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## COLORADO COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COLORADO COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RECEIVES \$595,000 GRANT FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

#### **Office on Violence Against Women funding helps states strengthen programs, services and responses to domestic violence**

(DENVER, CO – August 5, 2004) Helping victims of domestic violence around the state just got easier thanks to a \$595,000 grant awarded by the U. S. Department of Justice to the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV). CCADV is a statewide coalition of domestic violence shelters, children’s advocates, legal advocates, and safehouses, dedicated to ending domestic violence in all its forms.

The funding is provided through a Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program administered by the Office on Violence Against Women, which helps states develop and strengthen effective responses to domestic violence. The program encourages collaboration between community organizations and the criminal justice system to create new strategies to assist victims of domestic violence, dating violence, child victimization, sexual assault, and stalking.

“This grant will allow us to really expand CCADV’s statewide rural initiative, said Trish Thibodo, executive director of CCADV. “To say we are excited is an understatement.”

CCADV’s rural initiative provides training and resources for domestic violence advocates, law enforcement agencies, and community volunteers, and focuses on four areas: safety and accountability audits; advanced training; information and technology; and children’s advocacy. CCADV plans to develop a model training curriculum, distribute a children’s advocacy toolkit, and conduct focus groups to make sure they are reaching victims of domestic violence no matter what community they come from.

*Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) - [www.ccadv.org](http://www.ccadv.org) - is a 25-year old statewide, grassroots, nonprofit organization providing resources, education, and training, and serving as a voice to more than 80 members and 60 programs serving some 40,000 battered women and children in Colorado each year.*