

# Family Justice Center Newsletter



February 1, 2009

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Family Justice  
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Hours of Operation  
Mon day- Thursday  
8am - 8pm  
Friday 8am - 5pm

*The mission of the Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County is to improve the lives of family violence victims through community collaboration and the provision of comprehensive services in a single location.*

## February Highlights

February 2nd - 6th is

### *National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention' Week*

*The crime of teen dating violence, including physical, emotional and sexual assault, and harassment via texting, email or Instant Messaging is a reality for many American teenagers.*

- One in eleven adolescents reports being a victim of physical dating violence.
- 30 percent of teens in a dating relationship have been text-messaged 10, 20, or 30 times an hour by a partner finding out where they are, what they are doing or who they are with.
- One in five teens in a serious relationship reports having been hit, slapped or pushed by a partner.
- 29 percent of girls in a relationship report having been pressured to go further sexually than they really wanted.

The Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Initiative was started by teens through the American Bar Association in 2004. In 2006, the first national "week" was declared by Congress, and has been recognized every year since then. Since its inception, a number of governors have declared proclamations, and today, the Initiative includes over 50 national, state and local agencies and organizations as partners. More information can be found at: [http://crapo.senate.gov/issues/teen\\_dating\\_violence.cfm](http://crapo.senate.gov/issues/teen_dating_violence.cfm).

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# Family Justice Center Volunteer Program

## Painters Needed!!!!

The FJC is in need of volunteer painters to give our intake rooms a fresh look. Preferably individuals with prior painting experience. Please contact Mona Cruz at: [macruz@fjchc.org](mailto:macruz@fjchc.org) for more information.



## Thank You Volunteers!

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Are YOU Interested in Volunteering at the Family Justice Center?

The Family Justice Center is always looking for people who are willing to share their time and volunteer to help us provide a safe and comfortable environment for those we serve.

Please contact us at 813.935.2015

or [info@fjchc.org](mailto:info@fjchc.org) for further Information.



# Family Justice Center Training Academy

## *Nuts And Bolts: The Basics of Domestic Violence Advocacy Training (12 CEU's)*

*February 2nd and 3rd 2009 from 8:30am-5:00pm*

*March 2nd and 3rd 2009 from 8:30am- 5:00pm*

This is a four part (FJC 101, 201, 301, 401), 2 Day training offered to advocates, volunteers, interns, clergy, and other community based providers who work with victims of domestic violence. Topics include, dynamics of domestic violence, safety planning, lethality assessment, confidentiality, boundaries, working with diverse populations, dating violence, and effects of domestic violence on children and adolescents.

## *FJC Orientation for new On-Site Partners February 16th, 2009 from 9:00 am-12:30pm*

Basic operational procedures of the FJC, and vital safety policies and procedures, equipment, and scheduling procedures between agencies.



## **The Child Welfare Domestic Violence Cross-System Training Series Presents:**

*Hillsborough Kids, Inc.*

*February 11th, 11pm to 4pm, February 27rd 9am- 12pm*

*Facilitator: John Luff*

This class will address the Florida Statute Chapter 39 as it pertains to our children coming into care. Discussion will include the process for when the children are in care, such as, how and what is developed in terms of the case plan where the parents will need to follow in hopes of gaining back their children, how the adoption process works when the parents do not follow the case plan or abandon the children, and what resources our community has to support these families by providing assistance to the parents and reducing the risk of harm to the children.



The FJC  
Training  
Academy is  
made possible  
by the  
Children's  
Board of  
Hillsborough  
County.



# Community Meetings

## **\*FJC Partner Council**

Meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month. The next meeting will be on February 25th, 2009 at 9 am at the Family Justice Center.

## **\*Sexual Abuse Intervention Network (SAIN)**

Meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for February 18th, 2009 at 9 am at the Family Justice Center. Contact Kristina Roberts at [kr Roberts@fjchc.org](mailto:kr Roberts@fjchc.org) with any questions.

## **\*Sexual Violence Task Force**

Meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month at Noon at the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay. the next meeting will be February 25th, 2009.

## **Hillsborough County Domestic Violence Task Force Committee Meetings:**

### **\*Domestic Violence Task Force**

March 12th, 2009 at 10:30a at the Crisis Center

### **\*Project L.A.U.R.A**

March 25th, 2009 at 3:00p at the FJC. Contact: Roseanne Cupoli at [rocupoli@thespring.org](mailto:rocupoli@thespring.org) or 813-247-5433 ext. 309.

### **\* Pet Shelter Committee**

February 12th, at 3:30pm at Spring Administration, Contact Jim Brace at [jbrace@thespring.org](mailto:jbrace@thespring.org) or 813-247-5433 ext.339.

### **\* Public Policy Committee**

(working on DV and Child Welfare project). Contact Family Justice Center, Nikki Daniels at [ndaniels@fjchc.org](mailto:ndaniels@fjchc.org) or 813-490- 9401, Committee Meeting , March 31st, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Family Justice Center.

