



THE VOICE

Community Advocates for Family & Youth

Community Advocates for Family & Youth sponsors a **Safe Place**

With summer here, our hearts turn to safety. The Summer Edition of "The Voice" seeks to offer ideas, opportunities and actions to help keep everyone safe.

Summer means our children are out of school, going to summer camps, community playgrounds and pools, teens are working summer jobs, traveling solo, or hanging out with friends while others maybe home surfing the internet all day. Each of them needs to be safe. Let's keep our youth safe by knowing where they are; what they are doing, who they are with, and what internet sites they are visiting on the web and many other ideas are shared in this edition.

We must also remember our elderly. Threatened with neglect, abuse and now identify theft; they need help to be safe. Many of these incidents are largely under-recognized or treated as an unspoken problem. We can all reach out, keep a watchful eye and report. Raising awareness of elder abuse and neglect is a challenge and no effort is too small. We can hold educational programs or use information technology. Any activity that aims to create awareness of elder abuse and neglect is needed.

We encourage everyone to act as our "brother's keeper" this summer, individually and collectively.

Consider some of the statistics occurring everyday:

- 1 in 6 boys and 1 in 3 girls are sexually assaulted before age 18
- On average, 2 people are murdered every hour and the crime is witnessed by children
- 163 violent victimizations against 12-17 year old students occur every hour on school grounds
- 67 women are victimized by an intimate partner every hour
- According to the 2000 Uniform Crime Report in Maryland, while rape is an under-reported crime, 1,508 forcible rapes were reported
- According to recent research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2003, one in 11 adolescents report being a victim of physical dating violence each year
- According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, only 1 in 14 incidents of abuse are reported.
- 5 million Americans age 65 and older are victims of financial abuse each year.

Many of these cases can be prevented by raising awareness, educating the public on what victimization is and supporting them through the process if they become a victim.

CAFY's commitment is to educate, empower and embrace survivors. We will continue to partner with youth, parents and adults to educate victims on how to be an effective witness. CAFY is growing our relationship with the community by taking our support to the next level. We have established a **SAFE PLACE** for survivors - Teens, Parents and Adults - to talk about victimization and other topics.

JOIN US every 4th Thursday evening at Prince George's Community College, when CAFY sponsors a **SAFE PLACE** for Survivors of Crime to meet, listen, obtain information, support one another or share their stories about:

- Being a Survivor
- Making Choices
- Healthy Relationships
- Safety Tips

Keep safety in mind as we enjoy the summer. If CAFY can help, contact us at 301-390-4092.

Arleen B. Joell
Executive Director

CAFY's Vision

To help victims become confident and empowered survivors by holding offenders accountable. To have a shared sense of responsibility and community awareness through continuous education and an advocacy-minded judicial system.

Mission Statement

To Educate, Empower and Embrace victims as they speak the truth on their journey to justice.

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Youth "Shout Out" for Victim Awareness



Coming Soon.....
September 2006
 Entertaining and Educating Youth on the Dynamics of Victimization



Identity Theft

One of the most recent crimes plaguing adults of varying ages is Identity (ID) Theft. **Identity theft** is a crime in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person's personal data, in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain. ID Theft has no age, gender or race bias— everyone is vulnerable. CAFY hopes the following information will help you better understand ID theft and how to avoid becoming a victim.

**"But he that
filches from me
my good name
Robs me of
that which not
enriches him
And makes me
poor indeed."**

**-Shakespeare,
Othello, act iii.
Sc. 3.**

Receive **FREE** annual credit reports from the three principal credit reporting companies: Equifax, Experian and Trans Union. To obtain your **FREE** Annual Credit Reports, log on to:

www.annualcreditreport.com

How easy is it for criminals to commit ID theft Criminals may engage in the following acts to steal your personal data:

1. **"Shoulder Surfing"** - - watching you from a nearby location as you enter your debit/credit card number for purchases.

2. **Listen** in on your conversation when you give your credit-card number over the telephone to a hotel or rental car company.

3. **"Dumpster Diving"** -- going through your garbage cans or a communal dumpster or trash bin -- to obtain copies of your checks, credit card or bank statements, or other records that typically bear your name, address, and even your telephone number.

4. Emailing **"Spam"** (unsolicited E-mail) that promises some benefit but requests personal data and/or money.

Make it difficult for criminals to assume your identity, just remember the word "SCAM":

S - Be **Stingy** about giving out your personal information to others unless you have a reason to trust them, regardless of where you are.

C- **Check** your financial information regularly, and look for what should be there and what shouldn't. Review checking and savings account statements for accuracy.

A - **Ask** periodically for a copy of your credit report.. Your credit report should list all bank and financial accounts under your name, and will provide other indications of whether someone has wrongfully opened or used any accounts in your name. .

M - **Maintain** careful records of your banking and financial accounts. Retain your monthly statements and checks for at least one year. In case you need to dispute a particular check or transaction- - especially if they purport to bear your signatures.

If you've become a Victim Of Identity Theft:

1. Contact the [federal Trade Commission](http://www.ftc.gov) to report the situation. [Online](http://www.ftc.gov), By telephone toll-free at 1-877-ID THEFT (877-438-4338) or TDD at 202-326-2502,
2. Contact the [Social Security Administration](http://www.ssa.gov) if you suspect that your Social Security number is being fraudulently used (call 800-269-0271 to report the fraud)
3. Contact the [Internal Revenue Service](http://www.irs.gov) if you suspect the improper use of identification information in connection with tax violations (call 1-800-829-0433 to report the violations).

4. Contact all creditors with whom your name or identifying data have been fraudulently used. Information The United States' Department of Justice website

5. Contact all financial institutions where you have accounts that an identity thief has taken over or that have been created in your name but without your knowledge.

