

PEACE MATTERS

Fall 2023

KARINA'S BILL: PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

When domestic violence survivors go to the legal system for protection, we must ensure that protection works. The system didn't work for Karina Gonzalez. On July 3, 2023, she and her 15year-old daughter, Daniela were



shot and killed by Katrina's husband, even though she had filed an Emergency Order of Protection (EOP) that could have allowed police to take his firearm away.

Karina's story is tragic, but she is not alone. The risk of intimate partner homicide increases 500% when abusers have guns. Karina's Bill would require removal of abusers' firearms within 48 hours of when an EOP is granted.

That's why the Center is partnering with The Network and other Illinois domestic violence organizations to support passing Karina's Bill. The bill will clarify and strengthen the law to require a firearm be removed from a home when a domestic violence survivor is granted an EOP.

Illinois can protect survivors of domestic violence by:



Requiring firearm removal when a domestic violence survivor is granted certain orders of protection



Preventing abusers from transferring their firearm to friends or family

Join us in urging lawmakers in Springfield to pass Karina's bill to protect survivors of domestic violence by contacting your legislators today!

> Contact Your Legislators

OUR MISSION

"The Center helps people who abuse to stop their domestic violence, take responsibility for their behavior, create healthy relationships, and strengthen their community."

FY 23 CENTER STATISTICS - DID YOU KNOW?

- The Center served 717 clients for 16, 810 hours of service
- 79% of our clients have one or more children, for a total of 1,062 children
- nearly 70% of our clients who started a Beliefs & Skills for Domestic Peace Group completed the full 25-week program

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS! WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!





Welcome to Our Social Work Interns!

This year our five social work interns are assisting with: co-facilitation for partner abuse intervention groups, assessments, case management, and community outreach.



Temuulen Ankhbayar (Dominican University) Temuulen is excited to work with the Center to widen her knowledge on domestic violence and to help individuals impacted by it.



Crystal Boyas (Dominican University) Crystal is an Advanced Standing student seeking a graduate degree in Global Social Work Practice serving immigrants and refugees.



Hong Gyoon Jung
(University of Illinois
Chicago) Hong is very
interested in exploring the
DV field. Though he initially
got his degree in
engineering he found his
passion in social work.



Grace Lester (The University of Chicago) Grace is on the clinical track with an emphasis on transforming justice.





Stefan Liew (The University of Chicago) Stefan is an international student from Singapore. His ambition is to "Create a more egalitarian society built upon mutuality, instead of oppression and dominance."