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Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence releases <u>Iowa Domestic Violence Homicide Fact Sheet</u> – at least 88 Iowans were killed due to domestic violence – mostly women

DES MOINES, Iowa – September 29, 2025 – The <u>lowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV)</u> released its most recent <u>domestic violence homicide analysis</u>, revealing that between **October 1, 2021**, and September 30, 2024, at least <u>88 Iowans</u> were killed due to domestic violence – including 16 children ages five and under.

Domestic violence homicide is one of the most visible and devastating outcomes of intimate partner violence (IPV), yet accurate data on these deaths remains difficult to capture and are underreported. Without a consistent and transparent system for tracking domestic violence-related homicides, communities, and policymakers are left without the full picture needed to craft solutions that prevent further loss of life.

"These are not just numbers," says Dr. Maria Corona, Executive Director of ICADV. "They represent our neighbors, our co-workers, our children – lives stolen by a preventable crisis. Domestic violence is too often dismissed or forgotten, but those of us doing this work every day know the truth: ignoring it is deadly, and its impacts ripple far beyond the home. We cannot afford to look away."

The <u>fact sheet</u> underscores the urgent need for Iowa to strengthen data collection methods, prevention, intervention, and long-term safe and affordable housing and other support systems for survivors. It also highlights how domestic violence reverberates beyond individual households – traumatizing families, destabilizing communities, and placing children at heightened risk of lifelong harm.

ICADV calls on community members, advocates, and policymakers alike to:

- Acknowledge domestic violence as a public health crisis in Iowa, not a private tragedy.
- Invest in victim support services that give survivors *real* options and save lives.
- Advance the Early Lease Termination Bill, allowing survivors to flee unsafe housing situations by terminating their lease early without being punished for seeking safety for themselves and their children.

"Our communities are not powerless," adds Dr. Ruxandra Marcu, Director of Membership and Research Strategy for ICADV. "Each life lost is a signal that our systems must do more. This fact sheet is not only a record of tragedy – it is a tool to guide policies and community investments that will make lowa safer for everyone."

This fact sheet precedes a full domestic violence homicide report coming in 2026. Show your support for survivors and donate to your local victim service provider agency. <u>Connect with them here.</u>

Click here to read the full Iowa Domestic Violence Homicide Fact Sheet

About the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence

The <u>Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV)</u> is a membership-based organization with a network of <u>23 victim service provider agencies</u> delivering support and advocacy for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, stalking, and human trafficking across all 99 counties. ICADV strengthens the capacity of victim service provider agencies and communities by offering training, education, and technical assistance to ensure services are effective, accessible, and responsive. As the state's resource center on intimate partner violence, ICADV works to increase understanding of the issue, and improve public policies and access to support. To learn more, visit <u>www.icadv.org</u>.