

## the calendar

TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE, TRAINING &  
NETWORKING THROUGH  
MCADSV

VISIT [WWW.MCADSV.ORG](http://WWW.MCADSV.ORG) FOR  
REGISTRATION AND AGENDA  
INFORMATION

CHILD ABUSE AND  
NEGLECT REPORTING  
LAWS IN MICHIGAN  
WEBINAR  
■ JULY 27TH  
ONLINE

LBGTA TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
■ JULY 27TH  
OKEMOS, MI

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
■ AUGUST 23RD  
TBD

ACCOMMODATING  
EMPLOYEE DISABILITIES  
IN THE WORKPLACE  
WEBINAR  
■ AUGUST 24TH

MENTAL HEALTH  
TRAINING  
■ SEPTEMBER 11-12TH  
DEARBORN, MI

### 2007 Minority Women's Health Summit: *Women of Color: Addressing Disparities, Affirming Resilience, and Developing Strategies for Success*

August 23-26, 2007

Washington, DC

Convened by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health, the goals of this summit aim to build on the knowledge gained in the previous conferences and identify distinct health issues disproportionately impacting minority women so that programs can be improved. Also highlighted will be successful models of health promotion and prevention that can be replicated in communities across the country. For more information, please visit [www.womenshealth.gov/mwhs](http://www.womenshealth.gov/mwhs).

### National Sexual Assault Conference: *Bridges to Social Change*

September 12-14, 2007

Baltimore, Maryland

The National Sexual Assault Conference is a three-day, advocacy-based conference providing advanced training opportunities and information to sexual violence prevention educators, anti-sexual violence advocates, counselors, health care professionals, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, social workers, psychologists, and public health workers. Register online at <http://www.pcar.org/nsac/>.

### A Call To Men of Color: *Ending Violence Against Women in Our Communities*

September 26-28, 2007

New Orleans, Louisiana

A Call To Men believes that men's violence against women is an important issue that the communities must begin to address. A Call To Men has recognized the need for a space to be provided for men of color, women of color and allies to discuss domestic violence and sexual assault in their communities. The goal of this conference is to increase knowledge while strategizing and organizing to end violence against women in communities of color. For registration information, please visit <http://www.acalltomen.com/downloads/National%20Conference.pdf>.

# the Coalition Connection

Your [link](#) to cutting edge information on the issue of violence against women

## Sexual Assault in the Military

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Violence against women remains a serious and rising problem in the military, although Pentagon officials say an increase in reports from 2005 to 2006 may be due in part to new policies that make it safer and easier for victims to report these crimes. On March 14th, the Pentagon reported to Congress that there were 2,947 alleged sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces in 2006, up 24 percent from 2005. Active duty members reported 30 percent of these incidents. Criminal investigations increased 11 percent from 2005 to 2006.

The new restricted, confidential reporting program gives victims the option to pursue an investigation at a later time. Criminal investigations were completed on 62 percent of the cases by the end of 2006, and there are 875 pending criminal investigations.

Army spokeswoman Major Cheryl Phillips told the Associated Press, "There is no evidence that the actual number of assaults is increasing in the Army, but there are definite indicators that the Army has created more willingness among soldier victims to report incidents."

Some 780 actions were taken by commanders in 2006, 289 of them on reports made in 2006. There were 72 courts-martial that year. The Pentagon report says, "The Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program is making great progress...the changes which have been made have reduced the barriers to victim reporting, prompting more victims to receive medical care and other support services."

Most advocates, however, say the military is not doing enough to stop sexual assault. The National Defense Authorization Act requires the Department of Defense to submit the Military Services Sexual Assault Annual Report. The report provides an annual summary of the number of alleged sexual assaults against and by members of the Armed Forces. The first full year of restricted reporting data collection occurred in 2006 and will be considered the baseline for any trend observation. The military counts rape, nonconsensual sodomy, indecent assault and attempts to commit any of those as sexual assault. To see the complete report, visit <http://www.sapr.mil/contents/references/2006%20Annual%20Report.pdf>.

