

## **40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training FAQ's**

### ***What is the 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training?***

The 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training is required for anyone who is working in a paid or volunteer position that will provide direct service to victims of domestic violence. Completion of this training meets the requirements set by California Evidence Code 1037.1 for designation as a Domestic Violence Counselor. After completing 40 hours of training, graduates shall receive a Certificate of Completion that will enable them to pursue volunteer and employment opportunities working directly with survivors of domestic violence in California. Laura's House offers three trainings a year.

If you are currently in therapy please note that this is an intensive training that may trigger you, especially if you are a survivor of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault or child abuse. The training will have explicit visuals and survivor testimony. The training schedule is a set 5 days, Friday and Saturday. The 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate training gives basic knowledge from which to build expertise and experience of options available to battered individuals, understanding of the dynamics of battering, and a philosophy of empowerment. The goals on the training include understanding the dynamics of domestic violence, becoming familiar with the resources and procedures, and develop a realistic attitude towards helping those affected. This is achieved through lectures, films, group activities and Q&A. Laura's House offers the training three times a year in March, July, and November.

### ***What can I do with the 40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training Certificate?***

After completing 40 hours of training, graduates shall receive a Certificate of Completion that will enable them to pursue volunteer and employment opportunities working directly with survivors of domestic violence in the state of California.

### ***Are there any requirements to admission to the training?***

If you have received any services from Laura's House, you must wait an entire year from date of last service received before you can participate in the training. If offered a volunteer position it must be two years since the last date of service from Laura's House. Volunteers interested in taking the 40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocacy Training must be at least 16 years old and if less than 18 years old must supply parent permission to attend the training.

### ***Are there any current job openings at Laura's House?***

All current job openings can be found at <https://laurashouse.isolvedhire.com/jobs/>. If you are interested in an open position, please apply online.

### ***What types of volunteer positions are available if I complete the 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training?***

Positions for direct client service include: 24 Hour Crisis Hotline, childcare at the Emergency Shelter, childcare at the Counseling & Resource Center, legal advocacy at our Domestic Violence Advocacy Center, house coordinator, case management, and administrative data entry at the corporate office. If offered a volunteer position it must be two years since the last date you received any Laura's House services.

### ***Are internships available?***

Internships are available within our Legal Advocacy, Prevention Education, and Clinical departments. Internships are managed by the individual department. For more information about internships or practicum please visit our website or email our volunteer coordinator.

### ***Would I be guaranteed a volunteer position if I complete the 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training?***

Volunteer positions are limited - completion of the 40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocacy Training does not guarantee a position.



### ***What types of volunteer positions do not require the 40-Hour Domestic Violence Advocacy Training?***

Currently, the only opportunities available to volunteer without the 40 Hour Domestic Violence Advocacy certificate are at the Lake Forest and San Juan Capistrano Resale Stores, and our Journey Donation Center in Aliso Viejo. Resale Store and Donation Center volunteers assist with receiving and preparing donations for sale, providing excellent customer service, and helping with day to day operations of the Resale Store. These volunteer opportunities can be done as an individual or a group. You can download the full Resale Store Volunteer Job Description here. You can also sign up for a Resale Store Orientation online at <http://laurashouse.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>

### ***Should I register under General, Student/Senior?***

There are two different types of registrations available. There is a student/senior fee that is applicable to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students and the senior age for our training is 65+. If this does not apply to you, you would select the General registration ticket. Please note to register for only one type of registration per attendee.

### ***I live in a different state, can I use the CA 40 Hr. DVAT certificate in my state?***

This training meets the requirements of CA evidence code 1037.1 for DV counselors. All are welcome to take the training, and it may or may not meet the requirements of your state. Our agency, and many other agencies across the country honor certificates from a different state if they meet the content requirements for the training. How agencies make this determination varies, but the process is to ask the certified advocate to submit their certificate and agenda to the agency for evaluation. Upon the completion of the training, you will receive the certificate and on the back of that certificate will be agenda of the training. Every state's requirements are different, so please check in with whoever the governing body for your state is. This would be your local domestic violence agency, or state coalition to determine whether or not the California Domestic Violence Advocacy Training will be honored in your respective state is determined by the governing body of your state.

### ***Will I need to attend all sessions of the online training?***

Yes, you are required to attend all sessions of the training whether online or in-person. Please join the training on-time. We will be using the Zoom webinar reporting system. This reporting system is very detailed, so on our end we will be able to see if people are inactive or leaving the webinar early. State regulations require that all 40 hours are accounted for, so please make sure every hour of training is accounted for. We will not be awarding certificates to participants who are logging on, and logging back off before the training for the day is completed. If any issues like tech / wifi connections come up, please inform me as soon as possible.

### ***Will this training be at my own pace?***

No, this training will be done online via Zoom in a live presentation format. You will need to be present for each session as if were the in-person training.

### ***Will the training be 8:00 am – 5:00 pm my time?***

The training will take place 8:00am – 5:00pm Pacific Standard time. You will need to adjust to your time accordingly if you live in Mountain, Central, or Eastern Standard time zones.

### ***Will technical assistance be available to help me if I am unable to access the training?***

Laura's House will only be able to offer limited support for technical issues related to accessibility. We can provide you with the links and log in information, but will not be able to help with or be responsible for issues with connectivity, equipment, sounds, wifi, laptops, computers, tablets, or phones that are not our property or on site. It will be your responsibility to have operational equipment or devices to connect to a Zoom webinar. We recommend testing your devices/equipment beforehand to have time to troubleshoot any issues.