
ICASA

MOXIE
AWARDS

Recognition Luncheon

*Statewide
Sexual Assault
Conference*

*May 19, 2010
Springfield, Illinois*

2010 HONOREES

“SHOULDER TO SHOULDER”

ICASA is pleased to honor these six stalwarts of the anti-rape movement. Each of the honorees has toiled side by side with rape crisis centers in the effort to improve services to victims of sexual assault; pass legislation to end sexual violence; improve funding for rape crisis centers and several other tasks. Their contributions to the movement have been many and we thank them for their efforts in ending sexual violence and standing shoulder to shoulder with ICASA.

“I REMEMBER THE EARLY MEETINGS PRIOR TO ANYBODY GETTING ANY MONEY AND BEING AMAZED THAT THERE WERE OTHER THINGS GOING ON IN OTHER PLACES. I REMEMBER BEING EXCITED AND SORT OF STARTLED THAT THERE WERE OTHER PEOPLE DOING THIS WORK. WHATEVER LITTLE SUCCESS GOT MAGNIFIED BECAUSE WE WERE ALL STRUGGLING. IT MADE US FEEL COMMITTED TO SOCIAL CHANGE.”

BARBARA ENGEL

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Barbara Engel is a founding mother of ICASA and an inspiration for her lifetime of work to end sexual violence. She served as director of the Chicago Metropolitan YWCA's Women's Services for 11 years, helping formulate many of ICASA's early decisions on governance, funding and organizational structure. She co-founded the Chicago Sexual Assault Services Network and the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network.

In 1983, Barbara was part of a group of advocates that co-authored the groundbreaking Illinois sexual assault legislation. Illinois NOW honored her with an Outstanding Achievement Award for that effort. Since 1991, she has served on the board of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, providing a voice of support for victim service organizations. In 1993, She chaired the the taskforce that wrote the innovative sexual harassment policy for the city of Chicago. In 1999, she co-authored The Chicago Women's Health Risk Study: Lessons in Collaboration.

Today Barbara continues to work on anti-violence efforts, focusing on reforming and transforming the juvenile justice system and strengthening the community's ability to resolve conflicts peacefully. Barbara is a co-founder of the Arab Jewish Partnership for Peace and Justice in the Middle East. Barbara has been honored by a variety of organizations the past 30 years including the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, the City of Chicago, the Women's Bar Association of Illinois and many more. We are honored to call her one of our founding mothers.

DICKELLE FONDA



A founding mother of ICASA, Dickelle Fonda has been involved in ICASA since 1982 and served as the second convener of ICASA's Governing Body. She has stayed in contact with ICASA in a variety of roles including trainer and clinical consultant with five ICASA centers. In clinical practice, she specializes in PTSD work with survivors of sexual abuse, most recently with war veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Dickelle is an active member of the community, helping found several organizations including The Interracial Family Network, Evanston Neighborhood Coalition, North Shore Coalition for Peace and Justice and the POOCH Park Coalition, which built Evanston's first dog park. Dickelle recalls many fond memories from her days at ICASA meetings, especially bringing her infant son to Governing Body in 1985 and having him crawl among and be passed from woman to woman. She hoped he would absorb the positive energy from those meetings and grow into the man she wanted him to be. Today, she is happy to report he did.

NANCY HEALY



Nancy Healy saw a need and went to work to improve emergency room care to rape victims. Out of that passion and persistence came the establishment of the first 24/7 SANE program in Cook County in 2006. Nancy coordinates the program at Advocate South Suburban Hospital. The program has been recognized by ICASA, Cook County and the State of Illinois as a

model program for other hospitals interested in starting SANE Centers. Nancy recognized the need to improve services to victims while working as an Emergency Room Nurse. In 2005 and 2006 respectively, she became certified as an Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. By June 2006 her determination convinced the hospital to establish the 24/7 SANE program.

In 2009, she was awarded the Cook County Victim Service Award by Cook County States Attorney Anita Alvarez. When she isn't establishing ground-breaking programs, Nancy, is a loving mother to son Michael and daughter Erin and likes to fit in a round of golf or a competitive game of racquetball.

