

Your Coalition at Work

News, Upcoming Trainings, Other Resources



July is...

Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month was developed in 2008 to address mental health concerns and destigmatize issues around mental health in minority communities.



Mental health disorders are common in survivors of relationship abuse, and often show up as PTSD, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, low self-esteem and an increased risk of suicide. Each of these factors occurs in higher rates in marginalized communities.

But even as minorities experience these disorders more frequently, they may face several barriers to accessing mental health services, including stigma, cultural recognition and acknowledgement of mental health disorders, cost, accessibility, language barriers, traditional gender values or poor experiences with mental health providers.

Ultimately, quality mental health care is critical to the healing and well-being of survivors. Recognizing these cultural differences are key to centering our most marginalized populations and improving outcomes for everyone who has experienced relationship violence.

Resources

Feeling Your Feelings, Safely: A four-step guide to listening to your body and processing feelings in a healthy and therapeutic way.

Therapy for Black Girls: A online resource encouraging mental wellness in Black women and girls through accessible and relevant mental health topics.

Minority Mental Health is #NotACharacterFlaw: An article highlighting the importance of recognizing mental health needs of minority and marginalized communities.

National Alliance on Mental Illness LGBTQ Support: Specific mental health resources for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Finding Mental Health Care that Fits Your Cultural Background: National Alliance on Mental Health resource on choosing a culturally inclusive mental health provider.

How to Make Real Mental Health Changes for Men of Color: An article from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health on the unique circumstances surrounding men of color and mental health.



Coalition Updates

2019 Membership Update

If you haven't renewed your 2019 Violence Free Colorado membership, please note that access to your 2018 benefits expired on April 30. This means you'll be unable to register for trainings or access Violence Free Colorado member resources.

But that doesn't mean you can't still become a member! You'll need to access Coalition Manager, our new member and registration site. First-time users must reset your password before accessing the system.

Questions? Contact Tamika Matthews, Community Impact Manager, at tmatthews@violencefreeco.org.



Training and TA Update

We took a break from Brown Bag webinars for June, but we've got two upcoming webinars for you! Join us at noon July 9 for "Using VOCA funds for Long-Term Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence" with Violence Free Colorado Housing Program Manager, Lindsay Christopher.



Liz Stuewe, Training and TA Manager

Lindsay will provide an overview of the VOCA Special Project: Housing for Crime Victims, which ran from May 2017 to December 2018 and emphasized low barrier access to support and services. The goals included increasing survivors' access to permanent, affordable housing as well as increased community engagement and mobile advocacy. This webinar will provide an overview of the Special Project, including challenges, barriers, and successes. It will also include considerations for organizations interested in using VOCA funds to do housing work. Register [here](#).

On Aug. 13 at noon, Jordan Garcia will discuss the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN), which provides Colorado's immigrant communities fully verified information, legal guidance access and an advocacy structure to resist ICE civil rights abuses in Colorado. It is meant to stop the spread of misinformation in light of the divisive rhetoric that inspires fear in community members and provide a trusted, nonpartisan and supportive foundation to fight back against the callousness of federal enforcement.

TA of the Month:

Q. I have a new policy or procedure we are considering implementing at our agency. How can Violence Free Colorado help?

A. Violence Free Colorado can help with policies and procedures in several ways. We can send sample policies and procedures, when available, review drafts, and talk about potential benefits and challenges of a policy so you can make the best decision for your agency. Interested in getting support? [Email](#) me today!

Questions? Please email me at lstuewe@violencefreeco.org.



Upcoming Trainings

Webinars and Web-Based Trainings

July 9, 11 a.m.: [Nuisance Ordinances: How They Work, Who They Harm and How to Fight Them](#). Presented by the Battered Women's Justice Project.

July 11, 12:30 p.m.: [The Asylee Outreach Project](#). Presented by the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance.

July 11, noon: [Experimenting, Learning and Moving to a World Without Violence](#). Presented by PreventConnect and the Resonance Network.

July 15, noon: [Best Practices of Law Enforcement in Working with LGBTQ Victims](#). Presented by the VERA Center on Victimization and Safety.

July 15, 1 p.m.: [Privacy Myths vs. Realities for Survivor Safety](#). Presented by Safety Net.

July 16, noon: [A Rural Perspective: Serving Survivors of Domestic or Sexual Violence with Disability in Rural Communities](#). Presented by the VERA Center on Victimization and Safety.

July 16, 1 p.m.: [Assessing Patterns of Coercive Control in Abusive Relationships. Part 3.5: Questions and Answers](#). Presented by the NW Network.

