

Day 1 – Tuesday, April 11, 2023

- 7:00 – 8:00** **Registration**
- 7:00 – 8:00** **Light Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 8:30** **Welcome & Opening Ceremony**
Dave Cohen, Master of Ceremonies
Chicago Police Department Honor Guard², Presentation of Colors
Chicago Police Department Officer Arturo Andonaegui,
National Anthem
Gallaudet University Police Department Lieutenant
Virginia Fedor, American Sign Language, National Anthem
Angel Novalez, Chief, Office of Constitutional Policing and Reform,
Chicago Police Department
- 8:30 – 9:15** **Award Presentations**
➤ *Professional Impact Award – John Choi*
➤ *Visionary Award – Lisa Avalos*
- 9:15 – 10:15** **Plenary I: Eliminating the Wheel of Fortune: Ending Practices that Lead to Prosecuting Survivors**

Lisa Avalos, JD, PhD, Associate Professor, Louisiana State University Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

Start by Believing has been a game changer in a number of communities, but there is still much work to do. For many survivors of sexual assault, whether they are believed, disbelieved, or worse, is a game of roulette that depends on the training, experience, and commitment of the law enforcement agency handling their assault. For the most unfortunate of these survivors, being disbelieved is not simply a matter of their rapist going unprosecuted. Victims, even today, have been charged with false reporting or other crimes, and some even sentenced to prison. Some cases have had particularly tragic consequences with victims taking their own lives, or where perpetrators have been left free to reoffend and even commit murder.

This session will examine the unfinished landscape of Start by Believing. It will analyze several cases where victims of sexual assault were wrongly charged or prosecuted for false reporting or other crimes, and it will outline the steps we need to take to ensure that sexual assault victims receive a uniformly supportive response across all law enforcement agencies. The presenter will speak from her experience doing expert witness work and conducting in-depth investigations into numerous cases where sexual assault survivors, rather than their perpetrators, have been charged and prosecuted.

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

- Identify some of the common failures in sexual assault investigations when victims are charged with false reporting or related crimes.



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- Describe some of the risks involved in prosecuting victims for false reporting.
- Apply best practice strategies to ensure thorough, evidence-based investigations, advocate for victims facing disbelief from authorities, and avoid inappropriate prosecutions.

10:15 – 10:45 Break

**10:45 – 12:00 Plenary II: “Our Response Just Wasn’t Good Enough:”
Overhauling our Criminal Justice System Response**

John Choi, JD, Ramsey County Attorney, St. Paul, MN

In 2016, we knew there was something missing in the criminal justice response to sexual assault victims in Ramsey County, Minnesota. We were polite in our interactions with victims, and we took victims’ wishes into account. We regularly took cases to trial and won many of them, but reporting rates were low and not increasing. Many victims dropped out of the process, and we didn’t always understand why. I knew deep down that our response just wasn’t good enough. Survivors weren’t getting the help they need. We weren’t achieving justice for many victims. That all began to change when Ramsey County embarked on a 6-year journey which resulted in sweeping changes to our criminal justice response.

This session will address how stakeholders from every law enforcement agency in the county, along with advocates and SANE nurses, joined the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office to develop the “Sexual Assault Response Collaboration (SARC).” Presenters will discuss how we overhauled the process: from the initial report and forensic exam to the resulting actions of advocates, investigators, forensic nurse examiners, and prosecutors.

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

- Recognize the value of heightened collaboration and leadership to identify problems, solutions and improving outcomes.
- Building Coalitions and stakeholders and centering that work to better serve victims.
- Employ strategies for facilitating communication and resource sharing among all justice partners, stakeholders, and the public.
- Identify tools for measuring system gaps, progress, and accountability.
- Identify collaborative techniques to better serve at-risk populations.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch (Provided)

1:00 – 2:30 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

**1:00 – 2:30 Beyond Mere Words: How Prosecutors’ Offices Can Confront
Systemic Racism in a Transformational Way**

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Laurel Smith, JD, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Clark County Prosecutor's Office, Vancouver, WA

Deb Wechselblatt, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Clark County Prosecutor's Office, Vancouver, WA

In response to the murder of George Floyd, the Clark County Prosecutor's Office formed the Action and Reform Committee (ARC). ARC is a group of attorneys, advocates, and support staff who wanted to reconsider the role of the prosecutor in the criminal justice system and turn bold ideas into real action. Since its inception, ARC has transformed the office's internal policies, publicly supported the use of body worn cameras and bail reform, worked to educate the office in systemic and institutional racism and promote diversity in recruitment and hiring practices, fostered the opportunity for ongoing dialogue with the local defense bar on equity issues, and worked with outside organizations to engage and listen to marginalized voices in the community.

This session focuses on how prosecutors' offices can address systemic racism in a meaningful way – beyond just words – and how the fight against systemic racism can be expanded to address inequities for victims during all stages of a criminal case. The presentation will detail how ARC was formed, its successes and failures, and how it can be replicated by other organizations.

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

- Identify roadblocks and opportunities to enacting change within a mid-size prosecutor's office.
- Describe strategies for identifying stakeholders and seeking buy-in from community groups and other justice partners.
- Identify the successes of ARC and areas for improvement to help others implementing a similar model or working on policy changes.

1:00 – 2:30 **Tragic Endings: When Suicide or Homicide Follows a Botched Sexual Assault Investigation**

Lisa Avalos, JD, PhD, Associate Professor, Louisiana State University Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

Carlton Hershman, Detective (Ret.), San Diego Police Department, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Cape Coral, FL

Have you ever thought that a person complaining of sexual assault was lying, only to find out later that they were telling the truth?

This presentation follows Lisa Avalos's plenary *Getting Off the Roulette Wheel* and will offer more in-depth cases where sexual assault victims have been prosecuted for false reporting or related crimes. The session will unpack common errors that occur when

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investigating sexual assault and how faulty investigations may lead to prosecution of the complainant. The presenters will discuss how these errors can be replaced with best practices.

The workshop will focus particular attention on two cases. First, Megan Rondini, who reported a sexual assault to police in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 2015, and then took her own life several months later after a poor police response. Second, Eleanor de Freitas, who reported a rape to police in London, England in 2013 and was later charged with false reporting. Three days before her trial was to begin, she took her own life. A third case involves homicide after a rape went uncharged.

These cases share several commonalities not only in the tragic outcomes, but in terms of practices that produced those outcomes. Throughout the session, the presenters will pinpoint what went wrong and demonstrate, step by step, how to approach investigations more effectively to ensure appropriate outcomes. Participants will learn to recognize approaches to sexual assault investigations that are counter-productive and can cause additional harm to the victim. They will learn how to identify and embrace more constructive approaches to investigation.

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

- Identify common errors that occur in investigations that have the potential to lead to prosecution of the complainant.
- Explain the risks associated with prosecuting victims for false reports.
- Examine best practice strategies that improve investigations, reduce harm to the victim, and ultimately reduce the likelihood of prosecuting victims for false reports.
- Apply best practice strategies to ensure thorough, evidence-based investigations.

1:00 – 2:30 Building a Survivor-Centered Pretrial System: How Survivor Advocates Helped End Use of Money Bail

Madeleine Behr, MPP, Policy Manager, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Chicago, IL

Amanda Pyron, MSW, Executive Director, The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence, Chicago, IL

Throughout all steps of the criminal legal system, victims' voices are often ignored, disbelieved, and not taken seriously. At bail hearings, survivors are frequently not notified about the court date, or the perpetrator's release. Additionally, survivors are rarely asked what the perpetrator's release would mean for their safety and wellbeing. Because of the systemic failures in addressing victims' safety, survivor advocacy groups worked hand in hand with criminal justice reform advocates to pass groundbreaking legislation in Illinois in 2021. The Pretrial Fairness Act (PFA) ends the use of money bail to determine if someone is eligible for pretrial release and focuses instead on their risk

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of recidivism. Illinois is the first state in the country to pass bail reform legislation with the support of victim advocacy groups.

This presentation will detail the coalition-building, advocacy, and communication strategies by Illinois victim advocacy groups to win support for the PFA. The presenters will discuss the ways PFA supports survivors, and how criminal justice reform and victims' advocacy work is intertwined and how both are necessary to advance survivor safety and community safety.

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

- Describe the basics of the previous bail system and the new pretrial release system in Illinois and other states, and its impact on survivors of gender-based violence.
- Recognize the overlapping interests and intersections within the criminal justice movement and the survivor justice movement to create community safety.
- Apply advocacy and coalition-building strategies to your own community to improve survivor safety in the criminal legal system.
- Evaluate how a new system of pretrial release focused on safety and not wealth would impact the survivors you work with and advocate for.

1:00 – 2:30 How will Virtual Reality and the Metaverse Affect the Way We Interact, Work, and Fight for Survivors

Mike Schentrup, Captain, Gainesville Police Department (Ret.), Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Alachua, FL

Wendy Patrick, JD, PhD, Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney's Office, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, San Diego, CA

This presentation will examine how Virtual Reality will impact the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault and domestic violence. In 2021, Facebook announced it was spending \$10B on building its Metaverse. This was a clear signal that virtual reality (VR) worlds are here to stay. In these realms, people have avatars and interact with other people via their avatars. In the VR world, companies are now building their own spaces, such as Wendy's, that opened a virtual restaurant.

As VR realms attract more users, real world problems will begin to worsen; however, real world opportunities may evolve also. Recently, a woman reported feeling as if she was sexually assaulted in the Metaverse, although it was her avatar that was surrounded and groped, to her it felt real. Cyber harassment/stalking is a real-world issue, but what will it look like in VR? VR can also be used for good. This session will explore opportunities such as a sexual assault resource center inside the Metaverse, where survivors can come as an avatar and meet with an advocate or even discuss their case with a law enforcement officer, as well as training opportunities that are created to teach better survivor interviews to investigators.

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

- Describe what virtual reality is and how people interact within these realms.
- Identify current problems within these realms, such as cyberbullying and cyberstalking, and what laws may apply to these situations.
- Recognize there are opportunities to interact with survivors within these VR worlds.
- Identify several ways VR can be used to train Law Enforcement, SANEs, and advocates.

1:00 – 2:30 Victim-Centered Approaches for Frontline Professionals to Combat Trafficking

Brittany Dunn, MBA, Co-Founder, Safe House Project, Alexandria, VA

Bill Woolf, Former Detective, Government Relations Contractor, Safe House Project, Alexandria, VA

Human trafficking has historically been overlooked by frontline professionals such as law enforcement and healthcare. This presentation will seek to enlighten attendees on the intersectionality of human trafficking and the healthcare sector, as well as the role of law enforcement in identification, interdiction, and restorative care. It will also focus on the identification of victims, the proper response to suspected cases of trafficking, and the necessity of a collaborative and comprehensive approach to the issue.

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

- Describe the risk, scope and impact of sex and labor trafficking.
- Apply protocols for reporting and supporting victims.
- Implement protocols for the ethical and effective interviewing of victims.
- Identify, collect, and protect evidence to support “making the case.”

1:00 – 2:30 A Better Victim Experience – Improving Accessibility

Karen Adams, Manager, Marketing and Training Programs, Equifax Workforce Solutions, Louisville, KY

Approximately one-third of women and one-fifth of men will become victims. Nationwide, fewer than 1 in 10 victims of crime receive resources needed for recovery. For many survivors, especially LGBTQ+, Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, navigating the criminal justice system is intimidating. As crime survivors find their justice, they deserve access to support, planning, and safety resources that are inclusive of who they are, and what they need. VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) supports all victims of crime through its innovative technology, designed with a human-centered approach to provide victims with access to empowering life-saving resources.



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The presenters will describe how VINE supports survivors throughout this process. They will share information on how the service provider directory empowers and informs advocates, to better assist survivors.

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

- Describe how the VINE Customer First Center is supporting victims/survivors.
- Recognize how VINE leverages mobile app technology to provide accessibility to victims/survivors in 47 states.
- Explain how the Service Provider Directory can empower and inform advocates to assist victims.

1:00 – 2:30 Forensic Nurse Case Review

Diana Faugno, MSN, RN, CPN, AFN-C, FAAFS, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-IAFN, DF-AFN, Founding Director, EVAWI, Past President and Co-Founder, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Dallas, GA

Stacey Mitchell, DNP, MBA, MEd, RN, AFN-C, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-AFN, FAAN, Clinical Professor, Texas A & M Health Center of Excellence in Forensic Nursing, Treasurer, EVAWI, Bryan, TX

Tamara Jackson, MSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, Clinical Program Coordinator, Ascension, Board Secretary, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Chicago, IL

Kathy Bell, MS, RN, AFN-C, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-AFN, Board Member, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Forensic Nursing Administrator, Tulsa Police Department, Tulsa, OK

Valerie Sievers, MSN, RN, CNS, AFN-C, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-AFN, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Board Member, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Peyton, CO

Jaclyn Rodriguez, BSN, BS, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SANE Coordinator, Violence Prevention and Crime Victim Services Division, Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Chicago, IL

Advancing the Footprint in Forensic Nursing includes case/peer review that has considerable potential and is a key component of modern quality care and patient satisfaction. Forensic nursing scope and standards state that participation in chart review, peer review, ongoing education, supervision, and mentoring is essential, and every Forensic Nurse, whether novice or expert, should regularly participate in these activities.

