

**Cost per person € 75
(No Charge to HSE employees
or members of An Garda
Siochana)**

Places are limited to a maximum of 15 participants on each programme. A commitment to attending both days is an essential criteria for being allocated a place.

**EARLY BOOKING IS
ADVISED!**

For further information
contact
DVAS
at
071-9141515
or by email at
infodvas@eircom.net or go to
www.domesticviolence.ie

or to register fill out the
booking form and return to

Training
DVAS
4, Chapel Street
Sligo

Why this course is important

Domestic violence affects 1 in 5 women in Ireland. However, it is not always easy to recognise when a woman is a victim. Whilst some women are able to disclose abuse, there are many others whose experiences of domestic violence remain invisible to people working within agencies and organisations that could offer support and referral. Practitioners are often faced with the challenge of distinguishing experiences of domestic violence from accounts of acrimonious relationships. This two-day training programme provides individuals working in a variety of settings with an opportunity to reflect upon and develop ways to identify domestic violence, facilitate disclosure and respond effectively to women at risk.

Autumn programmes 2011

**Sligo Markree Castle
28th and 29th September**

or

**Carrick on Shannon, Bush Hotel
5th and 6th October**

Time: 9.45— 4.30

DVAS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY SERVICE

Sligo, Leitrim & West Cavan

**“Domestic violence:
It's everyone's
business”**

**A two day training
course on recognising
and responding to
women experiencing
domestic violence**

**2011
Programme**

Who is DVAS?

DVAS is an organisation working with women in Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan who experience domestic violence. We provide a range of services to women including a telephone help line, one to one support, court accompaniment, an outreach service, advocacy and group support. All DVAS's responses focus on maximising safety for the woman and her children and on preventing re-victimisation. Our model of support and advocacy is underpinned by international knowledge and evidence gathered over 40 years of service provision, research and evaluation on what works in stopping domestic violence.

DVAS provide training and education on domestic violence and as well as this two day open course, can provide tailored courses to meet the needs of individual agencies or groups of practitioners.

Who is the training for?

This training will be useful for people who, through their work, come into contact with women who may be experiencing domestic violence. The training will support practitioners in identifying such women and in responding effectively to disclosures of domestic violence.

People who may find this training useful include:

Gardai
Community Care Social workers
Family Support workers
Borough and County Council front-line staff
Public Health Nurses
G.P.s and Practice Nurses
Community Welfare Officers
Family Resource Centre staff
Community Development Project staff
Disability services staff
Youth services staff
FAS and the VEC staff
CE schemes providing supports / services to women and children
Childcare centres and services
M.A.B.S staff
Citizen Information Centre staff
Mental health practitioners
Social welfare frontline staff

Aims of training

The aims of training this training programme are to support practitioners/ service providers to:

- **Recognise** when a woman is a victim/survivor of domestic violence
- Know how to **respond** appropriately and safely to the victim/survivor
- Make appropriate **referrals** to other agencies as part of a good practice response

Outline of the training

This training is participative and interactive and uses a variety of methods including: small and large group work, case studies, discussions and presentations. It draws upon the skills, experiences and ideas of participants as well as the knowledge and evidence held within the domestic violence sector.

By the end of the training participants will have:

- A better understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and coercive control
- Increased their knowledge and understanding of the tactics and motivation of perpetrators
- An increased understanding of why women sometimes stay in abusive relationships.
- Increased their knowledge of how to recognise symptoms of abuse and of how to safely facilitate disclosure.
- Gained information about and increased their understanding of a good practice response to women experiencing domestic violence.
- Increased their knowledge of the role of specialised domestic violence services and of appropriate referral as part of a good practice response