ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: ORGANIZATIONS

For advocates and other providers who want more in-depth information about substance abuse, mental illness and other issues faced by survivors of multi-abuse trauma, as well as information on providing trauma-informed services, here are some organizations that are good sources of information and help:

Accessing Safety Initiative (ASI) is a Vera Institute of Justice Project funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. ASI helps organizations and communities meet the needs of women with disabilities who are victims or survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Access the Web site at www.accessingsafety.org.

Alcohol Drug Help Line Domestic Violence Outreach Project. Begun in 1994, the goal of the project is to help women affected by their own or another’s substance abuse find safety, sobriety and wellness. The organization provides outreach and education for women affected by domestic violence, chemical dependency and multi-abuse trauma in shelters, chemical dependency treatment programs and other human service agencies, and provides technical assistance and training to providers addressing multiple abuse issues. To contact, call 206-722-3703 (business line); or 800-562-1240 (toll free for WA State and AK only.) Website: www.adhl.org.

Creating a Circle of Hope to Prevent FASD. The National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome founded the Circle of Hope Birth Mothers Network (COH-BMN) to prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and provide hope for women who may struggle with addictions, may have used substances while pregnant, or may have a child with FASD. FASD is an umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. These effects may include physical, mental, behavioral, and/or learning disabilities with possible lifelong implications. FASD affects as many as 40,000 newborns each year in the U.S. Individuals who work with victims of domestic violence or with homeless people are in a unique position to help educate and prevent FASD, which is completely preventable if women abstain from alcohol during pregnancy or if planning a pregnancy. The COH-BMN is a unique peer-mentoring program that provides support for women both in their recovery and/or through the challenges of parenting a child with FASD. Sharing the guilt and shame over substance use while pregnant is a powerful bond for women who typically have trouble connecting with other women. COH-BMN mentors can assist women who may end up in shelters and assist them with the many struggles of getting back their independence and living future healthy lifestyles. Additionally, the COH provides members with referrals, factual information about FASD and addiction, resources and support for women and families. For more information, visit their Web site at www.nofas.org/coh/.

Domestic Violence & Mental Health Policy Initiative is a national technical assistance center whose overarching goal is to ensure that all survivors of domestic
violence and their children who are experiencing abuse-related trauma and/or living with mental illness can access the services that they may need to enhance their safety and well-being. DVMHPI has created a **National Training and Technical Assistance Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health**, funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families. The new Center will provide the resources, tools and consensus building opportunities necessary to fill the critical gap in services for survivors with unmet mental health and advocacy needs, to develop more comprehensive and culturally-relevant responses to the range of trauma-related issues faced by domestic violence survivors and their children, and to develop strategies for addressing both the social and psychological conditions that perpetuate abuse and violence across generations. The Center’s goal is to provide the infrastructure and resources to enable domestic violence and mental health agencies and training programs nationwide to be able to work more effectively with individuals who are dealing with both domestic violence and mental health issues. Access DVMHPI at www.dvmhpi.org. Access NTTAC at www.dvmhpi.org/CurrentProjects.htm.

**Faces and Voices of Recovery.** This advocacy group is made up of individuals in long-term recovery from addiction, their families, friends and allies. Its purpose is to celebrate and honor recovery in all its diversity. The group promotes advocacy to the medical, mental health, criminal justice and other communities as well as the general public and legislators about the possibilities of recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. The grass-roots organization has chapters around the country. Web site: www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org. Address: Faces & Voices of Recovery, 1010 Vermont Ave. #708, Washington, DC 20005. Phone: (202) 737-0690. Fax: (202) 737-0695.

