Tuesday, April 18, 2017

7:00 – 8:00
Registration & Continental Breakfast
Orlando IV

8:00 – 8:30
Welcome & Opening Remarks
Orange Ballroom
Welcome & Opening Remarks
Dave Cohen, Master of Ceremonies
Orange County Sheriff's Dept. Honor Guard, Presentation of Colors
Deputy Linda Blue, National Anthem
Chief Deputy Nancy Brown, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Opening Remarks

8:30 – 9:15
Award Presentations
Orange Ballroom
- Professional Impact Award – Dr. Patricia M. Speck
- Media Excellence Award – T. Christian Miller
- Visionary Award – Dr. Marlene Young

9:15 – 10:15
Plenary I: An Unbelievable Story of Rape: An Examination of the Media’s Role in Public Discussion of Sexual Assault
Orange Ballroom
T. Christian Miller, Senior Reporter, ProPublica, Berkeley, CA

In the last several years, the media has devoted intensive coverage to sexual assault in America. Major news organizations have highlighted rape in the military, on college campuses, and in professional sports leagues. But the media has stumbled, sometimes badly, in its coverage. In 2015, Rolling Stone magazine retracted a major article on an alleged sexual assault at the University of Virginia after news outlets found problems with the veracity of the victim’s account. Questions arose about whether the story set back efforts by police, prosecutors, and advocates to dispel myths about sexual assault.

This plenary session will focus on the role of the media in the ongoing national conversation about rape. It will examine the development, reporting, and writing of “An Unbelievable Story of Rape,” which won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting. The recognition marked the first time in more than twenty-five years that the highest honor in American journalism was awarded to stories centered on the issue of sexual assault. The Pulitzer Board recognized the package for illuminating “a significant and complex subject, demonstrating mastery …, lucid writing and clear presentation.” The stories spotlighted the investigation of rape by police and prosecutors across the country, examining both missteps and successes.

The presentation will provide insights to police, prosecutors, and others in the sexual assault community on dealing with the media. The session will explain what to expect when interacting
with news organizations and reporters. The discussion will also examine the role of the media in myths about rape, both in dispelling rape stigmas, and in some cases helping to perpetuate them. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, and are encouraged to engage in vigorous discussion.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the role of the media in informing the public about sexual assault.
- Demonstrate how to engage with journalists covering incidents of rape and/or the topic of sexual assault in their local communities.
- Demonstrate effective ways to communicate information and messages to media outlets.
- Distinguish between the inherent conflict between the public’s and media’s interest in sexual assault versus investigators’ and victims’ needs for privacy and confidentiality.

10:15 – 10:45
Foyer

Break

10:45 – 12:00
Orange Ballroom

Plenary II: Court Strategies for Identifying and Responding to Human Trafficking Victims

Paul Herbert, JD, Judge, Franklin County Municipal Court, Columbus, OH
Vanessa Perkins, Executive Assistant, Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office; Human Trafficking Survivor, Columbus, OH

It has been estimated that up to 30 million people are victims of human trafficking worldwide. After drug trafficking, human trafficking is the second largest criminal industry, generating over $32 billion annually. A large portion of these individuals are trafficked for commercial sex purposes.

Victims of human trafficking enter the criminal justice system in a variety of ways. Many are charged with solicitation or prostitution, while others appear on charges of drug use, drug trafficking, theft, assault, or other ancillary crimes. In the latter cases, the court might not even be aware of the possibility that the crime was related to human trafficking.

Offenders who demonstrate a high criminogenic risk as well as a high need for treatment may be offered admission into a mental health court, drug court, human trafficking docket, or other available docket. Because the complexities of human trafficking give rise to additional treatment and other needs that must be addressed in order to achieve long-term stability, it is important to properly identify and engage human trafficking victims early in the criminal justice process.

This plenary session will highlight the efforts in the state of Ohio to better understand the prevalence of human trafficking. An assessment of the prevalence was conducted in a wide variety of specialized dockets across the state. Data from Ohio’s longest-standing designated human trafficking docket, Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH), illustrated the unique
risk factors and needs found in these participants. CATCH Court Judge Herbert will share how he created a docket to specifically respond to these needs, and lessons learned along the way. Approaches to working with human trafficking victims in other dockets, such as drug courts, will also be discussed.

**Objectives**

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the prevalence of human trafficking victims participating in all specialized dockets.
- Recognize the numerous factors shaping human trafficking-related needs, including trauma, that require special attention from courts.
- Explain how to create a track of your existing docket, or a separate human trafficking docket, that effectively addresses these needs.

**12:00 – 1:00**  
**Lunch – Provided**

**Orlando I - III**

8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**1:00 – 2:30**  
**Orange B/C**  
**What YOU Need to Know! DNA Findings After Sexual Assault**

*Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, APN, FNP-BC, DF-IAFN, FAAFS, FAAN, Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, Birmingham, AL*  
*Jack Ballantyne, PhD, Professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*  
*Erin Hanson, Research Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*  
*Rosario Sanchez, MSN, Doctoral Scholar, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL*

Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) has revolutionized crime scene investigation. Infertility literature benchmarks provide evidence that DNA exists longer in the vagina and cervix areas than general forensic studies previously demonstrated, which historically resulted in limiting evidence collection to two or three days post assault. In 2014, the largest in vivo study examining the timing of DNA recovery using Y-STR methods discovered DNA up to 10 days post assault in 65% of female participants, influenced by menses and hormones. As a result of this study, a recommendation was made to collect from the cervix first, and then sweep the deep vagina, which increased DNA recovery using Y-STR methods. Many jurisdictions changed their protocols for timing and collection to accommodate the new evidence for DNA recovery.

Unfortunately, in the first study, minorities were underrepresented in the population of participants. Therefore, the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, funded a second project to study minority proxy couples, post-coital DNA recovery, and variables that influence recovery of DNA using Y-STR methods. The same mixed methods design was used to quantify the timing, location, and Y-STR testing methods of samples provided by the minority proxy couples.
In this session, the presenters will discuss the methods of the study and reveal early results, which will provide a window into the experiences of minority couple participation, as well as quantify recovery timing, and the influences affecting DNA recovery for minority couples.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Review the historical development and uses of DNA.
- Recognize collaborative practice elements.
- Paraphrase the aims of the study, design, methods, and their development.
- Implement the study findings into community multidisciplinary practices.

1:00 – 2:30

Orlando VI

A Guide to the Effective and Successful Coexistence of Title IX Investigations and Criminal Prosecutions of Campus Sexual Assaults

Andrea Munford, Detective Sergeant, Special Victims Unit, Michigan State University Police Department, East Lansing, MI

Rebecca Leitman Veidlinger, Esq., PLLC, Title IX Investigator and Sexual Misconduct Attorney, Ann Arbor, MI

Much of the recent public focus on campus sexual violence has been on the dissonance between institutional Title IX investigations and law enforcement investigations. When one incident of sexual violence gives rise to both a criminal and an institutional inquiry, it is imperative that the two systems work in accord. This presentation will increase participants’ familiarity with the purposes, procedures, and constraints of each type of investigation.

This presentation will explore best practices for conducting a criminal investigation of campus sexual violence. The presenters will identify the unique characteristics typically found in campus sexual assaults, such as: the nature of acquaintance relationships, issues surrounding verbal consent, consumption of alcohol, memory loss, and prior consensual sexual contact. The participants will then be provided with specific investigative techniques to address each of these challenges. The goal in this portion of the presentation will be to buttress law enforcement’s confidence and competency when faced with perceptions of “he said, she said” cases that may have typically been considered unworthy of investigation.

The presentation will end with an examination of how the people involved are impacted by co-occurring criminal and Title IX investigations. The presenters will draw on their experiences to provide guidance on how to implement mandatory reporting requirements in a manner that helps, rather than confuses victims. Participants will learn how to better share information between law enforcement and institutional Title IX offices, facilitating investigations and reducing obstructions. Finally, the presenters will discuss strategies to build relationship between the two systems, with the goal of maximizing resources, minimizing conflicts, and ultimately improving justice for victims of sexual violence.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Summarize the differences between criminal investigations and institutional Title IX investigations.
- Recognize the potential impacts, both positive and negative, the two investigative systems can have on each other.
- Explain how the existence and functioning of two separate investigatory systems (criminal and institutional) can affect the individuals involved in the matter.
- Develop best practices for the investigation of campus sexual assaults.
- Implement collaborative and constructive relationships between law enforcement and institutional Title IX offices and ultimately better serve victims of sexual violence.

1:00 – 2:30
Orlando V

Vision 21 – Transforming Victims Services: The Provision of Comprehensive, Wraparound Civil Legal Assistance for Survivors

Moderator: Stacy Phillips, MSW, Grants Management Specialist, Victim Justice Program Manager, Office for Victims of Crime, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC
Meg Garvin, JD, Executive Director, National Crime Victim Law Institute, Portland, OR
Anne DePrince, Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Denver, Denver, CO

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)’s strategic planning initiative, Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services, indicated that there is a critical need for comprehensive, wraparound, pro bono legal services for victims of crime. Victims frequently have various coexisting and overlapping legal needs that arise in the wake of their crime victimization. However, the legal services that victims may receive are often delivered by various disparate organizations and agencies – if available at all.

In response to this widespread need, in 2012 and 2014, OVC funded 10 demonstration projects and a technical assistance provider in a groundbreaking initiative to provide coordinated, collaborative, and holistic pro bono legal assistance networks for victims of crime. Each demonstration site is also supported to partner directly with a local researcher. These robust research-practitioner partnerships, assisted and coordinated by the national training and technical assistance provided by the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI), are designed to ensure that meaningful learning in planning, implementing and evaluating the impact of the network is captured for national benefit. To highlight the impact of this work, and present a diversity of perspectives for its application across different jurisdictions and contexts, OVC has chosen three very different demographic regions currently implementing this initiative to openly discuss the needs, strengths, opportunities, and challenges from their particular networks: Alaska, Colorado, and Los Angeles.
The goal of this session is to engage and inspire the audience to carry existing and emerging legal networks forward in their own jurisdictions, and/or engage their local leadership/providers in assessing the feasibility of creating a network where no such coordination currently exists. The presenters in this session represent diverse perspectives, both across geographic region and role within the network (researcher/evaluator, direct service provider, and technical assistance provider). This diverse representation will offer insight into how to create holistic, comprehensive legal services networks. The presenters will share practical information regarding how participating organizations developed legal networks in their jurisdiction, including how they formed partnerships, the range of legal services provided, and how they work together and share information.

**Objectives**

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Explain the goals behind the creation of holistic, comprehensive legal services networks.
- Describe how to develop legal networks in their jurisdiction.
- Identify the sources of funding that may be available for sustaining these initiatives beyond the demonstration phase.

1:00 – 2:30

**Orange A**

**Court and Community Collaboration: Innovative Strategies for Assessing Risk in Domestic Violence Cases**

**Rebecca Thomforde Hauser, Associate Director, Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management, Center for Court Innovation, New York, NY**

This session will explore the social science behind lethality and risk assessment, and offer some tools and suggestions for court-based risk assessment. Over the past several years, researchers have successfully identified factors associated with higher risk of lethality or re-offense at the hands of an intimate partner. The past three decades have seen a dramatic surge in the number of domestic violence cases handled by courts nationwide. Led by advocacy movements in the 1970s, and the resulting rise of pro-arrest laws, no-drop prosecution, and dedicated funding streams, police and prosecutors have become increasingly likely to bring domestic violence cases to court. With so many new cases, criminal justice agencies began to seek ways to identify those cases deemed most at risk: either the risk of homicide of the victim or of offender recidivism. However, assessing risk in domestic violence cases can be a challenge for many reasons.

Domestic violence is not static —factors such as possession of a weapon, employment status, and dissolution of the relationship through temporary separation or divorce are all dynamic, fluctuating factors in the lives of domestic violence perpetrators and victims. Additionally, justice system agencies may be operating with limited information due to time constraints when making decisions regarding arrest, bail, protective orders or probation supervision. In order to better understand the risk of lethality to the victim or risk of recidivism of the defendant, many risk assessment tools have been developed over the past several years.
The presenter will address the court’s role in identifying risk in domestic violence cases, as well as how court staff, attorneys, and judges can get the information they need to respond safely and appropriately to litigants in order of protection, divorce or other custody cases. The presenter will highlight two tools that were created for courts and stakeholders: the Domestic Violence Risk Factor Guide for Civil Judges and the Domestic Violence Risk Factor Guide for Self-Represented Litigants.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify lethality and risk factors.
- Understand how lethality and risk assessments are used.
- Recognize the challenges and opportunities involved in incorporating risk assessment in judicial decision-making.
- Describe how courts and communities can work together to enhance victim safety and offender accountability through sharing of risk information.

1:00 – 2:30
Orange D
Victim Arousal During Sexual Assault: Considerations for Investigators, Prosecutors, Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners and Advocates

Andrew Pari, LCSW, Diplomate, Founder/Director of Sexual Assault Awareness, LLC, Palmdale, CA
Wendy Patrick, JD, PhD, Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney’s Office, San Diego, CA

Arousal and orgasm during a sexual assault is possibly the most devastating aspect for the survivor. It is seldom discussed in literature, and often not addressed clinically at all. Prevailing myths of what it means to orgasm during an assault leads to even lower levels of reporting and support than already exist for rape and sexual assault survivors. According to estimates, 5-30% (or more) of survivors experience arousal during their assault.

