

# Pada Passageways

**SUMMER 2009**

**Special points of interest:**

- Save the Date!
- Pada participates in tree planting
- Kids now out of school! YIPEE
- Pada office misses their interns!



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**From the Desk of the Executive Director:**

School is out and summer is here at last! It was a long and cold winter, but the sun is shining and birds are chirping.

Here at PADA we have been "busy as bees" the past several months. We introduced two new staff this winter; Marlo Deshotels-Smith, our legal advocate and Pamela Rumsey, our sexual assault victim advocate. They have both been busy training and meeting folks out in the community. Marlo spends her days meeting with victims and explaining their legal options, such as restraining orders and family court involvement. Marlo has also been busy making connections in the community finding attorneys to represent low-income victims who cannot afford an attorney. The majority of the victims we work with meet the federal poverty guidelines, so free legal help is of great need with our clientele.

Pamela has been buzzing around attending state trainings on sexual assault victim advocacy and reaching out to local

victims to offer support. You may see Pam this summer and fall out in the community bringing awareness to the issue of sexual assault by educating professionals on responding to victims as well as talking with the community and our youth about preventing sexual assault. Pam will be offering a sexual assault victim support group in the fall.

We work closely with the Immigration Project at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to ensure immigrant battered women understand their options.

The Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT), located in Watertown, has completed many group goals to enhance victim services and hold perpetrators accountable. Some of the group's accomplishments include policies and procedures in the Watertown police Department such as creating a stop back program where

a Detective and a PADA advocate "stop back" at homes to reach out to victims. 75% of victims at stop backs are interested in our services.

The CCRT has also brought much community awareness about domestic violence, such as monthly articles in the Watertown times and a cable program that will be aired soon. We are also working like bees about events for October in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness month.

We are seeing the effects of the economic recession in the rising number of calls for services and the reports of more brutality in the home. Our services are more important now than ever! We are proud of the work we do in Jefferson, helping victims in crisis and working to prevent violence in the future. We strive for a more peaceful community and we appreciate your support.

*Amy Venables O'Neil*

**Date Rape Drugs** by Pamela Rumsey, Sexual Assault Victim Advocate/Educator

Any drug that can be used to assist in the commission of a sexual assault is called a date rape drug. They are powerful and dangerous and can be slipped into any drink. Spiking one's drink (or food) can make the victim feel weak, sedated, slurred speech, confused, hypnotic, dissociated, amnesiac, or even make she/he pass out. They often have no color, smell, or

taste, so you will be unable to tell you were drugged. Technically, any substance that renders you incapable of saying no or asserting yourself and your needs can be used to commit rape.

The three most common date rape drugs are: Rohypnol, Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (GHB), and Ketamine Hydrochloride. They are very fast

acting and they leave the victim unconscious but responsive with little or no memory of what happens while the drug is in their system, leaving the victim unaware that they have been raped.

Aside from the indications of sexual activity, the victim may feel, hung-over despite having little or no alcohol; a sense of having hallucinations or very



*“Recently approved for use in North America is an inexpensive test kit”*

## Date Drugs, *cont. from page 1.*

real dreams; fleeting memories of feeling or acting intoxicated despite having taken no drugs or drinking no alcohol; no clear memories of events during an 8 to 24 hour period with no known reason for the memory lapse; and stories from others about how intoxicated you seemed at a time when you know you had taken no drugs, medications, or alcohol.

The drugs are fast acting, usually taking effect in 20 minutes after ingested. Used in a non-alcohol drink or food, it stays in the blood system for 8 to 12 hours. Taken with alcohol, it can last up to 36 hours. Average times seen are in the blood stream for 24 hours and in urine samples for up to 48 hours.

Dangers of the drugs include respiratory depression, coma, and death.

Alcohol (Ethanol) remains the most commonly used date rape drug as it is easily accessible and legal. The victims willingly drink it, and can be encouraged to consume enough to

lose inhibitions or consciousness. Even though the victim agrees to sex, it is still considered rape in Wisconsin as the victim’s judgment was impaired or incapacitated by the alcohol or other date rape drugs.