Review of a patient's forensic case ensures that the evidence collection and injury documentation are correct before going to court for a criminal or civil trial. The focus of this session will be on sexual assault and strangulation cases. Presenters will highlight several cases from a variety of programs and discuss best practices. The cases will be presented to demonstrate the process of peer review, suggestions for improvements, and effective case discussion with input from all. Content Warning: graphic photographs.



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

- Recognize the value of peer review and discussion.
- Identify normal and abnormal findings.
- Compare the techniques and resources utilized for each patient.
- Discuss implications for practice changes based on the case discussion.

1:00 – 2:30 Achieving Justice at Trial: DNA Expert Testimony

Patti Powers, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas, Washington, DC

Misty Marra, MS, Research Forensic Social Scientist, RTI International, Huntington, WV

Effectively presenting DNA expert testimony at trial requires intensive planning and collaboration with analysts. Prosecutors must work with their experts to understand the science of DNA, as well as its potential and limitations. Close collaboration enables prosecutors to develop strategies for explaining complex concepts to a jury, as well as to anticipate and prepare for challenges and issues that arise during litigation.

This presentation will focus on strategies for presenting DNA expert testimony, beginning with the planning phase and continuing through trial. Presenters will highlight questions for qualifying the expert and establishing a foundation for the admission of testimony related to STR testing, familial DNA, and forensic genetic genealogy. They will also briefly demonstrate direct examination strategies to illustrate how potential challenges can be addressed in the case-in-chief.

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

- Prepare effective expert testimony on direct and cross-examination.
- Develop legally sufficient, persuasive questions for admission of testing results.
- Prepare testimony of initial analyst and outsourced analyst, including changes in technology/interpretation.
- Employ strategies to educate juries and explain the importance of forensic analysis and significance of findings in case context.

1:00 – 2:30* "Misery Loves Company but It Doesn't Have To, Addressing Trauma in a Healthy Way"

Kim Farbo, Detective (Ret.), Law Enforcement Training Specialist, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Bastrop, TX

Andrea Munford, Deputy Chief, Michigan State University Department of Police and Public Safety, Advisor to the Office of the President, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, East Lansing, MI

First responders have a critical and demanding job. They must be physically fit, have a knowledge of the law and navigate multi jurisdiction policy. Additionally, they must have empathy and understanding of the trauma that affects survivors. However, the trauma



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that affects first responders is often overlooked or marginalized. Many studies have demonstrated how stress and trauma have negatively impacted and shortened first responder's lives.

Some agencies have begun to recognize the daily trauma responders experience and address it through programs like peer support, mandatory debriefs, wellness plans and EMDR therapy. But is it enough? Supervisors and command staff still miss the signs of trauma and identify it as a possible disciplinary problem when it can be a call for help.

This interactive session will discuss how we can identify the scars trauma creates and provide concrete, sustainable solutions to address and manage the trauma to ensure personal resilience and wellness.

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

- Define vicarious and secondary trauma.
- Discuss the impact of trauma on all responders.
- Identify strategies for self-care.
- Recognize how trauma is created within our own agencies and departments.

2:30 – 3:00 **Break**

3:00 – 4:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

3:00 – 4:30* **Leveraging Documentary Films for Systems Change**

***Eliza Licht**, Documentary Impact Strategist and Producer, (Victim/Suspect; Roll Red Roll), Brooklyn, NY*

***Alice Quinlan**, Impact Producer and Community Engagement Strategist, Chicago, IL*

***Javier Rivera DeBruin**, Impact Producer and Community Engagement Strategist, Brooklyn, NY*

Rachael de Leon, a reporter working at The Center for Investigative Reporting, discovers a surprising number of legal cases nationwide that involve people reporting sexual assault to the police, only to be accused of fabricating their allegations. They are then charged with crimes, sometimes facing years in prison. The Netflix Original Documentary **Victim/Suspect** follows Ms. de Leon as she gathers firsthand accounts from numerous young women and their families and interviews police and legal experts. Simultaneously, Ms. de Leon re-examines elements of the initial police investigations, unearthing telling recordings of police interviews of alleged victims reporting their sexual assault.

The director and producer of **Victim/Suspect** is eager to offer the film as a tool for raising public awareness of this issue and motivating diverse stakeholders and audiences towards solutions. Director Nancy Schwartzman (**Roll Red Roll** 2019) has demonstrated considerable impact with her filmmaking around gender-based violence.



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Join this working session to help answer key strategic questions ahead of its premiere on Netflix: Who needs to see this film, why, and how?

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

- Leverage the medium of documentary film towards systems change.
- Brainstorm concrete asks of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, and/or craft potential legislation to protect survivors.
- Identify questions to challenge whether a false reporting case was thoroughly investigated.
- Invite local news publications to consider whether their policies on publicly naming people charged with this crime is ethical and fair.

3:00 – 4:30 When an Interview Becomes an Interrogation – Advocating in Challenging Situations

Alison Jones-Lockwood, Consultant, Training and Technical Assistant Specialist, Start by Believing Community Liaison, EVAWI, Fort Collins, CO
Carlton Hershman, Detective (Ret.), San Diego Police Department, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Cape Coral, FL

Advocates play a critical role in the criminal justice response to sexual assault. In addition to their role in facilitating victim well-being and recovery, advocates also provide the information and support victims need to actively participate in a law enforcement investigation and possible prosecution. Without the victim's participation, offenders can rarely be held accountable for their crimes. Yet, in some communities, advocates aren't allowed to accompany victims during a law enforcement interview. What can advocacy organizations and law enforcement do to change this? Also, what happens when the intent of the interview changes, when the investigator doesn't believe the victim and is considering charges for false reporting or other crimes? Using a real case scenario, the presenters will discuss how an advocate can, and should respond in these challenging situations. Presenters will also share tips on how law enforcement and advocates can work together to improve responses to survivors.

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

- Explain the benefits of advocacy accompaniment during investigative interviews, both for sexual assault victims and for law enforcement.
- Explore strategies for how advocates should respond when interviews turn into interrogations.
- Describe the difference between appropriate responses for community-based versus system-based advocates.

3:00 – 4:30 STALKED: A Case Study

Anna Nasset, Speaker / Survivor, Stand Up Resources, Director, EVAWI, Waitsfield, VT



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Anna Nasset will share her experience as a victim of stalking for over a decade. Through the years, Ms. Nasset has worked with nearly 100 service providers and community members, and successfully experienced prosecution. From the moment Ms. Nasset first reported the behavior and actions of a stranger who was stalking her, to sentencing eight years later, law enforcement, advocates, judges, prosecuting attorneys, and others have worked together as a multidisciplinary team alongside her every step of the way, from across the country and in multiple states. The involvement and support of the team resulted in a conviction of felony aggravated stalking and felony cyber stalking in 2019. The offender was sentenced to the maximum of 10 years in prison.

Ms. Nasset highlights the positive and lifesaving work of these individuals throughout her case study and gives concrete examples for victim service providers when working with victims of stalking or other crimes. She educates on the importance of victim centered involvement for victims of stalking and shares the success and impact these practices have had on her case and life.

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

- Describe tactics professionals can utilize to encourage, empathize, and empower victims.
- State the pitfalls and hurdles victim/survivors might have when engaging in the criminal justice process.
- Identify the importance of distinguishing each victim/survivor's independent experience.

3:00 – 4:30 “Mindhunting” in Practice: Multidisciplinary Collaborations in Offender-Focused Investigations

****Annie M. Harrison**, Detective, Ingham/Jackson Regional Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force, Ingham County Sheriff's Office, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Mason, MI
Joseph E. Merritt, Detective, Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Investigator, Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, Jackson, MI
Karen Holt, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

The investigation of cold case sexual assaults presents unique challenges to law enforcement. While victims are centered in these investigations, shifting the focus to those who commit these crimes is an under-utilized yet effective approach. This offender-focused model, most notably employed by the original Behavioral Science Unit at the FBI, has generated considerable empirical knowledge in the areas of sexual assault motivation, dynamics, and method. We present an offender-focused model which applies both the expertise of law enforcement and the knowledge and practice of academics. We discuss the history of offender-focused investigation and explain how we formed a collaborative relationship to review cases. We argue that maintaining the

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focus on the offender can provide innovative approaches to interviewing and investigation.

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

- Explore the history of offender-focused collaborative relationships between sexual assault investigators and researchers.
- Evaluate the utility of an offender-focused model of cold case sexual assault investigation.
- Describe how a collaborative approach to offender-focused cold case sexual assault investigation may improve case outcomes.
- Identify and implement best practices in offender-focused interviewing of individuals who have committed sexual assaults.

3:00 – 4:30 Empathy Inspired Policing – How the Trauma Informed Approach Can Improve All Aspects of Policing

Mike Schentrup, Captain, Gainesville Police Department (Ret.), Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Alachua, FL

*****Robert Fanelli, Captain, Gainesville Police Department, Gainesville, FL***

This presentation will describe and demonstrate proven ways to improve outcomes for all survivors of trauma. Teaching the proven principles of trauma informed response to all law enforcement officers, from patrol through command staff, can change the way police interact with all communities, especially those marginalized by mainstream society. There is much research on how empathy is one of the key elements of a better police force and one of the main tenets of trauma informed response is how empathy can assist law enforcement with their communication with survivors. Giving community members a “voice” is one of the four principles of Procedural Justice, but how is that accomplished? Empathy inspired policing uses the concept of empathy as the basis to improve all communication, whether it be inside or outside the police organization. Empathy drastically improves one’s ability to listen first and truly hear what another person is trying to convey. This presentation will give the audience concrete steps they can use every day to improve their communication skills with victims, witnesses, the community, and even suspects.

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

- Recognize how the trauma informed process (TIP) will help officers giving everyone a “voice.”
- Identify how TIP will assist in law enforcement’s communication with everyone, even suspects, leading to better information.
- Recognize how as we build community trust; more survivors will come forward to report.

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TeleSAFE: Revolutionizing Access, Quality and Local Partner Collaboration for Sexual Assault Care

Diane Daiber, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, Forensic Nursing Specialist, International Association of Forensic Nurses, Elkridge, MD

Andrea Cavanagh, TeleSafe Project Manager, International Association of Forensic Nurses, Elkridge, MD

Only 25% of US hospitals have sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) to provide comprehensive, trauma informed, evidence-based medical forensic care to sexual assault patients. More commonly, clinicians with little or no experience provide the medical forensic exam or transfer the patient to another facility. The use of telehealth is able to close this gap, improving access to high-quality care, increasing the confidence of the untrained or inexperienced clinician and enhancing collaboration among criminal justice and community partners.

Using a hub and spoke model, more than 50 spoke sites were identified as needing assistance. Site assessments were conducted by a national organization with content expertise to identify clinical and community-specific technical assistance needs. This presentation will highlight crucial components of clinical and community partner engagement, education, evaluation, and sustainability of a trauma informed teleSAFE response to sexual assault.

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

- Explain how the use of teleSAFE technology for sexual assault care can improve access to quality medical forensic exams.
- List crucial components of an implementation plan for a trauma informed, patient-centered telehealth response to sexual assault care.
- Identify how the use of a telehealth approach to sexual assault care enhances collaboration with criminal justice and community partners.
- Describe sustainability considerations of teleSAFE for sexual assault care.

3:00 – 4:30

Changing the View of Human Trafficking Victims in the Judicial System

Robert Bauman, JD, Circuit Court Judge, Juvenile Crossover Division, State of Florida, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Tampa, FL

This presentation will focus on the development, process, and success of a specialty court (OPTION Court in Tampa, Florida) assisting human trafficking victims, including the most vulnerable - teenagers. The presenter will specifically present the means and measures service providers, law enforcement, attorneys and Courts can provide to help human trafficking victims become survivors.



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In our judicial system, human trafficking victims who have been arrested or charged are viewed as "defendants" committing crimes and are too often overlooked as "victims of human trafficking". OPTION Court changes this label. This session will provide attendees with information on the identification, protection, and support of human trafficking victims from the time of arrest/detention throughout the judicial process. The manner of achieving success through collaboration, not just between juvenile justice and foster care systems, but also law enforcement and service providers, will be discussed. This session seeks to change the mindset of members of the judicial system and inspire attendees to rethink the way victims of human trafficking are viewed.

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

- Identify human trafficking victims in the criminal justice system.
- Formulate appropriate services for victims' immediate needs (safety, survivor/mentor, shelter, etc.) and long-term needs.
- Coordinate collaboration of services.
- Initiate/promote identification and support of human trafficking victims through development of specialty court.

3:00 – 4:30 A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: Jake Pape's Use of Religion to Rape, Lie and Manipulate

Jessica Escue, JD, Assistant District Attorney, Brazos County District Attorney's Office, Bryan, TX

Brian Baker, JD, First Assistant District Attorney, Brazos County District Attorney's Office, Bryan, TX

In 2017, Jacob Pape seemed to be a model of a Christian man at Texas A&M University. His leadership roles in the Christian fraternity Brothers Under Christ, as well as his service as a Bible study leader and Christian counselor, all masked a predator who used religion to control and coerce women into what they believed were trusting relationships. Pape then abused that trust by sexually assaulting and manipulating his victims into silence.