This experience is often misunderstood by sexual assault investigators, psychotherapists, advocates, and the judicial system, in addition to the lay public, creating further barriers to investigation, prosecution, conviction, and treatment of sexual assault. There currently is no comprehensive legal statute prohibiting the admissibility of victim arousal and orgasm as a legal defense to sexual assault.

This presentation will discuss the counterintuitive concept of arousal during sexual assault and why arousal is irrelevant to proving the crime. The presentation will also include current knowledge on the subject, investigation and treatment approaches, and areas of misunderstanding by assault investigators, advocates, and victims.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize myths of arousal that create barriers to survivor reporting, investigation, and support.
- Identify causes of sexual arousal and response during rape/sexual assault.
- Apply investigation and treatment approaches to provide greater support for sexual assault survivors.
- Cultivate strategies to address this phenomenon in order to overcome barriers in prosecution of sexual assault crimes.

1:00 – 2:30
Orlando IV
Journey to Rape-Kit Reform Legislation: Georgia’s Experience

Ann Burdges, Director, EVAWI, CEO and Executive Director, Gwinnett Sexual Assault & Children’s Advocacy Center, Duluth, GA
Scott Holcomb, Representative, Georgia House of Representatives, District 81, Attorney at Law, Atlanta, GA

The 2015 national spotlight on the issue of rape-kit backlogs throughout U.S. cities brought many local and state governments to the “situation room.” Aggressive and sometimes relentless attention from the media and their FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests flooded law enforcement and medical-forensic providers in a frenzy to quantify and qualify the scope of “the problem.” USA Today partnered with nationwide local media affiliates in the spring of 2015 to simultaneously pounce and broadcast information that quickly reflected an endemic multifaceted systems failure.

Some states circled the wagons and self-corrected with improved local practice and policy. Brave state legislators stepped up and dove in, only to learn more than they ever hoped or intended to know about sexual assault victimization, services, resources, and the systemic derailment suffered by their constituents. This workshop will provide insight into taking the idea of improved public policy through the process of actually becoming legislation. It will examine the process, players, relationships, communications, and challenges, specifically highlighting the perspectives and interests of state crime labs, law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates, medical-forensic professionals, and hospital authorities.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the legislative process from one state’s successful journey from concept to legislation.
- Discuss “what worked and what didn’t” and how to combat mental, physical, and emotional fatigue in this process.
- Examine how to work effectively with local and national media and meet mutual expectations of accessibility.
• Promote effective communications by understanding the importance of consistent position statements, vocabulary, and simplifying the complex.
• Identify how to engage national media and harness the power of social media.
• Examine next steps following successful AND unsuccessful legislative efforts.

1:00 – 2:30  Supporting Victims in the Military Justice System
Orange E

Catherine Johnson, EVAWI Director; Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, United States Marine Corps Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, Camp Lejeune, NC
Roger Canaff, Esq., Honorary Board, EVAWI; Legal Expert, Child Protection and Special Victims Advocate, Author, Public Speaker, New York, NY

It is not uncommon for civilian victim advocates, attorneys, police officers, sexual assault forensic examiners and other allied professionals to support victims of crimes being prosecuted in the military justice system. Although the military justice system shares a number of features in common with civilian systems, there are also a number of differences. Understanding these differences is critical to effectively supporting victims in the military justice system.

This presentation will give participants the tools they need to support victims in the military justice system. First, the presenters will explain what makes the military justice system unique. The presentation will explain when and how the military has jurisdiction to prosecute a case. The presenters will talk about the role of the commander as well as alternatives to courts-martial. It will also discuss how cases proceed from crime scene to disposition. It will highlight some of the support systems that exist within the military such as Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs), the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) and the Special Victim Counsel Programs.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
• Describe the basic characteristics of the military justice system.
• Explain the role of the commander in the military justice system.
• Identify support services that exist within the military.
• Discuss victim rights in the military justice system.

1:00 – 2:30  The Power of Advocacy within Law Enforcement: Challenges, Successes and the Impact on Systems Response
Orange F/G

Jerald Monahan, MS, Board President, EVAWI; Chief of Police, Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ
Erin Callinan, Training and Technical Assistance Manager, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, Phoenix, AZ
Varsha N., JD, Guest Lecturer & Independent Consultant; Board Secretary, EVAWI, Los Angeles, CA
This workshop will examine the history of the relationship between victim advocacy and law enforcement, while recognizing the similarities and differences in philosophy, and identify the evolution of this relationship as it shifts from a mentality as adversaries, to one of collaborative partnership. This workshop will use examples from across the nation that highlight the importance of this systemic change and recognize the challenges associated with victim advocates serving in police agencies as police employees. There will be discussion and identification of the unique differences between systems based advocacy and community based advocacy.

Focus will be brought forth to identify best practices used that have contributed to successful partnerships and ways this cutting edge model can increase services for victims and effective investigations for officers. By enhancing this type of response to victims of domestic and sexual violence, law enforcement and advocacy services will increase their efficiency, effectiveness, and create opportunities to meet the unique needs of victims. When law enforcement agencies house advocacy services internally, the systemic response to violence can be addressed from a dynamic and multi-disciplinary approach.

Objectives

As a result of this workshop, participants will be better able to:

- Understand the history of the victim advocacy movement and its interaction with law enforcement over the last 25 years.
- Apply strategies grounded in evidence based research for overcoming obstacles as victim advocates are employed and working within police agencies.
- Analyze the advocate’s role as a voice for victims and an aid to criminal investigations.
- Understand how the duties and responsibilities of law enforcement can be complimented by the duties and responsibilities of victim advocates.

2:30 – 3:00 Break
Foyer

8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

3:00 – 4:30
Orlando IV

Addressing the Unique Needs of Immigrant and Refugee Survivors: Strategies to Support a Multidisciplinary Response to an Emerging Public Health Issue

Jennifer L. Breads, MSN, MPH, RN, FNE-A, Chair, Immigrant & Refugee Outreach Committee; Forensic Nurse Examiner, Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, MD
Norma Ferraro, MA, Member, Immigrant & Refugee Outreach Committee; Family Violence Counselor, Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, MD
Debra Holbrook, RN, SANE-A, FNE-A, Director of Forensic Nursing, Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, MD
The United States is a nation of over 40 million immigrants. Each year the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) resettles over 50,000 refugees fleeing extreme violence from around the world. Research suggests that immigrants and refugees experience unique risks for, and prevalence of, sexual and intimate partner violence, yet many victims do not seek formal help, potentially missing opportunities for criminal justice, medical, and legal interventions. Factors such as isolation from social support networks, language fluency, cultural norms, and economic needs influence the risk of violence among immigrant women. Immigration-related abuse and threats such as withholding petitioning for permanent or stable status or threatening disclosure to authorities, are associated with physical and sexual abuse.

Showcasing the recent success of multidisciplinary efforts in Baltimore City to address this issue, this workshop will challenge participants to consider the capacity of their own worksites to effectively support uniquely vulnerable immigrant and refugee survivors in their own communities.

A community case study will demonstrate the context of an emerging health disparity in Baltimore City. Mercy Medical Center’s (MMC) Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) Program is Baltimore’s designated site for forensic nursing and post-assault clinical services. The staff of skilled nurses carefully identifies, documents, and treats injuries and provides patients with free clinical care and referrals for follow-up services, regardless of an individual’s residency status or decision to report to authorities. In 2014, an internal review of clinical care services conducted by the FNE Program revealed that despite the city’s rapid influx of Latinos, Hispanic patients disproportionately comprised only 2.5% of all survivors who received care at MMC.

In July 2015, the FNE Program established the first citywide initiative designed to respond to this emerging disparity through an innovative, multidisciplinary public health response. The goals were: 1) increase awareness of FNE Program services to local health, legal and social service providers and immigrant and refugee community members; 2) increase knowledge about the unique perceptions, needs, and obstacles facing immigrant and refugee survivors surrounding post-assault clinical care; and 3) improve the cultural adaptability of the FNE Program to best respond to immigrant and refugee survivors’ identified concerns. Since this program began, an overall increase has been observed in the percentage of self-described Hispanic patients served at MMC for reports of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the unique vulnerabilities and barriers immigrant and refugee survivors experience in accessing post-assault services nationally.
- Recognize the context of an emerging disparity noted in the utilization of post-assault clinical care services among immigrant and refugee populations.
- Describe the processes of designing and implementing a multidisciplinary community health initiative to better understand, and respond to, the unique post-assault clinical care needs of immigrant and refugee survivors.
Adapt and apply strategies shared during this workshop to worksites serving immigrant and refugee communities around the country.

3:00 – 4:30  
Beyond the Rape Kit: Improving All Aspects of the Sexual Assault Investigation

Jessica Shaw, PhD, Assistant Professor, Boston College School of Social Work, Chestnut Hill, MA
Gail Krieger, Staff Attorney, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, Lansing, MI
Debi Cain, MSA, Executive Director, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, Lansing, MI
Rebecca Campbell, PhD, Professor, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI
Annie Harrison, Detective, Ingham County Sheriff’s Office, Mason, MI

There has been growing attention on the criminal justice system response to sexual assault. The police response, in particular, continues to be highlighted; headlines reported that tens of thousands of rape kits go untested across the USA and that police reportedly interfered with investigations.

This session presents and discusses policy and practice changes that could improve the criminal justice system response to sexual assault based on recent research. The multidisciplinary team of presenters includes researchers, policymakers, and police in order to link science and practice. Research examining the police response to sexual assault in one urban police department will be presented, highlighting what can be learned from this department to inform police responses to sexual assault across jurisdictions. The development and implementation of recent statewide policy and practice changes in Michigan will then be discussed, allowing an opportunity for questions from attendees to provide support for similar efforts to be successful elsewhere. Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of the police response to sexual assault and ways to improve it as they return to their own communities.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe key findings from recent research on the criminal justice system response to sexual assault.
- Explain how recent research suggests policy and practice change can improve the criminal justice system response to sexual assault.
- Discuss recent policy and practice changes that have been implemented in Michigan and their impact.
- Identify potential barriers and facilitators of catalyzing change in their own jurisdictions.
- Implement new training and practice tools when attendees return to their own communities.
3:00 – 4:30  Office for Victims of Crime’s Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program Final Rule
Orange E

**Kathrina Peterson**, JD, Attorney, Office for Victims of Crime, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC

**Kristopher Brambila**, Assistant General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC

This workshop will provide information about the Office for Victims of Crime’s (OVC) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program Final Rule. OVC published the proposed rulemaking on August 27, 2013 and received comments for 60 days. The rule updates the program Guidelines to account for developments over the last decade and a half.

This new rule allows administering agencies and victim service providers to fully leverage the progress that the field has made over the last decade in knowledge of victim needs, victim service strategies, and efficient program administration, with the end goal of assisting crime victims more effectively. Please join us for this workshop, where we will discuss the many provisions in the existing Guidelines that remain in the rule, along with those areas where states will have greater flexibility in administering their programs and enhancing services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

**Objectives**

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Recognize overall revisions and existing guidelines that remain in the new rule.
- Identify how VOCA funds can be used to support system- and community-based responses to domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Describe how the provisions of the new rule specifically relate to services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Discuss the use of VOCA funds to enhance services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

3:00 – 4:30  Who gets the Photos? Utilizing Photographic Evidence and Protecting Victim’s Privacy
Orlando VI

**Moderator: Kristina Rose**, Deputy Director, Office for Victims of Crime, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC

**Joanne Archambault**, Sergeant, San Diego Police Department (Ret.); Founder & Chief Executive Officer, EVAWI, Addy, WA

**Jane Anderson**, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas, Washington, DC

**Kim Day**, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SAFeta Project Director, International Association of Forensic Nurses, Elkridge, MD
Jessica Mindlin, JD, National Director of Training and Technical Assistance, Victim Rights Law Center, Portland, OR

Gael Strack, Esq., Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Alliance for HOPE International, San Diego, CA

Many complex questions arise with respect to photographic evidence in sexual assault and domestic violence cases. For example, who gets the photographs of injuries from a medical forensic exam? Does the answer differ for genital versus non-genital injuries? Is a separate subpoena required for photographs from a medical forensic exam? What about photographs taken by law enforcement during the course of an investigation? How and where are they stored? Are they included in the case file or stored separately as evidence? Who has access? What is being done to protect a victim’s privacy as it relates to photographic evidence? Are photographs released in response to a request for public records?

In this workshop, we will explore these and other challenging issues. Join us for a discussion with experts from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, including: law enforcement, prosecution, healthcare, and victims’ rights attorneys. While we may not have all of the answers, this is the type of productive conversation that needs to be taking place in our communities to create best practices.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Evaluate agency policies regarding photographic evidence.
- Implement law enforcement and health care policies that protect a victim’s right to privacy.
- Analyze how to best retain photographic evidence so that photographs can be best utilized during the course of an investigation.
- Summarize how states’ public records and privacy laws may impact law enforcement agencies’ release of victims’ personal information.

