

## **Understanding Human Trafficking for the First Responder and Medical Provider Part 2**

**NOT RECORDED**

Workshop C1

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Sarah Pederson and Erica Mortonson, LCSW

### Workshop description:

Although human trafficking victims present to medical facilities for a variety of medical complaints, first responders and medical care providers lack the training and resources to identify victims in a variety of settings, resulting in missed opportunities to help them. All responders should be trained to recognize the behavioral observations, verbal cues, and physical findings that a trafficked patient may exhibit when they present to hospitals/clinics for medical care. This workshop is designed to provide up to date education including ways to better identify the clinical presentation of human trafficking and the steps to respond to and assist victims of trafficking.

### About the presenters:



Sarah Pederson is the Statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordinator for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). In this role, Sarah coordinates and supports existing and developing SANE programs throughout the state of Georgia. With Ms. Pederson's support, the CJCC promotes consistent, professional and patient-centered medical and forensic response and treatment of sexual assault victims across the state. She also coordinates training to create opportunities for continuing education for SANE nurses and other disciplines within the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

Erica Mortonson is the Human Trafficking Unit Supervisor with Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. She has over 7 years of experience in human trafficking, sexual assault and child sexual abuse services. Erica holds bachelor's degrees in Sociology, Anthropology and Gender Studies. She is also a licensed clinician (LCSW) having earned her master's degree in Social Work, graduating with honors from the University of Georgia.

## **Women Who Were Sexually Abused As Children: Mothering, Resilience and Protecting the Next Generation**

Workshop C2

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Teresa Gil, PhD

### Workshop description:

The workshop will examine the long-term impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACE'S) and the risk and protective factors that mothers who have experienced child sexual abuse had to overcome in order and protect their children from the abuse they experienced. The workshop will examine the social and emotional challenges faced by this particular group of mothers. However, the workshop will also focus on the protective factors in the lives of these mothers that help them to “defy the odds” and give their children something positive and significantly different from what they experienced as children. Therapeutic interventions and strategies will be addressed.

This workshop will provide valuable information for Survivor Moms, and those that wish to support, students, professors, and mental health professionals in a variety of disciplines to increase their understanding of the long-term intergenerational impact of child sexual abuse (CSA) on mothering abilities and help prevent the consequences of trauma on the next generation.

### About the presenters:



Teresa Gil, Ph.D. has worked for over 25 years as a psychotherapist, professor, and trainer. In her private practice, she works with women, children, and families dealing with recovery from child abuse and trauma. She is also a professor of psychology, and teaches courses in social work and sociology. Gil works as a trainer and consultant in human service settings and has facilitated workshops on therapeutic issues including communication, parenting skills, and family relations. Gil is the author of *Women Who Were Sexually Abused as Children: Mothering, Resilience, and Protecting the Next Generation*.

## **Engaging Communities to Improve the Mediation Process in Cases Involving Issues of Domestic Violence**

Workshop C3

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Tracy B. Johnson and Joan Prittie

### Workshop Description:

Unlike courtroom procedures which are depicted frequently in television and film (albeit with varying degrees of accuracy), mediation remains unfamiliar to those who have never been participants in the process. This workshop is designed to give participants an overview of court-connected mediation in Georgia and the new Supreme Court Rules for Mediation in Cases Involving Issues of Domestic Violence. These rules were developed by a working group consisting of members from the dispute resolution and domestic violence communities and highlight the success of working together to better the process. The rules were endorsed by the Georgia Commission on Family Violence and will become effective January 1, 2021. Participants who attend this workshop will become familiarized with mediation in Georgia, better prepared for the upcoming changes, and understand how to be an effective advocate for at-risk parties.

The goal of this workshop is to familiarize participants on what mediation is and what it is not, how it works in the courts in Georgia, and how advocates can best prepare their clients for the mediation process. The new Supreme Court Rules for Mediating Cases Involving Issues of Domestic Violence require that all domestic relations cases referred to mediation be screened, either by court program staff or by mediators. These rules were formed on four basic principles: safety, self-determination, practical implementation, and best practices. Participants will be given information on how these rules will be implemented and what the process looks like for at-risk parties.

