



# Women's Advocates

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

## Thank You 'Courage to Fly' Luncheon Guests!

On October 10th our annual luncheon and benefit, "Courage to Fly", hosted over 440 community leaders, philanthropists, and public and business representatives to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month and raise support for Women's Advocates' shelter and services. Thank you to all donors, volunteers, and community partners in attendance!

[Click here](#) to view a playlist of videos either presented at or recorded during our event.



## #PurplePurseChallenge 2018 - Final Days

We're part of a fundraising campaign launched by the Allstate Foundation, where domestic violence organizations compete to raise the most money with the help of their community supporters. The top organizations win bonus donations from Allstate Foundation. The challenge ends on 10/31 at 1pm central.

**How you can help** - Please take five minutes to support Women's Advocates at this link: <http://bit.ly/WAPP2018>.



## Give to the Max 2018

Give to the Max Day is Thursday, November 15th, and Women's Advocates is taking part! We ask YOU and your families, groups, and workplaces to make a gift to Women's Advocates. Several bonus prizes are on the line for participating organizations! Link to our #GTMD18 page: <http://bit.ly/WAGTMD18>



## Six Degrees of Connection Panel Event

On Oct 22nd, Women's Advocates hosted an educational panel on domestic abuse at the Wilder Foundation center in Saint Paul and broadcast it live on Facebook. Attendees heard from panelists in law enforcement, advocacy, midwifery care, sexual health, and therapy about domestic abuse and its far-reaching impacts on the personal and professional lives of the Minnesota community and beyond.

Panelists spoke of a common undercurrent of betrayal, isolation, and grief experienced by many of the abuse victims individuals they had come into contact with. Despite these feelings and the frustration accompanying them, panelists also spoke of hope for the future, outlining strategies that could be used to recognize and prevent domestic violence, including the importance of fostering a warm environment in which victims could disclose experiences of abuse.

As the event concluded, a thoughtful Q&A session allowed for discussion on how community members can continue to take a more active role in violence prevention and advocacy for victims.

A [playlist of videos](#) taken from the livestream of the panel event is available to watch.



## Women's Advocates' Blog Update

Check out our blog post "Make Sure He Doesn't Hurt Another Woman: The Burden of Asking One Victim to Save Another"

"Over the course of the past several months beginning in July, *The Star Tribune* has released multiple installments in their series "Denied Justice," which focuses on the failures of the criminal justice system when it

## How to help for the Holidays!

Each holiday season, we seek community support to fulfill shelter and resident needs, including:

**Adopt a Family:** Provide holiday cheer in the form of gifts for families in our Aftercare program who have recently left our shelter. You let us know the size of family you're able to provide gifts for (estimate \$50-\$75 spent per person). Family wish lists will be provided closer to the holidays. The opportunity to adopt a family is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. After we have fulfilled all wish lists, we ask for help to fulfill our other greatest need, which is Target gift cards for in-shelter families.

**Target Gift Cards** to help shelter residents shop for personal holiday gifts for their families and fulfill immediate resident needs year-round.

**Gifts:** Our priorities for our residents this holiday season include:

- New lounge-wear for women and children (robes, slippers, flip flops, women's and children's pajamas sets)
- New children's toys (contact us for a list)

**Other needed items** include pre-lit Christmas trees, inclusive holiday décor, twin XL bed sheets & blankets, and all sizes of towels.

If you are interested in supporting Women's Advocates this holiday season, contact Tom at [development@wadvocates.org](mailto:development@wadvocates.org) or 651-726-5212 to coordinate.

Our Amazon **Wish List** of new, essential needs items is available: <http://a.co/jkkHfvm>. For the safety and privacy of our staff, shelter, and residents, *deliveries of donation items must be previously approved and scheduled in advance. Unscheduled deliveries will not be accepted.*



comes to sexual violence cases." [Full blog post here](#)



-Art by Maggie Chiang

## Did You Know?

### Assessing danger for victims of abuse:

This Domestic Violence Awareness month, we mourn those we have lost due to abuse. It is imperative that various systems and organizations come together to assess the risks faced by individuals in abusive situations. One of the ways we can do so is by learning about risk factors such as those included on the Danger Assessment, which was created in the 1970s by an academic nurse named Jacquelyn Campbell and updated in 2018. [The Danger Assessment](#) is a 20-item questionnaire designed to predict an abused woman's or mom's degree of likelihood of being killed by their abuser. Women's Advocates strives to provide our community members with information about the risk factors associated with abuse at every [training](#) we offer.

### Weapons as a form of coercion:

Gun violence is often associated with domestic violence. However, oftentimes we hear more about the gun-domestic violence homicide link in murder cases, while forgetting that weapons can also be used as forms of coercive control in abusive relationships that don't end in death. In September, *Cosmopolitan Magazine* [published an essay](#) about domestic violence, focusing on the ways in which abusers display weapons in threatening manners to intimidate their

## How to help year-round

We seek community support to fulfill shelter and resident needs, including:

**Facebook Fundraiser:** You can easily raise awareness and encourage your network to support our cause with just a few clicks. No fees are deducted for donations made on Facebook. Start at [our page here](#) and click "Create Fundraiser."

**Gift Cards:** Gift cards to Target, Walmart, Super America, coffee shops, & local restaurants are useful to help Women's Advocates fill immediate needs for our residents year-round.

**AmazonSmile:** With #BlackFriday and #CyberMonday on the horizon, we want to remind you that YOUR shopping sprees for yourself and loved ones can create REAL impact for your favorite organization(s), including Women's Advocates! All you have to do is start your online shopping [HERE](#), designate Women's Advocates as your charity of choice, and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to us!

Please bookmark the link and use it over the holidays!

*Any questions about volunteering, fundraising, or donating gift cards can be sent to [development@wadvocates.org](mailto:development@wadvocates.org).*

partners, such as by pointing weapons at them, cleaning guns in front of them, keeping a loaded gun in their pocket, and more. *Cosmo* interviewed several survivors about their stories, in addition to several researchers on family violence and directors of domestic violence organizations. This essay helps us recognize how guns can be used as tools of psychological manipulation, in addition to being tools of physical violence.

## Domestic violence factors in the Asian & Pacific Islander communities:

While domestic violence affects all of us regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, and ethnicity, it is important to understand cultural contexts in which abuse may operate. For instance, victims of domestic violence in Asian communities often experience very nuanced forms of abuse, such as having multiple abusers in one home, in addition to struggling with many push-pull factors at once, fears due to immigration status, restrictive cultural norms of secrecy, and more. Experts from the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence collected useful tips for professionals who work with Asian victim/survivors of domestic violence. These tips can be viewed [here](#).

## Quick Links

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Crisis Line: [651-227-8284](tel:651-227-8284)