


Friday, October 13, 2023



30th Annual Domestic Violence Conference

Thirty Years of Growth

Lessons Learned and Addressing
Root Causes of Domestic Violence



GBVP
Office of Gender-Based
Violence Prevention



The 30th Annual Domestic Violence Conference **Welcome**

A message from the Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention

Welcome to the 30th Annual Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Conference, Thirty Years of Growth: Lessons Learned and Addressing Root Causes of Domestic Violence! In a world still grappling with the pandemic, this first in-person conference in three years feels incredibly special, and it is truly wonderful to be together in community with one another.

Today's gathering is made possible thanks to the commitment and dedication of our 2023 Planning Team, including the staff of the Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention. They've poured their hearts into making this day happen, ensuring every detail is just right. We especially extend our appreciation to our conference anchor, Emma Iturria, whose leadership has been exceptional.

Our schedule today is brimming with opportunities to learn, grow, and find inspiration. We are here to challenge and uplift one another as we strive to provide the best possible service to our community.

If you find today as rewarding as we hope, we invite you to join our 2024 Planning Committee and play a part in shaping the future of this conference. Alternatively, you can support us by sharing your feedback through our conference evaluations. Keep an eye out for QR codes placed throughout the venue directing you to our General Evaluation of this year's conference. You will need to submit this evaluation to receive a Certificate of Attendance. For those seeking CEUs for specific workshops, you'll find course evaluations at the back of each gallery and at the CEU table in the lobby.

The County of Santa Clara has a proud history of leading the way in addressing, interrupting, and preventing domestic violence. Some of you may have been part of our journey at the first conference in 1991, while for others, today marks the beginning of a new chapter. Whether it's your 30th conference or your very first, we are grateful you are here today with us, and we welcome you to this day of community learning.

Thank you for all you do, and for being part of this vital work!

Carla Collins, Bree Van Ness, Beatriz San Juan, & Emma Iturria
Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention team



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Keynote Speakers

Tony Porter

Internationally recognized for his efforts to prevent gender-based violence while promoting healthy masculinity, Tony Porter is a leading voice on male socialization, the intersections of oppression, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and advancing gender and racial justice. Sought after for his in-depth understanding of the collective socialization of men, Porter serves as an adviser to the National Football League (providing policy consultation and facilitating violence prevention) and has provided training to the NBA, the NHL, Major League Soccer, and Major League Baseball. He also has extensive global experience as an international lecturer for the U.S. State Department and a guest presenter to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. As a co-founder of A CALL TO MEN, he continues to provide and promote violence prevention and healthy manhood training through his lectures, publications, and workshops.