3:00 – 4:30
Orange D

The Neurobiology of Domestic Violence

Christopher Wilson, PsyD, Psychologist, Portland, OR

This presentation goes beyond the basics of domestic violence and into the neurobiology of trauma that relates to the daily exposure to threat faced by those who are victimized by their intimate partners. Dr. Wilson will briefly discuss the research by Michael Johnson from Penn State University on differentiating coercive controlling violence/intimate terrorism and situational couples violence, making it clear that the presentation is focused on coercive controlling violence. He will then examine some basics about the brain and neural networks. After discussing how the brain handles threat in general, participants will look at how threat networks get conditioned, in some cases after a single exposure in a relationship with an intimate terrorist. The term “organizing” will be introduced (from the work of Dave Wright in Seattle, Washington) as a way of framing everyday exposure to threat. Dr. Wilson will also examine long-term
consequences of trauma; the power of intermittent exposure, as it relates to coercive controlling violence; and the power of attachment. The presentation will end looking at neurobiological realities for victims/survivors and reframe the question of “why doesn’t she leave,” into the statement “you would stay too,” going beyond practical/traditional/logistic factors and into neurobiological factors.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the difference between coercive controlling violence and situational couples violence.
- Recognize how the brain deals with threat and how this relates to the dynamic of coercive controlling violence.
- Explain the impact of daily organizing on the brain and how intermittent exposure reinforces the victim/survivor’s threat network.
- Discuss the neurobiological realities of attachment and threat as reasons why so many victim/survivors stay in relationships with abusive and controlling individuals.

3:00 – 4:30
Orange B/C
Challenging Victims: The Delicate Dynamics of Drug & Alcohol Facilitated Sexual Assault

Wendy Patrick, JD, PhD, Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney’s Office, San Diego, CA
Catherine Garcia, Investigator, San Diego District Attorney’s Office, San Diego, CA

Sexual assault, especially cases of acquaintance rape in alcohol- and drug-fueled settings, often involves some of the most difficult and delicate case dynamics when it comes to working with victims and witnesses. Successful collaboration between investigators, victim witness advocates, and prosecutors is essential to gaining victim trust and maintaining victim cooperation throughout the length of the case.

This presentation will detail best practices involved in making initial victim contact, collaboration between prosecutors and investigators, interviewing victims prior to the charging decision, requesting additional follow-up by investigators, and using expert witnesses to explain victim-perpetrator dynamics in sexual assault cases.

The presenters will also discuss the challenges often inherent in victim statements, including inconsistencies, omissions, and untruths. They will describe strategies for increasing the accuracy of a victim’s statement—which is often a significant issue when the sexual assault was preceded by a night of overindulgence by both the victim and perpetrator.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Tailor an approach to initial victim contact designed to build trust and maximize information gathering.
Maintain a working relationship of trust and transparency with victims in order to facilitate cooperation throughout the life cycle of a case.

Identify areas in each case where expert testimony would assist the trier of fact.

Utilize interpersonal strategies designed to perceive both verbal and nonverbal signs of dishonesty and deception, in order to more accurately gauge the credibility of the information received.

3:00 – 4:30  Barriers to Seeking Safety for People with Disabilities
Orange A

Cynthia Amodeo, LMHC, Director of Social Services, Barrier Free Living, Freedom House, New York, NY
Aida Colon, Bilingual Social Worker, Barrier Free Living, Freedom House, New York, NY

Barrier Free Living’s (BFL) mission is to support individuals with disabilities to live dignified lives free of all forms of abuse and bias. In 2006, BFL opened the doors to Freedom House (FH), a crisis domestic violence shelter for people with disabilities. Freedom House was the first totally accessible domestic violence shelter in the country. According to the Office on Women’s Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, “Research suggests that women with disabilities are more likely to suffer domestic violence and sexual assault than women without disabilities. And women with disabilities report abuse that lasts longer and is more intense than women without disabilities.”

Based on the research and client stories from our various programs at BFL, we at Freedom House expected to be filled to capacity with people who have a disability seeking safety when we opened our doors. To our surprise, this is not what happened. It took many years of experience, education, and advocacy to truly understand the barriers to seeking safety. Now that they are understood, we want to educate other service providers about the barriers to seeking safety for people with disabilities. We will discuss safety barriers from various disability perspectives, including but not limited to deaf/hard of hearing, visually impaired, and medical conditions. Some barriers to be discussed include language accessibility, physical accessibility, emotional abuse to convince the victim no one else can/wants to care for them, and the use of medical/physical conditions to keep someone in a power and control relationship. We will provide resources and safety planning tips to assist service providers in having these very difficult conversations.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the barriers to seeking safety for domestic violence survivors with disabilities.
- Promote awareness about program modification to serve domestic violence survivors with disabilities.
- Utilize resources for serving domestic violence survivors with disabilities.
- Describe what keeps a domestic violence survivor with a disability in the relationship.
- Develop tools to support staff in serving domestic violence survivors with disabilities.

End Violence Against Women International
www.evawintl.org

#EVAWI2017
Andie Moss and Jeff Shorba, two subject matter experts on Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) investigations and the dynamics of confinement, will address the requirements of the PREA Standard §115.34, specialized investigations training, and provide guidance on conducting an investigation of sexual assault or sexual harassment in confinement. They will cover trauma-informed techniques, legal issues and liability, roles and responsibilities of first responders, the impact of agency culture on investigations, and the needs of vulnerable populations during investigations of sexual assault and harassment.

Participants will learn key definitions and the PREA Standards relevant to investigations, such as inmate education, coordinated response, and agency protection against retaliation. They will hear about the impact of sexual abuse on male and female inmates and how the conditions of confinement can potentially further traumatize a sexual abuse victim. Participants will learn techniques for interviewing alleged victims of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, as well as how to respond to an allegation of sexual assault. The presenters will describe the appropriate procedure for first responders and evidence collection, such as how to interact with victims, document statements, and handle evidence.

Using videos, activities, and audience-response polling technology, the presenters will engage participants in discussion around the impact of facility and agency culture on investigations and strategies for changing and managing culture. They will review court decisions and case law related to sexual assault in confinement, explain the difference between and proper use of Miranda and Garrity warnings, and cover steps to take to prevent or mitigate legal liability. This presentation will also demonstrate what a prosecutor considers when deciding whether or not to prosecute a case and what an investigator can do to enhance the likelihood that a prosecutor will decide to prosecute a case.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Employ trauma-informed strategies when interacting with victims, witnesses, and perpetrators during a sexual assault investigation.
- Effectively address the needs of vulnerable populations when conducting a sexual assault investigation.
- Maintain compliance with the PREA standards when conducting a sexual assault investigation.
- Conduct sexual assault investigations in a manner that best avoids legal liability.
2 Concurrent Evening Sessions

4:45 – 6:00            SAFE Case Review
Orlando IV

**Diana Faugno**, MSN, RN, CPN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FAAFS, DF-IAFN, EVAWI Board Treasurer; Forensic Nurse Examiner, Eisenhower Medical Center, Palm Desert, CA

**Eileen Allen**, MSN, RN, FN-CSA, SANE-A, SANE-P, SANE Program Coordinator, New Jersey Office of the Monmouth County Prosecutor, Freehold, NJ

Traditionally, clinical knowledge of healthcare providers has benefited from collegial discussions of specific patient cases, reviewing the multiple approaches to care and any unusual findings, special techniques or clinical problems encountered in the case. In an effort to provide accurate and engaging information that benefits the participants, clinicians sometimes struggle with what is expected of them when asked to give an oral presentation of a patient encounter. This session is designed to provide and discuss standardized guidelines that will assist oral case presentations by Forensic Nurse Examiners in Peer review vs Case review. Several cases will be presented for discussion to demonstrate an example of effective case discussion in a large group.

**Objectives:**

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- List items that are/should be considered for inclusion in a case review.
- Discuss confidentiality as it relates to photographs and case review.
- Identify factors influencing different audiences that may impact information included or excluded from presentations.

4:45 – 6:00            Implementing Primary Prevention: Sharing Lessons Learned from the Field
Orlando V

**Suzanne Holroyd**, PhD, Senior Prevention Advisor, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, Department of Defense, Alexandria, VA

Like many organizations, the Department of Defense (DoD) recognizes that training is a key ingredient in a primary prevention program, but it cannot serve as the only prevention initiative. In recent years, the Department has undertaken a multi-faceted effort to expand its primary prevention efforts drawing on evidence-based approaches with the intent to institutionalize prevention across the Department. By delving into the details of the DOD's ongoing process of implementation, review, and change, participants can draw lessons for institutionalizing primary prevention within their own organizations and communities.

Along with an overview of DoD's approach to primary prevention, attendees will learn about select initiatives designed to address key elements of that current approach. For example, participants will hear key findings from the DoD Installation Prevention Project, the first-ever
research review of how prevention is being implemented at installations, and how those evidence-based findings are being woven into prevention implementation. Those findings serve as a foundation for the development of the new Plan of Action designed to clearly identify near and longer-term actions Service members at every level of the Department can take to prevent the crime of sexual assault.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the DoD's approach to primary prevention.
- Review insights gained from installation-based prevention research efforts.
- Evaluate DoD’s effort to weave in evidence-supported practices into prevention implementation.
- Draw lessons from the DOD that apply to other organizations and communities.
There is currently a very welcome national trend emphasizing alternative reporting methods for sexual assault victims. This is partly the result of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which requires communities to offer sexual assault victims access to a medical forensic examination free of charge, and regardless of whether they have decided to participate in the criminal justice process. However, it extends beyond VAWA compliance to include alternative reporting mechanisms such as anonymous or non-investigative reporting, and third party reporting through partner agencies.

This presentation will introduce a revolutionary new tool to expand the reporting and recovery options available for sexual assault victims: Digital crisis aids. EVAWI and Ten8Tech have partnered to introduce a new automated crisis aid platform in conjunction with the Start by Believing campaign. The platform is called Seek then Speak, and it enables an interactive dialogue with a sexual assault victim or support person, giving them vital information and important pathways for recovery.

Once connected to Seek then Speak, the victim or support person begins an anonymous conversation with this multi-lingual platform, which enables gradual engagement in the language of their choice. This helps to overcome many of the cognitive and emotional hurdles that are often so pronounced for sexual assault victims. Then, as they are provided with information about sexual assault and their various response options, they are offered opportunities to take action. For those who choose to connect with victim advocacy, a notification is sent to the appropriate agency, along with information to access supportive services. If the victim decides to begin the reporting process, notification is provided to the appropriate law enforcement agency along with the information given by the victim during the initial interaction. The agency can then determine next steps, including personal contact by an officer to conduct the follow-up
investigation. In other words, victims can remain anonymous, and they can choose whether and how much information to provide. The ultimate goal is to "open doors" for sexual assault victims to more easily access these systems and resources.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Identify key barriers to sexual assault victims’ reporting and help-seeking.
- Examine the theory and practice of alternative reporting methods.
- Explain how digital crisis aids can reduce barriers to reporting and recovery.
- Consider various design strategies for website, phone, mobile apps, etc.

10:00 – 10:30 Break
Foyer

10:30 – 12:00 Plenary II: Not Just Pictures
Orange Ballroom

Sharon Cooper, Forensic Pediatrician, Developmental and Forensic Pediatrics, P.A., Fayetteville, NC

While technology has made life better in many ways, the slimy underbelly of it is fraught with danger and downright evil. Thanks to the Internet, it is easier than ever to produce, reproduce, and disseminate child sexual abuse (CSA) images, which means there are more of these images out there than ever before and they are, tragically, fairly easy to come by. Disseminating these images is a multi-billion dollar a year industry, and one of the fastest growing online businesses. In the past 10 years, more than 120 million CSA images have been bought and sold. Ninety million of them were of prepubescent children with 12 million of them of infants and toddlers. Each year the images become more brutal and more graphic.

The film Not Just Pictures has been in the works for more than two years. Many people who make and collect child pornography consider it a victimless crime — just pictures. But to the children whose lives are broken by these predators, every instance of possession and/or distribution is a big deal because every time the images change hands, the children are victimized yet again as predators seek to make child sexual exploitation a normal thing. The victims usually know that their images are online and are powerless to remove them. So every time someone recognizes them, they relive the crime — even as adults. Every time they see someone looking at a cell phone, computer, or iPad, they pray the person using the device is not looking at the CSA image of them.

It is an intimidating and terrifying topic, but there are things that parents and guardians can do to educate and protect children at risk and to find and rescue those suffering at the hands of pedophiles and child pornographers. Authorities on the front lines of this battle are working to find and incarcerate offenders. Not Just Pictures faces this issue head-on, offering interviews with experts in the field, survivors and parents of survivors, and victims of Internet child
exploitation. A few of the topics covered in the movie include sex trafficking, sextortion, sexting and sex tourism.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the lifetime impact of graphic photography and videos.
- Describe how advocates and criminal justice professionals can respond.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch – Provided
Orlando I - III

8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

1:00 – 2:30 Where are my Sex Offenders Now? Pennsylvania’s Innovative Approach to SORNA
Orange B/C

Jennifer Storm, MA, Victim Advocate of the Commonwealth, Office of Victim Advocates, Harrisburg, PA

This workshop will provide an overview of an innovative partnership with the Pennsylvania Office of the Victim Advocate and the Pennsylvania State Police to provide timely and sensitive notification to crime victims when a sexually violent predator is identified by the courts and falls under the Adam Walsh Act. This partnership has significantly increased Pennsylvania’s Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act compliance and is a model program for anyone seeking to come into compliance or improve their own programs.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the basic components of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (title 1 of the Adam Walsh Act).
- Describe the Office of the Victim Advocate and its innovative approach to victim services through collaborative partnerships with the Department of Corrections, Parole, and law enforcement.
- Employ valuable tools for victim notification.
- Explain overall post-sentencing victim’s rights.

