



Georgia Commission on Family Violence

GCFV Family Violence Task Force Newsletter

June 2018

GCFV's Annual Conference in September

Registration is now open for our 24th Annual Conference in September! We have an educational and informative schedule of workshops planned for the attendees, and look forward to you joining us for the many self-care events we have in store for you. The theme, "Beyond the Bruising: Unraveling the Complexities of Domestic Violence", will be anchored by our keynote speakers, Ms. Beverly Gooden, and Dr. Evan Stark. Visit our conference website for more details on workshops, agenda, and planned activities. Task Force and Community members, don't forget to nominate your choice for Task Force of the Year, and Task Force Member of the Year. Task Force award nominations end on **July 2**, and the Awards Ceremony Luncheon will be held on **Monday, September 10, at noon**. If you have any questions about the Task Force Awards, or the conference, please contact Stacey Seldon, Family Violence Coordinator. Registration for the 24th Annual Conference ends on August 31, or until the conference is sold out.



Conference Registration is Now Open!

Secure your spot!

**Nominate
Task Force of the Year!**

**Nominate
Task Force Member
of the Year!**

CALLING ALL TASK FORCES!



We are pleased to announce the first Task Force Poster Competition to highlight the work of Family Violence Task Forces across the state. The posters will be on display Monday and Tuesday at the Conference and attendees will be asked to judge the posters on their creativity, innovative ideas, and achievements. Votes will be tallied Wednesday morning.

Winners will receive: **1st Place - Two (2) Waived 2019 Conference Registrations; 2nd Place - One (1) Waived 2019 Conference Registration; 3rd Place - \$50 credit to GCFV sponsored trainings.** Prizes will be awarded at the end of the Conference on Wednesday. A Task Force member must be present to receive them. Task Forces must use a tri-fold board or other display that stands on its own. Maximum poster size is 4' x 4'.

Please email Stacey Seldon by September 1, 2018 to enter the competition.



Task Forces Unite!



The DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, and Gwinnett County Family Violence Task Forces came together in March for an afternoon of bowling, food, and fun! The first Metro Atlanta Task Force Meet Up was a huge success, and also provided a great way for nearby Task Forces to connect with each other. The Task Force Meet Up allowed Task Force members to connect

with each other in a fun, relaxed environment, while enjoying bowling and games. Many thanks to **Amanda Planchard** and **Samantha Macedo** of the Fulton County Task Force for coordinating this event. The Metro Atlanta Task Forces plan to come together with their respective groups on a regular basis. If your task force would like to connect with other task forces

in your area, please refer to the **Georgia Family Violence Task Force Directory** on the Commission's website. You will find a list of task forces by county, as well as their contact information. You can also reach out to **Stacey Sheldon**, for any questions about connecting with other task forces in your area.



Info & Resources



TASK FORCE TOOL KIT *UPDATE*

Our staff has added another update to the Task Force Tool Kit! In our annual Task Force survey, Task Force members said they would like some suggestions and guidance on potential meeting topics for task force educational meetings. We heard you--the Tool Kit now lists possible meeting subjects, as well as the GCFV staff person who can present on the topic listed. For the other issues listed, our staff can provide you with some sugges-

tions on presenters throughout the state with expertise in that area. In addition to the speakers list, we also have included an Education in Action Form. After your meeting, your members can use this form to keep the momentum going and put the knowledge you have gained from the presenter into action as a Task Force. Please contact Stacey Seldon for any questions you have about the speakers list and form. View the Tool Kit at gcfv.ga.gov.

ASSISTING SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANTS IN DV CASES



This planning guide developed by the Center for Court Innovation is intended to assist courts to better meet the needs of self-represented litigants in domestic violence cases. It describes specific practices that courts can adapt to their needs, proposes ideas for enhancing existing programs, and suggests strategies for working with community partners in order to more holistically meet the diverse needs of domestic violence litigants. The information in the guide is based on the recommendations of national experts, who helped identify core values and critical strategies particularly relevant in domestic violence cases. The guide also draws on examples from courts around the country that have made strides to improve access to justice for self-represented litigants in domestic violence cases. Please share this guide widely with your Task Force and community partners.