Dr. Meghna Bhat

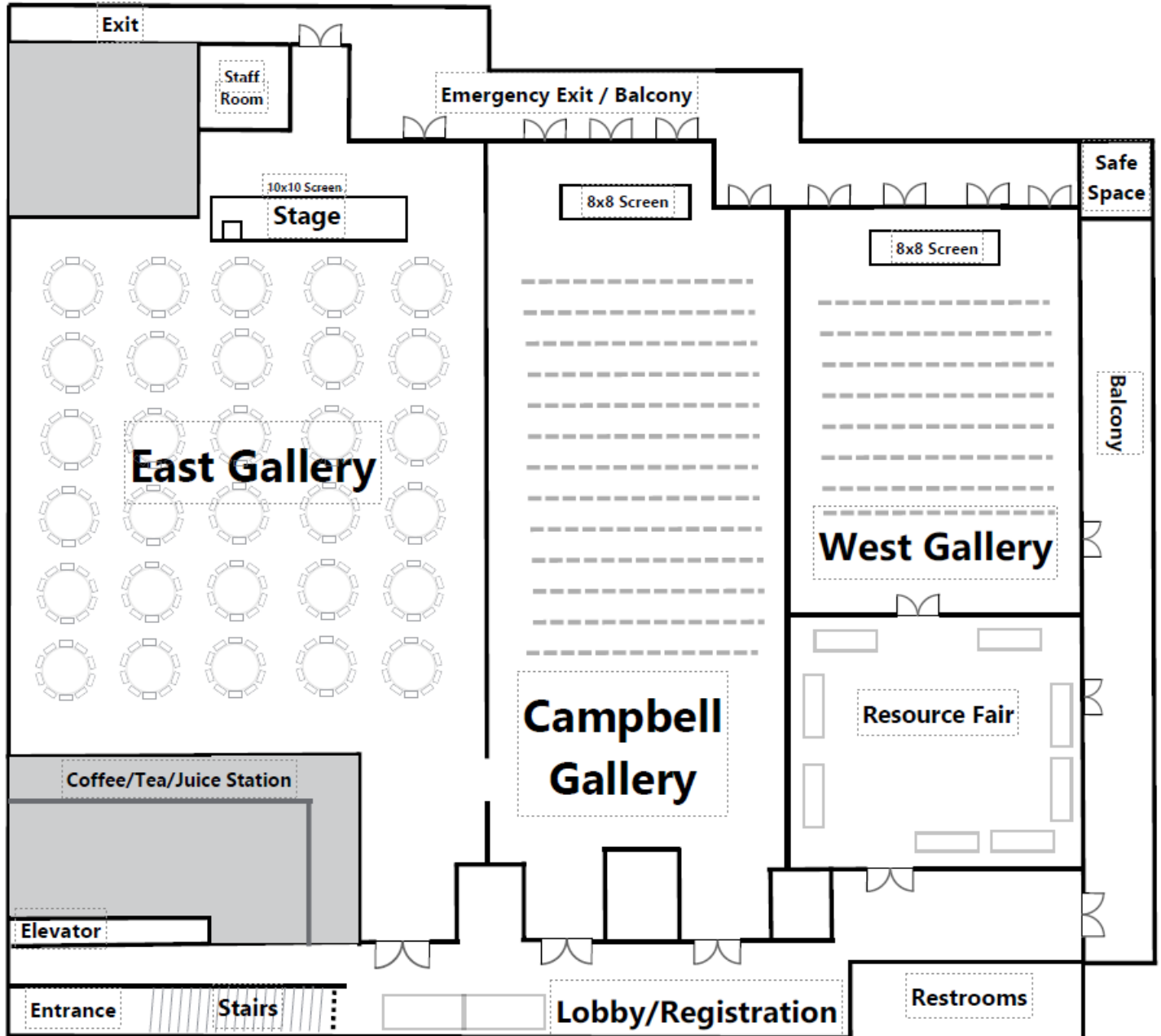
Born and raised in Mumbai, India, before moving to the U.S. in 2004, Dr. Bhat's experiences of surviving sexual assault and harassment motivated her to be an outspoken advocate against gender-based violence and social injustice. With over 17 years of experience in campus and community settings, she has worked in interdisciplinary GBV research and prevention, program administration, teaching and training, and event organizing. Having received her PhD in Criminology, Law, and Justice with a specialization in Gender and Women Studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago, she is interested in exploring narrative and visual criminology with focuses on gender-based violence and media representations. She is a passionate storyteller and dedicated to using film and media as tools for social change, prevention, and justice. As one of the recipients of the 2022 Seeding Creativity Individual Artist Grant from the City of Sacramento Office of Arts and Culture, her project will invite storytellers within South Asian, intergenerational, immigrant communities to share their experiences that are usually perceived as taboo. Dr. Bhat also has conducted many prevention education workshops on ending gender-based violence and using storytelling as tools for facilitating justice, as well as served as a mentor to many students and aspiring educators and storytellers throughout her career.