This presentation will tell the story of how faith, the Bible, and religion were used to lay the groundwork for abuse by Pape. The presenters will document how Pape's abuse came to light, obstacles that were overcome in the investigation into the sexual assaults, and how prosecutors successfully sought justice for the survivors. The presenters will provide concrete steps for investigators and advocates in understanding and uncovering abuse in churches and religious organizations, as well as practical steps for prosecutors in educating juries on survivor behavior and presenting a complex sexual assault case.



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

- Recognize the background and complexity of abuse and reporting abuse inside churches and religious organizations.
- Identify concrete steps that must be taken in delayed outcry sexual assault investigations.
- Select jurors that will be most sympathetic and empathetic to the abuse survivors and their situations.
- Implement better practices in the presentation of a complex sexual assault case.

3:00 – 4:30

Arrests Don't Always Occur- Victim Centered Principles when Conducting a Criminal Investigation

Matthew Stegner, MA, Senior Investigator, New York State Police, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Buffalo, NY

As the country continues to search for a criminal justice model that utilizes more principles of procedural justice, this presentation will offer ways for law enforcement professionals to implement these principles now. Procedural justice speaks to the idea of fair processes, and how people's perception of fairness is strongly impacted by the quality of their experiences and not just the end result of these experiences. A neutral, trauma-informed interview is only one part of how law enforcement can better support survivors of gender-based violence within the criminal justice process. A wrap-around "complete case" does not always result in an arrest but should always focus on doing the very best law enforcement can do to best serve the survivor. The warrior versus guardian policing methods have been researched and argued for years. This presentation will posit that both should occur simultaneously. Just like a great surgeon who has an excellent bedside manner, a law enforcement professional can be kind and compassionate while being highly skilled at building fact-based criminal cases. The narrative that this is a "touchy-feely" or somehow biased policing is a fallacy.

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

- Identify the principles of procedural justice and create policies that improve a survivor's experience.
- Integrate practices that provide survivors with the kind of quality, highly skilled, and compassionate criminal investigation they deserve.
- Differentiate between warrior policing and guardian policing, and how they should occur simultaneously.
- Recognize that survivors are trusting you with perhaps the worst event that has ever happened in their life.

4:45 – 6:00

Concurrent Evening Sessions

4:45 – 6:00

Can Data Save the World? Maybe Not, But We Can Try



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Kimberly A. Lonsway, PhD, Director of Research, EVAWI, San Luis Obispo, CA
Kris-Tena Albers, APRN, MN, SANE-A, Director, SANE Training and Sustainability Program, Florida Council Against Sexual Violence, Tallahassee, FL

In 2019, the Florida Council of Sexual Violence began conversations with EVAWI about our statewide data collection on SANE exams and related practices. We wanted to develop a methodology and instrumentation to collect consistent data from a diverse array of Rape Crisis Centers (RCCs) about the number of survivors receiving exams, and the types of advocacy and medical forensic services being provided. We were also interested in how many survivors reported to law enforcement, whether they used alternative reporting options (such as anonymous or non-investigative reports), and what happened as a result of those reports. Four years later, we have used the tool to collect data in several 6-month intervals. Results reveal previously hidden patterns, helping us to improve our services and outreach, as well as our collaborative work with other stakeholders. Save yourself four years of work! Come hear about the findings, and lessons learned, to up your game for data collection and better understand and improve the services you provide to survivors.

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

- Evaluate the development of a survey instrument on sexual assault survivors' agency contacts and service utilization.
- Examine statewide data from Florida on survivors' utilization of medical forensic exams, victim advocacy services, and alternative reporting options to law enforcement.
- Consider adapting the instrument for use in your own agency, community, or state.

4:45 – 6:00 A Human Trafficking Specific Medical Forensic Evidentiary Flowsheet

Jennifer Sonsiadek, MSN/FN, RN, SANE-A, Clinical Forensic Program Manager, St. Luke's Health System, Kansas City, MO

When patients who are experiencing human trafficking present to hospitals for care, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE)/Forensic Nurses, when available, are consulted to provide medical forensic services. National, state, and forensic specific organizations most frequently recommend a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination for patients that have experienced human trafficking, though they often lack the unique medical forensic, cultural, and trauma informed interventions needed to address the challenges seen in survivors of human trafficking. A multidisciplinary group of human trafficking specialists developed a flowsheet for medical forensic evidentiary exams, and then provided the tool to highly trained SANE/Forensic Nurses to help guide consultation to optimize interventions that address the unique challenges and needs of patients who experience human trafficking. Utilizing multidisciplinary human trafficking specialists to

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modify, enhance, and help vet the tool enriched the effectiveness of the final flowsheet and helped to support the learning needs of the nurses using the tool for consults. The presenter will make recommendations for programs considering replicating this tool to optimize services for these patients.

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

- List the unique challenges and medical forensic needs of patients who experience human trafficking.
- Discuss the key medical forensic gaps addressed by a human trafficking specific medical forensic evidentiary flowsheet, to better serve the needs of this population.
- Recognize the process utilized to develop a human trafficking specific medical forensic evidentiary flowsheet by a multidisciplinary team.

4:45 – 6:00 USA Gymnastics, Michigan State University, and the Making of a Predator: Larry Nassar

Roger Canaff, JD, Consultant, Justice 3D, Honorary Board, EVAWI, New York, NY

While no environment serving children, adolescents and young adults can ever be 100% safe from sexual predators, it is tragically but utterly true that both USA Gymnastics and Michigan State University, two powerful, internationally recognized and well- supported institutions, failed miserably and over the course of decades. This session will address several aspects of institutional sexual abuse across the culture, with a focus on the almost unfathomable missteps, willful ignorance, and malfeasance at the heart of over twenty years of predation by physician Larry Nassar on female athletes.

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

- Recognize institutional norms and practices that serve to conceal and protect predatory individuals.
- Understand how “group-think” and other collective biases and misconceptions can create a risk of sexual abuse within institutional settings.
- Develop common-sense practices to make institutions less vulnerable and less attractive to predatory individuals.

4:45 – 6:00 Hope, Healing and Empowerment: Build Resiliency, Reclaim Lives from Victim to Survivor to Thriver

Susan Omilian, JD, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Thriver Zone, West Hartford, CT

From hopelessness and despair, survivors of domestic and sexual violence can be empowered to take the critical journey beyond abuse from victim to survivor to thriver and reclaim their lives. Learn a motivational model based on Dr. Judith Herman’s stages of recovery from trauma that can help survivors build resiliency, restore their self-esteem, and bolster their self-determination to move beyond abuse. Explore the model’s

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methods developed by Susan Omilian, a survivor of a domestic violence homicide who has worked with domestic violence and sexual assault victims for more than forty years. Ms. Omilian will demonstrate the innovative, evidence-based, and life-changing techniques successfully being used to help women move from survivors to thrivers – healthy, happy people with brilliant, productive futures. The methods include positive storytelling, exercises to counter negative, limiting beliefs that sabotage forward movement, and tools for strategic visioning and goal setting so survivors can manifest a life of power and purpose despite all that has happened to them.

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

- Identify three stages of healing and self-care from victim, survivor to thriver.
- Describe a motivational model to build resiliency, restore self-esteem and stabilize lives.
- Identify best practices including tools like positive storytelling to reduce long-term impact of violence, abuse, and trauma.
- Detail barriers for survivors to moving forward with their lives and ways to overcome them.

4:45 – 6:00 Can You Qualify as an "Expert?" Do You Want to?

Carlton Hershman, Detective (Ret.), San Diego Police Department, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Cape Coral, FL

Wendy Patrick, JD, PhD, Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney's Office, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, San Diego, CA

Matthew Stegner, MA, Senior Investigator, New York State Police, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Buffalo, NY

Have you ever been asked to testify as an expert? What does it mean to be an expert? What does it take to be one? What are the dos and don'ts of being an expert? Who certifies me as an "expert?" These and many more questions will be answered during this presentation.

A witness may be qualified as an expert based on their knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education. An expert witness may testify in the form of an opinion if their scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will help the trier of fact understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue. Being an expert and testifying as one are two different things. Writing an expert opinion is completely different than testifying in court. The presenters will address the definition and historical background of expert testimony and why it is so important to every case. They will address common errors and helpful strategies while preparing and testifying as an expert.

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

- Recognize the criteria associated with becoming an expert witness.
- Identify common errors of a new expert, and a seasoned expert.

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- Distinguish between writing an expert opinion and testifying in court.
- Identify common pitfalls experts fall into when testifying.
- Strategize tactics to handle cross examination.

4:45 – 6:00 **Aligning Response: Building Partnerships Between Title IX Administrators and Campus Law Enforcement**

Tawny Alonzo, MS, Director of Training, Title IX Solutions, Belleville, IL

Tom Denton, Co-Founder and Director of Investigations, Title IX Solutions, Belleville, IL

Campus law enforcement response and a post-secondary institution's administrative response to sexual violence have distinct differences. However, because these responses may take place concurrently, it is essential for both entities to understand each other's role and work together to provide a cohesive approach. The presenters share their experiences as law enforcement officers and Title IX professionals to highlight the unique experiences shared by each entity and offer ways to bridge gaps which may exist.

This session details how to build a relationship between campus police and the Title IX office through the delivery of training, creation of memoranda of understanding, and opening lines of communication. The presenters aim to equip members of campus law enforcement and Title IX administrators with strategies to create a strong multidisciplinary campus response to sexual violence.

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

- Outline the similarities and differences between the campus law enforcement and Title IX responses to incidents of sexual violence on campus.
- Identify challenges and barriers which may arise in the concurrent investigation of sexual violence on postsecondary campuses.
- Explore various ways in which campus law enforcement departments and Title IX offices may engage in collaboration and information-sharing.
- Assess areas of opportunity for training in the investigation process for both entities.

4:45 – 6:00 “Beyond Surveys and Evaluations” Relying on Case Reviews to Assess Training

Jennifer Wallace, MS, Program Manager, Sexual Assault Investigations, WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission, Burien, WA

Mike Davis, Sergeant, Vancouver Police Department (Ret.), Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Vancouver, WA

Andrea Piper-Wentland, Instructor/Consultant, Sexual Assault Investigations Program, WA State Criminal Justice Training Commission, Burien, WA

Case reviews conducted to understand and improve sexual assault investigation outcomes prompted Washington State Legislators to mandate annual reviews as another

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tool in Washington's response. The Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) was directed to lead this review to evaluate training benefits and gaps, and foster collaborations and ongoing education. To date, six police agencies, two prosecutor offices, and three advocacy agencies have participated. In its third year, the review has evolved to include the comprehensive lens and checklists derived from EVAWI's OnLine Training Institute Module on Effective Victim Interviewing. As an all-inclusive document of best practices in sexual assault victim interviews, CJTC not only ensures that its training content meets these standards but can also now apply these recommendations to the annual reviews of cases around the State.

This session, presented by the CJTC Sexual Assault Investigations (SAI)-Program Manager, a retired Vancouver Police Department Sergeant, and an SAI instructor/former Executive Director of a victim advocacy organization, will explain the design and application of the Washington case review process. The presenters will also explore how others can implement an education-based case review.

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

- Identify and reinforce national best practices in victim interviewing based on EVAWI's research-based online training module and Washington CJTC trainings through case reviews.
- Establish and maintain expectations of excellence in the delivery and impact of trainings and case reviews.
- Examine strategies to improve communications in a community's multi-disciplinary team through case result coordination, results, and reporting.

4:45 – 6:00 Spiritual Abuse: Allyships with Faith Communities: Trauma-Informed Leaders Supporting Survivors

Tracy Rector, Executive Producer, No Ordinary Love, Colleyville, TX
Neil Schori, Pastor, The Edge Church, Aurora, IL

Faith communities are often reluctant to invite the secular world into their space. This breakout session focuses on creating change in domestic violence advocates' relationships with these communities by showing how faith leaders can create a safe space for victims. Victims of faith go to their faith leader first for help with an abusive relationship. Creating change in this area by having informed and involved faith leaders is imperative.

The presenters will break down spiritual abuse from a survivor's perspective, plus show film scenes from an impactful movie (which gives an authentic look at domestic violence) to illustrate the tactics spiritual abusers use as shown on the Spiritual Abuse Power & Control Wheel. As co-presenter, a pastor will share his first-hand experience counseling a survivor and serving as a key witness at trial for a woman who went missing and was allegedly murdered by her abuser. The presenters will discuss making faith communities a safe place for survivors, pastoral care for victims and abusers, faith leaders as first responders and observing domestic violence awareness month in faith communities.

