



PRESS RELEASE

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Introducing Violence Free Iowa: The Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

DES MOINES, Iowa – September 17, 2026 – For more than four decades, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) and the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault (IowaCASA) provided statewide leadership to a shared network of victim service provider organizations through trauma-informed training, coordination, and policy change. This work strengthened sexual and domestic violence victim services across the state and unified individual organizations, cross-sector partners, and policymakers in addressing the needs of survivors.

Earlier this year, their boards and leadership announced a collaborative decision to centralize coalition responsibilities at ICADV, including training and education, technical assistance, and policy advocacy representing victim service provider organizations across Iowa.

Today, that work moves forward under a new name – Violence Free Iowa: The Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence.

“The name ‘Violence Free Iowa’ reflects the future we are building for every individual in Iowa – not the problem we are responding to, but the outcome we are working toward,” says Dr. Maria Corona, CEO of Violence Free Iowa. “It is a name that puts the goal first.”

Violence Free Iowa leads and supports a statewide coalition of 25 victim service provider organizations advancing sexual assault and domestic violence prevention efforts, crisis intervention, and long-term stability. Sexual assault and domestic violence remain distinct and equally vital priorities of the organization.

Violence Free Iowa's responsibility in addressing sexual violence has taken shape by onboarding dedicated staff with years of state and national victim advocacy experience, broadening training and technical assistance, and strengthening capacity to support sexual assault prevention, intervention, and response.

Violence Free Iowa carries forward the history and contributions of IowaCASA, as well as its decades-long partnership with ICADV.

“When I think about what made today possible, I think about the relationship ICADV built with IowaCASA over 40 years as our sister coalition,” Dr. Corona says. “IowaCASA brought extensive expertise to sexual violence advocacy in Iowa and nationally, helping shape survivor-centered practices, strengthen services, and advance public policy in impactful ways. That legacy is woven into how we do this work today and will build upon with deep gratitude.”

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Last year, Violence Free Iowa's statewide network of 25 victim service provider organizations served 52,113 survivors impacted by sexual and domestic violence, human trafficking, stalking, child abuse, homicide, and other violent crimes.*

To learn more about Violence Free Iowa or connect with an advocate in your community, visit www.violencefreeiowa.org.

About Violence Free Iowa: The Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Violence Free Iowa leads and supports a statewide coalition of 25 victim service provider organizations advancing sexual assault and domestic violence prevention efforts, crisis intervention, and long-term stability. The coalition strengthens partners through training and education, technical assistance, advocacy, and capacity building, while bringing communities, policymakers, and systems together to improve how Iowa prevents and responds to sexual assault and domestic violence. Together, the coalition and its members are working to create an Iowa where everyone can feel safe, heal, and thrive. To learn more, visit www.violencefreeiowa.org.

* Source: [*FY2025 Victim Assistance Section Annual Report, Office of Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird*](#)