July  
2007



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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### New National Trauma Resource for Victim Service Providers

Clearly, different individuals react to and heal from trauma in their own way, depending on the nature of and circumstances surrounding their traumatic experiences and available support systems. For example, trauma associated with repeated childhood physical or sexual abuse can become a central defining characteristic to a survivor's identity, impacting nearly every aspect of his or her own life. However, whether the cause of the trauma is a violent robbery, a sexual assault, child abuse, domestic violence or other incident, the trauma experience is one thing that all victims share.

In an effort to address psychological trauma within various systems of care, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, Center for Mental Health Services has funded a new technical assistance program called the National Center for Trauma-Informed Care (NCTIC). The center offers free and low-cost trauma training and technical assistance to publicly-funded programs and systems. NCTIC also provides education and outreach, a speaker's bureau, and resources to stimulate and support change to address the trauma experienced by survivors. NCTIC also provides implementation support to assist with integrating trauma-informed concepts and trauma-specific interventions into agency or program management. For more information, please visit the National Center for Trauma-Informed Care at [www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov](http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov).

### Little Eyes, Little Ears: How Violence Against a Mother Shapes Children as they Grow

Little Eyes, Little Ears is a resource for anyone looking to understand how children experience violence against their mothers and how those experiences may shape them as they grow, from infancy to adolescence.

This resource, funded by the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, Public Health Agency of Canada combined the most popular information from various new and existing resources and added reference to the latest sources of information and updated statistics. Topics addressed include facts and figures, ten ways a child can be changed by living with violence at home, and myths about woman abuse and children.

*Little Eyes, Little Ears* offers guidance on women as parents and responding to child disclosures and is aimed at professionals, students and volunteers working with children and women. This is a concise source for anyone wanting to understand how children experience violence against their mothers. To access this document electronically, please visit [http://www.lfcc.on.ca/little\\_eyes\\_little\\_ears.pdf](http://www.lfcc.on.ca/little_eyes_little_ears.pdf).

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Visit the Apple Blossom Boutique at [www.mcadsv.org](http://www.mcadsv.org) and purchase gifts and books to support our efforts on behalf of the state's domestic & sexual violence survivors

### OVW New Online Resource

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is pleased to announce a new online resource that is available to all technical assistance providers and OVW grant recipients. OVW and the Vera Institute of Justice (Vera), through its Accessing Safety Initiative (ASI), have created a website specifically addressing the issue of violence against individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals.

The site was created for OVW grant recipients under the Education, Training and Enhanced Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities grant program (Disability Grant Program). However, it is open to the public and contains valuable information for all OVW grant recipients. Specific topics include information on domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, disability, Deaf culture, and the intersection of violence against women and disability/Deaf issues. In addition, the website provides valuable information on creating accessible services and programs, collaboration building, conducting a needs assessment, and creating a strategic plan. OVW and Vera are in the process of developing a section specifically addressing victims with disabilities and Deaf victims and the criminal justice system that will be open to the public in October, 2008.

Enhancing the response to violence against individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals is a priority for OVW. In keeping with their mission of keeping all victims safe and holding offenders accountable, OVW has developed this website as a mechanism to assist OVW grantees in addressing this important issue. To access the website, please visit [www.accessingsafety.org](http://www.accessingsafety.org).

### New Women Ink Resources



Women, Ink., a project of the International Women's Åds Tribune Centre (IWTC), has compiled a resource collection of games, training manuals, and workshop guides for teachers, trainers and development workers who are working for and with girls. Released at the 51st Commission on the Status of Women, the collection includes some 31 resources on various subjects including empowerment, HIV/AIDS, sexuality and reproductive health, violence against women, racism, self-esteem and leadership development. For more information on the content of the CD and to download resource, please visit <http://www.iwtc.org/6774.html>.

### For Men Only: For Male Survivors of Sexual Assault

This electronic guide by the University of Texas at Austin Counseling & Mental Health Center was written for men who have experienced sexual assault. This guide offers helpful information and resources to support survivors. Resources include local agencies, national hotline and internet resources. To access this online guide, please visit <http://new.vawnet.org/category/Documents.php?docid=918>

National Domestic Violence Hotline  
Linea Nacional sobre la Violencia Domestica  
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)  
TTY 1-800-787-3224  
[www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)  
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)  
1-800-656-HOPE (4673)  
[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)