

<http://www.nnedv.org/news/nnedv/808-nnedv-marks-100th-anniversary-of-international-womens-day.html>

For Immediate Release: March 8, 2011

Contact: Brian Namey, bnamey@nnedv.org; 202-543-5566

National Network to End Domestic Violence Marks 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day

Washington, D.C. – The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) today recognized March 8 as International Women's Day. Today marks the 100th anniversary of this special day when the world over honors the political, economic and social achievements of women.

“International Women's Day underscores the many accomplishments of women all over the world,” said Sue Else, president of NNEDV. “Women created the movement to end domestic and sexual violence decades ago and have worked to save so many lives ever since.”

USA Today is commemorating the 100th International Women's Day with a special insert on newsstands this week. Included in it is a guest column (http://doc.mediaplanet.com/all_projects/6574.pdf) by Else (page 22) on the critical importance of investing in services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

“While Congress is considering extreme budget cuts for many federal programs, victim advocates continue to make the case for an increased investment in lifesaving programs that help victims and hold perpetrators accountable,” Else wrote. “Any cuts would put lives in the balance and would be a recipe for disaster for women and children.”

The first International Women's Day events were held in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland in 1911 and more than 1 million people participated. Today, International Women's Day has become recognized globally and celebrated across many countries.

NNEDV will recognize women's innovative leadership at the 2nd World Conference of Women's Shelters (<http://www.worldshelterconference.org/>) in 2012 in Washington, D.C. It is anticipated that 2,500 domestic and sexual violence victim advocates from 75-100 nations will connect, learn and share with one another.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, NNEDV is asking its supporters to consider making a contribution

(<https://www.kintera.org/AutoGen/Simple/Donor.asp?ievent=469672&en=jeKFINPoF6JMLOMjH9KHJVoyEeJQKYPxFdLNI3OIH>) to help victim advocates from around the world attend this one-of-a-kind conference.

###

NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit www.nnedv.org.