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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPCOMING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE TRAINING OPEN TO COMMUNITY

Jefferson, NC – A Safe Home for Everyone (A.S.H.E.), the domestic violence prevention and awareness program for Ashe County, announced today that it will hold Domestic Violence Advocate training in October, which is National Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Domestic violence is an ever-prevalent problem in Ashe County, and the Advocate training is crucial in educating the community. In Ashe County, there is an average of 125 Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) each year. In August 2009 alone, A.S.H.E. served 94 clients.

The training sessions are open to all community members and aim to educate individuals on how to provide support services and advocacy to victims of domestic and family violence. The training will be provided by key professionals from the community. During the five sessions in October, attendees will receive training on domestic violence, sexual assault, substance abuse, crisis intervention, and much more.

The schedule for the trainings, which will take place from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, is as follows:

Monday, October 5:
Session 1—Domestic Violence
Session 2 – Child Abuse

Tuesday, October 6:
Session 1 – Legal Issues
Session 2 – Law Enforcement

Thursday, October 8:
Session 1 – Substance Abuse
Session 2 – Personality Disorders

Tuesday, October 13:
Session 1 – Sexual Assault
Session 2 – Crisis Intervention

Thursday, October 15:
Session 1 – Elder Abuse
Session 2 – Suicide Prevention
Session 3 – Rape Kit

A.S.H.E. is extending a special invitation to community agencies that encounter domestic violence issues and/or serve victims and their children to attend the Domestic Violence Advocate

trainings. Community members who are interested in becoming volunteer advocates for A.S.H.E. are also strongly encouraged to attend.

The training sessions are free of charge, and dinner will be served every evening. The trainings will be held at 626 Ashe Central School Road, the Family Central building (the old Ashe County High School), in the large conference room.

A.S.H.E. is operated by the Ashe County Partnership for Children, a non-profit organization that provides programs and services for families and children in Ashe County. The Partnership strives to support a community that provides opportunities for all children and families in Ashe County to become healthy, educated, and self-reliant.

A.S.H.E. provides services and support for victims of family violence. The program provides 24-hour crisis assistance, shelter for families in crisis, court advocacy and accompaniment, victim support groups, educational programs and training, and a thrift store.

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If you would like more information, please contact Sarah Terry, Program Director of A Safe Home for Everyone, at (336) 982-8851 Ext. 231 or email saraht@ashechildren.org.