

# TENNESSEE COALITION TO END DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

## 21st Annual Conference

*Ending Violence:  
Advocacy in Action*

August 28th & 29th, 2023  
Franklin Marriott Cool Springs  
700 Cool Springs Blvd  
Franklin, TN 37067

PRESENTED BY:



tennessee  
**coalition**  
to end domestic & sexual violence

## **Who We Are**

The Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence is the statewide network of programs and individuals working together to end rape and abuse. As the leading voice for survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Tennessee since 1983, the Coalition provides education, awareness, direct services to victims, and public policy advocacy.

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence is to end domestic and sexual violence in the lives of Tennesseans and to change societal attitudes and institutions that promote and condone violence through public policy advocacy, education, and activities that increase the capacity of programs and communities to address such violence.

# Our Core Values

## **Inclusiveness**

The Coalition and its membership shall not discriminate against any person. Creating a culture that is sensitive, open, and accepting; we value diversity and strive to reflect in our organization the array of people we serve.

## **Safety**

We oppose the use of violence in all forms. Each person has the right to engage in equal relationships without fear of violence.

## **Integrity**

Everyone is unique and inherently worthwhile. We are building a coalition of confident, creative members, each one striving for the highest degree of compassion and ethical behavior.

## **Empowerment**

We operate on principles that ensure that individuals speak in their own voices. We provide opportunities for personal, professional and program growth.

## **Continuous Improvement**

We will be dynamic, creative, innovative, and visionary leaders through continuous reflection, commitment to quality and growth. We will model these values and in so doing, serve as role models for others.

Stand with us to end rape and abuse in Tennessee. Become a member of the Coalition today: <https://www.tncoalition.org/become-a-member>.



# General Information

## Registration Information

Coalition staff will be available at the conference registration desk to answer questions about registration, sessions, and continuing education credits from 7:30am – 4:30pm each day.

## Safety

The content of a conference session may trigger unexpected or overwhelming emotional responses in participants. If this happens to you and you want to talk with someone, please find a TN Coalition staff member, and we'll be happy to chat with you privately. A conference self-care room will also be available throughout the majority of the conference for attendees to make use of as needed. Additionally, the following local agencies have 24-hour crisis lines to meet your needs:

- General Crisis: Crisis Intervention Center – 615-244-7444
- Sexual Assault Crisis: Sexual Assault Center – 1-800-879-1999
- Domestic Violence Crisis: Bridges Domestic Violence Center – 615-599-5777

## Continuing Education Credits

- Please check at the registration desk for more information.

## Conference Evaluations

Conference evaluations are an important part of the learning process. We ask that you provide feedback on your entire experience at this conference, including every workshop and keynote address. Please be candid and specific when filling out your evaluations. The comments you provide will guide planning for future conferences and trainings. Coalition staff will be providing instructions for easy-to-access online evaluation surveys at the conclusion of each session.

## Name Badges

Please wear the conference name badge you receive at registration at all times during the conference. To enter any workshop, you must be wearing your name badge. If you lose or misplace your name badge, please see staff at the registration desk.

## Non-Smoking Conference

Smoking is not permitted in any of the conference sessions, hallways, meeting room foyers, or exhibit halls. Smoking is only allowed in designated areas outside.

## Cellular Phones

As a courtesy to presenters and all conference participants, please turn ringers to “off” or “vibrate” during the conference.

# Monday, August 28th

8:00AM–8:30AM | REGISTRATION ..... REGISTRATION TABLE

8:30AM–8:45AM | WELCOME ..... SALON 6

8:45AM–10:00AM | MORNING KEYNOTE ..... SALON 6

**VICTORIA "TORI" WYNECOOP-ABRAHAMSON, SUPPORTING SURVIVORS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE USE**

10:00AM–10:15AM.....BREAK

10:15AM–11:30AM.....SESSION A WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP A1: EQUITY: THE MAP FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

SAMANTHA STRADER AND TACARRA WILSON

General track

SALON 7-8

WORKSHOP A2: 'YOU SHOULD FEEL FLATTERED THAT ANYONE WANTS TO BE WITH YOU': ANTI-FAT BIAS AS RELATED TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

ARIEL STOKES AND ALISON WINE

Promoting Equity Track

SALON 6

WORKSHOP A3: SUPPORTING SURVIVORS IN FAITH-BASED AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNITIES

MARIA MICHONSKI

Rural Track

SADDLEBRED/HIGHLAND

11:30AM–1:00PM.....LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00PM–2:15PM.....SESSION B WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP B1: SELF-CARE 2.0: GROWING BEYOND "TREAT YOURSELF"

