

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 5, 2010

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN MATTERS: **Survivors of Domestic Violence Address Recent Headlines, Call for Stronger Leadership on Prevention and Services**

WHAT: Press Conference

WHO: Survivors and representatives of area violence against women organizations:

- Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation
- Chicago Foundation for Women
- Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network
- Rape Victim Advocates
- Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Voices and Faces Project
- YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

WHEN: Friday February 5, 2010
2 p.m.

WHERE: Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network
203 N. Wabash, Ste. 2323

WHY: National surveys indicate that one in three women have experienced domestic violence by a spouse or boyfriend. One out of every eight women in this country will be raped in her lifetime. Large numbers of women residing in Illinois thus experience domestic and sexual violence. Every day 16,000 women and girls are involved in prostitution and sex trafficking in Chicago, the vast majority of whom experience high levels of violence and exploitation.

In a moment where public attention is focused on violence against women—a topic too often left in the shadows—survivors of domestic violence and Chicago-area community leaders will address their experiences and share their reactions to the way that the issue is currently playing out in the headlines.

All organizations listed above are nonprofit with 501(c)3 tax-exempt status and do not support or oppose any of the candidates running for public office. This is a nonpartisan media event for public education purposes only.