1:00 – 2:30 Sexual Assault of Elders: What Evidence is Missed by You or Your Team?
Orlando VI

Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, APN, FNP-BC, DF-IAFN, FAAFS, FAAN, Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, Birmingham, AL
Stacey Mitchell, DNP, MBA, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, Administrative Director, Harris Health System, Houston, TX
Diana Faugno, MSN, RN, CPN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FAAFS, DF-IAFN, EVAWI Board Treasurer; Forensic Nurse Examiner, Eisenhower Medical Center, Palm Desert, CA

The face of America is aging. Sexually responsive older persons enjoy a variety of sexual activities. Intellectual, emotional, and physiological changes in older people influence medical evaluation methods and health care provider approaches. Abusers of older and vulnerable adults are likely in a trusted relationship with access to the victim in institutions and in the community.

However, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are unlikely to receive information about geriatric genitalia in basic SANE training. Compounding the problem is a lack of women’s health experts in geriatric gynecology and rape. Advanced Practice Nurses in family care, women’s health, and geriatric care are beginning to fill the void as geriatric gynecologic experts. Many are becoming forensic nurses in sexual assault care. However, SANEs evaluate the older population without the advanced education or training necessary for quality care of older victims of rape.

The presenters plan to build capacity in a population of forensic nurses without geriatric gynecologic preparation. They will use Gidden’s concept-based approach to improve critical thinking and quality clinical reasoning to successfully evaluate the complexities of aging genitalia following a sexual assault and to refer patients as necessary. The presenters employ Caputi’s complex exemplar case mapping which utilizes analyzing, applying, discriminating, using available external information, and making referrals necessary for a quality forensic medical evaluation of older person sexual abuse. Participants will learn ways to enhance the quality of forensic nursing care of geriatric sexual assault victims, regardless of minimal knowledge about geriatrics.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Review unique physiology and identify common genital conditions in older persons which influence injury, using concept-based analysis of complex older person abuse and assault cases.
- Analyze at-risk older and vulnerable populations through Caputi’s method for analysis of case exemplars from institutions (e.g., hospitals and nursing homes) and community settings (independent dwellers), using forensic nursing concepts.
- Analyze adjudicated cases from participants seeking quality review, using Caputi’s practical approach to clinical reasoning.

1:00 – 2:30

Orange D

Going Beyond No! Deconstructing the Definition and Role of Consent in Sexual Assault

Herbert Tanner, Jr., JD, Consultant Trainer, HR Tanner Consulting, Portland, MI

A recent story on National Public Radio featured authors of Young Adult fiction discussing how much the portrayal of young people consenting to sexual activity has changed in popular
culture. This comes on the heels of the larger debate, sometimes centered on college campuses, about the definition of consent to sexual activity, how it should be understood, how it is or is not communicated, and how it should be communicated. Consent and its place in the laws against sexual assault remains a source of constant confusion. Is consent, or the lack of consent, an element of a crime to be proven beyond reasonable doubt? Where can we find a definition of consent? Is it in a statute? Is it in the jury instructions? Is it tucked away in case law somewhere accessible to only a few? And if defined, how clear is that definition? More importantly, how closely does it match the public’s definition? And just how are we supposed to know if there was consent or not? What if it was all just a miscommunication?

This interactive session explores the many ways consent is defined inside and outside the criminal justice system, using examples from statutes, jury instructions, and popular culture. Participants will examine the various ways consent appears in the law, as an element of a crime, as an affirmative defense, or as something else entirely. The session will review what’s known about the ways lack of consent is communicated (HINT: it’s hardly ever with a simple “No”), and how we understand that communication. The presenter debunks the myth that it was all just a misunderstanding.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the different elements or components that are often included in the concept of, or definition of, consent.
- Create and articulate a definition of consent that incorporates those elements.
- Recognize if and where their jurisdiction defines consent.
- Compare their jurisdiction’s definition to their own definition and the popular understanding of the concept.
- Understand and identify the different applications of the concept of consent in the criminal justice system.
- Examine and understand the research on how individuals communicate consent to act or an unwillingness to act in everyday interaction and when responding to unwanted sexual overtures.
- Formulate investigative/prosecution strategies for gathering and presenting evidence of how the victim communicated an unwillingness to act, and how the communication negates consent however it is defined.

1:00 – 2:30
Orlando IV

**Sexual Violence: Actions Needed to Harmonize Federal Data Collection Efforts**

**Gretta Goodwin, PhD, Senior Executive, Director, United States Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC**

Concerns have grown about sexual violence in the United States, particularly among certain populations such as college students, incarcerated individuals, and military personnel. In an
effort to better understand the problem, several federal agencies collect data to determine the extent to which sexual violence is occurring. However, each federal agency uses a different approach to collect these data, which produces different estimates of sexual violence. Such differences have led to confusion about the data and uncertainty regarding the extent to which these victimizations are occurring.

In summer 2016, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) will issue a report based on a request by Senator Claire McCaskill, Ranking Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee of the U.S. Senate, that looks at the federal efforts underway to collect data on sexual violence and describe how these efforts differ, challenges posed by the differences, and efforts underway to address the challenges.

This presentation will discuss GAO’s findings including:

- Sexual violence data collection efforts that are managed by the Departments of Defense, Education, Health and Human Services, and Justice.
- Similarities and differences across the data collection efforts with respect to target population, terminology, measurements, and methodology.
- How any differences across the data collection efforts affect the understanding of the occurrence of sexual violence.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify federal efforts underway to collect data on sexual violence.
- Identify how these efforts differ.
- Describe how differences across the data collection efforts affect the understanding of sexual violence and the extent to which federal agencies are addressing any challenges.
- Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of harmonizing data collection efforts to improve understanding of the scope of the problem of sexual violence.

1:00 – 2:30

Orlando V

The Missing Piece of the Puzzle: The Judge’s Role in a Sexual Assault Case

Claudia J. Bayliff, MA, JD, Attorney at Law, Falls Church, VA

When we look at the criminal justice system’s response to sexual violence, we often omit one key player: the judge. Judges have a tremendous impact on sexual assault cases at all stages of the proceedings, from pre-trial hearings to jury selection to sentencing, yet they are often missing from community response teams and training programs. Why? What can be done to include these vital players?

This workshop answers these important questions. Judges have strict ethical constraints about their participation in community-based educational programs or organizations. This workshop will explore the judges’ role in sexual assault cases, as well as their ethical constraints. We will
discuss lessons learned from educating judges across the country. In order to understand the difficult decisions judges need to make, participants will be also be given the opportunity to play the role of judge by making decisions at various stages in a sexual assault case, using the facts of an actual case.

In this interactive workshop, we will address four key issues: (1) the ethical constraints under which judges operate; (2) the difficult decisions judges must make in sexual assault cases; (3) lessons learned from educating judges about sexual violence for nearly 17 years; and (4) creative ways to help educate judges and to allow them to participate in coordinated community response teams within their ethical constraints.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the ethical constraints under which judges operate.
- Discuss “lessons learned” from educating judges across the country.
- Analyze a judge’s decision-making process in a sexual assault case, using the facts of one very difficult case.
- Develop strategies to encourage their local judges to participate in coordinated community response teams and judicial education efforts within the judges’ ethical constraints.

1:00 – 2:30
Orange F/G

The Asocial Network: Using the Web to Predict, Prevent and Prosecute Acts of Violence

Glenn Lipson, PhD, Program Director and Professor, California School of Forensic Studies, Alliant International University, San Diego, CA
Rachel Solov, JD, Deputy District Attorney V, San Diego District Attorney’s Office, San Diego, CA

Digital Evidence can be the modern-day version of an individual’s journal and plan for inflicting harm on an individual or an entire school, church or community. The office of the San Diego District Attorney, along with our law enforcement and community stakeholders, recognized that a multidisciplinary approach to evaluating threats that are often transmitted on social media—along with utilizing multi-jurisdictional resources to expeditiously analyze and track the source and imminent nature of the threat—is critical in guarding public safety and enhancing effective threat assessment and response. Maximizing cyber investigations assists in preventing school violence, intervening in threat cases, and prosecuting crimes such as stalking, domestic violence, sex crimes, and human trafficking.

The presenters explore how this data might be used along with other evidence to investigate, intervene and prosecute. They examine the effect of the unregulated exposure of children to violence and pornography on the World Wide Web. Subgroups are able to foster violence against others or facilitate crime by advising and encouraging individuals to move from loosely composed plans to violent action. Working together, we are finding ways to address the risks, and better manage and monitor threats. Focusing on the harnessing of the intelligence gleaned
from digital evidence and the web to reduce the risk of an incident of targeted violence against one or more individuals in our communities is a promising practice. This material will be brought to life with data from research and actual case presentations.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe how to coordinate different agencies in order to address how social media and other online approaches are being used by perpetrators to leak their intent to do harm on a mass scale or to particular individual(s), i.e. a school shooting or a domestic violence stalking situation.
- Recognize the growing presence and the consequences of arousal disorders that are facilitated by the overstimulating exposure to digital violence and pornography.
- Describe how the web is used in stalking, domestic violence, human trafficking, and cases of targeted mass violence, along with implications for working with victims and perpetrators.
- Identify the steps taken on the pathway to violence, enhancing the potential to detect, intervene, interrupt, and prosecute.

1:00 – 2:30 A Global Service: Integrating Multinational Models to Serve Victims in the US and Abroad
Orange E

Noël Harlow, Esq., San Diego, CA

Sexual assault and domestic violence exists in all corners of the globe, without exception. In response, agencies and service providers assisting survivors of these traumas now exist in one form or another in virtually every country. While each provider’s service model necessarily reflects the cultural and political realities on the ground, certain universally translatable aspects of prevention and intervention models can be useful in all contexts. As the world becomes smaller and more interconnected, service providers would be wise to learn from and identify how different models may inform and improve each other.

Many agencies have extended their reach to providing service both domestically and across the globe. These providers in particular must understand how their domestic service models translate internationally and determine which aspects may help survivors and which ones may affirmatively cause harm. In short, international service providers must learn from those in their countries of origin without throwing out domestic research and models that may translate well in international prevention and intervention programs.

The presenter will explore the intervention strategies used in various countries by new and established aid organizations, with a particular focus on former and current conflict zones such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Syria and the former Yugoslavia. These areas understandably have received outsized attention and international support from aid agencies of all stripes, and thus provide a rich data set for discussion. In addition, by focusing on areas experiencing such comparatively extreme levels of inhumanity, we can critically examine whether universally translatable models of prevention and intervention even exist.
The presenter will also focus on the converse situation: that of the domestic agency providing service to foreign national survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, particularly those escaping from war and other conflict. The United States is and has long been the world’s largest resettlement country for refugees and is scheduled to resettle 85,000 refugees to 46 states in fiscal year 2016. Given these numbers, service providers must understand, at a minimum, how war affects resettlement and the ability to create a new life in the United States. Sexual assault and domestic violence agencies must be equipped to service international survivors fleeing war and resettling in the United States. All too often, resettlement agencies work primarily with immigration and economic resettlement, and are not equipped to properly deal with the aftermath of sexual assault. Sexual assault agencies may improperly categorize these issues as trafficking or view them as too complex to assist. Some may even doubt the veracity of the survivor’s experience because it may seem that their experience is too much to be true. This training will aid in the service provision to survivors domestically by helping attendees more fully understand sexual assault in the context of war, the experience of civilians fleeing a war zone, and basic experience of refugees living in government and UN-sponsored camps around the globe.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Support sexual assault survivors in the context of war and the aftermath of war.
- Identify differences and similarities in domestic and international intervention and prevention models for intimate partner violence and sexual assault.
- Recognize how sexual assault may affect survivors and their families in refugee camps and the reclamation of their lives once safety is achieved either in their home country or in the resettled country.
- Distinguish how national models may be able to inform and help international aid efforts and where they fall short.

1:00 – 2:30
Orange A

Breaking the Cycle of the Bullying to Partner Violence Pipeline

Bobby Kipper, EVAWI Associate; Founder and Executive Director, National Center for Prevention of Community Violence, Hampton, VA

Significant research has shown that partner violence is the result of a process and not an event. Research further indicates that this process begins at a very early age with certain behavioral and emotional patterns. From the onset of aggressive behavior, which in many cases is termed “bullying,” to the actual commission of a partner-related crime, the interruption of an individual’s behavioral pattern is essential.

According to the Harvard School of Public Health, men who were bullies or the victims of bullying are four times more likely to abuse their partners. The research indicates that bullying has a direct impact on intimate partner violence. It is clear that bullies do not outgrow their aggression. According to a University of Washington study, bullying is a learned behavior.
Domestic and intimate partner violence is directly linked to childhood bullying, according to the study. The study further reveals that up to ten million U.S. children have reported being exposed to partner violence at home. This research is an indication of an established pattern of behavior between early childhood bullying and its link to intimate partner violence later in life.

