

## The Resource Center Newsletter

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2020

*A Spotlight on the Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody's (RCDV: CPC) Resources for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2020*

Greetings,

It is with deep appreciation for the advocates, attorneys, court staff, and myriad other professionals who informed and encouraged the work of the RCDV:CPC for twenty five years that the RCDV:CPC shares this e-newsletter each month. This month, as we anticipate Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) in October and wind down another productive fiscal year, we would like to highlight many of the new resources available to our readers.

#### [20 Facts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)

This factsheet seeks to honor survivors and their families who are experiencing co-occurring domestic violence and child maltreatment by exploring its prevalence and risk factors, its effects on child outcomes, and protective factors that promote resilience.

#### [The ENHANCED RESOURCE GUIDELINES: Child Welfare Caseworkers' Companion Guide](#)

This Guide was developed with the goal of improving caseworker hearing practice in child abuse and neglect cases generally, but also with a focus on improving caseworker hearing practice in cases involving domestic violence. The *Child Welfare Caseworkers' Companion Guide* is intended to be a resource for building knowledge about hearing practice, promoting effective hearing practices, and

enhancing court and child welfare agency collaboration in the child welfare system and domestic violence.

### [Restorative Justice: Healing through Honoring Community Customs, Traditions, and Spirituality](#)

This interview with Judge Claudette White focuses on restoration rather than just punishment. She uses the traditional tribal customs and practices of the people she serves to create new pathways in which tribal families dealing with historical trauma and intergenerational violence and addiction can come to healing and wholeness.

### [Judicial Awareness of Resiliency in Family Court: Some Initial Considerations.](#)

This is the second in a series of technical assistance briefs on resilience by the RCDV:CPC). This brief emphasizes the importance of family court judges becoming even more aware of how courts are considering resilience or protective factors even though, in cases like custody and divorce, direct application of these factors may not be standard or may be quite different.

### [Things to Know About Child Protection and Domestic Violence](#)

This guide, which is part of a series of guides developed for court-involved, self-represented litigants, provides general information to parents involved in the child protection system. In addition to explaining the roles of many of the people in the system, it includes practical advise around likely processes, Reasonable Efforts, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), hearings and reunification.

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### [State Specific Resources: Legislative Updates and Interactive Map](#)

This interactive map, [Child Abuse and Exposure to Domestic Violence – Definitions](#), allows an at-a-glance perspective on which states define child abuse to include allowing a child to witness domestic violence. In addition, clicking on a specific state provides immediate access to relevant child welfare and criminal statutes. You will also find [legislative updates](#) a state-by-state guide to domestic and family violence legislation passed in legislative sessions in 2017 and 2018. Legislators, judges, attorneys, domestic violence coalitions, and others interested in state domestic and family violence legislation will find these publications useful and informative as a guide to what legislative changes were made to address domestic violence in legislation across the country.

### [Addressing Domestic Violence in Juvenile Dependency Mediation](#)

This Snapshot spotlights a Juvenile Dependency Program in Nevada. The statewide program took a data-driven approach in its development and shows remarkable promise, including dramatic increases in reunification and paternal involvement compared to unmediated cases.

### [Faith, Immigration, and Domestic Violence: Concepts for Working with Faith Communities](#)

This brief publication provides important guidance for both advocates and court professionals, as many immigrant survivors of domestic violence turn to their faith communities and personal religious beliefs during times of crisis. Religion is a critically important dimension of culturally responsive services, and evidence also suggests that some forms of religious involvement may provide protective factors against external stressors.

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## [Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence: Tips for Child Welfare Workers and Advocates](#)

Child welfare workers should be sensitive to the unique needs of victims of domestic violence who experience trauma from migration. In addition to the trauma of domestic violence, immigrant and refugee populations may have exacerbating experiences of trauma during migration, including physical and sexual violence, extreme poverty, abuse from government authorities, or trafficking.

## [The Impact of Domestic Violence in the Child Welfare System: Key Points for Court Professionals and Advocates](#)

This tip sheet provides key points for court professionals, advocates, and social workers on some of the most common ways that immigrant families in the child welfare system are affected by domestic violence and how families affected by domestic violence interact with the system itself.

As always, we remain committed to ensuring that domestic violence survivors and their children have access to concerned, competent child welfare and custody systems professionals, and that their advocates have the skills and resources they need to make those systems safer. If we can partner with or support you in those goals, please do not hesitate to reach out. During this unprecedented time of public health and environmental crises, and critical period of social and racial justice reform, we encourage you and your organizations to practice generous selfcare and to support your neighbors and colleagues as you are able. Best wishes for your continued work toward safer, kinder communities and families,

Eryn Jane Branch

Director, Family Violence and Domestic Relations

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