### **\* Community Education & Awareness Committee**

February 12th 2009,10:30am, The Crisis Center. Contact: Donna Vento at [dmvento@thespring.org](mailto:dmvento@thespring.org) or 813-247-5433 ext. 315

### **\*Faith Committee: TBA**

## **Partner Council Agency Spotlight**

Our Partner Council Agency Spotlight for the month of January was Carlos Betancourt of Gulfcoast Legal Services. “GLS” provides immigration legal services at no cost to qualifying individuals based on the Federal poverty guidelines. They offer assistance with trying to obtain legal status for DV victims in the following categories: 1. Removal of Temporary residence (“temporary green card”) and convert to permanent residence (“green card”). 2. Pursue permanent residence for victims who are married to U.S. citizens or permanent residents under the Violence Against Women Act (can also apply to children and parents of U.S. citizens or permanent residents). 3. Seek lawful temporary status under the “U” visa for victims of crimes that can later lead to green card. 4. Representation in deportation court for DV victims. GLS’s success story involved a woman who was a doctor abroad. She married a U.S. citizen and he got her the temporary green card. After she arrived in the U.S. he became abusive and she fled to The Spring. While there she sought help from GLS and they were successful in getting her the permanent green card. She’s now continuing her education in the U.S. to hopefully become a doctor. Thanks for your hard work Gulfcoast!



## **Family Justice Center Position Announcement**

**FJC is accepting resumes for the:  
Sexual Abuse Intervention Network  
Coordinator**

**The position requires a bachelor’s degree, but master’s degree is preferred.**

**The job entails coordinating a collaborative, community network to improve services for youth with sexual behavior problems. The candidate would also conduct trainings in the community regarding youth with sexual behavior problems, and would coordinate the annual SAIN two-day conference. Please send resumes to: Nikki Daniels, LCSW, Executive Director, Family Justice Center of Hillsborough County at**

**[ndaniels@fjchc.org](mailto:ndaniels@fjchc.org)**

# FJC Calendar

## February 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Nuts and Bolts 8:30am – 5pm FJC	3 Nuts and Bolts 8:30am – 5 pm FJC	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 CWDV Training HKI 9am FJC	12	13	14 
15	16 FJC Orientation 9 am FJC	17	18 SAIN 9 am FJC	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27 CWDV Training HKI 9am FJC	28
					<b>Legend:</b> Date in <b>Red</b> = FJC Closed	

Have any additions for next month's calendar? Please contact the Community Outreach Coordinator at [outreachcoord@fjhc.org](mailto:outreachcoord@fjhc.org) for more details.

## CHILD WELFARE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CROSS-SYSTEM TRAINING SERIES

### **Mission Statement:**

The Hillsborough County System of Care is committed to the prevention and elimination of domestic violence in our community. We will increase public awareness and community involvement while encouraging local community leaders and other key service providers to support efforts to change the conventional policies and cultural practices that perpetuate violence against men, women and children. We will work to ensure policy and procedures support victims and hold offenders accountable.

### **Vision Statement:**

To create a culture shift to eradicate domestic violence in our community while overcoming obstacles and challenges through advocacy, education and training.

### **Statement of Philosophy:**

Domestic Violence is a choice made by persons who strive to achieve power, control, and gratification through the manipulation of another person. This is obtained through a variety of abuse, such as, emotional, physical, sexual, psychological and economic. It is the objective of this training series to educate the community to further understand these types of victimization. Clarifying this would promote better and more meaningful supports and services. This is accomplished through:

- Training at the community and local level
- Dissemination of a variety of education materials
- Challenge system wide beliefs through multi-disciplinary collaborations



## **Cross-system Training Series**

**Dynamics of Domestic Violence** – (also known as **domestic abuse** or **spousal abuse**) occurs when a family member or intimate partner dominates another through coercion, threats or physical abuse. This course will provide a basic understanding of the dynamics of power and control, forms of abuse and ways in which community members can intervene to provide safety and support to survivors. \*\*\*3 CEU's\*\*\*

*October 8, 2008 from 1pm to 4pm, October 24 from 9am to noon  
Facilitators: Mona Cruz -Family Justice Center, Jim Brace- The Spring*

**Resource Fair** – This is similar to a job fair, but with providers and agencies within our community. There are company booths set up and anyone interested can come and learn about services and opportunities within the HKI System of Care.

