

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Lindsay Pingel

Director of Community Engagement

P: 515.421.4658

lindsayp@icadv.org



Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence awarded \$135,000 grant to advance financial security for survivors from GreenState Credit Union

DES MOINES, Iowa – February 18, 2022 – The Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) received a three-year commitment from GreenState Credit Union to support survivors of domestic violence. The \$135,000 grant will support ICADV's financial empowerment program that allows survivors to move from short-term safety in an unsafe relationship to long-term financial security.

"While less commonly understood or talked about, financial abuse is one of the most powerful tactics a person will use to keep someone in an unsafe relationship," says Dr. Maria Corona, executive director of ICADV. "Thanks to the support of GreenState Credit Union, our team and network of statewide victim service advocates can provide resources and financial empowerment courses to guide survivors towards a safe and secure future."

Nationally, 99 percent of domestic violence victims experience financial abuse, and it's one of the main reasons victims stay or return to an abusive relationship. Financial abuse includes tactics such as restricting access to financial accounts, limiting access to cash or credit cards, ruining a partner's credit, or preventing a partner from working. To help survivors work past these issues, ICADV offers economic empowerment courses that work to create prosperous communities where survivors are empowered to break the cycle of domestic violence and financial abuse.

"We admire the incredible work ICADV is doing throughout the state and are happy to support them in their mission," states Tara Wachendorf, VP/Public Relations for GreenState Credit Union. "Financial empowerment is a major focus for us in many capacities, and we look forward to this new partnership."

Learn more about ICADV's financial empowerment courses at www.icadv.org.

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About the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) is the leading voice to end intimate partner violence in Iowa. Through our network of 22 statewide victim service programs, we provide comprehensive services to anyone who has been a victim of a violent crime – before, during and after. We take a survivor-centered approach to victim services and believe community-based agencies and interventions, healthcare, educational, and government systems should work together, centering the voices and experiences of those historically excluded, to enhance safety for everyone. When this happens, everyone has the ability to reach their full potential, thrive and live a life free from violence.

About GreenState Credit Union

GreenState Credit Union is Iowa's largest credit union and one of the top financial institutions in the United States for returning profits to members in the form of better rates and lower fees. GreenState serves over 350,000 members with 30 office locations. Membership is open to anyone living or working in Iowa as well as select counties in Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and South Dakota.