A person can keep themselves safe by taking these simple precautions:

Don’t accept open drinks (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) from others who you do not know or do not trust; this includes drinks that come in a glass.

When in bars or clubs always get your drink directly from the bartender and do not take your eyes off the bartender or your order; don’t use the waitress or let somebody go to the bar for you.

At parties, only accept drinks in closed containers: bottles, cans or tetra packs.

Never leave your drink unattended or turn your back on your table.

Do not drink from open beverage sources like punch bowls, pitchers or tubs.

Keep your eyes and ears open; if there is talk of date rape drugs or if friends seem “too intoxicated” for what they have taken, get them to leave the party or club with you immediately and don’t go back!

If you feel you want more protection, or you don’t think you can follow the above list on a particular night, you do have another option. Recently approved for use in North America is an inexpensive test kit that can detect the presence of date rape drugs in drinks. This “Drink Safe Technology” or “The Drink Detective” is a package of drink testing strips or coasters that work like the litmus paper strips you used in chemistry class. The strips and coasters change color when coming into contact with a date rape drug. They fit in your purse or pocket and can be used quickly and discretely. More information can be found for these kits at

[www.drinkdetective.com](http://www.drinkdetective.com) or [www.drinksafetech.com](http://www.drinksafetech.com)

## Online Predators *by Pamela Rumsey, Sexual Assault Victim Advocate/Educator*

School is out and this means more children at home, often unsupervised as they use the internet. This also means the online predators are busier than ever, and their numbers are definitely on the rise.

A study published in February, 2008, “Online ‘Predators’ and Their Victims: Myths, Realities and Implications for Prevention,” found that most internet sex offenders are adults who target teens and seduce victims into sexual relationships. They first lure their victims with information about family members, and take the time to develop a trust and confidence of the victims. The youths see these relationships as romantic or sexual adventures. Unfortunately the youth that are most susceptible to this predators, have a history of sexual or physical abuse, family problems, and have tendencies to take risks.

Surprisingly use of networking sites as MySpace and Facebook do not appear to increase their risk of being victimized. It is the online interactions such as talking online about sex to unknown people that increases their vulnerabil-

ity. Most meetings occur through instant messages, e-mail and chat rooms. Online risky behaviors include buddy lists that include strangers, discussing sex online with people they did not know in person and being rude or nasty online.

Guidelines for parents include:

Learn how the internet works and what the dangers are.

Keep the computer in the family room, not the more private child’s bedroom.

Discuss safety issues with your child and use filtering software if necessary.

Ensure that children never reveal personal and Private information about themselves or family members.

Never let children meet an on-line new friend without accompanying them.

Know where and to whom you can report any questionable or suspicious activity.

Check the computer’s history often.



## Thank you

for supporting People Against Domestic and Sexual Abuse (PADA) at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Walk A Mile In Her Shoes event held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 in Fort Atkinson. It was a gorgeous day and a great time! We hope you had fun!!

Together as walkers, volunteers, and sponsors we raised over \$4000 to help domestic and sexual abuse survivors and their families in Jefferson County. We never could have done it without you! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community. We hope you will join us next year for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Walk a Mile In Her Shoes. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Look for your save-the-date postcard in January 2010!

The PADA Board of Directors and Staff

## Just a reminder: Save the date May 1, 2010 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Walk a Mile in her Shoes!"

### The Legal Action Initiative by Marlo Deshotels-Smith, Legal Advocate/Educator

PADA staff is pleased to announce collaboration with a wonderful initiative implemented by Legal Action of Wisconsin. Beginning June 25, 2009, Family law attorney Korey Lundin will be resuming facilitation of various free legal services provided to survivors of both domestic and sexual abuse in Jefferson County. Legal Action attorney, Mary Bednarick will also take over facilitation of the legal clinic held in Waukesha but also recently available PADA clients as well.

Legal Action recognizes the need for its services in Jefferson County. Although funding for this initiative will end in November of 2009, services including legal advice and/or representation for

qualifying clients will continue through Legal Action's Federal General Field grant.

