

The Monroe County Domestic Violence Coalition
2021 Spring Conference

Ending Violence Together:

Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

April 8th - 9th, 2021
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
via Zoom

Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mcdvc2021registration>



Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day One: Community and Policy Level

9:00 - 9:20: Conference Welcome and Speaker Introduction

9:20 - 10:20: Keynote Address

- Colleen Yeakle, Coordinator of Prevention Initiatives, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

10:20 - 10:30: Break

10:30 - 11:50 Workshop One: Influencing Policy and Legislation

- Hannah Lencheck, Advocacy Coordinator, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

11:50 - 12:00: Break

12:00 - 1:20: Workshop Two: Accessing Housing Assistance for Survivors

- Erika Young, Housing Program Manager, and Lindsey Mickler, Coordinated Entry Specialist, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1:20 - 1:30: Break

1:30 - 2:50: Workshop Three: What Does Inclusive Community and Service Delivery Look Like?

- Caryn Burton, Training Coordinator, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

2:50 - 3:00: Break

3:00 - 4:30: Action Session: Community and Policy

- Hannah Lencheck, Colleen Yeakle, Erika Young, Lindsey Mickler, and Caryn Burton

For workshop descriptions, presenters/panelists, and bios/photos please see pages 3 - 7.

Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day Two: Relational and Organizational Level

9:00 - 10:20: Workshop One: Imagining Transformative Alternatives in Survivor Support Within Low Barrier Organizations

- Kass Botts, Indiana Recovery Alliance; Lindsey Badger, Middle Way House, New Leaf - New Life; Stacy Flynn, New Leaf - New Life; Caryn Burton, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

10:20 - 10:30: Break

10:30 - 11:50: Workshop Two: Practical Interventions to Support Survivors with Brain Injuries and Improve Outcomes

- Jean Capler, MSW, LCSW, CBIS; Local Support Network Leader, Department of Resource Facilitation, RHI-NeuroRehabilitation Center

11:50 - 12:00: Break

12:00 - 1:20: Workshop Three: Domestic Violence and the Legal System - A Victim-Centered Approach from Prosecution to Legal Support

- Kerry Hyatt Bennett, Legal Counsel, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Sharon Groeger, Legal Advocate, Middle Way House; Erika Oliphant, Monroe County Prosecutor; Lynn Keller, Domestic Violence Deputy Prosecutor for Monroe County; Hannah Jones, Sex Crimes Deputy Prosecutor for Monroe County; Caryn Burton, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1:20 - 1:30: Break

1:30 - 2:50: Workshop Four: Upending Bias and Strengthening Care Work: Stories and Strategies from Service Providers Who Have Experienced Bias

- Stacey Flynn, New Leaf - New Life; Timike Boyd Jones, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Nordia Mcnish; Evelyn Smith, All Options

2:50 - 3:00: Break

3:00 - 4:30: Action Session: Power Mapping for Change

- Stephanie Solomon, Prevention Coordinator, Youth Services Bureau
Hannah Lencheck, Advocacy Coordinator, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

For workshop descriptions, presenters/panelists, and bios/photos please see pages 8 - 12.

Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day One, 9:20 - 10:20 a.m.

Keynote Address, Colleen Yeakle, MSW

Re-Centering: Indiana's Movement to Ground Domestic Violence Programs in Survivor Defined Success

The Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV), in collaboration with member programs from across the state, has engaged in a multi-year process to re-center Indiana's prevention strategies and program services in survivor-defined needs. With this effort, the Coalition sought to identify what programs and services were most valued by survivors, what needs were unmet, and fundamentally, how communities could reduce violence by increasing safety and supports for all of us.

In the ten-month period from December, 2017 through October, 2018, members of the cohort conducted 91 individual interviews and also five focus group discussions with survivors. Particular attention was paid to hearing from individuals who have been unserved or underserved because of barriers related to identity-based discrimination, disabilities, homeless status, criminal justice histories, immigration status, or challenges related to mental health or addictions. ICADV released findings and recommendations from the study in July, 2019. Since releasing the Re-Centering report, ICADV has convened three new working groups charged with the responsibility to build out recommendations to increase community safety, to improve service delivery systems, and to explore accountability alternatives to the criminal justice system.



