The New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault Presents

Wednesday, May 9th and Thursday, May 10th, 2012

Holiday Inn, 205 Wolf Road

Albany, NY

NYSCASA
New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Welcome!

The New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault proudly presents the 2012 Statewide Sexual Violence Prevention and Intervention Conference: Weaving a World Without Violence. We are hosting this conference to provide an opportunity to gather experts from all over the state and nation, in all fields dealing with responding to, preventing, or healing from sexual violence. We will be presenting a series of workshops and speakers, bringing attendees high quality training from experts in the field. We are also offering the chance to network with others doing this work so that we may all contribute to a larger body of knowledge and expertise. Our aim is to increase participants’ skills and inspire a recommitment to this work through new, exciting presentations and interactions.

A Word on Our Theme: Weaving a World Without Violence

As you attend the workshops throughout this conference, we ask that you be aware of the ways the work we do is interconnected. Whether serving victims, providing education to youth, training experts in another field, or encountering survivors in our everyday work, we are all here because we care about creating a world free from violence. Please take a moment during the busy schedule of this conference to reflect on the connections that we can all make between our fields, and how interwoven the various fights against injustices are. You will notice that we have categorized the workshops for this conference into five different tracks: Primary Prevention, Underserved Populations, Criminal Justice, Mental Health/Trauma, and Self-Care. In keeping with our theme of interwoven connections, we invite you to feel free to mix and match from the various tracks, attending whichever workshops appeal to you.

Please Practice Self-Care

We acknowledge that the topics addressed in this conference have the potential to be exhausting, triggering, or traumatizing to listen to and discuss. We encourage you to check in with yourself frequently throughout these two days, and do whatever you need to take care of yourself. We will provide regular breaks, but please feel free to excuse yourself to use the restroom, find nourishment, or take some time to regroup. Crisis counselors are available all conference long, and can be identified by their teal name badges. Feel free to approach a counselor if you would like to speak with someone. We want you to get the most possible benefit from this conference, and we trust that you know what you need to accomplish that.

Thank you for joining us, and for all the work that you do to help weave a world without violence!
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<td>8:30 AM</td>
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<td>5:30-7:30</td>
<td>Annual Meeting and Dinner <em>Pre-Registration Required</em> Phoenix Ballroom</td>
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| **THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2012** |                    |                         |                  |                        |          |
| 7:15 AM         | Registration/Breakfast                      | Courtyard                |                  |                        |          |
| 8:15 AM         | Welcome                                          | Courtyard                |                  |                        |          |
| 8:30 AM         | Keynote – Sandra Jackson                     | Courtyard                |                  |                        |          |
| 9:30-11:00      | Part 1, Preparing to Engage Men Location     | Part 1, Indigenous Culture Location | Town-Gown Dynamic Location | Transformative Justice Location | Write to Heal Location |
| 11:15-12:45     | Part 2, Preparing to Engage Men Location     | Part 2, Indigenous Culture Location | Sexual Assault Response Teams Location | Survivors with Addictive Behaviors Location | Personal Stories Inform Our Work Location |
| 12:45-1:15      | Lunch - Ben Atherton Zeman - Men's Monologue Courtyard |                         |                  |                        |          |
| 1:45-3:15       | RPE for Young Adults Location                | Latin@ Victims Location | Survivors & the Military Location | SA/DV & Addictions Care Location | Healing Through Self-Parenting Location |
| 3:30-5:00       | Cultural Change Location                    | Developmental Disabilities Location | Confidentiality Location | SERVICE Location | Auricular Acupuncture Location |
Keynote Speakers

Emily May
Emily is an international leader in the anti-street harassment movement. In 2005, at the age of 24, she co-founded Hollaback! (iHollaback.org) in New York City, and in 2010 she became the first full-time executive director. Hollaback!’s mission is to give women and LGBTQ folks an empowered response to street harassment, and ultimately, to end it. Emily brings a fresh perspective to social action in the digital age. She argues that the internet has provided new opportunities to tackle discrimination, by transforming discrimination from a lonely experience into a piece of a larger, public movement. Her project Hollaback! gives women, girls, and LGBTQ individuals an empowered, real-time response to street harassment that will build public awareness on why street harassment matters, and how it hurts. Emily, who hold a Master’s Degree from the London School of Economics in Social Policy, argues that a crowd-sourced movement is the key to changing policy and minds, and ultimately, creating a world where everyone has the right to feel safe and confident. Prior to running Hollaback!, Emily worked in the anti-poverty world as a case manager, political action coordinator, director of development, and most recently, a one-woman research and development team. She has also worked on four political campaigns.