Conference Schedule

7:30 AM	Check-in Begins	
7:45 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Opening Remarks & Keynote Speaker	Tony Porter
15-Minute Break		
9:45 AM - 11:05 AM	Workshop Session I (choose one)	
	Gender-Based Violence Guidance for Healthcare Professionals	Laura Brunetto Kim Walker
	The Impact of Exposure to Domestic Violence on Children	Dr. Peter Jaffe
	Animal Cruelty and Family Violence: Protecting People and their Pets (ASL/Spanish Interpretation)	Claire Coughlin
10-Minute Break		
11:15 AM - 12:35 PM	Workshop Session II (choose one)	
	Lawyering for DV Survivors: Best Practices from the Field	Dr. Zakia Afrin Rachel McKenzie Shabana Ansari
	Building with Community: Healthy Relationships Campaign in South County	Erica Elliott Ana Gonzalez
	The Domestic Violence – Traumatic Brain Injury Epidemic (ASL/Spanish Interpretation)	Dr. María E. Garay-Serratos
12:35 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch & Award Ceremony	
2:00PM - 3:20PM	Workshop Session III (choose one)	
	Polyvictimization: The Intersections of Gender Based Violence & Human Trafficking	Rose Mukhar Julissa Ponce
	From Trauma to Triumph Executive Summary Workshop	Rachel McKenzie Ruth Darlene
	Queer'ing Prevention: Modernizing LGBTQ+ Inclusion in Intimate Partner Violence Work (ASL/Spanish Interpretation)	Justin Ortiz Megan Schnabel
3:25 PM - 4:10 PM	Keynote Speaker	Dr. Meghna Bhat
4:10 PM - 4:20 PM	Closing Remarks / End of Event	

Villa Ragusa Layout



- Breakfast and lunch will be served buffet style in the Campbell Gallery.
- Accessible restrooms can be found in the lobby.
- An elevator to the second floor can be found on the left side of the front entrance area.
- The balcony along the West Gallery is available to attendees, and it will lead to the designated Safe Space for a quiet area to decompress.
- The other balcony is for emergency use only.
- Keynote speakers will present in the East Gallery.



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Workshop Descriptions

Gender-Based Violence Guidance for Healthcare Professionals

This workshop will provide an introductory training on the Gender-Based Violence Guidelines for Healthcare Providers. The purpose of this guidance is to improve both the quality of care given by individual healthcare providers and the overall response in Santa Clara County to gender-based violence.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Explain CUES, an evidence-based and trauma-informed tool to address gender-based violence with patients.
2. Identify three signs/symptoms of non-fatal strangulation.
3. Identify how to access medical forensic exams in Santa Clara County.
4. Identify how to access advocacy agencies to assist patients with additional resources and assistance.

Presenters



Laura Brunetto

Laura has over 35 years of nursing experience. She has worked in the areas of Pediatrics, Labor and Delivery, and Public Health, and as a Member of a Sexual Assault Response Team. She has her doctorate in Nursing Practice and recently retired as the Director of Public Health, Nursing Services in Santa Clara County. She is a current member of the Domestic Violence Council and chairs the Medical Committee.



Kim Walker

Kim is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Nursing. With a background in inpatient high-risk obstetrical and neonatal nursing, she began working with the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in 2004 as a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Nurse and has been the SAFE Nurse Manager for the Adult/Adolescent SAFE Program in 2016. She is trained to care for patients, age 12 years and older, after sexual assault, rape, child abuse/neglect, intimate partner/domestic violence, non-fatal strangulation, and human trafficking. Kim obtained National professional certification as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE-A) from the International Association of Forensic Nurses in 2016.

Kim sits on the Leadership Board of the California Association of Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (CaSAFE) and is an instructor with the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (CCFMTC) – the agency that holds statutory authority to develop the forms, curriculum, and training for physicians, advance practice professionals, and nurses on SAFE examinations in California. She is also co-chair of the Santa Clara County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), sits on the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Medical Committee, and is a member of the Santa Cruz County SART Committee.



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Workshop Descriptions

Lessons from Domestic Violence Death Review and IPV-related Child Homicides and Ideas for the Future

This workshop will summarize research-validated findings regarding the impact of exposure to domestic violence on children; examine the results of a study based on 20 years of recommendations resulting from a Canadian Domestic Death Review Team findings and the consequences of failing to implement such recommendations; and the implications for risk assessment, safety planning, and risk management for courts and community agencies.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Identify at least three of the top ten risk factors present in domestic violence death review cases.
2. Identify at least one major implication for safety planning resulting from the workshop information.
3. Identify at least one major implication for the courts regarding risk management resulting from the workshop information.