Colleen Yeakle, MSW, has served as an advocate in the domestic and sexual violence fields for over 20 years, and currently serves as the Coordinator of Prevention Initiatives for the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. In this role, Colleen works with community, state and national partners to develop, implement and evaluate new strategies for preventing intimate partner violence.

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Day One, 10:30 - 11:50 a.m.

Workshop One: Influencing Policy and Legislation

Presented by: Hannah Lencheck

Building supportive and safe communities requires looking at systemic & policy solutions! Sit down over lunch and work together with tablemates to identify your community-interest and self-interest in several pieces of state-level legislation. Deep discussions, community building, and a chance to identify opportunities for action will make this lunch-and-learn interactive and participant-driven.

Topics Include: Paid Family Leave, Predatory Lending, Financial Safety Net, Wage Equity, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Accountability Alternatives, Gun Safety



Hannah Lencheck works to address the root causes of hunger as the Advocacy Coordinator at Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. On any given day, she can be found working on state legislation, building relationships with community members, stewarding the Hub Farm Stand, or regaling folks with stories of her cat, Max.

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Day One, 12:00 - 1:20 p.m

Workshop Two: Accessing Housing Assistance for Survivors

Presented by: Erika Young and Lindsey Mickler

Exploring funding options to create housing programs that are survivor-centered, flexible, and focused on the Housing-First approach and trauma-informed care.



Erika Young is an Indianapolis native and is the housing program manager for the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. While she is new to the field of domestic violence, she has experience in managing federal and state housing grants, primarily for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Erika is currently leading the implementation of the Continuum of Care Domestic Violence Bonus Housing Project funds awarded to ICADV to increase housing options for survivors of domestic violence.

Lindsey Mickler was born and raised in Kokomo, Indiana, and is the first in her family to obtain her Bachelors and Masters from Indiana University Kokomo. As the Coordinated Entry (CE) Specialist she is excited to work on behalf of the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and alongside programs throughout Indiana to determine how we can best implement a CE process that works for all of us and provides the best outcome for individuals who have experienced Domestic Violence.



Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day One, 1:30 - 2:50 p.m.

Workshop Three: What Does Inclusive Community and Service Delivery Look Like?

Presented by: Caryn Burton

This workshop will explore how social inclusion buffers against multiple forms of violence across the lifespan. It emphasizes practices that center inclusion across service delivery and prevention programming, increasing organizational capacity to serve people who have been marginalized from the movement to end violence. As a participant, you will be invited to think about your current program or organization, rate where you are with inclusion, and begin to expand your goals for inclusion practices.



Caryn Burton graduated with her BA in psychology and communications in 1999 and MS in School Counseling in May of 2007, both from Butler University. After completing a one-year term of service with AmeriCorps working with Legal Services of Indiana, she went on to supervise the IndyCorps program before moving on to direct survivor services as both an outreach and court advocate and then the director of a transitional housing program. Currently, she is on staff at the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence as their training coordinator, holding that position since January of 2007.

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Day One, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Action Session: Community and Policy

Presented by: Colleen Yeakle, Hannah Lencheck, Caryn Burton, Erika Young, and Lindsey Mickler

Presenters from the day will host breakout sessions for participants to actively engage some of the community and policy topics from earlier sessions. Participants will have focused mentorship to build skill sets and networks to carry the work beyond the conference.



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Lindsey Mickler was born and raised in Kokomo, IN. The first in her family to attend college, she obtained her master's degree in 2012. She has worked in the DV field since 2016, previously as Director of a 24/7 emergency shelter and Rapid ReHousing Program and currently as the Coordinated Entry (CE) Specialist with Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She is excited to work alongside programs throughout the state to determine how to best implement a CE process that is equitable and provides survivors with the opportunity to connect to stable housing.

Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day Two, 9:00 - 10:20 a.m.

