

jana's CAMPAIGN™

SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER



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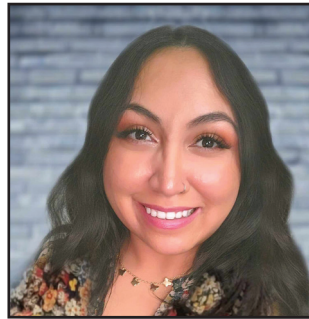
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Jana's Campaign Welcomes Two New Staff Members



Whitney Gerstner, a native of Hays, serves as the Operations Manager. Drawing on her education from Fort Hays State University and her involvement in Hays' civic activities, Whitney brings a wealth of experience and dedication to her role. In her role, she oversees financial management, grant reporting, and marketing initiatives. Outside of her professional responsibilities, Whitney actively volunteers with Hays Young Professionals, illustrating her passion for community engagement. "As a Hispanic woman, mother, and native of Hays, my goal is to create a safe and inclusive community in Hays and the surrounding areas for all people to grow up in, especially for young children like my daughter. Jana made a positive impact in Hays and across the nation. I strive to push the powerful movement she built forward every day."

Larissa Whitney, serving as the Education and Prevention Specialist, delivers tailored educational programming to both students and community members. Larissa holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Fort Hays State University. With twelve years of experience as an elementary teacher, she has imparted knowledge to middle and elementary school students in Larned and Hays, Kansas. Larissa's commitment to combatting gender and relationship violence was ignited during her time as a Weekend Shelter Advocate. "In my time as an educator and as a shelter advocate, I saw the need for violence prevention. When I learned about *Jana's Campaign*, I immediately wanted to be involved! It is an honor to share Jana's story and join the call to action. This important work provides programming everywhere, rural communities included. I'm eager to share information and tools that will help prevent gender and relationship violence with teenagers, my teenage daughter included."



HIGHER EDUCATION

Three Upcoming Regional Campus Safety Summits

Campus Safety Summits are regional and affordable conferences that bring together representatives from all aspects of campus life to facilitate the exchange of best practices, strategy discussions, and mutual learning opportunities. Campus leaders are encouraged to develop a team of key stakeholders to create a comprehensive and coordinated approach to preventing and responding to gender-based violence at their institutions.

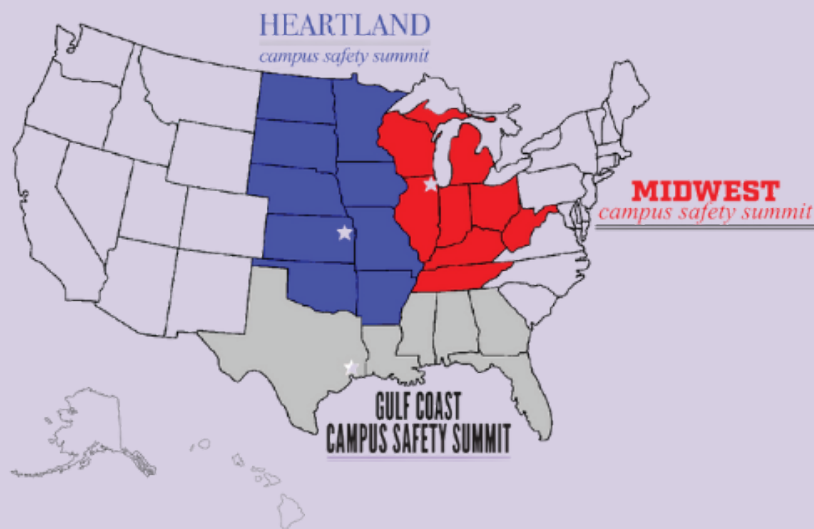
Join us at the three upcoming Summits:

Gulf Coast Campus Safety Summit – September 10-11 – Houston Community College – Houston, TX

Midwest Campus Safety Summit – October 2-3 – Husch Blackwell – Chicago, IL

Heartland Campus Safety Summit – November 13-14 – University of Kansas – Lawrence, KS

Thanks to our Summit sponsors, we are able to keep registration fees extremely affordable. We view this as an opportunity to reach more colleges and universities, in-directly impacting hundreds of thousands of college students. To learn more about the upcoming Summits, visit www.JanasCampaign.org/higher-education.



New Partnership with Houston Community College for the Gulf Coast Campus Safety Summit

Jana's Campaign advocates for increased efforts by colleges and universities to prevent gender-based violence in their campus communities. This year, the Gulf Coast Campus Safety Summit (GCCSS) will convene at Houston Community College, recognized for its proactive measures in addressing these concerns. In alignment with our ongoing partnership with the Harris County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, the GCCSS will be hosted at the West Houston Institute in Houston, TX. We encourage campuses to send multi-disciplinary teams to attend, increasing the impact of the Summit on each campus represented. We are committed to hosting a wide range of campus safety representatives at the Summit, and invite campus personnel from Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Florida.

**GULF COAST
CAMPUS SAFETY SUMMIT**



Fort Hays State University Students Craft Communications Plan for Major Announcement

This spring, students in Dr. Hsin-Yen Yang's 600-level Communications Studies course at Fort Hays State University (FHSU) developed comprehensive communications plans for *Jana's Campaign* as their final project. Tasked with developing strategies to accompany an upcoming announcement slated for this winter, these FHSU students applied their knowledge and skills to support the campaign's namesake, history, and objectives. Their dedication and creativity promise to deliver impactful messaging that resonates with our audience. We are excited to unveil our announcement and showcase their projects later this year!

