



Date

Name

Address

Dear Name:

Nationally, 60% of our children have been exposed to violence, crime, or abuse. Forty percent were direct victims of two or more violent acts. Repeated or prolonged exposure to violence and trauma seriously undermines children's ability to focus, behave appropriately, and learn in school, often leading to school failure, truancy, suspension, or expulsion, dropping out or involvement in our juvenile justice system.

We have an opportunity in County to help children exposed to violence through improved communication and collaboration between First Responders, schools, and mental health providers. The West Virginia Handle with Care Initiative is an opportunity to prevent children's exposure to violence, mitigate negative effects experienced by children exposed to violence, and increase knowledge and awareness of this issue.

To initiate this process, I would like to invite you to an informational meeting on Day, Date, Time, and Location to discuss the mission of the HWC program and ways to increase collaboration and support among stakeholders within the community to address the growing number of children exposed to trauma.

Please let me know of your plans to attend by emailing Coordinator or Assistant Name at email address so that we may prepare for your participation.

This is a great opportunity to work together to help all our children be safe and achieve at their highest levels despite traumatic circumstances they may have endured.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Coordinator