July 17, 11 a.m.: [Successful Rules Reduction Implementation Process in Domestic Violence Shelters: From Vision to Practice](#). Presented by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

July 17, noon: [Expert Q&A: The Future of Victim Services](#). Presented by the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center.

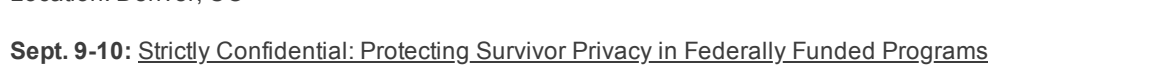
Aug. 5, 11:30 a.m.: [Domestic and Family Violence in Asian/Pacific Islander Immigrant and Refugee Communities](#). Presented by the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance.

Aug. 13, 1 p.m.: [Working Hard for the Money: Survivors and the Gig Economy](#). Presented by Safety Net.

Aug. 14, 11 a.m.: [Vicarious Trauma: Organizational Responses and Practical Applications for Self-Care and Reducing Isolation](#). Presented by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Aug. 21, noon: [Expert Q&A: Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals in Victim Services](#). Presented by the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center.

Do you have an upcoming training or event that you'd like to share with the Violence Free Colorado community? [Post an event on our website calendar!](#)



In Person Trainings, Conferences and Events

July 29-31: [Technology Safety Summit](#)
Presented by the National Network to End Domestic Violence
Location: San Francisco, CA

July 30 - Aug. 1: [Enhancing Existing Partnerships to Hold Dangerous Abusers Accountable](#)
Presented by the Battered Women's Justice Project
Location: San Diego, CA

July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2: [H.O.P.E. Training for Crime Victim Advocates](#)
Presented by the Education Development Center
Location: Denver, CO

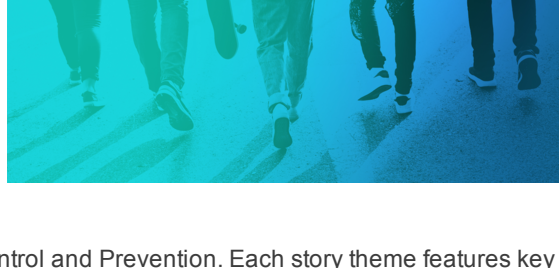
Sept. 9-10: [Strictly Confidential: Protecting Survivor Privacy in Federally Funded Programs](#)
Presented by the National Network to End Domestic Violence and The Confidentiality Institute
Location: Atlanta, GA

Sept. 16: [National Conference on Domestic Violence - Voices in Action](#)
Presented by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Location: Washington, DC

Resources and Other News

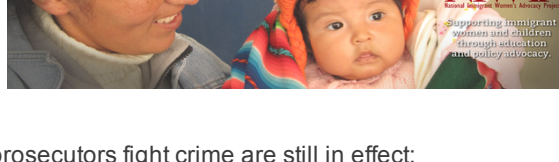
Lessons Learned from Delta Focus Program

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence is releasing a seven-part series of stories for the new Innovation section of the PreventIPV website. This exciting project features lessons learned from the Delta Focus program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Each story theme features key lessons learned, highlighted strategies, adaptation tools, projects and related resources to help contribute to collective learning. Learn more [here](#).



ICE Confirms Viability of Policy Memos Protecting Victims

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement confirmed two victim and witness protection policy memos designed to protect immigrant crime victims and help law enforcement and prosecutors fight crime are still in effect:



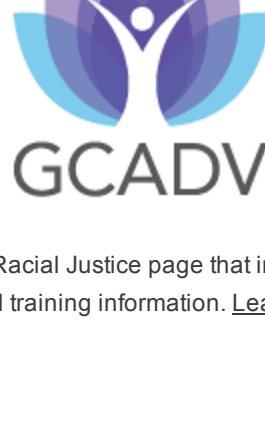
[Prosecutorial Discretion: Certain Victims, Witnesses and Plaintiffs](#)

[Guidance: Adjudicating Stay Requests Filed by U Nonimmigrant Status \(U-Visa\) Applicants](#)

Advocates and attorneys can use the ICE public confirmation that the victim witness policies are still supported by ICE and are still in effect in other important advocacy. Visit the [National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project](#) or call 202-274-4457 or more information.

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence Racial Justice Resources

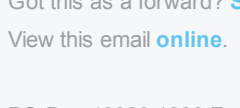
Domestic violence is an issue of social injustice, rooted in oppression. To end domestic violence, active steps must be taken at individual, local, regional, and statewide levels to end all forms of oppression. More specifically, domestic violence cannot end without addressing the oppression of women of color.



The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence has created a Racial Justice page that includes a [summary](#) of the organization's work, current initiatives, resources and training information. [Learn more.](#)

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