



STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Donald E. Williamson, MD
State Health Officer

June 24, 2011

Mildred D. Muhammad, Executive Director
After The Trauma, Inc.
P.O. Box 1533
Clinton, MD 20735-1533

Dear Ms. Muhammad,

This letter is sent with sincere thanks and appreciation for your participation in the Department's 2011 Volunteer Symposium, "Responder and Disaster Affected Individuals: Bridging Gaps of Understanding and Misunderstanding", as a featured speaker and panelist. As exemplified by participant evaluations and the widespread media coverage, you and your message of hope and survival beyond domestic violence and national terror was well received.

Intimate partner violence remains, arguably, the single most perpetrated act of domestic terror in the United States. Prior to the events of 2002 in Washington State, the Washington, DC metropolitan area, and Montgomery, Alabama, few would have imagined a single case of intimate partner violence could erupt into events that would captivate a nation, hold hostage a region, and end the lives of no less than twelve individuals. Your message brings awareness to a social issue that still garners too little attention.

Your knowledge of the subject of intimate partner violence, PTSD among returning combat veterans, and parental abduction transcends your personal experiences. You also bring to your audience grounded knowledge and a best practices approach to intimate partner survival, personal empowerment, and lessons for professional and peer advocacy. I professionally and personally recommend your educational and motivational services to all who seek a candid and practical introduction to your formula for survival during and after the trauma of intimate partner violence, and negotiating the numerous barriers victims and survivors of such face, often in fear and secrecy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephan I. Mambazo".

Stephan I. Mambazo, MSW, LGSW, CGRS
Emergency Preparedness Social Work Coordinator

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