



# NATIONAL CENTER on Domestic and Sexual Violence

training • consulting • advocacy

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## NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Debby Tucker**

**December 14, 2007**

### Dear Friends:

This has been a year of collaboration for us and 2008 holds much promise! We've continued our consulting work with three important and cutting-edge projects: The DELTA Project at the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**; the Fort Campbell Military/Civilian CCR Demonstration Project with the **Battered Women's Justice Project**, the **Office on Violence Against Women** and the **U.S. Department of Defense**; and the Faith-Based Project Evaluation coordinated by the **Advocates for Human Potential** in Sudbury, MA. These projects and our training have kept us in touch with local efforts, as well as state coalitions and national technical assistance providers.



We had a great time presenting at the state coalition conferences for **Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi and Virginia**. We participated in the **Texas Council on Family Violence / National Domestic Violence Hotline** Summit meetings and consulted with the **U.S. Air Force** on "standing up" their sexual assault prevention and intervention program. We also consulted with the **U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs** on intervention and prevention of sexual assault research and evaluation. I was out for surgery in August, September and most of October and was so pleased to travel to Orlando the last week of October and present for the **National College of District Attorney's** domestic violence conference. A big thanks to all of you who sent me good wishes and to the more than 100 individuals and organizations that contributed to the medical expenses. Your personal and professional support was and continues to be amazing!

The National Center played an important role this year in two very successful conferences. We co-sponsored *Establishing Expertise as an Ethical Expert Witness –Experts and Lawyers Collaborating to Help Victims* with **The University of Texas at Austin School of Law** and **The Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Center for Social Work Research, School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin**. This training drew people from all over the country, including a huge contingent from Alaska, to further develop their abilities to participate in court proceedings. The second conference, *Updating Techniques and Sharing Procedures of the Refuges and External Centers Model*, was held in Mexico City, September 3-7, and brought together the refuges or shelters and the crisis centers addressing domestic and sexual violence throughout Mexico. The National Center worked closely with the leadership of the **RED Nacional**, Mexico's National Network, especially their Chair, **Margarita Guille**, to develop the curriculum and provided the trainers: **Patricia Castillo, The P.E.A.C.E. Initiative** in San Antonio, **Cecilia Leal-Covey** of Reno, NV, and **Amy Sanchez, Casa de Esperanza** in Minneapolis.





**Altria Group, Inc.** awarded a challenge grant to the National Center to initiate research and development of a **National Advocate Certification Program**. We've started forming an Advisory Committee, chaired by **Sandy Barnett**, Executive Director of the **Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence**. We're also consulting with **Stacey Mann** from the Kansas Coalition on the development of a self-directed learning CD-ROM for new advocates in shelter programs. Expect to hear much more about the National Advocate Certification Program in 2008 as we secure the necessary funding and launch the project!

We continue to receive very positive feedback on our educational CD-ROM, **How to RECOGNIZE, RESPOND to and provide RESOURCES to END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**. "No one deserves to be abused" is the recurring theme throughout the CD, which utilizes FLASH videos. This CD will help viewers learn about domestic violence so they can feel comfortable talking to someone who might be a victim. The **Avon Foundation** funded the CD and **VideoPlus** produced it. For more details and ordering information for a free copy, visit [http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd\\_corporate\\_avon.html#free](http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd_corporate_avon.html#free).



We've also continued our partnership with Pepperface.com. Please visit their site ([www.pepperface.com](http://www.pepperface.com)) to learn more about self defense and to purchase a gift for a friend or family member that is both dazzling and a safety tool. The National Center receives a portion of each sale!

We hear from visitors to our website that the upcoming trainings calendar is an important resource and that they find [www.ncdsv.org](http://www.ncdsv.org) a great place to visit for updated information and training tools. The credit all goes to **Christina Walsh**, the National Center's Communications Director. To post your conference or job announcement or to add new links, publications, training materials and other supportive documents on our site, e-mail Christina at [cwalsh@ncdsv.org](mailto:cwalsh@ncdsv.org). We thank **Altria Group, Inc.** for their ongoing support of the website!



Now is the perfect time to make a gift to the National Center. Honor someone you know who has a passion to end violence against women or strengthen your own commitment to eliminate domestic and sexual violence. Visit [http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd\\_hireus.html](http://www.ncdsv.org/ncd_hireus.html) for a donation form to make your tax-deductible gift. **Thank you for your generosity and support.**



**Best wishes for the holiday season and the New Year from the Board, Staff and Consultants of the National Center!**

*Debby*

