



San Diego Domestic Violence Council Newsletter

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PLEASE NOTE: The views represented in the postings on the SDDVC e-newsletter do not necessarily represent those of SDDVC, its member programs or constituents. The SDDVC e-newsletter is provided solely as an informational service to those on the Council, and inclusion in this listserv mailing is not an endorsement of the organizations or events advertised.

Spotlight on Healing: CAMP HOPE SAN DIEGO



Through interaction with trained, therapeutic and recreational counselors, children can experience the chance to explore issues such as trust and courage, develop positive relationships, gain a higher sense of self-worth, acquire new skills, and learn core values in a safe environment surrounded by the wonders of nature.

Camp HOPE offers four weeks of camping each summer. Campers enjoy a four-night, five-day authentic teepee-style camping experience overlooking Lake Sutherland.

The Camp HOPE team has engaged in an important fundraising campaign this summer to ensure that their dream of a violent-free future for the children in San Diego becomes reality with the building of permanent facilities and year-round programming. They are encouraged that San Diegans will come forward to help Camp HOPE increase services to the thousands of children and their families affected by violence each year. In these challenging economic times, children's services are often at risk, and Camp HOPE is not immune. They are looking for support to raise \$50,000 to continue programs and services to child survivors of family violence. The campers served by Camp Hope are the kids from our families throughout the Domestic Violence Council.

Visit their website at www.camhopesandiego.org for updates on our fundraising efforts and to watch our Camp HOPE video.

Please engage friends, family and colleagues to visit the Camp Hope website and to help raise funds and awareness for this important issue that affects so many of us. For more information about Camp HOPE, or to volunteer, please call Mickey Stone at 619-533-3509 or email mickey@camhopesandiego.org

Nutrition and Food Stamps

San Diego County Health and Human Services administers the local food stamp program. Many eligible families do not access the program for many reasons. Often, families coming to the attention of various providers within the Domestic

Violence council may be eligible to receive this precious benefit.

Families can find out more information directly by calling 2-1-1. SDDVC members and fellow workers can assist families and help them determine possible eligibility by accessing the pre-screening tool www.foodstamps-step1.usda.gov.

Conferences & Training

Southwest Regional Integrated Behavioral Health Conference: BUILDING CLINICAL EXCELLENCE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND DRUG & ALCOHOL PROFESSIONALS

**September 16th & 17th, 2009
The Westin Hotel in San Diego, CA**

This conference will provide a forum for exploring the complex social service issues of integrating treatment for clients with addiction and mental health disorders. Internationally known presenters will explore current trends in treatment, program design, research on human behavior change, evidence based methods to increase client engagement and outcomes, models of leadership, and innovative program models addressing culture and gender.

Target Audience:

Physicians, nurses, psychologists, therapists, social workers, counselors, managers and staff working in social services and the behavioral health field. Registration Please Contact 858-573-2600 ex-1700

14th International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Trauma

September 23- 26, 2009
Town and Country Resort & Convention Center
San Diego, CA

Affiliated Training Institutes 2009

September 21- 22, 2009
Town and Country Resort & Convention Center
San Diego, CA

Conference Information <http://www.ivatcenters.org/Conferences.htm#14th>

General Information

Biden Announces White House Advisor on Violence Against Women

June 26, 2009 1:59 PM

ABC News' [Karen Travers](#) <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/story?id=6476109&page=1> reports:

Vice President Biden announced today that Lynn Rosenthal will be the White House adviser on Violence Against Women, a new position created to work with the president and vice president on domestic violence and sexual assault issues.

Joining Biden for the announcement was Valerie Jarrett, senior advisor and assistant to the president for Intergovernmental Relations and Public Engagement.

Rosenthal most recently served as the executive director of the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence and has focused on domestic violence issues like housing, state and local coordinated community response, federal policy, and survivor-centered advocacy.

From 2000-2006, she served as the executive director of the National Network to End Domestic Violence and played a key role in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2000 and 2005.

JAMA ARTICLE ON IMPACT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES ON LIFELONG HEALTH

A new paper published in the June 3, 2009 issue of *JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association* says that the origins of many adult diseases can be traced to negative experiences early in life, so confronting the causes of adversity before and shortly after birth may be a promising way to improve adult health and reduce premature deaths. These adversities establish biological "memories" that weaken physiological systems and make individuals vulnerable to problems that can lie dormant for years. The article, "Neuroscience, Molecular Biology, and the Childhood Roots of Health Disparities: A New Framework for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention," was co-authored by the Center's founding director, Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D., and Council members W. Thomas Boyce, M.D., College for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of British Columbia, and Bruce McEwen, Ph.D., Milliken Hatch Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology, Rockefeller University.

