



Department of Public Safety

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE &
SEXUAL ASSAULT
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For Immediate Release

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State Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Sponsors Second Annual Statewide Prevention Summit in Juneau

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault is bringing together shelter workers, social service agencies and community representatives from across Alaska to strengthen statewide efforts to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

The ***“2013 Prevention Summit: Putting Prevention to Work - Alaskan Communities in Action”*** will take place Tuesday through Friday, Dec. 3-5, 2013, at Centennial Hall in Juneau.

First Lady Sandy Parnell will deliver opening remarks during the Summit opening from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 3, at this important summit aimed at helping Alaskan communities learn more about how to effectively implement local violence-prevention efforts.

“We are so pleased the First Lady is helping us kick off three days of workshops, presentations and sharing about what is working and what more can be done to prevent violence across the

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state,” said Lauree Morton, Director of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. “This is the second year we are able to host this Summit, which we believe is an important part of the State’s and the Council’s efforts to support initiatives aimed at helping Alaskans end violence and learn what choosing respect can look like in individual lives and our communities.”

The summit is one of the cornerstones of the Council’s efforts to support the important work of violence prevention, Morton said.

“Local community prevention programs from across the State will be featured, along with key statewide and national initiatives that have been effective in preventing violence,” Morton said.

“We are especially pleased to have Dr. Dorothy Edwards of the Green Dot program with us again to discuss another of the Council’s key strategies, Green Dot in Alaska. We believe Green Dot in Alaska is a significant new approach to help harness the power of individual choices to mobilize our communities for safety because its focus ranges from teaching skills on how to safely intervene if someone sees violence occurring to helping communities become actively and visibly intolerant of violence.”

Dr. Edwards has been working with communities throughout the last year to lay the foundation for the Green Dot initiative in local communities.

The Summit will also feature updates on ongoing statewide initiatives including: *Coaching Boys to Men*; *Alaska Men Choose Respect*; *The Fourth R* - a school-based prevention program; and cultural-based initiatives to end racism and other root causes of violence.

“There is a lot of excitement about what is happening in Alaska to prevent violence,” said Susan Cushing, CDVSA Chair. “Holding this summit again this year is an important step in ending and preventing domestic and sexual violence in Alaska.”

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