

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, October 25, 2010

Contact: Andrea L. Fehring
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
515 28th St.
Des Moines, IA 50312
Phone: 515-244-8028 ext. 312
andrea@icadv.org

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence Awarded Verizon Foundation Grant of \$15,000 for the Iowa Men's Action Network

Des Moines – October 25, 2010 – Thanks to a grant from the Verizon Foundation, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) will be launching a website – tentatively planned for February 1, 2011 – as part of their Iowa Men's Action Network (Iowa MAN). ICADV and Iowa MAN intend this project to serve as a networking tool, educational resource, and opportunity for engaging men in Domestic Violence prevention.

The Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence seeks to engage all people in a movement to change the social and political systems that perpetuate violence against women. We do this through education, advocacy, and quality victim services. ICADV began the Iowa MAN project as a response to the historical underrepresentation of men in domestic violence work. Iowa MAN is a networking group for men across Iowa. In addition the group will partner with local domestic violence programs to help them better engage men in preventing and ending Domestic Violence.

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ICADV's Executive Director, Laurie Schipper said, "The Iowa MAN is a partnership filled with members who have potential and vision. The time is right, and we and the state of Iowa are ready for this work."

The Verizon Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Verizon Communications. Its goal is to invest in results and fuel positive social change in issues that impact Verizon's employees, customers and communities. The Verizon Foundation is committed to increasing the use of safety strategies, preventing domestic violence and improving survivors' quality of life. Verizon has been a corporate leader in the issue of domestic violence prevention for over a decade. They invest in programs that enhance prevention through education and that incorporate online resources for broad outreach to diverse populations. Verizon also provides support for programs and initiatives that deliver effective relief for survivors and assist them in recovery. Through this partnership, ICADV, the Iowa MAN, and Verizon are supporting citizens and communities to be actively engaged in creating a safer Iowa.

Michael Fleming, University of Northern Iowa Professor, said, "For too long men have remained silent and on the side lines. For too long the voices of men who do care have been drowned out by indifference. The Iowa Men's Action Network is an effort to bring together men from across the state to work in collaboration toward a goal where all homes are free of violence."

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Press Conference scheduled for Monday, September 27, 2010 at 10:30am in the Conference Room at ICADV, 515 28th St. Des Moines, IA 50312.

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