Oberhaus president of new state Domestic Violence Coalition

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

Linda Oberhaus, CEO of The Shelter for Abused Women & Children, has been named president of the newly-formed Florida Partnership to End Domestic Violence (FPEDV). a membership-based nonprofit partnership



of certified domestic violence centers in the state of Florida.

Positioned to become Florida's new federally recognized domestic violence coalition, FPEDV features an inclusive, diverse membership and service model upholding the highest ethical standards for fiscal accountability and program effectiveness serving women, children, and men who are survivors of domestic violence in every Florida county.

"FPEDV member organizations are the experts on domestic violence and delivering services efficiently and effectively," Ms. Oberhaus said. "The FPEDV will provide essential support to members through training, technical assistance, advocacy and education based on experience serving Florida communities for more than 40 years and drawing on national networks and resources."

The new agency was created in response to the dissolving of Florida's previous coalition in 2020. The Department of Children and Families assumed temporary responsibility for funding and



fulfill Florida's requirement under the Family Violence Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA) for a domestic violence coalition to protect federal funding for Florida's 41 certified domestic violence centers, coordinate statewide services and address issues that impact domestic violence survivors.

In July 2020, FPEDV elected a board of directors and adopted bylaws modeled on other successful state coalitions. The agency is committed to providing accountability and fully transparent governance and financial information to state and federal public funding sources. Many safeguards have been put into place including full transparency, membership inclusion, board term limits and more.

Nationally, domestic violence coalitions are critical partners with government, private industry, nonprofit and faith-based communities, and other stakeholders to effectively coordinate and improve the safety-net of services available to victims and their dependents. For more information on FPEDV, go to fpedv.org.

As Collier County's only certified domestic violence center, The Shelter for Abused Women & Children is leading the community to prevent, protect and prevail over domestic violence and human trafficking through advocacy, empowerment and social change. For more inforoversight. It is the goal of FPEDV to mation, go to www.naplesshelter.org





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