

the
calendar

TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, TRAINING &
NETWORKING THROUGH
MCADSV

VISIT
WWW.MCADSV.ORG
FOR REGISTRATION AND
AGENDA INFORMATION

MCADSV Board

Meeting

■ MAY 17-18, 2005
Okemos, MI

Children's Task Force

■ MAY 20, 2005
Okemos, MI

Policy and Legal Issues
for Working with
Minors

■ MAY 24, 2005
Okemos, MI

LEP & Immigrant
Survivors Subcommittee

■ MAY 26, 2005
Okemos, MI

2005 Women of Color
and Professional
Development Institutes

■ JUNE 13-16, 2005
Gaylord, MI

New Service Provider
Training

■ JULY 19-22, 2005
Okemos, MI

**Partnering for Success: Accomplishments,
Challenges and the Road Ahead**

June 1-3, 2005 San Francisco, California

Partnering for Success, the third International SART conference, is sponsored by the Sexual Assault Resource Service of Minneapolis, Minnesota and will feature over 85 distinguished speakers representing the five SART disciplines. Information will be presented regarding the development of a National Sexual Assault Response Team Toolkit. Please visit www.sane-sart.com for more information including registration and conference materials.

**From Bullying to Battering—Building
Partnerships for Safe Schools**

June 6-7, 2005 Austin, Texas

Join national experts for a two-day seminar on preventing dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment and bullying in K-12 schools. This seminar is designed for educators, counselors, domestic violence and sexual assault advocates, law enforcement officers and others involved in promoting positive relationships among youth. Topics include:

- Empowering young men to prevent men's violence by becoming "visible allies."
- Developing school policy and procedures for preventing dating violence, sexual harassment and bullying.
- Responding to violence and abuse in children's lives through school-based counseling and support groups.
- Utilizing a public health framework to strengthen prevention programming.

For more information contact Lesley Landry at (512) 356-1590 or llandry@austin-safeplace.org. Additional information and registration forms available at www.austin-safeplace.org.

Building Community for Learning and Sharing

June 27-July 1, 2005 San Juan, Puerto Rico

This conference is sponsored by the National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA). It will provide intensive skills based training to develop, enhance and sustain leadership capabilities; explore collective history as People of Color; and share critical lessons learned while building community and sisterhood among Women of Color in the anti-sexual assault movement. Call (860) 693-2031 or visit www.sisterslead.org

the Coalition
Connection

Your link to cutting edge information on the
issue of violence against women

**Special Issues in Working with Child
Victims of Trafficking**

United States immigration officials annually apprehend approximately 5,000 unaccompanied youth and children at U.S. borders from all regions of the world (INS, U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2002). Escaping domestic abuse, youth gangs, religious persecution or poverty, this population presents with a high risk for being trafficked and placed in forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation.

Identifying child victims of trafficking can be a challenge. Children may present themselves as 18 years or older upon entry to the United States or when questioned by law enforcement. Trafficked girls may also be coached to say they are the sister, girlfriend, daughter, or wife of the trafficker. A child victim may not have any immigration or identification documents because the traffickers may have confiscated them. They may also fully trust that the trafficker has their best interests in mind.

Child victims have special needs and unique access to services under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) makes eligibility determinations for child victims in order to guarantee their access to refugee benefits and services. These services include work permits, vocational training, food stamps, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Programs. Child victims of trafficking may also qualify for federal resettlement programs, such as the Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program (URM). URM agencies offer culturally appropriate foster care to child survivors of trafficking. Additionally, child victims may be eligible to participate in individual state child welfare services.

Certain publicly funded services related to the protection of life and safety of a child victim of trafficking do not require federal government determinations of eligibility. These include access to emergency shelter, medical and legal assistance, witness protection, translation services and repatriation.

If you suspect someone is a victim of trafficking, please

(Continued on page 2)

May
2005

MICHIGAN COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence is dedicated to the empowerment of all the state's survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Our mission is to develop and promote efforts aimed at the elimination of all domestic and sexual violence in Michigan.

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Violence Against Women and the Role of Religion

Violence Against Women and the Role of Religion, by Rev. Dr. Marie Fortune and Rabbi Cindy Enger (March 2005), provides an overview of some of the basic issues and questions that confront religiously identified women who have experienced domestic violence or sexual assault. The document focuses on three of the major religions in the U.S.: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. It outlines strategies for clergy and secular domestic violence advocates to reach out to one another in order to find and develop the resources needed to help domestic violence victims.