### About the Presenters:



Tracy Johnson is the Executive Director for the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. Tracy is a registered mediator and previously served for 17 years as the Director for the 6th District ADR Program. From December 2013 until June 2016, Tracy served as Director of the Fulton County Superior Court Family Division. She has a Master of Science in Judicial Administration from Michigan State University and has attained her Master Certificate in Court Administration from GCCA. Tracy is a past-president of GCCA.



Since 1999, Joan Prittie, Esq., has served as the Executive Director of Project Safe, an Athens based non-profit organization that is working to end domestic violence through crisis intervention, ongoing supportive services, systems change advocacy and prevention and educational programs.

Joan is a graduate of Bradley University and the University of Georgia School of Law, and describes herself as a “recovering attorney.” As a lawyer with the Prisoner Legal Counseling Project, Joan represented indigent inmates in the Georgia state prison system. During that time, she helped develop the Battered Women’s Clemency Project and worked on behalf of 78 women in prison for killing their abusers, securing one sentence commutation and a dozen paroles. Since 2010, Joan has served as editor of the Georgia Domestic Violence Bench Book—a compendium of state and federal law and law-related information.

Joan was the recipient of the 2015 UGA President’s Fulfilling the Dream award for social justice, and the 2014 ATHENA award for professional excellence, community service and leadership development. In 2010, she was one of 15 people nationwide to win the Sunshine Peace award for facilitating social change to end violence against women and children. A board member of Books for Keeps and Elder at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Joan also teaches classes in fundraising and grant proposal writing in the Masters of Nonprofits program at UGA. She and her partner of 26 years enjoy traveling the world and spoiling their rescued pit bulls: Sweetie, Earl and Estelle.

## **From Dream to Reality: Starting a Family Justice Center in Your Community**

Workshop C4

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Jenny Aszman

### Workshop Description:

A Family Justice Center (FJC) is a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary co-located service center that provides support to victims of interpersonal violence. FJCs house a multi-disciplinary team of professionals under one roof and provide one place where victims can receive a holistic array of services. Due to their centralized intake system and victim-centered approach, FJCs reduce the number of times victims must tell their story, reduce the number of places victims must go for help, and increase access to services and support for victims and their children. FJCs go well beyond co-location of services and serve as a vital coordinating entity in the community, facilitating collaboration among all agencies that address domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. This workshop will cover the key elements and core partners of a FJC, best practices for planning and implementing a FJC, and action steps you can take to prepare your community to begin the planning process.

The goal of this workshop is to provide attendees with an overview of the entire FJC process and key strategies for preparing their community to plan and implement a successful FJC. Attendees will be able to apply what they learn immediately in their communities and begin conversations with key partners on the possibility and process of opening a FJC. Workshop participants will be encouraged to conduct a community readiness assessment to identify community-specific actions to take to strengthen community partnerships necessary for planning and implementing a FJC.

### About the Presenter:



Jenny Aszman, LMSW, is the Family Justice Center Coordinator at the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council where she supports communities in the planning and implementation of family justice centers in Georgia. Previously, Jenny worked at the Georgia Commission on Family Violence as the Program Manager and the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project Coordinator where she developed and implemented several successful family violence initiatives and training. Jenny earned her Master of Social Work specializing in community partnerships from Georgia State University and dual Bachelor's degrees in Social Work and Women's Studies from the University of Georgia. She has provided training for the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, the Battered Women's Justice Project, the Georgia Chapter of the National

Association of Social Workers, and the Georgia Head Start Association. Jenny is a Georgia Women's Policy Institute fellowship alum and a recipient of an Inspiration Award given by Canyon Ranch and Health Magazine.

## **Case Study: Cycle of Violence from Behind Bars - NOT RECORDED**

Workshop C5

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Jill Hollander, Esq.

### Workshop description:

An in-depth examination of a successful domestic violence case prosecution through jail recordings. This workshop will examine and enhance attendees understanding of the reality that abuse through tactics of manipulation and control continues behind bars. Attendees will learn how to find what an inmate doesn't want you to find. The workshop examines these complex dynamics play out frequently in domestic violence cases through a case study of a successful prosecution that was made so in large part through the use of jail call recordings. Attendees will hear what manipulation and control sounds and looks like from jail and then learn how to find offending calls and contacts when your survivor is not cooperative, what power and control looks like behind bars, and how to effectively explain the concerns to the court.