Workshop One: Imagining Transformative Alternatives in Survivor Support within Low-Barrier Organizations

**Presented by: Kass Botts, Lindsey Badger, and Stacy Flynn
Moderator: Caryn Burton**

This panel negotiates the tensions of providing low-barrier services while also advancing increasing safety and security for survivors of violence. Panelists will discuss the ways Transformative Justice paradigms become relevant in low-barrier service practices, and the ways we might address harm within low-barrier and transformative frameworks. This panel will be guided by questions posed (in advance) by survivors and service providers.



Kass Botts is the Advocacy Director of the Indiana Recovery Alliance, a harm reduction organization based in Bloomington, Indiana. Her passion for harm reduction comes from their lived experience with substance use disorder and the belief that all social services programs should involve the direct participation and leadership of people with lived experience. The Alliance knows that survivors are the experts in their own lives and hopes to respectfully collaborate with survivors seeking harm reduction services.

Lindsey Badger is the Prevention Program Coordinator and Educator at Middle Way House. She is the President of the New Leaf New Life Board of Directors and has been active in their programming and education in the jail for many years. She holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Communication and Culture, Indiana University, Bloomington.



Stacy Flynn is the Assistant Director of New Leaf New Life and House Manager for Courage to Change Sober Living. As a formerly incarcerated individual, she has encountered the complex challenges regarding the criminal justice system with its lasting barriers in the aftermath of these experiences. Having found her place in the world, she has been allowed the opportunity to share her passion for resolving issues expressed by those who are experiencing homelessness, substance use and transition into the community post-release. She enjoys supporting folks both during and after incarceration, having the ability to easily relate to the struggles of others.

Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day Two, 10:30 - 11:50 a.m.

Workshop Two: Practical Interventions to Support Survivors with Brain Injuries and Improve Outcomes

Presented by: Jean Capler, MSW, LCSW, CBIS

This workshop will provide attendees with specific strategies for working more effectively with survivors of intimate partner violence who are experiencing the effects of brain injury. This will include basic tips, ideas for brain-injury specific supports, and developing an approach that considers the possibility of brain injury when trying to understand the issues that clients face.

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 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.



Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day Two, 12:00 - 1:20 p.m.

Workshop Three: Domestic Violence and The Legal System - A Victim-Centered Approach from Prosecution to Legal Support

Presented by: Kerry Hyatt Bennett, Sharon Groeger, Erika Oliphant, Lynn Keller, and Hanna Jones

Moderated by: Caryn Burton

A moderated panel conversation that centers on some of the dominant legal questions of survivors.



Kerry Hyatt Bennett, JD has been the Legal Counsel for the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence since 2005, specializing in federal and state domestic violence law, public policy and practice. As Director of ICADV's Legal Resource project, Bennett oversees over 60 attorneys who provide direct legal services to survivors, provides legal assistance to programs and collaborative partners, and helps develop and implement public policy with a focus on equity and social justice. Bennett is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at the IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis.

Sharon Groeger has served as a Legal Advocate at Middle Way House, Inc., since 2014. Prior to working at Middle Way House, she practiced law in Indianapolis and Bloomington. Sharon is a graduate of the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University.



Erika Oliphant is the first woman to have been elected Prosecutor in Monroe County. She has worked in the office since 2009, handling all kinds of criminal cases ranging from traffic infractions to murder. Since taking office in January 2019, she has worked to form a Special Victims Unit that uses a team approach to handle sex and domestic violence cases, to better hold offenders accountable and provide support to victims.

Lynn Keller, JD/MSW, is the Domestic Violence Deputy Prosecutor for Monroe County, Indiana, where she handles all stages of prosecution for cases involving crimes between current or former intimate partners. As part of the Special Victims Unit, Lynn focuses on evidence-based prosecution and is continually looking for ways to increase collaboration and coordination between community agencies to better meet the needs of survivors.



Hannah Jones has been working with domestic violence and sexual assault cases since 2010. Her journey began in Marion County prosecuting domestic violence, fetal homicides, domestic homicides, and sexual assaults. She joined the Monroe County Prosecutors Office in January of 2019 and is a proud member of the Special Victims Unit.

