

2025 OJP Annual Conference on Crime and Victimization Symposium

June 5, 2025
The Heritage Center
Brooklyn Center



Welcome, Symposium Attendees!

Thank you for attending the 2025 Office of Justice Programs Conference on Crime and Victimization one-day symposium. This is the 37th annual conference, and *we're glad you're here!* This e-booklet provides an overview of the sessions, speakers, and helpful information about the conference.

Conference Facility

The Heritage Center of Brooklyn Center serves as the central location for the conference, where you will find the registration table, exhibitor fair, breakout session rooms, and snacks and meals. Designated way finders are ready to help you navigate the space.

OJP Conference Team – Available for You

The OJP Conference Team is made up of OJP staff and members of the Training Advisory Committee. They will be wearing ribbons on their name tags during the conference and are here to assist you. Please bring any concerns or questions you have to their attention.

Commitment to Safety

OJP is dedicated to curating a conference experience for attendees that is inclusive, safe, accessible, and welcoming for all. We invite you to help us create and maintain this space of belonging to make it a positive experience for everyone. If related concerns arise during the conference, please connect with the [OJP Conference Director](#) or a Training Advisory Committee member. Any of these people are available in person or can be contacted by email. Their email addresses are linked to their names listed below. All conference team members have ribbons on their name tags.

Mindfulness Room, Prayer Room, and Mothers' Room

- The Morgan Room has been designated as a space for our Mindfulness Room and Prayer Room, a quiet space you can use during the conference. This comfortable, technology-free space allows attendees to take care of themselves, whether it be for processing a session, taking time for reflection, or meditation.
- A separate Mothers' Room (a small private boardroom) can be accessed through the center's office. We're grateful to have these spaces and thank you for respecting others who use the rooms by engaging in quiet activities when in or near the rooms.

Exhibitor Fair

Organizations throughout the state can be found tabling at the Exhibitor Fair.

- Tables are positioned in Carriage Hall (general session space) for increased visibility and accessibility.
- Please visit the exhibitors throughout the conference to learn what agencies are doing and whom they are serving.

Evaluation Forms

- Following the keynote and each session attended, you'll have the opportunity to provide feedback via a short evaluation form distributed by a conference team member.
- Evaluations are used and analyzed to evaluate the effectiveness of individual speakers, themes and the quality and relevance of topics they present.
- We want your feedback on the overall symposium format and content. A longer evaluation is used to make improvements to next year's event and will be emailed to everyone after the symposium concludes. Thank you in advance for completing these evaluations.

Continuing Education Units/Credits

- Professional continuing education credits have been applied for in some the workshop sessions.
- A complete list of the sessions and types of credits that were approved can be found in this e-booklet.

Turn in your Lanyard!

- Attendees can enter a name tag drawing for a chance to win a grand prize at the end of the day, along with an opportunity to take home one of several donated prizes furnished by the exhibitors at the symposium this year.
- Lanyards can be dropped in the boxes located at the registration area at the end of the day. The drawing will take place right after the closing remarks, and you must be present to win.

Training Advisory Committee

Thank you to the Training Advisory Committee for their guidance, support, and dedication throughout the year. Without their help in preparation and assistance, the symposium would not be possible.

[Christina Busse](#) | [Monique Drier Sutton](#) / [Sarah Edstrom](#) / [Suzanne Elwell](#) / [Rebecca Kuttly](#) / [Katie Rojas-Jahn](#) / [Katie Kramer](#) | [Sophia Maceda](#) / [Becca Muskat](#)/ [Farji Shaheer](#) / [Brenda Skogman](#) / [Drea Stephani](#) / [Ashley Sturz-Griffith](#) / [Thi Synavone](#) /

Awards

We will be honoring two nominated recipients this year during lunch with annual awards. Lunch is included in your conference registration, and everyone is welcome to attend.

- The **Distinguished Service Award** recognizes an individual who has demonstrated outstanding and sustained service to crime victims over the course of their career, serves as an inspiration and example to others who serve crime victim survivors in Minnesota, and can be awarded to someone in any capacity or profession. This award can be given to people, programs and organizations.
- The **Dr. William Kosiak Victim Service Professional Award** honors an individual whose primary responsibilities involve working with crime victims and whose efforts advance victim survivor services and/or rights at the state, tribal, and/or local level.

Symposium Spaces Guide

Conference Registration: Pre-function area

Keynote Session: Carriage Hall

Exhibitor Tables: Carriage Hall

Food/Snack buffet tables: Pre-Function area outside Carriage Hall, and in-between the Harvest and Garden City Ballrooms

Where to sit for breakfast/lunch: Carriage Hall

Mindfulness/Prayer/Meditation Room: Morgan - Lower Level

Mothers Room: Private boardroom accessed through main office

Gender Neutral Restroom: Access through main office

Wi-Fi Connection: The Heritage Center utilizes an open network called “Heritage Center Guest.” No password is required.



