

THE MONROE COUNTY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COALITION PRESENTS:

ENDING VIOLENCE TOGETHER

MARCH 22, 2018
8AM - 4:30PM

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 STATE RD 46, BLOOMINGTON, IN 47408

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ENDING VIOLENCE TOGETHER

Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition 2018 Spring Conference Program

8:00 - 9:00: Registration

9:00 - 9:10: Opening Remarks

9:10 - 10:30: Opening Plenary

- A Survivor's Journey

10:30 - 10:40: Break

10:40 - 12:10: Workshop One

- 1A: Leveraging Bystander Intervention Practices in the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence- Emmalee Fishburn
- 1B: Helping Hurt People Help: Culturally Appropriate Trauma Informed Care and Abuse Prevention in Disability Services- Cierra Olivia Thomas-Williams
- 1C: Understanding Lethality Assessment and Its Applications- Caryn Burton

12:10-1:10: Lunch and Learn (Grab lunch and session start at 12:30)

- LL1: Effective Intervention with Batterers- Ron Smith
- LL2: Connecting the Dots: The Intersection of Animal Abuse & Family Violence- Alison Leslie
- LL3: Labor Trafficking: A Personal Story- Tebogo (Tebby) Kaisar

1:10-1:20: Break

1:20 - 2:50: Workshop 2

- 2A: Responding to Our Blind Spots- Pamela Sojka and Katelyn Lipa
- 2B: Domestic Violence and Brain Injury- Jean Capler, MSW, LCSW
- 2C: Kung Fu To Zen: Effective Strategies on Serving Deaf/Hard of Hearing Domestic Violence Survivors- Holly Elkin

2:50 - 3:00: Break

3:00 - 4:30: Workshop 3

- 3A: Recognizing and Preventing Secondary Victimization of Domestic Violence Victims by the Justice System- Margie Rice and Diane Walker
- 3B: Cookies, Crafts, and Consent: Facilitating Discussions on Sexuality and Teen Dating Abuse in Diverse Settings- Mary-Margaret Sweeney and Lindsay Stawick
- 3C: Play for Prevention, Intervention, and Healing: Using Theater of the Oppressed in Marginalized Communities- Skye Ashton Kantola

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Workshop 1A: Leveraging Bystander Intervention Practices in the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence Presented by: Emmalee Fishburn

Bystander intervention training is one primary prevention strategy for decreasing the number of acts of sexual and domestic violence in a community. Such training is a common strategy used in college settings to address a variety of problematic situations, but the skills and practices are relevant for all ages and demographics. This workshop will focus on teaching participants about sexual and domestic violence basics, the bystander effect, and how bystander intervention skills and practices can be used to address rape culture and prevent acts of sexual and domestic violence. Participants will also practice helping in a number of sexual and domestic violence scenarios through role play. Special attention will be paid to discussing how sexual and domestic violence varies within diverse communities and how a bystander can be culturally competent when helping in sexual and domestic violence situations.

Emmalee Fishburn is the assistant director for bystander intervention and sexual assault prevention in the Office for Sexual Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy at Indiana University Bloomington. She oversees two bystander intervention programs that teach students the skills to help in a variety of problematic situations, including sexual and domestic violence. Fishburn holds a Master of Public Health degree in professional health education and is a certified health education specialist.



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Workshop 1B: Helping Hurt People Help: Culturally Appropriate Trauma Informed Care and Abuse Prevention in Disability Services Presented by: Cierra Olivia Thomas-Williams

Violence plays a significant role in the lives of people with disabilities and the people who serve them. People with disabilities are three times more likely to experience neglect as well as physical and/or sexual abuse across their lifetimes than those without disabilities. Adverse emotional consequences of violence are compounded by severe stress caused by dependence, income instability, poor health care, social isolation, and living in a chaotic group home or independent living setting that lacks staff. This workshop will offer an overview of how residential disability services providers may enhance their capacity to support adults with disabilities and their staff who experience violence by developing, implementing, and evaluating a culturally appropriate trauma-informed care program in tandem with model abuse-prevention policy adoption for group and supported living environments. The goal is to establish and solidify best practices for serving vulnerable people within disability services, build the cultural competence of sexual violence prevention advocates to serve people with disabilities, and to collaborate on work toward abuse prevention until the violence ends.



