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Member Shelter Programs

The Umbrella
Ansonia, CT

The Center for Women & Families
Bridgeport, CT

Women's Center
Danbury, CT

United Services, Inc.
Domestic Violence Programs
Dayville, CT

Network Against Domestic Abuse
Enfield, CT

Greenwich YWCA
Domestic Abuse Service
Greenwich, CT

Interval House
Hartford, CT

Menden-Wallingford Chrysalis
Meriden, CT

New Horizons
Middletown, CT

Prudence Crandall Center
New Britain, CT

Domestic Violence Services
New Haven, CT

Women's Center of SE CT
New London, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Norwalk, CT

Women's Support Services
Sharon, CT

Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Stamford, CT

Susan B. Anthony Project
Torrington, CT

Safe Haven
Waterbury, CT

United Services, Inc.
Domestic Violence Programs
Willimantic, CT

To: Members of the Judiciary Committee

From: Lisa Holden, Executive Director

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Date: February 24, 2006

**Re: Raised Bill No. 153 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE
INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN
PERSONS.**

**Raised Bill 154-AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK
FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.**

Good afternoon, Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Lisa Holden and I am the Executive Director of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence. I am here today to support Raised Bill 154 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS and Raised Bill 154-AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

CCADV is a statewide network comprised of eighteen domestic violence programs. Our member programs, located throughout the state, provide comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence that include legal and community advocacy, counseling, children's services, and shelter.

For the past year and a half CCADV chaired the Victim Services sub-committee of the Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons. The Victim Services sub-committee was comprised of experts from many victim service fields including sexual assault, domestic violence, immigration, health, faith based and other social service organizations. It was our task to research and create a vision for a victim service delivery system that would address the unique needs of trafficking victims. Outreach to victims proved to be challenging as human trafficking is an “underground” crime and victims are not given access to public places and media.

Today we ask you to continue to support the ongoing work of this important task force. More specifically, we ask for your support of the following next steps in our efforts to reach out to trafficked victims throughout Connecticut. We support:

- a victim security account for the purpose of providing services for victims who require emergency, high security protection;
- funding to the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and the Police Officer Standards and Training Council to develop a training program on trafficking in persons and make such training program available to the Division of State Police within the Department of Public Safety, local police departments and community organizations; and
- ongoing consultation with governmental and nongovernmental organizations to develop recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts by addressing issues such as medical and related professional services, legal services and protections, safe housing and shelter, and protection while in custody.

CCADV remains committed to assist in taking the Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons to the next level.

Thank you.