*October 21, 2008 from 1pm to 4pm at the DCF Auditorium*

**Effects of Family Violence on Children** – This course will examine normal developmental milestones in young children and the potential impact of family violence on children's learning, health and behavior. Family violence includes the impact of domestic violence in the family as well as the impact of child abuse. \*\*\*3CEU's\*\*\*

*November 12, 2008 from 1pm to 4pm, December 5, 2008 from 9am to noon  
Facilitators: Mona Cruz-Family Justice Center, Brian McEwen-Child Abuse Council,  
Andrew Sherrod-The Spring*

**Safety Planning and Lethality Assessment** – This class will assist with discovering the links between an abusive partner's behaviors and gauging the level of threat a particular victim faces, taking steps to increase personal security before and after violence and preparing to get to a safe place. The class will also explore safety planning from the child welfare perspective. The safety plan is a specific course of action that is determined necessary to control threats of serious harm or supplementing a family's protective capacities implemented immediately when a family's protective capacities are not sufficient to manage immediate or serious harm threats. \*\*\*3 CEU's\*\*\*

*January 14, 2009 from 1pm to 4 pm, January 23, 2009 from 9am to noon  
Facilitators: Mona Cruz - Family Justice Center, Roseanne Cupoli- The Spring,  
Kathleen Matthews- HCSO/CPID*

**Hillsborough Kids, Inc.** – This class will address the Florida Statute Chapter 39 as it pertains to our children coming into care. Discussion will include the process for when the children are in care, such as, how and what is developed in terms of the case plan where the parents will need to follow in hopes of gaining back their children, how the adoption process works when the parents do not follow the case plan or abandon the children, and what resources our community has to support these families by providing assistance to the parents and reducing the risk of harm to the children.

*February 11, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, February 27 from 9am to noon  
Facilitator: John Luff - Hillsborough Kids*

**Child Protective Investigations** – The class will provide basic information on how abuse reports are handled from the Florida Abuse Hotline through distribution to the field. Additionally, it will address the investigations process; types of reports investigated, maltreatments, and mandated reporting.

*March 11, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, March 27, 2009 from 9am to noon  
Facilitator: Marion Tarallo - Hillsborough County Sherriff's Office*

**The Court System** – Criminal prosecution of domestic violence and child abuse/neglect cases will be discussed along with granting civil injunctions for protection and enforcing them, juvenile dependency court process, and family law (establishing paternity, custody, visitation, support and obtaining a divorce).

*April 8, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, April 24, 2009 from 9am to noon  
Facilitators: Henry Hower– Bay Area Legal Services,  
David Silverstein– Office of the Attorney General*

**Mental Health and Trauma** – This class is designed to assist service providers with identifying mental health issues among families they serve. Appropriate referrals, crisis intervention strategies, and information regarding work with survivors of trauma will also be addressed. The concepts of resiliency and the journey from victim to survivor to thriver will also be explored. \*\*\*3CEU's\*\*\*

*May 13, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, May 22, 2009 from 9am to noon  
Facilitator: Danielle Mercuri, Camille Francis and Angela Torres– Crisis Center*

**Substance Abuse** – This training is designed to assist service providers with identifying substance abuse and intervention strategies. Effects of substance abuse on children and considerations to be taken when working with substance abusing survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence will also be discussed. \*\*\*3 CEU's\*\*\*

*June 10, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, June 26, 2009 from 9am to noon  
Facilitator: Linda Mann– DACCO, Carali McLean– Central Florida Behavioral Health  
Network*

**Cultural Competency** – The focus of this training is to understand how domestic violence crosses over all socio economic classes, races, and ethnicity. Helping child welfare participants to make better decisions about how domestic violence impacts families & children and understand how cultural issues impact family acceptance of service. Helping others gain a better understanding of cultural competency and domestic violence.

*July 8, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, July 24 from 9am to noon*  
*Facilitator: Niki Kelly– Gulf Coast and Jewish Family Services,*  
*Henry Hower– Bay Area Legal Services*

**Understanding Batterers and Batterers Intervention Programs** – This training will focus on understanding the Model used in psycho-educational treatment and the learning how to increase communication between BIP providers and child welfare professionals. Additionally, participants will look at how domestic violence impacts our society as a whole. \*\*\*3CEU's\*\*\*

*August 12, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, August 28, 2009 from 9am to noon*  
*Facilitator: Daniel Hersey*

**Compassion Fatigue** – This class focuses on how exposure to family violence affects those in the helping professions. Discussion will consist of coping and adapting measures to assist in the prevention of burn-out. \*\*\*3CEU's\*\*\*

*September 9, 2009 from 1pm to 4pm, September 25 from 9am to noon*  
*Facilitator: TBA*

## **About the Series**

**The Child Welfare/Domestic Violence Training series is designed for all staff who works in the child welfare and/or domestic violence systems. It is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of issues facing families impacted by child welfare and domestic violence issues. The goal is to help all professionals understand the complex issues of both child welfare and domestic violence advocates, and begin to develop a common understanding and language.**

**All training sessions listed above will be offered twice in the same month, to allow as many staff as possible to attend. It will also be posted at [www.centerforchildwelfare.org](http://www.centerforchildwelfare.org) or viewing after the last training in the month is offered. This is to allow as many staff as possible to benefit from this training.**

**Each training session is offered at the Family Justice Center, 9309**

**North Florida Ave, Suite 109, Tampa FL 33612. Please go to**

**[www.fjchc.org](http://www.fjchc.org), go to the main site and click “events” to register.**

**Registration is free, CEU’s are available for courses indicated above.**