

## Newsletter

July 2014

abused Deaf women's advocacy services

### Congratulations to Allie Joiner, first honoree for Marilyn J. Smith Inspirational Award



This year ADWAS awarded the first Marilyn J. Smith Inspirational Award to Allie Joiner at the fundraising breakfast on April 25, 2014. Allie has worked in the Deaf and DeafBlind community for the past 40 years with various organizations: Troubleshooters, Community Service Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CSCDHH), ADWAS, TACID, and the Deaf-Blind Service Center (DBSC). She has spent her career providing individual and systems advocacy locally and throughout the nation. She has always worked toward a barrier-free, socially just, non-violent, Deaf empowered community.

During her speech, she shared from her personal experiences and advocacy throughout the years and

recognized different influences impacting her life: activists, friends, interpreters, parents, teachers and more. Her work has been about community, not personal accolades for herself. She imparted advice for the people who work in this field: you'll have greater results if you have passion for justice for all, no matter whom, and respect for others. Also, she added that people should take continuing education and workshops to keep in the loop for new policy changes, tools and resources to go further. Allie has truly inspired multiple generations of leaders.

The breakfast fundraising event was a success, earning \$28,000 from donors to help support ADWAS. Thank you!

#### Good luck, Michelle & Sadie!

Michelle DeMey, Donor Development Assistant/Graphic Designer, and Sadie Pile, Children's Advocate, have left ADWAS after contributing their passion and time here for 11 years and 6 years respectively. We wish them good luck in their future endeavors. Patty Liang has joined the Donor Development Department to replace Michelle.

#### **ADWAS' Annual Summer Fun**

This summer in July, ADWAS will have field trips for children who currently receive services at ADWAS. An experienced camp coordinator, Shandra Benito, will lead the field trips. If you are interested in volunteering for field trips, donating supplies/funds, or want more information, you can email libby@adwas.org or call the office at 206-922-7088.

Our goal next summer is to again offer two weeks of camp – one week for children receiving services from ADWAS and one week open to Deaf and hard of hearing children from the community.

#### **Google Volunteers**

Thirty Google volunteers, led by Anna Cavender, showed up during the Google Service Week on Friday, June 6. They spent their community service time at ADWAS repairing children's bicycles, sanding and painting the fence, and sprucing up the landscape. Thank you!

#### Welcome ADWAS Interns

We are excited to welcome our Engaging Deaf Men Project (EDMP) intern, Rob Todd, from Gallaudet University and Direct Services intern, Wilma Dennis, from Rochester Institute of

Technology this year. Rob works with Gabe Wright, EDMP Coordinator, researching, analyzing, and developing a curriculum for allies against violence. He will obtain a BA degree in sociology and hopes to join the Peace Corps after he graduates next spring. Wilma, a Washington native, is pursuing a BA degree in Criminal Justice. She is working with the advocates and is learning how advocacy is applied in the field of



ADWAS was honored along with five other individual programs at the Seattle City Hall by the Seattle Human Services Coalition. ADWAS received the Mayor's Award and Proclamation proclaiming June 5th as ADWAS Day. Since 1993 the Seattle Human Services Coalition, a multi-racial, multi-cultural group of human service providers and concerned community members, committed to helping Seattle-King County residents meet their basic needs. They have honored various individuals and agencies for their work, advocacy, dedication and effort to make a difference in human services.

#### Healthy Relationship Workshops

In May and June, Anna Bracilano, Community Engagement Coordinator, faciliated the Healthy Relationship Workshops in ASL in four cities: Vancouver, Tacoma, Edmonds and Bellingham. There was a significant turnout for each city and the community had the opportunity to learn and discuss different aspects of healthy relationships. The workshops were free of charge. Anna shared that next spring, she will travel to other cities to offer similar workshops. If your community or organization would be interested in hosting a workshop focusing on Healthy Relationship or other topics, please contact Anna at anna@adwas.org for further details.



# Newsletter

Hotline Information If you need help, contact us by any of the following ways:

IM: ADWASHotline Email: ADWAS@ndvh.org

Video Phone Only for Deaf Callers: (206) 787-3224

(Hearing advocates at the National Domestic Violence Hotline are on duty 24 hours TTY: I-800-787-3224 or VOICE: I-800-799-SAFE (7233))

If you live in King County... 24-hour Local Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Line TTY: 1-888-236-1355 24-hours - 7 days a week

**ADWAS** is **NOT** just for Women

Our services are not limited to only women. We also provide services to Deaf and DeafBlind men who have experienced domestic or sexual violence. For more information please contact ADWAS at (206) 922-7088 or adwas@adwas.org.

#### **REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

by signing up to receive the latest news via email. To do so contact Carol Brown at Carol@adwas.org or visit our website: www.adwas.org to opt-in. Remember to validate your email address by clicking the link in the confirmation email sent to you thereby completing the opt-in process.





#### Vagina Monologues



ADWAS hosted its 6th annual play production, *The Vagina Monologues,* written by Eve Ensler for the V-Day Event on

April 18-19, 2014 at the Rainier Valley Cultural Center. This award-winning play is based on V-Day Founder/playwright Eve Ensler's interviews with more than 200 women. Anna Bracilano, play director, shared that this was a great play to bring to Seattle to start the dialogue against violence with the community. The production was accomplished with a combination of 11 novice and experienced actresses and two crew volunteers in five weeks of rehearsals to give two performances. Additionally, five men from the Engaging Deaf Men Project started each performance with "A Man's Prayer" by Eve Ensler on redefining masculinity.

Anna added that it was ADWAS' first foray into this type of storytelling rather than traditional educational skits. In one weekend, 245 people attended. She witnessed the personal growth and deeper reflections among the women involved with the production. By providing a safe outlet to share their personal experiences, the cast and crew were inspired and developed mutual respect and rapport with each other. Sponsored by Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (OCVA): Grant #13-31110-101.

#### Save The Date: Nov 1, 2014 (Auction)

ADWAS will host An Evening of Hope and Justice: Annual Gala and Auction on November 1, 2014. This year it will be hosted at the Bell Harbor International Conference Center on the waterfront!

#### How your old car can bring new life!



Our vehicle donation program is made possible through our partnership with Donate For Charity. When you are ready to donate your vehicle, you may call Donate For Charity toll-free at (866) 392-4483 or donate on-line at their website: www.donateforcharity.com.

If you decide to donate your vehicle:

- It will be picked up free of charge
- It will be sold at auction or older vehicles can be sold for parts
- Proceeds will go to Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services
- You will receive a receipt entitling you to a tax deduction



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