Presenters



Dr. Peter Jaffe

Dr. Peter Jaffe is a Psychologist and Professor in the Faculty of Education at Western University and the Director Emeritus of the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. He is the Director Emeritus for the London Family Court Clinic, a children's mental health centre specializing in issues that bring children and families into the justice system in London, Ontario. Dr. Jaffe has co-authored ten books, 29 chapters and over 80 articles related to domestic violence, the impact of domestic violence on children, homicide prevention and the role of the criminal and family justice systems. For the past 30 years, he has presented workshops across the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Europe to various groups including judges, lawyers, health, mental health professionals and educators. Since 1999, Dr. Jaffe has been on faculty for the National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges in the US for judicial education programs titled "Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases." He was a founding member of Ontario's Chief Coroner's Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. He has also been instrumental in developing violence prevention programs for schools. In 2009, he was named an Officer in the Order of Canada by the Governor General for his work preventing domestic violence in the community.



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Workshop Descriptions

Animal Cruelty & Family Violence: Protecting People & their Pets

People should not have to choose between personal safety and their pets. This workshop will summarize relevant research on the link between animal maltreatment and human violence, with particular attention paid to the relationship between animal abuse and domestic violence. Pet protection laws and reporting policies will be discussed, as well as implications for practice. Recommendations will be made for assessing and addressing barriers to safety, and participants will be given practical tools for use in the field. Safe Havens for Pets, a national directory of sheltering services for the pets of domestic violence survivors, will be highlighted as a resource for advocates.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Identify at least one way in which animal maltreatment may be relevant to your profession or field of study.
2. Describe how animal maltreatment is used as a tool by abusers.
3. Define "Safe Haven for Pets" and list at least two models.
4. Discuss how human service personnel can incorporate questions about animal abuse into their practice.

Presenters



Claire Coughlin

Claire Coughlin has a master's degree in Human Development and Family Studies and extensive experience in both social services and animal advocacy. In previous positions, Claire provided education and support services to children and families in both community and home-based settings. She currently manages animal and family violence initiatives for the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), as well as oversees AWI's Safe Havens for Pets project.

Lawyering for Domestic Violence Survivors: Best Practices from the Field

For survivors, trauma informed services are a basic necessity, with one such service being a productive and stress-free relationship with attorneys who represent them. How do power dynamics play a role in the relationship? What role can cultural responsiveness play? What resources are available for attorneys and survivors to seek support? This workshop is designed to begin a conversation on how lawyers and advocates can better communicate and work towards a common goal: assisting survivors to claim their rights in the courts, including safety. The panelists will cover rights and responsibilities of attorneys and clients, common challenges attorneys face working with survivors, survivors' input through advocates, and best practices that may help all parties navigate the systems efficiently.



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Workshop Descriptions

Lawyering for Domestic Violence Survivors (continued)

Attendees will be able to answer:

1. What does "trauma informed lawyering" mean?
2. What are the rights of a client while working with an attorney?
3. How do DV advocates help facilitate the working relationship?
4. What are the best practices for survivors, advocates, and attorneys, in their respective roles, for fostering a productive relationship throughout representation in the Family Court?

Presenters



Dr. Zakia Afrin

Zakia Afrin has been an advocate for immigrant women for over 17 years in the SF Bay area and currently leads Survivor Advocacy at Maitri. A DOJ Accredited representative, Zakia represents survivors in their immigration petitions and oversees Maitri's crisis intervention, self-sufficiency and Prevention programs. She is a senior fellow and Adjunct professor of International Law at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. A social justice Activist at heart Zakia has served on the Board of CPEDV (2013-2016), and currently a member of CPEDV Policy Advisory Council and Advisory Board member at Family Violence Appellate Project. She founded Auditiya in 2020, a social and cultural platform for the Bangladeshi diaspora in the US.