At-a-Glance Schedule		
SESSION	TIME	PRESENTER & SPACE
Light Breakfast and Exhibitor Set Up	7:00-8:00 a.m.	Pre-Function Area
Registration Opens	7:30-8:30 a.m.	Pre-Function Area
Welcome and Opening Remarks from DPS Leadership/Intro to Keynote	8:30-8:45 a.m.	Carriage Hall
Keynote: Clinging to Joy	8:45-10:15 a.m.	Alison Feigh, MS Carriage Hall
<i>Morning Break (w/food)</i>	10:15-10:30 a.m.	Pre-Function Area
BREAKOUT SESSION ONE: 10:30-11:30 AM		
Digging Deeper: Understanding the Intersections of Sex Trafficking and Intimate Partner Violence	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie & Andrea White Garden City Ballroom
Reimagining Crime Victim Services in Minnesota	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Becca Muskat Harvest A
Do Your Clients Feel Heard?: Trauma Informed Legal Advocacy	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Siri Lokensfard Gloede, MSW, LGSW & Karen Hernandez Captain
Building Mindful Awareness	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Carrie Garcia Tack
<i>Lunch and Award Ceremony</i>	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carriage Hall
BREAKOUT SESSION TWO: 12:30-1:30 PM		
Thank you for Telling Me: Responding to Youth Disclosures of SA	12:30-1:30 p.m.	Sarah Lockhart, MSW, LICSW & Trisha Sargent, MSW, LICSW Tack
Breaking Barriers: Addressing the Intersection of Sexual Assault and Housing Insecurity	12:30-1:30 p.m.	Kenosha Alexander & Esau Jasper Garden City Ballroom
Supporting Deaf* Survivors: Best Practices for Inclusive Advocacy	12:30-1:30 p.m.	Katie Meinhardt & Aaron Gutzke Captain
Understanding Violence in Indigenous Communities	12:30-1:30 p.m.	Lailah Cloud and Olivia Allery Harvest B & C
Chronically Online: Understanding & Supporting Youth in Today's Digital Age	12:30-1:30 p.m.	Andrea White & Carly Hiti Harvest A
<i>Afternoon Break</i>	1:30-1:45 p.m.	Pre-Function Area
BREAKOUT SESSION THREE: 1:45-2:45 PM		
Navigating Crisis	1:45-2:45 p.m.	Farji Shaheer Harvest A
Roseville Police Department, Community Action Team	1:45-2:45 p.m.	Sean Johnson, Cari McCollor, Erin Reski, Philip Tanis Harvest B & C
"And Then He Shot Mommy": Interviewing Witnesses to Violent Crimes	1:45-2:45 p.m.	Stephanie Randolph Tack
Screening Youth for Childhood Traumatic Stress and Suicidal Ideation: A Partnership Benefiting Children and Adolescents	1:45-2:45 p.m.	Rebecca Foell, LICSW & Elizabeth Eagle Garden City Ballroom
Secondary Trauma & Self Care	1:45-2:45 p.m.	Mallory Thorne, MSW, LGSW & Sal Lee Captain
<i>Second Afternoon Break (with food)</i>	2:45-3:00 p.m.	Pre-Function Area
BREAKOUT SESSION FOUR: 3:00-4:00PM	3:00-4:00 p.m.	
Centering the Voices & Experiences of Survivors through Program Evaluation	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Brittany Wojtowicz, MSW, LGSW & Jason Mack Captain
HOPE for Housing- Breaking Down Silos and Collaborating to Create Meaningful Solutions for Serving the Whole Client	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Erica Staab-Absher & Anika Rychner Harvest A
MN Pet Coalition: intersectionality of domestic violence and pets	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Kelly Turpin & Carrie Openshaw Harvest B & C
Community Violence Intervention - Treating Violence as a disease and not just a crime	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Jordan Borer Nelson & Dario Otero Garden City Ballroom
Mind/Body Magic Tricks: Mindful Somatic Stretches for Busy People	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Julie Marie Muskat Tack
Closing Remarks/Adjourn/Final drawing	4:00 p.m.	Carriage Hall
Exhibitor Teardown	4:30 p.m.	

Conference Schedule

7:00-8:00 a.m. Light Breakfast	Pre-Function Hallway
7:00-8:00 a.m. Exhibitor Set Up	Carriage Hall
7:30-8:30 a.m. Registration	Pre-Function Hallway
Welcome and Opening Remarks from DPS Leadership	
8:30-8:45 a.m. General Session Space	Carriage Hall

Keynote Session: Clinging to Joy

8:45-10:15 a.m. Alison Feigh, MS, Zero Abuse Project

The work we do matters. The way we treat our families, colleagues and clients matter. Respect and inclusion matters.

Showing up to do this work in 2025 comes with new and crushing challenges. It can be very difficult to find joy through sleepless nights of wondering and planning for the unknown. Clinging to joy is one way to hold on to our humanity and stay connected to your communities.

Using humor, storytelling, wisdom from colleagues, and anecdotes from the field, this session will explore ways to create space for the good.

10:15–10:30 a.m. Morning Break 1 *with refreshments* Pre-Function Hallway

10:30–11:30 a.m. ■ Breakout Session 1

Digging Deeper: Understanding the Intersections of Sex Trafficking and Intimate Partner Violence

Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie, Someplace Safe & Andrea White, Olmsted County **Garden City Ballroom**
Human trafficking often goes unseen under the guise of other types of victimization. What looks like unhealthy or abusive relationship dynamics might be indicators of human trafficking. This session will help attendees understand the overlap between sex trafficking and intimate partner and family violence as it shows up in youth and adults program participants.

Reimagining Crime Victim Services in Minnesota

Becca Muskat, Minnesota Alliance on Crime **Harvest A**
This workshop will examine how it has “always been done” and prompt organizations to think creatively about how they structure their organizations, what funding they go after, how they provide their services, and care for their staff. Participants will be prompted to ask themselves, why do you provide the services that you do? Why is your organization structured the way it is? And what support do you provide your staff? Using examples from other states and countries this workshop will help providers to reimagine crime victim services in Minnesota.