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

- Describe the tactics spiritual abusers use on their victims as shown on the Spiritual Abuse Power and Control Wheel.
- Explain faith leaders' role in supporting survivors.
- Identify ways a faith community can become a domestic violence informed, safe space for victims.
- Implement ways to create relationships with faith communities, inviting them to be domestic violence advocates



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6:15 – 7:00 **Survivor of the Fittest: Survivors & First Responders Moving Through Trauma with Yoga**

Rachael Frost, Master Investigator (Ret.), Chief Executive Officer, Frost ICED, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI
Amanda Gavarny, CEO & Yoga Instructor, Heart Hight

7:00 – 8:00 **Light Continental Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:20 **Opening Remarks**

- *Dave Cohen, Master of Ceremonies*
- *Linda Phan, Deputy Director of Policy, Communication and Evaluation, Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice, Washington, DC*

8:20 – 8:30 **Award Presentation**

- *Media Award – Rachel de Leon*

8:30 – 9:45 **Plenary I: The Risk of Reporting: “She Made a Report of Rape and Ended up in Handcuffs”**

Rachel de Leon, MJ, Investigative Reporter, Producer, Reveal from The Center for Investigative Reporting, Oakland, CA

In 2018, reporter Rachel de Leon began investigating several cases in which alleged victims of sexual assault and rape were charged with crimes after police determined they lied. False reports of sexual assault are rare (between 2-8 percent of all sexual assault reports), so Ms. de Leon pursued as many police records as she could to investigate these reports.

The audio and video recordings illuminated troubling police techniques. Investigators used deception and aggressive questioning while eliciting confessions and recantations. The alleged victims, all of whom were very young women, seemed to merely repeat back what investigators told them, or simply stopped disagreeing with them. After these women were charged, local and national media outlets covered their cases, using their full names and mugshots – since they were no longer considered sexual assault victims, they no longer had a right to anonymity. The stories were sensational. They took off on Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, and YouTube, where the audience was ripe to degrade and shame them.

The session will explore several of these stories Ms. de Leon uncovered. Audio and video clips will demonstrate how a victim becomes a suspect, often in a short amount of time.



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

- Prepare questions to challenge whether a false reporting case was thoroughly investigated.
- Recognize the consequences of publishing and thereby sensationalizing alleged false reporting cases.
- Identify the patterns of an investigation that result in false reporting charges, based on a first-ever analysis of its kind which examined 52 false reporting cases.

9:45 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 10:30 Award Presentation
➤ ***Teal Heart – Emma Katherine Mannion***

10:30 – 12:00 Plenary II: Decades of Change: Celebrating Our Past and Envisioning Our Future

Ann Burdges, Trainer / Consultant, President, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Atlanta, GA
Kimberly A. Lonsway, PhD, Director of Research, EVAWI, San Luis Obispo, CA

EVAWI turns 20 this year! Join us for this fast-paced “blast from the past,” looking back through the twists and turns of our unpredictable history within the larger context of developments in the field. Together, we will identify key milestones in the national response to violence against women and look ahead to our bright future together.

As we review this timeline, we will particularly showcase the work of investigative journalists who pull back the curtain on issues that many would prefer to remain hidden. From “Date Rape” to “#MeToo,” major media stories over the years have helped raise public awareness and transformed the public conversation on gender-based violence. Often bearing a significant personal and professional toll, these heroes of investigative journalism have helped to advance our field and create a better world for survivors.

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

- Examine the history of EVAWI within the larger context of developments in the field.
- Identify key milestones in the national response to violence against women.
- Explore the impact of investigative journalists on transforming societal beliefs and attitudes, which change the way we all think about violence against women.
- Identify specific examples of how investigative journalism has impacted laws, policies, and everyday practices for responding to violence against women.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch (Provided)

1:00 – 2:30 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

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1:00 – 2:30 Comprehensive Victim Interviewing

Joanne Archambault, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer, EVAWI, Sergeant, San Diego Police Department (Ret.), Spokane, WA*
Emma Katherine Mannion, *Survivor, Rochester, NH*

For victims who report sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, and other traumatic crimes, the purpose of an investigative interview is to help them: (1) *retrieve* details of the traumatic event from memory, and (2) *disclose* those details to the investigator. Yet all too often sexual assault victims have faced unjustified suspicion that their report is a false allegation.

Investigators must understand that crime scenes include elements that are probative to an investigation, as well as aspects that are irrelevant, unclear, or even contradictory. In other words, they do not present facts in a linear or logical way – nor do they outline how the information and evidence fit together to corroborate the elements of a criminal offense. Rather, investigators collect and document evidence from the crime scene, and then through analysis, evaluation, and further investigative steps, they piece together an understanding of what happened. *The same is true for victim interviews.* After helping victims to recall and share details about their sexual assault, investigators must piece these details together with other information and evidence, to compile a linear and evidence-based account of the crime.

Comprehensive Victim Interviews are critical to this information-gathering process, and they require a great deal of work by investigators before, during, and after the interview.

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

- Conduct an initial interview and preliminary investigation.
- Plan, prepare, and conduct an in-depth victim interview.
- Document victim statements and other investigative findings.
- Facilitate additional interviews as needed during an evolving investigation.

1:00 – 2:30 The Strength United Trauma Recovery Center: A Comprehensive Approach to Trauma-Informed Care

Jennifer Pemberton, *PhD, Associate Professor/Faculty Liaison, Principal Investigator, California State University, Northridge, CA*
****Kim Goldberg-Roth**, *LFMT, Executive Director/Principal Investigator, Strength United, California State University Northridge, Van Nuys, CA*

Over 45% of children nationwide are exposed to traumatic experiences, including sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic violence, community trauma, bullying, and other violence. 8% of 12- to 17-year-olds report sexual assault, 17% report physical

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assault, and 39% report witnessing violence. Such trauma results in long-lasting detrimental impacts on development, health, and well-being. For children and adolescents, trauma can impact functioning in neurobiological development, emotional, social, cognitive, and behavioral areas. Therefore, comprehensive trauma-informed treatment programs are critical for the healing and recovery of traumatized children and their families.

Dedicated to ending violence, empowering families, and developing leaders, the mission of Strength United is to provide prevention and treatment of trauma to ethnically diverse, underserved, and economically disadvantaged children and families. The Trauma Recovery Center (TRC) is a comprehensive approach to trauma-informed care that includes services for traumatized children and families, as well as trauma training and self-care for the clinical staff. This workshop will present innovative programming that includes a Family Justice Center – a co-located model of first responders.

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

- Identify the principles of trauma-informed care.
- Implement innovative, holistic, and comprehensive treatment strategies for individuals with traumatic experiences.
- Incorporate self-care strategies for clinical staff to address vicarious trauma.

1:00 – 2:30 Healing Justice: Lessons from Survivors of a Serial Rapist

Matt Irvine, Investigator, Portland Police Bureau, Portland, OR

EVAWI promotes the ethos, “Start by believing.” In our work with victims of historical sexual assault, too often we had to start by apologizing. Under the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, we began by addressing the problem of untested kits. We quickly discovered a deeper systemic failure, not of forensics but of caring. Behind many of these kits was a victim who was disbelieved, disrespected, or discounted. As a result, they disconnected from their cases and were literally written off by law enforcement.

This presentation uses the case of a serial predator and his victims to explore why cases go cold, and what we must do to revive them. It will explore the shortcomings of the original investigation and how new investigators; prosecutors and advocates overcame them to support the victims and hold the offender accountable. It will focus on what the victims taught us about connecting and staying connected, building and maintaining trust, and beginning to remedy past wrongs. The biggest lesson is that many cases fail not because of a lack of evidence, but due to a lack of empathy and understanding. When we fail to understand the realities of sexual assault, or believe the harm done to some of us matters less than the harm done to others, we increase

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trauma and protect offenders. When we lead with compassion for all victims, we increase the odds of healing and equal justice.

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

- Identify misunderstandings and biases that harm victims and protect offenders.
- Evaluate victim attrition and apparent non-cooperation in a trauma-informed manner.
- Apply the lessons from the victims in this case to their own cases.
- Conduct empathetic, effective, victim-centered investigations.

1:00 – 2:30 Children Have Voices - Now Let's Get Them Heard: Preparing Children to Testify in Court

Christopher R. Freid, JD, Chief Assistant Prosecutor, Special Victims Unit, Passaic County Prosecutor's Office (Ret.), Paterson, NJ

Child maltreatment cases often end up in the courtroom. For a child, the prospect of testifying in a courtroom in front of not only strangers, but in front of those who have abused them or those who were not supportive of them can be truly terrifying. To minimize the impact of trauma upon the child and to reduce overall apprehension and nervousness, the child witness must be fully prepared for this foreign, but inevitable experience.

To compound matters for child maltreatment professionals working with the child witness, the last two years saw a suspension of the justice system across many states thanks to the Covid pandemic. As such, child maltreatment professionals did not experience the day-to-day realities of courtroom events. This suspension coupled with high rates of turnover in the various disciplines, has hampered opportunities for younger professionals to develop the necessary skills for effective advocacy when working with children in the courtroom.

This presentation will outline a strategy for those working with child witnesses in preparation for the courtroom experience. I will outline a multi-step process which includes rapport building, the courtroom tour and substantive preparation as well as address Covid considerations and the impact of vicarious trauma on those working with children during this process.

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

- Prepare for a case that involves a child witness.
- Identify key strategies to present the case effectively when it is time for court.
- Recognize the possibility of vicarious trauma and to strategize accordingly.

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1:00 – 2:30

The Peace Officer Promise: Realizing the True Purpose of Policing

***Lisa Broderick**, Founder and Executive Director, Police2Peace, Scottsdale, AZ
Jerald Monahan, MS, Program Director, Administration of Justice Studies, Yavapai College, Honorary Board, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI Prescott, AZ*

Policing today is in a difficult place. Recent events have made the delivery of public safety even more challenging. This session focuses on a new approach to policing using the framework of police officers as “Peace Officers” and introduces The Peace Officer Promise as a way for agencies to rebuild trust and confidence by making a public reaffirmation of their commitment to serve and protect.

The presentation will detail how this innovative new framework for reimagining public safety can help transform police-community interactions, so they are effective, empathetic, and just. The presenters will conclude with a discussion of how The Peace Officer Promise can be used to transform the approach officers interacting with sexual assault victims have historically utilized, which sometimes results in victims being fearful, disbelieved, or mistreated, all which fuel injustices that may result in little or no reporting of abuse.

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

- Summarize the Peace Officer Promise, and the implications for making The Promise.
- Employ The Promise to engage stakeholder groups, including officers, elected officials, and community members to build trust and confidence in the police.
- Utilize the Peace Officer approach to improve the response to sexual assault and domestic violence.

1:00 – 2:30

Seek Then Speak: Online Interviewing Tool for Sexual Assault Survivors

***Kimberly A. Lonsway**, PhD, Director of Research, EVAWI, San Luis Obispo, CA
Erica Oldham, Sergeant, Kansas City Police Department, Kansas City, MO
Victoria Pickering, Director of Advocacy, MOCSA, Kansas City, MO
Alison Forsyth, Crime Victim Advocate, City of Seattle’s Crime Survivor Services Unit, Seattle, WA*

Only 1 in 5 rape victims report the crime, precluding law enforcement from holding offenders accountable and decreasing the chance of connecting with advocacy and other services. To increase access to reporting and services, EVAWI partnered with EBinRA to create a self-guided, online interviewing tool for sexual assault victims. Survivors and support people are offered information about sexual assault victimization and options for



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reporting to police and accessing services (SEEK). If they choose, survivors can begin the process of reporting to law enforcement by providing information in response to trauma-informed interview prompts (SPEAK). The tool generates a PDF the survivor can: (1) save on their own device, (2) print, (3) email to the police department, or (4) provide to a sexual assault advocacy center to submit on the survivor's behalf. Survivors can access SEEK THEN SPEAK from any digital device, in 100 different languages, reducing barriers of language and accessibility. Come hear from professionals in communities that have adopted SEEK THEN SPEAK, on both professional and survivor experiences using the tool, as well as lessons learned, and future directions.

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

- Describe SEEK THEN SPEAK, an interactive online tool helping sexual assault survivors and their support people gather information and explore options.
- Explain how sexual assault survivors can use the new tool to begin the process of reporting to law enforcement by completing a self-guided interview.
- Consider how this new tool could increase access to reporting and supportive services for survivors in your community.

1:00 – 2:30 A Natural Healing Approach to Trauma

Karen Van Ness, DMQ, DCEM, CPT, MS, Founder, Resilient Edge Wellness, Austin, TX

Trauma, vicarious trauma, and PTSD frequently impact survivors and those who work with them. Unfortunately, clinical and counseling interventions may not always succeed in helping individuals process or “move past” the trauma, because they do not fully address the healing that needs to occur at all levels. Medical Qigong is a 5,000-year-old Chinese healing tradition that provides a complete body-mind-spirit approach and considers the whole being to enhance health and resilience. Its key principles operate in a holistic way by working with the energy centers and pathways of the body, helping clear out disease, blockages, old hurts, and emotional stagnation to kick start the body's ability to repair and heal itself.

This presentation will introduce participants to this ancient “technology” that can empower individuals who have experienced a traumatic incident (including post-traumatic stress), as well as those within the helping professions who experience vicarious trauma. This approach works to help regulate and unblock the energy meridians, which is often a “missing piece” for people who have been trying to resolve chronic emotional or physical issues, better manage stress, or increase energy levels.