Rachel McKenzie

Born and raised in Santa Clara County, Rachel McKenzie received her B.A. with honors from University of California, Santa Cruz, and her J.D. with distinction in Litigation from Golden Gate University, School of Law in San Francisco. Since 2017, Rachel has been the Court and County Systems Managing Attorney at the Pro Bono Project of Silicon Valley, the second largest legal aid non-profit in the county. Prior to bringing knowledge, change, and growth to the Pro Bono Project, Rachel has practiced Family Law almost her entire legal career, and she is committed to helping correct the injustices that members of our community face daily. Rachel has been the chair of the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Conference for three years. She sits on numerous county and statewide committees working for legal and social justice and systemic reform, especially as it surrounds Intimate Partner Violence.



Shabana Ansari

Shabana has been part of Maitri's Legal Program since 2014, and she currently serves as Legal Advocacy Coordinator. She provides survivors with legal advocacy, information and



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Workshop Descriptions



Shabana Ansari (continued)

education. An integral part of Maitri's legal program, she does direct client advocacy, assists clients with court preparations and accompanies them to court. Since September 2022, Shabana is also accredited to the Department of Justice to help survivors with their immigration needs. Along with this, she also manages Maitri's language resource list, client database, and outreach activities for the legal program.

Born and raised in Mumbai (then Bombay, India) she received one bachelor's in social work and another in law from Mumbai University. Prior to joining Maitri, she practiced in Bombay High Court and worked with various social justice organizations in Mumbai. She is fluent in multiple South Asian languages including Urdu, Hindi and Marathi.

Building with Community: Healthy Relationships Campaign in South County

The Building with Community: Healthy Relationships Campaign in South County workshop will explore two approaches to combat dating violence. The workshop will discuss and define primary prevention principles for dating violence. The first approach we will highlight is a school-based prevention program for youth to develop healthy relationships, develop respectful sexual practices, and practice pro-social skills (empathy, respect, bystander accountability, and healthy communications) utilizing the prevention curriculum, In Touch with Teens. Participants will be able to engage in interactive activities used to teach youth about healthy relationships. Secondly, this workshop will highlight the evidence-based model, Close to Home, an approach that is used to create stronger community connections, increase capacity to create change through community participation and community leadership; increase action to prevent and address domestic and sexual violence; and will discuss the importance of engaging communities in designing and implementing their own social change strategies for the prevention of domestic and sexual violence. Finally, we will explore the success of the programs by highlighting outcomes and community campaigns launched by our community leaders.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Review primary prevention strategies, principles of prevention, and risk and protective factors that cause/prevent violence.
2. Learn about the In Touch with Teens program, an evidence-informed model, and participate in interactive learning activities from the curriculum.
3. Learn about the Close to Home Model, an evidence-based model, that mobilizes community members to create social change around domestic violence, teen dating violence, and sexual violence.
4. Review a successful example of implementation of the In Touch with Teens and Close to Home programs in the Healthy Relationships Campaign in South County.



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Workshop Descriptions

Presenters



Erica Elliot

Erica Elliott, MSW, Sexual Assault, Prevention, and Therapy Program Director, has been with Community Solutions for over 10 years, and has revamped the agency's prevention programs to incorporate primary prevention. She has been instrumental in the development and implementation of culturally responsive, evidence-based prevention and outreach programming to underserved communities. Erica oversees several prevention projects in partnership with the California Department of Public Health, California Office of Emergency Services, and Santa Clara County's Office of Gender Based Violence Prevention in South Santa Clara County and in San Benito County. Erica is an active member of the South County Youth Task Force, the Chair of Child Abuse Prevention Council in San Benito County, and the California Department of Public Health State Advisory Committee.