SAMANTHA STRADER

General track

SALON 7-8

WORKSHOP B2: LATIN@ REALITIES OF UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH: CONSIDERATIONS FOR PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

LEO MARTINEZ

Promoting Equity Track

SALON 6

WORKSHOP B3: DRUG AND ALCOHOL FACILITATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

SHANNON LYNCH

Rural Track

SADDLEBRED/HIGHLAND

2:15PM–2:30PM.....BREAK

2:30PM–3:45PM | AFTERNOON KEYNOTE ..... SALON 6

**TAMEIKA MCCOY, THE MISUNDERSTOOD VICTIMIZATION AND TRAUMA OF BLACK WOMEN**

3:45PM–4:00PM..... CLOSING ..... SALON 6



# Keynote Descriptions

## MONDAY MORNING KEYNOTE: SUPPORTING SURVIVORS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE USE

VICTORIA "TORI" WYNECOOP-ABRAHAMSON

In the domestic violence movement, the core essence of our values is to uplift the voices of and center the experiences of survivors. This is especially important in the context of mental health and/or substance use coercion because oftentimes, mental health and substance use are viewed negatively, causing stigma and further silencing survivors. This is a concern because mental health and substance use coercion is a common tactic of abuse and is usually overlooked as tools of manipulation against survivors by their abusive partners. This can impact survivors not only at the interpersonal level but at the systemic level by further marginalizing or excluding survivors in services with experiences of mental health and substance use. In this keynote, we will discuss the impact that substance-use and mental health coercion can have on survivors and how services can provide support in establishing safety and stability while remaining survivor-led by honoring the choices and stories of survivors.

## MONDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE: THE MISUNDERSTOOD VICTIMIZATION AND TRAUMA OF BLACK WOMEN

TAMEIKA MCCOY

This keynote will dive deep into the historical victimization of black women from slavery to present day. We will unpack stereotypes and discuss how they contribute to the unrecognized and undervalued trauma of black women in comparison to other races. We will explore areas such as parentification, hyper-sexualization and mistrust of the court system as well as law enforcement. Participants will be challenged to recognize their own biases in order develop more effective ways to advocate for or provide services to black women who are survivors of sexual assault. The session will be highly interactive through activities and in-depth discussions. The takeaways should be: develop ways to take the conversation back to one's agency or organization, effectively recognize one's own biases and process accordingly, and establish more culturally sensitive services for African American women.

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## WORKSHOP A1: EQUITY: THE MAP FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

GENERAL TRACK

SAMANTHA STRADER AND TACARRA WILSON

Inequity is rooted at the core of most societal issues and barriers to health and justice, and building practices of equity is the cornerstone of how we begin to nurture safer communities. During this training, we will discuss social determinants of health and the effects of violence on our communities. We will also review the origins and progress of violence prevention work and facilitate conversation around moving this work forward with tangible and actionable steps.

## WORKSHOP A2: "YOU SHOULD FEEL FLATTERED THAT ANYONE WANTS TO BE WITH YOU: ANTI-FAT BIAS AS RELATED TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN"

PROMOTING EQUITY TRACK

ARIEL STOKES AND ALISON WINE

Recent data suggests that women who exist in fat-bodies are at greater risk of experiencing domestic and sexual violence than their thin-counterparts, and are more likely to experience discrimination and poor outcomes from victim service providers and the legal system. Yet, most victim service providers do not have an awareness of how anti-fat bias can complicate and exacerbate a victim's experience of abuse and their recovery, for many providers hold unconscious anti-fat bias that can further perpetuate harm to survivors. Through this workshop, the speakers aim to educate the learners of specific ways in which abusers employ fatphobic violence, how anti-fat bias impacts survivors, and ways service providers can strengthen inclusive practices by integrating anti-fatphobic concepts into their work with individuals of all body types who have experienced violence.

## WORKSHOP A3: "SUPPORTING SURVIVORS IN FAITH-BASED AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNITIES"

RURAL TRACK

MARIA MICHONSKI

This training will cover introductory level skills and information for communities of faith who are interested in better equipping themselves to support survivors of sexual assault in their communities. We'll cover basics of support victim-survivors (sexual assault and trauma definitions, common responses to trauma, responding to disclosures, community as necessary to healing, and self-care/vicarious trauma) as well as specifics for faith communities to use their position in a survivor's life to facilitate and support healing and to avoid retraumatization.





# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## WORKSHOP B1: "SELF-CARE 2.0: GROWING BEYOND TREAT YOURSELF"

GENERAL TRACK

SAMANTHA STRADER

This training dives into ideas of interconnection, structural wellness, and holistic support for ourselves and, if you are in leadership, for those on our teams. We will discuss core concepts and practices that center our well-being and balance. We will also discuss how leaders and organizations can create policies and practices that allow for and encourage employee wellness. There will also be opportunities for some wellness practices within the training. Come prepared to nurture yourself and learn ways to help nurture your staff.

## WORKSHOP B2: "LATIN@ REALITIES OF UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH: CONSIDERATIONS FOR PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION"

PROMOTING EQUITY TRACK

LEO MARTINEZ

Latin@ youth who arrive unaccompanied to the U.S. are exposed to a variety of stressors and violence in their country of origin, during their journey to U.S, and once they arrive to their destination with their sponsors. Latin@ teenagers are also susceptible to dating violence. This training will provide information regarding the realities of Latin@ youth, specifically teens; how culture affects the way they seek and receive services; strategies for safety planning and the protective factors that make them resilient. Many programs work with unaccompanied minors who are now part of a family who does not know all the trauma experienced by these minors.

## WORKSHOP B3: DRUG AND ALCOHOL FACILITATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

RURAL TRACK

SHANNON LYNCH

With statistics indicating that 75% of acquaintance rape involves drugs and 8 out of 10 sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows, it is increasingly important for first responders and allied professionals to understand DFSA. This workshop will address the particulars of popular drugs used, drug effects, and how DFSA can take shape beyond the myth of the stranger in the bar slipping a drug into an unattended drink. We will discuss practical advocacy and best practices for law enforcement response.



# Tuesday, August 29th

8:00AM-8:20AM | REGISTRATION ..... REGISTRATION TABLE

8:20AM-8:30AM | WELCOME ..... SALON 6

8:30AM-9:45AM | MORNING KEYNOTE ..... SALON 6

**AARON STONE, 18 WINTERS: SHATTERING THE SILENCE AROUND MALE-ON-MALE SEXUAL ASSAULT**

9:45AM-10:00AM.....BREAK

10:00AM-11:15AM.....SESSION C WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP C1: THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS: A DEEP DIVE INTO THE IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN  
JULIE WAKEMAN AND KIMERY COCKRELL

SADDLEBRED/HIGHLAND  
General track

WORKSHOP C2: VIOLENCE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN OF LATINX LGBTQ+ SURVIVORS: REFLECTIONS ON RESEARCH AND PRACTICE  
LEO MARTINEZ AND ANA ORTEGA

SALON 6  
Promoting Equity Track

WORKSHOP C3: TENNESSEE SAFE AT HOME ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM  
STACY SCRUGGS

Rural Track SALON 7-8

11:15AM-12:45PM.....LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

12:45PM-2:00PM.....SESSION D WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP D1: UNLEARNING THE "IDEAL VICTIM" AND PRIORITIZING CLIENT-LED ADVOCACY IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
MICHELLE MARSHALL AND CHANDLER GALLAHER

SALON 7-8  
General track

WORKSHOP D2: TREATING THE NEEDS OF VETERANS IMPACTED BY INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT  
DR. TONIA HARDYWAY AND KIRBIE ANDERSON

SALON 6  
Promoting Equity Track

WORKSHOP D3: STRANGULATION 101: RECOGNIZING THE DANGERS AND CONNECTING VICTIMS TO CARE  
STEPHANIE LYNN ALLEN AND KATIE SHAVERS

