

## 2015 Board Members

Ethel Weinberg, *Chair*  
Kristin Dubrowski, *Past Chair*  
Labrena Aiken Furtick, *Dual Agencies Chair*  
Melissa Nichols, *Sexual Assault Interest Group Chair*  
Jada Charley, *Domestic Violence Interest Group Chair*  
Pam Belkevitz  
Hope Blakely  
Kelli Scurry  
Colleen Campbell Bozard  
Deb Cohan  
Eugene Rugala  
Neil Sondov  
Ashley Cole Story

## 2016 Board Members

Ethel Weinburg, *Chair*  
Hope Blackley  
Colleen Campbell Bozard  
Daniel Brownstein  
Jada Charley, *Domestic Violence Interest Group Chair*  
Shauna Galloway-Williams, *Sexual Assault Interest Group Chair*  
Lynn Hawkins  
Daniel Kadar, *Treasurer*  
Sarah Rand-McDaniel, *Secretary*  
Eugene Rugala  
Kelli Scurry  
Neil Sondov  
Ashley Cole Story, *Chair-Elect*

## SCCADVASA Staff Members

Sara Barber  
*Executive Director*  
Rebecca Williams-Agee  
*Associate Director*  
Portronda Lowery  
*Financial Coordinator*  
Courtney-Christie Paul  
*Community Outreach Events Coordinator*  
Valerie Ekue  
*Member Organization Support Coordinator*  
Katie Reid  
*Advocacy & Outreach Coordinator*  
Damond Ford  
*Communications & Prevention Coordinator*  
Alexis Stratton  
*Evaluation and Training Associate*

## Keeping South Carolina Families Safe

On June 4, 2015, Governor Haley signed S. 3, which introduced sweeping changes to the SC Code of Laws relating to Domestic Violence including:

- Rewriting the offense of "Criminal Domestic Violence" to "Domestic Violence" and creating 3 degrees of the offense, in addition to DV High and Aggravated
- Specific enhancements addressing factors that are seen to increase lethality including strangulation, weapons, the presence of children, and the pregnancy of the victim
- Increased penalties at all levels of offense
- State prohibitions on the possession of firearms or ammunition by someone convicted of domestic violence or subject to an order of protection

In addition to these changes directly addressing the accountability of DV offenders, the law also gives the authority for approval of batterer intervention programs to the Circuit Solicitors rather than DSS. It establishes a Domestic Violence Advisory Committee at the statewide level, the establishment of DV Coordinating Councils by the Solicitors, the inclusion of domestic violence in Comprehensive Health Education in grades 6-8, and allows for Permanent Restraining Orders as a relief for survivors of certain CSC and Domestic Violence crimes.

Bills addressing Human Trafficking were also signed into law during the 2015 session, strengthening our state's response to this growing crime.

- S. 196 expanded the jurisdiction of the State Grand Jury to include crimes involving multi-county human trafficking.
- S. 183 allows for affirmative defense and/or expungement in certain cases where the defendant's participation was the direct result of being a victim of trafficking.

Other pieces of legislation remaining in committee at the end of 2015 will be addressed at the beginning of the second year of this session in 2016.

- S. 524 amends the indecent exposure law to provide that a corrections or detention facility is considered a public place and to provide that sentencing for a violation would run consecutively to any other sentence.

## Advocacy, Collaboration & Education

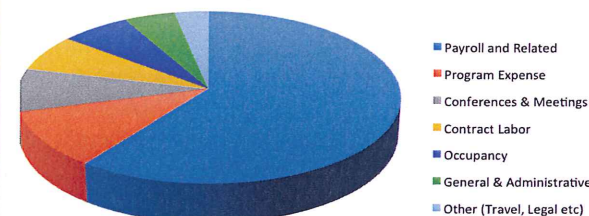
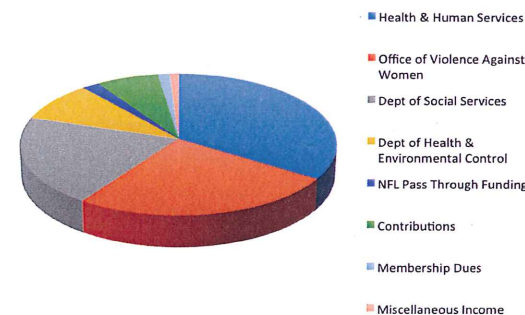
In 2015, SCCADVASA collaborated with national and state partners to provide cutting-edge educational opportunities to professionals on best practices in the field. During the course of the year, SCCADVASA **trained 962 people** in six state-wide trainings, four Victim Service Provider Core Certification Trainings, and two state-wide multi-day conferences. Other training initiatives included:

- Monthly webinars
- Pre-Conference Institute with **DHEC** on the intersections of **HIV & IPV**
- First ever SC conference on **PREA** in partnership with the Department of Corrections
- In-service training model on increasing access to marginalized communities to encourage fruitful dialogue around organizational culture and needs.

