



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Dear Colleague,

On Thursday, February 25, 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with Liz Claiborne Inc. will release a new online training, *Dating Matters: Understanding Teen Dating Violence Prevention*. The training is designed to help educators, youth-serving organizations, and others working with teens understand the risk factors and warning signs associated with teen dating violence. The 60-minute course also will highlight the importance of promoting healthy relationships.

Participants will find themselves in a virtual school setting, navigating the training course through hallways, classrooms, and interactions with students. A teacher's whiteboard will present information in a user-friendly way and provide navigation, help, and interactive resources for use throughout the course.

It is possible the release of *Dating Matters* will generate press calls or public inquiries to your organization regarding teen dating violence and teen dating violence prevention. The attached materials may be useful in addressing any questions you may receive. We encourage you to share them with your partners to foster increased dialogue and awareness around teen dating violence prevention and the importance of promoting healthy and respectful relationships among teens. We will send out a link to the training for you to preview prior to the release on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Please feel free to update your information by referencing CDC's fact sheets as well as any recent publications by referring to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's webpage at [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention). If you have questions about *Dating Matters*, please contact us at [DatingMatters@cdc.gov](mailto:DatingMatters@cdc.gov).

Sincerely,

W. Rodney Hammond, PhD  
Director, Division of Violence Prevention  
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control