Ana Gonzalez

Ana Gonzalez, Prevention Program Supervisor, has worked for CS for over four years. Ana is fluent in English and Spanish and is bi-cultural. Ana was raised in Gilroy and reflects the population served. Ana has worked and supported all of CS' prevention programs; facilitated the prevention curriculum within schools, oversaw and supported Gilroy Innovators program, and mentored Promotorx. Ana is a member of the South County Youth Task Force Tech Team and participates in other community meetings within South County to build relationships and promote healthy relationships.

The Domestic Violence-Traumatic Brain Injury Epidemic

In the United States, one in three women, one in four men, and ten to twenty percent of children are estimated to experience domestic violence (DV). Rates are higher for immigrants and other disenfranchised communities. World rates are similar. During the COVID Pandemic, the United Nations Women reported a global increase in DV due to confinement factors. It is also estimated that seventy-five percent of DV incidents go unreported in the U.S., and no laws exist to make it unlawful in close to fifty countries.

Making matters worse is that the health, legal, education, policy, government, and social welfare sectors are unaware that most DV victims are suffering a multitude of severe and debilitating symptoms from undiagnosed trauma-c brain injury (DV-TBI) sustained during DV episodes. The U.S.'s initial research findings are frightening and point to a silent epidemic: eighty to ninety percent of abused women and sixty to seventy percent of men with abusive tendencies report a history of TBI. The damage is permanent, leaving many unable to function in life. The workshop will focus on presenting the current science, symptoms, and the call to action to address the DV-TBI pandemic.



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Workshop Descriptions

The Domestic Violence-Traumatic Brain Injury Epidemic (continued)

Attendees will be able to:

1. The DV-TBI epidemic in the U.S.
2. The symptoms of DV-TBI among adults.
3. Why women are more susceptible to TBI than men.
4. How they can help address the DV-TBI epidemic.

Presenters



Dr. María Garay-Serratos

Dr. María E. Garay-Serratos is the Founder and CEO of Pánfila Domestic Violence HOPE Foundation. She is also the Protagonist, Associate Producer, and domestic violence–related traumatic brain injury (DV-TBI) Expert Consultant for Scotia Entertainment’s recent and groundbreaking documentary, *This Hits Home*, about the DV-TBI epidemic in the United States. Dr. Garay-Serratos’s DV-TBI journey and her passion for understanding the roots of DV to eradicate it inspired and motivated her to collaborate with Scotia Entertainment and, in tandem, create Pánfila Domestic Violence HOPE Foundation to address the DV-TBI pandemic. Prior to founding Pánfila and involvement in *This Hits Home*, Dr. Garay-Serratos served as a C-level executive for over 20 years for various non-profit organizations. Dr. Garay-Serratos attended Pitzer College where she earned her undergraduate degree in sociology. Her graduate studies in social work were at the University of Southern California where she earned both a master’s degree and a doctorate.

Polyvictimization: The Intersections of Gender-Based Violence & Human Trafficking

This session will introduce, explain and focus on polyvictimization, which is the experience of multiple types of victimization such as sexual assault, physical abuse, neglect, bullying, and exposure to gender-based violence. Survivors of human trafficking, whether sex or labor trafficked, are often mis-identified or under-identified as survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault, resulting in missed opportunities for specific forms of relief within varying legal systems. Subject matter expertise paired with lived experience will be shared so that practitioners will better understand the impact of centering the survivor's voice and needs.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Review the legal definitions of domestic violence and human traffickings.
2. Understand systems of power and control and identify the power dynamics when supporting survivors.
3. Gain an introduction and understanding of polyvictimization.



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Workshop Descriptions

Polyvictimization (continued)

Attendees will be able to:

4. Recognize the intersections of gender-based violence and human trafficking and impact based on lack of identification within legal systems.
5. Learn how to prioritize survivors' voices and needs in ways that are meaningful, respectful and impactful.