READ MORE [VISIT JAMA WEBSITE TO ACCESS FULL ARTICLE](#)

If Mom or Dad Is Depressed, Kids Need Help Too: A new report from the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine calls for health and social service professionals to pay greater attention to the impact of parental depression on their children. Rather than treating only the depressed adult, providers should evaluate the entire family, particularly children, and design treatment programs for everyone. ([HealthDay](#), 6/10/09)

Infants, Children & Families

Young Adults and Mental Health Recovery: Perspectives on Acceptance and Social Inclusion

One of the most important factors in recovery is the understanding, acceptance, and support of friends. The information shared in this webcast can help young people learn about the experience of young

adults with mental health problems and can provide them with information on what they can do to support their friends who are experiencing these issues.

In this presentation, Lloyd Hale and Ashley Panaggio share their personal stories. They talk about their experiences with mental health problems and what it takes to recover. They share their stories of strength, resiliency, and hope, and about the importance of support from their friends, their families, and their communities. Most of all, these heartfelt presentations carry a message of hope for young adults so that they too can get on the road to recovery from mental illnesses and live a full and productive life.

This webcast can be used as an educational tool for young adults, their peers, family members, and other individuals working to support young people (such as providers, advocates, and policymakers).

To access the Webcast, click [here](#).

GIVE RESPECT FOR THE ANSWER TO TOUGH QUESTIONS

When it comes to talking with your kids about healthy relationships, it's probably never been harder to be a parent than it is today. The celebrities teens follow are making headlines not for the music they make, but for the violence they commit or experience. "Sexting" is a scary new phenomenon, and kids are using technologies their parents never dreamed of. The recession is putting all kinds of pressure on families. In this environment, the questions young people have about appropriate behavior are increasingly complicated. Fortunately, there is help. [Read more...](#)

PARENTS SAY THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT DATING VIOLENCE, BUT TEENS AREN'T GETTING THE MESSAGE

Teens across the United States are experiencing high levels of abuse in their dating relationships, and not confiding in parents when abuse occurs. The new poll, conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited for the Family Violence Prevention Fund and Liz Claiborne Inc., finds that nearly one in three teens report threats of violence, or sexual or physical abuse. Nearly one in four report being victimized through technology, and nearly one in two who are in relationships report being controlled, threatened, and pressured to do things they did not want to do. [Read more...](#)

Legal Issues and Legislation

Public officials call for major changes in family law family court crisis compared to Catholic Church sexual abuse scandals

by Kamika Dunlap

OAKLAND — One by one, parents around the Bay Area are beginning to step forward to share heart-wrenching stories of the injustices they experienced in California's family court system.

These parents have joined with thousands of others statewide to reform the family courts and protect child victims of violence and sexual abuse from judicial decisions the parents say place children in harm's way.

"I'm living proof this is happening today," said Susan, a California Family Court litigant and mother whose

daughter was placed with her accused molester. "The family courts crisis is a plague and it's destroying peoples' lives."

For more information visit, www.centerforjudicialexcellence.org

CenterPiece

In this issue of *CenterPiece*, our staff attorney, Amy Russell, discusses the academic literature, statutes and case law concerning the electronic recording of forensic interviews. The clear trend in the United States is to record forensic interviews - and this trend is largely supported by the literature. If you would like to read Amy's article or to download a copy please click on: [CenterPiece Newsletter- Volume 1, Issue 8](#).

Mental Health

Parity is Law – Justice for Americans

The passage of the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 is a historic victory for Mental Health America and millions of Americans who have been denied treatment because of health insurance discrimination.

The measure, which was signed into law on October 3, will for the first time require equal insurance coverage for mental health conditions and physical illnesses. It will apply to more than one-third of all Americans.

“The approval of parity is a great civil rights victory that delivers justice to millions of Americans who have mental health conditions,” said David Shern, Ph.D., president and CEO of Mental Health America. “With approval of this bill, we tear down the walls of stigma and discrimination and open the doors to the power and promise of treatment and recovery.” . . .

<http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/pressroom/bell/2008winter/index.htm>.

Receipt of Mental Health Services

SAMHSA’s Office of Applied Studies (OAS) has just released **The NSDUH Report: Serious Psychological Distress & Receipt of Mental Health Services**, a 3 page short report based on data from SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use & Health (NSDUH) that provides the demographics of adults with serious psychological distress and the rates of those who received mental health services and the types of mental health services received.

