



“Legal Protections and Help for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence and Their Children: The Central Role of Advocates and Attorneys”

Columbia, Missouri

July 15-16, 2019

Agenda

Day One July 15, 2019 – 9:30 am- 4:30 pm

- 9:30 – 9:45 A.M.** **Welcome, Overview, and Introductions**
- 9:45 - 10:15 A.M.** **Dynamics of Domestic and Sexual Violence Experienced by Immigrant Survivors in Missouri**
This session will highlight the dynamics of domestic and sexual violence experienced immigrant survivors, identify systemic barriers immigrant survivors seeking help face and discuss the demographics of immigrant populations in Missouri. This session will establish a foundation for the rest of the training.
- 10:15 – 10:30 A.M.** **VAWA Confidentiality: Overview**
Overview of protections under the VAWA immigration confidentiality statute including protection from deportation for immigrant survivors with pending crime victim related immigration cases, the ability to file the victims immigration case confidentially, and limitation on immigration enforcement actions at protected locations.
- 10:30 – 10:45 A.M.** **Break**
- 10:45 – 11:45 A.M.** **VAWA Confidentiality: Victim Safety and Impact on Victim’s Family Law Cases**
In this session, participants will learn how VAWA confidentiality laws play an important role in best practices for safety planning and family court case planning. We will discuss how VAWA confidentiality and Department of Homeland Security policies impact custody cases and family court discovery, limit courthouse enforcement, and in some cases can offer help for detained victims. The session will include interactive activities.



11:45 - 12:15 P.M.

Immigration Options for Immigrant Survivors and Their Children: Screening

This opening discussion of immigration options for immigrant survivors will provide an overview of the forms of immigration relief designed to help immigrant survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their children. The focus will be to gain familiarity with the forms of relief using scenarios to identify which victims will qualify for which forms of relief.

1215 - 1:15 P.M.

Lunch

1:15 – 2:30 P.M.

Immigration Relief for Immigrant Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

This session will provide greater detail covering the major forms of immigration relief available to immigrant survivors of domestic and sexual violence including: VAW self-petition, battered spouse waiver, U visa, T visa, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status and VAWA cancellation of removal and will discuss how these interact with DACA and Asylum. Best practices for securing U and T visa certifications will also be discussed. Through interactive activities, participants will work with the eligibility requirements and learn to understand the differences between the immigration options in terms of timing of access to lawful permanent residency, work authorization and public benefits access in Missouri.

2:20 – 2:45 P.M.

Break

2:45– 3:15 P.M.

Trauma Informed Evidence Collection and Collaboration

Best practices for serving immigrant survivors involve close collaborations between victim advocates and attorneys. This session will discuss strategies for developing effective collaborations that reach immigrant victims in urban and rural communities. Participants will also learn about tools developed to assist advocates and attorneys in providing trauma informed assistance to immigrant survivors that help victims heal and lead to greater success in the victim's immigration and family law cases



3:15 – 3:45 P.M.

Providing and Advocating for Language Access

A crucial first step in advocacy for immigrant survivors is ensuring that immigrant and limited English proficient (LEP) victims have the language assistance they need to fully to access victim services, legal assistance, and the full range of help they need from the justice system. This session will discuss federal language access requirements, the role of language access plans in providing accessible legal and victim services to LEP victims and how to advocate with other agencies (e.g. courts, police, and prosecutors) to ensure language access for LEP victims.

3:45 – 4:15 P.M.

Advocacy and Legal Options for Survivors of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus

When foreign-born students become victims of dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or domestic violence on campus the help they need to receive from campus-based programs needs to include screening victims for immigration relief and providing them information about the U visa. This session will also discuss how the help offered to student survivors through interim measures and accommodations needs to be designed with student visa requirements in mind so that it does not interfere with or undermine a victim's obligations.

4:15 – 4:30 P.M

Conclusion, Summary of Day One and Plans for Day Two

Day Two 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

9:30 – 10:45 A.M.

Access to Publicly Funded Assistance, Legal Services, and Public Benefits by Immigrant Domestic and Sexual Violence Survivors

This session will first discuss the range of publicly funded assistance and services, including legal services, that immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence are legally eligible to receive without regard to immigration status. Which federal and state funded public benefits an immigrant survivor or her children are eligible to receive, vary based on the form of immigration relief the survivor has or is pursuing, the type of benefit they need and the state in which the survivor resides. Participants will work on interactive activities that to build skills to identify the benefits for which immigrant victims qualify and best practices for accompanying immigrant survivors applying for benefits they or their children qualify to receive.



10:45 – 11:00 A.M.

Break

11:00 – 11:45 A.M.

Family Law: Civil Protection Orders and Immigrant Survivors

Civil protection orders offer important early protection for immigrant domestic and sexual violence victims. This session will provide tips and tools for lawyers and advocates working with immigrant victims seeking protection orders focusing on common issues that arise in cases involving immigrant victims. Participants will work together on creative protection orders remedies helpful to immigrant survivors.

11:45– 12:45 P.M.

Lunch

12:45 – 1:50 P.M

Family Law: Custody, Divorce, and Economic Remedies

This session will cover a range of special issues that arise in divorce and custody proceedings in cases of immigrant survivors and will focus best practices and strategies for countering issues commonly raised by perpetrators. Topics to be covered include impact of divorce on immigration status and pending immigration cases; relevance of immigration status to custody; obtaining child support for children of immigrant parents; and how spouses can obtain support in divorce cases by enforcing affidavits of support.

1:50 – 2: 00 P.M

NIWAP Resources, Technical Assistance, Evaluation and Conclusion

The training will close with an overview discussing how to access NIWAP training materials, library and technical assistance and participants will be asked to complete an evaluation of the training.