**Faith Trust Institute** is a national, multi-faith, multicultural training and education organization with global reach working to end sexual and domestic violence. Founded in 1977 by the Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune, Faith Trust Institute offers a wide range of services and resources, including training, consulting and educational materials. The institute provides communities and advocates with the tools and knowledge they need to address the religious and cultural issues related to abuse. The institute works with many communities, including Asian and Pacific Islander, Buddhist, Jewish, Latino/a, Muslim, Black, Anglo, Indigenous, Protestant and Roman Catholic. Access the Faith Trust Institute at www.cpsdv.org.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).** NAMI is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness. NAMI's support and public education efforts are focused on educating the public about mental illness, offering resources to those in need, and insisting that mental illness become a high national priority. NAMI offers an array of peer education and training programs, initiatives and services for individuals, family members, health care providers and the general public. Access their Web site at www.nami.org.

**National Center on Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence.** This Web site contains a wealth of written materials and cutting-edge research on every aspect of interpersonal violence. Also on this Web site are more than two dozen versions of the famous Power &
Control Wheel, which explore power and abuse dynamics for a variety of co-occurring situations ranging from substance abuse to mental health, disabilities, immigration and child welfare. Access the site at www.ncdsv.org.

**National Center for Trauma-Informed Care (NCTIC).** SAMHSA’s National Center for Trauma-Informed Care is a technical assistance center dedicated to building awareness of trauma-informed care and promoting the implementation of trauma-informed practices in programs and services. NCTIC facilitates the adoption of trauma-informed environments in the delivery of a broad range of services including mental health, substance use, housing, vocational or employment support, domestic violence and victim assistance, and peer support. In all of these environments, NCTIC seeks to change the paradigm from one that asks, “What's wrong with you?” to one that asks, “What has happened to you?” Access their Web site at www.samhsa.gov/nctic/default.asp.

**Professionals Support Group at S.T.A.R.** Because hearing a traumatized person’s story can revive personal traumatic experiences a service provider may have suffered in the past, it is important for providers to acknowledge and heal from their own trauma. Advocates at S.T.A.R. (Standing Together Against Rape) in Anchorage, AK, have created a support group for service providers who are trauma survivors themselves. The Professionals Group – which has weekly sessions lasting about two hours and runs for about 16 weeks at a time – has included nurses, law enforcement officers, teachers and therapists in addition to advocates. The group is co-facilitated by an advocate and a therapist. For information on this group, including suggestions for replicating such a group in your own community, contact Erin Patterson-Sexson at S.T.A.R. Phone: (907) 276-7279. Email: epatterson-sexson@staralaska.org.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** works to improve the quality and availability of substance abuse prevention, alcohol and drug addiction treatment, and mental health services. *Substance Abuse Treatment and Domestic Violence*, part of SAMHSA’s Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Series, introduces drug and alcohol treatment providers to the field of domestic violence. The manual gives providers useful information on the role of substance abuse in domestic violence — both among the men who batter and the women who are battered. Useful techniques for detecting and eliciting such information are supplied, along with ways to modify treatment to ensure victims' safety and to stop the cycle of violence in both parties' lives. Legal issues, including duty to warn and confidentiality, are discussed. Finally, the manual includes a blueprint for a more integrated system of care that would enhance treatment for both problems, along with practical suggestions for establishing linkages both between substance abuse treatment providers and domestic violence support workers and with legal, health care, criminal justice, and other relevant service agencies. Access the manual at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK14419. Access the SAMHSA web site at www.samhsa.gov.

**Triple Play Connections.** This non-profit organization comprised of mental health, domestic violence, sexual assault and chemical dependency providers works together to cross-train and network in local neighborhoods throughout Washington State using best
practices with a focus on cultural competency. The organization has neighborhood network groups and an annual training conference. Says Karen Foley: “It’s totally self-sufficient. You don’t need funding. You just need the desire.” For information, including suggestions for replicating the organization in your own community, contact Karen Foley, (425) 259-7142, ext. 135 or 425-772-0724. Email: karenf81092@yahoo.com.

**Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence.** In the Resources section of their Web site, you will find a wealth of publications and resources created by WSCADV for advocates, survivors, and other professionals. Most are available for free or can be downloaded directly off the web site. Topics range from program management and community education to computers and technology, media, religion, and statistics and research. Of particular interest are model protocol and training tools for women with substance use issues and other disabilities. Visit the WSCADV website at www.wscadv.org.