



**Silver Spring, Maryland** – Courage Network participates in the Amnesty International Arts Festival with the Clothesline Project, April 23 – 25, 2010

Courage Network will be continuing a 20 year tradition with the Clothesline Project. The Clothesline Project honors women survivors as well as victims of intimate violence. The Project first began in 1990 with visual artist Rachel Carey-Harper in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Moved by the power of the AIDS quilt, Rachel presented the concept of using shirts - hanging on a clothesline - as the vehicle for raising awareness about this issue.

Courage Network will participate in the event beginning on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and will host the display April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, Saturday and Sunday. Any woman who has experienced such domestic violence, at any time in her life, is encouraged to come forward and design a shirt. Victim's families and friends are also invited to participate.

The concept is to let each woman tell her story in her own unique way, using words and/or artwork to decorate her shirt. Once finished, she hangs her shirt on the clothesline. This process acts as an educational tool for those who come to view the Clothesline; it becomes a healing tool for anyone who make a shirt - by hanging the shirt on the line, survivors, friends and family can literally turn their back on some of that pain of their experience and walk away; finally it allows those who are still suffering in silence to understand that they are not alone. [www.clotheslineproject.org](http://www.clotheslineproject.org)

### **About Courage Network**

Courage Network, [www.couragenetwork.com](http://www.couragenetwork.com), is an online community and resource for domestic violence survivors, advocates and organizations worldwide. Courage Network features the stories and work of survivors, advocates and organizations in an effort to increase awareness, prevention and provide support for victims, family and friends. For more information, please contact Lyn Twyman at [info@couragenetwork.com](mailto:info@couragenetwork.com).

[www.couragenetwork.com](http://www.couragenetwork.com)  
[info@couragenetwork.com](mailto:info@couragenetwork.com)