Violence Against Women and the Role of Religion is available for download at www.vawnet.org.

(Continued from page 1)

contact Heartland Alliance's Midwest Network Against Trafficking and Slavery (MNATS). The MNATS Victims of Trafficking Assistance Program can be reached on their at (312) 296-0272.

MNATS is comprised of representatives of social and legal service providers, immigrant community organizations, law enforcement agencies and victim advocates who are committed to eradicating human trafficking and assisting victims of trafficking in their communities. The network encompasses the Midwest region of the U.S. including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Reprinted from Midwest Network Against Trafficking and Slavery (MNATS) newsletter, written by the Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center (MIHRC). MIHRC, a program of Heartland Alliance, provides legal services to low-income immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and victims of human trafficking.

Purchase Books Days During Schuler Book Days June 12-18, 2005

Visit the Lansing or Okemos locations of Schuler Books & Music June 12-18, 2005 and request to have a portion of your purchase donated to MCADSV. Make your book or gift purchase from Schuler Books support our efforts on behalf of domestic and sexual violence survivors and service providers in Michigan.

National Sexual Assault Online Hotline

In 2006, the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) will launch the nation's first secure, online crisis hotline. The National Sexual Assault Online Hotline will enable victims of sexual violence to get live help from a trained hotline operator.

Trained specialists from 1,100 affiliate centers will log on for hotline shifts over the RAINN Web site, where they will be available 24/7 to respond to calls. Visitors to the RAINN Web site can anonymously request help and chat live with one of these specialists via an instant-message style interface.

To learn more about the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline, visit RAINN's Web site at www.rainn.org.

New English and Spanish Brochures Available

The National Alliance for the Elimination of Domestic Violence (Alianza) has created several brochures in English and Spanish. Brochure topics include general domestic violence, dating violence safety options, and help for immigrant or refugee women. The brochures are available for download at www.dvalianza.org.

Help support MCADSV!

Visit the Apple Blossom Boutique at www.mcadsv.org

Pro Bono Project for Domestic Violence Victims

The MCADSV Civil Justice Project (CJP) is presently working with the State Bar of Michigan on the *Pro Bono Project for Domestic Violence Victims*. The focus of this training collaboration is to educate pro bono attorneys to effectively represent domestic and sexual violence survivors in divorce, custody, support, personal protection orders or other civil matters.

The training will be held August 25, 2005. The training will include a live broadcast and a panel of experts at six local sites.

Please help publicize this event! Interested individuals can help by:

- Distributing Save the Date announcements to local attorneys.
- Inserting this announcement in the local agency newsletter.
- Submitting this announcement to the local newspaper in the free community events sections.

Please contact Katy Conklin at KConklin@mcadsv.org for details.

Program Offers Assistance on Immigration Issues

ASISTA (Advanced Special Immigrant Survivors Technical Assistance) is a new project that provides technical assistance in immigration cases for domestic and sexual violence survivors.

ASISTA offers help to Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) grantees, including STOP grant recipients. Consultants are available to answer inquiries and troubleshoot problems in certain individual immigration cases with the Department of Homeland Security.

ASISTA also offers resources and information through its online clearinghouse, available to the public including access to best practices, training materials and other information at www.asistaonline.org.

NNEDV Spokesperson, Victor Rivas Rivers, Authors Memoirs

In *A Private Family Matter*, Victor Rivas Rivers chronicles how he escaped domestic violence—too often regarded as a “private family matter”—and went on to become a film star, and prominent activist.

Victor Rivers' journey of survival portrays with riveting detail how domestic violence impacts families. *A Private Family Matter* is a triumphant testament to humanity and courage.

Victor Rivas Rivers is the national spokesperson for the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV). He has met and spoken with policy makers, at conferences and organizations across the country, including Michigan.

A Private Family Matter is available at the MCADSV Boutique at www.mcadsv.org.

Volunteer Opportunities Available at the Michigan Resource Center

The Michigan Resource Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence, a project of the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, is seeking individuals passionate about social justice and ending violence against women to assist with a statewide domestic violence and sexual assault resource collection. Please forward any inquiries to Melissa Limon at (517) 381-4663, ext.17.

National Domestic Violence Hotline
Linea Nacional sobre la
Violencia Domestica
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
TTY 1-800-787-3224
www.ndvh.org

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)
1-800-656-HOPE (4673)
www.rainn.org