



Media Advisory:

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Domestic Violence Coalition Announces New Initiative to Treat Trauma in Victims of Violence: Pathways to Healing Project Funded Through a \$25,000 Verizon Grant

Sacramento, April 16, 2013 — The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (the Partnership) will help state domestic violence service providers better understand the effects of violence on victims, thanks to a \$25,000 Verizon Foundation grant.

Domestic violence survivors experience profound trauma affecting not only their physical health and safety, but also social and emotional well-being. With a better collective understanding of trauma, more survivors will find their paths to healing and wellness.

The Pathways to Healing initiative will provide training and technical assistance program support for the implementation of trauma-informed services in domestic violence organizations across California. Trauma-informed services are designed to assist survivors in strengthening their own emotional and psychological capacities to deal with the complex issues that they face in their recovery from the effects of domestic violence. The Pathways to Healing project also aims to ensure that all survivors of domestic violence have access to advocacy services in an environment that is inclusive, welcoming, de-stigmatizing, and that won't traumatize them again.

Partnership executive director Tara Shabazz thanked Verizon for supporting what she called a "forward-looking" initiative: "Verizon should be commended for recognizing how important trauma-informed services are, not just for victims, but for the advocates serving them. Working together, we can customize our services to avoid unintended re-

traumatization, capitalize on victims' personal strengths and encourage victim participation and decision-making to cultivate resilience and healing.”

Related Web Sites:

National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health:

<http://www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org/>

National Center for Trauma-Informed Care: <http://www.samhsa.gov/nctic/trauma.asp>

About the Partnership

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (the Partnership) is California's statewide domestic violence coalition, with organizational and individual members across the state. Working at the local, state and national levels for nearly 30 years, the Partnership has a long track record of successfully passing over 100 pieces of legislation on behalf of domestic violence victims and their children. The Partnership believes that by sharing expertise, advocates and legislators can end domestic violence. Every day we inspire, inform and connect all those concerned with this issue, because together we're stronger. With offices in Sacramento, the Partnership's member programs span the entire state.

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