

DATE

Wednesday,
May 28th, 2014

TIME

9:00am-10:30am (HT)
10:00am-11:30am (AKT)
11:00am-12:30pm (PT)
12:00pm-1:30pm (MT)
1:00pm-2:30pm (CT)
2:00pm-3:30pm (ET)

Unclenching their Fists: Lessons Learned from Abusive Men on the Journey to Nonviolence

Presented by

**DEFENDING
CHILDHOOD**
PROTECT HEAL THRIVE

In partnership with:

The Office on Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention
and

FUTURES
WITHOUT VIOLENCE

Description: This webinar will present two important publications related to men who have used violence in their relationships. The first part of the webinar will include background information and highlights from the "Innovations in Batterer's Intervention Project" being released by Futures Without Violence this summer.

The second section, led by Sara Elinoff Acker, will present case studies of men who ended their abusive behavior towards their intimate partners and were accountable to those they hurt. These men come from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds; and all attended batterer intervention programs for a minimum of two years. These men represent the best possible outcome in our intervention efforts with abusers. This webinar will discuss common denominators of their journeys to nonviolence: addressing denial, the development of empathy, the importance of the group environment in fostering change and the different stages and significant turning points in the journey to nonviolence. This webinar is aimed at those who work with families affected by intimate partner abuse, including victim advocates, batterer intervention counselors, protective care social workers, probation officers and psychotherapists.

Learning Objectives - Participants will be able to:

- Name three distinct stages of change for abusive men.
- Understand the common pitfalls and roadblocks on the road to nonviolence, including backsliding into abusive behavior.
- Understand how detailed information about genuine progress toward nonviolence can be empowering for victims.
- Identify key program elements for effectively working with men who have used violence.

Presenters:



Sara Elinoff Acker, LICSW, is a longtime activist in the battered women's movement. She worked in shelter programs in Vermont and Western Massachusetts and created the Partner Support Program at the Men Overcoming Violence batterer intervention program in Amherst, MA. Her work over the years and collected Her book, *Unclenching Our Fists: Abusive Men on the Journey to Nonviolence* was published by Vanderbilt University Press in September 2013.

Casey Corcoran is a Program Director with the Children's Program at Futures Without Violence (Futures). Before coming to Futures he worked at the Boston Public Health Commission as the director of the Start Strong: Building Healthy Teen Relationship Initiative. For the past twelve years he has also worked with at-risk adults and youth in Boston around issues of dating violence, domestic violence and sexual health and healthy conflict resolution. Casey taught elementary school in Washington, D.C. as part of the Teach For America program. He received his M.A.T. from Trinity College and is a certified batterer/dating violence intervention counselor.



Facilitated by:

Casey Corcoran, Program Director, Futures Without Violence

Seats are limited! Register for this Webinar soon by going to

[http://futureswithoutviolence.adobeconnect.com/
unclenchingtheirfists_may28th2014/event/registration.html](http://futureswithoutviolence.adobeconnect.com/unclenchingtheirfists_may28th2014/event/registration.html)

If you have any questions regarding registration or webinar materials please email
Alisha Benjamin at abenjamin@futureswithoutviolence.org