Sandra Jackson
Sandra Jackson, LCSW, Senior Director of Administrative Services for the Urban Resource Institute (URI). URI is a not-for-profit, multi-site human services organization that has been providing services to families affected by domestic violence since 1984. Ms. Jackson has held the position of Program Director for six years (2002-2008) for the Urban Center for Change (UCC), a transitional housing shelter for victims of domestic violence before being promoted to her current position. She also chairs and coordinates the URI’s Annual Domestic Violence Conference and has conducted workshops to educate and bring awareness to the community at large on the impact of domestic violence. Ms. Jackson received her Master’s degree from Hunter College School of Social Work. She believes in the Good-Hearted Living practices in bringing peace, love and happiness to the world. Ms. Jackson would like to congratulate NYSCASA on its 25th anniversary and for the opportunity to speak at its annual 2012 conference.

Ben Atherton-Zeman
Day 2 Lunch Performance: “Men’s Monologues Against Violence”
Ben is a spokesperson for the National Organization for Men Against Sexism and is a public speaker on issues of violence prevention. He has given performances and presentations in 44 states, Canada, China, England, Turkey, South Africa and the Czech Republic. Ben has spoken at military bases, colleges, high schools, public theatres, conferences, houses of worship and juvenile detention facilities. For the past seventeen years, Ben has worked as a prevention educator for rape crisis centers, domestic violence programs, and state coalitions. He is an advisory board member for the White Ribbon Campaign in the United Kingdom.

Ben identifies as a “recovering sexist” and believes every man must challenge violence and sexism in the world and in themselves. He met and fell in love with his incredible wife, Lucinda, twelve years ago while they were both doing improvisational comedy in Maine. They live in Maynard, MA and have no children except themselves.
Moving Men from “Average Joe” to “Activist Joe”  
Chauncey D. Brown and Raheem Mack, Vera House, Inc.

Engaging men in violence prevention has received ever-increasing attention. It is true that entire communities must be involved in the solution, and the involvement of large numbers of men in the effort to address and end gender violence (that have been driven by women) is long overdue. The excitement around men’s involvement is to be expected, however those of us working to engage men in prevention often make assumptions that render us ineffective. Many of us have assumed that once a few men are involved the rest will soon follow, or conversely that some groups of men are “unreachable.” What we must understand is where men are in the process of joining the movement, and how to reach those not coming to the table.

Participants will be introduced to Vera House’s “12 Men Model,” and how we recruit men in this movement. We will discuss how to get men to commit to prevention and be trained to engage other men in their lives who will join in this commitment. Elements of engagement include on-going dialogue, education, and social action around the issues of domestic and sexual violence.

Keys to Cultural Proficiency  
Jean Foi

Building our skills at deciphering the confusing codes of race and class to expand our capacity to serve all victims of crime can be a matter of organizational survival as well as a moral imperative. How can we talk safely about the stereotypes that can affect our judgment in providing effective victim centered services that promote recovery and improve everyone’s outcomes? Exercises, small group discussions, and dialogue define the issues as experienced by the participants, and use those experiences to understand their own identity and how to relate to people who are different from you.

Conducting Clery Training for Campus Security Authorities  
Thomas Breslin and Jeanne Obermayer, Siena College

Recent media reports of sexual abuse/assault at Penn State and Syracuse University have highlighted crime reporting on college campuses. In particular, did the coaches who apparently knew about the alleged incidents report the alleged crimes to designated campus personnel as required under the Campus Security Act of 1990 (The Clery Act)? Coaches are just one set of college personnel that fit into the Campus Security Authority (CSA) designation. This session will provide attendees with information on how to determine who on campus should be considered a CSA; what they are required to report and what training the statute requires. Siena College has developed an on-line training for all CSAs and the presenters will share how the training was developed and of what it consists, along with how the College monitors compliance with the training mandate.

Essentials of Trauma Informed Care  
Christine Fowley, Crime Victims Treatment Center-St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital

Please note: The size of this workshop will be limited, so please arrive early if you wish to attend

Many of the beliefs and conceptualization about why people develop problems/addictions/illnesses were formulated before we had a clear understanding of how traumatic experiences such as sexual assault and/or childhood abuse affect the body, mind, and spirit of the survivor. Since our beliefs and conceptualizations about why people have specific problems inform our approaches to helping people heal, it is essential to integrate an understanding of trauma into the care we provide. By understanding and integrating this knowledge into our services we become ‘trauma informed care’ providers.

