



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAITH LEADERS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRAINING

Milwaukee, Wisconsin - September 22, 2010 -- Project SAFE, a collaboration of Wisconsin faith leaders and domestic violence service providers, is hosting "*Not In Our Pews: Teaming Up to End Domestic Violence*", a two-day conference for faith leaders in Wisconsin and surrounding states. DV is a serious problem around Wisconsin and the nation. And it's one that left unaddressed can have a long-lasting negative impact on children and families", states Rev. Janice Brazil Cummings, founder of *Wings of Faith Ministries*, a ministry that has trained faith leaders for ten years now on domestic violence. "It is important that congregations are trained and willing to address this issue that occurs in the same families whose faces we see regularly during worship services and other church activities. "Rightfully so, these women look to their faith leaders for relief and spiritual guidance", added Priest JoAnn Skidmore of the St. John the Divine Episcopal Church in Burlington.

The goal of this annual training session is to provide faith leaders with strategies and resources to effectively and safely meet the needs of DV victims and families; and to build partnerships between churches, service providers and law enforcement. The event is October 27 -28 at Olympia Conference Center and Resort in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Advance registration is \$60. Online registration via the website: www.notinourpews.com. The conference is endorsed by the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. "Project SAFE has taken on the challenge to have a discussion amongst faith leaders and service providers about how we can all work together in the best interest of survivors and their children" said Sherry Hartog, Western Racine County Family Violence Advocacy Network Director.

Our featured speaker is the Rev. Al Miles of Hawaii. Rev. Miles is the Coordinator of the Hospital Ministry Department and chair of the ethics committee at The Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. In October 2002, Reverend Miles was appointed by then Attorney General John Ashcroft to serve on the National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women.

Rev. Miles, an ordained minister, speaks frequently to nationwide audiences on topics such as domestic violence, teen dating violence awareness, ethical dilemmas, and maintaining healthy boundaries as we care for others. Rev. Miles is the author of many publications, including the books *Domestic Violence: What Every Pastor Needs to Know*, and *Violence in Families: What Every Christian Needs to Know*.

To schedule an interview contact Rev. Janice Cummings at wingsoffaithevents@gmail.com or Debra Fields at Sojourner Family Peace Center (414) 643-1777

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