Come learn about simple, accessible exercises which combine breathing, specific movement patterns, and visualization to help transform stress, center and ground, and improve health and internal energy. These exercises help redirect attention from stressful physical or environmental stimuli to a more inward, relaxed focus, leading to a greater sense of personal control and resilience.

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

- Describe how this approach can help address trauma and vicarious trauma.
- Understand the latest in Western and Eastern approaches to developing resilience.
- Apply several simple but powerful Qigong and Breathwork exercises.
- Identify resources and next steps, including how to establish an ongoing health and self-care practice.

1:00 – 2:30 Fourteen Strategies for Promoting Abuser Engagement and Accountability

David Adams, EdD, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Emerge, Counseling and Education on Domestic Violence, Malden, MA

Zachary Moser, Associate Director, Emerge, Counseling and Education on Domestic Violence, Malden, MA

Abuser intervention programs are a bit of a black box to other partners in domestic violence intervention work. During this session, the presenters will describe essential practices and strategies for promoting abuser engagement and accountability, along with how these relate to community partnerships to increase victim safety as well as abuser accountability. While some of the strategies are techniques used in abuser interventions, they are relevant as tools for all first responders and referral sources, such as courts, child welfare, faith leaders, substance abuse and mental health programs, in their interactions with abusers. Emerge is unique among abuser intervention programs in its high number (35%) of non-court referrals. The presenters will describe strategies that have helped to broaden abuser intervention program as a community resource, both in terms of abuser interventions but also in terms of parenting education for fathers and outreach to survivors of abuse.

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

- Recognize the essential roles and practices of abuser intervention programs.
- Identify the elements and stages of abuser accountability.
- Identify community partnerships with abuser intervention programs to increase abuser accountability and victim safety.

1:00 – 2:30 Why I Sued the City and County for Mishandling My Rape Case and What I Learned

Hanna Senko, MS, Independent Survivor, Writer and Advocate, Austin, TX

Julie Lande Lillesaeter, Documentary Filmmaker, Differ Media, Austin, TX

I never planned to become a plaintiff in a class action lawsuit, especially against my own city and county. I wasn't comfortable labeling myself as a survivor, let alone being solely portrayed as one in the media. My secrets, shame, and stories felt so much safer



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buried under the weight of each passing year despite my declining well-being. But, when I read the First Amended Class Action Complaint containing the stories and experiences of eight other survivors, everything changed.

For over ten years, I believed there was something wrong with me and something wrong with my case. It wasn't until I learned of other survivor's experiences that I realized there was something wrong with the system that my case fell into. It didn't matter who assaulted me, how they assaulted me, or when they assaulted me. It didn't matter if DNA was present or not present. None of it mattered. It wasn't just my case that wasn't prosecuted. I learned that 99% of all cases were not being prosecuted whether the details were very similar or drastically different. Sexual assault cases in Austin and Travis County weren't getting prosecuted regardless of the details.

From the beginning, I told myself that I wasn't going to devise a plan or build out a roadmap like all my corporate training taught me. This journey was different, and I knew it. I didn't know what I was going to learn, who I was going to meet, or where it was ultimately going to take me. What I did know, was that change was needed, and I hoped that I could help in some small way.

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

- Identify how change can happen by following my journey from denier to survivor to activist breaking through the barriers of secrecy and shame.
- Examine the impact, lessons learned, and aftermath of a class action lawsuit in Austin, Texas through the eyes of a survivor plaintiff.
- Consider various societal fabrics that affect how we heal from sexual assault.
- Explore the meaning of accountability, leadership, and justice in the handling of sexual assault.

2:30 – 3:00 **Break**

3:00 – 4:30 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

3:00 – 4:30 **Righting a Wrong: Impact of the Criminalization of Survivors of the Sex Trade and Sex Trafficking**

Maggie Miller, JD, Staff Attorney and Criminal Records Relief Coordinator, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Chicago, IL

Madeleine Behr, MPP, Policy Manager, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Chicago, IL

Survivors of the sex trade and sex trafficking face many barriers, including housing issues, substance abuse, difficulty obtaining employment, and long-lasting trauma. What is discussed less often but is enormously impactful in their ability to overcome

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these barriers is the fact that 91% of survivors accumulated criminal records themselves as a direct result of their victimization, usually in the form of arrests and convictions for prostitution and related offenses. Concerningly though, despite the availability of expungement, sealing, or vacatur in most states, only 25% of survivors reported having been able to obtain even partial relief from their record.

Join us to discuss current law enforcement practices that criminalize survivors and the impact of criminalization with a particular look at the onerous process of pursuing relief from a criminal record. From the perspectives of public policy and direct legal representation, we will analyze options available to mitigate that impact moving forward – both for survivors who already have a record and for those law enforcement professionals have yet to encounter – by identifying trends in how various states approach this issue.

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

- Explain the impact of criminalizing survivors.
- Identify common questions and policy positions regarding records relief for survivors.
- Assess options and opportunities for improvement for criminalized survivors in their jurisdictions.
- Identify strategies to approach those in the sex trade intentionally, being conscious of the impact law enforcement interaction may have on their ability to obtain housing or employment.

3:00 – 4:30 NOW I SPEAK: Victim Impact Statements

Anna Nasset, Speaker / Survivor, Stand Up Resources, Director, EVAWI, Waitsfield, VT

In this session, Ms. Nasset shares her own victim impact statement and breaks down how she created it, the people she worked with, and her thoughts behind it. Her impact statement led to one of the longest sentences in history for stalking and has been lauded by the Prosecuting Attorney and Judge on the case as the reason this sentence was given. She looks at other victim impact statements and shares the great import they serve for sentencing and healing. She works with attendees to address how to encourage victims and survivors to create impactful victim impact statements, tools to engage in the process, and ways in which they can support people as they write these challenging statements.

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

- Identify the complexities of putting into words the crime committed for the impact statement.
- Demonstrate how to build an impact statement and the importance of identifying each victim/survivor's independent experience.

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- Recognize, from a victim/survivor's perspective, what the journey is to write a statement, and present it to the courts.
- Describe the usefulness of the statement and how to support a victim/survivor when their statement does not sway the courts.

3:00 – 4:30 Come Learn About OVW Funding Opportunities

Linda Phan, Deputy Director of Policy, Communication and Evaluation, Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice, Washington, DC

Tonette Ngassa, JD, Team Lead, Culturally Specific Services Program, Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice, Washington, DC

****Maria Flores**, Grant Manager, Legal Assistance for Victims, Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice Washington, DC

****Rebekah Jones**, Grants Management Specialist, Tribal Affairs Division, Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice, Washington, DC

OVW invites organizations and communities working to end gender-based violence to apply for funding. All are welcome to attend, especially those who may not have considered applying or who are unsure about eligibility.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Created in 1995, OVW implements the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Since its inception, OVW has supported a multifaceted approach to responding to these crimes through implementation of grant programs authorized by VAWA. By forging state, local and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, organizations that serve culturally specific and underserved communities and others, OVW grants help provide victims across the life span with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while improving communities' capacity to hold offenders accountable for their crimes.

OVW currently administers 19 grant programs authorized by the VAWA and subsequent legislation. Four programs are "formula," meaning the enacting legislation specifies how the funds are to be distributed. The remaining programs are "discretionary," meaning OVW is responsible for creating program parameters, qualifications, eligibility, and deliverables in accordance with authorizing legislation. These grant programs are designed to develop the nation's capacity to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by strengthening services to victims and holding offenders accountable.

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

- Learn about OVW's formula and discretionary grant programs, their purposes, and covered activities.
- Understand OVW's funding priorities, new initiatives, and special projects.
- Learn about Technical Assistance and support for grantees.
- Receive tips and assistance on how to apply.

3:00 – 4:30 The Odd Couple: SANEs and Law Enforcement Bridging Differences to Build a Better Relationship

Chenel Vanden Berk, BS, JD, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SANE Coordinator, Advocate Aurora Condell Medical Center, Gurnee, IL

Christine Saffell, Sergeant (Ret.), Gurnee Police Department, Gurnee, IL

Law Enforcement and SANEs often encounter many of the same sexual assault survivors. However, the quality and effectiveness of the professional interactions with each other may vary due to how we approach the case. In some instances, leading to roadblocks and frustration. Law Enforcement and SANEs have specific protocols and training to guide the handling of sexual assault survivors, which may at first glance seem conflicting or even incompatible. Yet, if we dive deeper, we see that there is room to enhance each other's interdisciplinary response. Exploring alternate ways to communicate with each other, and finding common ground, creates the possibility for a valuable collaboration whenever it is appropriate. Despite our varying approaches, and sometimes conflicting short-term goals, understanding and respecting different perspectives can ultimately lead to the greatest success in meeting the needs of survivors. The presenters will analyze the history of the SANE and Law Enforcement relationship, examine the guiding protocols and processes, and present case studies to provide insight and understanding of the role each discipline plays. Moving forward, the knowledge gained from this presentation can be applied to future interactions to strengthen relationships and ultimately improve sexual assault survivor care.

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

- Describe the differences and similarities that have historically impacted the interdisciplinary relationship and treatment of the sexual assault survivor.
- Recognize the value of the different approaches when handling survivors of sexual assault and identify areas of common purpose.
- Identify tools and techniques to strengthen and improve the collaborative response to sexual assault cases.
- Utilize strategies to facilitate communication and meaningful engagement.

3:00 – 4:30 When the Shooter Lives Next Door: Understanding the Link Between Mass Shooting and Domestic Violence



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Sharla Jackson, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resource Prosecutor,
Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of GA, Director, EVAWI, Atlanta, GA

Aurelia Sands Belle, MEd, Vice President, EVAWI, Research Instructor, National Mass
Violence and Victimization Resource Center (NMVVR), Charleston, SC

Over the last decade, mass shootings have killed or injured hundreds of Americans. More than half of those shootings involved domestic violence. This presentation will use findings from recent studies regarding the connection between mass shootings and domestic violence to demonstrate how factors associated with domestic violence dynamics suggest the possibility of future mass shootings. Attendees will learn to characterize domestic violence as a public safety concern that impacts the entire community rather than an individual problem. The discussion will inspire attendees to work collaboratively with their multidisciplinary teams using best practices to improve the community response to domestic violence.

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

- Define mass shooting.
- Promote victim safety and offender accountability by understanding the connection between mass shootings and domestic violence.
- Formulate best practice responses based on recent studies regarding the connection between mass shootings and domestic violence.

3:00 – 4:30 Building Healthier Organizations: A Shared Responsibility

Katherine Manners, MEd, LMFT, Senior Partner, and Co-Founder, Resilience Works,
Natick, MA

Lisa Tieszen, MA, LICSW, Senior Partner, Resilience Works, Brookline, MA

Organizations are increasingly recognizing their responsibility for creating supportive practices and policies to sustain their staff and respond effectively to survivors. Whether advocates or law enforcement, attorneys or clinicians, the impact of direct and indirect exposure to trauma can be challenging and can lead to burnout if the necessary attention isn't given. In addition to attending to the negative impact of the work, bringing awareness to the positive aspects are essential to creating a robust workforce, retaining long term employees, and welcoming younger and more diverse staff.

Providing examples of building workplace practices designed to sustain staff engagement and restoration throughout the workday, the presenters will offer ways to attend to staff needs while strengthening organizational practices. This interactive session will explore ways that staff, supervisors, and managers can enhance individual, team, and organizational well-being.



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

- Explore and learn strategies for addressing the negative impacts of the work with trauma survivors.
- Recognize and enrich the positive aspects of the work including meaning, compassion satisfaction and peer support.
- Create organizational strategies to enhance staff support.

3:00 – 4:30 “It Wasn’t Me!!” Who really goes to jail in LGBTQIA+ Intimate Partner Violence Cases?

Michael Crumrine, Sergeant, Austin Police Department, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Austin, TX

In same sex couples, the signs of intimate partner violence are often missed or calls for service discounted as just a disturbance between roommates or “friends.” Failure to identify the signs of intimate partner violence in same sex couples could lead to life altering consequences, such as not arresting anyone or worse, arresting both the victim and the aggressor. Misunderstanding these cases or not recognizing the calls for service as intimate partner violence can be devastating and deadly. This session will explore recent studies which highlight law enforcement’s missteps in recognizing these calls as intimate partner violence and discuss the unique dynamics present in these cases. The presenter will also provide attendees with tangible tools to accurately identify the predominate aggressor in same sex intimate partner violence cases.

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

- Recognize the prevalence of dual arrests in same sex intimate partner violence cases vs. opposite sex cases.
- Identify best practice investigative strategies to cases rather than relying on preconceived experiences.
- Discuss the history of the Queer community and the intricacies of its relationship with the criminal justice system.
- Utilize the tools provided to help identify predominate aggressors in LGBTQIA+ IPV relationships.