Rural Track SADDLEBRED/HIGHLAND

2:00PM-2:15PM.....BREAK

2:15PM-3:30PM | AFTERNOON KEYNOTE ..... SALON 6

**BECKY HAAS, BUILDING A TRAUMA-INFORMED RESILIENT COMMUNITY: THE RURAL APPALACHIA STORY**

3:30PM-3:45PM..... CLOSING ..... SALON 6



# Keynote Descriptions

## TUESDAY MORNING KEYNOTE: 18 WINTERS: SHATTERING THE SILENCE AROUND MALE-ON-MALE SEXUAL ASSAULT AARON STONE

A retired Combat Medic in the United States Army, Aaron completed multiple tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Bosnia; none of those experiences affected him as much as the trauma he suffered at age 15 at the hands of a male teacher who methodically groomed and raped him. He chooses the word “rape” deliberately, because it conveys the reality of that man’s actions so many years ago. His goal is to be an inspiration for those who may be suffering through the same mental anguish as he once did. He reassures survivors that sexual assault is never their fault, they are never alone, and help is here. With social stigmas and victim blaming, most male victims never report a sexual assault. Public awareness and education of male-on-male sexual violence and the horrifying impact it can have on one’s life must increase. In this plenary, attendees will learn how our societal paradigms and biases affect the way we think about male-on-male sexual assault; identify and avoid logic fallacies and mental models that impede our perceptions of rape culture and suicide; and discover the relationship between physical and moral courage along with the influence of organizational culture and climate on moral courage.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE: BUILDING A TRAUMA-INFORMED RESILIENT COMMUNITY: THE RURAL APPALACHIA STORY BECKY HAAS

In this keynote session, participants will hear compelling reasons why communities need to become trauma informed, the impact of trauma on a community, ways to build community resilience and how champions will emerge to help. Learners will be inspired to hear stories of what professionals are doing in rural Appalachia as they provide services using a trauma informed lens.



# Session C Workshop Descriptions

## WORKSHOP C1: THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS: A DEEP DIVE INTO THE IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN

GENERAL TRACK

JULIE WAKEMAN AND KIMERY COCKRELL

1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year. When responding to a domestic violence victim, it is often the primary victim that received intervention and supports. Later, the children living in the abuse may be identified as secondary victims in need of services. Children can present with symptoms and that can disrupt how they function in their school, home, and peer environments. This workshop will provide relevant understanding of the complex ways a family system can be disrupted in addition to the impacts and experiences of children exposed to intimate partner violence in the home. Attention will be given to complicating factors such as custody/divorce and cultural consideration. The presenter will provide tools for working with children and families in the clinical setting, including case examples. The participants will have an opportunity to practice interventions and develop ideas around creating individualized safety plans for children and their families.

## WORKSHOP C2: VIOLENCE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN OF LATINX LGBTQ+ SURVIVORS: REFLECTIONS ON RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

PROMOTING EQUITY TRACK

LEO MARTINEZ AND ANA ORTEGA

Esperanza United, a National Resource Center focused on the Latin@ community, will be presenting recent research on the lived realities of Latinx LGBTQ+ victims/survivors. Research shows that Latinx LGBTQ+ victims/survivors experience compounding violence from youth to adulthood. For advocates to provide culturally relevant and trauma-informed services, advocates must understand the throughline of early socialization and familial and cultural bonds to the present-day lived realities of Latinx LGBTQ+ victims/survivors.

## WORKSHOP C3: TENNESSEE SAFE AT HOME CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM

RURAL TRACK

STACY SCRUGGS

The Safe at Home presentation will cover T.C.A 40-38-602, the law governing The Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program, how Safe at Home protects participants, as well as Safe at Home partnering agencies and application assistant certification.

# Session D Workshop Descriptions

## WORKSHOP D1: UNLEARNING THE "IDEAL VICTIM" AND PRIORITIZING CLIENT-LED ADVOCACY IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING

GENERAL TRACK

MICHELLE MARSHALL AND CHANDLER GALLAHER

While the advocacy communities for domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking are often compartmentalized, significant overlap exists between forced labor and commercial sex trafficking and domestic and sexual violence. As a strategy for deepening support for victims, it is fundamental to understand what constitutes trafficking and how to impactfully advocate for survivors. This knowledge will not only broaden the collective vocabulary around domestic violence; it will also strengthen our collective toolbox for trauma-informed intervention and care. This session, led by staff from Advocating Opportunity, will provide basic information about human trafficking in the United States including definitions, available data, and important trafficking statutes. It will debunk myths about what both trafficking and trafficking survivors look like and offer examples that reframe our understanding of both sex and labor trafficking. Panelists will touch on the neurobiology of trauma as it relates to both human trafficking and domestic violence victims and how this knowledge can promote and empower healing. Zooming in, panelists will end with a focus on the trafficking landscape in Tennessee and an opportunity for encouraging audience participation in a discussion about our state's approach to anti-trafficking work.

