




**Speakers Initiative Webinar Series:**

**1. Valuing Your Story**

Welcome to today's webinar!

Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence Leadership Forum  
September 18, 2018

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**Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV) Leadership Forum**



Established to amplify the voices and experiences of ACE-DV to enhance our work to end domestic violence.

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**From the Front of the Room**  
Sharing Your Childhood Story of Domestic Violence



Developed by:  

**ACE-DV Speakers Initiative Goals:**

Identify the unique considerations and strategies for sharing our stories in **impactful, meaningful ways**

Create learning opportunities and tools to help **build the capacity** of ACE-DV identified survivor speakers

Maintain a **national Speakers Bureau** of ACE-DV identified survivor speakers who can help bring voice to this unique experience.

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## ACE-DV Speakers Initiative 2018/19 Webinar Series

1. **Valuing Your Story**  
To increase participants' skills and confidence when it comes to advocating for the value of our stories.
2. **Navigating Challenges in Storytelling with Audiences**  
To strategize together about common audience-generated challenges when sharing our stories in public spaces.
3. **Speaking to Our Relationships with Those Who Abuse**  
To explore the challenges and opportunities in naming our complex relationships with those who have perpetrated abuse against us and/or our caregivers.
4. **Bringing Your Whole Self to Your Work**  
To explore the risks and benefits of incorporating your personal and professional identities, and how to use storytelling as a tool in advancing our work in various settings.




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## Today's discussion



**Rebecca Balog**  
National Indigenous  
Women's Resource  
Center & Women of  
Color Network

**Annika Leonard**  
Priceless Incite

**William Kellibrew**  
The William Kellibrew  
Foundation

**Lenny Hayes**  
Tate Topa Consulting, LLC




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## About you

*Where are you when it comes to sharing your story?*

- A. Thinking about it/cautious
- B. Writing it down/piecing it together
- C. Shared in trusted relationships
- D. Told in certain public settings
- E. Experienced in sharing with various audiences
- F. I could be presenting this webinar



## What are your questions?

Please share in the public chat!




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Your decision to  
share your story,  
in whatever venue and with whomever,  
is personal **&**  
**a true gift**  
to those who receive it.

 **ACE-DV**  
A National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

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### The value of your story

- Stories inspire change and growth
- Benefits both storyteller and listener

Stories of adult children exposed to  
domestic violence can:



Paint a picture about the  
complex and multifaceted  
experience of living with  
a batterer



Reflect on key opportunities  
for intervention and support



Share a path to resilience, noting  
the assets and strengths gained  
along the way

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 **Making the  
case to yourself**

- Realizing the value of your story is a journey
- Complicated by experiences of trauma and oppression
- Impacted by upbringing and cultural values

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## Considerations when valuing your worth

- Importance of centering survivors experiences
- Personal expertise and experience
- Risks and consequences of sharing trauma stories, especially for people of color

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## Making the case to our agencies/ systems

- Responsibility for centering survivors experiences
- What it means to be "out" in professional settings
- Requires a shift to embrace an asset-based framework

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## Negotiating terms and fees

- Speaker rates in different settings
- Contracts vs. stipends
- Reasonable expectations of hosts: travel costs & arrangements, accommodations, accessibility, safety & well-being

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## Owning your story

- Retaining rights to your story
- Considerations regarding family members and others named in your story

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## Caring for yourself

- Creating and maintaining boundaries
- Managing trolls
- Prioritizing your wellness

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## Knowing your value

*While your voice is unique, and your message is critical, what gives your story the most value is you.*

*By bringing your whole self to this work, you will encourage others to do the same and inspire people to value each other's life stories.*

*You are a catalyst for change.*




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## Questions?

**Next Steps:**

- Download the materials from [VAWnet.org](http://VAWnet.org):
  - Speakers Guide
  - Pocket Resource
- Join the ACE-DV Speakers Bureau
- Follow us on Facebook

**Learn more!**  
[nrcdv.org/ace-dv](http://nrcdv.org/ace-dv)

**Contact us!**  
[nrcdvTA@nrcdv.org](mailto:nrcdvTA@nrcdv.org)



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National Resource Center  
on Domestic Violence



ACE-DV  
A project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence



## Thank you

Please be sure to provide your feedback by responding to our webinar evaluation!

This webinar was made possible by Grant Number #90EV042802 from the Administration on Children, Youth and Families and Youth Services Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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