

Elaine Mayumi Whitefeather



~Executive Director of 'A Community For Peace'

~Founder and CEO of 'Foundation For Peaceful Communities'

~University of Northern California, Bachelor's degree in Vocational Rehabilitation

~A professional speaker and published author

~Recognized authority in the field of domestic and family violence.

Visionary, passionate and fiercely dedicated to the empowerment of every victim of trauma and abuse, Elaine M. Whitefeather has spent her last 38 years in human service work, 36 of those years in the field of domestic violence. Motivated by personal experiences that included childhood abuse, racial violence, sexual assault and cancer, she has turned these obstacles into opportunities of empowerment, healing and wholeness.

Elaine is a recognized authority in the field of domestic and family violence. She has created and resurrected over 40 domestic violence programs both nationally and internationally. In 1974 Elaine graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with a Bachelor's degree in Vocational Rehabilitation. She then combined her formal education with her vast training by cultural and spiritual leaders from around the world to build innovative, effective and progressive social programs. These ground-breaking curriculums have been established as models for the Family Support Centers serving military families and civilian communities from the Philippines to Hawaii; Southern California to her current service here in Sacramento County. This span of diversity is reflected in her own diverse ancestral heritage. She is Japanese, African American, Native American and German. Taught and encouraged all

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her life by indigenous teachers from each of her cultural backgrounds, she takes the wisdom from these many paths and creates a bridge of understanding that has catalyzed progressive changes across the globe.

Elaine has served on Board of the Southern California Coalition on Battered Women; with the Task Force on the Commission of the Status of Women for California, and Women of Color against Domestic Violence as a part of the domestic violence movement. She is a trainer for UC Davis Center for Human Services, specializing in training Cultural Diversity, Family Violence, and Wellness to Department of Human Assistance County employees throughout California. The consulting firm, Whitefeather Basinger & Associates, established 23 years ago by Elaine and partner is dedicated to the evolution and empowerment of women's lives. A professional speaker and published author, she has delivered keynotes that challenge, catalyze and inspire audiences from Domestic Violence Coalitions and organizations to businesses, faith based audiences; from the homeless to college students, locally and nationally. She is an ordained Interfaith minister and is part of the Greater Sacramento Interfaith Council and honored to open the California State Legislative and Senate session in prayer.

Elaine is the Executive Director for 'A Community for Peace', a domestic violence provider for Sacramento County where she has created effective, innovative and progressive programs for the response to domestic and family violence. These innovative strategies have changed the way critical partners such as law enforcement and child protective services respond and handle domestic violence cases.

Collaborating, unifying, persistent, bold and courageous, Elaine Whitefeather has led the way to better systems that can empower and change individuals and communities. In just 9 years, she has developed 'A Community for Peace' from an all-volunteer crisis line advocacy to a full service state and county certified provider. The visionary for the Domestic Violence Response Team-First Responder program with Citrus Heights Police Department, (domestic violence counselors ride with patrol officer partners and respond to domestic violence and sexual assault incidents, moments after the call). This one of a kind program expanded its reach to include Child Protective Services to respond to our children Exposed to DV innovative response team. This unprecedented partnership is now being redesigned to serve all of Sacramento County in the coming years. She seeks out community partners where 'A Community for Peace' can offer domestic violence services where victims and survivors are in high risk underserved communities. She brings services to where the people live and work.

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Survivor inspired and survivor sustained, a fierce peace warrior, she is devoted to the elimination of violence, abuse in all our children's' homes. Next generations, a newly opened trauma informed preschool for children exposed to domestic violence, located in Carmichael is one of her latest innovations. Her vision of peace is made manifest by relentlessly teaching, sharing, educating and catalyzing others to live an inspired and sacred life and to work together for the best of our Human Tribe.

Elaine has been recognized in 2014 as a Ruby Award winner from Soroptimist International Rancho Cordova; she was awarded, in 2014, the Service to Mankind Western Region by Sertoma. In 2015, she was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International and in March of 2015, she was honored by Assemblyman Ken Cooley and the California Women's Legislative Caucus as *Woman of the Year* for her innovative work in the field of domestic violence. This last year, she opened with our local Soroptimist chapter, *Soroptimist House*, a transitional home for survivors who are taking that final step toward freedom and self-reliance. She is named in the National Registry of Who's Who in America.

Elaine's passion and fierce advocacy have resulted in many innovative partnerships and in forming the 'Foundation for Peaceful Communities' to help build communities for women and children, youth and veterans. Utilizing the highly successful social renewal project, the Delancey Street Foundation model from San Francisco, she is now embarking on creating and developing with the private, public and faith communities investors, collaborative partners and developers to build: a permanent supportive housing community with on-site services and a residential campus for aging out foster youth and young girls, who are high risk targets for trafficking and abuse.

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