This workshop will be an overview and review of the essential components of trauma informed care. Using examples of survivors of sexual assault and of childhood sexual abuse, we will review some case examples of how the normal reactions to sexual abuse were (and still are) often given labels and psychiatric diagnoses that stigmatized rather than help. We will review the information that needs to be learned to become trauma informed, and give some concrete suggestions about strategies for working with traumatized individuals.

Self-Care in Victim Services: Getting Out of the Drama Triangle  
Marilyn Babcock, LCSW-R

Working in victim services we know that we need to take care of ourselves. We all can think of many ways in which we do, or should, take care of ourselves. In this workshop, we will add “getting out of the drama triangle” to that list of self-care strategies.

The drama triangle, first described by Stephen Karpman in his 1968 article Fairy Tales and Script Drama Analysis, is a very common, very ineffective, pattern of communication that we all participate in unconsciously. Unaware, we get entangled in one or more of the three roles of the drama triangle and we perpetuate problems, unintentionally undermining our good intentions. However, when we become aware of these habits in ourselves and observe them in our relationships with others, we are inspired to learn creative ways of interacting and so, not only take better care of ourselves, we are in a much better position to be of authentic help to others.

In this light-hearted workshop participants will: explore together where we are in the drama triangle, identify the alternative roles of “The Empowerment Dynamic” as described by David Emerald, and begin to find our way “out of the drama triangle.”
Beyond Victims and Perpetrators: Engaging a Community of Bystanders to Prevent Violence  
Victoria Banyard, Ph.D., University of New Hampshire

The field of sexual and dating violence prevention has recently embraced a bystander framework for community education. This framework gives all community members a role to play in ending sexual and intimate partner violence. The promise of this innovation in prevention will only be realized through consideration of evaluation research and ongoing revision of bystander curricula. This presentation will provide an overview of recent research about the conditions that make it more or less likely that bystanders will intervene (and how such variables can be important leverage points for change and for program design). It will also review and present new findings from evaluation research about the utility of bystander prevention for reducing sexual and relationship violence and strengthening safety nets for survivors.

Special Considerations and Best Practices when Sex Workers are Victims of Sexual Assault  
Sienna Baskin, Esq. and Andriana Ongoiba, Urban Justice Center, Sex Work Project

As service providers and advocates, we need to recognize that many of our clients and constituents may be sex workers. Sex workers experience a high prevalence of sexual assault, but sexual assault is drastically under-reported by sex workers, who may not feel that counselors or law enforcement will respect them as victims. For many of us, sex workers are people we only know about through media portrayals or stereotypes, while some of us may have our own personal experiences with sex work. How do our own assumptions and feelings about sexuality, gender and power influence how we treat sex workers as clients? What barriers do sex workers face when interacting with medical, legal, or mental health systems or professionals? An attorney and social worker from the Sex Workers Project will share best practices from 10 years of working with this community.

Confidentiality and Consent Issues in Sexual Assault Care for Minors  
Katharine Bodde, Esq., NYCLU

This workshop will provide crisis counselors, social workers, nurse examiners, and forensic examiners with current information regarding minor’s confidentiality rights to seek and receive medical care. Questions like what is considered confidential information, which professions are bound by the confidentiality rule, and what constitutes informed consent will be explored. Workshop participants will gain an understanding of how to handle tough situations like dealing with suspected child abuse, parental and law enforcement involvement, and consent for forensic evidence collection. The workshop is intended to ensure that sexual assault care providers have adequate information to give young survivors of sexual assault the services and guidance that they need.

Mindfulness, Movement, and Meditation  
Nanci Rose-Ritter

Therapeutically proven and generally non-threatening, the three approaches covered in this comprehensive workshop are appropriate primarily for client progress but are additionally useful for staff wellness. Presenter Nanci Rose-Ritter gives brief histories, differences, psychological symbolisms, contemporary developments and practical applications specific to 1) mindfulness techniques; 2) gentle movement therapies, including openness to environment, silent communication, and archetypal expression; and 3) traditional meditation methods adapted to a therapeutic setting, particularly the self-affirming Heart Meditation. These separate yet related approaches to awareness and relaxation will be presented as they apply to survivor well-being, trauma recovery, and prevention of re-traumatization and secondary trauma. Participants will be led through exercises in each method, followed by processing their own experiences in small groups, with a spokesperson reporting to the larger group. The workshop will conclude with a Q & A period.