3:00 – 4:30 Making Policies and Protocols Matter - Guidance at a State and Local Level

Nancy Oglesby, JD, Consultant, Co-Founder, Owner, Justice 3D, Richmond, VA
Michael Milnor, MA, Chief (Ret.), Consultant, Co-Founder, Owner, Justice 3D, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Richmond, VA

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A "trauma-informed response" is a phrase that is frequently mentioned when discussing law enforcement best practice policies and protocols. However, bringing practice to life from written words on paper can be very challenging. Many agencies have sexual assault and domestic violence policies and protocols, but just as their content varies from agency to agency, so does their effectiveness. Success requires buy-in at the highest levels, and training among all which is challenging.

This presentation aims to give guidance for the creation of meaningful protocols. In addition to discussing the foundation and criteria needed to develop a statewide protocol, the presenters will also discuss the creation of a model protocol for Lexington, Virginia that was spear-headed by Project Horizon, the local advocacy center that works with five local law enforcement agencies and includes two colleges.

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

- Identify key components needed for successful model policies/protocols.
- Employ strategies to increase buy-in at all levels to implement model policies/protocols.
- Evaluate community-specific needs and/or challenges when developing model policies/protocols.
- Develop a comprehensive plan for training and implementation.

3:00 – 4:30 Trauma-Informed Direct Examination of Victims

Kimberly Hardtke, JD, Assistant District Attorney, Regional Violence Against Women Resource Prosecutor, Green Bay, WI

Extensive research demonstrates the effects of trauma on memory and the impact on a victim attempting to recall a traumatic event. While a trauma-informed interview is a key step in the process for law enforcement, these principles can equally be applied in a courtroom setting by conscientious prosecutors. Doing so not only mitigates the re-traumatizing effects that trials have on victims, but also helps the prosecutor elicit more valuable testimony to help prove their case.

This presentation will address the challenges that a victim's trauma can have on a prosecutor's attempts to elicit testimony. The presenters will suggest methods for overcoming the difficulties that trauma poses during direct examination, and they will offer ideas for using the principles of trauma-informed interviewing to most effectively elicit testimony from a victim at trial.

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

- Identify the effects that trauma has on memory and how lingering effects of trauma can impact a victim's ability to testify at trial.

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- Recognize the ways in which trauma is a barrier to eliciting effective testimony and use alternative questioning methods to overcome those difficulties.
- Apply trauma-informed interviewing techniques for a more effective direct examination.

4:45 – 6:00 Concurrent Evening Sessions

4:45 – 6:00 Introduction to the New OSAC Forensic Nursing Subcommittee: Background and Mission

Joyce Williams, DNP, RN, FAAFS, FAAN, Professor, Adjunct, Randallstown, MD

Nancy Downing, PhD, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FAAN, Associate Professor, Texas A & M University, Bryan, TX

Forensic nursing has become the standard in the health care response to victims of violence. To ensure quality, reliability, efficiency, and consistency among practitioners, development of forensic nursing standards is essential. The 2009 National Research Council Report, *Strengthening Forensic Science: A Path Forward*, critiqued the forensic science community and emphasized need for enforceable standards and promotion of best practices. As the visibility of forensic nursing has grown, The National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC) deemed it critical to create a Forensic Nursing Subcommittee (FNCS). Created in 2021, the purpose of the FNCS is to propose high-quality, technically sound standards that define minimum requirements, best practices, and evidence-based protocols, and provide guidance to ensure reliable and reproducible outcomes. This presentation will briefly review the histories of forensic science and forensic nursing, describe the FNCS composition and OSAC standards development processes, and present progress to date on FNCS standard development and identification of research gaps.

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

- Justify the development of forensic science standards.
- Prioritize areas for improvement in health care delivery in the response to victims.
- Propose best practice guidance to practitioners who serve victims of violence.
- Discuss potential impacts on forensic nursing science and practice.

4:45 – 6:00 Barriers to Leaving High Risk Domestic Violence Relationships: Results from the DVHRT Program

David Scott, PhD, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Public Administration, University of Texas, Tyler, TX

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This presentation will focus on the reported barriers that keep high-risk domestic violence survivors in abusive relationships. The presentation will analyze the responses from survivors in both rural and urban communities in Texas. We will then discuss recommendations with the goal of identifying the barriers versus gaps in existing services for survivors.

This research demystifies the overgeneralized and popular theories of what is keeping a victim in an abusive relationship by providing empirical data to provide concrete reasons provided by professionals who are working high-risk domestic violence cases within the State of Texas. This session will provide awareness to the real reasons a victim stays and recommends what can be done to facilitate safety for a victim and his or her family beyond the theoretical discussions of abuse and survival to one of practice.

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

- Create a working definition of what a high-risk domestic violence case means and how the domestic violence high-risk program has been identifying high-risk cases through risk assessment tools and team collaboration in their own jurisdictions.
- Analyze the reported barriers that are keeping a victim in a high-risk domestic violence relationship.
- Evaluate what is needed in local communities to help a victim leave a high-risk domestic violence relationship permanently.
- Create a working plan on the barriers that are prohibiting a survivor from leaving a highly lethal abusive relationship and identify partners that are needed to address these barriers beyond law enforcement and prosecution team members.

4:45 – 6:00 Our Stories Are Our Power: Using Testimony & Narrative to Create Social & Political Change

Anne K. Ream, Co-Founder, Center for Story & Witness, Chicago, IL

In the last decade, a growing awareness of the role that stories of witness play in social justice movements has taken hold in the non-governmental organization and non-profit space. The activist world now understands, in ways that it perhaps did not a decade ago, that stories of lived experience matter. In an era of information saturation and compassion fatigue and increasingly divisive political discourse — the well-told story can break through ideological barriers in ways that statistics and conceptual analysis alone cannot.

Testimony creates the space for imagining injustice, so that the world may come to an understanding of the effects gender-based violence has on victims, families, and communities. In this interactive presentation, we will consider ways that storytelling and testimony have created political change across history and social justice movements and explore the ethics of storytelling in our increasingly interconnected world.

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

- Recognize the ways that storytelling and testimony have created political change across history and social justice movements.
- Recognize the power and purpose of storytelling in the movement to end gender-based violence.
- Explore the ethics of storytelling in our increasingly interconnected world.
- Analyze effective ways for addressing ethical issues when sharing the stories of others.

4:45 – 6:00 Reproductive and Sexual Coercion: An Intimate form of Abuse

Jane Straub, Training Director, Corner House, Minneapolis, MN

Intimate Partner Violence is a pattern of abusive and coercive behaviors that may include physical injury, psychological abuse, sexual assault, isolation, stalking, intimidation, and threats with the intention to gain and maintain control over their partner. Reproduction and sexual coercion are behaviors used to maintain power and control over a partner's reproductive health. Research has shown that experiencing intimate partner violence may put women at higher risk for experiencing reproductive and sexual coercion. The presenter will define reproductive/sexual coercion, discuss the various tactics perpetrators use to control their partner's reproductive/sexual health and autonomy and outline ways that staff can effectively screen for, and respond to, signs of reproductive coercion.

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

- Recognize the dynamics of abuse and violence, including how gaining and maintaining power over and control of a partner is utilized.
- Identify behaviors that are categorized as reproductive or sexual coercion such as birth control sabotage, pregnancy pressure and sexual coercion.
- Identify ways to address and screen for reproductive/sexual coercion.
- Develop resources and materials to share with victims and other service providers to intervene.

4:45 – 6:00 Defeating the Consent Defense Through Investigation and Trial Tactics

Nancy Oglesby, JD, Owner, Justice 3D, Richmond, VA

Michael Milnor, Chief (Ret.), Consultant, Co-Founder, Justice 3D, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Richmond, VA

Once a suspect raises consent as a defense they shift the focus from themselves to the victim's behavior. There is no such thing as a "he said/ she said" case – yet historically we have let our non-stranger sexual assault cases rise and fall on our victims' statements.

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During this session, the presenters will discuss how to build a strong case that corroborates a victim's complaint. They will also discuss the challenges the consent defense presents and how rape myths create jury bias. Finally, the presenters will discuss trial tactics from voir dire to closing argument to combat prevalent stereotypes and refocus our factfinders' attention back on our suspect's actions.

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

- Utilize strategies to prevent a "consent" defense from shifting the focus onto victim behavior instead of suspect accountability.
- Discuss how corroborating the manifestation of trauma is critical in a sexual assault investigation.
- Examine trial techniques useful to combat jury bias at trial.

4:45 – 6:00 Serving Transgender Sexual Assault Survivors

Erik Simon, MA, Trans Health Director, Clinical Practice Resources, Queens, NY

There is an ongoing knowledge gap between transgender and gender non-conforming (transgender+) patients and their health care providers. For decades, Standardized Patient (SP), Gynecologic Teaching Associate (GTA) and Male Urogenital Teaching Associate (MUTA) programs have been the global educational cornerstones for clinical skills communication and physical examination training for medical learners. However, there remains a significant lack of access to training opportunities for providers on the needs of transgender+ patient health care within institutional educational programming. By understanding adversities that transgender+ patients face in accessing healthcare, we can begin the process of educating practitioners through SP/GTA/MUTA training. Transgender+ persons experience sexual violence at higher reported rates than the cisgender population and are at greater risk for a multitude of physical/mental illnesses. Practitioners often learn of specific risks, health concerns, potential anxieties, and treatments from transgender+ patients' mid-examination because education is not provided at their institutions.

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

- Recognize the vulnerability and risk of sexual violence for the LGBTQ+ community.
- Examine strategies to communicate more effectively and respectfully with LGBTQ+ survivors.
Create inclusive, non-judgmental policies.
- Describe the key aspects of an inclusive physical exam for a patient who has undergone gender-affirming care.

4:45 – 6:00 Dismantling Barriers: Promoting and Improving Legal Advocacy for Undocumented Survivors

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Perla Estrada, LCSW, MSW, MBA, Associate Director of UNICA, El Programa Hispano Catolico, Gresham, OR

Jessica Mindlin, JD, National Director, TTA/Director VRLC Oregon, Victim Rights Center, Portland, OR

Join Perla Estrada, Associate Director of UNICA, and Jessie Mindlin, National Director of Victim Rights Law Center TTA, for this interactive and engaging workshop for legal advocates on preparing and positioning yourself and your agency to better advocate for undocumented survivors' legal needs. We will explore topics related to barriers to justice, assessing your community partners, safety planning with undocumented survivors, and share ideas for improving immigrant survivors' access to services.

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

- Recognize systemic barriers to undocumented survivors' access to the justice system.
- Increase their individual capacity to advocate successfully for the rights of immigrant survivors.
- Improve programmatic operations to expand legal advocacy efforts for immigrant survivors.
- Identify additional avenues for pursuing and protecting immigrant survivors' legal rights.

4:45 – 6:00 Effective Strategies for Health and Wellness for Law Enforcement

Jerald Monahan, MS, Program Director, Administration of Justice Studies, Yavapai College, Honorary Board, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI Prescott, AZ

Bobby Kipper, Executive Director, National Center for the Prevention of Community Violence, Chesapeake, VA

Law Enforcement officers in today's society experience an increased threat to personal safety as well as a heightened call to more accountability. The current state of law enforcement in America has led to a greater level of physical, mental, and emotional stress on individual officers and their families. The impact of this stress is being exhibited in law enforcement organizations across the U.S. Identifying and addressing risk factors to health and wellness is the responsibility of law enforcement agencies and the communities' officers are called to serve. One important aspect of the call to reform policing in America will be the overall health and wellness of those who are called to the service of public safety.

During this session, the presenters will provide effective strategies to improve law enforcement health and wellness with an emphasis on individual risk and protective factors. The session will offer information on how to navigate the current roles and pressures of law enforcement.

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

- Identify the seven dimensions of health and wellness.
- Describe the risk factors in each area that impact a healthy lifestyle.
- Recognize pathways for establishing support in each area.
- Adopt practical steps for achieving and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

4:45 – 6:00 Victimization of the Working Poor – Working with Victims of Crime and Financial Hardship

Carrie Paul, MBA, Consultant, Guest Lecturer, and Public Speaker. Eugene, OR

16.1 million households are living in poverty and another 34.7 million are living in Asset Limited, Income Constrained, (but) Employed (ALICE) homes. This means that many of our crime victims are living paycheck-to-paycheck; meaning, there is no room for an emergency such as a partner in custody due to domestic violence. This session will discuss how to assist victims who are on the verge of poverty and do not have their basic needs met. Strategies, suggestions, and case study will be presented.

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

- Describe ALICE.
- Recognize the ways ALICE effects clients you serve/assist.
- Implement policies and practices that are trauma informed.

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6:30 – 7:15 **Survivor of the Fittest: Survivors & First Responders Moving Through Trauma with Yoga**

Rachael Frost, Master Investigator (Ret.), Chief Executive Officer, Frost ICED, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI

Amanda Gavarny, CEO & Yoga Instructor, Heart Hight

7:15 – 8:15 **Light Continental Breakfast**

8:15 – 9:45 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

8:15 – 9:45 **Providing Better Care to Incarcerated Survivors**

Cynthia Totten, JD, Deputy Executive Director, Just Detention International, Washington, DC

Grace Frances, MPA, Director of Community Partnerships, EVAWI, Tallahassee, FL

Jacque Bassett, MNLM, Chief Operations Officer, EVAWI, Colville, WA

Tamara Jackson, MSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, Clinical Program Coordinator, Ascension, Board Secretary, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Chicago, IL

Kenneth L. James, Agency PREA Coordinator, South Carolina Department of Corrections, Columbia, SC

Collaboration is key to providing patient-centered medical forensic exams for incarcerated survivors of sexual assault. In this session, expert practitioners will discuss how professionals can coordinate in advance to address safety, confidentiality, patient dignity, and follow-up services. A survivor of sexual assault in detention will talk about what helped, what caused more harm, and what survivors need from responders to feel safe and supported when they report abuse.