Do Your Clients Feel Heard? Trauma Informed Legal Advocacy

Captain

Siri Lokensfard Gloede, MSW, LGSW & Karen Hernandez, Hennepin County Domestic Abuse Service Center

Given the prevalence of domestic violence, the complexities, and the significant lethality factors within these crimes, it is crucial that as providers, we remain trauma informed and victim centered in our intervention and prevention responses to domestic abuse. Therefore, this training will provide an overview of the complex dynamics of domestic abuse and the impact of trauma on the brain and whole person. We will also discuss the unique barriers that victim/survivors face as they navigate the legal system and the importance of community collaboration and cultural responsiveness. Finally, we will have a discussion on what trauma informed legal advocacy looks like and the various approaches to this work as we advocate for victim safety and offender accountability. The victim/survivor is the expert in their own unique situation and because of this, we must be asking ourselves as providers, “do our clients feel heard?”

Building Mindful Awareness

Tack

Carrie Garcia, Carrie Your Yogi

Are you looking to manage stress effectively, enhance resilience, and improve your overall well-being?

Meditation tools designed to help with better decision-making, promoting focus, reducing distractions, and minimizing the mental noise that drains our energy will be explored in this session. Find the three types of mindful meditations and their various beneficial practices, focusing on a healing awareness approach that you can carry forward into your daily life. Whether you're a seasoned meditator or new to the practice, this session is accessible to everyone.

Come and discover how mindful meditation techniques can strengthen your awareness and allow you to better handle the ups and downs of life.

1. Zazen (bare awareness meditation)
2. R.A.I.N. meditation (Recognize, Acknowledge, Investigate, Nurture)
3. Visualization meditations

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch and Award Ceremony

Carriage Hall

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ■ Breakout Session 2

Thank you for Telling Me: Responding to Youth Disclosures of Sexual Assault

Tack

Sarah Lockhart, MSW, LICSW and Trisha Sargent, MSW, LICSW, Northeast Youth and Family Services

Many child sexual abuse trainings focus on the legal and ethical requirements of professionals following a disclosure. In this training, however, we will discuss immediate empathetic and therapeutic responses to disclosures. Participants will learn specific skills for in-the-moment response, as well as tools for intervening with youth and their caregivers who have experienced sexual abuse and trauma and may present with a variety of mental health symptoms. Those who provide non-clinical services will learn more about referral and support options to provide to clients following a disclosure.

Breaking Barriers: Addressing the Intersection of Sexual Assault & Housing Insecurity

Kenosha Alexander and Esau Jasper, Sexual Violence Center

Garden City Ballroom

This workshop seeks to explore the complex intersection between victims of sexual assault and the housing challenges they face. Survivors of sexual violence often find themselves struggling with housing insecurity, whether due to the emotional, financial, or physical impacts of the assault. By bringing This workshop aims to deepen understanding, share resources, and develop practical strategies for improving the lives of survivors facing housing challenges.

Supporting Deaf* Survivors: Best Practices for Inclusive Advocacy

Katie Meinhardt and Aaron Gutzke, ThinkSELF

Captain

Deaf* survivors of domestic and sexual violence face unique barriers, including communication challenges, service inaccessibility, and cultural misunderstandings. This workshop equips advocates and service providers with essential knowledge to offer culturally competent, survivor-centered support. Participants will explore the intersection of Deaf* culture and trauma, learn effective communication strategies, and develop best practices for accessible services. By the end of the session, attendees will gain practical tools to break down barriers and foster inclusive, responsive advocacy for Deaf* survivors.

Understanding Violence in Indigenous Communities

Lailah Cloud and Olivia Allery, Division of Indian Work

Harvest B & C

This presentation aims to explore the intersections of domestic violence and historical trauma in Indigenous communities. We will examine the ways that Indigenous communities experience and heal from trauma, emphasizing culturally specific approaches to recovering from violence and trauma. Participants will learn about traditional healing methods, collaborative approaches, and the role of cultural revitalization in helping victims of violence move towards healing and restoring balance in the lives of survivors. Our session will help to form a better understanding on the unique challenges that are faced within Indigenous communities and analyze practical tools to support individuals in their journey of recovering from violence. Participants will leave with a better understanding of how to engage in supportive partnerships and trauma-informed practices that help to create spaces of healing and empowerment.

Chronically Online: Understanding & Supporting Youth in Today's Digital Age

Andrea White, Olmsted County and Carly Hiti, PAVSA

Harvest A

When young people don't see the need to access the internet carefully, they may experience harm or exploitation with lasting negative impacts. Presenters will discuss what youth are currently using to connect online, the impact of youth accessing pornography, and share tangible tips on supporting youth by engaging in open conversations about safe social media use and equip them with critical thinking skills to safely navigate the digital landscape. Many adults, whether parents, caregivers or youth service professionals, struggle to understand how youth are currently accessing the internet and what that can all encompass. Every adult can benefit from learning more about what youth are doing online and how we can support them in making safer and healthier decisions in their online interactions.

1:30 – 1:45 p.m. Afternoon Break

1:45 – 2:45 p.m. ■ Breakout Session 3

Navigating Crisis

Farji Shaheer, Innovative SOULutions

Harvest A

This presentation will introduce individuals who are victim advocates and other professionals how to de-escalate and assist clients that are navigating a current crisis. Participants will learn the skills of Narrative Medicine and Motivational Interviewing. These skills will increase a person's ability to receive communication without judgement and provide the assistance needed to the population served. During this session individuals can provide insight and feedback to the discussion to coordinate various skills needed to assess a mental health crisis.