This collaboration will increase the availability of legal assistance to the majority of PADA's clients seeking legal representation, as most do fall below the Federal Poverty Guideline. Speaking for PADA and all of the clients already benefiting from its services, I can confidently say that Legal Action is recognized as a vital resource to both advocates and members of the Jefferson County community!



**Congrats UW-Whitewater Interns!**  
Thanks and hats off to Tami and Kari for graduating from UW-Whitewater. Both were with us their last semester. We appreciate all their hard work and dedication.

*You will be missed!*

## PADA Participates in tree planting ceremony on April 29, 2009



The Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) on Domestic Violence held a tree planting ceremony at City Hall in Watertown to honor National Crime Victims Rights week & the 25th anniversary of the Victims of Crime Act. Amy O'Neil spoke to the group & community about the importance of bringing awareness to crime, specifically domestic violence, in our community. Guests in attendance were Jan Cummings and Carol Rewey from the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

## Battered Immigrants by Alejandra Munoz, Domestic Violence Advocate/Educator

Over the years the immigrant community has increased and changed in Jefferson County. At times I'm amazed to see how it has grown. As the immigrant communities grow many organizations, service providers, and school districts have made changes to better serve immigrants in their communities. Working with immigrant victims of domestic and sexual abuse has its challenges. The language barrier makes it difficult for immigrants to communicate, be informed, and ask for assistance. The lack of understanding of the legal system and their rights are huge barriers for immigrants. Over the years I have seen an increase in Latina clients but things have been changing. Immigrants have become categorized as documented or not documented. Being an undocumented immigrant in the United States today is difficult and scary. Today's immigrants fear living in the United States. Also, today's immigrants fear reporting domestic or sexual abuse to law enforcement. Today the legal status of immigrants is more important than ever. The new changes in immigration policies established in many communities are of great concern to advocates and providers assisting domestic and sexual abuse victims.

Domestic violence is happening in communities. Service providers working with immigrants tell me of cases; and the fears associated with reporting the abuse. Victims that report abuse, feel that their life is threatened, and this makes the choice to call the police difficult. Once the abuse is reported an arrest is made. When an abusive immigrant person has contact with law enforcement and is arrested, there is the possibility of deportation. The victim is left behind questioning whether she did the right thing; wondering how she will survive with her children, pay the bills, and put food on the table.

Undocumented immigrant woman married to a US citizen or resident of the United States experience another kind of abuse. The abuser will use their legal status to frighten and intimidate their victim. The number one threat in their relationship is, states a victim, "I will call immigration if you report me to law enforcement and then I will get custody and placement of the children because I have all rights over you." Can you imagine yourself in such situation? What would you? Where would you go for assistance? PADA always helps anyone that needs assistance, although, in these types of cases, we have to be very cautious and seek legal advice from family and immigration attorneys. Seeking legal advice helps, but doesn't solve the problems. Many times victims are not able to represent themselves. In most cases, the abuser is the one that retains an attorney, making it harder for clients to represent themselves. The lack of available and affordable immigration attorneys makes our job difficult.

The above mentioned issues are a small portion of the issues in the daily life of a battered immigrant woman. There are many more obstacles and dynamics to take into consideration.



People Against Domestic & Sexual Abuse

"Every Home a Safe Home"

P O Box 395  
Jefferson, WI 53549

Business Phone:  
920-674-6748

24 Hour Crisis Line:  
920-674-6768

Toll Free:  
1-800-228-7232.

E-mail:  
pada@idcnet.com



## Where Your Investment Goes

**Yes!** I want to help The People Against Domestic & Sexual Abuse continue to provide free programs and services such as finding emergency shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, childcare, child abuse prevention programming, community education, and a 24-hour crisis line.

I will support PADA and its clients with a contribution of:  
( ) \$500 ( ) \$250 ( ) \$100 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$25 ( ) Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please acknowledge the above gift(s) in ( ) honor or ( ) memory of:  
Send notice to: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL GIFT AMOUNT \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to: **PADA**

### DONOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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# break the pattern

STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Contributors are listed annually. Please check here to remain anonymous.

PADA is a 501 (c) (3) charity and a United Way agency.  
Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

**Please mail to:**  
**PADA,**  
**P.O. Box 395**  
**Jefferson, WI 53549**

