



August 17, 2006

Dear Batterers Intervention Service Providers,

The Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) is preparing to launch our new initiative for engaging male allies in violence prevention: Beyond Taking a Stand. We are very excited to be partnering with the Batterers Intervention Services Coalition of Michigan (BISCM) in sponsoring our kick-off event. To celebrate the initiative, I am writing to invite you to attend a special reception and dinner at the Lansing Sheraton Hotel on Thursday, September 14, 2006 from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The evening will feature a keynote presentation by the Founder of A Call to Men, Anthony Porter.

Violence against women affects us all: men and women, individuals and families, neighbors and citizens. It jeopardizes our health, safety, and economy. MCADSV is proud to be a leader in providing support and resources to survivors of domestic and sexual violence and the agencies that serve them. MCADSV and our network of individual and community partners such as BISCM have made great strides in community awareness to address domestic violence and sexual assault in our communities.

Over the past several years, we have embarked on groundbreaking prevention focused programs which incorporate an important commitment to increasing the visibility and the role of men in the work to end violence against women and children. This project will focus on opportunities for men who are allies in the work to assume an important role in forwarding solutions toward safe and peaceful families and communities. Following a reception with members and friends of MCADSV, Mr. Porter will share his organization's vision of a national movement of men committed to ending violence against women working together to challenge the social norms that support sexism and violence in our communities.

This unique initiative brings us one giant leap toward fulfilling our mission of ending violence against women. We hope you will join us and other BISCM service providers in this groundbreaking opportunity for change. We also welcome assistance in identifying and inviting additional guests to join us for this very special evening, which includes our very own Apple Blossom Auction. Please review the attached registration form, which provides you with an opportunity to participate and invest in the work of MCADSV. Please call (517) 347-7000 with any questions about the training, evening events, or the initiative.

Thanks again to BISCM and to you for your support of this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Keefe".

Mary Keefe, M.S.W.
Executive Director