

## support and advocacy for survivors of violence and trauma



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2009

Contact: Helga (Luest) West

p: 301-846-9110

### **Domestic Violence Service Providers Receive Free Advanced e-Learning**

*Witness Justice's New Program with the Office on Violence Against Women Launches Nationally*

Washington, DC - The U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and Witness Justice (WJ) have developed TrainingForums.org, an innovative Web-based training and education program created to address important and difficult issues facing professionals that work with survivors of domestic violence.

In addition to WJ and OVW, the partnership includes the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, MetaMedia Training International, Inc., and a wide range of other domestic violence and related issue experts. Together, the initiative has produced a service provider training facility comprised of (initially) three (3) free courses along with a community discussion forum featuring expert moderators on 12 distinct topics. This program also marks an important collaboration between the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), where DHHS' National Center for Trauma-Informed Care serves as expert counsel on trauma as it relates to the course topics. The e-learning platform is designed to help providers with hot topics facing this field of service provision. The initial courses include understanding trauma and creating trauma-informed services; cultural competency; and responding to undocumented survivors.

The development of this program is a major step in creating an accessible, cost effective, state-of-the-art tool to deepen professional understanding on difficult and emerging topics, while building peer support and fostering dialog in the domestic violence community. It is the outcome of Witness Justice's National Domestic Violence Task Force that was assembled in 2005 to find innovative ways to address gaps in this field.

Both the courses and forums can be accessed by going to [www.TrainingForums.org](http://www.TrainingForums.org).

*Witness Justice is a national grassroots nonprofit organization, based in Maryland. Our mission is to provide support and advocacy for victims of violence and trauma. For more information, please visit us at [www.WitnessJustice.org](http://www.WitnessJustice.org).*

###

[Forward email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to hwest@witnessjustice.org by [info@witnessjustice.org](mailto:info@witnessjustice.org).

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Witness Justice | PO Box 475 | Frederick | MD | 21705-0475