## WORKSHOP D2: TREATING THE NEEDS OF VETERANS IMPACTED BY INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

PROMOTING EQUITY TRACK

DR. TONIA HARDYWAY AND KIRBIE ANDERSON

It is imperative for healthcare providers, community agencies, law enforcement agencies, university staff and faculty, clinicians, and citizens to increase their knowledge and competency related to caring for Veterans impacted by intimate partner violence (IPV), sexual assault (SA), and military sexual trauma (MST). According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence 1 in 3 Women and 1 in 4 Men have experienced intimate partner violence. The Veteran population may be twice as likely to experience intimate partner violence than the general population. Healthcare providers, clinicians, community, legal representatives, law enforcement and citizens many times are at a disadvantage in knowing what, when and how to intervene and may lack awareness of the appropriate interventions and resources to address and care for Veterans impacted by IPV, SA and MST. This presentation is aimed at closing the gap in the lack of knowledge regarding VA programs, services and interventions and resources available to assist and address the needs of Veterans and VA employees impacted by IPV, SA and MST.

## WORKSHOP D3: "STRANGULATION 101: RECOGNIZING THE DANGERS AND CONNECTING VICTIMS TO CARE"

RURAL TRACK

STEPHANIE LYNN ALLEN AND KATIE SHAVERS

Everyone deserves relationships free from domestic violence, but unfortunately, that is not our reality. Strangulation is a common form of intimate partner violence and is the ultimate form of power and control that often goes unreported. In this engaging interactive workshop, we will focus on increasing awareness and understanding of the signs, symptoms, and serious effects of non-fatal strangulation within the context of domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Victims of non-fatal strangulation are at higher risk of death, so it is essential for those working with victims to recognize possible indicators of strangulation injuries and understand the critical importance of asking the right questions, and referring for medical assistance, even when no visible injuries are present.



# MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## Victoria "Tori" Wynecoop-Abrahamson

*Supporting Survivors at the Intersections of Domestic Violence, Mental Health, and Substance Use*



Victoria "Tori" Wynecoop-Abrahamson (she/her) is a citizen of the Spokane Tribe located in Eastern Washington State and the Training and Technical Assistance Manager at the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health (NCDVTMH). She began her advocacy journey during her undergraduate career at Illinois College by establishing a sexual assault support group in response to the #MeToo movement. After graduation, she returned home to the Spokane Indian Reservation and worked as a Domestic Violence Advocate providing assistance to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence, stalking, and elder abuse. Assistance for survivors often included accessing resources for civil and criminal court cases, mental health support, and substance use services. This position encouraged Tori to pursue and complete a Master of Social Work at the University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice. Prior to joining NCDVTMH, Tori provided SAMHSA-funded training and technical assistance to tribal communities and nations with a focus on building program capacity and sustainability in the areas of suicide prevention, substance use, and mental health.

## Tameika McCoy

*The Misunderstood Victimization and Trauma of Black Women*



Tameika McCoy is currently the Victim Advocacy Program Manager at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Prior to this position she was a Domestic Violence Victim Advocate for the DOD at Fort Lee for 5 years. During her tenure there she was the first advocate to coordinate an all services PT run that included the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines in honor of Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. She has also worked as an In-Home Counselor, Case Manager, Crisis Intervention Specialist, and a CPS Special Investigator during her 22 year career. Tameika earned her Master's in Human Services/Marriage and Family Counseling from Liberty University in 2013. She is also an accredited Victim Advocate with NOVA (Domestic Violence Specialist). Tameika is a mentor and motivational speaker through her own organization called "Meik Speaks" where she also serves as an empowerment and thrive coach and healthy relationship expert. She has served on the Domestic Violence Task Force in her local community and is currently the Chair for the Sexual Assault Response Team and Sexual Assault Prevention Team at VCU. She has developed and implemented workshops and trainings for sexual assault and domestic violence for the community, higher education and the military. Tameika often serves as a panelist, guest speaker, or trainer in various capacities. She is also a wife, mother of 2 college students, credit repair agent, and mentor. As a survivor of domestic violence, Tameika is passionate about the work that she does and strives every day to promote healthy relationships and create a violence free community.

# MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## Aaron Stone

*18 Winters: Shattering the Silence Around Male-on-Male Sexual Violence*



A retired Combat Medic in the United States Army, Aaron completed multiple tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Bosnia; none of those experiences affected him as much as the trauma he suffered at age 15 at the hands of a male teacher who methodically groomed and raped him. He chooses the word “rape” deliberately, because it conveys the reality of that man’s actions so many years ago. For almost two decades he became a silent sufferer of depression and PTSD. The cost of keeping that shameful secret caught up with him in 2010 through a nervous breakdown. Thankfully, he finally realized he needed help and, for the first time in his life, he told his story. It was an act of liberation. Over the last eight years he has spoken over 100 times to numerous military organizations across the U.S., Germany, and South Korea spreading his message of pain, redemption, and hope. His goal is to be an inspiration for those who may be suffering through the same mental anguish as he once did. He reassures survivors that sexual assault is never their fault, they are never alone, and help is here. With social stigmas and victim blaming, most male victims who never report a sexual assault. Public awareness and education of male-on-male sexual violence and the horrifying impact it can have on one’s life must increase. He currently resides in El Paso, TX with his wife, Sarah, and daughter, Cyan. Go to [www.shattering-the-silence.com](http://www.shattering-the-silence.com) for more info.