Roseville Police Department, Community Action Team Panel

Sean Johnson, Cari McCollor, MSW, Erin Reski, Philip Tanis

Harvest B & C

With mental health and substance abuse crises making up about 20% of police calls, the Community Action Team (CAT) prioritizes proactive intervention. Officers and social workers collaborate with clients and families to identify stressors and create action plans, addressing issues like medication adherence, transportation, and support networks. Some residents with untreated mental illness have called 911 over 100 times a year, highlighting the need for early intervention. CAT also investigates concerns such as frequent 911 calls, drug activity, and overdoses, often partnering with nonprofits like Source MN to aid human trafficking victims. As homelessness rises in suburban areas, CAT and Homeless Outreach Coordinator Cari McCollor assist individuals sleeping outdoors or panhandling by securing food, shelter, and identification documents. By working closely with neighboring agencies and community organizations, CAT strives to improve public safety and connect people with long-term support.

“And Then He Shot Mommy”: Interviewing Witnesses to Violent Crimes

Stephanie Randolph, CornerHouse

Tack

As the forensic interviewing field expands interviewers are getting asked to do more and more interviews for children that have witnessed violent crimes including homicides, attempted homicides, gun violence, and abductions. How do these interviews compare to a “typical” interview? What are some special considerations Interviewers should think about before and during these interviews? What questions do we ask? Why even use a CAC for these cases? This presentation will address these questions and other areas of consideration when interviewing children that have witnessed a violent crime.

Screening Youth for Childhood Traumatic Stress and Suicidal Ideation: A Partnership Benefiting Children and Adolescents

Garden City Ballroom

Rebecca Foell, LICSW, Center for Safe & Healthy Children, U of MN and Elizabeth Eagle, CornerHouse

The Center for Safe and Healthy Children, a child maltreatment program at the University of Minnesota and CornerHouse Child Advocacy Center have partnered together to implement the Care Process Model for Pediatric Traumatic Stress (CPM-PTS), a screening tool for symptoms of childhood traumatic stress and suicidal ideation. Based on the results of the screening tool, youth will receive a referral for the appropriate level of therapeutic support which may include ongoing evidence-based therapy or an urgent mental health assessment. All families will receive an in-office intervention (i.e., education, mindfulness, meditation, square breathing, journaling) to address their primary trauma symptom. Communication between youth and caregiver will also be strengthened. This partnership has allowed us to screen youth at two different stages, immediately following a disclosure of maltreatment and 1-3 weeks following their disclosure, providing us with multiple opportunities to identify, intervene, and treat youth experiencing trauma symptoms and/or suicidal ideation.

Secondary Trauma & Self Care

Mallory Thorne, MSW, LGSW and Sal Lee, Carlton County Restorative Justice Program

Captain

Secondary trauma and self-care will explore symptoms and impacts of working with clients who have trauma in their lives. Participants will be able to identify how working with traumatized populations may impact them and build skills to be able to continue their work in sustainable ways.

2:45–3:00 p.m. Afternoon Break 2 *with refreshments* Pre-Function Hallway

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ■ Breakout Session 4

Centering the Voices & Experiences of Survivors through Program Evaluation

Brittany Wojtowicz, MSW, LGSW & Jason Mack, CADA

Captain

Human service organizations have multiple stakeholders that must be considered in developing sustainable practices and policies, including county and state administrators, grant managers, employees...it can be easy to overlook the experiences and needs of service recipients when making critical decisions for an organization. This session will highlight the importance of using intentional and thorough program evaluation as a means of ensuring that agency practices are centered on the self-identified needs and experiences of service recipients. This session will additionally review some tools and methodologies to consider for easy next steps in implementing evaluation goals. The presenters will draw upon their experience leading in-depth program and process evaluations at a mid-sized non-profit serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Southern Minnesota, and how these evaluation efforts have substantially impacted the direction of the organization.

HOPE for Housing- Breaking Down Silos and Collaborating to Create Meaningful Solutions for Serving the Whole Client

Erica Staab-Absher, HOPE Coalition and Anika Rychner, Community Action Northfield

Harvest A

Collaborations give you cold feet? Learn from us about bringing together a basic needs organization and a victim service provider organization together to work magic. Utilizing funds from the Office of Justice Programs, we built a pilot program to help provide Transitional Housing Services and shift the cultures within both of our agencies to embrace Housing First philosophy. Hear about the flops, failure and incredible successes of the past 18 months. Leave with some thoughts about finding your own formula for success and what you might be able to create together to help serve your clients more holistically.

MN Pet Coalition: Intersectionality of Domestic Violence and Pets

Kelly Turpin, Women's Advocates and Carrie Openshaw, The Bond Between

Harvest B & C

Kelly and Carrie are members of the MN Pet Coalition (MNPC). MNPC is a group of Domestic Violence Shelters and Animal Wellbeing Organizations who share a common goal of breaking the cycle of abuse and eliminating barriers that prevent individuals from seeking safety in shelters by providing a comprehensive solution for the care of their pets. Together, MNPC is placing freedom and safety within reach of more victim-survivors of domestic violence and the pets they love. Issues that pet owners face when dealing with domestic violence will be discussed, and statistics shared around the barriers to moving into safe shelter. They will talk about the work the coalition is doing to help address those issues currently, along with sharing what the future state vision is for supporting pet-owning victim survivors.

Community Violence Intervention - Treating Violence as a Disease and Not Just a Crime

Jordan Borer Nelson & Dario Otero, Mad Dads

Garden City Ballroom

This presentation on Community Violence intervention (CVI) discusses the effectiveness and the importance of the work, on *how* we work with community to create safety and security while at the same time identifying the high-risk offenders or potential victims of violence. Highlighting how this work doesn't eliminate law enforcement but creates people with lived experience in the community being there to support their community through violence and traditional generational struggles to help create community change.

