

PROGRAM NEWS
September 2004

GREETINGS!

CORRECTION: Last month, a letter went out to all Advocates and SAFE Examiners to verify your contact information on our database. The letter stated that the up-training requirement for Advocates is 4 sessions per year. That was a mistake! The requirement is 2 sessions per year. SO SORRY for any confusion...

NEW ADVOCATE TRAINING: It's almost that time! Our Annual Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Advocate Training is scheduled to start on October 28th and we are recruiting now! We are hot on the trail of promising new advocates for our Program. Can you help? Please spread the word to anyone you think would be interested and would make a good advocate. The recruitment flyer (with the training dates and requirements), application and medical form can all be obtained from our website, on the "Volunteers" page. Please print it out and cover the town! Advocate applicants can download the application and send it in or call the office and we'll set them up for an interview. Any help you can give us in recruiting new volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

TRAINING DATES FOR FALL 2004

Thursday, October 28 (6pm to 9pm)

Saturday, November 6 (9am to 6pm)

Sunday, November 7 (9am to 6pm)

Saturday, November 13 (9am to 6pm)

Sunday, November 14 (9am to 5pm)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: As most of you know, the NYS legislature has made better progress in past year. However, after our visit to Albany in mid-June, a DNA bill was passed which will allow for the DNA testing of convicted felons in over 60 categories and those convicted of "some" sexual assault misdemeanors. This bill is expected to impact on future "hits" and prosecution on sexual assault cases. The Assembly passed the Attorney General's Housing Discrimination bill, which would help victims of domestic violence, but it did not make the floor in the Senate. No significant bills were passed in Elder Abuse or for sensible gun and assault weapons legislation. The Downstate Legislative Committee has already met with new strategies to start early this fall. We will keep you all updated as we go along.

SEPTEMBER UP-TRAINING: This month's up-training session will take place here at CVTC's office on Thursday, **September 23rd from 6-8 PM.** Our guest speaker will be Bill Ford; co-founder of Mustard Seed, Inc. Bill is the Director of one of the few programs in NYC, which provides assessment and treatment for men convicted of sexual assault/abuse. It is a fascinating program and a gripping issue. Bill is a great presenter and we look forward to a stimulating discussion. So!!! We hope to see many of you on the 23rd!!

NEW GROUPS: Three new support groups will be starting this Fall: Jane Seskin's new DV group will start on September 22nd; Louise Kindley will co-facilitate a group for male survivors of childhood sexual abuse with Ralph Bernardini starting in October; Ruth Forero and Danette Wilson-Gonzalez will start a group for female survivors of childhood sexual abuse on October 4th. If you know of anyone who would be appropriate for any of these groups, please contact the group leader directly.

STAFF NEWS: Welcome to our two new students who will be starting on September 20th! **Courtney Rodgers** from the Columbia University School of Social Work will be supervised by Danette. **Deborah Benito RN** (who is a SAFE Examiner with our Program!) will do an internship in Psychiatric Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. Debbie will be supervised by Louise.

DEAR CVTC: I was on call last night and H-Link left a message on my cell phone saying to "call the answering service." The person who called did not leave a number. I ended up calling the ED to get the number. Maybe you should put the number in the Newsletter in case someone else needs it.

- Trying to help

Dear Trying,

Yes, that's a good suggestion. Of course, the operator should have left a call-back number but in case this happens to anyone else, the number for H-Link is (646) 354-2699.

-CVTC

Call or e-mail your questions to cvtc@cvtc-sl.org. Ask...and CVTC will answer.



BIRTHDAY WISHES... to all our Advocates, SAFE Examiners and staff who were born in the month of September: Susanna Blankley 9/4, Matthew Grob 9/7, Kelly Fleck 9/13, Nyja Greene 9/16, Stacy Ma 9/16, Noriko Namiki 9/16, Tatyana Leifman 9/25, Amy Bleakley 9/26, Lisa Ernst 9/28, Shirley Smith 9/28, Ruth Forero 9/29

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ONE AND ALL!!!

Thought for the Month

For Advocates...

Caretake this moment.

Immerse yourself in its particulars.

Respond to this person, this challenge, this deed.

It is time to really live; to fully inhabit the situation you happen to be in now.

-Epictetus