

Family Resource Agency

Family Violence Program



FVP NEWS...

Information Exchange

On April 18th, the FVP is having our semi-annual information exchange. This is a time for leaders in the community from the fields of criminal justice, social service and mental health to gather and participate in training and discussion related to victim services. This year we are excited to have Robin Kimbrough joining us as a special guest speaker. Robin is an attorney for the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (TCADSV), and she will be addressing many of the legal issues related to domestic and sexual violence. Issues to consider when responding to victims and how to better understand their situations will also be discussed. There will also be the opportunity for attendees to discuss problems they are encountering while working with victims and possible solutions for creating a more collaborative community response. This will be an incredible opportunity for community members to learn and connect in a meaningful way.

For more information about the Information Exchange and other SAAM Activities, contact Liz DeStasio:303-3522

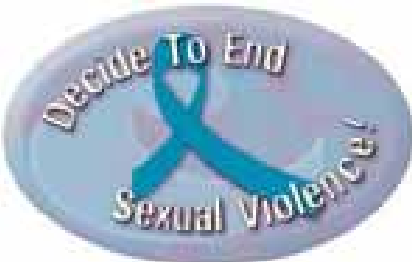
April 1, 2008

- * April 1—SAAM begins
- * April 10—Cultural Awareness Fair at Cleveland State
- * April 10—Lee University sexual assault movie and discussion
- * April 11—Bradley Community Advisory Board Fair
- * April 15—Last day to submit art for HTA contest
- * April 18—Semi-Annual Information Exchange at FRA
- * April 24th—Healing through the Arts Event at Cleveland State

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Healing through the Arts

Our annual Healing through the Arts contest is already under way. Individuals have begun entering artwork centered around sexual violence for the contest and display that will be held at Cleveland State on April 24th. We are pleased to have Pine Ridge Center, Behavioral Research Institute and the Social Work program of Cleveland State assisting us with this important event. Information will be available about these various programs on the day of the event. It is not too late to submit an art piece for inclusion in the contest! Entries can be made to the Family Resource Agency now through April 15th. Everyone is encouraged to participate, no matter what level of artistic ability one has! Take this opportunity to speak out about a terrible problem in our community by expressing yourself through art.

VOCA Funding Cuts

In December 2007, the 2008 Omnibus Bill was signed, which reduced the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund by \$35 million nationally. The VOCA fund is a non-taxpayer funded resource serving over 3 million crime victims each year. The funding is received through fines and penalties collected from convicted criminals. The FVP receives two VOCA grants from the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice (OCJP). OCJP estimates that state cuts will range from 11-22%, representing between \$830, 000 and \$1.6 million in reductions. OCJP has been able to absorb smaller cuts in the past, but this large of a cut will result in reductions to all state fiscal year 2008-2009 grants across the board with greater reductions for programs with poor performance reviews. VOCA is Tennessee's largest federal source of support for programs that serve crime victims with over 100 programs dependant on these funds. Annually, these programs provide over 135,000 services to nearly 40,000 Tennessee victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child and elder abuse, and other crimes.

For more information about these cuts visit the TN OCJP website at:
<http://www.state.tn.us/finance/rds/ocjp.htm>

Program Information

Office: 479-9339 Option 2
24 Hour Hotline: 476-3886
Office Hours: 9am-5pm

3680 Michigan Avenue, NE
Cleveland, TN 37323

Domestic Violence Support Group

Every Monday at 6:30pm
Please Contact Sherry Hayes
For More Info:
303-3515

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send an e-mail to ldestasio@fratn.com

Questions or Comments? E-mail us at ldestasio@fratn.com or call us at 423-479-9339 Option 2

PLEASE DO NOT DIRECTLY REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE, THANK YOU!