Mind/Body Magic Tricks: Mindful Somatic Stretches for Busy People

Julie Marie Muskat, Deeper Water Arts

Tack

This wellness workshop explores grounding somatic and breathing techniques that anyone can do in their workspace or throughout their workday. We will explore common points of stress in our bodies and ways to mindfully address and prevent stress; participants will walk away with mind/body tools that they can incorporate in their daily lives. This interactive workshop will focus on experiential learning in a conversational setting that allows participants to ask questions and customize their learning experience.

4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks | Symposium Closing

Carriage Hall

Return to the general session space for a quick wrap up the 2025 OJP Conference Symposium where we will be drawing for several exhibitor-provided prizes as well as our final drawing –free registration to the 2026 OJP Conference! Remember to drop your name tag/lanyard into the box at registration at the end of the day to be entered for the drawings.

Continuing Education Credits

2025 CEU Session Title	Time	Presenter	Time	CLE	SW	POST
Keynote: Clinging to Joy	8:45-10:15 am	Alison Feigh, MS	90		1	1
BREAKOUT SESSION ONE: 10:30-11:30 AM						
Digging Deeper: Understanding the Intersections of Sex Trafficking and Intimate Partner Violence	10:30-11:30 am	Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie & Andrea White	60	1	1	1
Reimagining Crime Victim Services in Minnesota	10:30-11:30 am	Becca Muskat	60		1	
Do Your Clients Feel Heard? Trauma Informed Legal Advocacy	10:30-11:30 am	Siri Lokensfard Gloede, MSW, LGSW & Karen Hernandez	60	1	1	1
Building Mindful Awareness	10:30-11:30 am	Carrie Garcia	60			
BREAKOUT SESSION TWO: 12:30-1:30 PM						
Thank you for Telling Me: Responding to Youth Disclosures of SA	12:30-1:30 pm	Sarah Lockhart & Trisha Sargent	60	1	1	
Breaking Barriers: Addressing the Intersection of Sexual Assault and Housing Insecurity	12:30-1:30 pm	Kenosha Alexander & Esau Jasper	60		1	
Supporting Deaf* Survivors: Best Practices for Inclusive Advocacy	12:30-1:30 pm	Katie Meinhardt & Aaron Gutzke	60	1/EOB	1	1
Understanding Violence in Indigenous Communities	12:30-1:30 pm	Lailah Cloud and Olivia Allery	60	1	1	1
Chronically Online: Understanding & Supporting Youth in Today's Digital Age	12:30-1:30 pm	Andrea White & Carly Hiti	60	1	1	1
BREAKOUT SESSION THREE: 1:45-2:45 PM						
Navigating Crisis	1:45-2:45 pm	Farji Shaheer	60		1	1
Roseville Police Department, Community Action Team	1:45-2:45 pm	Sean Johnson, Cari McCollor, Erin Reski, Philip Tanis	60		1	1
"And Then He Shot Mommy": Interviewing Witnesses to Violent Crimes	1:45-2:45 pm	Stephanie Randolph	60		1	
Screening Youth for Childhood Traumatic Stress and Suicidal Ideation: A Partnership Benefiting Children and Adolescents	1:45-2:45 pm	Rebecca Foell, LICSW & Elizabeth Eagle	60		1	
Secondary Trauma & Self Care	1:45-2:45 pm	Mallory Thorne & Sal Lee	60		1	
BREAKOUT SESSION FOUR: 3:00-4:00PM	3:00-4:00 pm					
Centering the Voices & Experiences of Survivors through Program Evaluation	3:00-4:00 pm	Brittany Wojtowicz & Jason Mack	60		1	
HOPE for Housing- Breaking Down Silos and Collaborating to Create Meaningful Solutions for Serving the Whole Client	3:00-4:00 pm	Erica Staab-Absher & Anika Rychner	60		1	
MN Pet Coalition: Intersectionality of domestic violence and pets	3:00-4:00 pm	Kelly Turpin & Carrie Openshaw	60		1	
Mind/Body Magic Tricks: Mindful Somatic Stretches for Busy People	3:00-4:00 pm	Julie Marie Muskat	60			
Community Violence Intervention - Treating Violence as a disease and not just a crime	3:00-4:00 pm	Jordan Borer Nelson & Dario Otero	60		1	1
			Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
TOTALS			19.5	6	18	9

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing Education units are available for self-submission to the following:

Agency

MN POST Board ☐

MN Board of Social Work ☐

MN Continuing Legal Education ☐

Units Applied/Approved

9 (other)

18

6 (5 general/1 EOB)

Code/Sponsor ID

09424-00087

CEP 137

Event Code 530050

2025 OJP Conference on Crime & Victimization Symposium Speaker Biographies



Kenosha Alexander is an Alabama native, who serves as the Interim Executive Director of Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Alexander has 22 years in the movements to end gender-based violence, seventeen of those years have been in executive leadership. She has led prevention initiatives, rapid re-housing programs, and task forces focused on homelessness. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and sociology and an MBA. She is a trainer and consultant, and serves on the board of Violence Free Minnesota, MN Crime Reimbursement Board and Shoulder to Shoulder.