Cierra Olivia Thomas-Williams is a longtime domestic violence and sexual violence prevention advocate. She has been collaborating with the disability services agency Stone Belt for almost 10 years. Thomas-Williams started her career in Indiana at Middle Way House and is now a member of Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

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Workshop 1C: Understanding Lethality Assessment and Its Applications Presented by: Caryn Burton

The Lethality Assessment Program was created by the Maryland Network to End Domestic Violence and was brought to Indiana in 2009. Originally intended for law enforcement, it is slowly growing into a tool that community providers can use to connect survivors with the services they need most. This workshop will examine the origins of lethality assessment, the protocol as it exists in its current form, and the possible uses for it in the community.

Caryn Burton has been training coordinator with the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence for 10 years. She has also functioned as the primary coordinator and technical assistance provider on lethality assessment since the program was introduced in Indiana. Burton has provided more than 50 trainings on lethality assessment and applications.



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Lunch and Learn 1: Effective Intervention with Batterers Presented by: Ron Smith

This lunchtime workshop will provide a brief overview of theoretical perspectives, explanatory theories, intervention techniques, and treatment approaches used with batterers during the past 30 years. A critical review of the effectiveness of batterers' intervention programs as evaluated in recent research published in peer-reviewed medical and social science journals will be presented. We'll discuss what we have learned about effective intervention with batterers and the need to develop more comprehensive batterers' intervention programs. In addition, a review of the scientific merit of certified Batterer Intervention Programs will be offered. The overview will be followed by an outline of the critical and necessary components of a comprehensive batterer's intervention program. The presentation is designed to provide professionals with knowledge of the history of intervention with batterers as well as equip them with practical and innovative ways to effectively reduce domestic violence through working with the batterers. In addition, the presentation will consider the changes in a community's climate from tolerance to intolerance of domestic violence. Finally, we will explore the obstacles and challenges for professionals working in the field of domestic violence prevention while exploring new and innovative ways to effectively reduce domestic violence in our communities.



Ron Smith developed and wrote the Indianapolis Counseling Center's certified Batterers Intervention Program, which is in compliance with Indiana Code 35.50.9.1. The program uses a best practice-based curriculum. Smith also facilitates men's and women's groups in various counties in Indiana.

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Lunch and Learn 2: Connecting the Dots: The Intersection of Animal Abuse & Family Violence Presented by: Alison Leslie

This lunch-and-learn will provide an overview of what is known as LINK violence, the intersection of animal abuse, cruelty and neglect with human family violence. We will look at ways to identify LINK violence and how to create a culture of cross-reporting. This session will use a mixture of lecture and small group discussion.

Alison Leslie is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a certificate in Animal Assisted Social Work from the University of Denver. She has been trained in the positive and negative aspects of the Human Animal Bond and is an adjunct professor at the Institute for Human Animal Connections through the University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work. She has been providing trauma treatment for children and families, including animals into her practice, for over the past ten years. Leslie is trained in EMDR and is currently working towards certification in Somatic Experiencing. She is a therapist at Spencer Psychology in Bloomington, Ind.



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Lunch and Learn 3: Labor Trafficking: A Personal Story Presented by: Tebogo (Tebby) Kaisara



Kaisara will define human trafficking, share her personal story as a survivor of human trafficking, and teach participants to recognize red flags that identify potential trafficking victims.

Tebogo (Tebby) Kaisara has lived in Bloomington, Indiana, since 2004. She is originally from the southern part of Africa. Kaisara currently works for the Indiana Youth Service Association, White Lodging, CRF-First Choice, Inc., and Meadows Hospital. She is also a student at Ivy Tech Community College. Kaisara's passion is raising awareness of human trafficking, especially labor trafficking in Indiana. She advocates for a broader and better understanding of human trafficking -- where it happens, how it happens, to whom it happens, how it affects the victims, and how they recover from it.

Kaisara is opening a 24-hour daycare in Bloomington that will have its grand opening in January 2018. The daycare's goal is to help end human trafficking for cheap labor by providing a 24/7 safe, trusted environment for childcare service that will work with anyone's schedule. Kaisara is also working on opening a group home in Bloomington to provide permanent housing for children who are seeking housing and proper care. The program is especially for children who have been through any kind of violence and abuse. The mission is to help the children develop independence through trust as they grow and bond with others.

