“Interviewing Culturally Diverse Children and Families”

This training, co-sponsored by the Westchester County Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT), WestCOP/Victim Assistance Services, and the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD), will provide concrete examples and advice for conducting interviews in ways that elicit the most accurate information while welcoming diverse families. This training is appropriate for professionals in the social service, medical, mental health and criminal justice systems, including emergency service providers, DSS personnel, Dept. of Health employees, law enforcement, attorneys, members of agencies represented on the MDT and CFRT, and other professionals who may be faced with the challenges involved in interviewing surviving family members from diverse cultures in relation to the death of a child.

**Date/Time:** Thursday, June 15, 2017        9:00 AM -12:30 PM (check-in 9:00 AM-9:15 AM)

**Location:** Auditorium of Westchester Institute of Human Development (WIHD), Cedarwood Hall, Valhalla, NY (Westchester Medical Center Campus)

**Speaker:** Lisa Aronson Fontes, Ph.D., senior lecturer at University of Massachusetts, Amherst and author of “Interviewing Clients Across Cultures: A Practitioner’s Guide” and “Child Abuse and Culture: Working with Diverse Families”, has over two decades’ experience improving the responsiveness of social service, medical, mental health, and criminal justice systems to culturally diverse peoples.

**Description:** Dr. Fontes’ presentation will focus on the necessity of understanding diverse cultures and cross-cultural differences in beliefs regarding child-rearing and child mortality in order for professionals to: obtain accurate information from the interview process; improve outcomes for surviving children by decreasing risks and improving child-protective practices; provide appropriate bereavement/support services. Examples will be drawn from varied cultures and backgrounds including African-American, European-American, Somali, Latino, Asian, religious and military families as well as families with refugee/unresolved immigrant status.

**Registration:** Advance registration is required. Free parking and light refreshments will be available. Please RSVP and register by emailing the following information to Beth Propper, CFRT Coordinator, at bpropper@wihd.org:

CME Credits: Three hours of CME Elective Credit Is Available for This Training Opportunity