Olivia Allery is from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in North Dakota. Olivia is a Domestic Violence counselor/educator for Family Violence Prevention, as well as an assistant to the Women of Traditional Birthing Program at the Division of Indian Work. Olivia's work aims to prevent violence within families through group and 1:1 counseling with perpetrators and survivors of domestic violence, as well as support mothers through cultural practices and education to prevent infant and maternal mortality. Olivia has experience presenting information on our program practices to referral sources that help expand awareness and ways to engage in our groups and services.



Jordan Borer Nelson, born and raised in South Minneapolis' Powderhorn neighborhood, once faced challenges that led to an eight-year prison term. During this time, he embraced faith in Jesus Christ, transforming his life. Now, as Executive Director of Minneapolis MAD DADS, he leads efforts to prevent violence and create job opportunities. Jordan is also the founding pastor of Foundations Church, established in May 2020. A devoted husband and father of six, he is committed to serving and uplifting his community.



Lailah Cloud is from the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians. Since 2022, Lailah has been working with the Family Violence Prevention Program at the Division of Indian Work as a counselor/educator. Lailah has been dedicated to supporting individuals and families impacted by violence by offering guidance and education on violence prevention strategies. Lailah has a strong commitment to community well-being by combining professional expertise with a deep understanding of cultural sensitivity to help empower those facing challenging circumstances. Lailah's work focuses on promoting healing and building resilience within Indigenous communities. Lailah's most recent presentation experience includes sharing our program practices, ways to identify violence, and methods of healing from trauma with urban organizations.



Elizabeth Eagle is the Response Services Director at Cornerhouse Child Advocacy Center, overseeing the Forensics and Advocacy Programs while serving as a Forensic Interviewer and Trainer. She holds an undergraduate degree in Law Enforcement, focusing on community violence prevention and intervention, and a master's degree in criminal justice from Metropolitan State University, and is a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe from Ft. Yates, North Dakota. Since joining the Cornerhouse training team in June 2020, she has promoted a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to investigations, fostering shared learning among diverse professionals to enhance forensic outcomes and improve lives.



Alison Feigh, M.S., Director of Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, a program of Zero Abuse Project, is a subject matter expert on child and teen safety. She works with students, parents, youth workers, faith leaders, law enforcement, and the media to help prevent childhood abuse and abductions. Alison writes curriculum for youth-serving organizations, advocates for families of the missing, and trains nationally on online and personal body safety.



Rebecca Foell, LICSW is the Program Coordinator for the *Otto Bremer Trust* Center for Safe and Healthy Children, a medically based child abuse program at the University of Minnesota. Rebecca obtained her master's degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Through direct and indirect service, she has dedicated her career to supporting children and families impacted by trauma. Rebecca currently works with the multidisciplinary team to address issues related to child abuse and neglect through program development, prevention, and education. Educational topics include trauma, the psychosocial assessment, mandatory reporting, trafficking and exploitation, and secondary traumatic stress.



Carrie Garcia is a Wellness Coach, as well as a meditation and yoga instructor. She has been dedicated to meditation since 1992, practicing various types throughout the years. In 2022, Carrie was ordained as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest. She has facilitated numerous meditation workshops, classes, and retreats, specializing in zazen (just sitting), breath and body awareness, loving-kindness, Tonglen, and Vipassana meditation. Carrie has presented on Buddhism and given Dharma talks at the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center and other non-secular institutions. Her goal is to empower individuals by addressing issues such as stress and anxiety, while fostering awareness to enhance compassion, connection, and overall well-being.



Aaron Gutzke is an experienced nonprofit leader with a master's in public Affairs and Disability Policy from the University of Minnesota. As Executive Director and founder of ThinkSelf, Inc., he uses innovative technology to address language deprivation and remove barriers for the Deaf community. Aaron focuses on empowering language-deprived adults, particularly in education, domestic violence, and sexual assault advocacy. His work has earned recognition, including the Polaris Award (2018), Spotlight Award (2021), and Rise Organization of the Year Award (2024). ThinkSelf, under his leadership, provides essential resources and support to Minnesota's Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing adults.



Karen Hernandez is a supervisor at the Domestic Abuse Service Center with a background in shelter work. Karen graduated from Hamline University with a bachelor's in legal studies, minor in criminology/criminal justice, and a certificate of proficiency in Spanish. Karen has six years of experience providing crisis intervention and support services to victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, and other violent crimes. She is skilled in advocacy services, providing support, and connecting individuals with resources.



Carly Hiti is the Criminal Justice Services Coordinator at the Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault (PAVSA) in Duluth, MN. In her role, Carly provides supportive services to victim-survivors of sexual violence, as well as providing support for advocates and professionals working with victim-survivors within the criminal justice realm. Prior to this role, she worked with adolescent survivors of sexual violence, sexual exploitation, and sex trafficking. Carly frequently collaborates with systems partners to support victim-survivors in a variety of settings. Additionally, Carly has earned certifications in Youth Mental Health First Aid and Child First® Forensic Interviewing Protocol.



Esau Jasper is a housing resource advocate at the Sexual Violence Center in Minnesota, originally from Liberia, West Africa. His passion for social justice, housing equity, and survivor advocacy is driven by personal experience. As a Hennepin CoC Funding Committee member, he works to ensure vulnerable individuals receive critical support. A Christian leader, he holds a nonprofit management certificate (UIC) and a diploma in human rights diplomacy. Believing housing is a fundamental right, his mission is to inspire action and create meaningful change for survivors in our community.



Sean Johnson has been an officer with Roseville Police Department for 24 years, and has served as a sergeant for 18 years. He oversees the Community Action Team (CAT) and all different subsets of it. Additionally, he assists with ongoing CAT investigations and case management. He is actively involved in high priority cases, department policy and assisting CAT investigators on daily operations. He also works with other department supervisors to coordinate effective responses.