Helping your Community Become Trauma Informed  
Christine Fowley, Crime Victims Treatment Center-St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital

Please note: Attendance at this workshop will be limited to the first 20 people to arrive.

This workshop is designed to help you develop curricula and workshops to bring this information to providers in your community. It will be an abbreviated “train the trainer” workshop on “trauma informed care”—the term that is being used for developing the knowledge and skills of staff who come into contact with people who have been traumatized but are not in the role of trauma psychotherapist—or basically, everyone in the helping professions!

We will outline the basic information that people need to have to be “trauma informed” and will review some tools you can teach your colleagues to help them address disclosures of traumatic experiences. We will also discuss ways to help staff develop more comfort in responding to disclosures, in providing psycho-educational information about trauma and healing and in making appropriate referrals for healing from trauma. The focus will be on helping staff deal with disclosures of childhood sexual abuse but will be applicable to other types of trauma. Our skills at deciphering the confusing codes of race and class to expand our capacity to serve all victims of crime can be a matter of organizational survival as well as a moral imperative. How can we talk safely about the stereotypes that can affect our judgment in providing effective victim centered services that promote recovery and improve everyone’s outcomes? Exercises, small group discussions, and dialogue define the issues as experienced by the participants, and use those experiences to understand their own identity and how
to relate to people who are different from you.

**Workshop Session 3**
**Wednesday 1:45-3:15**

**Pornography: Effectively Reaching Men to Address the Harm** *Rus Ervin Funk, MensWork: Eliminating Violence Against Women, Inc.*

Pornography can be understood as a form of sexual violence. As such, the work to prevent sexual violence means that a part of the work includes working to address and combat pornography. This workshop will explore pornography from this standpoint, and explore specific ways to educate men about the harms of pornography with a goal of moving men to take action against pornography. This includes educating men about how pornography is harmful (through various aspects including the production of pornography, the distribution of pornography and the consumption of pornography). For example, we’ll discuss the ways that women are harmed in the production of pornography, the ways that the distribution of pornography hurts women and communities, and how the consumption of pornography harms women, men and relationships.

Based on this analysis, this workshop will provide tools for effectively educating men about these issues, and look at what men can be more actively involved in the efforts to combat pornography (and all forms of sexual exploitation).

**Project Shield: Effective Advocacy and Collaboration to Serve Victims of Sexual Assault with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities** *Sara Lynn Vehling, LCSW, Kings County DA, and Bobra Fyne, LMSW, YAI*

Project Shield is a program of the Kings County District Attorney’s Office which works to facilitate more effective investigations and prosecutions of sex crimes involving individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD). This is accomplished through the collaborative efforts of criminal justice professionals, social service and medical providers, community groups, and consumers themselves. The presentation will highlight the importance of such a collaborative response in light of the high rate of sexual victimization in individuals with ID/DD (as high as 90% of people with ID/DD will be sexually victimized) and discuss best practices on how agencies, law enforcement, medical providers, and victim service providers can assist and seek justice for people with ID who have been sexually assaulted.

**One College’s Response to the Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence** *Monique Rew and Karen Logsdon, The College at Brockport*

April 4, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights sent a Call to Action (letter) for institutions of higher education concerning sexual violence. During this session, The College at Brockport will provide an overview of how we addressed these DCL guidelines. Presenters will take you through a step-by-step process of building the infrastructure to support these regulations, development and implementation of a new Sexual Misconduct Policy, and initial stages of building a comprehensive prevention, education and response program that will strategically lead to changing the culture.

**Lasting Effects of Childhood Sexual Experiences in Men’s Lives** *Peter Pollard, 1in6, Inc*

This workshop is for advocates and other professionals who work with men. It provides an overview of the particular ways men respond to childhood sexual abuse. The workshop covers: common misunderstandings about men and sexual abuse; special barriers men face in disclosing childhood abuse; how cultural norms may inhibit men from seeking treatment; discussion of existing resources and the challenge of finding therapists specifically trained to work with male survivors of sexual abuse; guidance on the critical need to remain neutral when raising the issue of sexual abuse or responding to a disclosure.

