

Strengthening Community and Organization Responses:

Serving Immigrant Victims of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Training for Attorneys, Victim Advocates, and System -Based Victim Witness Staff

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FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Leslye E. Orloff is an Adjunct Professor and Director of the National Immigrant Women’s Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University, Washington College of Law. NIWAP provides training and technical assistance that supports attorneys, judges, police, prosecutors and victim advocates in their work with immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence and child abuse. NIWAP promotes implementation and improvements of laws, policies and practices that enhance legal protections for immigrant women and children and immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. Ms. Orloff’s 41-year career includes working collaboratively with experts across the country to develop and implement immigration relief, public benefits access and family law protections for immigrant women, children and survivors. This work included staffing the State Justice Institute supported National Judicial Network. She was involved in drafting the protections for immigrant victims in the Violence Against Women Acts of 1994, 2000, 2005, and 2013, the Trafficking Victims Protection Acts of 2000 and 2008, and legal services and public benefits access for immigrant survivors in 1996, 1997 and 2005. She has also worked with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies to implement these laws. Ms. Orloff has published numerous law and social science journal articles, curricula, and training materials for attorneys, law enforcement, judges and other professionals on legal rights and services options for immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes. Ms. Orloff received her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles and graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Brandeis University.

Norma Mendoza is the Multicultural Program Director of Cherokee Family Violence Center (CFVC). She is partially accredited representative by the Office of Legal Access Programs of the DOJ and she is a consultant of the National Immigrant Woman’s Advocacy Project. Ms. Mendoza creates and implements supportive services for immigrant victims and oversees the Georgia Statewide Spanish Domestic Violence Hotline. She facilitates the Spanish support group, and provides direct advocacy, housing, legal and immigration services. Ms. Mendoza has provided local, national and international presentations about Intimate Partner Violence, promoting awareness and victim’s rights, language access to Limited English Proficient victims, culturally and linguistically responsive services, immigrant victims’ rights and other topics. Ms. Mendoza has over 15 years working with victims of crime. Norma Mendoza graduated from Law School in Mexico and has a Master’s Degree in European Studies from the Autonomous University of

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Barcelona. Ms. Mendoza studied International Public and Private Law at UN in Geneva, the Organization of American States in Brazil, and the International Law Academy of the International Court of Justice in Netherlands.

In 2022 she received the recognition of “Outstanding advocate of Georgia’s Prevention Initiative”, provided by Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Gwinnett County Family Violence Task Force Member of the Year, and Certificate of Gratitude for her commitment with the Buford Highway Community. In 2021, she received the Award of the 50 Most Influential Latinos in Georgia provided by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; the 2021 Award Heroes in the Community category of “Empowering Women” by Telemundo Atlanta, and the Deborah Coker McDorman Memorial Award, provided by DeKalb Domestic Violence Task Force. She is Board Member of the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, of Cherokee FOCUS and Vice President of Gwinnett Family Violence Task Force.

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