Anne LaFrinier-Ritchie, White Earth Anishinaabe, works as a Safe Harbor Regional Navigator for Someplace Safe in West Central Minnesota. Anne has worked in the anti-trafficking field in direct services and training and technical assistance in Minnesota and North Dakota since 2016, with previous history in advocacy and tribal child welfare. She is a 2020 graduate of National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center's (NHTTAC) Human Trafficking Leadership Academy Class 5. Anne consults on a national level on serving Indigenous survivors. Anne also serves on local and national domestic violence and tribal boards.



Stephanie Lee is a cisgender multi-ethnic woman who lives and works in rural communities in NE Minnesota. She works with youth and their families in a pre-charge diversion restorative justice program within a county system. The program strives to foster compassionate conversations to create an equitable community where all people reach their full potential.



Sarah Lockhart, MSW, LICSW is the Mental Health Director at Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS). Sarah has worked as a therapist for over a decade with youth and families who have witnessed and experienced domestic violence and child abuse, at the intersections of systems. Sarah holds a client-centered, developmental, and attachment trauma-informed lens. Most recently, Sarah presented on responding to disclosures of sexual abuse at the Minnesota Association for Child & Adolescent Mental Health Conference in April 2024 and on working with families that have experienced domestic violence to the Ramsey County Attorney's Office in November 2024.



Siri Lokensfard Glode, MSW, LGSW received her Master of Social Work from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. As the Director of the Domestic Abuse Service Center, Siri manages a multidisciplinary unit offering services such as culturally specific advocacy, assistance in obtaining Orders for Protection, pro bono legal consultation and representation, and a prosecution team. Siri has more than 11 years of advocacy experience in the violence prevention field and has conducted trainings on the legal remedies for domestic violence victim/survivors, trauma-informed legal advocacy at the IVAT Summit in Hawaii, and secondary and vicarious trauma among providers at the National Association of Social Workers Conference in Minnesota.



Jason D. Mack has been with the Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Inc. (CADA) for 10 years, serving as Executive Director since 2017. Before this, he led CADA's offender education program and coordinated community response efforts. As Executive Director, he has strengthened CADA's impact through strategic growth, leadership development, and survivor-centered services. Jason holds certifications in Executive Coaching, Organizational Development, and Executive Leadership. With nearly 20 years of leadership experience, he is committed to fostering collaboration, high-performing teams, and strategic organizational development to ensure effective programs and services.



Cari McCollor, MSW serves as the homeless outreach and housing navigator for the Roseville Police Department and has been in her role for three years. With a master's in social work, Cari provides outreach services to those experiencing homelessness and to those who are unstably housed. She connects clients to supportive services and life-saving supplies. Additionally, she works to establish relationships with everyone using a person-centered approach.



Katie Meinhardt is an advocate for equity and anti-violence within the Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing (DDBHH) community. As the Advocacy Coordinator at ThinkSelf Minnesota Deaf, she works to promote access and support for DDBHH individuals experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault, aiming to empower them and ultimately "work herself out of a job." With 15 years of direct service experience in a variety of roles, Katie brings a unique perspective to advocacy and support within the Deaf * community.



Becca Muskat currently works as the Associate Director at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC), a network for victim service professionals, where she designs monthly webinars, workshops, and multi-day trainings for professionals. Prior to working at MAC, Becca was a project specialist for the Family Advocacy Division at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Becca has also worked as a victim advocate for the City of Alexandria, Virginia-Sexual Assault Center. Becca has a Master of Arts in forensic psychology from Marymount University and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Smith College.



Julie Marie Muskat is a freelance dancer, choreographer, teacher, and stage manager currently based in the Twin Cities and originally from Texas. She has worked across the US, Israel, and Italy, dancing with companies such as Threads Dance Project, Vox Medusa, Revolution Dance Theatre, Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company, and Compagnia AiEP. She is the founder of Deeper Water Arts & Mind/Body Center, which provides dance, cross training, and health and wellness opportunities for young people and adults. She has also worked as the office administrator and operations and technology manager for two I/O psychology consulting firms.



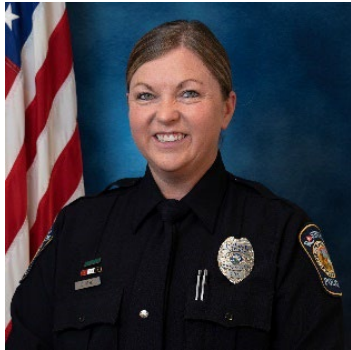
Carrie Openshaw (she/her) is the Director of Community Engagement at The Bond Between, and a member of the MN Pet Coalition (MNPC). MNPC is a group of Domestic Violence Shelters and Animal Wellbeing Organizations who share a common goal of breaking the cycle of abuse and eliminating barriers that prevent individuals from seeking safety in shelters by providing a comprehensive solution for the care of their pets. Together, MNPC is placing freedom and safety within reach of more victim-survivors of domestic violence and the pets they love.



Dario Otero is the founder of Youth Lens 360, a visionary program empowering youth through media and entrepreneurship. As the Program Director at MAD DADS Minneapolis, he is dedicated to community engagement and focusing on violence prevention through employment. A former teacher at the High School for Recording Arts, Dario has a passion for education and mentorship. Originally from Detroit, Michigan, he now works to inspire and uplift young people through innovative programs. A devoted husband and father of three, Dario is committed to creating opportunities for the next generation to succeed.