Ending Violence Together: Addressing Key Needs Described by Survivors

Day Two, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Workshop Four: Upending Bias and Strengthening Care Work: Stories and Strategies from Service Providers Who Have Experienced Bias

Presented by: Stacey Flynn, Timike Boyd Jones, Nordia McNish and Evelyn Smith

Moderated by: Lindsey Badger

Grounding into practices that dismantle bias-informed and power-upholding systems and logics that are often taken for granted—even within organizations and communities that advocate “survivor support” and “do no harm”—this panel proposes an alternative. Panelists will guide us to practices that strengthen compassionate response, premised on the desire to do increasingly less harm, while being accountable to the harm we have already caused by maintaining biases that we have been unable or unwilling to see. This panel will be guided by questions posed (in advance) by survivors and service providers who have experienced bias in their interpersonal relationships, communities, public institutions, and workplaces.



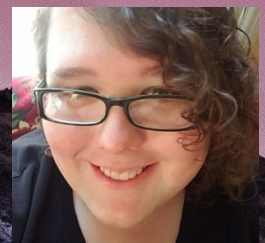
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Timike Boyd Jones has worked as a primary preventionist with the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence since 2018. After eleven years of working as a case manager and a re-entry program manager with the Indiana Department of Correction, she found herself disheartened by the impact of her work. Timike changed course and obtained employment in the fields of child abuse and juvenile delinquency prevention. Distinctly aware of the disproportionately and disparities in each of the systems, she found a passion for working to reduce inequities. As a member of the primary prevention team at ICADV, Timike is tasked to explore strategies that address structural racism and systemic disparities for the most historically marginalized communities.



Nordia McNish, is currently a graduate student pursuing an MSW at Indiana University School of Social Work, where she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in 2020. She is a practicing intern at Bloomington Meadows hospital IOP as a clinical therapist, as well as a Direct Support Professional who works with individuals with a disability. Nordia is also a mentor in the IU Center of Excellence for Women & Technology BSTEM e-Mentoring program, a member of the Anti-Oppressive Education Committee at IU School of Social Work, a member of the United Methodist Church outreach committee on 4th street, and a participating member of Thriving Connections through the South Central Community Action Program. In addition, Nordia currently sits on the board of directors for New Leaf New Life and is the former Vice President of the board of directors for the South Central Indiana Housing Opportunity.

Evelyn Smith is a fat, trans, lesbian survivor, activist, and social services worker. Her work addresses risk factors for violence and exploitation, particularly those affecting LGBTQ+ women and homeless individuals. She is a Program Associate with All-Options, doing case management for the Hoosier Abortion Fund and Indiana Judicial Bypass Project.



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Day Two, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Action Session: Power Mapping for Change **Presented by: Hannah Lencheck and Stephanie Solomon**

Creating change at the individual, organizational, or community level requires getting clear about power, decision-making, and self-interest. Join facilitators from Building a Thriving Compassionate Community to learn how to use a power map, and then put your new skills to practice during this hands-on session.



Hannah Lencheck works to address the root causes of hunger as the Advocacy Coordinator at Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. On any given day, she can be found working on state legislation, building relationships with community members, stewarding the Hub Farm Stand, or regaling folks with stories of her cat, Max.

Stephanie Solomon is the Prevention Coordinator with Youth Services Bureau, with a focus on promoting healthy relationships and environments for youth and families in Monroe County. She is a graduate of Indiana University with 18 years of experience in the social service sector. She is an advisory member for Building a Thriving Compassionate Community (BTCC), mentor for the Monroe County Youth Council, Adult Ally with the Prism Youth Community, and member of the Implicit Bias Community of Practice.



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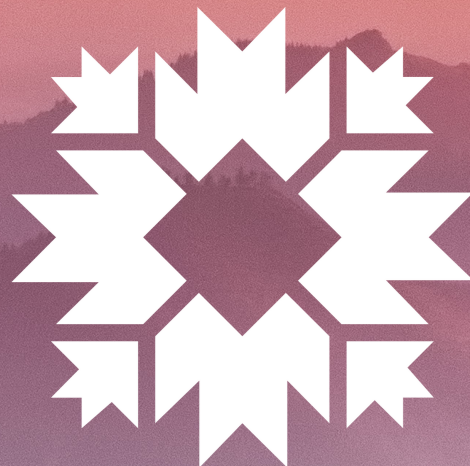
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