This workshop will focus on the cause and impact of the bullying to intimate partner violence pipeline. The workshop will also focus on identifying the characteristics that are carried forward in aggression from childhood bullying to adulthood. Attendees will also be provided solutions to intervene in the early phase of bullying at schools and in the community to interrupt this pattern of violence.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the early causes that establish the bullying to intimate partner violence pipeline.
- Describe the impact of bullying behavior into adulthood as it relates to intimate partner violence.
- Identify comparative risk factors of bullying and intimate partner violence.
- Discuss positive programs and interventions to address the cycle of violence from bullying to intimate partners.

2:30 – 3:00 Break
Foyer

8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

3:00 – 4:30 The Critical Role of Domestic Violence Fatality Review
Orange B/C

Iva Rody, Victim Assistance Coordinator, El Mirage Police Department, El Mirage, AZ
Jerald Monahan, MS, Board President, EVAWI; Chief of Police, Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ

Utilizing presentation, interactive discussion, and video, presenters will examine the use of multidisciplinary fatality review as a means to effectively address family violence in their communities. Attendees will learn the vital role law enforcement, practitioners, and community members play in fatality review. Audience members will be introduced to fatality review and its deliberate examination of fatalities involving family violence to identify systematic areas for improvement and recommendations. Dissecting elements of fatality review, participants will evaluate the needs of their communities to identify potential partners in establishing local fatality review teams. Presenters will discuss various types of fatality review teams and key strategies for successful implementation. Participants will examine a case where fatality review played a crucial role in resource development in a community, which strengthened victim safety, offender accountability and officer safety. Attendees will participate in a mock case review. Utilizing real examples, participants will identify fatality review as a crucial resource and catalyst to enhancing victim safety and systematic improvement.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Describe the value and necessity of domestic violence fatality review.
- Determine how to establish and facilitate a local fatality review team.
- Recognize the critical role fatality review plays in the advancement of victim safety.
- Identify key elements of death review and its impact on systematic improvements in the area of violence against women.

3:00 – 4:30 A Powerful Tool for Creating Systemic Change: Data Collection
Orange E

Elizabeth Donegan, Sergeant, Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration Unit Supervisor, Austin Police Department, Austin, TX
Kimberly A. Lonsway, PhD, Director of Research, EVAWI, San Luis Obispo, CA
Tess Sherman, Senior Crime Analyst, Austin Police Department, Austin, TX

In December 2015, the U.S. Department of Justice published groundbreaking new guidance on Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. As Attorney General Loretta Lynch stated, this Guidance is designed to “help state, local, and tribal authorities more fairly and effectively address allegations of domestic violence and sexual assault.” As law enforcement agencies across the country strive to implement this new guidance, one powerful tool may seem to be the most unlikely: Data.

In this session, we describe data collection tools that helped the Austin Police Department design and implement critical reforms in their response to sexual assault. These tools were developed as part of the Making a Difference (MAD) project, which involved eight U.S. and eight Canadian communities in a collaborative effort to create systemic change. Data tools are available not only for law enforcement agencies, but also for other professionals involved in sexual assault response: forensic examiners, prosecutors, and both community-based and system-based victim advocates.

The best news? All of these tools are available for you to use in your own community and can be adapted for other crimes, including intimate partner violence or stalking. Come hear how you can use data collection to gather information, guide reforms, and evaluate initiatives to create real and lasting change in law enforcement practices.

Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Create data collection tools to collect information on sexual assault from agencies involved in sexual assault response: law enforcement, prosecution, forensic health care, and community-based and systems-based victim advocacy.
- Design a strategy for coordinating data collection across agency partners.
- Plan uses for data collection to evaluate current practice and guide reforms.
3:00 – 4:30
Orange A
External Sexual Assault Review Panels: Recalibrating our Investigations

Tom Tremblay, Chief of Police (Ret.), Consultant, Trainer, Tom Tremblay Consulting and Training, Fort Myer, FL
Anne Munch, Esq., Owner / Consultant, Anne Munch Consulting, Inc., Denver, CO

Events in recent years have highlighted both the need and desire for improved sexual assault investigations that result in survivors being supported and offenders being held more accountable. With Congress, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), and the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) looking carefully at how police, military, and higher education responds to and investigates sexual assault, there has been increased pressure for enhanced accountability and transparency of the sexual assault investigative process.

As a result of all this, many police departments, military investigative organizations, and Title IX coordinators have invited subject matter experts and multidisciplinary partners to the table to review sexual assault cases in an effort to improve their response and investigations. These reviews include determining whether investigations are free of gender bias; ensuring trauma informed approaches, thereby recognizing the potential evidentiary value of trauma-related victim responses; and ensuring that investigations are thorough in a manner consistent with best practices for what the devastating crime of sexual assault demands. Inviting subject matter experts, and other multidisciplinary partners, into the review of sexual assault cases is the next evolution in training investigators, enhancing public trust, and establishing best practices for community safety.

The presenters for this session have extensive experience reviewing sexual assault cases for civilian law enforcement, prosecution, military, and college and university Title IX investigations. They have designed and implemented training to assist departments in establishing external review panels and will talk specifically about the positive changes and outcomes that flow from this process to include identifying training and policy needs, involving victim advocates as a part of the response, enhancing communication with survivors, and balancing a fair and impartial investigation.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Recognize the importance and benefit of using outside experts to review sexual assault and sexual misconduct investigations.
- Identify problematic practices in the response to and the investigation of sexual assault and sexual misconduct.
- Describe how external review efforts can help identify areas of need such as enhanced training and changes in policy, practice, and organizational/institutional climate and culture.
- Identify positive outcomes in the organization/institution and the larger community as a result of external case reviews.
3:00 – 4:30
Orlando V

Working to Better Understand How Domestic Violence Survivors Experience and Interpret Abuse: Research Findings and Strategies for Outreach and Intervention

Jena Nicols Curtis, MA, EdD, Associate Professor of Health, State University of New York, College at Cortland, Cortland, NY

One of the most frustrating aspects of working with domestic violence is what feels like the inability of survivors to recognize and respond to abuse—until violence has escalated to an often life-threatening level. This workshop will use research developed from women’s own descriptions of their lives, the abuse that they have experienced, and the events that brought them to seek help, to allow professionals to understand the ways in which women’s own interpretations of abuse differ from the models and theories that practitioners have learned.

This understanding is essential to a victim-centered response. It will not only allow providers to truly understand why women are reluctant to seek help in DV cases, but also provide a framework for helping those that they serve to recognize and respond to abuse earlier in the cycle of violence. The presenter blends theory and real-life narratives to help attendees develop workable, pragmatic practices to prevent and respond to DV in a variety of settings and professional arenas.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the factors and events that lead DV survivors to seek the help of outside agencies.
- Analyze how DV survivors interpret their own lived experiences with abuse.
- Explain the ways in which these interpretations may enhance or hinder protective behaviors, and how professionals can help to reframe these experiences.
- Apply these findings to their own efforts to prevent and respond to DV.

3:00 – 4:30
Orlando IV

A Case of Domestic Violence Against Muslim Women

Nazila Isgandavora, D.Min, MSW, RSW, Research Fellow, Emmanuel College of Victoria University in the University of Toronto, Vaughan, ON

Taking into consideration patriarchal-theological defensiveness and the racial context of domestic violence against Muslim women, professionals engaged in the criminal justice response must address not only internal (for instance, cultural or religious) sources of abuse but also external sources and forms that support it.

This presentation will use a case study to evaluate the root problems of domestic violence against Muslim women. We will begin with the story of a woman referred to a Muslim counselor by her lawyer to seek relief for multiple issues, including whether signing the separation
agreement and Islamic divorce document (which proved to be fake) under force and defamation in the community is “Islamic,” as her ex-husband claimed.

The presenter will specifically provide an analysis of the literature to explore the definitions and interpretation of theology of suffering and tolerance towards domestic violence as an unhelpful spiritual practice among Muslim women and describe their limited knowledge of the community support services such as free legal aid and shelter. In addition, we will highlight the dilemma of those Muslim women who know how to access services but hesitate to use those services due to Islamophobia in society. The presentation will discuss the importance of creating/expanding community services for Muslim women that incorporate religious diversity.

Some of the questions that guide this presentation are: “How do agencies such as law enforcement, probation and parole, and the Department of Corrections respond to domestic violence incidents against Muslim women? How can the criminal justice system empower battered Muslim women by taking their religious beliefs into consideration?”

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Define domestic violence in the context of the Islamic tradition.
- Define unhelpful spiritual practices among Muslim women, such as tolerance, etc., and identify their main causes.
- Define practices in mainstream society that prevent Muslim women from seeking help.
- Identify the ways to reread the Qur’an and other sources of the Islamic tradition to tackle domestic violence against Muslim women.
- Recognize alternative sources for Muslim women who are subject to domestic violence.
- Discuss ways to reexamine the structure and content of training programs that often prevent professionals from grappling with issues of diversity effectively.

3:00 – 4:30 Introducing Expert Testimony on Victim Behavior in Sexual Violence Cases

Jane Anderson, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas, Washington, DC

The public has deeply-rooted perceptions about sexual violence and about how victims of sexual assault should behave. The realities of sexual violence are quite different: most offenders are nonstrangers who use nontraditional weapons, including alcohol, to perpetrate their crimes. Experienced professionals familiar with the dynamics of sexual violence understand that victims have individual responses to trauma that are often counterintuitive to public expectations, but both prosecutors and potential experts on this subject may be unsure of how to explain this to the jury and how to do so within appropriate legal parameters. Introducing expert testimony to explain victim behavior is a way to dispel myths and assist the jury to make an informed decision based on the evidence.
This presentation will describe the impact of trauma on victims, including cognitive and behavioral reactions, and will discuss the effect of common victim behaviors on factfinders’ assessments of victim credibility. It will discuss the law related to the prosecution’s introduction of expert testimony on victim behavior, how to identify experts qualified to testify on this subject, and what the parameters of such testimony should be.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
- Recognize victim behaviors that may require explanation at trial.
- Educate judges and juries about victim behaviors and dispel myths.
- Identify and work with experts to prepare a case for trial.
- Apply necessary law in order to be able to introduce expert testimony at trial.

3:00 – 4:30

Orange D

Beyond the Coordinated Community Response: Changing Systems in Law Enforcement to Overcome the Challenges in Intimate Partner Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Cases

Mike Davis, Sergeant, Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver, WA

This workshop will explain how law enforcement can evolve from not properly addressing intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV) in domestic violence cases to a practical, well-trained response.

Sergeant Mike Davis is an experienced law enforcement professional with an understanding of the practical challenges these cases present and how the organizational culture within law enforcement agencies affects these cases. Participants will receive materials that can be used for the assessment of IPSV and building an evidence-based case. The materials provided will also assist in developing training and policies as well as reducing gender bias in policing. The presenter will describe how to assess for sexual violence and other related crimes in domestic violence cases and provide specific strategies to overcome the most common challenges in these cases, utilizing a multidisciplinary team.

This workshop arose from a Washington State multiagency initiative originally funded by Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders program, focusing on sexual assault and stalking within the context of domestic violence. Information, resources, training opportunities, and model policies and protocols were developed for both the law enforcement and advocacy communities to improve the response to this largely-neglected set of crimes.

Participants will also learn how the formation and use of a multidisciplinary team assists law enforcement in providing exemplary responses to victims and vulnerable communities. Sergeant Davis will explain new practices and protocols for these cases and how the Vancouver Police Department reformed and changed its responses.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the most common challenges in confronting intimate partner sexual violence and domestic violence cases.
- Recognize what systems can be implemented, changed, or enhanced to improve victim safety, pursue an evidence-based case, and hold offenders accountable.
- Demonstrate knowledge of practical strategies with case examples for assessment of and response to challenging IPSV and domestic violence cases.
- Utilize training, policy, and multidisciplinary teams to implement change in the law enforcement response to IPSV and domestic violence cases.

3:00 – 4:30

Police Body Worn Cameras
Orlando VI

John Wilkinson, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas, Washington, DC
Kim Day, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SAFEta Project Director, International Association of Forensic Nurses, Elkridge, MD
Michael Rizzo, Project Manager, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Alexandria VA
Meg Garvin, JD, Executive Director, National Crime Victim Law Institute, Portland, OR
Scott Van Schyndel, Investigator, Fox Valley Metro Police Department, Little Chute, WI

Over the past decade, law enforcement’s use of body worn cameras (BWC) has significantly increased and public awareness of, and demand for, use of cameras has risen. While BWCs can provide helpful evidence in cases involving violence against women (VAW), their use may also adversely impact victim safety and privacy. Standard procedures in many departments call for the activation of BWCs during any responsive citizen-police encounter, but there are often no special provisions related to a response to VAW. Agencies should develop victim-centered policies or protocols that address the impact of BWCs on victims when responding to these crimes.

