



## **“Will You Hold My Child...” Theatrical Production and follow-up workshop**

**by Praxis International in partnership with the  
Office on Violence Against Women**

Praxis has available an original drama production which looks at the issues of intervening in domestic violence cases where children are involved.

This 45 minute interactive play is used as a catalyst for workshops and training on how agency interventions to protect children and/or battered women can affect an abuser's use of intimidation, coercion and violence. Based on stories from battered women's lives, it brings participants into the physical, emotional, and spiritual turmoil of a home where battering is occurring. It offers a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics created by an abuser, and in particular, demonstrates how destructive the abuse is to the relationship between a mother and her children.

The play encourages practitioners to consider the intended and unintended impact of agency interventions in these cases. The production and subsequent facilitated discussions are designed to:

- Demonstrate how violence and abuse perpetrated against a mother is also an assault on the relationship between her and her child.
- Promote dialogue and critical thinking on policy and programming issues related to interventions with mothers and their children.
- Encourage the development of community interventions that halts the damage being done to the relationship between mother and child and work towards repairing it.

There are three ways in which you can use your OVW training funds to have the play workshop in your community:

- a) You can create your own local production of the play. We have a packet to guide this process including: a copy of the script, an audio CD with recordings used in the production, a production guide for actors and directors, and a discussion guide for facilitators,
- b) We can coordinate with you to have our trained actors do the performance and debrief in your community, as well as follow-up workshops designed specifically around your needs, or
- c) We can coordinate our trained actors to provide the performance only and you can do the debrief and workshops for your event.

Contact Liz Carlson (218-525-0487 ext 252), [liz@praxisinternational.org](mailto:liz@praxisinternational.org) for more information about using the play in your community.

**You need to allow at least an hour to accommodate the performance and debrief. You may use the Praxis actors or your own staff for follow-up workshops/trainings. See the following estimates of costs for using the Praxis actors.**

**Sample costs to bring WYHMC for a one day event (one performance + 2-4 hours of training with the Praxis actors)**

Actor prep: 1/2 day	2people x \$225	450
Performance fee:	2people x \$450	900
Follow up workshop(s) -- up to ½ day	2people x \$225	450
Per Diem: \$40 per day (*approx.)	2people x \$40/day x 2 days	160
Subtotal		\$1960
Flights (*approx.)	2people x 600	1,200
Hotel (*approx.)	2people x \$90 x 1 night	180
Total		\$3340

**Sample costs to bring WYHMC for a two day event (one performance + 1.5 days of training with the Praxis actors)**

Actor prep: ½ day	2people x \$225	450
Performance fee:	2people x \$450	900
Workshops/training	2 people x \$450/day x 1.5 days of training	1350
Per Diem: \$40 per day (*approx.)	2people x \$40 x 3days	240
Subtotal		\$2940
Flights (*approx.)	2people x \$600	1,200
Hotel (*approx.)	2people x \$90 x 3nights	540
Total		\$4680

\*Please note that your program is responsible for paying actual flight/hotel costs & federal per diem rates for your location.