Presenters



Rose Mukhar

Rose Mukhar is the President, Executive Director, and Principal Attorney of Justice At Last. She is also a social justice, human rights, and crime victims' rights attorney with experience in cases involving children, women, refugees, and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, torture, and human trafficking. Rose earned a Master of Law degree in International Legal Studies, and a Juris Doctorate from Golden Gate University School of Law; a master's degree in International Relations from the United States International University; and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Wellesley College. She spent the summer of 2012 studying the prosecution of war crimes involving child combatants in The Hague, Netherlands, through American University, Washington College of Law. It was during her graduate law studies that Rose realized that child soldiering is a form of human trafficking during armed conflicts, and this inspired her to represent survivors of all forms of human trafficking.



Julissa Pence

Julissa Pence is a speaker, advocate, and consultant for anti-trafficking work with lived experience in labor exploitation and trafficking. She has extensive knowledge in cultural humility, worker rights, migrant outreach, and labor trafficking trainings. Julissa's lived experience gives her a unique insight into the intersectionality of different forms of trauma. Human trafficking lives within the grey areas of everyday life. It is Julissa's goal to teach responders and everyday lay people to be able to identify at-risk populations, the different forms of human trafficking, over-looked community resources for survivors, and most importantly to respond adequately by minimizing the harm and re-traumatization that survivors could be exposed to. Julissa recognizes that trauma comes in many forms, whether it be childhood abuse or human trafficking and she has been trained in trauma informed care, sexual assault and domestic



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Workshop Descriptions

From Trauma to Triumph Executive Summary

WomenSV has created the Executive Summary Workshop (ESW), where we help survivors of coercive control concisely articulate their story/goals to the audience of their choosing. By having Executive Summaries of major patterns of abuse and being able to articulate how they felt and what the impact of the abuse was on their life and health, survivors can share with audiences a more complete picture of the abuse they endured. The ESW helps with the efficiency of survivors sharing their stories. Doctors, lawyers, and therapists are all providers that survivors may want to communicate their experiences to, but due to the cost, time, or complexity of their stories, survivors may be conscious of how long it takes to help them understand. The ESW will allow survivors to put together a chronology to show how the abuse progressed & how its impact compounded to significant changes in their life and health. We also hope that an advocate being present to listen, help survivors with their ESWs, and validate their experiences will give survivors the strength and clarity to be able to describe what they've gone through.

Attendees will be able to:

1. Adapt survivors' experiences according to the audience they are reaching out to for support.
2. Identify their audience and goal and adapt their summary accordingly, depending on the nature of the support they are seeking.
3. Recognize key differences between covert abuse and more obvious forms of domestic violence.

Presenters



Ruth Darlene

Ruth Darlene's educational background includes a Master's in English Literature, Teaching credential and California state certification in domestic violence advocacy. At Stanford's Center for Research in Disease Prevention, Ruth worked as a teacher and curriculum writer in a study designed to raise awareness about eating disorders. She adapted their research model to create her own program in 2011 to address covert abuse and coercive control. Under the fiscal sponsorship of Los Altos Community Foundation, she launched her own non-profit in 2011. Women of Silicon Valley/WomenSV became an independent 501 (c) 3 non-profit in 2017 and in the past 12 years has served over 1,400 survivors of covert abuse and coercive control.

Ruth's program addresses the risks and challenges of more subtle but still dangerous forms of abuse in intimate partner relationships. In addition to serving survivors, she does public presentations and offers trainings to assist providers in becoming more trauma-informed in working with survivors of covert abuse and coercive control, particularly those involved with a powerful, sophisticated intimate partner.



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Workshop Descriptions

Presenters (continued)



Rachel McKenzie

Born and raised in Santa Clara County, Rachel McKenzie received her B.A. with honors from University of California, Santa Cruz, and her J.D. with distinction in Litigation from Golden Gate University, School of Law in San Francisco. Since 2017, Rachel has been the Court and County Systems Managing Attorney at the Pro Bono Project of Silicon Valley, the second largest legal aid non-profit in the county. Prior to bringing knowledge, change, and growth to the Pro Bono Project, Rachel has practiced Family Law almost her entire legal career, and she is committed to helping correct the injustices that members of our community face daily. Rachel has been the chair of the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Conference for three years. She sits on numerous county and statewide committees working for legal and social justice and systemic reform, especially as it surrounds Intimate Partner Violence.

