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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CALCASA awarded grant to establish “Unifying Fields”**

***Project will strengthen link between domestic and sexual violence in California***

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—December 17, 2012—The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) has been granted an award to implement Unifying Fields: Building Linkages Between Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence.

“This first-time funding will enable CALCASA to convene dual sexual assault and domestic violence service providers to identify areas of intersection between these issues. Unifying Fields seeks to strengthen the capacity of dual programs around the state to develop and implement an integration strategy, ultimately leading to more comprehensive service delivery for sexual assault and domestic violence survivors” said Sandra Henriquez, CALCASA’s executive director.

“The Partnership looks forward to collaborating with CALCASA to support our dual member organizations,” said Tara Shabazz, executive director of the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence. “We hope that this project will deepen relationships among local programs and strengthen the institutional ties between our sister coalitions, so that we can all better meet the needs of California survivors and communities.”

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## UNIFYING FIELDS GRANT 2-2-2

The only project of its kind in the state, the Unifying Fields project builds upon CALCASA's 32 years of expertise in providing leadership, training, and technical assistance to rape crisis and rape prevention programs around the state..

"CALCASA applauds Blue Shield of California Foundation for recognizing the need for such a project" said Henriquez.

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### **ABOUT CALCASA:**

*CALCASA is the only statewide organization in California whose sole purpose is to promote public policy, advocacy, education, 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 84 rape crisis programs in CA. Its affiliate membership is comprised of organizations, businesses, and individuals committed to the elimination of sexual violence. For more information, visit [www.calcasa.org](http://www.calcasa.org).*