



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUMMIT

From Awareness to Action

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OCTOBER 13, 2026 | 8:30 AM-3:30 PM | MIDFLORIDA EVENT CENTER

Why is this summit important?

Domestic violence requires a coordinated community response - not isolated efforts. This first-of-its-kind training in our region brings professionals together to strengthen communication, clarify roles, and close gaps between agencies so we can better serve survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

Who should attend?

Law enforcement, prosecutors, 911 dispatchers, fire and EMS personnel, healthcare and behavioral health professionals, social workers, advocates, child welfare professionals, educators, and community leaders. You do not need to be a domestic violence specialist to have an important role in the response.

What makes this training different?

Featured presenter **Jim Schmidt of the Gabby Petito Foundation** is a nationally recognized trainer with 25 years of frontline emergency-service experience and expertise in domestic violence response, trauma, and multidisciplinary collaboration. Participants will gain practical knowledge while building relationships with the local partners they rely on.

What is included in registration?

Registration includes a full day of training, valuable tools and resources, continuing education opportunities, and dedicated time to collaborate across professions. Generous, high-quality catering and thoughtful hospitality throughout the day will help participants feel comfortable, cared for, and ready to engage.

Why does registration cost \$125?

The actual cost of providing this experience is approximately **\$350 per person**. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of **SafeSpace, the Gabby Petito Foundation, and other supporters**, attendees pay just **\$125 - approximately \$225 below the actual cost**. This shared investment makes high-quality training, resources, and hospitality more accessible to the professionals our community depends on.

Are continuing education credits available?

Yes. Multiple continuing education credits are being offered for most participating disciplines, making the summit an opportunity to strengthen your practice while supporting your professional development. Please confirm the specific credits and requirements applicable to your profession when registering.

What do we hope to accomplish beyond the event?

The goal is lasting collaboration: partners who know one another, understand their responsibilities, and communicate effectively about referrals, handoffs, and follow-up. Together, we aim to improve survivor safety, strengthen perpetrator accountability, and prevent further violence - while responding more effectively to intersecting challenges such as homelessness, poverty, and addiction, and reducing strain on first responders, law enforcement, and healthcare systems.

This is more than a day of training. It is an investment in a stronger, more coordinated community response.