

# Keeping Families Safe: A Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

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Uvalde County Fairplex  
215 Veterans Ln., Uvalde, TX 78801

**November 15, 2017 • 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

7 Hrs. MCLE, pending  
7 Hrs. TCOLE Eligible  
7 Hrs. Domestic Violence, Texas Center for the Judiciary



Register with the Katherine Garcia, New Horizon's Outreach Program at (830) 309-5166 or at [katherinenewhorizons@outlook.com](mailto:katherinenewhorizons@outlook.com)

Lunch- On your own. Coffee, sodas and snacks provided.

## ----- AGENDA -----

**8:00** Welcome – Initial Remarks

Katherine Garcia, Case Manager-advocate, Quad Counties Council – New Horizon's Outreach Program

**Introduction of Speakers and Workshops**

Maricarmen Garza, Victim Rights Group Coordinator, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc.

**8:15** Protective Orders

Erin Martinson, Esq., Texas Legal Services Center (Austin), 1 hr.

*This session will provide an overview of the laws regarding protective orders available in Texas for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.*

**9:15** ***The Many Hats of a Family Violence Prosecutor (and how to do it without losing your mind!)***

**Kimberly A. F. Piechowiak, Esq., Domestic Violence Training Attorney, Texas Office of Court Administration (Austin), 1.00 hr.**

*This session will discuss the many different and often competing perspectives that a prosecutor must use in order to effectively help enhance the safety of victims while holding offenders accountable.*

**10:15 Break**

**10:30** ***2017 Domestic Violence Legislative Updates***

**Tracy Grinstead-Everly, Esq., Texas Council on Family Violence (Austin), 1.00 hr.**

*This session will provide a review of some of the new laws impacting family violence victims by the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature.*

**11:30 Lunch Break**

**12:45** ***Legal Options for Survivors of Violence***

**Brandy Howard, Esq., Texas Advocacy Project (Austin), 1.00 hr.**

*Survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking intersect with multiple criminal justice and civil systems. This workshop will help allied professionals identify the different systems and how to help survivors navigate their rights through the systems while providing empowerment-based, survivor centered advocacy.*

**1:45** ***Immigration Options for Victims***

**Adriana Rodriguez, Esq., Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc. (San Antonio), 1.00 hr.**

*This session will introduce you to the immigration options and the relief that may be available to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.*

**2:45 Break**

**3:00** ***2017 Sexual Assault Legislative Updates***

**Christopher Kaiser, Esq., Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (Austin), 1.00 hr.**

*This session will provide a review of some of the new laws impacting victims sexual assault enacted by the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature.*

**4:00** ***Interviewing the Adult Victim in Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Cases:***

***The When, Where, and How from the Start of the Call throughout Prosecution,***  
**Wayne Springer, , Chief Investigator, 38<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney's Office (Hondo), 1.00 hr.**

*This workshop will overview best practices for interviewing survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. It will help participants understand a survivor's state of mind after an assault and give valuable tools to empower and engage the survivor in staying engaged with the prosecution of the case. The workshop will also provide helpful information for participants to write better probable cause affidavits and incident reports.*

**5:00 Adjourn**