

Cassandra Award

The NDCAWS/CASAND annual Unity Month Conference was privileged to honor Sharron Brady of Ellendale, ND as the first ever Cassandra Award recipient on October 1, 2009. The Cassandra Award is meant to honor and celebrate professionals across the state who have worked to combat violence in their communities. The following is an excerpt from her nomination essay.

“Sharron Brady is a Cassandra. In fact, she typifies all that CAWS wants a Cassandra to be. She has been a Cassandra for over 20 years, advocating for women and children in 5 counties and serving as director of the Kedish House in Ellendale, ND. Sharron has worked endlessly over the years to bring domestic violence and sexual assault out in the open. She has struggled with the issues surrounding its secrecy from the early days in her career when the term “date rape” didn’t even exist and women were not even screened, much less examined for signs of domestic violence. Sharron has spoken out on behalf of battered women and children. The fact that Sharron is in her third decade of serving in such a demanding and stressful capacity is testimony to the “Cassandra” she is. Not a day goes by that she doesn’t reach out in person or spirit to make the world a safer, better place for hurting women and children.”