### About the Presenter:



Jill Hollander presently serves as a Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney in the Fulton County District Attorney's office. Raised in New York and educated at Tufts University in Boston, Jill moved to Georgia to attend Emory University School of Law in 1999. From a young age Jill wanted to be a prosecutor and chose courses and internships that would further that goal, including the DeKalb County District Attorney's office and the Manhattan District Attorney's office in New York. Upon graduation from Emory in 2002 she began her career at the Fulton County District Attorney's office.

In 2010 she was appointed Chief over Crimes Against Animals, specializing in prosecuting felony cases. In 2014, while maintaining the animal cruelty cases, she joined the Domestic Violence Trial and Policy Division. In addition to her duties as an attorney, Jill specializes in working with Securus Technologies to ensure that communications originating at the jail are intercepted and properly preserved for use in court. She serves as a liaison between law enforcement agencies to assist in the discovery and preservation of this important evidence. Through the utilization of technology she is able to discover and authenticate communications defendants go to great lengths to hide, and admit those communications as evidence in court.

Jill has spoken extensively on multiple topics related to Animal Cruelty, Domestic Violence, and the link between the two. She proudly uses her experiences to assist others who seek to ensure justice for those who either can't, or won't, speak for themselves.

**Violence Across the LifeSpan – A Novel Collaborative Approach**

## Workshop C6

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Sheryl Heron, Chinyere Nwamuo, Ashley Singleton, Lauren Hudak

### Workshop description:

The Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory (IPRCE) was redesigned in 2015 to respond to the impact of violence inflicted on people in Georgia. In a novel approach, IPRCE created 5 task forces one of which is the Violence Prevention Task Force (VPTF). The task force goals are data-driven with the intent to develop an action plan, translate information and participate in advocacy efforts. With more than 30 members, the task force model has brought together practitioners, researchers, university and community partners to address violence across the lifespan from children to older adults. Attendees will be able to take the information using the task force model to learn about violence across the lifespan and develop the skills and tools needed to address the intersectionality of violence.

### About the presenters:



Dr. Sheryl Heron is a Professor and Vice Chair of Administrative Affairs in the Department of Emergency Medicine, the Associate Dean for Community Engagement, Equity and Inclusion, Assistant Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs on the Grady Campus and Associate Director of Education and Training for the Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory (IPRCE). She is also the Co-Chair of the Violence Prevention Task force of IPRCE.

She is a Past Chair of the Emergency Medicine Section of the National Medical Association. She has received several awards including the Partnership against Domestic Violence's HOPE Award, the Woman in Medicine Award from the Council of Concerned Women of the National Medical Association, the Gender Justice Award from the Commission on Family Violence and was named a hero of Emergency Medicine by the American College of Emergency Physicians. She has been accoladed with additional awards in 2018 that address diversity and inclusion such as the Inaugural Wes Curry Executive Leadership Award in Diversity and Inclusion at the Annual Emergency Medicine Executive Summit and the Inaugural Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award at Emory University School of Medicine.

In 2012, she was named the inaugural President of the Academy for Diversity & Inclusion in Emergency Medicine (ADIEM) of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine and is an editor for the first textbook in emergency medicine published in 2016 entitled *Diversity and Inclusion in Quality Patient Care (DIQPC)*. In 2019, she served as an editor of a 2<sup>nd</sup> textbook - *Diversity and Inclusion in Quality Patient Care, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition – Your Story/Our Story* which focuses on unconscious bias and microaggressions experienced by health care professionals.



Dr. Heron has lectured extensively on Wellness/Work-Life Balance, Diversity/Disparate Care in Emergency Medicine, as well as the medical response to Intimate Partner Violence. She is proud of her Jamaican heritage and committed to her family who drives her and is the foundation for her focused lens towards equity, equality and excellence.