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Collaborative Partnership with the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence



We are delighted to announce a collaborative partnership with the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV), made possible through a three-year grant from the Office of Violence Against Women. Together, we aim to implement comprehensive prevention programming across rural Kansas counties. This initiative will be extended to middle and high schools and college campuses, working to create a culture of respect, awareness, and empowerment. By partnering with local communities and educational institutions, we strive to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent and address sexual and domestic violence. Through this collaborative effort, we are committed to making a meaningful impact on the safety and well-being of individuals across our home state of Kansas. To schedule a presentation in your community, please contact our team of Prevention Educators at 785-656-0324.

Increasing Impact Through Continued Work with Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Jana's Campaign has successfully secured an additional partnership opportunity with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for two grant initiatives. Building upon prior projects, *Jana's Campaign* will lead training sessions focused on the evidence-based program, Coaching Boys Into Men. This program empowers middle and high school coaches to teach healthy relationship skills to their young male athletes, emphasizing that strength never stems from violence. Through our collaborative efforts, these training sessions are readily accessible, free of charge, to male athletic teams across Kansas.



Through a new initiative this year, in collaboration with Options Domestic & Sexual Violence Services (Hays, KS), we aim to conduct a comprehensive community needs assessment for the prevention of sexual violence in Ellis, Thomas, and Russell Counties in Kansas. Following the outcomes of this assessment, Options and *Jana's Campaign* will deliver training, expanded services, and other preventive measures to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence within these communities. We express our gratitude for the opportunity to undertake these projects in partnership with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

INTERNAL NEWS AND FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Save the Date! Empty Place at the Table 2024 Scheduled

Mark your calendars for our highly anticipated annual fundraiser, Empty Place at the Table! This year, immerse yourself in the glitz and glamour as we gather both in-person and virtually on Saturday, October 19th. For those opting for the in-person experience, please plan to join us at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall in Hays, KS.

Prepare for an evening of extravagance, starting with a lively cocktail hour, followed by a delicious dinner. Get ready to bid on exciting items in both live and silent auctions, and indulge in a night filled with entertainment. This is an event you won't want to miss! Come, join us, as we commemorate a decade and a half of gender and relationship violence prevention education across the Midwest and beyond!

New Addition to the Board of Directors



Jana's Campaign welcomed a new member to the Board of Directors this spring: Dr. Hsin-Yen Yang. Dr. Yang, a professor of Communication Studies at Fort Hays State University, has been a longtime friend of *Jana's Campaign*. She has dedicated many years to raising awareness about gender-based violence and equality on campus and within her community circles, locally and internationally. Hsin-Yen brings valuable expertise to the board, particularly in the areas of language, communication, and marketing.

Driving Change: Jana's Campaign Invests in New Vehicle



Due to the generous support from Sharon Schinstock, Jana's grandmother, and many other *Jana's Campaign* donors, we have invested in a new vehicle to assist with facilitating our prevention education programming. This vehicle will serve as an asset in our mission to reach communities across the Midwest, enabling our team of Prevention Educators to deliver impactful workshops, training sessions, and educational initiatives effectively. We offer our sincerest gratitude to our supporters whose contributions have made this acquisition possible, empowering us to continue our commitment to preventing gender and relationship violence.

KU Women in Law Fundraiser Generates Critical Funds for Jana's Campaign

KU Women in Law is an organization at the University of Kansas (KU) that promotes leadership and active involvement through community service and social engagement. They focus on the challenges women face in the field of law, but also are invested in the equality and progress of all. Each year, this group of KU law students hosts "Pub Night," with the goal of raising funds to support *Jana's Campaign* and The Willow Domestic Violence Center. The Spring 2024 event raised nearly \$8,500 for each organization!

This year, Jessica Leffler, JD, a dear friend and law school classmate of Jana, joined to share more about Jana's remarkable life and legacy. Her heartfelt words reminded those in attendance of the importance of our collective efforts. We thank the students and staff at KU Law School, their commitment not only keeps Jana's spirit alive at KU but also contributes to our ongoing efforts in preventing gender and relationship violence.



Communication Preferences Survey Request

We greatly value the support and engagement of our donors and followers. As we continue our mission to prevent gender and relationship violence, we want to ensure that we're reaching you in the most effective and preferred ways possible. To better understand your communication preferences, we've put together a brief survey. Your feedback will help us tailor our communications to better suit your needs and preferences. Access the survey by scanning the QR code to the right or by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/DPWKSMK



Your input is invaluable to us, and we appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts!

Educate and Engage: Bring Jana's Campaign Presentations to Your Community

Members of *Jana's Campaign* staff and board are available to provide educational programs on preventing gender and relationship violence in schools, organizations, or communities. These programs can be delivered either in-person or via webinar to accommodate your needs and preferences. Our team delivers dynamic, engaging, and effective presentations tailored to and suitable for all age groups. All programs are offered at little to no cost. To schedule a presentation or inquire further, please contact us at 785-656-0324.



Stay connected with us!

www.JanasCampaign.org | JanasCampaign@gmail.com | 785-656-0324