Queer'ing Prevention: Modernizing LGBTQ+ Inclusion in IPV Work

Through our workshop, we would like to address modern prevention methods which uplift, support, and include the LGBTQ+ community. Our workshop will be structured as an interactive and educational session, which may include scenario analyzation, survivor stories, and thought-provoking discussion questions. We aim to touch on some - or all - of the following topics:

- Analyzing queer relationship representation in media and how it affects boundaries and expectations set by youth
- What it means to be a "Safe Adult" and an Ally
- How to create a safe space where LGBTQ+ survivors feel supported
- How to make prevention work more accessible for queer folk
- The importance of relatability in IPV prevention work for queer folk
- Addressing the importance of including Peer Support and "Worldview" in prevention work.
- This addresses the understanding of how we each see the world differently based on our own experiences, while learning to explore and affirm others' worldview, listening with openness for their untold story, and learning to refrain from assumptions.
- How to re-frame and address IPV/DV related content which might feel dated, binary, or unrelatable to queer youth in a progressive way

Attendees will be able to:

1. Understand how to use inclusive language regarding Intimate Partner Violence terminology and LGBTQ+ identities.
2. Identify barriers to prevention services for LGBTQ+ folk and will learn methods to understand and affirm inclusivity.



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Workshop Descriptions

Queer'ing Prevention (continued)

Attendees will be able to:

3. Learn tactical and practical methods to apply to direct services, such as making intake forms more inclusive etc.

Presenters



Justin Ortiz

Justin is the Program Coordinator for HEART, which is a new Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Program under Caminar. Following his passion for prevention work, Justin studied Health Education and Sexuality Studies at San Francisco University, and he is now building HEART from the ground up. Through HEART's programming, Justin provides participants of all identities with vital resource referrals and educational workshops on the topic of healthy relationships.



Megan Schnabel

Megan Schnabel (they/them) has worked in the non-profit, domestic violence field for the last four years in Santa Clara County. Megan has witnessed a variety of survivors' experiences and the impact of intersecting identities while navigating systems, and uses this to help educate communities through prevention curricula and programming. They have a strong background in mental health, through working with foster youth and survivors, providing case management and crisis intervention. Megan received their BA in Psychology in 2018 and is pursuing their MA in Counseling Psychology and MFT license with an emphasis in LGBTQ+ Counseling. In addition to working as the Youth Coordinator at Next Door Solutions, they are currently attending Santa Clara University and working at Caminar Family and Children Services as a therapist trainee.



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Acknowledgements

Conference Planning Committee

Our appreciation goes out to the members of the Conference Planning Committee who have worked behind the scenes to ensure the success of this event:

Grace Agonoy, SCC Health & Hospital System
Shabana Ansari, Maitri
Steven Baron, SCC Child Abuse Prevention Council
Carla Collins, SCC Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention
Cecelia Carrillo, SCC Diversion & Reentry Services
Georgi Carter, Women SV
Charisse Feldman, SCC Public Health Department
Niabi Gallegos, SCC Victim Services Unit
Adriana Garcia, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence
Michelle Haws, SCC Social Services Agency
Emma Iturria, SCC Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention
Jillian Laxton, SCC Court Commissioner
Rachel McKenzie, Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley
Wendy Merklingshaus, SCC Social Services Agency
Nadia Mowad, SCC Social Services Agency
Beatriz San Juan, SCC Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention
Candice Soto, AACI
Vanessa Torres, YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley
Ayanna Vanderbilt, SCC Social Services Agency
Bree Van Ness, SCC Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention

Language Services

We would like to express our gratitude to the interpreters from the IU Group. Their ability to bridge language barriers and ensure all attendees can fully engage with the content is deeply appreciated.

Volunteers

We want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our amazing volunteers. Your support has been instrumental in making this conference possible.



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GBVP

Office of Gender-Based
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Division of Equity & Social Justice