AT:

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8/SPDtx/SPDtx.cfm>

Other OAS reports on [mental health](#) may be found at: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/MH.cfm>

June 2009 Update on the Campaign for Mental Health Recovery (CMHR)

English Language CMHR Brochures Available

The CMHR brochure *What a Difference a Friend Makes* is full of information about mental health, support, and recovery and is an excellent community resource. Over 700,000 CMHR brochures have been distributed across the country. These popular, free brochures have been reprinted and are again available through SAMHSA's National Mental Information Center (NMHIC <http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/>). The

inventory number for English language brochures is **SMA07-4265** and for Spanish language brochures is **SMA07-4289S**.

When ordering materials from NMHIC please plan accordingly as shipping may take at a minimum four weeks for delivery. When you need to order more than a couple dozen copies of materials, such as the popular CMHR brochure, you should place your order by sending a fax on your organization's letterhead to NMHIC.

If your event is closer than a month away, you may still be able to receive CMHR materials by calling NMHIC and arranging to pay for delivery with your organization's UPS or FedEx account number. Contact NMHIC at 1-800-789-2647 or send a fax to 240-221-4295.

A list of all of the CMHR materials with their inventory numbers can be located on the CMHR site, by clicking [here](#).

Updates on the Multicultural Phase of the CMHR

The Ad Council and their agency partners have developed and tested the concepts for the next phase of the CMHR that targets 18-25 year-olds in four multicultural audiences (Hispanics, African-Americans, Chinese-Americans, and Native Americans). Based on research and focus group findings, the team developed an umbrella, multicultural strategy and creative materials intended for each audience. The multicultural campaign will include appropriate language and culturally specific public service announcements (PSAs) in radio, print, outdoor, and Web formats.

The development of materials for African Americans and Hispanic Americans is close to completion. Materials for Native Americans and Chinese Americans are in production. The launch of the Multicultural Phase is expected in the Fall of 2009. Media outreach and PSA distribution will be targeted to relevant media outlets for each audience.

Campaign elements by audience are provided below:

- *African American:* Videos, radio, print, billboards, mall posters, public transit advertising, and a targeted Website
- *Hispanic:* Radio, print, billboards, mall posters, public transit advertising, and a targeted Website
- *Chinese American:* Radio (Live Read), print, billboards, mall posters, public transit advertising, and a targeted Website
- *Native American:* Radio, print, and a targeted Website

To learn more about the CMHR's multicultural phase, click [here](#) to view a Webcast on the next phase of the Campaign.

Trafficking

Obtaining Federal Assistance for Child Victims of Human Trafficking

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, which was signed into law on December 23, 2008, contained new provisions regarding Federal benefits and services for potential child victims of human trafficking. The information below should assist you in helping a child to obtain these benefits.

How do I obtain Federal assistance for a child victim of human trafficking?

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act, as amended, requires HHS to assist a non-U.S. citizen child in the United States who may be a victim of trafficking to become eligible for public benefits and services without regard to the child's immigration status. A foreign child victim of trafficking in the United States is eligible for federally funded benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee. HHS issues an Eligibility Letter to assist a child victim of trafficking in accessing these benefits and services. (U.S. citizen victims do not need an Eligibility Letter to access similar means-tested benefits and services.) ORR may provide eligibility for interim assistance for up to 90 days if ORR receives credible information that a child may have been subjected to trafficking, but ORR will consult with DOJ, DHS, and nongovernmental organizations with expertise in victims of trafficking prior to making a determination of the child's eligibility as a victim of trafficking.

Children are not required to cooperate with law enforcement in order to receive an Eligibility Letter. Children are also not required to have been granted Continued Presence or a T nonimmigrant visa before receiving an Eligibility Letter.

An individual may request an Eligibility Letter from HHS/ORR on behalf of a child when credible information indicates a child may be a victim of trafficking. A *Request for Assistance for Child Victims of Human Trafficking* form may be submitted to facilitate a prompt determination by HHS of the child's eligibility for assistance. Obtain a form at www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking. Submit requests to: ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov or fax to 202.401.5487. An HHS/ORR Child Protection Specialist will respond to requests and may be reached by phone at 202.205.4582.

Victim Advocacy

CPEDV Members:

Attached please find the one-page version of our previously released "Public Policy and Legislative Priorities 2009." You can use this summary as a handy reference to keep you up-to-date on CPEDV's sponsored and supported bills this legislative session. To view the full "Priorities" document, click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser.

http://cpedv.org/docs/CPEDV_Policy_09_Final.pdf