* Derived from the United States' Department of Justice

Internet Safety

The news media has brought our attention to sexual predators stalking our children via the World Wide Web. The perpetrators range from the friendly 'boy next door' to high ranking government officials. Before, you allow the computer to baby-sit your child, remember these simple internet safety guidelines courtesy of AT&T:

Know where your children surf online. Use parental controls link to new page to monitor the Web sites your children visit and their online usage. Parental Controls allow you to filter, block and monitor Internet usage.

Make the Internet a **family activity** — go online with young children and talk to teens about what they do online and who they

communicate with on the Internet.

Talk about Internet risks. Ask your kids to tell you if they come across confusing or inappropriate content or if someone they meet online makes them uncomfortable.

Put the computer in a public place. Limit Internet surfing to areas like the family room, where children will be less tempted to visit sites that are off limits.

Explain why we use passwords. Tell your children why they should never to share their passwords ... not even with friends.

Emphasize that the Internet is a public place.

1. Explain to your kids that chat rooms and discussion boards are often anonymous, and some people may be pretending to be someone they are not.

2. Remind your kids to never give out information on the Internet such as their name, address, telephone number, name of school or any details about their family.

3. Tell kids never to agree to a face-to-face meeting with a stranger they met online. Explain to them the potential risks in such a meeting.

4. Teach Internet etiquette. Talk to your kids about never using inappropriate language online or sending hateful messages to other people.

-CAFY thanks AT&T for the Internet Safety Tips

Safety in One

Traveling alone this summer? Travel smart by following these "Safety In One" tips:

Use Reputable Transportation such as Hotel/ airport shuttles and taxis.

Map Out Your Trip - Have a travel 'plan of action' and a map.

Don't Settle For Just Any Hotel: Check hotel ratings and reviews.

Pack 'light'- This equates to no 'checked luggage' and less chance for stolen luggage.

CAFY wishes you Safe Travels this Summer !!

2006 DONORS Thank you to the individuals, groups and foundations that support us financially and with in-kind gifts. Your gifts enable us to continue the work of educating and empowering victims of crime become survivors.

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Coalition of 100 Black Woman

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!!!SENIORS BEWARE!!!!

There are dishonest people pretending to be social workers, agency or church volunteers so that they can get inside your home and steal your personal information, credit cards, money and other valuables.

Please follow these simple tips:

1. Do not let strangers in your home!
2. Don't judge a book by its cover – well dressed people commit crimes and so do women!
3. If you have not called or signed up for social services, free groceries or medical attention, do not let a stranger convince you that you

need their services.

4. If you have called for services, check the person's identification before they enter your home. Ask them to press the ID card against the window or slide it under the door. **DO NOT TRUST A CHAIN LOCK, IT CAN BE EASILY BROKEN WITH ENOUGH FORCE!**
5. Never let anyone know that you live alone or are at home alone.

6. As soon as a stranger appears, call a trusted neighbor and ask them to watch your home. Remain on the phone with them until the stranger leaves.

7. WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL 911.

- Courtesy of the Atlanta Police Department - Atlanta, Georgia

Dear CAFY Volunteer,



This year's theme for National you. It is as if they knew about empower, & embrace victims of fitting sentiment for the giving of contribution is direct client services, a writer, or support what you do makes a difference in the lives of the people we touch. Your willingness to give of your time, talent and energy is a gift that many victims don't always receive and often are surprised by it. Your willingness to say yes to requests is what makes it possible for this our small non-profit to serve so many survivors of crime - over 175 in 2005! It is your participation and commitment to CAFY that makes my job a delight. I am humbled by your spirit and grateful that each of you are a part of my life. I thank you for all the clients you called, all the mailings that were done, all the Court Education Programs that were facilitated, the support groups that were started, the trainings sessions that you participated in, the grants that were written, the sponsorship soliciting that was completed, and every tasks that you contributed to making our program a success - Thank You!. Let me also pass on the many thanks you I have received from clients, agencies, and team members for everything you do.

Volunteer Week is a perfect fit for each of your daily contribution to educate, crime. Inspire by Example - what a yourselves to help. Whether your

Thank you. I to am daily inspired by your example.

Arleen

Arleen B. Joell
Executive Director

Community Advocates for Family & Youth

A 501c3 IRS tax exempt organization dedicated to assisting victims of crime to regain control of their lives after the trauma of crime. Our mission is to improve the outcome for victims by helping them prevail through advocacy, education, and support.

Our Core Services

Victim Services: We act as a 'Constant Link' through the criminal justice process offering case management, court companionship, court preparation, and victim impact statement assistance. CAFY is currently working on forming Victim Impact Panels.

Restoration Session: Through discussion and mediation session we facilitate reunification sessions for families with at-risk youth or youth returning from victimization or detention.

Outreach Education: For Youth and Families; We provide Community education such as:

- Youth Court Education and Parent Court Awareness
- Adult Courtroom Education Sessions
- *Helping Youth Succeed in Court*
- *Identity Theft for Seniors*
- Knowing Your Rights

CAFY Events

Safe Place— Support group meetings for Youth and Adult victims. Sessions are held at the Prince George's Community College-Marlboro Hall Room - 2058. [Please call CAFY to register.](#)

June 22, 2006 and July 27, 2006 - 7PM

Youth Court Education Program—To educate youth between the ages of 4-17 on what it means to be a witness in the judiciary system. The next session is **September 16, 2006**. If you are working with youth who will be witnesses in a Maryland or DC court, you can register them for YCEP. Call or email to register your youth.

Adult Courtroom Education - To educate adults, 18 and over, on becoming an effective witness and courtroom protocol. The next session is **July 22, 2006**.

CAFY Volunteers— If you are interested in giving back to your community, Volunteer with CAFY, call for information. Training begins October, 2006.

Contact Us:

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