**Toolkit for Wellness** *Claire Campbell, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center*

This hands-on workshop addresses the importance of understanding and addressing compassion fatigue with clinicians who work with trauma survivors. This occupational hazard often festers unrecognized and can impact clinicians in a host of negative ways. Our stressed work environments can be a breeding ground for ethical boundary violations in clinical practice as well as impact our ability to engage in effective self care and stress management. This workshop will help participants identify triggers and symptoms of compassion fatigue and offer excellent and valuable tools for creating a path to ongoing wellness, energy building in the workplace. Yoga, mindfulness, breathing exercises, journaling and expressive arts will be offered as toolkit material.

**Workshop Session 4**
**Wednesday 3:30-5:00**

**Mobilizing Youth for Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence** *Laura Fidel, NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault*

Primary prevention of sexual violence (SV) requires changing social norms. The Alliance believes that social norms change requires community mobilization—creating opportunities for the community most closely affected by the problem to be leaders in the solution. Meaningful efforts to prevent youth SV must promote youth as leaders, as the experts on the influence of violent social norms in their lives. Adults must support youth to mobilize their peers for prevention. Session attendees will participate in a demonstration of a workshop developed for youth, and provided with instructions for facilitating the material with young audiences. These interactive, participatory materials are designed to explore both risk fac-
tors and root causes of SV—and to understand the difference—emphasizing the powerful role of violent culture and harmful norms on the lives of youth. It asks youth to identify opportunities to participate in the process of undoing those norms—among their peers, in their schools and communities, and in the world around them. While attendees may already be implementing comprehensive prevention education curricula, many programs are still frequently invited to make one-time presentations in classrooms and community settings. This workshop will provide practitioners with a model for introducing primary prevention to youth, and a starting point for mobilizing them in the long-term process of shifting social norms.


While many advocates are aware of the language and cultural constraints for immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence, most advocates are frustrated by a lack of community resources to assist these Limited English Proficient (LEP) victims and their families. Developing a Language Access Policy (LAP) for the courts and law enforcement departments must address specific questions: what type of language services are available; how do the courts and police obtain these services; how does each agency respond to Limited English Proficient (LEP) callers, via written communication, and in-person; and how do they ensure competency of interpreters and translation services?

This presentation will address cultural and linguistic barriers and concerns, and provide a protocol/policy to address these concerns, while also providing the tools to assist your organization in meeting with community leaders, local magistrates, law enforcement and community agencies on the importance of cultural and linguistic competency. While this presentation will focus on migrant farmworker victims and Spanish-speaking victims, cultural competency is critical for all immigrant and non-resident victims of these crimes.

From Survivor to SANE Karen D. Carroll, RN SANE Advocates and survivors of sexual assault are frequently asked to interface with the media. Important issues regarding sexual assault can be lost if the speaker is not prepared to talk to reporters or is uncomfortable in front of a camera. This workshop will demonstrate, using my own personal story and experiences, how to participate in media events.

More of the Same: The Re-Victimization of Protective Mothers by the Family/Divorce Court System Mo Therese Hannah, Ph.D., Siena College

This workshop will provide up-to-date information, referral, and resources regarding the following: typical challenges confronting battered women who file legal motions for child protection and/or custody while separating from abusive partners with whom they have borne children; information and resources critical to effectively responding to abusers’ legal strategies; and advice regarding self-care and self-protection for mothers engaged in custody battles.

Free Space: Rest, Relax, Regroup & Reconnect NYSCASA Conference Staff

In recognition of the challenging nature of some of the subject matter covered in this conference, we encourage you to attend to your personal needs throughout your two days with us. We have reserved this block of time to encourage further self-care if you need it, acknowledging the possibility of experiencing vicarious trauma or exhaustion following the training. If you feel like you need it, come close out the first day of the conference with an unstructured, open space where you can reflect on your day and decompress. We will provide items that allow you to nurture yourself, such as art supplies, books, and yoga mats, but this will be a space where you also have permission to do nothing at all. Additionally, this is a chance to connect informally with friends and colleagues from other organizations. Take advantage of this down time to re-energize yourself for our annual dinner and the second day of the conference. We look forward to seeing your refreshed faces at the remaining conference events!

Workshop Session 5 Thursday 9:30-11:00


Please note: this is part one of a two-session workshop. We ask that participants attend both part one and part two of this workshop.