This presentation will discuss many of the issues law enforcement, prosecutors, forensic examiners and other allied professionals must consider when BWCs are used in VAW investigations. The presenters will discuss the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration – at the local, state, tribal, military, and federal levels – in order to develop effective BWC policies that address victim safety, privacy and autonomy. The presenters will also discuss issues such as deactivation of a BWC at appropriate points during the investigation, expectation of privacy, HIPAA, safety considerations, discovery, redaction, protective orders limiting dissemination, and requests under freedom of information or open records statutes.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the impact of BWCs on victim safety and privacy, including consideration of HIPAA.
• Identify partnerships and multidisciplinary collaborations to support and strengthen the implementation of BWC policies.
• Foster proactive law enforcement leadership in the development and implementation of victim-centered BWC policies.
• Respond to defense discovery or public information requests without compromising victim privacy or safety.
• Anticipate and overcome defense challenges to BWC evidence in court.

2 Concurrent Evening Sessions

4:45 – 6:00
Orlando IV
Using an Alternate Light Source in Forensic Nurse Examiner Programs: Recent Research

Debra Holbrook, RN, SANE-A, FNE-A, Director of Forensic Nursing, Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, MD
Jocelyn Anderson, MSN, RN, FNE-A, CNRN, Forensic Nurse Examiner, Mercy Medical Center, Baltimore, MD

Increasingly, alternate light source (ALS) technology is being used by forensic nurse examiners to improve injury visualization and evidence collection. In this session, presenters will explain the history and science behind alternate light source technology. Current research updates will be reviewed, with focus on clinical implications and significance. Presenters will describe challenges related to the evolving use of this technology, and discuss areas of future research potential.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:
• Identify the purpose of using ALS in forensic nursing practice.
• Identify issues faced when using ALS in forensic nursing practice.
• State implications of presented research for forensic nursing practice.
• Utilize evidence-based research to identify one change in their area of practice.

4:45 – 6:00
Orlando V
What Do You Mean, I Can Use My Smartphone? Victim Link Technology is Transforming the Vision of Alternative Reporting Methods into Reality

Eric Geerdes, Chief Operating Officer, Ten8Tech, Avalon, CA
Anthony Formhals, President and CEO, Ten8Tech, Wilmington, NC

Come see a live demonstration and hear more about this revolutionary technology, which is transforming the vision of alternative reporting methods into reality by providing an environment that is designed to feel safe, comfortable and personalized.
Seek then Speak and Victim Link technology breaks down traditional barriers of shame and fear, so victims can gather information, explore options, and take action through gradual dialogue, available in approximately 30 different languages, via web, phone, mobile, text. This makes it a perfect tool for sexual assault victims, with potential avenues to expand into other gender-based crimes such as intimate partner violence and stalking, as well as human trafficking.

Discussion will also highlight links with Start by Believing, EVAWI’s public awareness campaign, and the training resources available for responding professionals. Together, EVAWI and Ten8Tech are equipping communities with resources and support to empower victims of sexual assault to reach out and speak up.

Then, when a victim chooses to seek assistance, a notification is triggered on the agency side, through the Victim Link program, which alerts law enforcement and/or victim advocacy about the victim contact via phone call, text message, or email. Agency subscribers log into Victim Link, a secure web portal, to review the victim’s report. This enables agency personnel to determine what the next steps are for serving victim needs. Responding agencies can connect directly with victims, to continue the reporting process, provide supportive services, and facilitate recovery – whether on campus, in the military, or in other types of communities.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the unprecedented capability of digital technology to open up lines of communication between sexual assault victims, law enforcement, and victim advocacy.
- Explore how the public-facing site Seek then Speak can help victims gather information, explore options, and connect with law enforcement and/or victim advocacy.
- Examine the agency-facing portal Victim Link, which allows law enforcement and victim advocates to review information provided by survivors and then reach out to help.
- Consider various issues related to implementation, including a multidisciplinary response protocol for criminal justice and community service agencies.
Thursday, April 20, 2017

7:15 – 8:15
Registration and Continental Breakfast
Foyer

8 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

8:15 – 9:45
Orange B/C
Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in the Law
Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

Jennifer Mondino, Attorney, Civil Rights Division, Special Litigation Section, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC
Anne Hamilton, Grant Program Specialist, Office for Victims of Crime, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC
Jennifer Kaplan, Supervisory Attorney Advisor, Office on Violence Against Women, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC
Kristina Rose, Deputy Director, Office for Victims of Crime, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC

Sexual assault and domestic violence are crimes that disproportionately impact women, girls, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals in the United States. Explicit and implicit biases, including stereotypes about gender roles and victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, are rooted in our culture. Gender bias in policing practices is a form of discrimination that may result in law enforcement agencies providing less protection to certain victims based on gender, failing to respond to crimes that disproportionately harm people of a particular gender, or offering reduced or less robust services due to a reliance on gender stereotypes.

In December 2015, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued new guidance designed to help law enforcement agencies prevent gender bias in their response to sexual assault and domestic violence. Overall, the guidance highlights the need for clear policies, robust training, and enhanced systems of response within law enforcement agencies.

This workshop will highlight key points of the new guidance, share results and feedback from a roundtable hosted by the DOJ Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in Washington, D.C. in June 2016, present lessons learned from the DOJ Civil Rights Division’s investigations and settlement agreements involving gender bias by law enforcement agencies, and discuss the goals and anticipated deliverables of the DOJ Office for Victims of Crime’s (OVC’s) new Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in Law Enforcement Response to Victims Demonstration Initiative.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the key points to the DOJ Guidance on *Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence*.
- Develop strategies to implement the DOJ Guidance, including through learning about previous DOJ investigations and settlement agreements involving gender bias by law enforcement agencies.
- Describe the overall goals and objectives of OVC’s Demonstration Initiative.
- Discuss the relevant strategies for implementation of the guidance.

8:15 – 9:45

**Serving United States Citizen Victims of Crime Overseas – What You Need to Know in Crisis**

*Beth Finan,* Country Officer, Office of American Citizens Services, United States Department of State, Washington, DC

This presentation will cover a variety of aspects pertaining to the safety and security of U.S. citizen travelers overseas. Learn how to support a victim of a violent crime who comes to you for help. The workshop will also address matters of safety and security when traveling abroad. You will hear how the Department works with our law enforcement partners in the United States to intervene on a parental child abduction in progress. Lastly, the presentation will walk through recent terrorist attacks overseas (i.e. Paris, Brussels), and outline how the Department, along with our partners in the FBI Office for Victim Assistance, assisted U.S. citizen victims who were impacted. The presenter will offer practical information for travel and for victim-serving professionals, including communication strategies to help when far away.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize how crime victimization overseas is different for victims and issues to consider when working an international case.
- Identify resources that are available for family advocates and professional staff.
- Develop communication strategies to support travelers and prepare for personal or business trips abroad.
- Describe how the Department of State can help in a crisis situation.

8:15 – 9:45

**We Had Options**

*Kimberly Messina,* Victim Services Coordinator, Brighton / Commerce City Police Department, Brighton, CO

*Dennis Moon,* Deputy Chief of Police, Commerce City Police Department, Commerce City, CO
Looking at our own work can be both rewarding and challenging. What happens when you look inside your own police department organization, made up of men and women who pride themselves on their work, who are deeply committed to serving, protecting, and loving their community, and find out that things aren’t right? What happens when you examine the low number of sexual assault reports; the mishandling of sexual assault cases, evidence, and investigations; and the lack of victim services provided to the very citizens you choose to serve? How does a mid-sized urban police department look inside and take the steps to promote reform on a systemic level?

Making the decision to audit one’s own work is a chilling place to be. It’s humbling and distressing and exciting all at the same time. In this workshop, we will guide participants through the process our police agency has taken to look inside and create change, both through self-assessment and an external audit. The Commerce City Police Department asked law enforcement professionals and criminal justice system experts from outside the police department to review sexual assault cases reported over a 3-year time period.

This workshop will lead participants through the historical perspective of examining how the agency used to operate, how we came to conduct an internal and external audit, how we designed the audit process, and what we found, both in terms of investigative and organizational changes. Because this process took place while the police department was working to become a certified You Have Options agency, we will also explore how the audit dovetailed with that process, to address some of the major areas of needed improvement. Ultimately, our goal is to inspire your police department and community to engage in the same process of self-assessment. Your journey will look different from ours, but we hope you can learn from our experience to create real and lasting change.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify red flags within a police agency that indicate a need for a self-assessment.
- Explore the process and tools used to conduct a self-assessment and external audit.
- Examine what the findings are really telling you, from your perspective as well as others’.
- Evaluate the findings and implement next steps to create real and lasting change in your police agency.

8:15 – 9:45 Orlando IV “This Does Not Happen in my Community”: Making the Case for Trauma Informed Care in Indian Country

Theresa “Terry” Friend, CNM, MSN, Forensic Consultant for Sexual and Domestic Violence, Indian Health Service, IHS Headquarters, Washington, DC

In order to improve the care and response to victims of sexual assault and intimate partner violence in Native communities, we must recognize the extent to which these issues exist beyond what the reported statistics reveal. Understanding the concept of trauma, the dynamics of reporting in Native communities, and the value of multidisciplinary collaboration that includes...
representation of Native people and agencies is critical for a truly victim-centered response. This session reviews the principles of VAWA compliance in Indian Country, specifically discussing access to sexual assault medical forensic examinations, victim-centered reporting processes regardless of participation in the criminal justice system, challenges facing Anonymous (Jane Doe) evidence collection, and the importance of a unified multidisciplinary approach in Native communities.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the barriers to disclosing intimate partner and sexual violence in Native communities.
- Apply the concept of trauma informed care in their practice settings.
- Explain victim-centered reporting approaches for sexual and intimate partner violence in Native communities.
- Integrate policies across disciplines responding to sexual and intimate partner violence.

8:15 – 9:45 After the Interview – Now the Work Begins
Orange D

Richard Mankewich, Sergeant, Major Case / Sex Crimes, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Clermont, FL
Deborah Barra, Trial Unit Director, Orange County State Attorney’s Office, Orange County, FL

Sex Crimes cases can be some of the most difficult cases to prove and among the most challenging cases to get favorable verdicts in court. Due to delays in disclosing, cases often are presented with just a victim disclosure, which limits the opportunity for any type of evidence to be recovered. In the age of shows like CSI, juries want more than just testimony: they want physical evidence. Being able to paint a clear picture of what the victim actually experienced during a sexual assault will give the prosecutors a true advantage when presenting these cases.

Corroborating victim testimony is crucial in order to prepare the best possible case. We now know that trauma plays a major role in the memory of a victim. We also know that a Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) provides the best possible disclosure from a victim who has just been through a trauma-related crime. What we need to know now is how to corroborate the sensory testimony into actual evidence to present to the prosecutors and the jury.

This training will provide case material on corroborating evidence. We will look at crime scene photos that will show in detail what the victim disclosed and then how the evidence was gathered. A prosecutor will explain in detail how corroborating evidence can be the difference between simply filing a case and obtaining a guilty verdict.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Recognize the importance of a well-executed Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) with the victim.
- Describe advanced methods of gathering the corroborative sensory evidence from the victim's disclosure.
- Identify ways to look beyond the plain view evidence and truly think beyond the basics.

8:15 – 9:45  Effective Strategies to Respond to Older Victims of Abuse
Orlando VI

**Bonnie Brandl**, Director, National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), Madison, WI

**Page Ulrey**, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, King County Prosecutor’s Office, Seattle, WA

Every day 10,000 Americans turn 65 years old, and the number of reported cases of abuse in later life is rising. Law enforcement officers, prosecutors, advocates, and others are responding to an increased number of older victims. These cases are often complicated and require a multidisciplinary response. During this interactive workshop, participants will work through a case of intimate partner violence in later life. Justice professionals, advocates, and others will discover practical response strategies and collaborative approaches to enhance the safety and quality of life of older victims.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Define and describe the unique dynamics of abuse in later life.
- Identify and utilize strategies for law enforcement, prosecutors and advocates to respond to older victims.
- Identify and utilize strategies to support older victims that can be used by community-based advocates.
- Work collaboratively with professionals from other disciplines to address abuse in later life.

8:15 – 9:45  Assessing and Responding to Victim Threat Versus Offender Risk at Reentry
Orange A

**Lydia Newlin**, Director, Victim Assistance & Restorative Justice, Minnesota Department of Corrections, St. Paul, MN

**Jeralita “Jeri” Costa**, Community Victim Liaison, Washington Department of Corrections, Marysville, WA

Evaluating risk and threat for offenders of intimate partner violence is crucial. Although there are many tools and promising practices available for assessing risk and threat pre-trial or for purposes of bail, there are no risk or threat assessments that have been developed to provide guidance for offenders who have been incarcerated for felony offenses. This is because there
are no risk assessments that take into consideration the separation of time that prison sentences impose. As a result, corrections staff rely on risk assessments rather than threat assessments when making decisions about offender reentry.

The purpose of offender risk assessments is to make decisions about offenders—decisions which focus on offender programming and offender supervision. Threat assessments focus on identifying high threat factors which can be used to provide safety planning and reentry strategies, focusing on high threat scenarios and risk to specific victims. By identifying high threat cases, corrections staff can allocate limited resources to specific cases (victims) vs. high risk caseloads (which are offender focused.)