The session will also spotlight promising practices, such as the South Carolina Department of Corrections' model for co-locating community-based advocacy services in detention facilities. In addition, attendees will explore the Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examination Virtual Practicum as a resource to train medical professionals and other responders on how to coordinate and provide care for incarcerated survivors.

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

- Identify approaches for balancing the security of everyone involved with the exam, and the patient's privacy and dignity.
- Describe ways the hospital/forensic exam facility and the correctional facility can coordinate in advance to help ensure the process goes smoothly for everyone.
- Explain how health care providers and multidisciplinary professionals can use the Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examination Virtual Practicum to enhance their skills in providing care to incarcerated survivors.



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8:15 – 9:45 Forging New Trails

Elizabeth Donegan, Senior Sergeant, Austin Police Department (Ret.), Director, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Austin, TX

****Richard Mankewich**, Sergeant, Orange County Sheriff's Office (Ret.), Director, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Orlando, FL

The most challenging offense to investigate in law enforcement is sexual assault. The crime is fraught with myths, misconceptions, misperceptions, and misunderstandings. However, one person can make a difference: the Sex Crimes Supervisor.

Leading a sex crimes unit requires a deep understanding of the intricacies of the offense, a passion for the work, and, most importantly, the ability to train and lead your investigators towards an approach that is victim-centered, offender-focused, and trauma-informed. Learning and implementing best practices in sexual assault investigations can help you ensure a more effective response by holding perpetrators accountable for their crimes and providing better service to victims.

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

- Identify strategies to recruit and retain the best investigators.
- Create policies to review and appropriately clear cases.
- Develop a process to mentor and coach investigators to better understand the impact of trauma on sexual assault victims and how to incorporate best practices into their investigations.

8:15 – 9:45 What Happens When We Stop Fighting Each Other and Start Centering Survivors

Danielle Fenton, MSN, RN, Lead Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, Michigan State University Sexual Assault Healthcare Program, East Lansing, MI

Lauren Henfling, LMSW, SART Coordinator/Advocate, Michigan State University Center for Survivors, East Lansing, MI

Among undergraduate students, 26.4% of females and 6.8% of males have been sexually assaulted. Of these students, only 20% will report to law enforcement. Common cited reasons for not reporting or seeking help post assault include fear of not being believed, not wanting to report to law enforcement, and mistrust of the system. To spearhead the problem and increase access to post-assault healthcare on campus, Michigan State University created a campus-based Sexual Assault Response Team and a Sexual Assault Healthcare Program that is open 24/7.

This session focuses on the need for a campus and community response, the key stakeholders involved, and the need for collaboration among campus Title IX Offices and

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county Prosecutors in the criminal justice response. It will focus on overcoming the many barriers in place, specifically those unique to college campuses, that prevent survivors from accessing post-assault healthcare, including privacy, transportation, advocacy, and support. This presentation will detail how we did this, what we learned, and tips for how we coordinated and collaborated with stakeholders both on and off-campus.

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

- Recognize the need for a specialized response for campus sexual assault survivors.
- Identify the process for establishing a campus-based healthcare program and developing a SART that has stakeholders from campus and the local community.
- Describe ways to enhance interprofessional collaboration which will benefit the survivor in the long term.
- Establish protocols that create a survivor-led response.

8:15 – 9:45 Victim to Offender: The Unintended Consequence of the Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence

Jeanne Mullane, MA, Domestic Violence Probation Officer, Loudoun County Department of Community Corrections, Leesburg, VA

During this session, the presenter will discuss the implications of criminally charging victims of intimate partner violence as domestic violence offenders. She will draw from her experience as both a crime victim advocate and a probation officer supervising male and female intimate partner violence offenders. The presentation will provide advocates, law enforcement officers, court personnel and allied professionals with the information necessary to identify and support to this unique population.

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

- Explore the history and intentions of the criminal justice's response to intimate partner violence.
- Recognize the unique challenges victims of intimate partner violence face when criminally charged with assaulting their abusers.
- Describe the benefit of taking a trauma-informed approach when working with victims of intimate partner violence who are involved in the criminal justice system as offenders.

8:15 – 9:45 Preventing Sexual Assault in Sport While Centering Athletes and Athlete Survivors

Julie Ann Rivers-Cochran, MSW, Executive Director, The Army of Survivors, Traverse City, MI

Kacey Long, MSW, Director of Programs, The Army of Survivors, Athens, GA



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This session will unpack how to develop creative and innovative strategies to create change within agencies where survivors and intersectional advocacy are centered. The Army of Survivors, founded by a group of athlete survivors of sexual assault that was enabled by Michigan State University, USA Gymnastics, and the U.S. Olympic Committee, is an example of such an agency.

During this session, the presenters will utilize cultural affirming and trauma-responsive best practices to demonstrate how survivor led institutions can address reporting systems through innovative and inclusive resiliencies. We will define institutional betrayal, courage, and cowardice as they relate to survivors of sexual violence in athletics. This session will also center preventative methods utilizing evidence-based curriculums that educate institutions on creating consent-based, trauma-informed training environments that protect athletes and prevent institutional betrayal from occurring.

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

- Describe the rationale for trauma-informed and cultural affirming practice to create safe athletic spaces.
- Examine athletic policies and procedures that lead to the othering of athlete survivors.
- Identify the basics of institutional betrayal, courage, and cowardice.
- Recognize the dynamics of trauma-informed care within institutions.

8:15 – 9:45 What’s Hiding in the Text? Analyzing Sexual Assault Police Report Narratives for "Signaling"

Rachel Lovell, PhD, Assistant Professor of Criminology, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH

***Joanna Klingenstein, MA, Research Associate, Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH*

After years of reading sexual assault police reports through the Bureau of Justice Assistance-funded Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, Dr. Lovell and her research team observed a pattern. It seemed that police reports containing little investigative work or statements about a victim’s credibility were also the cases that stopped short of prosecutorial action. In 2019, Dr. Lovell received a National Institute of Justice grant to investigate the content of these police reports further by using creative technological methods such as machine learning and sentiment analysis to analyze police report narratives. In this presentation, we discuss what we have learned about what the computer can teach us about how to write better rape reports and what this means for law enforcement moving forward. Specifically, the presenters will discuss the important but often overlooked aspect of reporting writing, share information on barriers to analyzing police reports, how the information from this research project can be leveraged to transform policies and practices in police report writing, and key research findings from this project.



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

- Describe reasons why narrative text in police reports is an important but also a dreaded task for officers.
- Identify barriers in police report writing, particularly for sexual assault survivors.
- Describe ways to analyze textual data for both research and practice.
- Recognize ways that practices around report writing within the criminal justice system can improve victim response.

8:15 – 9:45* The Power of Survivor Voices in Law Enforcement’s Approach to Gender-Based Violence

Anna Nasset, Speaker / Survivor, Stand Up Resources, Director, EVAWI, Waitsfield, VT
Thomas Tremblay, Chief, Burlington Police Department (Ret.), Advisor and Trainer, Tremblay Consulting & Training, Fort Myers, FL

What happens when a cisgender female survivor of a lifetime of gender-based violence, and a cisgender male retired police chief who spent a career developing reforms to address gender-based violence, share their experiences, perspectives, and tears – we can reimagine Justice and empower a path to healing and triumph for survivors.

The power of survivor voices has led to the development of promising practices to reimagine justice and triumph for survivors. This presentation will examine the importance of trauma-informed care for survivors and providers, and the need to address societal biases that often blame victims and excuse offenders.

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

- Define trauma-informed care from survivor and law enforcement experiences.
- Examine the complex nature of gender-based violence, the human condition of bias and the potential impact on the pursuit of Justice.
- Identify promising practices to reimagine justice and empower a path to healing and triumph for survivors.

8:15 – 9:45 Betraying the Badge: When Police Are Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

Justin Boardman, Law Enforcement Trainer and Consultant, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI, Idaho Falls, ID

Across the U.S., we are rightly tasking police with the duty to intervene when they witness colleagues' misuse of force. There is another police violence epidemic that urgently requires intervention: officer-involved sexual & domestic violence. Rape culture is engrained in police culture. In the male-dominated field, traditional attitudes have skewed toward accepting a certain degree of inherent sexism in the ranks. On or off-duty misconduct, facilitated by the presence of a badge and weapon, is an exploitation

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of authority and power, whether it is in the workplace, interaction with the public, or at home, and colleagues may not feel it is their place to intervene. When those responsible for investigating sexual & domestic violence become the perpetrators – in an environment where little is done to curb rape culture – what recourse do victims/survivors have?

From sexual harassment and assault within the workplace to domestic violence off-duty, to officers preying on vulnerable populations and survivors in the reporting process, sexual violence comes down to abuse of power. We need to shift the paradigm, making officers who act in accordance with rape culture the outliers.

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

- Recognize behaviors and traits that are indicators of officer-involved sexual violence.
- Create a department culture that prioritizes wellness and supports officers who report.
- Examine strategies to address these behaviors in colleagues and the officers who seek help for these behaviors.
- Explore how officer-involved sexual violence erodes community trust and damages the investigations.

8:15 – 9:45 Left of Bang: Sex and Relationship Education as Violence Prevention

Gail Stern, PhD, Co-Founder and Chief Visionary Officer, Catharsis Productions, Chicago, IL

Ben Murrie, Director of Contracts and Client Relations, Catharsis Productions, Chicago, IL

In 2022, Catharsis Productions began working with the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (19th ESC), 8th Army, South Korea, to supplement their Ambassador Program. This program augments the standard SHARP training, empowering all new Soldiers in the 19th ESC with bystander intervention skills and a comprehensive knowledge of sexual assault and harassment. In May 2022, we began creating and piloting training delivered to junior and mid-level enlisted Soldiers, with content delivered virtually by two Stateside trainers and co-facilitated live in the classroom by 19th ESC SHARP staff. The goal is to get to the “Left of Bang,” a Marine Corps term that refers to an attack timeline. The “bang” is the moment of an attack—in our case, sexual violence or harassment. What comes before the attack – to the left on the timeline – is training and prevention.

Part of the inspiration for the curriculum is derived from the 19th ESC’s unique take on the Continuum of Harm. In their iteration, there are only “green” or “healthy” behaviors, and “red” or “unhealthy” behaviors—there is no yellow section. Our curriculum offers a deep dive into issues related to gender identity and bias, sexual scripts and the impact

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of pornography, and healthy and unhealthy relationships, showing how our unexamined tolerance of harmful behaviors can disable us from taking action early in the Continuum of Harm.

This session will share the curriculum design process, lessons learned, and outcome data on engaging participants in conversation about deeply held beliefs and vulnerable experiences utilizing a quasi-virtual delivery mechanism.

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

- Describe curriculum design and lessons learned from an innovative education program on sex and relationships that engages participants through a quasi-virtual delivery.
- Examine issues related to gender and sexuality that inhibit bystander intervention.
- Identify potential outcomes based on preliminary pre- and post-participation data.

9:45 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 11:45 Concurrent Breakout Sessions

10:15 – 11:45 Survivors' Voices: Using Research and Evaluation to Promote Improved Experiences with Law Enforcement

Kim Messina, Victim Services Manager, Brighton Commerce City Police Department, Brighton, CO

Lisa Ingarfield, PhD, Owner / Consultant, Defi Consulting, Littleton, CO

Heather Dooley, Project Manager, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Alexandria, VA

Crime victims must have a voice in the criminal justice system. Intentionally seeking ethical and trauma-informed ways to incorporate victims' voices throughout the daily practice of law enforcement agencies can be challenging. Law enforcement-based victim services programs are being developed and enhanced in police agencies across the country to address this challenge. As strategies are employed to improve response, ensuring victims' voices are being heard and services are effectively meeting their needs is critical. This session will highlight the ways law enforcement agencies can use research and evaluation to strengthen their response to victims of gender-based violence from the time a report is made through case resolution. Practical tips for developing research partnerships, engaging victims, and other stakeholders in research activities, and incorporating findings into policy and practice decisions will be explored. Hear about the experiences, successes, challenges, and lessons learned from practitioners who have engaged in research and evaluation of law enforcement-based victim services for more than 25 years.



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

- Identify benefits of law enforcement-researcher partnerships.
- Describe components and methods for victim services research/evaluation.
- Identify strategies to engage victims, community partners, and other stakeholders in research/evaluation activities.
- Describe practical ways to use data to inform policy and practice.