**Chinyere Nwamuo** is the CDC Core State Violence and Injury Prevention Program (Core SVIPP) Grant Manager at the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) Injury Prevention Program. She directs the overall operation of the implementation, evaluation and dissemination of strategies that address injury and violence issues in the state. She is also the co-chair for the Violence Prevention Task force at the Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory, and the Co-President for the Southeastern and Southwestern Injury Prevention Network. Chinyere received her MPH from Georgia State University with a concentration in Health Policy and Management and has additional educational training in Injury and Violence Prevention Policy, and Evaluation and Assessment Methods. In her role at DPH, she facilitates the convening of Injury and Violence Prevention partners to foster collaborative partnerships, research and programmatic efforts.



Ashley Singleton is a Program and Research Manager at Emory University. Her areas of expertise include adolescent sexual and reproductive health, strategic planning, and program evaluation. Singleton's current projects include work with the Center of Excellence for Children's Behavioral Health to provide fidelity monitoring and workforce development for High Fidelity Wraparound initiatives in the state. She also assists with coordinating a program, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), that focuses on characterizing the complications associated with therapeutic blood transfusions for hemoglobinopathies. Ashley Singleton completed her master's in Public Health from the University of South Florida. She received her B.S from University of South Carolina.



Lauren Hudak, MD, MPH is an attending physician of Emergency Medicine at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, and an Assistant Professor at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Hudak's clinical interest includes the care of trauma and injury patients with a focus on victims of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and firearm injured patients. Her public health and research interest includes the impact of violence and injury on mental health and the community, as well as firearm injury prevention in the clinical environment. She is the Assistant Director of the Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory (IPRCE) where she co-leads the Violence Prevention Task Force collaborating with multiple Atlanta area research and community organizations. She serves as the Emergency Medicine Sexual Violence curriculum director, coordinating training for the sexual assault forensic examination as well as comprehensive trauma informed clinical care. Her current research projects include examining the acceptability of firearm related injury screening and safety practices in Emergency Department patients as well as assessing firearm injury trends, risk and protective factors, and hospital based violence intervention in the healthcare setting.

## **Human Trafficking and Special Populations**

### Workshop D1

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday September 15, 2020

Presented by: Joy Kelleher

#### Workshop description:

This course will review the dynamics of risk and recovery for people with ASD, developmental, intellectual, physical disabilities, and mental health issues. As the methods of traffickers become increasingly sophisticated and targeted to exploit the most vulnerable populations, we will examine the risks to young people and adults with DDID and/or mental health concerns and discuss strategies for raising awareness, advocacy and safety.

#### About the presenter:



With over 25 years of experience, Joy Kelleher, LCSW, has an eclectic background including extensive international work. Her areas of practice include working with children, teens, families, and adults from a strengths-based, positive psychology perspective. She is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional Level II with a strong background in working with vulnerable populations and people who have experienced trauma. Her key areas of focus are facilitating healing and equipping people to navigate their lives in a value driven manner. In her work with children, she has extensive experience in treating childhood anxiety and behavioral challenges.

**Firearm Removal: Preventing Family Violence through Protection Orders**  
Workshop D2

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Jen Pauliukonis, Lisa Geller, Sharon Frattaroli, Christopher Carita

Workshop description:

Guns make family violence situations lethal. A woman is five times more likely to be murdered when her abuser has access to a gun. Just as gun violence is a uniquely American problem, domestic violence perpetrated with a gun is also a uniquely American problem: 92% of all women killed by guns in high-income countries were Americans.

Evidence shows that policies that prevent abusers from accessing guns reduce domestic violence homicides. Two policies, domestic violence protective orders (DVPOs) and extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs), are effective tools for gun violence prevention. DVPOs can, but don't always, involve firearm removal. ERPOs are civil orders and follow the well-established path of domestic violence protective orders, except they only address the issue of gun possession and acquisition. ERPOs offer an opportunity for law enforcement and family members to petition a court to remove a firearm from a person who is at risk of harm to self or others before a tragedy occurs. As of February 2020, this legal innovation is available in 18 states and the District of Columbia. In this workshop, we will discuss how ERPOs and DVPOs can be used to keep guns out of the hands of abusive individuals.

The presenters plan to convey the importance of enacting firearm removal policies and processes to protect women and families from harm from individuals subject to such orders. We will explain how DVPOs and ERPOs can be used to ensure that firearms are removed in dangerous situations. In addition, we will explain how successful firearm removal policies require the collaboration of many stakeholders, such as law enforcement, judges, state and county attorneys, and advocates. Attendees will learn how stakeholders work together to keep individuals safe from family violence perpetrated with firearms. We hope that attendees will emerge with a desire to champion this issue to keep Georgians safe from family violence. The co-presenters have expertise in public health research translation, state advocacy, family violence, firearm removal implementation, and law enforcement training.