There has been increasing interest, desire and energy in working to effectively engage men in the movement to respond to and prevent sexual assault in recent years. However, there has been limited efforts to help organizations who primarily focus on responding to and empowering women develop their capacity to effectively engage men. This workshop begins a process by which organizations can assess and begin developing their readiness to effectively engage men as allies in preventing sexual assault. We begin by exploring the common assumptions of advocates, educators and others who may be working with men, and how those assumptions may result in advocates being unable to effectively reach and engage those men. We will also explore the difference between engaging men in educational presentations about rape/sexual assault, and engaging men in efforts to prevent rape/sexual assault. Participants should expect a lively, interactive conversation, and will leave with some concrete activities, exercises and the beginning of some plans to effectively engage
The responses currently available in dealing with intimate partner violence often do not take into account the needs of the survivor or their community, and leave no room for transformation in those who have perpetuated harm. These current responses, which focus primarily on punishment for the perpetrator, often run the risk of further traumatizing the survivor. Community-based models currently being developed ground their mandates in the ability of a community as a whole to determine the best path forward, and to enforce demands that allow the perpetrator to be accountable. We will explore what these models look like and what options they offer for cultural shifts in understanding intimate violence and consent practices.

In this workshop, we will give a basic overview of the principles that guide responses to harm in a transformative justice framework, and provide concrete examples for how to model processes within a community context. We will explore what accountability might mean when determined by the needs of a survivor and when attuned to the safety requirements of a surrounding community. We will investigate various outcomes from these processes and procedures for ongoing monitoring of individuals who have completed processes. We will strategize about the possibilities for this work in different contexts, and examine the challenges that arise when working outside the jurisdiction of institutions and law enforcement.

The Write to Heal Workshop

Debbie Hanchin Triplett, The Raye Foundation

The Raye Foundation facilitates The Write to Heal workshop for survivors and co-survivors of sexual or domestic violence. The writing workshops teach journal writing as art therapy and its purpose is to create a safe environment for journaling fears, anxiety, and past events to harness empowerment. Often the idea of writing is daunting, but the workshop guides participants through various writing exercises for self-expression through basic journaling techniques.

We have the ability to use words to map an emotional direction. Words can untangle thoughts and string out feelings to bring clarity. And sometimes, words can just make you laugh. Words can strengthen. Words can heal. Simply release the “rules of writing” that we’ve learned all our lives: misspell, toss grammar aside, use fragments and crazy punctuation! There are no boundaries, including lines. Write wherever you want, however you want.

Journaling is often recommended by therapists and counselors as a self-guided tool toward healing. The workshop opens the door and provides direction and guidance that unveils a process that is a proven method for survival.

Workshop Session 6
Thursday 11:15-12:45

Part Two: Are you Ready? Preparing your agency to effectively engage men in preventing sexual violence

Rus Ervin Funk, MensWork: Eliminating Violence Against Women, Inc,

Please note: this is part two of a two-session workshop. We ask that participants attend both part one and part two of this workshop.

See description under Workshop Session 5.
Part Two: Empowerment and Strength Through Indigenous Culture Beverly Cook, St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Health Services, and Karomienhawi Thomas, St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Police Department

Please note: this is part two of a two-session workshop. We ask that participants attend both part one and part two of this workshop.

See description under Workshop Session 5.

Collaboration is Key: How a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Benefits a Community Lindsey Crusan, Rensselaer County Sexual Assault Response Team

The coordinated, multi-disciplinary response to sexual assault through the use of Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) is an emerging best practice in the field of victim/survivor services. In this presentation, participants will learn the makeup of a SART, the benefits for victims/survivors and the responding professionals, and the basics for forming a SART in their own communities. The audience will be presented with two examples of effective SARTs, and will be given examples of team projects and activities. Emphasis will be placed on how SARTs create more victim-centered care for survivors of sexual assault, and facilitate positive working relationships between the different disciplines involved in response to sexual assault (healthcare, law enforcement, advocacy, and prosecution).


This will be a 30-minute panel discussion on how successful recovery from addictive behaviors requires that trauma be acknowledged and addressed in an effort to spark both rape crisis center and addiction professionals to begin to address trauma early on in an individual’s recovery. It will be followed by a two-part presentation on specific tools and techniques used in in-patient and out-patient settings to work with groups of people struggling with addictive behaviors. This 60-minute portion of the workshop will be interactive.

