

# INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEXWORKERS

SINCE 2015, COYOTE RI HAS HOSTED A MEMORIAL EVENT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS. THIS YEAR WE ARE PRIORITIZING THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES & ASKING PEOPLE WHO WISH TO, TO LIGHT A CANDLE AT 8PM. PREVIOUS YEAR'S EVENTS CAN BE VIEWED ON COYOTE'S WEBSITE.

COYOTE MEMBERS, COMMUNITY ALLIES & THOSE WHO WISH TO JOIN US ON INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS, CAN JOIN SWOP BEHIND BARS ZOOM EVENT, DURING THEIR 24HR DROP IN MEMORIAL BEGINNING AT 5AM ON DECEMBER 17TH, 2020. THEY WILL BE ON ZOOM FROM 9AM TO NOON EST.

**THE MEETING ID IS 892-5790-3771.**

**[WWW.US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89257903771](http://WWW.US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89257903771)**

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS WAS STARTED BY ANNIE SPRINKLE IN 2003 AFTER THE GREEN RIVER KILLER CONFESSED TO KILLING 49 SEX WORKERS. HE SAID THAT IT WAS EASY TO KILL SEX WORKERS BECAUSE POLICE - AND SOCIETY - DON'T CARE ABOUT US. THIS YEAR, 17 YEARS LATER, SAMUEL LITTLE CONFESSED TO BEING AMERICA'S MOST PROLIFIC SERIAL KILLER, KILLING 93 PEOPLE. THE WASHINGTON POST REVIEWED ALL OF HIS MURDERS AND CONCLUDED IN A NOV 30 ARTICLE THAT "WHAT EMERGES IS A PORTRAIT OF A FRAGMENTED AND INDIFFERENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM THAT ALLOWED A MAN TO MURDER WITHOUT FEAR OF RETRIBUTION BY DELIBERATELY TARGETING THOSE ON THE MARGINS OF SOCIETY - DRUG USERS, SEX WORKERS AND RUNAWAYS WHOSE DEATHS EITHER WENT UNNOTICED OR STIRRED LITTLE OUTRAGE.

IN MANY CASES, AUTHORITIES FAILED TO IDENTIFY THEM AS MURDER VICTIMS, OR CONDUCTED ONLY CURSORY INVESTIGATIONS."THIS YEAR WE ARE AGAIN CALLING ON OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM TO INVESTIGATE THE MURDERS AND MISSING PERSONS REPORTS OF SEX WORKERS THE SAME WAY THEY WOULD INVESTIGATE IF THE VICTIM WEREN'T A MARGINALIZED PERSON. WE ARE CALLING ON NON-PROFITS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS TO INCLUDE US AND TO BE A PART OF ENDING THE STIGMA THAT HAS COST SO MANY SEX WORKERS THEIR LIVES. ENDING VIOLENCE BEGINS WITH ENDING STIGMA.

## COYOTE Rhode Island

is a group of current & former Sex workers organizing for our rights. Learn more about us at

**[www.coyoteri.org](http://www.coyoteri.org)**