## Becky Haas

*Building a Trauma-Informed Resilient Community: the Rural Appalachia Story*



Known for her contagious enthusiasm, Becky Haas is an international advocate and trainer on using a trauma-informed approach, the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study, and the Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) study. She is a pioneer in creating trauma-informed communities. The work she led in Northeast Tennessee was recognized by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in 2018 as a model for other cities to follow. In 2019 she co-authored the Building a Trauma-Informed System of Care toolkit for the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services detailing a blueprint for creating community resilience. This toolkit was featured in PACEs Connection, Growing Resilient Communities 2.1 and has been recommended as a “practical tool” in Johns Hopkins, Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action.

# MEET THE WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

## **Kirbie Anderson, LCSW, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program Coordinator (IPVAP-C)**

Kirbie is employed at VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System as the Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program Coordinator. As her role as the IPV coordinator, she serves as a consultant to other clinicians, provide interventions to Veterans that use and/or experience intimate partner violence, and maintain the daily operations of the program. Kirbie has over 13 years of experience in a variety of settings and with diverse clients, including both long-term and brief interventions. Areas of expertise include: Domestic Violence, Children and Adolescent Mental Health, Acute Medicine and Discharge Planning, and Geriatric Care. Kirbie is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in the states of Tennessee and Georgia. Kirbie graduated from Lambuth University with her undergraduate degree in Psychology. She obtained her graduate degree in Social Work from the University of Tennessee Knoxville in 2009. Kirbie has also earned a certification in community organizing and enjoys incorporating advocacy into her day to day work.

## **Stephanie Lynn Allen, Social Work Field Coordinator and Instructor, UT Martin**

Stephanie Allen currently works for UTM as an Instructor and Field Coordinator for the Social Work Program. Her experience includes nine years of direct service through Pathways Behavioral Health as a case manager, therapist, and Children and Youth Program Manager. Additionally, she has three years of experience of direct service through Centerstone Behavioral Health as a child and family therapist and crisis counselor with high-risk children in level two and three foster homes. Before coming to UTM in 2015, Stephanie's experience includes eight years as a PATH trainer in the Northwest and Southwest region through UTM, FCS, and Centerstone as the grant changed agencies as well as serving as the West Grand Region Training Manager. Stephanie holds a MSSW, LMSW, and LSSW. She serves on several boards in her community and also completed the ACES: Building Strong Brains facilitator training in 2018.

## **Kimery Cockrell, LCSW, MNP Family Intervention Program**

Kimery works as a Police Crisis Counselor – Child Trauma Specialist with the Metro Nashville Police Department's Family Intervention Program. She received her MSW from University of Tennessee in Social Work. She currently provides counseling to children impacted by violent crime, including domestic violence and homicide.

### **Chandler Gallaher, Client Advocate, Advocating Opportunity**

Chandler was born and raised near Nashville. She serves as a Client Advocate with AO. She graduated in 2022 from Sewanee: The University of the South with a B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies and Politics. She is passionate about how laws and policies affect our lived experiences. As a resident of her campus Women's Center, she served as a peer support advocate and provided crisis intervention and sexual violence response services. Community engagement was a central aspect of her education, and she embraces a community-based approach in her work.

