



# Georgia Commission on Family Violence

## GCFV Family Violence Task Force Newsletter March 2019

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED FOR 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The theme for GCFV's 25th Annual Conference is *25 Years Ago to 25 Years Ahead: Supporting Survivors and Restoring Hope*. In light of that theme, our conference keynote speakers are:

**Monday, September 9th:** [Vanessa McNeal](#), an award winning documentary filmmaker and speaker on human trafficking and male sexual violence

**Tuesday, September 10th:** [Melissa Jeltsen](#), a writer and editor for The Huffington Post, who writes about gender-based violence

**Wednesday, September 11th:** [High Point North Carolina Collaborative](#), an inter-agency, community-based model of ending domestic violence by holding offenders to account in the public square and private

Please join our email list to be notified when registration opens!

### COMMISSION MEMBER SPOTLIGHT Colonel Thomas Barnard



*As a 25 year veteran of the Department of Natural Resources, Col. Thomas Barnard has been a GCFV Commission Member since 2018. He offers some insight on how domestic violence affects his agency:*

**How does domestic violence impact the work at the Department of Natural Resources?**

DNR Game Wardens encounter domestic violence situations in their normal patrol duties. DNR also regularly assists other agencies when responding to DV calls.

**How has your appointment to the Commission benefited your work at the Department of Natural Resources?**

My appointment has broadened my knowledge on statewide DV stats as well as the predictors leading up to DV incidents. It has highlighted the critical need for good data statewide as this is an important tool in developing the proper response to help end domestic violence. I was also amazed at the various organizations both private and public that work in tandem to comprise the much needed "coordinated community response". **(continued, page 2)**

**The GCFV conducted domestic violence training for game warden professionals around the state last year. Has there been any lasting impact on the agency as a result of those trainings?**

Our agency is currently developing a more in depth policy that addresses our response to DV incidents, as well as meeting the reporting requirements. The training not only reiterated the predictors of DV but it also shined the spotlight on the community response. We are a part of that community response and now have a greater working knowledge, making us a more viable partner. \*



## **Monthly Task Force Leadership Call**

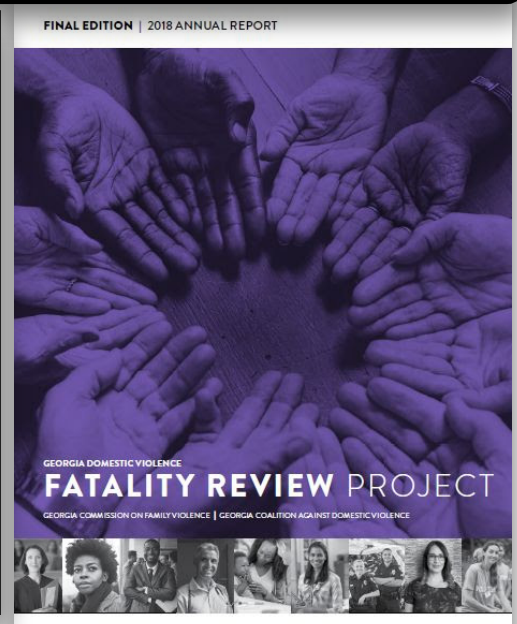


**Please join us for our monthly Task Force Leadership Call, held the 3rd Thursday of each month, from 12 - 1 pm. Task Force leaders discuss Task Force issues, questions, and upcoming events around the state. It's a great chance to find out what other Task Forces are doing, and to get ideas to take back to your community. Please contact Stacey Seldon for more information .**

## **RESOURCES FOR FINAL EDITION OF ANNUAL FATALITY REVIEW REPORT (2018)**

A supplement to the 15th Annual Report of the Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project is available to download. The supplement provides aggregated data from January 2014 through December 2018. It includes a per capita map of domestic violence related deaths in Georgia, as well as charts which illustrate those deaths by county and cause of death during the five year period.

If your Task Force would like a presentation on the Final Report, please contact Niki Lemeshka.





## DON'T FORGET...

You can visit GCFV's News and Events page to view information about domestic violence trainings happening throughout the state.

Learn about our past and current conferences, read press releases, and view our Domestic Violence in the News page.

Click on the picture to view the News and Events page on GCFV's site.



## SAVE THE DATE

**25th Annual Family Violence Conference**  
**The Classic Center**  
**Athens, Georgia**  
**September 8 -11, 2019**



**NEED  
HELP?**

If you have any questions, or or need support for your Task Force, please contact Stacey Seldon.