

SAVE THE DATE

Dwa Fanm's
Survivor Advocacy Board

Celebrates

Domestic Violence Month

“WALK A DAY IN MY SHOES”

OCTOBER EXHIBIT

<http://dwafanm.org/>

Anansi (Araignée)

Sometimes Lives In Houses

Patrice C. Queen



\$20.00 Donation

POETRY

CD © 2000

All proceeds
to Dwa Fanm
Survivor
Advocacy
Board



PatriceCQueen@msn.com

Best CD Compilation Award 20002 Denver Urban Spectrum



Dwa Fanm

Survivor Advocacy Board

S.A.B.

The Survivor Advocacy Board (SAB)
was developed in 2000 to ensure
that abused and surviving women
have leadership and input.



Dwa Fanm

Girls Empowerment Program



Dwa Fanm created a Survivor's Advocacy Board (SAB) to bring the unique knowledge and perspectives of survivors of violence into Dwa Fanms's vision and governance. Since its inception, SAB has played a leadership role in advocating for the rights of women and girls in the Caribbean immigrant community while cultivating a culture of leadership within this population.

Dwa fanm, Inc. is a human rights organization committed to empowering all women and girls with the freedom to define and control their own lives. In keeping with our mission to provide girls with the necessary resources to fight discrimination and abuse, while empowering them to reach their fullest potential, we are delighted to introduce our Girls Empowerment program. GEP focuses on teaching children gender equity and teaching girls to be empowered. Dwa Fanm runs a personal safety program that provides girls with preventive information, skills and support that they need to keep safe from sexual abuse

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Dwa Fanm is fortunate to have a group of individuals who have personal experience with domestic violence, a vital component of our organization serving on our Survivor Advocacy Board. SAB members have all participated in the organization's programs and have developed their leadership skills through training relating to community organizing, advocacy and human rights as it pertains to violence against women. The Survivor Advocacy Board was developed to ensure abused and surviving women have leadership and input in the general operation of the organization and especially its domestic violence programs. The Survivor Advocacy Board advises Dwa Fanm and community partners as well as leaders in the needs of abused women in the community. SAB Provides input to Dwa Fanm in our decision-making regarding policy, system failure and direct service programs relating to domestic violence, immigration, and the welfare of black immigrant women.

Dwa Fanm Survivor Advocacy Board provides an integral part in developing media projects. Dwa Fanm is the first Haitian organization to work with survivors of violence in New York City to develop bilingual public service announcements (PSA's). The 60 second PSA's, focused on domestic violence education and the identification of victim's assistance resources and was distributed to Caribbean radio and television in NYC. In addition it addressed the issue of Restavek (a system of child slavery) in the Haitian community. More recently Dwa Fanm worked with Director Michele Stephenson and created the documentary "Reclaiming Peace" which follows the lives of two women former clients of Dwa Fanm. SAB has played a major role in advocacy for issues that directly impact the communities that we are part of. The Survivor Advocacy Board has successfully advocated for the King's County Family Court and Manhattan Family Court to translate its materials into Haitian Creole, and making them available to the public. These materials can now be found in all the family courts in all five boroughs of New York City. SAB meets weekly at Dwa Fanm's main office in Brooklyn. As an organizing body SAB has provided an outlet to increase our community perception of cultural norms that creates silence with victims in the Caribbean community, through Radio Shows victories have occurred through dialogue for change over the years.

The Survivor Advocacy Board will organize a Domestic Violence Awareness Month Campaign in the month of October. New School is a future partner in this endeavor. A press conference will launch the month and should highlight the policy updates that affect domestic violence survivor as well as a campaign to bring awareness to the struggles of the movement. We will address steps that the community can take to end violence against women, and recognize educational workshops occurring throughout the month. Our trademark exhibit “Walk A Day In My Shoes” will once again be a staple of this month,

S.A.B continues to plan the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence to occur in the Caribbean and African Communities in collaboration with the Women’s Global Leadership Institute. The campaigns includes November 25th, International Day Against Violence Against Women; December 1st, World AIDS; December 6th, the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre and December 10th, International Human Rights Day each year; via the internet, we have engaged men and women in discussion groups, poetry contest, story sharing, and other activities. The campaign is a call to the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls.

Activities within SAB

- **Life Skills** – computer basics, financial management for survivors, healthy relationships, self care, goal setting, time management and safety planning.
- **Policy Advocacy**
- **Art for healing** – drawing, poetry, painting, community discussion on how to make social changes to improve the life of women and children in the immigrant community through art.
- **Activity planning** – Using events through the year to do advocacy.
- **Ongoing planning** for Haiti relief concerning rights of women and

girls and the conditions they live in. Ensure safety and security for women in Haiti.

- **Educational forums** on what is domestic violence and the cultural attitudes we must question to create new norms in society.
- **Radio Program** – increase our participation and community involvement.
- **Community Partnerships** – tabling at events and public speaking through the year.
- **Online advocacy** and media planning
- **Staff development** to ensure best practices
- **Walk a day in my shoes Exhibit**
- **16 days of Activism** (Against Violence Against Women)
- **Promoting survivor advocacy** through empowerment and skill building and promotion of SAB within Dwa Fanm and community allies

Data collection and research for the purpose of advocacy.

SAB New Activities for 2011.

- Human Rights Surveyor’s training
- Human Rights documentation project.
- Represent the survivors at task force meetings and community board meetings.
- Review the Creole materials at Kings County Family Court and Manhattan Family Court.
- College campus and churches outreach project.
- Creating a Media response team for when there is DV in the media Via press conference, letter writing campaign etc.