Once high threat cases (offenders/victims) are identified, victim wraparound processes can be offered and conducted prior to an offender’s reentry. Minnesota utilizes a process that begins to identify and assess threat at the time of an offender’s prison intake through the offender reentry process. Washington State and Minnesota both utilize specific wraparound processes that involve and incorporate multiple criminal justice agencies and partners prior to an offender’s release to respond to high threat cases (victims) rather than high risk offenders.

This workshop will provide an overview of lessons learned and knowledge gained by Minnesota following a 3-year OVW Grants to Encourage Arrest (GTEA) project specifically designed to examine and respond to the needs of victims whose offenders were releasing from prison incarceration. In addition, this workshop will provide an overview of the Minnesota process for assessing specific threat factors and high threat cases. Finally, this workshop will provide participants information about victim wraparound processes for victims whose offenders are reentering the community after prison commitment.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the difference of offender overall risk and specific victim threat and the importance of this distinction in intimate partner violence cases.
- Describe the importance and provide examples of promising practices to identify threat factors in intimate partner violence specific to incarcerated offenders returning to the community.
- Discuss strategies for incorporating victims and implementation of victim input in corrections reentry processes.
- Identify promising practices to create victim wraparound at offender reentry processes.

8:15 – 9:45
Orange E Evaluating the Impact of a Canadian SANE Program on Criminal Justice/Client Outcomes

Susan Wilson, RN, BScN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SANE Coordinator, Research Project Coordinator, Avalon Sexual Assault Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia
Tarah Vallee, Research Assistant, Avalon Sexual Assault Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia
In 2001, Avalon Sexual Assault Centre launched its Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program in Halifax, Nova Scotia. After 15 years of providing services, the Avalon SANE Program Evaluation, funded by the Department of Justice Canada Victims of Crime Fund, was conducted to assess the impact of a community based SANE Program on the progression of sexual assault cases through the criminal justice system. The evaluation is loosely based on the toolkit: *Evaluating the Work of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Programs in the Criminal Justice System: A Toolkit for Practitioners* and investigates the effectiveness of the program in the following domains: a) psychological, b) physical health, c) forensic, d) legal, and e) community change.

Working in partnership with police and Public Prosecution Service, quantitative data from 2005 to 2014 was gathered and it was determined that 21% of all sexual assault police files with victims aged 16 and over had a Sexual Assault Examination Kit noted as being completed. It was found that charge/conviction rates did not vary significantly between SANE and non-SANE cases, however significant differences were found in sentencing (i.e., on average, greater length of incarceration and probation for SANE cases). Furthermore, the evaluation investigated reasonings behind police file closures in order to gain greater insight into the issue of low reporting and conviction rates in sexual violence cases. Reasons were broken down using police categorizations as well as detailed quotations from the police file. Findings suggest that a large portion (40%) of all sexual assault files were closed based on reasons which place responsibility on the victim (i.e., victim does not wish to pursue, complainant declines to lay charges). A client satisfaction survey, SANE nurse questionnaire, and qualitative interviews were also conducted to evaluate the impact of the SANE program on various domains. Findings included that the SANEs’ role as first responders at the hospital was viewed as overall more effective than the process pre-SANE, that forensic lab personnel as well as police were positive about SANE’s ability in collection and handling of evidence and that SANEs were very valuable as fact or expert witnesses due to their objective, clinical, and comprehensive observation of victims/injuries.

**Objectives**

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify benefits and challenges of evaluation in examining a SANE program as part of the community response to sexual assault and apply lessons learned to their own community in order to anticipate potential challenges and solutions.
- Discuss the use of both qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate SANE program outcomes.
- Discuss recommendations made based on evaluation results and the community impact achieved by disseminating same to vested community partners.
- How to translate findings into policy development and standardization, organization collaborations, and ongoing evaluations (in order to address identified gaps in services).

9:45 – 10:15 Break
Foyer
The Start by Believing campaign is taking the world by storm. In hundreds of communities, creative efforts are underway to improve the response of family members, friends, and professionals who hear those terrible words, “I was raped.” The campaign looks different in every community. Yet the message is always the same: “When someone tells me they were sexually assaulted, I will Start by Believing.”

The first time they hear the Start by Believing message, some criminal justice professionals may wonder if this compromises their professional perspective of objectivity. “Whatever happened to ‘innocent until proven guilty?’” they may ask, or: “It’s not our job to believe victims. It’s our job to find out the facts and determine what really happened.” In this workshop we will explore responses to these important questions. First, we will provide information about the campaign you can use to prepare your own response to such challenges. Second, we will stage a mock trial where a detective has to respond to defense challenges stemming from the agency’s involvement in a Start by Believing campaign. Watch a defense attorney try to undermine the detective’s credibility with accusations of bias, and see how he stands his ground by defending both the legitimacy of the campaign as well as his own professional integrity.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Review the evidence base for the Start by Believing public awareness campaign.
- Practice responding to challenges levied against the campaign, particularly for criminal justice professionals such as police officers and prosecutors, as well as other professionals such as medical forensic examiners and forensic interviewers.
- Recognize the strategies used by a defense attorney to try to undermine the credibility of a police investigator for involvement in the campaign, and explore effective strategies for responding.
10:15 – 11:45  Civil Legal Remedies for Sexual Assault Victims: A Multidisciplinary Case Review
Orange B/C

Noël Harlow, Esq., San Diego, CA
Jessica K. Pride, Esq., Partner, The Pride Law Firm, San Diego, CA

Learn the depth and scope of civil legal remedies available to sexual assault victim/survivors and how collaboration between civil attorneys and criminal prosecution teams can reduce victim trauma and increase perpetrator accountability. Sexual assault often affects several facets of a victim's life – home, work, safety, privacy, economic security, and education, to name a few. While protective statutes exist to provide victims with specific rights in these areas, too often the laws are not known or utilized. When invoked, protective civil statutes can help stabilize victim/survivors’ lives, and civil sexual assault lawsuits can secure monetary awards to help counter the devastating and long-lasting economic impact they experience.

In this presentation, participants will learn about these substantive rights and the dynamics of litigating a civil sexual assault lawsuit. Through a multidisciplinary review of a high-profile serial sexual assault case, the presenters will discuss how civil attorneys collaborated with criminal prosecutors and law enforcement to bring down a doctor who had sexually assaulted more than a dozen women at his low-income medical clinic. The case review will dissect the timeline of a victim’s changing civil needs – from the commission of the crime through criminal prosecution – pinpointing the optimal opportunities for civil/criminal collaboration.

The presenters will share strategies to promote collaboration among professional groups and highlight innovative methods that local agencies can use to mobilize their community to jointly address sexual violence. From providing counseling support, to joining forces to fight a Marsy’s Law violation in court, to providing a U-visa through immigration services, there are numerous interagency collaboration opportunities that can assist survivors. The session will use a combination of interactive exercises, video from media coverage of the studied case, and lecture to enhance participants' understanding of civil legal remedies and their intersection with criminal prosecution. The content will be of value to criminal prosecutors, police officers, counselors, advocates, and all persons involved in the administration of a sexual assault case.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the civil legal rights and remedies available to victim/survivors, including laws related to employment, housing, education, and safety, as well as personal injury lawsuits.
- Describe how civil legal remedies can stabilize victims’ lives and aid criminal prosecutions.
- Explain opportunities and methods for local social services agencies, civil attorneys, and criminal prosecution teams to respond collaboratively to sexual assault cases.
- Discuss best practices for efficient and effective collaboration.
The Importance of Addressing the Impact of Historical Trauma and How it can Impede Victim Services

Aurelia Sands Belle, Director, EVAWI; Executive Director, Durham Crisis Response Center
Durham, NC
Samuel Clayborn, Facilitator, Strong Fathers Program, Durham, NC

African Americans accounted for approximately 13 percent of the U.S. population in 2005, but were victims in 15 percent of all nonfatal violent crimes and nearly half of all homicides. They are considered a special population by the Office for Victims of Crime, yet their interaction with the criminal justice system is often met with distrust and misunderstanding.

The African American community has endured a long history of abuse and maltreatment beginning with enslavement, rape, brutality, family separation, and other forms of violence. Even after slavery was officially ended, laws were enacted to restrict rights and freedom. Often referred to as Jim Crow laws, they stood firmly in place through the 1960s.

We continue to see the residual effects of these laws through differential treatment of both offenders and victims within the criminal justice system. There is deep-seated fear and distrust by victims because of the treatment they have seen or experienced at the hands of those who are supposed to provide protection. This lack of trust can make the job of victim advocates more challenging. Advocates must appreciate the historical experience and understand that African Americans are still grappling with these same issues. Services must be presented authentically and with sensitivity.

This workshop will provide participants with the opportunity to learn more about how historical trauma impacts African American victims and their preconceived ideas about how they will be treated in the criminal justice system. Cultural conditioning on the part of both victims and advocates can result in clients not getting the help they need.

While this workshop will focus primarily on the African American experience, the core concepts can be considered with other populations or marginalized peoples.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the elements that constitute historical trauma for the African American community.
- Recognize how collective trauma can act as a barrier to providing and receiving services.
- Examine how they think, feel, and believe about others, and how this may affect services or treatment.
- Develop more culturally sensitive client-centered services.
10:15 – 11:45
Orange A

Responding to Vicarious Trauma: Strengthening the Law
Enforcement and Victim Advocacy Response to Gender-Based Violence

Beth Molnar, ScD, Principal Investigator, Vicarious Trauma Toolkit Project, Associate Professor, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Jocelyn Roland, PhD, ABPP, Psychologist, Board Certified in Police & Public Safety Psychology, Private Practice, Modesto, CA

Awareness of the impact of acute and chronic exposure to violence and trauma on the professionals responsible for responding to victims and survivors has increased significantly over the past several decades. A growing body of research has documented the prevalence and impact of vicarious trauma experienced by first responders and victim service providers. These fields have largely responded by encouraging employees to employ self-care strategies. However, the notion of agencies and organizations having the duty to both train and address vicarious trauma for their staff is a relatively newer area of focus for these fields of practice.

The federal Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) recognized the critical importance of addressing vicarious trauma to ensure the highest quality of response and service delivery to victims of violence and maintain highly skilled practitioners in the field. As such, OVC funded the national Vicarious Trauma Toolkit (VTT) project, a collaboration among university researchers, and national, international, and local organizations of first responders and victim service providers. The VTT is being developed as a first-time online repository of policies, practices, programs, scientific literature, links to relevant websites and other resources to guide agencies in becoming vicarious trauma-informed and prepared.

The collective experience of national experts in law enforcement, fire, EMS, and victim assistance, in consultation with organizational development and organizational psychology experts, and the results of a national pilot study of the VTT will be presented. The workshop will discuss research findings to date, evidence-informed resources and promising practices regarding the response to vicarious trauma within and across disciplines. It will also introduce a dynamic new tool to assess organizational readiness to address vicarious trauma that identifies the main elements that an agency needs to have in place in order to address vicarious trauma. Participants will have an opportunity to try out the tool to identify agency strengths and gaps in responses and to share relevant insights, resources, and strategies they currently employ. This session is especially timely, as the VTT will have just been made available for national dissemination, a product “fresh from the field.”

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Review prevalence and impact of vicarious trauma on law enforcement and victim service providers.
- Identify the purpose of the national Vicarious Trauma Toolkit Project funded by OVC.
Employ evidence-informed organizational strategies to address vicarious trauma and recognize the important focus on systems change.

Discuss relevant strategies from organizational and multidisciplinary perspectives.

10:15 – 11:45  Applying the Intimate Partner Violence Intervention
Orlando VI

David M. Kennedy, Director, National Network for Safe Communities, New York, NY

The Intimate Partner Violence Intervention (IPVI) applies the National Network for Safe Communities’ (NNSC) evidence-based approach to address the most serious intimate partner violence. The strategy is motivated by a deep desire to do better at stopping the most serious harm to women, their children, and their families; intervening early in cycles of victimization; teaching men they will not get away with intimate partner violence; and, particularly, removing the burden of addressing offenders from women and placing it onto the criminal justice system. A pilot implementation of IPVI in High Point, NC has dramatically reduced intimate partner violence and increased victim safety.

Through an interagency partnership between law enforcement, community members, social service providers, and victims’ advocates, IPVI addresses all intimate partner violence offenders known to the criminal justice system; makes it clear to low-level offenders that IPV will not be tolerated; and takes special, escalating action to deter and, if necessary, incapacitate offenders who are not deterred by lower level sanctions. One of the structure’s essential elements is the ability to focus on offenders at early stages of offending before violence escalates, and to create strong community norms against intimate partner violence, and clear expectations for consequences, from the beginning. IPVI also creates a parallel structure to match support services to victims, and no action is taken until victims’ advocates put measures in place to support and protect victims at highest risk.

