



Spring 2023

gcadvocates.org

Newsletter

Office: 970-725-3442
24 Hour Crisis Line: 970-728-3412
Email: info@gcadvocates.org



February is Youth Domestic Violence Awareness Month

1 in 10 high school students have been purposefully hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend. Only 33% of teens who were in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse. Violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications by putting the victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior and further domestic violence. (loveisrespect.org)

February brings to light a population we tend to overlook when talking about domestic violence. Maybe in part because we think our teens are too young to experience abusive relationships, or possibly because we don't want to know that our young people are hurting in this way. High school is a huge transition period, often marking first dating relationships and all the feelings and emotions that go along with it. This makes teens vulnerable to not recognizing possible relationship "red flags."

As friends, supporters, and caretakers of youth, we have the crucial role of being aware of this issue and understand that abuse is not the victim's fault. Be present in conversation and have open and listening ears. Of course, you don't have to wait until February to talk about teen dating violence.

If you struggle with finding the right words to say or questions to ask, loveisrespect.org has tips on what to do and how to support someone you know who is in an abusive relationship. Our 24 hour crisis line, **970-725-3412**, is also available to anyone who has experienced partner violence, regardless of age, sex, race, or gender association.

Hello!

I hope 2023 has given you plenty of opportunity to explore our beautiful county in your favorite ways.

As your new executive director, I wanted to briefly introduce myself. I originally hail from Wisconsin (Go Packers!) and my educational background is in Social Work. I moved to Grand County about 5 years ago and I was an Advocates board member prior to accepting this position that I started in August 2022.

I'm truly honored to be serving Grand County in this role. In my short tenure here, the community's support and generosity has shown through and makes me proud to be part of an agency that has been in Grand County since the 1980s.

I look forward to connecting with old relationships and fostering new ones as I grow into this position.

Karen Crabb, LSW
Executive Director



If you're looking for gripping true life stories told by survivors, "Something was Wrong" by Tiffany Reese may be the podcast for you. In Season One, you meet Sara, who tells the story of how she met and fell in love with her ex-fiance, and the aftermath his abuse has had on her life.

Each season features a new survivor and covers other topics outside of domestic abuse. Graphic language and sensitive topics are covered in this podcast, and may be triggering to some.

Who have we been helping?

2022 gave us a true sense of normalcy since the start of COVID-19 by allowing us to engage in many services we were part of prior to the shutdown.

Outreach events were in full swing and we attended 14 community events throughout the year. We were also excited to be able to host a parred down version of Taste of Fall in September. This was our first large fundraiser since COVID began!

In 2022, our crisis line workers and staff took a total of 355 domestic violence and sexual assault calls. We assisted clients with 21 safety plans and helped with 34 restraining orders or legal services. Safe housing was provided for 10 adults and 20 children and we also assisted 3 clients with relocating outside of the county. Additionally, we were able to restart a domestic violence support group for women.

If you would like more information about what Advocates does for our community or have questions about intimate partner violence, please reach out to info@gcadvocates.org. We would love to connect with you!

Special Thank You to our Local, State, and National Grant Funders for their ongoing support throughout the years!

AV Hunter Trust
Board of County Commissioners
Domestic Violence Program
ESG
Fraser Valley Lions Club
Freeport McMoRan

Grand Foundation
Town of Grand Lake
Town of Winter Park
14th Judicial District VALE Fund
VOCA

Happenings

Find us at these upcoming events!

March 6: 6:30p-8:30p Paint and Sip Fraser Fundraiser

Come together at Paint and Sip Fraser, located in Club Meadowridge, for a night of fun and creativity. Paint and Sip Fraser is generously donating their time and talents to Grand County Advocates and all proceeds will be going towards our programs. Wine and light snacks will be provided. Each participant will leave with their own painted creation.



Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased on **Eventbrite.com** by searching: "**A Night with Paint and Sip Fraser and Grand County Advocates**" or use the QR Code above.

April 20: 4p-8p Guest Bartending at Camber Brewing Co.

Camber Brewing Co. in Fraser has invited us to guest bartend! Come by to say hi, learn more about what Advocates does for your community, and sample what Fraser's first brewery has on tap. All tips and 20% of revenue will be donated to Grand County Advocates.

June 3: 5:30p-9p Taste of Spring at Headwater's Center

2023 marks the 20th Taste of event and we would love to have you celebrate with us! We will be featuring food tastings from area restaurants, beer samples from Camber Brewing Co. along with other beer and wine tastings, and a silent auction. Entertainment will be from your favorite local musicians and live auctioneer John Clatworthy.



Tickets for this event are \$90 per person and can be purchased on **Eventbrite.com** by searching: "**Taste of Spring**" or through the QR on the left.

Follow us on Social Media:



Grand County Advocates for a
Violence-Free Community



@grand_county_advocates_co

If you would like to be added to the e-newsletter list, please email us at
info@gcadvocates.org