Dear Friends of NNEDV,

The Board of Directors of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is pleased to share that we have selected national women’s rights advocate Kim Gandy as NNEDV’s new president and CEO.

Kim comes to NNEDV with a proven track record of leading national organizations that seek to raise awareness about the prevalence and impact of violence against women, while bringing about legislative reform and equal protection under the law. A native of Louisiana, she served as an Assistant District Attorney in Orleans Parish, during which time she gained particular insight into the systemic challenges facing survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. In addition to serving domestic violence survivors pro bono in private practice, she went on to author Louisiana’s first Domestic Abuse Assistance Act. Kim was a founder and director of the New Orleans Metropolitan Battered Women’s Program and co-founded Louisiana’s first transitional women’s shelter — Metropolitan Battered Women’s Program’s first shelter — a facility that still thrives today.

Many of you may be familiar with Kim’s work in helping to pass the Violence Against Women Act in 1994. However you may not know that since serving two terms as president of the National Organization for Women (NOW), she has been vice president of and general counsel of the Feminist Majority and the Feminist Majority Foundation, where she led a successful campaign to change the FBI definition of rape. During her work with both organizations, Kim was also a guiding force in many landmark cases and legislative gains such as the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act.

Additionally, Kim’s experience includes leading or co-coordinating 14 national, state and local coalitions and alliances. As NOW’s CEO and CFO, she managed multi-million dollar budgets and raised more than $90 million in donated funds. She has also built and recruited highly talented teams with proactive personnel and retention strategies. She has broad networks inside and outside of government, including exceptional relationships with members of Congress, cabinet members and White House staff. She is active in the non-profit community, serving as board chair of media reform organization Free Press; as board member of Legal Momentum, the women’s legal defense and education fund; on the advisory committees of Ms. Magazine; and on the boards of both the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.

Kim is well-equipped to fulfill NNEDV’s need for an effective national spokesperson and communications leader. A widely sought-after media commentator, she has participated in more than 400 major media interviews with news organizations such as TIME, Newsweek, CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX and NPR, and has appeared on programs including “The Colbert Report,” “Oprah” and “The O’Reilly Factor.”

Because she shares a passion and energy for the cause that is already well-established among our staff and membership, we are confident that Kim is the right leader at the right time. We ask you to join us in welcoming Kim into the family as we work toward the day when domestic violence against women no longer exists.

Sincerely,

Victoria Dinges
Chair, Board of Directors
National Network to End Domestic Violence