Why We Do What We Do: How Our Personal Stories Inform Our Work Pamela Jackson

Please note: This workshop required pre-registration and pre-screening, and will be limited to those who underwent that process

In this workshop, we will demonstrate an advocacy professional encountering challenges and healing when facing their survivor story. We will examine the impact and the opportunities this poses onto ourselves and our work, independently, and together. Workshop facilitators will share their survivor stories to each other to demonstrate how the experience of trauma and victimization can influence our engagement with individuals, communities, and program development. Some of the questions this workshop will address are: What are the pros and cons of being intentionally sensitized to our personal histories while doing this work? What is the value and what is the cost of being objective and/or implicating oneself in the work we do?

Workshop Session 7
Thursday 1:45-3:15

Re-Thinking Rape Prevention Education Targeted at Young Adults Rebecca Harrington, SUNY Oneonta

This workshop will discuss the development of an education campaign at SUNY Oneonta targeted at changing the attitudes of young adults from one of victim blaming to one of perpetrator blaming in cases of sexual assault. The campaign, entitled “Re-Think,” has been focused around providing education through the use of a six-and-a-half minute video that was written and produced by SUNY Oneonta faculty, staff and students. Five hundred t-shirts emblazoned with the main points of the video were distributed to viewers who were then assigned to wear them on specific days. Print media with similar messages was visible on campus during this time frame. Data from participants was collected pre- and post-video as well as several weeks after the t-shirt wearing event. Additional goals of the project included: adapting to the changing needs of college students who are less likely to attend educational lectures, and doing research to find out if a short, web-based video in conjunction with a t-shirt which reinforced the video’s messages would help students to retain what they learned from the video/shirt experience longer than the two week “bubble effect” attributed to traditional lectures.

Effective Strategies Working with Latin@ Victims/ Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Nancy Tejada-Ward, The Westchester Hispanic Coalition, and Evelyn Garcia, Hispanic Resource Center

The workshop is designed to discuss the strategies necessary in working with Latin@ victims/survivors of DV and SA. The communication with a Latin@ victim/survivor can impact the broader relationship with the professional. It will focus on the sensitivity to diversity needed in working with Latin@ victims/survivors and how it affects the role of advocacy. Our objective is that attendees will take away a better understanding of the Latin@ community, the differences that exist, and how different levels of acculturation are very important.

Serving Clients Connected with the Military—What Advocates Should Know Ellen C. Schell, Esq., The Legal Project

Survivors who are connected to the military have unique needs and may be operating within a universe most civilian advocates know little about. In order to provide appropriate, effective advocacy for these survivors, advocates should have
some familiarity with these unique needs, as well as understanding the special challenges and opportunities presented by such cases. This workshop will provide an overview of military structure and culture: the military discipline and justice system; the military response to sexual violence, including history, challenges, and successes; and opportunities for advocacy with military-related survivors. This workshop will enable advocates and counselors to have a better understanding of these cases so they may more confidently work with survivors.

Healing Trauma Through Self-Parenting—Self-Care for Victim Service Providers Patricia O’Gorman, Ph.D.

For workers serving crime victims, dealing with trauma is a daily occurrence, one that can be emotionally costly for the worker. This is particularly true when it comes to dealing with the Secondary Traumas resulting from the witnessing of the traumatic responses of another. Secondary Trauma has the potential to trigger a helper’s own trauma history, resulting in their reliving traumas from their past as they attempt to intervene in the current trauma of the person before them. When Secondary Trauma becomes sustained, we begin to think of this as Compassion Fatigue, which potentially affects the effectiveness of the worker, as motivation suffers when workers, triggered by their own trauma, find it difficult to perform the duties required of their position. As such, Trauma can impact all levels of the service delivery to crime survivors.

An answer to this is to assist workers in developing Self-Parenting skills, to begin to heal themselves by helping them to identify and begin to deal with their own traumas, while drawing upon their inner wisdom and resiliency. This workshop will focus on introducing participants to these concepts.

