



DIGITAL DIALOGUE

TRAUMA & RECOVERY



# ***Hatred, Hope and Healing: Personal Reflections from an Adult Who Witnessed Domestic Violence as a Child***



# Speakers

*Join the National  
Conversation  
on Child Abuse  
and Neglect*



WELCOME

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GUEST

**Dr. Johnny Rice II**

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WELCOME

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MODERATOR

**Nilofer Ahsan**

Lead Knowledge & Partnerships,  
CANTASD

# Putting a Personal Face on a National Issue

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*“There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace.”*

Kofi. A. Annan,  
Former UN Secretary-General



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# Why Domestic Violence is a Child Well-Being Issue

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■ Continued threats of violence after separation

■ Behavior negatively affects children

More controlling and abusive parenting

Perpetrators often involve children in violent events

Good under observation

*Bancroft & Silverman, 2002*

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# How Domestic Violence Impacts Children

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- Children are exposed to and experience domestic violence in various ways.
- Exposure to domestic violence can pose a serious threat to children's emotional, psychological, and physical well-being.
- Children exposed to violence can have a difficult time establishing healthy relationships.

# Working with Youth

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- Children may decide to confront the parent who has used violence in efforts to protect their family.
- Teens may feel hatred towards the victim for failing to exit the relationship and leave the abuse.
- Teens may not respect parent's directives based on dysfunctional home setting.



Focus Point Residential Treatment Center for  
Youth – Crownsville, Maryland

# Making a Difference by Promoting Resilience

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A parent, therapist,  
coach or other  
supportive adult can  
help children exposed  
to domestic violence  
and trauma.



Dr. Rice at the National Boy Scouts of America Jamboree – Ft. AP Hill Virginia

# Tools You Can Use

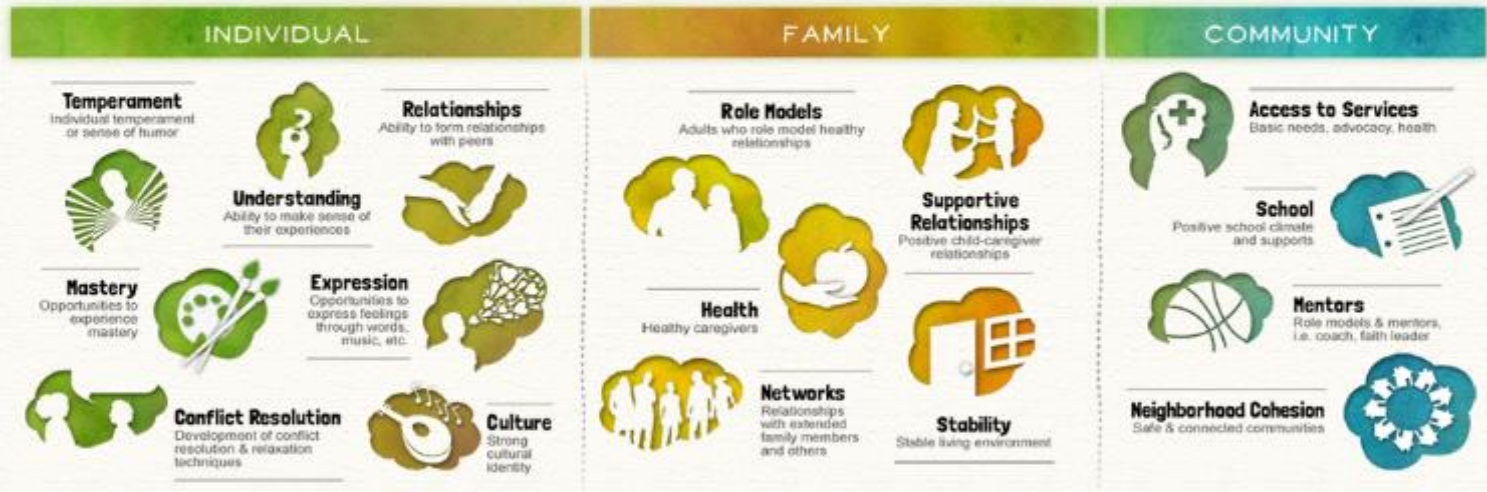
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## PROMISING FUTURES PROMOTING RESILIENCY among children and youth experiencing domestic violence

Almost 30 million American children will be exposed to family violence by the time they are 17 years old.<sup>[1]</sup> Kids who are exposed to violence are affected in different ways and not all are traumatized or permanently harmed. Protective factors can promote resiliency, help children and youth heal, and support prevention efforts.

Research indicates that the #1 protective factor in helping children heal from the experience is the presence of a consistent, supportive, and loving adult—most often their mother.<sup>[1]</sup>

### PROTECTIVE FACTORS THAT PROMOTE RESILIENCY



Get started at [www.PromisingFuturesWithoutViolence.org](http://www.PromisingFuturesWithoutViolence.org)  
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)  
National Dating Abuse Helpline: 1-866-331-9474 or text "loveis" to 77054

*Promising Futures: Best Practices for Serving Children, Youth & Parents is a project of Futures Without Violence.*



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## Patuxent Institution – Jessup, Maryland

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# Working with Men and Fathers

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**Center for Urban Families – Baltimore, Maryland**

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# Staying in the Conversation

## Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV) Leadership Forum



The ACE-DV Leadership Forum is comprised of advocates in the movement to end gender based violence who identify as having experienced domestic violence in childhood. The Leadership Forum was established to amplify the voices and experiences of ACE-DV to enhance our work to end domestic violence.



*We envision a movement that includes the perspectives and priorities of ACE-DV in the provision of services, the development of policies, the direction of research, and the general approach to effectively address and prevent domestic violence.*

The goals of the ACE-DV Leadership Forum are to:

1. Promote the leadership of ACE-DV within the movement to end domestic violence and beyond.
2. Provide technical assistance, training, and guidance related to this issue.
3. Support the development of trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, asset-based research and information to influence policy and practice impacting children exposed.



Read more about the Purpose, Goals, and Beliefs of the ACE-DV Leadership Forum (Updated April 2016).

# What Resilience Looks Like

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# Resources

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- [Breaking Free from the Web of Violence: Asset-Based Approaches for Boys & Men of Color](#)
- [Trauma-Informed Care for Children Exposed to Violence: Tips for Engaging Men and Fathers](#)
- [Promoting Resiliency Infographic](#)
- [Responding To The Long-term Needs Of Adult Children Exposed To Domestic Violence: Exploring The Connection To Suicide Risk](#)
- [Child Welfare information Gateway: Web Resources on Domestic Violence](#)
- [Children's Bureau Express Spotlight on Domestic Violence](#)

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# Thank You & Next Steps

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- Download the handouts to learn more. Click on the files in the “Handouts” box on your screen.
- Do you have innovative ideas, questions or concerns about state prevention planning? Tell us about your work. Send an e-mail to [hello@CANTASD.org](mailto:hello@CANTASD.org) with “Child Witnesses to Domestic Violence” in the subject line.

[www.cantasd.org](http://www.cantasd.org)



# Participant Feedback

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Thank you for your  
participation!

How useful was this session?

Additional Comments: [hello@CANTASD.org](mailto:hello@CANTASD.org)

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