



Niagara County FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT Newsletter

Volume 1.3

August 2017

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"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, and one for helping others."

-Maya Angelou

Safe at Home Conference

The 19th Annual Family Violence Intervention Project Safe at Home Conference brings leading national experts to Western New York to assist professionals from a wide range of disciplines to confront the complex challenges of responding to interpersonal violence. The conference is being held on **Thursday, October 12, 2017** at the Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls.

Safe at Home is designed to enhance professional skills and promote best practices to recognize, investigate, treat and prevent violence against both children and adults. Child welfare professionals, Law enforcement officers, prosecutors, healthcare providers, mental health counselors, social workers, educators, advocates and other child-serving personnel will gain practical, current information related to their field.

CEU's are anticipated for licensed social workers and mental health clinicians.

Conference Speakers:

Keynote: James Hopper, Ph. D. Neurobiology of Sexual Assault Trauma

Plenary: Cattaraugus County Sheriff Timothy Whitcomb, PTSD – History, Current Statistics and Incident Rates in First Responders

The Safe at Home Conference is presented by the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, a service of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center. We are grateful to our sponsors who make this program possible: Niagara County Department of Social Services, Niagara County Department of Mental Health, Buffalo Bills, Catholic Charities of Buffalo, Niagara Services and the Seneca Niagara Resort and Casino.

Conference Workshops

- **Effects of Sexual Abuse on Males**, *James Hopper, Ph.D.*
- **Preventing Human Trafficking and Exploitation through Youth Empowerment and Caregiver Engagement**, *Jennifer Shimer, MS*, Love 146, an international human rights organization working to end child trafficking.
- **QPR: Question, Persuade, Refer – Suicide Prevention Gatekeepers Program**, *Garra Lloyd-Lester*, Associate Director, Suicide Prevention Center of New York State
- **Changing Perspectives from Devastating Tragedy to Learning Opportunities**, *Sheriff Timothy Whitcomb*
- **Mindfulness, Compassion & Yoga for Recovery from Trauma; Brain Bases and Available Interventions**, *James Hopper, Ph.D.*
- **Engaging and Working with Survivors of Child Sex Trafficking**, *Jennifer Shimer, MS*
- **Suicide Prevention, Bullying and Cyberbullying: What Do We Know and What Can We Do?**, *Garra Lloyd-Lester*

For more information and to register visit our website at www.cacofniagara.org

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month Spotlight: October Events



2nd Annual Red Flag Campaign and Domestic Violence Awareness Event “Surviving...Thriving: A Journey of Healing Through Art”

Niagara University is hosting the Red Flag Campaign and a domestic violence awareness event on **Thursday, October 5, 2017** from 5pm to 8pm at the Castellani Art Museum. The Red Flag Campaign, a dating violence awareness initiative used on college campuses all over the country, will be taking place at Niagara University in the days leading up to the main event. The domestic violence awareness event will feature over 80 pieces of domestic violence survivor artwork for viewing. Niagara University is collaborating with several local victim service agencies in Niagara County, including Family & Children’s Service of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriff’s Victim Assistance Unit, and the YWCA of the Niagara Frontier. Everyone is welcome to attend. Admission to the event is \$1 for students and \$5 for non-students, and all funds raised will be donated to local domestic violence survivor programs.

4th Annual Domestic Violence Ribbon Walk and Art Exhibit “Permission Canvas’, Values of Me, Affirmations From a Birdie”

Family & Children’s Passage House Domestic Violence program is hosting it’s 4th annual Domestic Violence Ribbon Walk and Art Exhibit event on **Tuesday, October 10th, 2017** starting at 4:30 pm at the corner of Main and Third streets in Niagara Falls. Participants will be tying purple ribbons around the trees on the two blocks of Third Street between Main St. and Niagara St. to raise awareness for Domestic Violence Awareness month. Afterwards, come take a look at survivor art created by clients in Passage House DV Services while networking and grabbing some food and drink at Wine on Third. Art is on display during the entire month of October at Wine on Third for everyone to come and See!



Research Corner- We are happy to provide you with recent research related to family violence



Study abstract

“Intimate partner violence (IPV) among homeless youth (HY) is common, yet it has continuously been understudied, especially in relation to substance use. As part of a longitudinal study of Los Angeles area HY, drop-in service seeking youth completed a self-administered questionnaire.

The presented results are from the third panel of data collection ($N = 238$), and the Revised Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS2) was used to assess IPV behavior regarding the participant’s most

recent intimate relationship. Approximately 38% of participants reported IPV behavior in their most recent relationship, and the majority of this behavior was bidirectional. It was unlikely that a HY was only a victim or only a perpetrator.

Multivariable models revealed that bidirectional IPV was related to increased odds of recent methamphetamine use; whereas sole perpetration was associated with an increased likelihood of ecstasy use. Specific substance use and IPV are closely

related to risk behaviors for HY. Comprehensive interventions should be developed to address both these risk behaviors.

Petering, R., Rhoades, H., Rice, E., & Yoshioka-Maxwell, A. (2015). Bidirectional Intimate Partner Violence and Drug Use Among Homeless Youth. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 32(14), 2209-2217. doi:10.1177/0886260515593298

If you would like a PDF copy of the article, please email Dana Radatz at dradatz@niagara.edu.