10:15 – 11:45 Cultivating Culture Change & Improving Collaboration Among Criminal Justice Professionals

Nicole Martinez, Administrator, Sexual Assault Survivor's Task Force, Office of the Texas Governor, Austin, TX

Justin Wood, JD, General Counsel and Vice President of External Relations, Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, Austin, TX

This presentation will highlight the progress the Texas Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force (SASTF) has made in cultivating meaningful change and collaboration among criminal justice professionals through the creation of two subject-matter-expert working groups that work collaboratively with survivors and advocates to advance targeted system improvements in Texas.

Discussion includes: 1) the benefits of partnering law enforcement officers and prosecutors with survivors and advocates to target system change; 2) a case study describing the outcomes of a successful law enforcement training review resulting in key recommendations for improved trauma-informed and survivor-centered sexual assault investigations in Texas; 3) a case study describing the development of a benchmark First Responder Sexual Assault Guide including best practices for officers responding to sexual assaults. In addition, presenters will review the SASTF's past legislative accomplishments including groundbreaking survivor-centered policy recommendations to increase access to forensic exams, and the SASTF's current legislative priorities.

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

- Describe the value of survivor inclusion & a survivor-centered approach in system-change projects.
- Integrate survivors, advocates, & criminal justice professionals into multidisciplinary working groups.
- Design & implement large-scale, multi-participant law enforcement training improvement initiatives.
- Describe the benefits of statewide task forces to evolve a state's response to sexual assault.

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10:15 – 11:45 **Communication is Key: The Power of Direct Messaging within a Systems- Based IPV Deterrence Approach**

Chelsea Ocon, MPA, Field Advisor, Intimate Partner Violence Intervention, National Network for Safer Communities, New York, NY

Rachel Teicher, JD, MA, Director, Intimate Partner Violence Intervention, National Network for Safer Communities, New York, NY

Despite years of efforts, traditional systems responses to intimate partner violence have fallen short in improving victim safety while effectively deterring individuals from committing acts of violence. Building on coordination models, the Intimate Partner Violence Intervention (IPVI) focuses on individuals committing acts of intimate partner violence through early intervention and direct communication while enhancing victim-survivor service provision.

Through a multidisciplinary partnership, IPVI shifts the burden off of victim-survivors and focuses the attention and actions on individuals causing harm. It is through this focus, while centering the safety of victim-survivors in each and every response, that IPVI rewrites the narrative on how intimate partner violence can be addressed in communities. A key element of the strategy is the ability to engage at early stages of offending before patterns of violent behavior escalate and offer community-based outreach, support, and direct communication about the potential consequences of continued intimate partner violence.

Following a widely successful pilot implementation in High Point, North Carolina, IPVI has been implemented in various jurisdictions both domestically and internationally, yielding promising results in the midst of a tumultuous, post-COVID landscape.

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

- Discuss the foundational elements of IPVI, including its data and partnership-driven approach.
- Identify and integrate additional tools and strategies that can enhance one's current systems response to IPV in both domestic and international contexts.
- Explore how existing resources can be leveraged for maximum efficacy.
- Consider innovative systems-based responses to COVID-related obstacle.
- Recognize the importance of assessing the family, including the battered, when formulating intervention and treatment.

10:15 – 11:45 **A Multidisciplinary Approach to Holding Serial Sexual Offenders Accountable**



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Jaclyn Rodriguez, BSN, BS, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, SANE Coordinator, Violence Prevention and Crime Victim Services Division, Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Chicago, IL

Cordelia Coppleson, JD, Assistant Attorney General, Law Enforcement and Prosecutor Training Coordinator, Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Chicago, IL

Bryan Barlow, MBA, CFI, Detective, Chicago Police Department Training Coordinator, Chicago, IL

One peculiar trait of sexual offenders is that their crimes are often serial in nature. Research into serial sexual offenders shows that each one often commits about six sexual assaults. Though these offenders are not often prosecuted as serial offenders due to the underreported nature of sexual offenses, when brought to trial, these cases provide a fascinating story intertwining the work of forensic practitioners, police detectives and prosecuting attorneys. Presented by a highly experienced panel including a forensic nurse, a police detective and a prosecutor, this session will focus on a case study involving a serial sexual offender, and details the involvement of multiple disciplines in investigating, building, and prosecuting the case. The presenters will also discuss how these different disciplines work together to prosecute sexually violent predators. This session is designed to be interactive, so please bring all the questions you have about investigations and prosecutions.

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

- Describe the process of a sexual assault investigation and prosecution of a serial offender.
- Examine how practitioners of various disciplines involved in an investigation work together and sometimes are at odds.
- Evaluate tools available and obstacles faced by forensic practitioners, detectives, and prosecutors during the criminal justice process.

10:15 – 11:45 Using Forensic Genetic Genealogy to Solve Serial Sexual Assaults and Sexually Motivated Homicides

Amy Hutsell, Program Director, Sexual Assault, Child Abuse and Human Trafficking Unit, Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Atlanta, GA

Since Golden State Killer, Joseph James DeAngelo was identified using this technique, forensic genetic genealogy has gained popularity as an investigative tool in solving violent crimes and identifying unidentified descendants. More and more suspects are identified using the analysis of biological samples collected at a crime scene or developed from the remains of Jane or John Doe combined with traditional genealogical research on potential relatives identified in public DNA databases. Nowhere is this investigative technique more relevant than with a cold case sexual assault homicide, deemed otherwise stagnant. This session will provide a detailed overview of how

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forensic genetic genealogy works, discuss challenges to the process and provide examples of successful forensic genetic genealogy cases.

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

- Define Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG).
- Describe how DNA databases and traditional genealogical methods are used to solve sexually motivated crimes.
- Discuss which DNA databases are and are not available to law enforcement and ethical considerations surrounding FGG investigations.
- Examine Department of Justice guidance on FGG investigations.

10:15 – 11:45* Public Trust: Law Enforcement Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Accountability

Thomas Tremblay, Chief, Burlington Police Department (Ret.), Advisor and Trainer, Tremblay Consulting & Training, Fort Myers, FL

Through an examination of case studies, after-action reviews, and the emerging national demand for increased accountability for all forms of sexual assault / misconduct, this presentation will encourage courageous conversations and inspire proactive leadership and community strategies to prevent law enforcement sexual misconduct and hold those who choose to offend accountable.

The overwhelming majority of those who serve in the noble profession of law enforcement are professionals that uphold their oath of office. However, the numerous headlines, arrests, convictions, and lawsuits describing horrific acts of sexual misconduct perpetrated by law enforcement officers must be addressed more proactively. The prevalence of this problem and its impact on public trust can no longer be ignored. A predatory sexual offender with the power and authority of the police is an extremely serious breach of the ethics of law enforcement, a violation of the color of law, and a traumatizing victimization for citizens that officers are sworn to protect.

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

- Develop strategies to respond to the emerging national demand for prevention and accountability for sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual misconduct.
- Define law enforcement sexual misconduct to assist in addressing the behaviors that can include criminal and non-criminal conduct.
- Examine law enforcement sexual misconduct case studies and identify possible early warning signs that could escalate to LE sexual misconduct.

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10:15 – 11:45 Project Safe

Liz Ortenburger, MBA, Chief Executive Officer, SafeNest, Las Vegas, NV

Only 4% of women will reach out to a domestic violence agency the year before they are murdered, but 86% will have an interaction with Police in that same period.

In 2017, SafeNest and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) established a new partnership to bridge this gap and provide lifesaving support for survivors of domestic violence. The design is simple: when LVMPD responds to domestic violence calls, and an arrest is made or probable cause for arrest is determined, a Project Safe advocate is deployed from SafeNest to the scene. Officers remain on the scene while volunteer and staff advocates provide services, safety planning, protection orders, referrals, cell phones, access to shelter, and much more. In 2021, SafeNest responded to over 5,000 calls for service by LVMPD. The partnership has driven down homicides, reduced repeat calls for service, and strengthened the safety net by bringing services to the survivors when they need them the most. The presentation will detail the program elements, budgets, policy structure for working with law enforcement, and pitfalls. Finally, the program will conclude with opportunities for questions and answers on this dynamic model.

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

- Recognize the value of law enforcement and non-profit partnership to support domestic violence survivors.
- Explore options to start a Project Safe program (including the technology and staffing/volunteer options).
- Recognize the benefits of responding to the scene to engage survivors vs. waiting for survivors to call a hotline.
- Determine potential funding opportunities for a Project Safe Program.

10:15 – 11:45 “OSCARs” Out-Standing Collections of Abuse Related Studies

Valerie Sievers, MSN, RN, CNS, AFN-C, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-AFN, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Board Member, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Peyton, CO

Diana Faugno, MSN, RN, CPN, AFN-C, FAAFS, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-IAFN, DF-AFN, Founding Director, EVAWI, Past President and Co-Founder, Academy of Forensic Nursing, Dallas, GA

“OSCARs” Out-Standing Collections of Abuse Related Studies In this presentation, OSCARS refers to; Out Standing Collections of Abuse Related Studies. The presenters will identify and discuss some of the most interesting and relevant abuse-related studies that have appeared in the literature between 2021 and 2023. In the age of ‘evidence-based practice,’ we plan to engage the participants in providing some real-world examples of the challenges of integrating research into practice while reviewing



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contemporary references that can apply to the work and expertise of law enforcement, forensic nursing, and forensic science, advocacy, and criminal justice.

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

- Identify current research that can inform interprofessional practices.
- Critique literature for evidence-based content and application.
- Discuss the challenges associated with integrating research into practice.
- Describe models for sharing current research with interprofessional partners.

10:15 – 11:45 Hidden in the Shadows - A Story of Resilience

Carol Adams, Officer, Survivor, Richmond Police Department, Richmond, VA

Domestic violence survivors can face ongoing and challenging effects after enduring physical, mental, emotional, and financial abuse. The effects of this trauma can vary widely person to person due to individuals' responses to stress, age, and the frequency and severity of abuse.

This presentation will detail an unfolding tragedy, highlighting 42 years of lived experience as a child victim of domestic violence, a sworn police officer and founder of a non-profit dedicated to helping victims impacted by domestic violence. The presenter will share her journey of highlighting domestic violence awareness in the community and at the Richmond Police Department.

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

- Describe the impact of domestic violence on victims.
- Identify supportive services and programs.
- Implement strategies to improve active listening skills when victims are providing details of events.

11:45 – 12:45 Lunch (Provided)

12:45 – 1:00 Comments/Announcements

1:00 – 2:15 Plenary I: “Start by Believing” A Case Study in Transforming Victims to Survivors

Kimberly Corban, Survivor & Advocate, Windsor, CO

Michael J. Rourke, JD, Weld County District Attorney, Windsor, CO

Have you ever wondered what the long-term impacts of being believed can do for crime victims? Join survivor advocate Kimberly Corban and Weld County, Colorado District Attorney Michael J. Rourke as they discuss Ms. Corban's 2006 assault by a stranger



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who broke into her college apartment. The investigation, prosecution, and agency collaborations that brought this highly publicized case to a successful conclusion lay the foundation for an in-depth discussion on how we achieve justice. Had Ms. Corban not been believed, the outcome would have been vastly different. She will describe her own experiences as a victim of the morning of May 12th, 2006, as well as the hours, days, and months afterwards. On the flip side, District Attorney Rourke will detail the criminal justice response to include mistakes and how we can fight together for positive change. The side-by-side telling of this story offers inspiration and tangible ways to advocate for and respond to victims. If want to learn what Start by believing looks like in action, this session is for you.

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

- Evaluate best practices for sexual assault case management.
- Describe examples of adaptive advocacy and how they can be applied by participants' organizations.
- Analyze strategies to address mental health challenges for victims and their support systems.
- Recognize the “after” of cases including victim notification, recent legislation, and the impact of the “Start by Believing” campaign.

2:15 – 2:45 **Break**

2:45 – 4:00 **Plenary II: Fight Fire with Funny: Using Humor to Teach Sexual Violence and Harassment Prevention**

Gail Stern, PhD, Co-Founder and Chief Visionary Officer, Catharsis Productions, Chicago, IL

No one, in the history of the universe, has ever been moved to change a behavior or reevaluate a long-held belief based on facts or statistics alone. And yet, many of our sexual violence and harassment prevention-related training programs incorporate facts and statistics as the primary educational engine—and when these programs fail, we think that perhaps we should just find more horrifying facts and statistics. These “shock and awe” strategies aren’t successful because the information we’re sharing is not value-neutral: it’s debated, politicized, and in many cases, implicates our own actions and beliefs. Our emotional response shuts down our ability to learn and change. Humor, when used strategically, has been found to reduce defensiveness, and increase the likelihood that challenging content will reach the listener. This plenary will integrate cross-disciplinary academic research and lessons learned over thirty years of content development and program delivery.

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

- Recognize how emotions impact the way people think about their own behavior and issues related to sexual violence and harassment.

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- Understand why strictly legal and compliance-based messaging fails to engage people in attitudinal and behavioral change.
- Identify appropriate ways of using humor to frame key issues, reduce cognitive and emotional defensiveness, and enable educators to foster genuine connection with audiences.

4:00 – 4:30 Closing Remarks

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

Brendan F. Kelly, Director, Illinois State Police, Springfield, IL

Ann Burdges, Trainer / Consultant, President, EVAWI, Cadre of Experts, EVAWI

