



SPRING 2018

adwas

NEWSLETTER

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HERSTORY MONTH

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to designate March as "Women's History Month."¹ This year's theme is "Nevertheless She Persisted," a phrase referring to the incident in February 2017 when Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) claimed that Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) was giving a lengthy speech and was violating the Senate Floor rules. Senator McConnell interrupted Senator Warren while she was reading a letter penned by Coretta Scott King, gave her warnings, and then she was asked to leave the Senate Floor.

The phrase, "Nevertheless She Persisted," immediately became adopted in hashtags and memes to refer to any strong women who refuse to be silenced. Fighting all forms of discrimination against women takes persistence.² ADWAS recognizes and celebrates all women throughout the year. ▪

APRIL IS
SEXUAL ASSAULT
AWARENESS
MONTH

WELCOME ABOARD! NEW HIRES JOIN ADWAS STAFF

ADWAS is grateful for the generous support from individual donors, foundations, and grants, in order to keep up with the growing needs for domestic violence and sexual assault services in the Deaf and DeafBlind community. ADWAS now has a total of 24 staff members.

Marie Goodman and Ruan Poindexter are the newest additions to the Hotline team. Also, Jory Pedersen is the new Onsite Support staff. Welcome to the team, Marie, Ruan, and Jory!

Last, but not least, Morgan Breese (former Hotline Advocate) joined the therapy department. Congratulations, Morgan!

1. www.womenhistorymonth.gov
2. www.nwhp.org

DANCE PARTY!

**Sexual Assault Awareness
Month: A Dance Party
April 21, 4 - 9PM**

FLUTTER Studios
114 Alaskan Way S. #104,
Seattle WA 98104

Free admission and DeafBlind
interpreters will be provided.

Contact: outreach@adwas.org

DERBY PARTY!

**Spring Social: Kentucky
Derby Party
April 28, 1 - 3PM**

Woodland Park Zoo

Buy tickets here:
[www.tinyurl.com/
ADWASDerbyParty](http://www.tinyurl.com/ADWASDerbyParty)

GIVEBIG!

**Seattle Foundation's final
GiveBIG (help us make
the last one our best!)
May 9, All Day!**

An all day, nationwide online
fundraiser to support nonprofit
organizations in Seattle

More info: www.givebigseattle.org

ADWAS GALA!

**Hope and Justice Gala
October 13**

The Hyatt Regency Lake
Washington (Renton, WA)

An evening fundraiser to
support ADWAS. We are
seeking event sponsors and
table captains. Details will be
announced over the summer.

SUMMER FUN!

ADWAS' Summer Camps
Stay tuned for registration
beginning in April!

- Preschool Camp (Jul 9-13)
- Deaf Camp (Aug 6-9)
- CODA Camp (Aug 13-17)

SUCCESSFUL DONATION DRIVE BY LYNNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

On February 10, 2018, the students from Lynnwood High School's ASL Club hosted a successful donation drive to support survivors and their families residing at ADWAS' supportive housing. The students of the ASL Club along with their ASL teachers, Barbara Hathaway and Heidi Oshie, collected nearly \$2000 in cash and products from local Fred Meyer shoppers. With deep gratitude, ADWAS and its survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault appreciate Lynnwood High School's ASL Club for its support and for making a difference in the lives of those in need. ▪



(ASL Club students spelling out "ADWAS")

FACEBOOK USER DONATES HIS BIRTHDAY TO ADWAS

As Facebookers scroll down their newsfeed to click "Like" or make comments on postings, remembering birthdays is a huge deal for many friends and family members. Since 2017, Facebook has made a handful of new tools to help users celebrate birthdays including setting up an online fundraiser to support causes.³ Facebook inspired Dylan Nulph to select ADWAS as the sole recipient to his birthday fundraiser this year. Dylan posted in his fundraiser, "I couldn't decide which causes to pick, so I've figured this deserved more attention than anything else I could think of." When Dylan's Facebook fundraiser went live in January 2018, he reached his birthday goal and fundraised a little over \$200 to ADWAS in just four days. "You are awesome," said a fellow Facebooker. Dylan is awesome, indeed. Thank you for the support and for celebrating your birthday with ADWAS, Dylan Nulph! ▪

3. <https://venturebeat.com/2017/08/16/facebook-will-now-prompt-you-to-create-a-charity-fundraiser-for-your-birthday-2-weeks-in-advance/>



(Group Photo: ADWAS advocates, volunteer interpreter, and snowboarders posed for the camera.)

CHILL FOUNDATION INSPIRED FOUR YOUNG SNOWBOARDERS

The CHILL Foundation and the ADWAS Children's program sponsored four young snowboarders to learn from the best: the Burton Snowboard Team and a team of volunteers. Not only did the four young snowboarders learn how to snowboard, but they also gained important life skills and increased their self-esteem.

ADWAS Children's Advocate (AJ Williams), ADWAS intern (Kensie Channon), and volunteer interpreter (Marcus Sarrachino) shared their skills with four young snowboarders



at Stevens Pass Resort. It was the first time for the four young snowboarders to ever step foot on a board and shred the mountain! By the end of

the six-week long session of learning how to snowboard and engaging in a variety of discussions about respect, patience, and responsibility, the young snowboarders were busting moves and building relationships on the mountains.

The CHILL Foundation partnered with ADWAS each year to give young children in the Children's program a wonderful opportunity of their lifetime. Thank you, CHILL Foundation, for teaching children to surf the slope and gain important life skills! ▪

FIVE WAYS A DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE AT ADWAS

1 ADVOCACY SERVICES: Advocates support a survivor's journey through the legal system, build self-esteem, and become independent. Donations are used for support groups, family night events, and providing self-care resources to survivors.

2 CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: The Children's Program offers many activities throughout the year for parents and children who are survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Activities such as Word Art Movement (helping teens use art as a form of healing), Homework Club (helping children who need extra help or a safe

space to study), A Window Between Worlds (multiple art workshops to help survivors of trauma express through art), and summer camps are made possible with the help of generous donations.

3 PREVENTION & OUTREACH: ADWAS builds community support, develops trainings and workshops on domestic violence and sexual assault, and works with groups, schools, and agencies. Donations help keep our Outreach events free to all participants.

4 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING: ADWAS' A Place of Our Own supportive housing features 19 individual units of supportive housing

for homeless low-income survivors and their families. The building management team relies on donations for new carpets, paint, furniture, and building materials to keep the building in good shape for years to come.

5 THERAPY SERVICES: ADWAS has two therapists on staff that work closely with survivors to help them process experiences, connect with others, learn to cope, and heal from the effects of trauma. Donations help ADWAS offer free individual, family, couples, and group therapies to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. ▪

NATIONAL DEAF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

Videophone: 1-855-812-1001

Email: nationaldeafhotline@adwas.org

Website: www.adwas.org

The National Deaf Domestic Violence Hotline (NDDVH) is available to Deaf callers across the nation. Deaf NDDVH advocates answer videophone calls, instant messages and emails 24/7. Deaf advocates can listen, provide information and referrals, do domestic violence and sexual assault education and brainstorm with callers on different ways to keep safe and do formal safety planning. Hotline Advocates also provide support, education and technical assistance for hearing domestic violence and sexual assault programs and shelters to improve their accessibility for Deaf survivors who need their services.

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