JENNIFER HISELMAN



Jennifer has worked for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority for the past 14 years. She spent 10 years as a researcher focusing on crime victimization and crime victim services before taking over as manager of the InfoNet system 2005.

As manager of the InfoNet system, Jennifer is crucial to ICASA's data collection and analysis of that data. She provides technical assistance and works with rape crisis centers to improve the data collection methods. Jennifer holds a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois Chicago. Jennifer's research experience and familiarity with Illinois data sources have made her an expert on data regarding sexual violence in Illinois. If you need numbers, she is the person to call.

Prior to joining ICJIA, she worked as a child care worker for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

RONNIE RIECHGELT



Ronnie Riechgelt of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is a peaceful pool in the turbulent waves of funding red tape. Ronnie serves as Program Administrator for the Victim Services Programs. He is dedicated to getting the necessary funds to the organizations that serve victims and has been a strong supporter of ICASA's mission and local centers. Ronnie began working at ICJIA in 1999. He holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He volunteers at the Center on Halsted and displays his Wisconsin roots by being a life-long Green Bay Packers fan.

CARA SMITH



Cara Smith is a whirlwind of advocacy for victims of crime. She serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy and Communications for Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, focusing on Policy Issues. She was recently appointed to the position of public access counselor, where she will enforce the Illinois Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act. She served for several years as chairperson of the Illinois Sex Offender Management Board. Cara joined Attorney General Madigan's staff in 2003 as policy director and also acted as press secretary. Cara received her bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and graduating from the Loyola University School of Law. She began her legal career as an Assistant Attorney General in the office's General Law Division. She also has worked for the Illinois Department of Corrections and was in private practice.

— IN MEMORIUM —

ELVERA ANSELMO (2010)



ICASA lost one of its founding mothers when Elvera Anselmo passed away on Feb. 7, 2010. In 1980, Elvera was named executive director of Rape Information and Counseling Service (now the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault) in Springfield. She served as ICASA convener in 1981. She was instrumental in pushing ICASA toward becoming a funding pass-through agency, helping secure the first Federal Preventive Health

and Health Services Block Grant being designated through the Illinois Department of Public Health in 1982.

“I was looking at starting and creating concrete tangible products to move the coalition forward,” Anselmo said in 2002. “... In 1980 things were really changing, money was becoming available. I felt and others felt that we needed to show people our ability to create and do what we did really well, and also that we could incorporate a lot of things, not just by radical feminism but by other means. ... To be radical feminists and be able to help a few victims was wonderful, but we needed a bigger impact.”

Elvera helped establish every facet of the organization from personnel structure to decision-making process to funding process to everything in between.

After graduating from Blackburn College, Elvera spent several years traveling and working in Europe, including a trek up the Nile to Tnzania, Kenya and the Sudan where she worked for the United Nations. Elvera later worked for the Arizona Attorney General’s Office, Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging and AARP Arizona. She focused her efforts on protecting senior citizens from fraud and abuse.

She was a courageous and dedicated fighter for equal justice for all. She will be missed.

MOXIE AWARD WINNERS

2009 HONOREES

The 33 ICASA-member Rape Crisis Centers.

2008 HONOREES

Susan Catania, Former State Representative
Sheryl Essenburg, Prosecutor, Sangamon County
Rep. Julie Hamos, Public Policy Wonk
Dr. Candice Kane, Former Director ICJIA
Dr. Paul Schewe, Researcher, University of Illinois Chicago
Velma Williams, Deputy Director DCFS

2007 HONOREES

Young Womens' Action Team, Chicago, IL.
Angela Rose, Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment
Renae McNeal, Actress, Activist, Former RCC staff
Catharsis Productions, Christian Murphy and Gail Sterns
A Long Walk Home, Scheherazade and Salamisha Tillet

2006 HONOREES

Barbara Blaine, Founder and President of SNAP
Michelle Eppel, Survivor and Activist
Samir Goswami, Community Organizer, Former RCC Staff
Kaethe Morris-Hoffer, Civil Litigator for Survivors, Activist
Brenda Myers-Powell, Survivor of Prostitution, Activist

2005 HONOREES

Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Attorney General's Office
Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Sandy Laesch, Growing Strong, Decatur
Shirley Paceley, Blue Tower Training