as to promote a culture of respect in relationships?

In response to the question about having to ask to touch someone's body parts, it is not respectful to sexually objectify someone into a set of body parts by callously asking what you can do to their body for your own benefit without regard for their feelings. That is not what seeking consent means. Consent is about how one considers and respects the feelings of the other. For example, if an intimate partner pulls away or goes silent during a sexual encounter we can ask if he or she is still comfortable or would like to stop. From the beginning to the end of a sexual encounter their partner's response should always be a willing yes. If my intimate partner has to push me away, I have clearly crossed a line and need to communicate with my partner to learn what it is they do want. Seeking consent is about respecting the limits and boundaries of an intimate partner. It is important for both partners to be clear and consistent about what they want or do not want to do. Understand that it may be hard to speak up to say no when you are not asked how you feel or what you want.

In response to the comment that men "want it more," it is important to understand that women are sexual beings also. Saying that men just want sex more leads the conversation down the path toward defending men as animalistic, sex hungry guys who cannot control their sexual urges. This is simply not true and certainly undermines the fact that most men do not commit rape, most men wish to have healthy and respectful relationships and friendships with women, and men are in control of their sexual urges. It may often be true that men initiate or tend to lead sexual activity with their partner (in heterosexual relationships) but with that leadership comes the responsibility to do so with respect and consideration of their partner's feelings.

Each person is free to decide if they want to stop at any time. They are free to say no, refuse certain acts, suggest alternatives, or change their mind. Clear communication about boundaries, limits, and consent is very important in relationships. Respect is about seeking mutual and freely-given consent.

### Teens, Sexts & Media - *Second Chance Date!*

**Date:** February 17, 2012

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Holland Meijer Campus 515 S. Waverly Road/Holland - Rm 102

**RSVP:** [http://www.gvsu.edu/women\\_cen/module-event-index.htm](http://www.gvsu.edu/women_cen/module-event-index.htm)

Teens are more connected now through cell phones and social media than ever before! Lesley Coghill, coordinator for the DELTA Project in Ottawa County will provide information on sexting trends, consequences, laws, media literacy and prevention. This training is for individuals working with youth, social workers, educators, parents, faith based leaders, students and community members. Social work and general CEU's will be available at the door for \$15.

#### Learning Objectives:

Participants will have a deeper understanding of sexting trends among teens.

Participants will be able to identify prevention resources to share with teens.

Participants will have a heightened awareness of issues of sexual objectification in media and media literacy.

### Pornography Panel Discussion - *Save the Date!*

**Date:** March 23, 2012

**Time:** 12:00–1:30pm

**Location:** Holland Meijer Campus 515 S. Waverly Road/Holland - Rm 102

**RSVP:** Check [http://www.gvsu.edu/women\\_cen/module-event-index.htm](http://www.gvsu.edu/women_cen/module-event-index.htm) for upcoming registration.

This series is free. Social work and general CEU's will be available at the door for \$15. Please call 616-331-2748 or email [womenctr@gvsu.edu](mailto:womenctr@gvsu.edu) and reserve a space for you and your staff members. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunches. *For individuals requiring special accommodations please call the Women's Center at 616-331-2748 or email at: [womenctr@gvsu.edu](mailto:womenctr@gvsu.edu).* Speaker series participant check-in begins at 11:30am.

## 2012 Faith Community Webinars

Faith Trust Institute presents online trainings on Domestic Violence and Healthy Relationships. Please share these with your faith community leadership team, seminary students, and interested others!

Jan 12 - Rev. Dr. Marie Fortune - Keeping the Faith - How to Respond to Domestic Violence FREE

Jan 26 - Ivonne Ortiz - Religion and Spirituality for Latin@ Survivors of Domestic Violence

Jan 31 - M.L. Daniel - Social Networking and Healthy Boundaries in Ministry: What You Need to Know FREE

Feb 7 - Rev. Lizann Bassham - Helping Teens Develop Healthy Relationships FREE

Feb 15 - Roundtable - Teen Violence and Abuse - the Challenge for Youth Ministry FREE

Feb 28 - Susan Yarrow Morris - Opening the Door to Healthy Relationships: Addressing Domestic Violence in Premarital Counseling FREE

More webinars and trainings available at: <http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org/training/upcoming-webinars>