

## ***ADVOCATE NEWSLETTER*** **September 2003**

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### **GREETINGS!**

Welcome back to all who have traveled far and wide or simply took some time off to enjoy the summer. We missed those of you who were away, but we managed to cover the schedule pretty well with the superb advocates who were unfailingly on-call throughout the summer months. You know who you are and so do we. Thank you all!

**CALLING ALL ADVOCATES AND SAFE EXAMINERS...**The September schedule still needs help!!! Please check the schedule and sign up for open shifts on our website ([www.cvtc-slr.org](http://www.cvtc-slr.org)). If you don't have access to the web, please call Sally at (212) 523-4494 to sign up.

**LEGISLATIVE AWARENESS UPDATE:** In August, Governor Pataki signed the revised Sexual Assault Reform Act Amendment which included the Sexual Assault Forensic Payment Act and the Emergency Contraception Act into law. This is great!! Next month, we will write up a short synopsis of these bills and what they mean to all of us. Not a bad season for us.

**SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> - 2 YEARS LATER:** As expected, many commemorative events will be scheduled in remembrance of 9/11/2001. Coalitions, which represent the survivors and families and friends of victims, have organized vigils, concerts and ceremonies. The website for the NYS Attorney General's Office posts events for 9/11. The site also will link you to the coalitions' websites. The address is: [www.oag.state.ny.us](http://www.oag.state.ny.us).

**NEW ADVOCATE TRAINING:** The training dates for this Fall are: Thursday, October 23 (6pm to 9pm), Saturday, November 1 (9am to 6pm), Sunday, November 2 (9am to 6pm), Friday, November 7 (6pm to 9pm), Saturday, November 8 (9am to 5pm). As we mentioned in last month's Newsletter, all new trainees will be trained in both Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Advocacy. This is the direction we are moving in, as a Program, and we'd like to encourage veteran Advocates who have not been trained in either Rape Crisis or Domestic Violence to consider attending the training this year. Active Domestic Violence Advocates who wish to be trained in Sexual Assault may attend the sessions on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Active Rape Crisis Advocates who wish to be trained in Domestic Violence can attend the sessions on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to register for either of these trainings, please call Erika at (212) 523-4728.

**EXPERIENCED ADVOCATES NEEDED FOR TRAINING:** We will need Advocates who are trained in both Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence advocacy to serve as **group leaders** at the training sessions on Saturday, November 1, Sunday, November 2 and Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and also to speak on the "**Advocate Panel**" at the Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> session. We need your expertise! If you would be willing to help out at the training, please call Erika at (212) 523-4728.

**ADVOCATE UP-TRAINING:** Mark your calendars for Up-Training on **Friday, September 19th** from 6-8 PM. In addition to Program updates and case review, Kay Johnson, CSW will give a presentation on "Working With Patients With Special Needs." This meeting will be held at the Roosevelt Site in

Conference Room C on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Remember... After this session, there will only be one more opportunity (see below) to meet your requirement of 2 Up-Trainings this year... Hope to see you there... IF, for any reason, you will not be able to meet the Up-Training requirement for this year, please give Sally a call at (212) 523-4494 to discuss other options. We'll work with you to keep you in the Program...

**SAVE THE DATE:** November's Up-Training date has been changed to THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> from 6PM-8PM. Advocates, SAFE Examiners and Attending Physicians, Residents and Nurses from the ED, Psychiatry and OB/GYN as well as NYC Alliance staff and the Hospital Committee will all be invited to attend this special workshop on Human Trafficking. The training will be facilitated by representatives from Project VISA, Victims of Trafficking, Integrated Services and Awareness Program of the New York Association for New Americans, Inc (NYANA) and will cover such topics as: Introduction to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000; legal aspects, identification of trafficking victims in the community and help and resources for victims of trafficking in New York City. We'll send out a flyer in October with information on location and registration information. SAVE THE DATE!!

**ADVOCATE NEWS:** Every (almost every...) Tuesday night at the West End on Broadway and 114<sup>th</sup> Street, you will find Rape Crisis and DV Advocate, Tim Marmo, and his team of "Brainiacs" impressing everyone with their unbeatable record in the Team Trivia Tournaments. If you'd like to challenge him and his team (and we are...), Trivia starts at 9PM but be prepared!!! It is great fun.

**STAFF NEWS:**

We will soon welcome 4 great graduate interns who will begin their placement in September with CVTC: **Debbie Benito** (one of our SAFE Examiners!) will begin her internship in psychiatric Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania; **Lily Divino** and **Jessica Barnes** from Columbia and **Wendy Sobelman** from New York University Schools of Social Work. They will be here for the academic year and for advanced training doing counseling of crime victims. Welcome to our students! We are also thrilled that our summer intern, **Amie Karp** has agreed to stay on with the Program, researching grant and foundation funding opportunities for CVTC and assisting with administrative work in the office and outreach outside of the office.

**Thought for the month**

**"When in doubt, tell the truth."**

**Mark Twain**