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Workshop 2A: Responding to Our Blind Spots Presented by: Pamela Sojka and Katelyn Lipa

This workshop will explore the difference in services needed by sexual assault survivors and domestic violence survivors, and how we often have blind spots when providing services. We will learn how to address these blind spots and better serve survivors of violence through an awareness and understanding of sexual violence prevalence and impact. Topics to be covered include: dynamics of sexual and domestic violence, human trafficking, impacts of trauma, responding to survivors, active listening, and Monroe County services. The workshop is intended to generate an interactive experience through group activities and discussion among audience members..

Pamela Sojka and Katelyn Lipa are the crisis intervention services coordinators at Middle Way House, Inc., in Bloomington, Ind. They coordinate Middle Way's 24/7/365 crisis-line and on-scene advocate programs that provide immediate and long-term support to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and of human trafficking. Additionally, Sojka and Lipa facilitate sexual assault support groups, coordinate various outreach and education efforts, and partner with local, regional, and state agencies to work toward ending violence in our community.



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Workshop 2B: Domestic Violence and Brain Injury Presented by: Jean Capler, MSW, LCSW

People who experience domestic violence are at much higher risk of traumatic and oxygen-deprived brain injuries that can leave them with lasting negative effects on cognition, emotion regulation, and life functioning. However, brain injury is often overlooked by health care and social service providers. It is crucial for professionals at every stage of services to know how to recognize brain injury in their clients and be able to effectively serve them and make appropriate referrals for brain injury-specific services. This workshop will provide basic education on brain injury (specifically in relation to domestic violence), tips for improving services for clients with brain injuries, how to screen for brain injury, and an introduction to the variety of brain injury-specific services and the continuum of care available for survivors of domestic abuse who have experienced one or more injuries.



Jean Capler earned her Master of Social Work degree from IUPUI in 2000. She has worked in mental health settings and private practice, specializing in working with people with brain injuries and with the LGBTQ+ community. She has worked as an employment consultant, facilitated substance abuse IOP groups, and has been an adjunct professor in the IU School of Social Work. Capler is the local support network leader in Southern Indiana for the Resource Facilitation Department of the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana. In this position, she works to improve the lives of brain-injury survivors by building capacity in communities. She provides trainings on brain injury to individuals who have experienced brain injury, their families, and providers in the community who may serve those individuals.

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Workshop 2C: Kung Fu To Zen: Effective Strategies on Serving Deaf/Hard of Hearing Domestic Violence Survivors Presented by: Holly Elkins

This workshop is primarily focused on service providers and program managers who are often the first people to come into direct contact with Deaf and hard-of-hearing people. The workshop will consist of a mixture of formal presentation through PowerPoint, interactive group work with documents, and a short video of an interpreter at work. This workshop format will allow for experiential awareness and connection between subject matter and hands-on activity by the participants. Participants will have the opportunity to evaluate and analyze their own organizational support in terms of effective services to Deaf/hard-of-hearing survivors and providing ASL interpreters. The presentation will provide examples of protocols on how to provide information when seeking and securing ASL interpreters, what types of questions to ask the Deaf/hard-of-hearing customer, what constitutes effective access, and situations that call for a team of two interpreters. Evidence-based practices from the field will be shared with the group. Discussion will also include identification of challenges that service providers encounter when taking the myriad of communication needs of Deaf and hard-of-hearing survivors into account when accessing services. Support and capacity-building tools within an agency/organization will be reviewed and evaluated in determining how to integrate services in a way that is inclusive and responsive to the unique communication needs of Deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

Holly Elkins is the Deaf and hard-of-hearing coordinator at the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She provides educational resources and technical assistance to domestic violence programs and services across Indiana. In addition to responding to requests from the field, Elkins collaborates with DeafALIVE to provide advocacy and support to those working with Deaf and hard-of-hearing survivors. Elkins' experiences encompass more than 20 years of direct knowledge of Deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers' needs and concerns in a variety of settings such as nonprofits, state agencies, educational institutions, businesses, and federal government programs. She is experienced in strategic planning, policy development, system advocacy, training, and program management. Elkins has a B.A. and an M.A. from Gallaudet University in Washington, DC.