### **Dr. Tonia Hardyway, LCSW, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) MegaBus Lead**

Dr. Tonia L. Hardyway, LCSW graduated with a BS in Psychology and Minor in African-American Studies from Vanderbilt University and obtained her master's in social work from the University of Tennessee, College of Social Work. May 4, 2020, she obtained her PhD in Public Policy and Administration from Tennessee State University. Dr. Hardyway began her career as a Research Analyst and Educational Coordinator with the Vanderbilt University Center for Mental Health Policy 1991-1995 working on the Ft. Bragg Longitudinal Evaluation Report analyzing the effectiveness of innovative mental health care provided to children of active-duty soldiers. Dr. Hardyway began her career with the Department of Veterans Affairs Tennessee Valley Healthcare System (VA TVHS) October 1996 and served as a social worker in various capacities and programs until October 2007; VA Contract Nursing Home program, Ambulatory Care, VISN 9 TBI Coordinator and the Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) Case Manager. In October 2007 Dr. Hardyway assumed the role of the VA TVHS OEF/OIF Program Manager overseeing the coordination of care and services to returning combat veterans. January 2013-2017, Dr. Hardyway served as the Assistant Chief, Social Work Service at VA TVHS. July 25, 2017-August 30, 2021, she served as a social work case manager in the Military to VA program providing case management to recently discharged combat and non-combat veterans. Dr. Hardyway assumed the role of VA TVHS Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) Coordinator August 31, 2020- October 10, 2022, where she provided oversight of a complex array of services, both clinical and administrative, to ensure appropriate services for Veterans and VA TVHS employees impacted by intimate partner violence and sexual assault. Dr. Hardyway assumed her role as the VA TVHS Intimate Partner Violence/Sexual Assault Pilot Program Megabus Lead 10/11/2021. In this current role she oversees a 2-year pilot directed to "assess the feasibility and advisability of serving eligible Veterans who have experienced or are experiencing intimate partner violence or sexual assault" outside of an intimate partner relationship or military sexual trauma and with a target to addressing the high prevalence of IPV and SA amongst underserved populations.



### **Shannon Lynch, TN Coalition Rural Program Specialist**

Shannon Lynch is the Rural Program Specialist for the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence. At 22 years old, she began her work in DV/SA as the first, and at the time, only staff at a grassroots DV program in the mountain communities of Grand County, Colorado. Many years later she returned to that work when she was hired as an Advocate for a Rural Middle Tennessee DV/SA program. She has 12 years' experience as an Advocate, Legal Advocate and Community Education Trainer. In those years she created and implemented annual 1st Responder Training. Continuing her efforts to educate, she worked for 3 years as a teaching associate for UT Knoxville LEIC, traveling and training Law Enforcement throughout the state on the Dynamics of DV, trauma response, secondary trauma, and the importance of Law Enforcement collaboration with Advocacy Programs. In her current position, she works in collaboration with Rural DV/SA programs to increase and improve client services. In addition to providing trainings to allied professionals in a variety of DV/SA applicable subject matters. She is passionate and devoted to this work and is particularly honored to be participating in training students of the Tommy Burks Academy, which she believes to be a tremendous foundation and continuing education for Advocates.

### **Michelle Marshall, Staff Attorney, Advocating Opportunity**

Michelle joined AO as a staff attorney in the winter of 2022. She was licensed and became a member of the Tennessee State Bar in January of 2021, after graduating from Nashville School of Law (during a pandemic quarantine). As a paralegal and later, attorney, Michelle's legal experience has been primarily in family law. She is at home working in domestic practice as she's been through this process as a client and DV survivor herself. She understands that being listened to and understood is sometimes the most important thing an attorney can offer any individual.

### **Leo Martinez, Senior Manager of Training & Technical Assistance, Esperanza United**

Leo Martinez is a Senior Manager of Training and Technical Assistance and Partnerships with Esperanza United. He manages the training and technical assistance strategy for the organization. He leads the work under the FVPSA-HHS grant that designates Esperanza United as the national resource center on gender-based violence in the Latin@ community. He is a Training and Technical Assistance lead with the Vicarious Trauma Response Initiative, a national initiative funded by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and led by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); he informs the Intimate Partner Homicide project focused on Latino victims and funded by the Office on Violence against Women (OVW). He also collaborates on the Enhancing Access Peer to Peer project focused on language access, funded also by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). He is a Faculty Member of the Georgia Victim Assistance Academy.

**Maria Michonski, Statewide Training Specialist, Sexual Assault Center**

Maria Michonski, M.Div. (she/her) is a Statewide Training Specialist at the Sexual Assault Center and specializes in areas of training related to: the Safe Bar Program, prevention in LGBTQIA+ communities, prevention and substance use, prevention in higher education settings, and prevention in religious communities. She was born and raised in the Nashville area, and earned a Master's in Divinity and Master's Certificate in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality from Vanderbilt Divinity School.

**Ana Ortega, Health & Violence Prevention Coordinator, Esperanza United**

Ana Ortega is the Health and Violence Prevention Coordinator at Esperanza United. Prior to her work at Esperanza United, Ana was an Esperanza United Latina Leadership Fellow. As a fellow, she conducted interviews with Latinx Youth in Los Angeles County that have been impacted by teen dating violence. Ana was also a youth leader in South Los Angeles with Community Coalition. As a youth leader she participated in efforts to advance educational equity in LAUSD schools. At the core of Ana's work is social justice and equity.

