

**Workshop #1**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2009 – Session 1 (9:00-10:30)**

**DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY EDUCATION  
PROGRAM REGARDING SEX OFFENSES**

**Presenters**

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Director of Gender Equity Programs  
YWCA Orange County

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Senior Probation Officer  
Orange County Department of Probation

**Audience**

This workshop is aimed at victim advocates, treatment providers and anyone interested in discussing how societal change is needed to reduce sex offense.

**Level**

Beginner

**Workshop description**

This workshop will help participants begin to think about providing primary prevention regarding child sexual abuse and sex offense. Participants will be encouraged to think about developing a community education program which will improve community member's ability to protect themselves and their families, replace fears with sound information, provide information on addressing victim needs and increase the understanding of sex offender management.

**Learning objectives:**

1. Understanding of the importance of a community education program regarding sex offense and sex offender management
2. Understanding of the advantages and disadvantages to different types of community notification

**Workshop narrative**

Our workshop will help participants understand the importance of providing a comprehensive, multi-layer, multi-disciplinary community education plan regarding sex offense. We will help advocates and other participants think through the reasons addressing this topic are important to victim safety. Our participants will also be encouraged to think about their role as advocates for social change.

We will spend some time talking about the importance of building bridges with the advocacy community and discuss some challenges which may present themselves. The benefits to including advocates will be enumerated as will the role advocates and other service providers can play in effective sex offender management.

A portion of our workshop will include a discussion of the how a preventative community education program is different than community notification and what happens when the two intersect. During this portion of the workshop we will discuss the advantages and disadvantages to different types of notification.

Finally our program will talk about choosing the right prevention strategy and will highlight the Spectrum of Prevention Model. The Spectrum of Prevention Model emphasizes efforts to change community and social norms. It is focused on developing a comprehensive multi-layer approach to community education and social change.

Next we will illustrate the goals of an effective community education program and discuss what disciplines need to be involved. We will provide resources on curriculum and outreach materials. Participants will then be given the opportunity to discuss obstacles in their own community and create action steps to develop their own community education program.