

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 23rd, 2024

Contact: Jennifer Pollitt Hill Executive Director Jphill@mnadv.org

## MARYLAND NETWORK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOSTS ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE MEMORIAL SERVICE

ANNAPOLIS, MD – On Monday, February 26th, 2024, from 4:00 – 5:15 pm, the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) will hold its Annual Domestic Violence Homicide Memorial Service, a poignant event aimed at remembering those who lost their lives to intimate partner violence in 2023. The virtual service is open to the public via ZOOM with registration and will also be livestreamed via Facebook.

Tragically, in 2023, Maryland has confirmed at least 38 lives lost to intimate partner violence. These individuals, encompassing diverse ages, genders, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, races, and ethnicities, represent the profound impact of domestic violence on our communities. Beyond the intimate partner victims, the fatalities included bystanders, abusive partners, and those whose circumstances are still under investigation due to pending legal action.

In addition to honoring the victims, the Memorial Service will pay tribute to the friends and families left behind, including at least 32 children affected by these devastating losses. The goal of the service is to shed light on the severe toll domestic violence takes on our communities and to foster awareness.

During the memorial, MNADV staff will read the names of those lost to domestic violence homicides in 2023, providing a somber yet impactful acknowledgment of the lives cut short by these tragic events. Attendees, including loved ones of the victims, domestic violence advocates, educators, faith leaders, law enforcement, medical and mental health professionals, legislators, prosecutors, and community members, will participate in the solemn remembrance.

To attend this significant event, which is free of charge, we kindly ask participants to register in advance by clicking here.

For further information about the event or MNADV's mission, please visit: <u>https://www.mnadv.org/annual-memorial/</u>



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The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. The Network accomplishes this goal by providing education, training, resources, and advocacy to advance victim safety and abuser accountability.