Since 2009, the NNSC and partners in High Point, NC have been piloting an implementation of IPVI (known locally as the Offender Focused Domestic Violence Initiative). A formal evaluation has shown reductions in intimate partner homicide, reoffending among notified IPV offenders, repeat calls for service, and victim injuries. The reduction in homicide has been dramatic: there were 17 in the five years prior to implementation (2004 to 2008) and two in the seven-plus years since (2009 to year-to-date 2016). At a lower, but still critical, level of seriousness, calls for service were reduced by 20 percent over three years while the proportion of arrests where there was injury to the victim has decreased significantly. Intimate partner violence victims have reported satisfaction with the approach in High Point and both victims and the larger community have reported an increase in their trust that law enforcement will take action against intimate partner violence perpetrators. These figures suggest that the harm done to victims has decreased since the initiative’s inception.
The National Network believes this framework represents a way forward to reduce the most serious intimate partner violence and is currently working, under support from the Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women, on replication in several jurisdictions nationally. This presentation will focus on the principles behind IPVI, the process of developing the intervention, and its practical application.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the core concepts and principles of IPVI.
- Examine the process of developing the pilot intervention in High Point.
- Demonstrate effective interagency collaboration of professionals involved in intimate partner violence cases, including law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim advocates and counselors.
- Discuss the impact evaluation of the intervention in High Point.

10:15 – 11:45  LGBTQ* Domestic Violence: Building Capacity

Orlando IV

Carrie McManus, RSW, Program Manager, Peer Support Services for Abused Women, Calgary, AB

Research into domestic violence within LGBTQ* communities shows rates that are equal to or higher than in heterosexual communities. These rates, however, are believed to be low and unrepresentative of the number of individuals within LGBTQ* communities who are experiencing domestic violence based on increased stigma and barriers to accessing services. LGBTQ* individuals experiencing domestic violence navigate widespread risk factors for violence, as well as additional risk factors such as homo/bi/trans phobia, fear of outing, and minority stress. In this presentation participants will examine the LGBTQ* DV Capacity Building program that Sagesse has been delivering for 6 years in Calgary and across Alberta. The LGBTQ* program delivers organizational change and builds competencies and capacity within agencies so they are equipped to deliver services to LGBTQ* individuals experiencing domestic violence.

This presentation will explain how we view capacity building within our feminist structure and why we have chosen to work within this model. The program design will be articulated, detailing how agencies are educated on LGBTQ* domestic violence and trained in how to better serve LGBTQ* individuals experiencing domestic violence. The presenters will explain how to create agency cultural change to meet the unique needs of LGBTQ* individuals. Also included in the model is a full examination of the agency structure and a goal to create understanding for policy/decision makers to understand the impact of their work on the clients and staff they serve. Throughout this presentation, participants will be engaged in discussion about challenges experienced working within systems and structures that are not identified as LGBTQ* allies.

This presentation will create space for discussion of best practice in addressing issues of domestic violence within LGBTQ* communities and how to best collaborate on national and
international scales in order to create a community of practice aimed at ending LGBTQ* domestic violence.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the unique characteristics and barriers experienced by LGBTQ* individuals when accessing domestic violence services.
- Describe the steps needed in delivering a capacity building program for LGBTQ* domestic violence.
- Identify techniques for working within systems that are not designed to be LGBTQ* inclusive.
- Evaluate how their personal values and beliefs impact the work they do with LGBTQ* individuals experiencing domestic violence.

10:15 – 11:45
Orange F/G

Safe Harbor Protocol: Developing a Response to Sex Trafficking in Rural, Tribal, and Border Communities

Christina Sambor, Esq., Director, North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force; Coordinator, FUSE North Dakota, Bismarck, ND
Noelle Volin, MA, JD, Special Projects Coordinator, Sexual Violence Justice Institute (SVJI) at the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, St. Paul, MN

After the passing of Minnesota’s groundbreaking Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Youth law, the Sexual Violence Justice Institute (SVJI) at the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault, in partnership with the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office, was tasked with developing a statewide model protocol for responding to minor sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.

A single model protocol would never successfully meet the needs of every community in the state. Instead, as a long-term federal technical assistance provider through the Office of Violence against Women (OVW), SVJI convened over 200 state and national experts to develop the Safe Harbor Protocol Guidelines for communities developing their own community-specific response to sexual exploitation.

These guidelines are grounded in the values of Minnesota’s No Wrong Door statewide services model, which recognizes the impact of trauma on the lives and recovery of sexually exploited youth, the need for specialized services and training for all systems professionals who serve youth, and most importantly, that youth are not only capable of making decisions about their own recovery, but that their needs cannot be effectively met without their lived experience directly informing any and all work done around Safe Harbor.

Along with Minnesota, North Dakota has been involved in innovative program development. In response to the dramatic increase in sexual exploitation brought on by mass migration coming to the state’s rural oil fields for work, North Dakota launched a statewide grassroots coalition aimed at developing a services framework - similar to Minnesota’s No Wrong Door model - that
would leverage existing resources and meet the unique needs of its victims. In less than two years, the coalition was able to secure millions of dollars in funding, coordinating multidisciplinary efforts to spread awareness and build the capacity of law enforcement agencies and direct service providers. North Dakota and Minnesota have moved into a period of regional cooperation, learning from each other’s experience, and working together to create and refine protocols for cross-border collaboration.

This session highlights the protocol work done in strategically identified rural and tribal communities, and the Minnesota/North Dakota border. Presenters will share effective approaches to protocol work in these communities, identify common challenges and considerations, and provide tips for leveraging unique characteristics of these communities to develop an effective response to sexual exploitation.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the essential components of an effective community response to sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.
- Identify the unique characteristics, needs, and resources of rural, tribal, and border communities, and how these impact sexual exploitation, as well as the community’s response to exploitation.
- Examine strategies and best practices around multidisciplinary collaboration and protocol development in rural, tribal, and border communities.
- Apply techniques for incorporating the victim perspective into the protocol development process, as well as the resulting protocols.

10:15 – 11:45  Coordination Between College Campuses and Local Resources in Handling Complicated Domestic/Interpersonal Violence and Stalking Cases

**Cindy Kanusher, Esq., Executive Director, Pace Women’s Justice Center, White Plains, NY**

**Kristen Bowes, General Counsel, Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY**

Cindy Kanusher and Kristen Bowes will describe the crucial need for coordination between campuses and local resources during the course of a campus investigation, with a focus on a victim-centered approach that also maintains the commitment to campus public safety. Using Westchester County, NY as a model, the presenters will discuss successful efforts to integrate the 22 main colleges into the IPV Coordinated Community Response including: local and/State law enforcement, district attorney’s office, family justice center, victim advocates, and local nonprofits.

Kristen will present about her role as general counsel of a private college with a student population of 10,000 and providing guidance on all Title IX, campus investigations and student and employee disciplinary matters. Cindy will present as executive director of the largest free legal services provider in the County focused on assisting victims of IPV and as a former sex
The presenters will address domestic and interpersonal violence and stalking cases seen on campus; the difficulty identifying these “crimes” on the part of complainants, bystanders and responsible employees, as well as the issues surrounding complainants’ reluctance to move forward with a college or criminal complaint; and the ethical and legal obligations of campus personnel when a complainant chooses not to proceed.

They will also provide information about the varied options for college-age individuals, including orders of protection in both family court and criminal court, local resources and moving an investigation from local law enforcement to State police. The presentation will cover the distinction between handling a case criminally vs. at the college level (including differing burdens of proof); considerations for working with police and prosecutors; and creating a strong, coordinated community response to bring enhanced assistance, advocacy, safety, and legal support following victimization.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Identify established best practices for Title IX policies and procedures related to campus crimes.
- Evaluate community collaborations to enhance and increase safety and access to advocacy and legal support.
- Describe the ways in which sexual assault on college campuses intersects with interpersonal violence and/domestic violence.

**11:45 – 12:45**

**Orlando I - III**

Lunch – Provided

**12:45 – 1:00**

**Orange Ballroom**

Comments/Announcements

**1:00 – 2:15**

**Orange Ballroom**

Plenary I: Rising Above the Scars

**Johnnetta McSwain-Clay, PhD, International Empowerment Speaker, Author, Professor, CEO and Founder, Breaking the Cycle, Beating the Odds, DreamWright Publications, LLC, Powder Springs, GA**

RISING ABOVE THE SCARS is the true account of Johnnetta McSwain’s triumphant life story. Born to an alcoholic mother and an absent father, the odds were unceremoniously stacked against her even as she drew her first breath. By the innocent age of five, she was viciously raped and incessantly battered by her three uncles while in the custody of her grandparents.
The all-too-real horror of Johnnetta’s formative years was not just her reality. Her slightly older sister and male cousin were also made to bear ruthless physical, sexual, and psychological abuse. As young, vulnerable children, they were bound, beaten, strangled, threatened, and forced to perform horrific sex acts by their uncles. At the tender age of eight, when most little girls can enjoy carefree security within the sanctuary of their homes, Johnnetta had contracted syphilis in hers.

The constant ravaging of Johnnetta’s body and mind served as a daily reminder that she was not wanted and not loved. Never allowed the liberty to make the missteps that often characterize adolescence, she was forced to sit outside stripped bare in the cold elements of the winter night. This was Johnnetta’s punishment for wetting the bed and resulted in a severe case of pneumonia.

As she entered her teen years, her victimization continued, now perpetrated against her by the men her mother brought home. In the absence of the love and guidance that every child has the right to enjoy, Johnnetta began shoplifting at twelve years old and eventually dropped out of high school at seventeen. By nineteen years old, she had given birth to her first son, applied for housing assistance, food stamps, and welfare; continuing in the warped tradition of her family. In the harsh world of the streets, she was introduced to drug dealers and started dealing drugs. Hanging out in clubs and dope houses, she traded her body for money, clothes, and whatever else she needed. At twenty-six, she bore her second son. Seven months later, she was caught stealing in a mall and left her 7-month-old baby in the parking lot while running from the police. The life that was trying to swallow her whole had finally led her to a felony charge.

Fast forward four years to an early misty morning when Johnnetta took a long introverted look in the mirror at the woman she had become. In that moment, she knew it was time to change her life and stop letting life change her. She urgently relocated to Georgia with a GED and a dream to be the first Ph.D. in her family. She started college and, in just three years, she graduated with her Bachelor’s degree from Kennesaw State University.

Two years later, she earned a Master’s in Social Work (MSW) at Clark Atlanta University. While completing her studies in graduate school, she created a 12-step Self-Awareness Model (SAM), and presented it for the National Association of Social Workers. In January 2008, she met with Pamela Roberts (Executive Producer/Georgia Public Broadcasting), who began taping a documentary, “The Road Beyond Abuse,” narrated by Jane Fonda, which imparts the details of the abysmal beginning and ensuing victories that continue to shape Johnnetta’s life. The Emmy® Award-winning documentary aired April 15, 2009 on Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Empower the lives of those who have been victims of child abuse, sexual violence and intimate partner violence and begin the healing process, in order to transition from victim to victor.
• Recognize how to break negative self-destructive behavioral cycles that restrict one’s ability to reach their fullest potential in life.
• Trace the connection between childhood abuse and adverse effects on victims in later life.
• Explore how to release unconscious, hurtful, shameful, scripts and augment self-discovery, acceptance, and release of past traumatic histories, thus developing self-sustaining skills to grow and succeed.

2:15 – 2:45 Break
Foyer

2:45 – 4:00 Plenary II: Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviews – A Trauma Informed Experience
Orange Ballroom

Russell W. Strand, Special Agent (Ret), Partner, Strand & Heitman Innovative Forensic Techniques (SHIFT) LLC, Consultant, Educator/Trainer, Rolla, MO
Lori D. Heitman, Former Supervisory Special Agent, Strand & Heitman Innovative Forensic Techniques (SHIFT) LLC, Consultant, Educator/Trainer, Rolla, MO

When human beings experience trauma, they undergo a process that many professionals – as well as the individuals themselves – do not understand. Most of us, inside and outside the criminal justice system, have been trained to believe that when an individual experiences an event (including a traumatic event), the brain records the majority of details investigators want to know about the event, including the “who, what where, why, when and how” – as well as other sensory and peripheral information. Therefore, when responding to the report of a crime, most professionals are trained to obtain this type information. Unfortunately, trying to collect information about a traumatic event in this way may actually inhibit important psychophysiological evidence and the accuracy of the details provided.

Most of interview techniques in the criminal justice system have been developed to question victims about peripheral information such as the color of the suspect’s shirt, a description of the suspect, the time frame of the event, and other important information. Some victims are capable of providing this type of information in a limited fashion. However, most trauma victims are not only unable to accurately provide this type of information, but when they are asked to do so, they may inadvertently provide inaccurate information and details. This frequently causes fact finders to become suspicious of the information provided.

The Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) was designed to change all of this. The technique has already proven to be a game changer in the investigation and prosecution of many forms of violence, including child abuse and adult sexual abuse. Use of the FETI process in domestic violence cases is also extremely promising for increasing successful interventions, investigations and prosecutions. This interview technique draws on the best practices of child forensic interviews, critical incident stress management, and neuroscience — combining them all into a simple three-pronged approach that unlocks the trauma experience in a way that professionals can better understand.
Objectives

As a result of this session, participants will be better able to:

- Explain the difference between cognitive thinking and experiential memory for victims of trauma.
- Review the history of victim interviews.
- Define a newly recognized class of evidence called psychophysiological evidence.
- Identify the elements of the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview process.

4:00 – 4:30
Closing Remarks
Orange Ballroom

Ann Burdges, EVAWI Vice President
Joanne Archambault, EVAWI CEO