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Workshop 3A: Recognizing and Preventing Secondary Victimization of Domestic Violence Victims by the Justice System Presented by: Margie Rice and Diane Walker

Domestic violence and intimate partner abuse includes not only physical violence but also threats and intimidation intended to control and manipulate. With this broader definition in mind, it is easy to see how perpetrators try to use the justice system to further the abuse and take advantage of their victims. Requests for unreasonable custody and visitation orders, mandates that mediation must be employed for a case to proceed, and intentional and costly delays are only a few ways that perpetrators may try to use the system to gain advantage and to intimidate and wear down their victims. To ensure that the justice system is not unwittingly used in this manner, those involved with the justice system must recognize opportunities for manipulation by perpetrators and indications that such attempts are being made, and establish policies that prevent victims of domestic violence from being further abused as their cases are being processed. The justice system must always be alert to the imbalance in power between perpetrator and victim and guard against the system being used as a weapon by perpetrators of domestic violence. Our goal is to identify the obvious and also more subtle forms of secondary victimization by those responsible for administering justice. We also will discuss possible local policies and practices that may be adopted to prevent secondary victimization of domestic violence victims and their families.



Margie Rice began her career as a deputy prosecutor in Lawrence County, where she enjoyed being in court nearly every day. Afterwards, she worked in private practice, litigating criminal cases, family law matters, and other general practice matters. For the past 15 years, Rice has represented locally elected officials, including those in Monroe County government and the City of Bloomington, where she served as the corporation counsel under the Mayor Mark Kruzan administration.

Diane Walker has been head of the District 10 Pro Bono Project since 2003, where she represents vulnerable clients in southern Indiana who are in need of legal services but do not have the means to pay. She also supervises other attorneys and interns who work with these vulnerable clients. Walker previously ran the Senior Hotline at Indiana Legal Services. Her background also includes litigation in bankruptcy, family law, insurance defense, and general practice.



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Workshop 3B: Cookies, Crafts, and Consent: Facilitating Discussions on Sexuality and Teen Dating Abuse in Diverse Settings

Presented by: Mary-Margaret Sweeney and Lindsay Stawick

Cookies: Check! Crafts: Check! Consent: Do we have to? Sex education and domestic violence can be difficult topics for youth. How can after-school staff and facilitators work together to optimize the discussion while also protecting youth? This session will focus on tips, tricks, and strategies to engage youth in comfortable discussion in a safe environment.

Mary-Margaret Sweeney, MSW, is director of community engagement for the Domestic Violence Network. She creates trainings about domestic violence, sexual assault, sex and healthy relationship education, and cultural competency, facilitating these in greater Indianapolis-area businesses, universities, social service offices, and national conferences.



Lindsay Stawick is an Indianapolis native and is the director of programs at the Domestic Violence Network. She received a bachelor's degree in social work from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, and she has worked in the field of child welfare and domestic violence for more than six years.

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Workshop 3C: Play for Prevention, Intervention, and Healing: Using Theater of the Oppressed in Marginalized Communities Presented by: Skye Ashton Kantola

This interactive workshop addresses sexual violence and domestic violence prevention and intervention from multi-movement and marginalized community perspectives. Participants will learn the basic frameworks of pedagogy of the oppressed and theatre of the oppressed and how these useful philosophies and skills can be applied in marginalized community mobilization, increase understanding of the unique barriers/risk factors and opportunities/protective factors relevant to engaging marginalized communities in sexual and domestic violence prevention and intervention, and build skills in using Theatre of the Oppressed to do anti-violence work, especially in marginalized communities. This workshop will also connect theories of trauma embodiment, the neurobiology of trauma, and healing to prevention and intervention work.



Skye Ashton Kantola is the program coordinator at the Multicultural Efforts to end Sexual Assault (MESA) program, a queer and trans community organizer, and an engaged artist. Kantola, a disabled, neurodivergent queer and trans person, has contributed to violence prevention and intervention efforts for 10 years in Texas and Indiana with marginalized communities. Since 2015, Kantola has also served as the communication director of Pedagogy and Theatre of the Oppressed, Inc. and was elected co-president of the organization in 2017. They now facilitate interactive and experiential workshops towards ending sexual violence, write and perform spoken word poetry, and create visual art focused on trauma, survivorship, and resiliency through their art business, Faerie Bear Art. Kantola loves combining play and work for fun and educational social change curriculum, compassionately disrupting complacency, and does positive dog training in their free time.