Stephanie Randolph joined the CornerHouse team in January 2019. She began her career as frontline staff at St. Joseph's Home for Children in Minneapolis before earning her Master of Counseling from MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, KS. After graduating, she worked as a forensic interviewer and trainer in Kansas City, MO, conducting over 1,000 interviews with children, teens, and vulnerable adults. In 2016, Stephanie returned to Minnesota and worked as a victim assistant specialist with the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center and the National Child Protection Training Center.



Erin Reski has been an officer with Roseville Police Department for 18 years, serving 15 years as a patrol officer and three years as a School Resource Officer at Roseville Area High School with students and families in the community. She has been a Crisis Negotiator with Ramsey County Swat for 13 years responding to various types of incidents involving people in crisis. She recently joined the Roseville Community Action Team where she responds to calls involving those who are experiencing crisis and mental illness. She follows up with families to help support them following a 911 call for mental health services and continuing care.



Anika Rychner has worked in the field of human services for 25 years, currently serving as Senior Director at the Community Action Center in Rice County, MN. In this role, Anika oversees the operation of multiple programs serving the communities of Northfield and Faribault including a network of three food shelves, two resource centers, emergency and long-term housing, employment support, and more. She began her career as an advocate for women and children fleeing domestic and sexual violence.



Trisha Sargent, MSW, LICSW is the Intern Program Supervisor and Restoring Power Therapist at Northwest Youth and Family Services (NYFS). Over the last ten years, Trisha has worked with survivors of family violence and sexual abuse within various settings. Trisha's clinical specialization is working with children providing play therapy while providing psychoeducation and support to caregivers about trauma responses. Most recently, she presented on responding to disclosures of abuse at the Minnesota Association for Child & Adolescent Mental Health (MACMH) Conference in April 2024; she is presenting on enhancing multi-disciplinary responses for survivors of trauma at the MACMH in April 2025.



Farji Shaheer is a health care professional that lives and breathes healthcare essentials, by promoting a healthy lifestyle, providing resources to continue and improve a healthy lifestyle and following up to see if a healthy lifestyle is sustainable. He has worked diligently at a local Level 1 trauma center for more than 20 years, providing health care assistance and bed side mentoring for those suffering from mental health crisis situations to traumatic, traumatizing penetrating wounds such as gunshot wounds. Working with multiple non-profits during his career, he has become a prominent and respected community leader. He founded the non-profit, Innovative Solutions, and currently serves as the executive director. Innovative SOULutions offers alternative options for individuals and corporations that are looking to

become successful with engaging and educating themselves on making the progress needed to sustain adequate care for all.



Phil Tanis is an officer with the Roseville Police Department, Community Action Team (CAT). With over a decade of law enforcement experience as a field training officer, hostage negotiator and crisis intervention trainer, he responds to crisis calls with social workers, ensures safety for individuals in crisis, and connects in-crisis individuals and their families with resources. He also provides follow up support to clients with mental illness.



Erica Staab-Abscher is the Executive Director of HOPE Center, serving Rice County, MN and striving to help victims of sexual and domestic violence through Healing, Outreach, Prevention, and Education. Erica has spent more than 25 years advocating on behalf of domestic violence and sexual assault victims at the local, state and national level. She is a Social Worker, Massage Therapist, Spiritual Director and author of three books including “She Stays”, “Examining Domestic Abuse” and “The Community Response.”



Mallory Thorne, MSW, LGSW is a Restorative Justice Social worker with 10 years of experience in Social Work and Restorative Justice. She is an experienced presenter and trainer with a passion for working in community. She enjoys her time working with youth to walk alongside them as they overcome barriers and work to lead fulfilling lives. Mallory obtained her Master of Social Work in 2019 from The College of St. Scholastica. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, hiking, sitting with Lake Superior, and fostering dogs.



Kelly Turpin (she/her) is the Director of Development and Communications at Women's Advocates, and a member of the MN Pet Coalition (MNPC). MNPC is a group of Domestic Violence Shelters and Animal Wellbeing Organizations who share a common goal of breaking the cycle of abuse and eliminating barriers that prevent individuals from seeking safety in shelters by providing a comprehensive solution for the care of their pets. Together, MNPC is placing freedom and safety within reach of more victim-survivors of domestic violence and the pets they love.



Andrea White is the Regional Navigator for Southeastern MN and is housed within the Victim Services in Dodge and Olmsted Counties. Previously, Andrea has worked in Social Services both in Children's Mental Health Case Management and Child Welfare. Additionally, Andrea has worked as an advocate in various sexual assault agencies across Minnesota since 2012. In Andrea's previous position as Safe Harbor Supportive Services she served clients that experienced or were at risk of exploitation and sex trafficking. In 2021, Andrea received the Rising Star Award from the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault in recognition of her contribution to the prevention of sexual violence throughout the state of Minnesota. Andrea has experience facilitating training across the state of Minnesota and nationally for providers and community members on Safe Harbor, sex trafficking, and exploitation and is delighted to continue this work within her position as Regional Navigator.



Brittany Wojtowicz, MSW, LGSW has worked at the Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Inc. (CADA) for over 10 years in multiple roles, including advocacy, parenting time supervision, education, and program oversight and management. Brittany has presented at multiple conferences to social service professionals about domestic violence and organizational leadership. In her most recent role as Assistant Director, Brittany has leveraged her strengths in strategic thinking and relationship building to transform the staff supervision, human resource practices, and data collection processes at CADA. Brittany has her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Social Work, and recently completed her Human Resource Generalist certificate.

