

Promoting Safety and Justice for All Survivors

For Immediate Release: June 18, 2018

Media Contact: Mariah Wineski 225-752-1296

The Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (LCADV) is dedicated to bringing about change in our institutions, laws, politics, attitudes, and beliefs which will allow individuals to live free of violence. LCADV and our member programs across Louisiana work every day to create a Louisiana free of violence and fear.

At LCADV, we believe all families should have the freedom to seek safety without punishment. We acknowledge <u>decades of research</u> showing that safe and nurturing relationships for children and families prevent abuse and help children reach their full potential. Policies that <u>separate children from their parents</u> and reverse asylum eligibility for domestic violence survivors further marginalize and endanger immigrant communities and embolden perpetrators of violence. Policies that attempt to draw a line between "deserving" and "undeserving" victims of violence make our communities less safe. We reject this artificial distinction, and we strongly oppose these policies.

LCADV supports laws and policies that allow all victims of violence to feel safe and access community resources. We support policies that promote the safety and dignity of all people. Recent erosions of immigrant protections, rights, and dignity are in in direct conflict with our mission, vision, and principles of unity. We join our national partners in calling on Congress to reject the Attorney General's decision in Matter of A-B-., and work to exercise greater oversight of the Administration's immigration policies that harm domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. We join leading human rights and immigrant rights organizations in calling on the Administration to end the forced separation of children from their families seeking safety at the U.S. border. We oppose the intentional harm being inflicted upon immigrant families, and we call upon our national leaders to do the same.

The Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (LCADV) is a statewide network of programs, organizations, and individuals who share the goal of ending domestic violence in Louisiana. LCADV empowers its members and communities through advocacy, education, resource development, and technical assistance. LCADV is dedicated to bringing about change in our institutions, laws, politics, attitudes, and beliefs which will allow individuals to live free of violence. For more information, visit www.lcadv.org.