According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, rates for sexual violence, stalking, and domestic violence were alarming. 1 in 4 women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner and nearly 1 in 5 women have been raped in their lifetime. Please join the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women (NTF) for a timely briefing to learn about the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the largest policy effort aimed at responding to and preventing these crimes. First passed in 1994, VAWA supports comprehensive, cost-saving responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and must be reauthorized to ensure a continued federal government response. Since its passage in 1994, more victims report domestic violence to the police and the rate of non-fatal intimate partner violence against women has decreased by 53 percent. In this briefing, national policy experts will highlight the impact of VAWA’s lifesaving programs and services and discuss S. 1925, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2011, bipartisan legislation recently introduced by Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Senator Michael Crapo (R-ID) that would reauthorize and improve VAWA’s critical programs for five more years.

FEATURED PANELISTS:

- **Ben Brustkern**, Executive Director, Cedar Valley Friends of the Family, Iowa
- **Chic Dabby**, Director, Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence
- **Cindy Dyer**, Vice President, Human Rights, Vital Voices Global Partnership; and former Director, Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice
- **David Thomas**, Program Administrator, Domestic Violence Education, Johns Hopkins University
- **Lori Weinstein**, Executive Director, Jewish Women International
- **Terri Poore**, Public Affairs Director, Florida Council Against Sexual Violence; and Vice-President, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
- **Tonya Lovelace**, Project Director, Women of Color Network

Kindly RSVP with your name and organization to Qudsia Jafree at qjafree@ywca.org or (202) 835-2356. To learn more about the National Task Force, please visit 4vawa.org.