Addressing Child Sexual Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence in Addictions Care Gail Moore, LMSW, Program Director Addictions Care Center of Albany (ACCA)

As a provider and also a survivor, I will speak on the impact that sexual assault has on survivors, but also how it predisposes people to drug and alcohol addiction and high risk sexual behaviors. I currently run an outpatient rehab and in the past I ran an HIV department at the Whitney M. Young health center. In compiling grant research, and also as a result of direct patient care, I discovered that the statistics are the same in both groups, that 85% have been sexually abused in childhood. There is also a correlation between having addicted, absent and/or abusive parents and becoming an addict. Approximately 95% of our clients consistently fit this profile. Since children have little intervention with regard to these areas, the proactive approach is to treat them with their parents to prevent and also end generational cycles of addiction. We developed Vista House, a Women’s and Children's Transitional Living Program to provide a safe place for women in recovery to be co-housed with their children. In our clinic, we handle sexual trauma within the first three months of treatment with the use of cognitive behavioral therapy. Traditionally these issues aren’t addressed in drug and alcohol treatment, but are addressed after a year of abstinence, at which time clients are referred out to counseling agencies that specialize in these areas. We, on the other hand, address trauma, grief and loss within the first trimester of treatment. We operate on the belief that the last stage of grief and loss is acceptance and so serves as the First Step. In this workshop, I will share case studies including people who have experienced sexual violence and exploitation in adulthood, both men and women. These examples, coupled with my own experience is a rather powerful means of imparting insight to providers and also lending hope in a field where it is imperative that victims be taught to be victors. This presentation will be an interactive didactic format.

OMG!! I JUST GOT A SUBPOENA! – Confidentiality and Privilege for Communications Between Rape Crisis Counselors and Clients: Practical Help and Prevention for the Advocate Ellen C. Schell, Esq., The Legal Project

Rape crisis program staff and volunteers are increasingly being pulled into civil and criminal litigation by being subpoenaed to provide records and testimony. Most rape crisis programs do not have easy access to legal advice on such matters, and many administrators or administrative agencies are 1) not well-informed regarding confidentiality requirements, and 2) reluctant to spend precious financial resources on legal representation in such cases. Dealing with attorneys and judges can be terrifying, especially without legal advice or representation. This workshop will provide practical, common sense tips for dealing with these situations – what your organization should do prior to ever receiving a subpoena, how to deal with a subpoena if you receive one, how to talk with your administration about a subpoena, and what to say if you are required to testify without having gotten legal advice. It will also provide you with some resources available to assist you in handling these situations.

Using Bystander Intervention to Affect Cultural Change Lisa Smith, Sexual Assault and Crime Victims Assistance Program for Rensselaer County, and Karen Ziegler, Crime Victim and Sexual Violence Center Albany County

The two presenters will demonstrate how they have been able to successfully work in their own counties as well as a multi-county workgroup to engage community partners in bystander intervention. A roundtable discussion will then brainstorm how individual county Rape Crisis Programs can engage their communities and mobilize them to form partnerships that will internalize the message and contribute to the culture change.
A Holistic Approach to Providing Education and Support to Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Patty Tvaroha, Advocacy Center and Stephanie Foulkes and Amy Stone, Franziska Racker Centers

This workshop will highlight the successful collaboration between the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County and Franziska Racker Centers that addresses the need for individuals with developmental disabilities to increase their sense of empowerment to prevent and/or report abuse. The program builds upon the ESCAPE-DD Curriculum from Columbia University to develop an effective prevention education model for working with individuals with development disabilities, their families and their service providers. We will look at the successes and challenges of collaborations between rape crisis services and disability service providers and share tools that organizations can use to duplicate the collaboration within their communities.

SERVICE: When Women Come Marching Home

Patricia Lee Stotter and Marcia Rock, Filmmakers

Film showing followed by discussion and audience Q&A. SERVICE portrays the courage of the women in service and once they have left the military, the horrific traumas they faced, the inadequate care they often receive on return and the large and small accomplishments the women work mightily to achieve. Through compelling portraits, we watch these women wrestle with prosthetics, homelessness, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Military Sexual Trauma. The power of this multi-platform documentary is in the intimacy we establish with our veterans, speaking with them in their kitchens and bathrooms, back yards, classrooms, therapy sessions and supermarkets.

Auricular Acupuncture

Sally Clayton and Rommell Washington, St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center Crime Victims Treatment Center

In this self-care workshop, participants will learn about the history and usage of the auricular acupuncture protocol developed by the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association (NADA). Each participant will experience an auricular acupuncture treatment administered by an Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist which consists of the insertion of 10 sterile, single use needles (5 in each ear) and a 45-minute period of relaxation with the needles in place. Lighting will be dimmed and soft music will be played. After the treatment, participants will be invited to share their experiences of having received the treatment and they will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Please Note

All workshops and conference details are subject to change.

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