Presented by:



Jen Pauliukonis

As Director of State Affairs, Jen is responsible for developing legislative policy support for partner states across the country. She provides and translates research for advocates,

stakeholders, and partners to support local efforts throughout the country to reduce gun deaths and injuries. Jen is currently a fellow with the Bloomberg American Health Initiative and completing her MPH at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Lisa Geller is the Policy Analyst at the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence. In this role, Lisa works to strengthen domestic violence firearm removal policies at the state and federal level. In addition, Lisa works to implement gun violence prevention policies and to educate stakeholders about these evidence-based policies. While earning her MPH at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Lisa worked with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy & Research in addition to conducting her own research on the role of domestic violence in fatal mass shootings in the United States.



Christopher Carita joined the Fort Lauderdale Police Department in June of 2009 where he has earned 14 Department Commendations and 6 Public Commendations for exemplary police work. He has served in various roles, from patrol, to street narcotics, to burglary/robbery investigations, and currently serves as a Detective with the Special Investigations Threat Response Unit and Crisis Negotiator. Christopher investigates mass casualty threats (schools, churches, workplace, etc.), political violence, and extremist groups. He has initiated numerous investigations, identifying pattern offenders and threats to public safety, compiling strong criminal cases in cooperation with the State Attorney's Office.

**Opening your own Family Justice Center: Experience from the Athens-Clarke County  
Family Protection Center, 15 years and Counting**

Workshop D3

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Tangela Beard-Ferguson, Linnea Ionno, Derek Scott

Workshop description:

The Family Protection Center (FPC) in Athens-Clarke County has operated for 15 years as the only Family Justice Center in Georgia with multiple agencies working together to provide services. The FPC provides a single location for the collaboration of different agencies that work with survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. This interagency network under one roof creates a “one-stop shop” where survivors can receive necessary services. Come learn from experienced user group members as they discuss the successes and challenges in opening and maintaining the FPC.

After a brief history on how the FPC began, this workshop will focus on creating effective interagency relationships by using the experiences of professionals working in the FPC. Through a Q&A session, presentation, and activity, the workshop will use the history and start-up of the FPC to demonstrate how to create this method of collaboration. It will also focus on how to foster an environment of respect for each agency's perspective and goals and highlight the benefits of working together to better serve clients and the community.

The goal of this workshop is to help attendees generate ideas for effective interagency collaboration. The workshop will include two representatives from separate organizations in the FPC and will be facilitated by a Project Safe administrator with experience working in the FPC. The presenters will lend practical advice and expertise to the discussion about creating dynamic interagency collaboration.

About the presenters:



Tangela Beard-Ferguson has worked in social services for over fifteen years, including child protective services, adults with developmental disabilities, and currently as a domestic violence advocate. She began her career with the non-profit domestic violence organization, Project Safe, Inc. as a TANF Assessor in 2006. She then served as the Community and Legal Advocate

for 6 years and is currently serving as Associate Director of Project Safe. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Development from Georgia Southern University and a Masters in Psychology, from the University of Phoenix. Tangela has served as Co-Chair of the Athens-Clarke, Oconee County Domestic Violence Task Force for a combined total of 7 years, served on the board of the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, as well as the Oglethorpe County Family Connections. During her time at Project Safe, she has provided domestic violence training to new Athens-Clarke County officers for over 6 years. She has worked on a number of committees to increase and improve services for victims of domestic violence and bringing awareness to the issue. In her free time, Tangela enjoys working out, traveling, reading mystery novels, and trying new vegetarian recipes!