**Stacy Scruggs, Safe at Home Program Coordinator**

Ms. Scruggs, Safe at Home Program Coordinator, serves as the primary administrative official for the Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program. In this role Ms. Scruggs leads the coordination and development of training and outreach for Safe at Home application assistants with law enforcement, community advocates, and partnering agencies across the state as well as managing all program administration for Safe at Home participants. Ms. Scruggs is a Nashville native with a Bachelor of Science in Communications from Belmont University and a Master of Arts in Conflict Management from Lipscomb University. Ms. Scruggs is a Rule 31 dual listed Civil/Family mediator with the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts.

**Katie Shavers, Rape Prevention Education Coordinator, WRAP**

Katherine Shavers graduated in May 2022 with her BSSW, Bachelor's of Science in Social Work from The University of Tennessee at Martin. She has been employed with WRAP for over a year, first serving as the Rural Sexual Assault Response Advocate and currently as the Rape Prevention Education Coordinator. She provides direct services to survivors across 19 counties throughout West Tennessee.

**Ariel Stokes, LPC-MHSP, True North Counseling**

Ariel Stokes, LPC-MHSP, works for True North Counseling, a group counseling practice located in east Nashville. She received her M.Ed in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Vanderbilt University in 2018. Currently, she works with clients struggling with eating disorders, body image concerns, mood disorders, relational issues, and trauma. Prior to her current role, Ariel worked at Metro Nashville Police Department's Family Intervention Program where she offered crisis intervention and counseling for victims of violent crimes, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and homicide. She also has past experience as a primary therapist at an eating disorder treatment center providing therapy to teens and adults struggling with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and binge eating disorders.

Ariel practices from a Health at Every Size® (HAES®) approach and is trained in a variety of therapeutic modalities including EMDR, EFT, exposure based treatment, and person-centered therapies.

**Samantha Strader, TN Coalition Director of Violence Prevention**

As the Director of Prevention, Samantha Strader coordinates intimate partner and sexual violence prevention work of the TN Coalition and facilitates a leadership team whose mission is to increase the scope of prevention work across the state. Samantha has a B.A. in Psychology and a M.Ed. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and brings 10 years of direct services experience in domestic violence and sexual assault work. She is passionate about advocating for justice and safety for all people and dreams of a world where joy, celebration, and peace are abundant for all. Outside of work, Samantha enjoys rejuvenating in nature, tending her garden, and gathering friends for storytelling and laughter.

**Julie Wakeman, LPC-MHSP**

Julie Wakeman works as the Police Crisis Counseling Supervisor with Metro Nashville Police Department's Family Intervention Program. She received her M.Ed in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Vanderbilt University. She offers crisis intervention and counseling for victims of violent crimes, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and homicide.

**Tacarra Wilson, TN Coalition DELTA Program Specialist**

Tacarra Wilson is the Program Specialist for the TN Coalition's DELTA team and currently provides direct oversight of the Financial Literacy and Austin Peay State University (APSU) Upstander programs and assists with project implementation and review as well as assists with state level prevention implementation. Tacarra has a B.S in Psychology and M.A. in Counseling as well as over ten years of experience advocating for youth in the foster care system and those with varying levels of mental health needs. She also has experience in advocacy for vulnerable adults.

**Alison Wine, LMSW, Metro Nashville Police Department, Family Intervention Program**

Alison Wine, LMSW, works as a counseling specialist with Metro Nashville Police Department's Family Intervention Program as part of a collaborative partnership with Metro Nashville's Office of Family Safety. Alison has been working with survivors of interpersonal violence and their loved ones since 2019. She received a Master of Science in Social Work, with additional certification in trauma treatment, from The University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 2021. Currently, she offers crisis intervention, legal advocacy, and counseling services for primary and secondary victims of violent crimes, including domestic violence, sexual assault, and homicide. Alison practices from a Health at Every Size® (HAES®) informed lens and is trained in a variety of therapeutic modalities including Attachment, Regulation, Competency (ARC), Trauma Focused-CBT, DBT, Motivational Interviewing, and other bodied-centered therapies. Additionally, she is trained to assist victims with a wide range of crisis intervention services post critical incident intervention for individuals, and small group defusing with the NOVA group intervention model. As a practitioner, Alison is passionate about identifying and implementing evidence-based micro and macro strategies to eliminate barriers survivors with marginalized identities (LGBTQIA +, BIPOC, fat-bodied, etc.) experience when attempting to access services.





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