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NPEIV and Stop Abuse Campaign Declare Campaign to End Abuse in 25 Years

Washington, DC - On Thursday, December 8th the National Partnership to End Interpersonal Violence Across the Lifespan (NPEIV) www.npeiv.org and the Stop Abuse Campaign www.stopabusecampaign.com will call on all survivors, advocates, activists, researchers, practitioners, and abuse focused organizations and agencies to join them in stopping abuse in America within the next 25 years. The announcement will take place in room 441 of the Cannon House Office Building at 2:30pm EST. **The media is encouraged to attend.**

To break the cycle of violence the **Stop Abuse Campaign** is actively recruiting America's adults to join the **Stop Abuse Movement** and to help support the Campaign's three primary strategies to stop abuse:

- 1) Educating all adults on how to create safe environments for themselves and those who they love.
- 2) Providing easy access to enhanced mental health treatment and advocacy to all survivors who need it.
- 3) Ensuring all abuse is reported into the system and effectively handled.

"If we do only these three things we can substantially stop abuse, but to do these three things we have to recruit America to the cause - and that's up to each and every one of us. We can do that if we all work together to stop abuse" says Andrew Willis. "So we have a choice, we can stop abuse or condemn our children and all victims to another generation of suffering".

According to overwhelming research, not only does abuse feed more abuse through the cycle of violence, but it also fuels many of society's problems. **This costs taxpayers \$500 billion a year.** That's the equivalent of 3 Hurricane Katrina's every year, or funding 5 Iraq wars each and every year! Societal problems like substance abuse, prostitution, incarceration, suicide, teenage pregnancies, and human trafficking often have abuse at their roots. Eighty percent of substance abusers, 95% of prostitutes and 85% of our prison population were abused as children.

"It is time for all organizations, agencies, survivors, activists, advocates, researchers, frontline practitioners, and others to work together in a unified effort to make this a national priority. The time is now," said Robert Geffner, co-chair of the NPEIV, and President of the Institute on Violence, Abuse & Trauma (IVAT) at Alliant International University.

Speakers at the event are:

Mildred Muhammad, Ex-Wife of "DC Sniper", Domestic Violence Survivor, Advocate, Author

Andrew Willis, CEO, Stop Abuse Campaign

Jacquelyn White, PhD, NPEIV - co-chair/University of North Carolina Greensboro

Angela Rose, Sexual Assault Survivor, Founder & Executive Director of National Nonprofit PAVE

Joyce Thomas, RN, MPH, PNP, Center for Child Protection & Family Support

Robert Geffner, PhD, IVAT/NPEIV-co-chair

The Stop Abuse Campaign is a grassroots movement formed in collaboration with other organizations and causes that share a similar mission. We know that it's going to take all of us working together to stop abuse and that's why we provide half of our unallocated revenues in grants to support all participating organizations. The Stop Abuse Campaign is a registered 501(c)3 organization.

NPEIV is an overarching network of state, regional, and national multidisciplinary, multicultural organizations, agencies, coalitions, and individuals. The Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT) acts as the fiscal agent for NPEIV. Alliant International University is a registered 501(c)3. NPEIV will be represented on the Stop Abuse Campaign board.

Other organizations in attendance:

Justice for Children; Stop the Silence, Stop Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.; International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse; Women & Public Policy Program, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University; DuBois Institute, Harvard University; APA; National District Attorney's Association; American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children; After the Trauma Inc.; Trauma Knowledge Utilization Project.

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