Linnea Ionno (pronouns: she/her/hers) has worked in the gender violence prevention field for over seven years. Linnea received her Bachelor of Arts in History with minors in Art History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from the University of Connecticut. She went on to complete her Master of Public Administration with a certification in Nonprofit Management at the University of Georgia. Linnea worked as an Outreach Advocate and Community Involvement & Volunteer Coordinator at Project Safe, Inc. In 2015, Linnea started working with The Cottage as a Hotline Volunteer and On-call Advocate before being hired as the Advocate for Adult Services. Currently, Linnea serves as the Director of Adult Services and is Co-Chair of the Domestic Violence Task Force for Clarke & Oconee Counties. In these roles, she has provided a variety of presentations and trainings on working with adult survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. She is a member of the Sexual Assault Resource Team (SART) for Clarke and Oconee counties. When she's not working with survivors, she plays roller derby with the Classic City Rollergirls and enjoys working out, hanging with her cat Miso, and traveling.



Lieutenant Derek Scott has dedicated over twenty-two years to his career in law enforcement. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Georgia and a Masters in Public Safety Administration from the Columbus State University. He received an academic award for highest GPA in Class 146 of the NE Georgia Police Academy. Lieutenant Scott worked as one of the first domestic violence detectives in the Family Protection Center in 2005 and resumed working with the FPC in 2016. He has been employed with the Athens-Clarke County Police Department since 1997 and served as a member of the executive committee of the Domestic Violence Task Force. He has also served on various teams and panels, including the Hostage Negotiations Team and the Child Fatality Review Panel. Lieutenant Scott is married with four children and coaches baseball and tennis in his free time.



## **Child Abuse Registry - How courts and advocates can reduce trauma risks to families and survivors**

### **Workshop D4**

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Megan Pulsts and Diana Johnson

#### Workshop Description:

Legal services and parent attorneys are seeing cases where families involved in DV are being placed on the child abuse registry (CAR). Sometimes it is the victims, accused of failing to protect their children when they are themselves victims of abuse. Sometimes non-parent relatives or other household members are the risk to the children, but the parent is put on the registry as the focus of the investigation. The CAR can have long-term impacts on family stability and income, and recent changes and developing case law make the 2020 CAR different from past years. This workshop will discuss new case law and statutory developments and assist advocates and case handlers in assisting families for long-term success. We have a parent attorney handout with a step-by-step representation guide, and all attendees will get an updated sense of how judges are handling these cases and making decisions.

#### About the Presenters:



Megan Pulsts received her B.A. from Georgia State University, and is a graduate of Emory Law School. She served on the Pine Lake City Council from 2012-2020. Megan began her law practice as a juvenile public defender, reporting the most juvenile court trials of any attorney in the state (38) for the year ending June 2013. She managed a Superior Court caseload from 2013-16, and helped establish the county's Mental Health alternative sentencing court for defendants with persistent chronic mental illness. In June 2016, Megan transitioned to civil practice, and is now a staff attorney with Georgia Legal Services Program, specializing in civil remedies to promote economic independence for survivors of intimate partner violence and other victims of crime. She is interested in Child Abuse Registry cases because of the law's disparate impact on women and low-income people.



Diana Rugh Johnson, who operates her own firm specializing in child welfare law, serves as judge pro tempore in the Juvenile Court of DeKalb County. She is certified as a Child Welfare Law Specialist by the National Association of Counsel for Children, and she has been trained as a trial skills teacher by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. She is an active member of the Foster Care Cold Case Project, the National Parent Representation Project and the Georgia Association of Counsel for Children. She regularly speaks to child welfare attorneys across the country on topics such as trial skills, examining expert witnesses, understanding drug tests, effective case planning and due diligence in medically-complicated cases. She began her legal career representing the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services and then spent almost a decade advocating for parents and children involved in the child welfare system. She is an adjunct professor with the University of Georgia School of Law Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic.

## **Developing a Language Access Plan for Individuals with Limited English Proficiency and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Individuals**

Workshop D5

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Leo Martinez

### Workshop description:

Participants will learn the practical tips and skills to develop a language access plan for survivors with limited English proficiency or who are Deaf or hard of hearing. They'll discuss the allocation of resources, policies, strategies for implementation, and ongoing staff training necessary for successful language access plans. Participants will conduct a mock assessment of a specific community to gain knowledge on how to conduct a language access assessment in their own communities. This workshop is Module 3 of the Office for Victims of Crime approved Translating Justice curriculum. Task force members can in turn utilize this or related presentations to ensure that other task force member agencies can comply with language access requirements. Resources will be shared to that extent.

Language access plans are oftentimes a requirement for most federal and state funding as well as it is a tool to facilitate access for underserved populations including those who are limited English proficient and Deaf or Hard of Hearing. This is a train-the-trainer style workshop.

### About the presenter:



Leo Martinez is a Project Manager with Casa de Esperanza – National Latin@ Network, which is a national Technical Assistance provider organization and is recognized as the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence in the Latin@ community. He is also the co-founder and past President of Latino LinQ, an Atlanta based non-profit organization providing support services to Latin@s of any sexual orientation and any gender identity. Prior to Casa de Esperanza, Leo worked as a consultant for the Georgia Commission on Family Violence. He is a faculty member of the Georgia Victim Assistance Academy, a project of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia. With Casa de Esperanza, Leo coordinates Training and Technical Assistance for a variety of projects and topics including: Enhancing Services for Male Survivors, Translating Justice, Language Access planning, Cultural Responsiveness, Latin@ Realities, and Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Initiative. Leo has worked for many years as an advocate in the community with Latin@, Immigrant and LGBTQ survivors of violence. He holds degrees in Early Childhood Education from his country of origin (Argentina) and in Psychology and Human Services from Clayton State University in Morrow, GA. He was named Grand Marshall by the Atlanta Pride organization in 2016 for his work with the LGBTQ

community of Georgia. He is currently a steering committee member of the Hearing Loss Association of America – Jacksonville Chapter.

## **Cross Cultural Collaboration**

Workshop D6

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST, Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Presented by: Aparna Bhattacharyya and Wendy Lipshutz, LPSW

### Workshop description:

Attendees will learn how Raksha, Inc and Jewish Family Career Services (JFCS) Shalom Bayit Program along with other organizations built a foundation that led to collaboration and cooperation for over 25 years to ensure holistic and culturally responsive services to their respective communities and other underserved communities. Participants will have opportunities to apply this to their own experiences and work. The goal is to equip participants with tools and frameworks to embrace collaboration with non-traditional partners and think outside the box as they tackle barriers and issues that survivors may face.

### About the presenters:



Aparna Bhattacharyya has served as Executive Director of Raksha since 1998. Aparna graduated from Georgia State University with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. She has served as a member of the Georgia Advisory Committee for the U.S Commission on Civil Rights, Board Vice President for Tapestri, Inc., Advisory Board member for the National Network to End Violence against Immigrant Women, and Advisory Board member for Georgia State's School of Social Work. Aparna served as a Board member for the Dekalb County Domestic Violence Task Force (2006-2012, Chair in 2012) and Vice President for the Cross Keys Foundation in 2011-2012. She was awarded the Indian Professionals Network (IPN) award in 1997 and 1998 for her service to the community. Ms. Bhattacharyya was awarded the Director's Eagle Award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in 2006, the Georgia Commission on Family Violence Gender Justice Award, and the Dekalb County Domestic Violence Task Force's Deborah C. McDorman Award in 2008. She was recognized by the Indian American Cultural Association for Excellent and Continued Contribution to the Community in 2010. She is on the Board of National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project and the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She was a White House Champion of Change in May 2013 with a number of other Asian-American women leaders and named by Georgia Asian Times as one of the 25 Most Influential Asian Americans in Georgia in July 2013. In April 2014, Aparna was recognized by Georgia State University with The Distinguished Alumni Service Award by the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and by Desi Express Magazine for her community services. In 2018 she

received the Hope for Tomorrow Award from International Women's House for her advocacy work.



Wendy Lipshutz is Program Director of Shalom Bayit, the domestic violence program of Jewish Family & Career Services in Atlanta, a position she has held since the program's inception in 1993. Shalom Bayit (Peace in the Home) is a nonsectarian program serving the entire community, and the only program in Georgia to address abuse within the context of the Jewish community. Prior to her position at JF&CS, Wendy directed the East Alabama Task Force for Battered Women in Auburn, Alabama for over 7 years. Wendy has been a pioneer in addressing abuse within the context of the Jewish community, and is passionate about education and collaboration to address the impact of layers of oppression on individuals from diverse communities. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Wendy provides individual counseling and facilitates support groups for survivors, as they work through immediate crises and towards long-term safety and wholeness.