SCCADVASA celebrated **new and renewed partnerships** in 2015 and increased collaboration and advocacy opportunities with state allies working for change. The Coalition worked with the **Department of Education** on initiatives for safer schools, standards improvements, and violence prevention/education to change policies that will positively impact youth. New partnerships with the **Department of Corrections** will increase services to incarcerated survivors and participation on the Attorney General's **Human Trafficking Taskforce** demonstrate that SCCADVASA is a true leader in advancing **social justice** in our state.

## Financial Report

Health & Human Services	\$237,111
Office of Violence Against Women	\$176,133
SC DSS	\$141,598
SC DHEC	\$62,482
NFL Pass Through Funding	\$13,200
Contributions	\$47,996
Membership Dues	\$8,817
Training Registration Fees	\$673
State Appropriations	\$4,929
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,407
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$694,345</b>



Payroll and Related	\$416,764
Program Expense	\$73,402
Conferences & Meetings	\$56,692
Contract Labor	\$47,279
Occupancy	\$44,840
General & Administrative	\$32,970
Other Expenses	\$21,857
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$693,804</b>



# Letter from the Executive Director

As 2015 began, there was a growing sense of forward momentum in efforts to make significant and positive changes to South Carolina's response to intimate partner violence. In early January, we stood at the State House with the Attorney General and many other leaders to voice the need for the Legislature to take action to strengthen domestic violence laws, a call that was heeded with the passage of S. 3 in June. At the end of the year, we were at the State House again, this time with Governor Haley, whose commitment to changing the culture around domestic violence in our state has created allies and valuable partnerships.

I am immensely grateful to the Governor, the Attorney General, and the members of the Legislature for their willingness to act and to lend the power of their voices to the movement to end domestic violence, but I am also reminded daily of the power of the work that others do—work that may not be so public, but which transforms lives and communities. The staff of our member agencies are present every day to support people in crisis, answering hotlines, responding to hospitals, providing shelter, and advocating for clients in every system and in every situation. I am also reminded daily of the bravery and strength of victims and survivors. It is for them that we do this work, and it is in honor of their experiences that we search for a better future—a day when we will spend more time on prevention than on crisis intervention.

I work at SCCADVASA because I believe we can end domestic and sexual violence. I am lucky to share my workdays with talented staff whose commitment to this goal pushes them above and beyond the requirements of a regular job. Still, we need all of you, and I ask you to commit to keeping this momentum from 2015 moving forward, through 2016, and ultimately until we are a state where everyone is safe.



## Building Capacity

2015 saw a revitalization of SCCADVASA's capacity building and technical assistance to member organizations. SCCADVASA responded to **725 requests for technical assistance** during 2015 from members, allied organizations and the community at large. A new schedule for **Roundtables**, regular meetings that aim to inspire, motivate, and enable local community organization and coalition staff, was established to provide a space for the sharing of information and examination of issues within specific job roles (**Educators, Shelter, Volunteer Coordinators, Clinicians & Advocates**). Foundation work for the **Women Empowerment Network** was laid so that this leadership development initiative could begin early in 2016.

We continue to work with the Department of Social Services to educate and increase collaboration with member organizations with the goal of improving outcomes for families experiencing domestic violence. **DSS Liaisons** network with each other during their regular roundtables. With the assistance of DSS Domestic Violence Program staff, SCCADVASA staff members are building collaborative working relationships with DSS Regional Directors and are participating on the **DSS Advisory Board**.

We met with every member organization on-site during 2015. Our success is rooted in the work and knowledge these organizations provide in their communities, and our work is informed by an understanding of their diverse needs and how we can continue to best serve them moving forward.

### SCCADVASA Member Organizations

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Beyond Abuse                           | Palmetto CASA   |
| CASA/Family Systems                    | Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault |
| Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse     | People Against Rape                                   |
| Cumbee Center to Assist Abused Persons | Pickens County Advocacy Center                        |
| Family Justice Center                  | Safe Harbor, Inc.                                     |
| Family Resource Center                 | SAFE Homes - Rape Crisis Coalition                    |
| Foothills Alliance Center              | Safe Passage, Inc.                                    |
| Hope Haven                             | Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands                |
| Julie Valentine Center                 | Sistercare, Inc.                                      |
| Laurens County SAFE Home               | The Rape Crisis Center                                |
| MEG's House                            | YWCA of the Upper Lowlands, Inc.                      |
| My Sister's House, Inc.                |   |

### SCCADVASA Affiliate Member Organizations

- 3 Trees Center for Change • Aiken County • Alice Alexis Woman to Women • City of Charleston • Compass of Carolina • Domestic Abuse Center • Family Services, Inc. • Mary's House • New Directions of Horry County, Inc • New Foundations Home for Children • Pendleton Place, Inc • Pure Dominion Ministries, Inc. • SC Legal Services • Division of Victim Services at the SC Department of Corrections • The Parenting Place • Wings for Children • Winthrop University Office of Victims Assistance

# South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

## 2015 Annual Report