



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

GCADV Awarded a Grant to Promote Georgia-Level Policy and Systems Change to Improve Response to Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking

Georgia is one of three states selected to receive funding, training, and support to address intimate partner violence and human trafficking

Decatur, GA (January 28, 2020) - Georgia has been selected to join leadership teams from Minnesota and Ohio on "[Project Catalyst III, Statewide Transformation on Health, IPV, and Human Trafficking](#)," led by national nonprofit Futures Without Violence (FUTURES). The Georgia Leadership Team Consists of Georgia Primary Care Association, Georgia Department of Public Health, and Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV) working together to promote Georgia-level policy and systems changes to improve response to intimate partner violence (IPV) and human trafficking (HT) in community health centers and domestic violence programs/community-based organizations across Georgia.

From now until September 30, 2020, the Project Catalyst Georgia Leadership Team will collaborate to:

- promote policy and systems changes that support survivors of IPV and human trafficking seeking care in community health centers violence-prevention programs.
- offer training and technical assistance to five community health centers and five domestic violence advocacy programs/community-based organization in Georgia
- implement a plan to improve care for survivors Georgia wide

"Serious physical and mental health issues can result from intimate partner violence and human trafficking. In order to support survivors and realize GCADV's vision of a Georgia Free of Domestic Violence we must determinedly work together to make all Georgia communities peaceful," said Jan Christiansen, Executive Director at

GCADV. "Project Catalyst will work to foster a collaboration between intimate partner violence, human trafficking and health leadership."

"Community health centers and domestic violence programs are well poised to support the serious health needs of survivors of IPV and human trafficking," said Lisa James, director of health at FUTURES. "By working both with state agencies and local health centers and their partnering DV programs, these leadership teams have the potential to make a significant impact on the health of IPV and trafficking survivors."

Project Catalyst states will use comprehensive training curricula, health care provider resources, patient education materials, and quality improvement tools developed by FUTURES. This includes ipvhealthpartners.org, an online toolkit developed by and for community health centers and domestic violence agencies looking to forge or expand partnerships.

[Project Catalyst Phase I](#) and [Phase II](#) consisted of 8 state/territory leadership teams in total. As a result of the trainings, health providers and advocates reported increased comfort in talking to their patients and clients about the health impact of IPV and human trafficking.

The success of Project Catalyst has helped inform the [Health Resources & Services Administration Strategy to Address Intimate Partner Violence](#), which aims to address IPV at the systems-level across all of its bureaus and offices from 2017-2020.

This project is supported through a collaboration of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) partners, including the Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Family and Youth Services Bureau, the HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care, and the HRSA Office of Women's Health. Technical assistance and training is provided by FUTURES, along with an evaluation conducted by the University of Pittsburgh.

Since 1996, FUTURES has managed the National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence, supported by the U.S. DHHS' Administration for Children and Families, Family Violence Prevention and Services Program to provide resources and trainings to health practitioners and advocates across the country in order to promote model health responses to IPV. For more information visit acf.hhs.gov/fvpsa.

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About GCADV

For the past 40 years, GCADV has been the statewide voice advocating an end to domestic violence in Georgia. Representing domestic violence agencies, advocates, allied individuals and survivors throughout the state, GCADV works to expand services, increase public awareness and change public policy. GCADV also provides training and best practices guidance to front-line victim service organizations throughout the state. For more information, visit www.gcadv.org

About FUTURES

Futures Without Violence is a national health and social justice nonprofit that develops groundbreaking programs, policies, and campaigns to empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children. Striving to reach new audiences and transform social norms, we train professionals such as doctors, nurses, judges, educators and athletic coaches on improving responses to violence and trauma. We also work with advocates, policymakers, and others to

build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of respect and healthy relationships. For more information, visit www.futureswithoutviolence.org.

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