Happenings Around Town...

Have an agency announcement, group dates or events to share?

Email lbachman@niagarafamily.org

Here is what is happening:

Thursday, October 5th

Surviving...Thriving: A Journey of Healing Through Art.

Red Flag Campaign/DV Awareness event
5:00 pm– 8:00 pm

Castellani Art Museum

Admission: \$1 for students/ \$5 for community. Join us as we appreciate the art created by survivors of Domestic Violence, while coming together to create awareness and change as a campus and community

Tuesday, October 10th

Domestic Violence Ribbon Walk

Family & Children's Passage DV Services gather at the corner of Main and Third streets in Niagara Falls
4:30 pm start time

Join us at Wine on Third directly following the walk to view survivor art work created by clients in Passage House DV services, while networking and grabbing some food and drink

Thursday, October 12th

Safe at Home Conference

Family Violence Intervention Project
Conference & Events Center Niagara Falls
8:00 am– 4:00 pm

For more information and to register visit www.cacofniagara.org

Thursday, October 19th

Wear Purple Day!

Show your support for survivors of domestic violence and join this national initiative!
#PurpleThursday

Tuesday, October 24th

The YWCA of the Niagara Frontier Advisory Board Fundraiser

Gateway Banquets– Crazy Jakes
26 Webster St, North Tonawanda
5:30 pm– 8:00 pm

Ticket price: \$35– includes hor'devoures and one free drink



Tuesday, October 17th (tentative)

In Her Shoes DV simulation

2:00 pm– 4:00 pm

Lockport Public Safety Facility
5574 Niagara Street. Extension,
Lockport

RSVP to lbachman@niagarafamily.org
Or call Larissa at 285– 6984

Wednesdays, August 9th– September 13th

Breastfeeding Support Group

Healthy Families

10:00 am– 11:00 am

Day Road Park, Lockport (near the gazebo)

For moms, moms to be, and certified lactation counselors. Learn about the benefits of breastfeeding, share experiences, ask questions and meet new people

Tuesday, October 24th

In Her Shoes DV Simulation

10:00 am– 12:00 pm

Family & Children's Service of
Niagara

1522 Main St. Niagara Falls

RSVP to lbachman@niagarafamily.org or call Larissa at 285-6984

Tuesday, November 14th

Child Sex Trafficking– From Suspicion to Disclosure

8:00 am– 4:00 pm

Conference & Event Center
Niagara Falls

Presented by Niagara County Safe Harbour Project
Register by October 13th by <http://cacofniagara.org/services/safe-harbour/>



“HATS OFF!” to...

Ericka Rowcroft!

Ericka Rowcroft began her career in 1997 at the Niagara County Sheriff's Office as a Crime Victim Advocate in the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. She is well known to service providers, law enforcement, prosecutors and the courts for her dedication to the program and the countless hours she spends making sure victims are safe and well informed and that offenders are held accountable. Splitting her days between the Sheriff's Office and the Niagara Falls Police Department she assists over 2000 victims of domestic violence a year throughout Niagara County, utilizing her own knowledge and over 20 years of experience while collaborating with other service providers to connect victims to the most appropriate services. Ericka's calm demeanor, positive attitude and resourcefulness are qualities that make her an exemplary advocate who is very much appreciated!

Thanks for everything you do for this community.

Hats off to you, Ericka!

WHAT IS FVIP?

For more information about FVIP, go to www.cacofniagara.org and look for FVIP under the services tab or email cacofniagara@nfmmc.org



**Domestic
Violence Hotline**
#s:
Passage
(716) 299-0909
YWCA
(716) 433-6716

The Niagara County Family Violence Intervention Project (FVIP) is a coalition of agencies and organizations committed to addressing interpersonal violence and child abuse through collaborative responses, community education and professional training.

For nearly 20 years, FVIP has recognized the co-occurrence of child abuse and domestic violence and worked together to protect children and adults alike. Volunteer FVIP Steering Committee members set the FVIP's strategic agenda for training, collaboration, and networking for mutual support for a shared mission.

We are so excited to share the FVIP Newsletter with the community. We will be sharing news, events, and program highlights on a quarterly basis!

The FVIP is coordinated by the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

In the meantime, visit our website at <http://cacofniagara.org/services/family-violence-intervention-project/>

COMMUNITY EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT:

“Child Sex Trafficking-- From Suspicion to Disclosure”

This 1-day training provides techniques and strategies to professionals who are likely to interact with possible victims of child sex trafficking to enhance likelihood of obtaining information from these interactions.

The instructors will compare and contrast typical child sexual abuse cases with child sex trafficking cases, address the different points of entry into the system for child sex traf-

ficking victims and how each team member's role can contribute to a positive outcome of the child sex trafficking case.

Presented by:
Niagara County Safe Harbour Project
Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center



Join us for this **FREE** training:
Tuesday, November 14th
8:00 am– 4:00 pm
Conference & Event Center
Niagara Falls
101 Old Falls Street
Niagara Falls, NY

For more information:
Call
(716) 285-0045
Visit

<http://cacofniagara.org/services/safe-harbour/>