



HOUSE OF RUTH  
MARYLAND

**TRAINING INSTITUTE**  
**Training Topics Overview**

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The Training Institute is committed to providing high quality presentations for your group. Every topic is designed to keep the audiences' attention by using various forms of media, visually interesting materials, and talented presenters who actually do the work in the field. All of this is used to provide cutting edge content and insight from experienced professionals. Our menu of topics is always being expanded so please continue to check with us for updates.

**Abuse Intervention: Working With Perpetrators** (90 minutes)

When most professionals think about intervening in a domestic violence case they consider what they can do for the victim and her/his children to protect them from the violence. This presentation will help people understand the importance of addressing perpetrators of intimate partner violence directly, the history of that work, and practical tools and ideas for doing that.

**Children Impacted by Intimate Partner Violence** (1 hour)

It is widely known that children are impacted by witnessing domestic violence. This presentation gives a detailed overview of how children are affected at various stages of their development. Suggestions for techniques and resources are made for professionals who will work with children exposed to domestic violence.

**Forms of Abuse/Power & Control** (1 hour)

This is an active, multi-media presentation that covers the different ways perpetrators can abuse their victims before the violence ever becomes physical or sexual. Most of these more subtle forms of abuse wear on victims and are frustrating because they do not result in the "proof" of a bruise or other injury. A recording of a real domestic violence situation is used throughout this presentation to make the point.

*Warning: This presentation's content includes explicit language.*

**GLBTQ Community & Domestic Violence** (1 hour)

There are many similarities, as well as differences, when addressing intimate partner violence in the GLBTQ community. This presentation will review them and help participants gain an understanding of useful terms, how to discuss issues of gender and sexual orientation with clients, and unique tactics of abuse and barriers in this



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community. All of this content is reviewed with the intention of increasing practitioners' confidence in their ability work within the GLBTQ community, regardless of their personal beliefs.

**“Her”story & Theories of Domestic Violence (1 hour)**

The violence against women movement has an important history that provides the context for a lot of policy and techniques used today. This presentation provides a review of the roots of partner abuse and the efforts to end it. This workshop is particularly valuable for young and/or newer advocates in the field. It is also a celebratory review for more senior staff.

***“In Her Shoes” or “In Their Shoes” (1 hour)***

Resources are limited and our community doesn't always respond to domestic violence the way we would like it to. This is an experiential activity to help practitioners understand the various barriers faced by victims of domestic violence. It is intended to remind staff of the humanity of clients and to increase compassion and empathy toward those we serve. This activity can be designed for professionals serving adults or teens.

**Intimate Partner Violence in the Latino Community (1 hour)**

Latino communities are being created and expanding throughout our country. Like every other ethnic group, they face issues of domestic violence. It is important for today's practitioner to be aware of the similarities and differences in working with Latino clients as compared to mainstream clients. Particular attention is given to the experience of immigrant Latinos, both documented and undocumented.

**Legal Remedies in Maryland for Domestic Violence (2 hours)**

This is a comprehensive review of Maryland's civil and criminal remedies for domestic violence. This is essential content for any professional working with victims, survivors, or perpetrators of domestic violence. The material is provided in a format that is visually engaging and easy to follow.



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**Risk Assessment & Lethality** (1 hour)

Tools for assessing a client's risk of death or serious bodily harm are necessary and invaluable in this field. This presentation reviews Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell's "Danger Assessment, which is a validated and nationally recognized lethality assessment tool. Case examples will be provided so participants understand each item on the measure and can practice applying the tool.

**Safety Planning** (1 hour)

Techniques for safety planning are ever changing as new resources become available to both protect and abuse our clients. This presentation will review things to consider when developing a personalized safety plan for a client. Participants will be given the opportunity to practice developing a safety plan and resource suggestions will be provided.

**Sexual Abuse** (1 hour)

Clients are often asked about their history of sexual abuse in an intake form or survey and then the issue is never addressed again. This presentation reviews why sexual abuse may be uncomfortable to discuss and provides actual language for talking about the topic. Sexual abuse is also reviewed from the perpetrators point of view and specific techniques for intervention are provided.

**Technology & Abuse** (1 hour)

Advances in technology are being made daily and it can be difficult to keep up with new ways to protect ourselves and our clients. This presentation will review some of the ways technology is used to harass, stalk and abuse. Concepts such as geotagging, spoofing, and spyware will be reviewed.

**Teen Dating Violence - Introduction** (90 minutes)

Educational presentations can be designed for teens, parents, teachers, and other youth serving professionals. The presentation will use a multi-media approach to cover prevalence, dynamics of dating violence, recognizing abuse, addressing victims and abusers, available resources, and prevention strategies.



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**Teen Dating Violence – Advanced** (4 hours)

This presentation contains all content included in the Teen Dating Violence Introduction (see above). In addition, participants will learn and practice intervention techniques for both victims and abusers. Recommendations are made for discussing and addressing the issue of teen dating violence at various ages and stages of youth. This workshop is designed for parents, teachers and other youth serving professionals.

**Vicarious Trauma & Self Care** (60 minutes)

It is important that practitioners feel committed and responsible for helping our clients, but when that goes too far it can lead to burnout and costly staff turnover. This presentation positions self care not as an ideal suggestion, but as a professional responsibility. Participants will develop personal self care plans that include identifying their own symptoms of vicarious trauma.

**Working with Victims Who Stay/Survivors' Decision Process** (60 minutes)

Every professional who has worked with victims and survivors of intimate partner violence has felt anger, resentment, disappointment and/or frustration in a client who chooses to remain in contact with the abuser. This presentation will walk participants through the client's decision making process to help them develop understanding, compassion, and respect for their clients' decisions. This is an essential presentation for new staff and those who may need to avoid burnout or to rekindle their passion for their work in ending intimate partner violence. This presentation content is used with permission and based on the "Advocacy Beyond Leaving" work created by Jill Davies, Futures Without Violence and the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence.