



2017 JuST Conference

October 24-26, 2017
New Orleans, LA

****June 13th DRAFT AGENDA. Final program will be posted in September.****

Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviews – A Trauma Informed Experience [PLENARY]

Russell Strand, Strand & Heitman Innovative Forensic Techniques (SHIFT), LLC

When human beings experience trauma, they undergo a process that many professionals – as well as the individuals themselves -do not understand. Therefore, when the criminal justice system responds to the report of a crime, most professionals are trained to obtain “who, what, where, why, when and how.” Yet, trying to collect information about a traumatic event in this way may inhibit important psychophysiological evidence and the accuracy of the details provided. The Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) was designed to change all of this. Proven to be a game changer in the investigation and prosecution of many forms of violence, this interview technique draws on the best practices of child forensic interviews, critical incident stress management, and neuroscience -- combining them all into a simple three-pronged approach that unlocks the trauma experience in a way that we as professionals can better understand.

Powerful Ink: How Tattoos and Branding Shape the World of Human Trafficking [PLENARY]

Sgt. Molly McDade Hood, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office; Karma Rose Macias, Portland State University

This study explores the relationship between tattoos and commercial sexual exploitation for both survivors and traffickers. Working with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office this workshop helps practitioners, law enforcement personnel, advocates, and other stakeholders understand the significance of tattoos and the tattooing in the world of human trafficking. This study analyzes the extent to which certain categories, locations on the body, and quantities of tattoos are related to human sex trafficking. Taken from both interviews with law enforcement personnel, survivors, traffickers, and database photographs we explore how understanding the meanings and placement of tattoos can aid in developing therapeutic as well as legal and investigative tools for all stakeholders.

Survivor Leaders Drive California Anti-Child Trafficking Policy

Josie Feemster, Survivor Advocate, Children's Law Center of California; Oree Freeman, Survivor Advocate; Suamhirs Piraino-Guzman, QMHP, Survivor Advocate, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST)

The California Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Action Team Advisory Board is a groundbreaking committee of 10 survivor leader advocates tasked with providing input to state and local agencies, community-based organizations and other stakeholders regarding how to improve policy and practice for CSEC and at-risk youth. The Advisory Board is comprised of a diverse group of professionals who promote social justice and collaborate with various agencies in the fight against trafficking. This presentation will give you a better understanding of the Advisory Board's central role in anti-child trafficking policy as well as its development, composition, recent accomplishments, and the impact it has had on the communities from a survivor leaders' perspective. Attendees will leave the workshop with critical takeaways and tools to launch their own state or local Advisory Boards.

Trauma-Informed Escape

Laurin Crosson, Survivor and Founder, RockStarr Ministries

RockStarr is one of very few organizations that specialize in crisis response and escape. We provide emergency shelter and transitioning care for survivors. This presentation will cover tactics of escape, safety precautions, building rapport with client-survivors, travel care, and detoxing from the life in weeks one, two, and three. It will touch on the topics of aftercare, finding appropriate accommodations for follow-up placement and care. We want organizations to learn the techniques we have found safe so more victims can have a successful and safe escape.

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Practical Steps to Changing the State Response to Sex Trafficking –From Policy to Implementation

Noelle Volin, Esq., Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault; Paula Schaefer, Minnesota Department of Corrections; Beatriz Menanteau, Esq., Minnesota Department of Health

Your state has passed laws to better protect and support victims of juvenile sex trafficking – how do you ensure an effective multidisciplinary response on the ground? Laws and policies might be statewide, but the populations, resources, culture, and practices of a given community can vary – even from one county to the next. The way in which sex trafficking occurs also varies, and an effective multidisciplinary response must be able to address sex trafficking as it occurs *at the local level*. This workshop provides a practical framework for making the shift from statewide policy change to community-specific systems change. Utilizing the newly released “Safe Harbor Protocol Guidelines,” and applying lessons learned from urban, suburban, rural, and tribal communities, participants will learn how Minnesota leveraged statewide momentum to develop local sex trafficking protocols.

Legal Evolution in the Response to CSEC, and Legal Remedies for CSEC Survivors

Jamie Quient, Esq., Free to Thrive; Melanie Delgado, Esq., Children’s Advocacy Institute, USD School of Law; Fanny Yu, Esq., San Diego County Attorney’s Office

This presentation will discuss the evolution of laws relating to CSEC from criminalizing child prostitution towards decriminalization and connecting survivors to supportive services. This recent shift in many state laws towards decriminalization of child prostitution is a reflection of the changing views towards commercially exploited children as victims rather than criminals and a deeper understanding of how vulnerable children are recruited into the sex industry. This change in the laws has also resulted in new legal remedies for CSEC survivors including criminal defenses, criminal vacatur, criminal expungement, record sealing, civil restitution and civil litigation.

Best Rehabilitation Practices for Working With Female Survivors of Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Danielle Freitag, LADC, Survivor Advocate, Action169

Attendees will understand best practices for the rehabilitation of women who have been exploited, who may also be fighting substance abuse and the diverse concerns related to CSE (Commercial Sexual Exploitation). The presenter will provide best approaches for rehabilitation in support of the wellness, dignity, and potential of survivors of exploitation. Gain awareness as an advocate and/or counselor, on a variety of different therapies, whether you are providing services for women in in-patient or out-patient treatment programs or safe homes. The presenter will also speak on and provide material to assist with enhanced independent living skills, as well as best wellness practices to ensure survivors acquire self-care, and self-esteem practices for their rehabilitation process.

Developing a Child Welfare Response to Human Trafficking on a Shoestring Budget

Stacy Sloan, MSW, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Although there are wonderful resources available for child welfare agencies to respond to trafficked youth in care, there is often little to no money to purchase or implement those programs. Additionally, many child welfare agencies have struggled to comply with the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, without necessary funding or staff. Participants in this workshop will learn about the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services response to human trafficking which was developed with 1 dedicated staff member and very little money by utilizing existing resources and building relationships with stakeholders outside of the agency. The presenter will address roadblocks and solutions to establishing an appropriate human trafficking response.

Mental Health Providers – Treatment Issues, Collaboration & Networking

Toni McKinley, Survivor Leader, The Refuge for DMST; Becca Johnson, Ph.D., Rescue: Freedom International; Emily Waters, Ph.D., LCSW, MPA, Survivor and Founder, Trauma Recovery Expertise Consulting Services (TRECS)

Mental Health providers, interns and graduate students are invited to attend this panel and open discussion. Topics include: Treatment Modalities for Trafficking Victims; establishing a collaborative networking environment; TRuST – Anti-Trafficking Mental Health Providers Network; research past present and future; challenges and recommendations; and more. Panel members include 4 therapists (two psychologists and two survivor-therapists) working with victims of sex trafficking.

Rules without Relationships = Rebellion: Interviews with Foster Parents of CSEC Survivors

Christopher Carey, Ph.D., Esq., and Lena Teplitsky, Portland State University

Limited research exists on the experience of foster parents caring for CSEC survivors. Yet national estimates show that 50-90% of CSEC survivors have been in foster care at some point. Indeed, research in Oregon indicates that CSEC survivors have three times the foster care placement rates of non-CSEC populations. Presenters will report on the findings of a Children's Justice Act funded research grant which interviewed and surveyed foster parents in Oregon who cared for children, youth and young adult survivors. The findings of the research will infuse a critical perspective, that of the foster parent, into the discourse around how to best support survivors in foster care, and where improvements can be made. This presentation will share lessons learned and provide recommendations for how to improve the system at multiple entry points: from foster parents, to child welfare workers, social service providers, judges, police, policy makers, researchers and advocacy groups.

Sex Trafficking in Tribal Communities - Statistical View of Rural Regions

Lynnette Grey Bull, Survivor Leader and Founder, Not Our Native Daughters

Anywhere in the world where there is poverty, you will find human trafficking. This includes our tribal and rural communities, and most often, an overlooked region. Extreme poverty fuels the sex trade, and with the growth of tribal hotel and casinos, an influx of sex trafficking has emerged. There's no clear avenue to justice in Indian Country, due to a wide range of social ills. The presenter review the problem from a statistical economic view, revealing information found in a pilot study on trafficking with Native American persons along with a case study highlighting a criminal enterprise planned by the Mexican Cartel. Attendees will leave with tips on how they may extend efforts towards communities that are the poorest in the nation.

Empowering the Survivor Voice

Lucy Bloom, Survivor Leader and Founder, I'm Coming Home, Inc.

The goal of this workshop will be to demonstrate opportunities for professionals working with survivors to effectively empower the survivor to lead in their recovery, and why this is important to the success of their efforts. Examples include resourcing the survivor to build a colorful map of their recovery, preparing them for disappointment, helping them identify and break their cycle of destructive behaviors, preparing them to participating in staffing meetings regarding their case, helping them identify stinking thinking and developing new thought patterns.

Invisible Differences: Working with LGBTQ youth experiencing sexual exploitation

Tim Grady, RDT, Justice Resource Institute

This presentation, given from the perspective of a mental health provider working in a community setting, will provide training on working with LGBTQ youth in general, and LGBTQ-identified experiencers of exploitation specifically. The presentation will challenge the dominant narrative of commercial sexual exploitation to include the unique experiences of LGBTQ youth. Topics will include masculinity, gender and sexuality, escorting, outreach, and tips on creating an inclusive environment on an administrative and systemic level. A brief review of LGBTQ terms and concepts will be included.

Trauma Informed Residential Care for Survivors - When detention is not the answer

Shandra Carter, LCSW, Arrow's Freedom Place

The care and restoration of survivors after "rescue" is a significant challenge for most communities. There is sometimes a belief that detention equals safety. Until programs are developed that effectively manage the intensive flight response involved with this kind of trauma, we will be faced with the dilemma of detaining survivors for perceived safety. Freedom Place is currently in the sixth year of serving minor female survivors in a residential setting. Through a commitment to trauma-informed care, we have begun to develop practices that allow us to serve without using fear, threats or punishment for compliance. Creating physical and emotional safety has allowed us to serve 20 survivors at a time in a residential setting. This is not done with ease. It is often messy, chaotic and painful. The journey out of the suffering often matches the trauma that caused it. Programs have to learn to hold this suffering.

Unseen: Familial Trafficking and How God Redeemed My Life

Christine Cesa, Survivor Advocate, Youth Advocate Programs

Everyday many victims of Human Trafficking are in our community are being exploited while they are interacting in the community. The presenter will review her own case study of familial sex trafficking, highlighting often-untold situations of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). She will describe how her trafficking affected every dimension of her life, educationally, physically, emotionally, spiritually, and psychologically. In addition, Christine will share how she found redemption with her own story of divine intervention. Attendees will be given signs to look for in a minor that is being trafficked for sex from within her family.

Beyond "Awareness": Practical application of the My Life My Choice Prevention Model

Amy Corbett, LMHC, and Audrey Morrissey, Survivor Leader and Associate Director, My Life My Choice

It can be far too easy to see the commercial sexual exploitation of girls as an inevitable, egregious form of child abuse, sewn deep into the fabric of our society. It is not. While there are multiple areas to address to ensure a safer, healthier upbringing for all girls, targeted strategies can be implemented to decrease the likelihood that commercial sexual exploitation, and the trauma and degradation associated with it, will be part of a young girl's trajectory. Over the past fifteen years, My Life My Choice has developed a survivor-led prevention model specifically for congregate care facilities that includes the development of specialized policies and procedures as well as the integration of the My Life My Choice Prevention Curriculum. Taking our Prevention Curriculum one step further, participants will have the opportunity to learn about this enhanced model and consider applying it to programs within their jurisdiction.

Reflecting Sandtray - An Enhanced Way for People to Share Stories of Trauma

Billie Bivins, LMHC, ATR-BC

Establishing rapport and positive connections with any young person can be challenging. However, the hurdles are overwhelming if you are trying to establish meaningful communications and trust with youth who have experienced severe trauma. Trauma profoundly limits the ability to share personal experiences by talking alone. Non-verbal processes are needed to access unformulated feelings and thoughts about threatening experiences. Reflecting Sandtray, developed during 14 years of clinical work, is a trauma-informed technique that uses object-mediated story telling. This engaging tool combines a variety of clinically established processes that enhance communications. The result is a client-centered activity that is readily mastered and can easily be used by professionals to aid in interviews and support relationship-building with clients who have experienced trauma. Participants will learn the background and be introduced to the Reflecting Sandtray process. Although theory will be discussed, the major emphasis of the training will be experiential. All participants will create their own, individual stories and become proficient in the reflecting listening strategy for witnessing others' stories.

Healthcare and Human Trafficking: Providing Victim-centered, Trauma-informed Care

Holly Austin Gibbs, Dignity Health; Annika Mack, Survivor Leader; Evelyn Chumbow, Survivor Leader

Dignity Health, one of the largest healthcare systems in the nation and largest hospital provider in California, established a program to respond to human trafficking. Three key goals under this program are to: 1) identify and appropriately respond to trafficked persons in the healthcare setting, 2) strengthen communities against human trafficking, and 3) share evidence-based best practices. In order to respond appropriately to trafficked persons, healthcare staff must understand the victim-centered, trauma-informed approach as it relates to mandatory reporting and patient care. Unfortunately, these concepts are often difficult to teach and understand. Dignity Health has worked closely with survivors who are willing to share their healthcare experiences and bring these complex concepts to life. In this workshop, hear from Program Director Holly Gibbs, sex trafficking survivor Annika Mack, and labor trafficking survivor Evelyn Chumbow for a rich presentation and discussion on victim-centered, trauma-informed care within the healthcare system.

A Survivor Panel: Trafficking on the Street, in the School, and in Suburbia

District Court Judge Robert Lung, 18th Judicial District - Arapahoe County; EleSondra DeRomano, Standing Together Against Real Slavery (S.T.A.R.S.); Jill Brogdon, March Forth, LLC

This panel features three survivors with very different experiences from domestic child sex trafficking. The audience will learn the differences and commonalities of these three survivors from their own perspectives and experiences - the street experience, the school experience and the suburbia (or intra-familial controlled)

experience. Attendees will also learn about their respective beliefs for hope, witness their courage and learn from their lives. The panelists will invite the audience to write down specific questions while the panelists answer a series of prepared questions. Once the panelists have covered the more common questions regarding how/where/when and in some sense why, the facilitator will read the audience's questions for the panel to address.

The #1 Obstacle to Successful Mentoring & Advocacy

Kathy Bryan, Survivor Leader, Rebecca Bender Initiative

Chances are your favorite AND least favorite part of anti-trafficking is working with survivors! It's ok - I won't tell anybody! Invest 90 minutes to discover how to overcome the number one obstacle hindering your mentoring/advocacy work. You will leave encouraged and equipped to make this rewarding work even more effective, and fulfilling once again. Designed for both individuals, and service providers, this seminar provides practical methodologies to accomplish effective trauma-informed survivor support.

Targeting High Frequency Buyers - An Effective Collaboration Between Law Enforcement and Male Allies

Tom Perez, EPIK Project

This seminar will discuss how "a bunch of guys" and law enforcement took on the challenge to target and disrupt the online market by working together to address the demand side of prostitution. This has been accomplished by working together in an innovative and collaborative effort, resulting in more than 40,000 direct buyer contacts and leading to multiple high frequency buyer arrests. This session will show the tools and tactics that were developed and how they can be used in your jurisdiction. The presenters will show how this can be a cost effective strategy requiring minimal manpower.

Human Trafficking Intelligence: Collaboration From the Inside Out

Sgt. Molly McDade Hood, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

The breadth of information within correctional facilities across the country should be harnessed and not wasted. Human trafficking is all too common and does not halt once a trafficker is in custody. By monitoring phones and numbers, relationship analysis, mail and visitation, a substantial amount of information can be uncovered. Information gathered may be used to obtain subpoenas and comb the digital footprint that traffickers leave behind. Gain the basics of identifying individuals, an overview of gang and trafficking tattoos, and techniques through case studies using jail intelligence to assist in prosecution. Each investigator and/or agency may have a different piece of the puzzle which becomes clearer when combined, validating information more effectively and thoroughly. The compilation of data accessible to different agencies by database, such as suspected or convicted trafficker, john and victim lists with available information on individuals, assists in multi-jurisdiction collaboration. Existing technology should be embraced and can benefit the operation of information and intelligence gathering within correctional facilities and in turn will strengthen the wheels of justice. In sum, this information provides names, associations and corroborating evidence that result in successful prosecutions and the protection of victims.

Saving Our Boys to Save Our Girls

Stefania Agliano, LMSW, and Bryan Hall, MSW, I AM Training and Consultation Group, LLC

Many of the discussions, prevention/intervention programming, as well as front line assessments are designed to target either the victim (survivor) of sex trafficking or the buyer by addressing demand through legal interventions or educational programming. While anyone regardless of gender can be a trafficker this workshop is specifically focused on male perpetrators. This workshop provides a holistic view of the circumstances or vulnerabilities that may lead a young man to engage in criminal behaviors inclusive of trafficking, including but not limited to, the mass marketing of hyper-masculinity, socioeconomic inequalities and institutionalized oppression. This workshop will allow participants to critically reflect further on how they assess trafficking cases and provide examples of ways to engage young men in their own learning about issues related to trafficking and the role they may play. By discussing the trafficker as someone needing prevention services we position ourselves on the national level to make systemic changes for young men to enhance their well-being and to potentially save our girls.

PROTECT Prevention Education

Ashlie Bryant, 3Strands Global

PROTECT is a systematic, scalable, statewide prevention education program. 3Strands Global in collaboration with two other nonprofit organizations, the Office of the Attorney General, and the California Department of Education, has helped launch PROTECT in the fight against human trafficking. The joint mission of PROTECT is to help educators and students across the state identify and prevent instances of human trafficking through a standardized educational curriculum. 3Strands Global has helped create materials to allow 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grade teachers to incorporate the topic of human trafficking into their annual educational calendar. These materials are grade-level appropriate, state standard-compliant and provide a holistic view of the problem. In this workshop, 3Strands Global will give an overview of the PROTECT program, demonstrate the online learning management system where educators and county workers can access PROTECT content, and give an overview of PROTECT training modules, curriculum, and protocol coordination.

The Power of Education: Addressing Sex Trafficking in San Diego's Unified School District

Andrea Thrower, Felicia Singleton-Daniel, and Sophia Arredondo, San Diego Unified School District

This workshop will present San Diego Unified School District's response to a recent research study "Measuring the Nature and Extent of Gang Involvement in Sex Trafficking in San Diego" conducted in by Dr. Ami Carpenter of USD and Dr. Jamie Gates of Point Loma Nazarene University's Center of Justice and Reconciliation. Learn SDUSD's 3-prong approach to raising awareness and educating staff and students about the prevalence of sex trafficking in San Diego Schools. Participants will also learn how sex trafficking affects our LGBTQIA students and how Restorative Practices can be used to address trafficking issues and support students.

Handle With Care

Andrea Darr, West Virginia State Police Academy; Chad Napier, Appalachian HIDTA

This workshop offers innovative best practices for helping to mitigate the negative effects experienced by children's exposure to trauma and highlights a promising initiative (Handle With Care) between schools, law enforcement and treatment providers. "Handle with Care" provides the school with a "heads up" when a child has been identified by law enforcement at the scene of a traumatic event. Schools are responding with interventions to help mitigate the trauma and mental health providers are co-locating at the school to provide services. Handle with Care programs promote safe and supportive homes, schools, and communities that protect children, and help traumatized children heal and thrive.

No One is an Island: A Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Juvenile Sex Trafficking

Laurie McGehee and Shobana Powell, LMSW, Caddo Parish Juvenile Services

Working with victims of human trafficking can be overwhelming without a team to support you. Barriers to collaboration can exist. You don't have to do it alone. Caddo Parish Juvenile Services developed the first trafficking specific multidisciplinary team in Louisiana. The Team collaborates across systems to develop trauma informed, comprehensive service plans to address and prevent juvenile sex trafficking. Presenters will discuss their MDT development; their successes and challenges and how they overcame system barriers. This is an interactive workshop that will afford the opportunity to participate in an MDT case staffing; develop a service plan and practice advocating for the victim. A case study will be presented and participants will break into groups based on their field of expertise. Each group will trouble shoot questions and concerns from their perspective then be given the opportunity to present their ideas to the larger group. The team will develop a holistic service plan that can be used as a model in their own jurisdictions.

Project NO REST: North Carolina Organizing and Responding to the Exploitation and Sexual Trafficking Of Children

Dean Duncan, Ph.D., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Social Work; Robin Colbert, North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault

This session will present an overview of Project NO REST, a five-year effort funded by VOCA the Children's Bureau, and its approach to strengthening and supporting North Carolina's infrastructure for addressing the trafficking of vulnerable youth in the state, especially those with a child welfare connection. The session will cover the project's development of a comprehensive plan to address both sex and labor trafficking. The session will discuss the creation of the plan by close to 100 stakeholders from state and county agencies, non-profits, the faith community,

and advocates. It will review the plan's recommendations for prevention, youth engagement and outreach, screening and intake for victims of trafficking, services and practices for trafficking survivors, funding, and data gathering. The session also will describe the recruitment of five communities across the state to build and develop collaborative networks to implement the comprehensive plan. The session will describe the initial activities of each site and plans for the future.

Victim Impact Statements – How and When to Use

Becca Johnson, Ph.D., Rescue: Freedom International

Victim Impact Statements are often used in court hearings to allow victims to share about what they experienced and/or the negative aftermath. They allow the victim to express, in their own words and way, how the crime affected his/her life. There is no script or length and victims may choose to write one paragraph or 100 pages. This empowering experience can also be utilized in other settings to foster emotional healing.

We'll discuss: *What is the VIS? When, where and how can it be used and be beneficial? What cautions, if any, should be considered? How VIS can be incorporated with human trafficking victims.*

The Human Trafficking Expert Witness: Qualifying the Investigator, Psychologist, and Other Specialist

Brenda Mezick, Esq., Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office

Expert testimony can be invaluable at trial in a human trafficking case. Learned helplessness, trauma bonding, the practices used by traffickers to groom and recruit victims, and their coercion and control tactics are not within the common experience of the ordinary juror. Yet, what does it mean legally to be an expert in human trafficking? This presentation will survey the federal and state case law on the admissibility of human trafficking experts under both the Daubert and Frye standards. It will discuss the scope and limitations of such expert testimony under statute and precedent. It also provides guidance regarding what knowledge, skill, experience, training or education will likely qualify a witness as a human trafficking expert. This presentation emphasizes real world application and is designed not just for the prosecutor and legal practitioner but for the law enforcement officer, psychologist, medical practitioner, and academic prospective expert witness.

Creating Juvenile Court Infrastructure to Handle Cases of Human Trafficking

Judge Candice Anderson and Storm Ehlers, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court

Join Chief Judge Anderson and Court Attorney Ehlers from Orleans Parish Juvenile Court (OPJC) as they present the steps their court has taken to tackle the issue of juvenile trafficking from all aspects within the court system. Taking inspiration from "trafficking courts" around the country, OPJC has enhanced their court system with a multi-level approach that best fit their particular court structure. Approaching court infrastructure from the first to the last contact a juvenile has with the court, OPJC has sought to train staff and use a trauma-informed approach throughout the system. These changes to infrastructure seek to incorporate the trauma-focused mindset to recognize and deal with trafficking in all court processes – Intake, Diversion through Court Programs, Delinquency, Child in Need of Care, Families in Need of Services, and Probation.

The Intersection of Sex Tourism and Sex Trafficking, A Case Study

Det. Bill Woolf, Fairfax County Police Department; Michael Frank, Esq., U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Florida

Sex tourism is an often overlooked form of sex trafficking, yet is becoming more pervasive. Persons from the U.S. frequently travel to other countries and attempt to recruit children to become sex slaves in exchange for money. Sometimes, they even bring the children back to the U.S. and control them under threats of violence or deportation. In this case study, we examine a sex trafficking case that began as sex tourism in El Salvador: *U.S. v. Eric Noe Araujo-Flores*. We examine the interplay between sex tourists and sex traffickers, and the mechanisms that sex trafficking customers use to hide their crimes. We discuss successful strategies for identifying, investigating, and prosecuting such cases, and consider the evidentiary challenges that these cases entail.

Are you Ready? A Collaborative Approach to Providing Support for Victims Who Testify

Allison Newcombe, Esq., National Center for Youth Law; Michelle Guymon, Los Angeles County Probation Department

The recent increased awareness of and efforts to prevent trafficking have resulted in an accompanying focus on prosecuting traffickers. These criminal cases are built on the testimony of victims. Testifying in an adult criminal prosecution can be incredibly traumatizing, particularly for a young person in the foster or juvenile justice system.

In an effort to support these youth, individuals in Los Angeles County came together to build a protocol that dictates how a multi-disciplinary team, including Law Enforcement, District Attorney, Child Advocates, Child Welfare, Probation, Mental Health and community based partners, will work together to support a youth. The Protocol includes the development of a Victim Witness Support Team for every youth and covers each agency's roles and responsibilities from case filing through post-testimony. In addition to reviewing components of the policy, presenters will discuss case examples to illustrate the challenges and successes of the protocol.

The Road Less Traveled: Bottom Girl to State Witness

Det. Kim Clark, Waco Police Department; Julia Walsh, Survivor Leader

This presentation will follow the case of a DMST victim who was picked up in Waco, Texas, transported to Corpus Christi, and trafficked. A Detective will present how she traveled over 100 hours to collect evidence for the case, showing where it evidentially led to the "bottom girl" turning into a crucial state witness. The "bottom girl," now a Survivor, will explain how the process led her out of "the game" also strengthened her ability to trust the system in helping her begin the healing process and grow into a strong survivor.

Stop Drop and Roll...caring for the involved providers and partners...

Paula Barthelmess, LCSW, Community Outreach Behavioral Services; Kimberly Failes, LCPC, Ambitions of Idaho

Stop Drop and Roll is an exploration of techniques developed and implemented for care providers to deal with the everyday trauma of coming in contact and working with victims of human trafficking. It is without mention a trauma-filled journey victims encounter before, during, and after being involved in "the life." Many care providers, whether probation, healthcare, mentors, educators, community advocates, friends or family, will potentially suffer silently from many of the same symptoms as their victims without recognizing the signs. Stop Drop and Roll will take you from becoming aware of the symptoms to owning the symptoms, and to having the skill set to "put out the fire" of the cycle.

Vicarious Trauma in Human Trafficking Service Provision

Carol Brusca, LMFT, Brusca Wellness; SAC Anthony Maez, Office of the New Mexico Attorney General

The objective of this workshop is to explore how the work of helping victims of Human Trafficking can affect individuals, and the simple steps that can be taken to avoid vicarious trauma. By the end of the workshop, each attendee should have a thorough understanding of exactly what vicarious trauma is, how stress can impact all areas of an individual's life, the steps that can be taken to relieve the symptoms of vicarious trauma, the simple tools and techniques that can be used to avoid vicarious trauma and decrease stress. This workshop is appropriate for anyone who works in the Human Trafficking field, from direct service providers and advocates to law enforcement, probation, parole, etc.

Benefits and Challenges of Public and Private Sector Teamwork: Holding Businesses Accountable for Sex Trafficking

Joel Shapiro, Esq., Law Office of Joel Shapiro; Janis Puracal, Esq., Maloney Lauersdorf Reiner PC; Jenn Gaddis, Esq., Bureau of Labor and Industries

Two minor trafficking victims, ages 13 & 15, were sexually trafficked at an Oregon strip club, approximately two years apart. In 2016, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries and civil attorneys for the young women collaborated to hold the strip club accountable for its role in their exploitation. The resulting litigations proceeded on two separate tracks involving the administrative prosecution under Oregon civil rights laws and civil claims for negligence & trafficking. This presentation will cover the benefits of teamwork between the public and private sectors, as well as the challenges of each particular case. Issues in the cases included: labor law, principal/agent vicarious liability, piercing the corporate veil, local and state regulatory oversight, bankruptcy, and the different remedies available through the separate litigations. Ultimately, the strength of these cases was rooted in the young women at their center and their unwavering commitment to hold the strip club accountable.

A Comprehensive Trauma Informed System of Care Necessary to Address the Needs of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

Kimberly McGrath, Psy.D., and Marta Torres, LCSW, Citrus Health Network; Assc. Administrative Judge Maria Sampedro-Iglesia, Circuit Juvenile Division; Yinay Ruiz, Our Kids of Miami Dade/Monroe

This presentation describes a specialized, trauma-informed system of care that has been implemented in Miami-Dade County, Florida to meet the needs of child welfare involved youth who have been commercially sexually exploited. This system of care includes three key components: 1) A Specialized CSEC Court, 2) The Miami CARES Project, 3) The CHANCE program, and 4) The Survivor Empowerment Program. Key components of these programs will be described, including a panel discussion about the benefits of this collaboration and integration for the youth will be emphasized.

Keeping It Real: An Explicit and Informal Discussion With a Survivor

EleSondra DeRomano, Survivor Leader and Founder, Standing Together Against Real Slavery (S.T.A.R.S.)

EleSondra, known as “El,” is a survivor of child sex trafficking. El is from the streets, was victimized on the streets, and now goes back to the streets to conduct outreach and provide services to girls stuck in similar violence and exploitation. Join us for a facilitated discussion as El “keeps it real” and shares her story, providing valuable insight on the mindset of a victim and explains what really matters in creating opportunities for connection, growth, and long-term healing. Ample time will be given for an informal Q&A with the audience where El encourages people to ask the hard questions so that a real and honest discussion can take place.

Trafficking, Trauma, Resiliency & Evidence-based HOPE

District Court Judge Robert Lung, 18th Judicial District - Arapahoe County

In this presentation the audience will learn about the multi-faceted impacts of childhood trauma from a particular case study that included sexual abuse, domestic child sex trafficking and torture. While the information regarding the trauma and trafficking is graphic and brutal, the audience will fully embrace and believe in the power of resiliency and ‘evidence-based’ hope that Judge Lung provides throughout the presentation. The audience will also participate in several grounding techniques and practice self-care during the presentation. Lastly the audience will learn about developing trust and establishing safe boundaries when working with victims of trauma and trafficking.

CSEC Hierarchy of Survival: Understanding the Process from Surviving to Thriving

Russell Glenn Wilson, Survivor Leader and Law School Student

Through first-hand research and personal experience, this presentation will provide an insightful look at how victims face their daily lives as well as the tumultuous journey from sex trafficking victim to fully self-actualized thriver. The presenter will use Maslow’s hierarchy of needs as a skeletal foundation to explain the processes in which victims of sex trafficking deal with the trauma and stigma of life on the streets. This presentation has three objectives: 1) Give service providers a model in which to base standard operating practices while remaining flexible when providing services for a highly unpredictable population; 2) Provide a clear vision and perspective for law enforcement to see the exploited victims of sex trafficking as victims, rather than anti-social street hustling criminals; 3) Humanize victims in an increasingly fractured and self-absorbed global world while acknowledging the stigmas that come from living in a heteronormative patriarchal society.

Empowerment Through Employment - The Missing Piece

Jamie Rosseland, Survivor Advocate, and Kristen Keen, Rethreaded; Alyssa Beck, Survivor Advocate

With the growing anti-trafficking movement, survivors of human trafficking have more and better access to services than ever before, yet there remains a huge gap in services nationwide as survivors seek employment. Learn about one social entrepreneurship’s mission and success in unraveling the effects of the sex trade by fighting business with business, providing safe, viable and creative work to survivors of the sex trade. Hear from two survivors about the challenges they faced once they escaped from the sex trade and how they found empowerment through employment. Gain insight from the founder and director of Rethreaded on the topic of starting and running a successful social entrepreneurship, and find out how you can make a difference in your own community.

Decriminalization Through Collaboration: Los Angeles’ Multidisciplinary Response to CSEC

Allison Newcombe, Esq., National Center for Youth Law; Michelle Guymon, Los Angeles County Probation Department

This workshop will review Los Angeles’ nationally-recognized Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol for CSEC (FRP) that has been in place for nearly three years. The FRP spells out a collaborative, multidisciplinary, 90-minute response when a commercially sexually exploited child is identified by law enforcement. The FRP has allowed Los Angeles County to drastically diminish the number of children arrested for prostitution and related offenses and

instead has provided these children a non-punitive, victim-centered response. In addition to reviewing the components of the policy and data from the first three years of implementation, several cases will be discussed to illustrate the collaboration to meet the children's needs, the benefits, and challenges of the FRP.

"Art of Seduction" – The Anthony Curry Case Study

Det. Chad Opitz, Beaverton Police Department; Anastasia Hamzayev, Survivor Leader

This presentation will look at the investigation involving Anthony Curry and how he seduced, groomed, trafficked and exploited a 15-year-old girl in the Beaverton, Oregon area. The Survivor and co-presenter, Anastasia, will be present to explain first-hand how Curry acted as the "master manipulator" when their relationship first started and then continued for weeks. Detective Opitz will discuss the complexity of the investigation, struggles that law enforcement faced, and lessons learned.

A Comprehensive Guide for Investigating and Prosecuting Buyers of Minors

[ADVANCED, LAW ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTORS ONLY]

Valiant Richey, Esq., King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is driven by sex buyers. Federal law recognizes buying sex from children as a form of sex trafficking. Yet, even as the volume of sex buying across the country balloons, sex buyers have traditionally been ignored in efforts to address child sex trafficking. Val will give a guide to investigating buyers of minors, including: cases involving live victims, a wide range of street-based and online reverse stings, building an online persona, specific techniques for posting advertisements on prostitution websites, engaging in email and text conversations with suspects, techniques for identifying suspects, using pictures in stings, and various options for take down and arrest. He will also address prosecuting these cases including pre-charging involvement, charging, bail, plea bargaining, trial, voir dire, expert witnesses, closing arguments, sentencing, punishment, and rehabilitation options. He will also address new online tools and techniques for law enforcement to disrupt the market for children.

How to Use Survivors as Experts During Trial and Investigation

[INTERMEDIATE, LAW ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTORS ONLY]

Rebecca Bender, Survivor Leader & Founder, Rebecca Bender Initiative

Survivor voices are powerful beyond simply having them share their story. Learn how to utilize your survivor networks to gain translation, blind expert testimony on tactics employed by traffickers and more. Utilizing real case examples beyond her personal story, Rebecca Bender, nationally recognized expert, has now been used behind the scenes to get prosecutions!

Proactive Child Sex Trafficking Investigations (Part 1): Locating and Recovering Endangered Runaways

[ADVANCED, LAW ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTORS ONLY]

Jerry Dysart and Jake Credo, United States Marshals Service; SA Kate Reilly, Homeland Security Investigations

This two-hour workshop will focus on developing proactive child sex trafficking cases from active endangered runaway cases. It will specifically focus on the process of identifying and flagging endangered runaway cases; best practices for locating missing juveniles; conducting undercover stings and operational considerations; utilizing electronic surveillance to recover juveniles including exigent requests and court orders to wireless service providers and social media outlets; and post-recovery procedures and placement. The workshop will also cover the role of the U.S. Marshals Service in missing child cases, the New Orleans Pilot Project, and the benefits of building partnerships and task forces with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies as well as non-governmental organizations (NGO). *This workshop is not an introduction to child sex trafficking. The electronic surveillance segment will be conducted by the U.S. Marshals Service Technical Operations Group.*

Proactive Child Sex Trafficking Investigations (Part 2): Building the Case, Post-Recovery

[ADVANCED, LAW ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTORS ONLY]

SA Kate Reilly, Homeland Security Investigations; Justin Berry, Louisiana State Police

This workshop will feature specific case studies of child sex trafficking cases that were generated from the proactive recovery of a missing child. We will feature investigative techniques taught in Part 1 of the workshop.

Although the cases featured were all charged as state child trafficking investigations, we will provide tips and suggestions for conducting a concurrent federal investigation.

Trafficking in the LGBTQ Community

K.D. Roche, Survivor/Advocate/Author

This workshop will explain both the vulnerabilities and needs of LGBTQ youth. We will discuss what makes this population vulnerable, the difficulty they experience in accessing the appropriate treatment, and common challenges experienced in treatment. We will also discuss the importance of creating a safe space for LGBTQ youth, a vital component for recovery and prevention.

Communicating the Story of Human Trafficking: Forging a Comprehensive Media, Public Relations, and Public Awareness Strategy

Josh DeVine, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Feel like you're shouting a life-saving message about trafficking and no one's listening? Communicating with increased focus and clarity can make all the difference! This interactive workshop will focus on how the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation built a public awareness campaign from the ground up (with a very limited budget), along with its ever-evolving media relations strategy. From lessons learned, to budgeting and grants, to long term planning, to social media, participants will walk away with insights (and hopefully share some of their own!) to take their much needed communication on this issue to the next level.

Could Your Sexual Abuse Investigation be a Human Trafficking Case?

Det. Kim Clark, Waco Police Department; Hilary LaBorde, Esq., McLennan County District Attorney's Office

The Texas Legislature did child abuse investigators a big favor in drafting our human trafficking statutes – they are very helpful tools to be aware of and to keep in our toolbox. This class will begin with an overview of our human trafficking statutes and compare them to our long existing sexual abuse statutes. The class will then present the investigation and subsequent plea of guilty in the case of the State of Texas v. Paul Mayo, a repeat offender who eventually pled to life without parole for the offense of continuous human trafficking of a child.

Trauma Informed Care Services, A Survivor's Perspective

Sarai Smith-Mazariegos, Survivor Leader & Founder, S.H.A.D.E

From a Survivor's perspective, this workshop will allow participants to gain a better understanding of the impact of complex trauma on victims of human trafficking. We will look at effective engagement, triggers and de-escalation. Explore the needs of trauma survivors in programs, residential services, as well as review the ingredients of trauma-informed practices, and steps to making your program services trauma-informed which will allow your efforts in supporting survivors to be more effective and successful. .

How to Collaborate with Survivors Without Re-exploiting Them

Shanna Parker, Survivor Leader, AngelsGoToWork; Sgt. Domenick Kauffman, Mesa Police Department; Stacey Sutherland, Pinal County Attorney's Office

It is imperative to the human trafficking movement that Survivor Leaders be included in the community and law enforcement responses to this crime. As victims of an underworld most struggle to believe is real, survivors hold valuable information and insight that is needed by law enforcement to eradicate trafficking. Frequently in the survivor community there are stories of exploitation by the individuals who are fighting the same battle and often they do not realize they are re-exploiting the victim. This workshop will explore how law enforcement partners with survivors to increase the successfulness of their work and why some requests can be exploitive of a survivor.

Integrating Narrative Photography into Therapeutic Programing

Jessa Dillow Crisp, Survivor Leader, BridgeHope

This session will present a therapeutic model that integrates both narrative photography and narrative therapy within services for the DMST population. Through bridging the gap between photography and therapy, Crisp has developed a restorative model of helping survivors of human trafficking tell their stories in a fashion that has the power to therapeutically heal. At the end of this workshop, attendees will be able to integrate this model into safe housing programs, mentoring relationships, and therapeutic offices.

CSEC and Trauma: Why Don't They Leave?

Esther Rodriguez Brown, The Embracing Project

The workshop will provide: material, tools and activities to recognize and understand trauma and trauma bonding; define the "Compliance Model" and how it is applied to CSEC; discuss complex trauma and PTSD, and subsequent responses (physical, emotional, behavioral); review what CSEC victims encounter during their exploitation; instruction on how to become a trauma-informed agency/provider. This presentation is interactive and provides activities and real-life experience as examples.

Recovery, Relief, Restoration

Tracy McDaniel, MSW, LSW, Restored, Inc.

This session will focus on the most significant challenges of Recovery, Relief and Restoration in domestic minor sex trafficking. Attendees will walk through a case study of "Hope," a young girl who was trafficked while a ward of the state for nine years in Indiana. Attendees will benefit from lessons learned throughout the three R's. The session will discuss forensic interviewing, best practices, law enforcement collaboration, residential treatment and the aftermath of trauma.

Complex Trauma and Human Trafficking

Dominique Malebranche, Ph.D., Project REACH; Jessa Dillow Crisp, Survivor Leader, BridgeHope; Elle Snow, Survivor Leader, Game Over

Human trafficking is often only part of a larger constellation of adversity and traumatic stress faced by survivors. Early or repeated interpersonal trauma can lead to complex PTSD, a range of responses that impact survivors' emotional, social, physical, and spiritual well-being. This session will discuss complex trauma in survivors of human trafficking and its implications for service planning. This session will be led by a psychologist and two survivor leaders. We will explore complex trauma impacts and how these reactions increase people's vulnerability to exploitation, how traffickers play on these reactions as coercive strategies, and how these struggles impact life after the trafficking experience. We will discuss how working in trauma-informed contexts is essential for survivors' recovery process.

A Statewide Approach to Human Trafficking: Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program

Robin Donaldson and Danielle White, Indiana Youth Services Association

This workshop will provide an introduction to the Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program, a statewide model for addressing human trafficking. The model includes the creation of/coordination with local coalitions to tackle human trafficking in their area, outreach to increase awareness and recognition of trafficking, and establishing a network of service providers to service trafficked youth. The workshop will provide an overview of the administration, staffing, and fiscal structure of the model, identify resources and partnerships needed, discuss successes and lessons learned and share future goals of the project. Discussion time will be incorporated to allow for Q and A regarding replication of the model.

Findings from a Multi-City Study on Child Sex Trafficking: Homelessness, Child Maltreatment, and Resilience Factors

Debra Schilling Wolfe and Sarah Wasch, Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research; Johanna Greeson, Ph.D., MSS, MLSP, University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice

The Field Center collaborated on the largest national research study on the incidence of trafficking among homeless youth. Utilizing a validated tool (HTIAM-14), Field Center researchers met with and interviewed close to 300 homeless youth in three different cities to learn about the prevalence of child trafficking, who is at the greatest risk, and offer youth a voice in research. With a goal of stemming the child welfare to child trafficking pipeline, this study explored the incidence of child maltreatment, examined living instability, and identified resilience factors among victims of child sex trafficking. This presentation will highlight study findings and provide policy and practice recommendations. Attendees will gain knowledge on the most vulnerable populations for exploitation and trafficking, incidences of sex trafficking among homeless youth in the U.S., and the prevalence of maltreatment with this population.

Educating Girls and Empowering Survivors through Prevention Education

Susanne Dietzel, Ph.D., Jennifer Best, LLPC, and Nadia Lee, Eden House

This presentation will focus on Eden House's prevention program, REAL Choices (Recognizing Exploitation and Advancing Life): A Prevention Program for Adolescent Girls. Started in 2016, this program is patterned after the My Life My Choice Curriculum (Boston, MA), and is currently being taught to three community partner agencies: a local high school, a juvenile justice program, and at a foster care agency. It is co-facilitated by a survivor (a current resident of Eden House) and one of our counselors. The presentation in particular will explore how the survivor's stories are useful both to the "students" and perhaps even more so to the survivor. We will use examples from the classroom to illustrate how "owning one's story" leads to personal growth and recovery for the survivor, serves as a cautionary tale for the participants, and helps service providers in identifying and assisting possible victims.

How to Build a House and Make it Home: Best Practices in Housing Commercially Sexually Exploited and Domestically Trafficked Youth

Jasmine Sudarkasa and Mikell Munro, Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS)

As the movement to end commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) and trafficking continues to gain momentum, this training addresses the importance of apt and attentive housing in working with commercially sexually exploited youth. Through an overview of best practices in a variety of housing scenarios, GEMS Director will discuss effective housing strategies for CSE youth and troubleshoot some of the most common barriers to substantive housing for this population.

Bringing Youth Voice to the Child Trafficking MDT

Susan Goldfarb, MSW, LICSW, and Elizabeth Bouchard, Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County

Youth leaders in Boston want their message to be heard. This workshop will bring input and advice of the Support to End Exploitation Now (SEEN) Youth Advisory Board for MDT members investigating and providing services for exploited youth. What matters most in the first conversation? What is helpful? What doesn't work? The workshop will offer concrete, discipline-specific recommendations from the youth for each MDT member (law enforcement, prosecutors, forensic interviewers, medical providers and more). The presentation will help prepare first responders to meet high risk and exploited youth "where they're at" in a long-term recovery process, and will integrate personal anecdotes and case examples to bring youth advice to life. Attendees will gain knowledge and insight from young survivor leaders and strategies to enhance their work as part of an MDT. The training will discuss the following key points: 1) the ideal housing scenario for CSE youth in various situations (lockdown facilities, crisis shelters, transitional living, long-term/permanent housing), 2) the ideal hiring and human resource management practices, 3) service provision for youth in each of these different facilities, 4) what details should be considered and/or evaluated for funders and overall agency outcomes.

Don't Get Turnt – Sex Trafficking Awareness and Prevention

Meiko Taylor, MBA, The Power Project

The presenter will use snippets from her narrative film *TURNT* to illustrate some of the tactics used by sex traffickers to recruit victims, highlighting the specific impact on one of the most vulnerable populations: foster care youth. Through her personal and professional experience, the presenter will provide tips for parents, educators, and community leaders on how to start a dialogue with youth about sex trafficking that is engaging, thought-provoking, and educational.

Role of Technology in Child Sex Trafficking

Leah Treitman, Thorn

Technology is used to recruit, groom and sell domestic minor sex trafficking victims. 63% of minor sex trafficking survivors surveyed in 2013 had been sold online. With technology rapidly evolving, it is important to stay on top of the ways technology is used in minor sex trafficking to develop the most data-driven, innovative solutions. Thorn currently runs the only national domestic minor sex trafficking survey on the role of technology in exploitation. In 2016, Thorn partnered with 25 organizations across the U.S. in a second wave survey. This presentation covers the findings, including ways technology played a role in meeting controllers, developing relationships with controllers, communicating with buyers, exiting the life, and the extent and type of access survivors had to technology while in the life. Ultimately, this research allows survivors' knowledge and expertise to guide program development and create effective interventions.

So You Want to be a Speaker/Author?

[FSURVIVORS ONLY]

Rebecca Bender, Survivor and Founder, Rebecca Bender Initiative

Master the tools of the trade in this fast-paced, interactive session about finding your niche, developing your reputation as an expert, crafting a delivery that delivers, and more. Get the good, the bad and the ugly of what this professional industry is like, regardless of the topic... but even more so, when the topic is social justice. Attendees will learn how to find their area of expertise, gain tips on publishing, self-marketing, as well as establishing MOUs and contracts.

Sharing Your Story - organizing your thoughts and communicating clearly

[SURVIVORS ONLY]

Sandy Storm, Footprint Publishing/New Life Refuge Ministries

In this workshop, author Sandy Storm will share on how to effectively share a story of overcoming, both orally and through the written word. Covering topics from organizing your thoughts to communicating clearly, she will pull from her expertise in marketing and public relations as well as her success as an author and publisher. From crafting a short "elevator speech" to starting the process of writing a memoir or autobiography, attendees will leave this session equipped and inspired.

Trauma Resolution Treatment = Game Changer for Sex Trafficking Survivors

[SURVIVORS ONLY, THREE HOUR WORKSHOP]

Jason Quintal, Ph.D., LCSW, Vanessa Morris and Chloe Vega, Selah Freedom

In this two-part workshop, participants will discover how neuroscience is a game changer for effective Trauma Resolution Treatment. Participants will learn the latest brain-based research including brain neuroplasticity, embodied cognition and memory reconsolidation. Participants will hear from survivors and the impact this treatment is having in their program. Participants will discover the key factors that keep trauma stuck, and a straightforward way to resolve it. In addition, participants will leave knowing practical brain-based strategies to greatly reduce stress, and will learn transformative language patterns that will increase their personal effectiveness.