



October 29, 2012

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALCASA in partnership with the WOCN awarded a grant to establish LEAP, a national training & technical assistance project

***3-year grant is funded by the Department of Justice
Office on Violence Against Women***

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—October 29, 2012—The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA), in partnership with the Women of Color Network (WOCN), a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRC DV), have been granted an award to establish a national training & technical assistance project, entitled Leadership Education and Advancement for Professionals (LEAP).

“This funding will allow CALCASA and the WOCN to work collaboratively to provide skills and professional development training to leaders of color within the anti-violence against women field, in order to assist with their advancement to management or executive leadership positions. We will work toward a common goal of increasing the number of managers and leaders of color around the nation and ultimately leading to more inclusive service delivery for sexual assault and domestic violence survivors of color,” said Sandra Henriquez, CALCASA executive director.

CALCASA & WOCN LEAP GRANT PAGE 2-2-2

“We are truly excited to work with CALCASA, a long-time partner, on such an amazing project” said Tonya Lovelace, Director of WOCN. “LEAP will allow WOCN and CALCASA to move to the next level of leadership programming by offering advanced training and technical assistance to elevate women of color advocates and activists who are already poised for potential leadership roles, and will enable us to reach those who are often the least likely group to receive mentoring and support.”

Both organizations, CALCASA and the WOCN have a demonstrated commitment and expertise in nurturing and developing the leadership of anti-violence against women advocates of color. We applaud the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women for recognizing the need for such a project, and for selecting this collaboration between CALCASA and the WOCN to receive a three-year grant award.

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ABOUT CALCASA:

CALCASA is the only statewide organization in California whose sole purpose is to promote public policy, advocacy, training and technical assistance on the issue of sexual assault. CALCASA convenes statewide and national training conferences and its primary membership is composed of the 85 rape crisis centers and rape prevention programs in CA. Its affiliate membership is comprised of local, statewide and national organizations, businesses, and individuals committed to the elimination of sexual violence. For more information, visit www.calcasa.org.

ABOUT WOCN:

The Women of Color Network (WOCN), a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV) since 1997, is a national grassroots initiative dedicated to ending violence against ALL women and their families by building the leadership capacity of women of color advocates and activists. Through trainings, technical assistance, and advocacy, WOCN helps foster women of color in the advancement of their anti-violence work and leadership. For more information, visit www.womenofcolornetwork.org.