

Happy fall, time to enjoy the turning color of the leaves!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness and National Crime Prevention month. What can you do as a citizen and in your professional capacity to make our communities safer? Next week, on Oct. 9th, from 12-2pm Central time, the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Violence Against Women are sponsoring a webcast addressing DV. If you would like to sign up to hear "Bridging the Gap: Screening and Counseling for Intimate Partner Violence in Health Care Settings" follow this link: <https://www.fedmeetings.net/common/registration.cfm?mid=4374>

Earlier, the morning of October 9th, the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) is holding their annual breakfast fundraiser, titled "Restoring Hope". The people who seek services at the Center have been subjected to physical and sexual abuse. It is important to know about local organizations who are working with survivors. If interested, please contact Rachel Hughes with CVT today if you would like to attend this event, [rhughes@cvt.org](mailto:rhughes@cvt.org) or call 612-436-4859. The event will be at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis. Registration and networking at 7am, program and food from 7:30-8:30am.

On October 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> at Madden's Resort on Gull Lake near Brainerd, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) is having a Conference on Missing and Unidentified Persons. We know that many people who are runaways, kidnapped or disappear are often victims of violence. Although this conference is focused on those in law enforcement, those who work with victims are also welcome. Conference cost is \$150. Registration info

at: <https://cjte.x.state.mn.us/ei/cm.esp?id=3&pageid=3C20W9MNY&showpage=coursedet&eiscrypt=X2O1DRFG6&cd=1994948615&course=101012MUCP&key=>

Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon the Sexual Violence Justice Institute will be holding a webinar on What Healthcare Professionals Should Know About Expert Testimony in Sexual Assault Cases. Three speakers will be presenting: Caroline Palmer - attorney at MNCASA, Melia Garzia - the Project Coordinator Expert Testimony Resources Project, and Karine Zakroczymski, RN and manager of the Allina SANE program. For those who have not been able to personally attend the testifying institute, this webinar would be a cliff note version of that program. To

register: <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/s/showReg?udc=528sgu7urkj7> If you haven't gone to the institute, there is one last chance. Their very last one will be held on Nov. 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> in St. Paul. Registration

at: [http://www.mncasa.org/svji\\_expert\\_testimony.html](http://www.mncasa.org/svji_expert_testimony.html)

On October 24th at 7 pm an organization called World without Genocide is showing a film called "Not My Life" regarding human trafficking here and abroad. They will have a panel discussion afterwards. This event will be held at the William College of Law Auditorium, 875 Summit Ave, St. Paul. Cost is \$10 for the general public, free for students and seniors. For more info: <http://worldwithoutgenocide.org/>

Next week is the IAFN annual conference, this year in Puerto Rico. Numerous Minnesota SANE's will be attending this year. Therefore, our education night on October 25 at Abbott Hospital in Minneapolis will feature individuals who have gone to any type of forensic conference this year, sharing what they have learned. RSVP for this evening's session on our website: [www.mnforensicnurses.org](http://www.mnforensicnurses.org)

There is still time to sign up for the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's conference, held this year in Brooklyn Center at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. On Nov. Dates are Oct. 25 & 26th, cost is \$280, including lunches. Contact person is Joan Jung, Seminar Coordinator at 612-215-6320. The website to register is: <http://home.eathlink.net/~mc-mea>

On November 3rd, from 5-10pm the National Child Protection Training Center hosting their "Embracing Hope" Gala in St. Paul. Tickets for that evening fundraiser are \$150, register at: <http://www.ncpt.org>

Our daily and national news headlines are too often filled with stories of pedophiles and the number of innocent children affected by their actions. For our November education session (Thursday, Nov. 29th at Regions Hospital) will have Maggie Carney, from Midwest Children Resource Center (MCRC) speak on how to prevent child abuse. To RSVP, check our website at [www.mnforensicnurses.org](http://www.mnforensicnurses.org).

I hope to see you at some of these events!

Warm wishes,

Paula Johns, MA, RN, SANE-A

President, MN-IAFN (2012)