AGENDA Monday, September 28, 2015

12:00-1:00 REGISTRATION

1:00-1:30 WELCOME

1:30-2:30 PLENARY SESSION

A Trauma Informed Approach to Children Exposed to Domestic Violence

Dr. Linda Chamberlain, Founder of the Alaska Family Violence Prevention Project

Mandalay A

Understanding how prolonged and severe stress can become toxic to a child’s developing brain in the absence of protective factors explains why trauma can disrupt healthy brain development. Using a series of innovative props, Dr. Chamberlain takes participants on a journey through the brain’s pathway of stress and then shares the compelling story of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Study that has led to an international movement to address childhood trauma. She describes how a trauma-informed approach will help parents to understand that their life experiences can affect their parenting and children. Participants will learn simple strategies that can act as a trauma shield and promote resiliency for parents and children.

2:30-2:45 BREAK

2:45-4:00 WORKSHOP SET 1:

1-A: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): What We Know Can Change the Future

Dr. Linda Chamberlain, Founder of the Alaska Family Violence Prevention Project

Mandalay A

ACEs are one of the strongest predictors of domestic violence victimization and perpetration that we know of. There is tremendous prevention potential and childhood exposure to DV is one of the childhood adversities (ACEs).

1-B: Reconnecting to Our Roots

Elizabeth Ann Stoffel, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 3

To help reconnect to the vision, values, and promise that originally organized the movement to end domestic violence, workshop participants will participate in a timeline exercise that chronicles the course of the violence against women social justice movement.
1-C: From Roadblock to Resource: Engaging Faith Leaders in Responding to Victims of Domestic Violence

Alyson Katzman, Safe Haven’s Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 4

This workshop will examine how faith can be a road-block for victims of domestic violence as well as a resource. In doing so, participants will learn about the role of the faith community, how an engaged faith community can improve earlier access to services and promote healing, and how best to engage faith communities as partners in this critical work.

1-D: Legal Safety Planning for Attorneys/Advocates Representing Domestic Violence Victims

April Green, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada
Ebru Cetin, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

Mandalay 5

This workshop is designed to increase advocate awareness of legal options available to domestic violence and sexual assault victims in family court litigation. This workshop will also provide attorneys and advocates representing domestic violence victims with tools to assess the risk level for clients and to address the safety needs of the client through the court process and other resources. Attendees will be shown that victims at high risk for fatality should not be handled in the same manner as victims who have eliminated or already reduced their risk factors. In addition, this workshop will address development of “litigation plans” to meet the safety needs of victims litigating their cases in family court.

4:00-4:15 BREAK

4:15-5:30 WORKSHOP SET 2:

2-A: Recovering from Trauma: Strengthening Personal and Family Resilience After Addiction and Interpersonal Violence

Meri Shadley, University of Nevada Reno - Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies
Colleen Jo Weatherford, University of Nevada Reno

Mandalay 2

To survive and escape a life of violence takes strength, focus, and a desire to live free. All too frequently, women turn to alcohol or drugs to cope, creating a new and illusive enemy. As these women begin addiction recovery, they face complex struggles. For many, the physical and/or sexual trauma histories define their identity and their relationships. Focusing on the connections between addiction and gender violence, this workshop addresses the role addiction plays in the path to recovery and how to assist women in replacing these self-destructive coping mechanisms with resiliency and true freedom. Trauma-based treatment protocols will be spotlighted.

2-B: Domestic Violence, Child Custody, and Trauma

Amanda Kay, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Mandalay 3

This presentation will help advocates learn how they can support the survivor, and counsel if retained, in their efforts to keep the children safe and well, and it will provide links to additional resources that can be accessed by the advocate, the survivor, counsel, and the judge.
2-C: Connecting Intimate Partner Violence and Traumatic Brain Injury: Assessment & Accommodations for Survivors

Judy Henderson, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 4

Individuals who are abused often suffer injury to their head, neck, and face. The high potential for individuals who are abused to have mild to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a growing concern since the effects can cause irreversible psychological and physical harm. Victims of intimate partner violence are more likely to have repeated injuries to the head and as injuries accumulate, the likelihood of recovery dramatically decreases. In addition, sustaining another head trauma prior to the complete healing of the initial injury may be fatal. (Empire Justice Center, 2006). This presentation will provide an overview of the intersection of intimate partner violence and traumatic brain injury. Participants will learn about practical assessment tools, accommodation strategies, and resources.

2-D: The Impact of Trauma on Children and Adolescents

Amanda Castillo, Committee to Aid Abused Women
Nikki Jones, Committee to Aid Abused Women

Mandalay 5

This workshop will navigate the impact that trauma has on children and adolescents; while focusing on trauma specifically related to domestic violence and sexual assault. As a group we will explore the definition of trauma, the behavior responses to trauma, and what our agencies can do to better serve our clients and their families. We will get the chance to see trauma through a young girl’s eyes, while focusing on what trauma triggers are and how they can affect our clients.
AGENDA Tuesday, September 29, 2015

8:00-9:00  REGISTRATION

9:00-10:15 PLENARY SESSION

Transforming Trauma: How to Do This Work without Completely Losing Our Minds

Laura van Dernoot Lipsky, Founder and Director, The Trauma Stewardship Institute

Mandalay A

Laura will be speaking about the cumulative toll that doing the work we do (and living the lives we live) can take. We will be exploring how to have awareness individually and collectively about this toll and ways to sustain so that we can effectively address vicarious trauma.

10:15-10:30  BREAK

10:30-11:45 WORKSHOP SET 3:

3-A: Transforming Trauma: The Conversation Continues-Part 1

Laura van Dernoot Lipsky, The Trauma Stewardship Institute

Mandalay 2

This workshop will dive deeper into what is addressed in the plenary session.

3-B: Public Policy Barriers and Strategies

Kristy Oriol, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 3

This workshop will contain a summary of each step of the state legislative process and successful strategies in communicating with legislators. The workshop will review the 2015 legislative session and ways to deal with potential challenges and fully utilize the benefits of new laws. The session will empower attendees to keep NNADV apprised of struggles they face in existing public policies in Nevada to help determine our priorities in 2017.

3-C: Legal Remedies for Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence

Benjamin Albers, Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans

Esmeralda Velazquez, Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans

Mandalay 4

This workshop will build skills and enhance advocacy strategies in assisting immigrant domestic violence and sexual violence survivors. The workshop will address domestic violence as experienced by immigrant survivors and children in immigrant families, the barriers to seeking assistance and reporting crimes, and the special needs of immigrant survivors living in rural communities. The workshop will provide training on legal remedies available to undocumented immigrant survivors of domestic violence including the VAWA self-petition, U-Visa, and T-Visa processes.
3-D: In Their Shoes-Part 1

Judy Henderson, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 5

This presentation is offered in two sessions. Part 1 includes an overview of teen relationship abuse – its prevalence, warning signs, its consequences, and how to help a teen struggling in an abusive relationship. Resources will also be provided. Part 2 involves a highly interactive simulation called In Their Shoes which is based on real-life scenarios. In Their Shoes was designed to help participants learn what dating is like for today’s teens – from their perspective. Participants will become teen characters, make choices about their relationships, and see what happens. In Their Shoes provides a snapshot of unhealthy teen relationships and generates a thoughtful discussion about how adults may better understand and more effectively engage with teens.

11:45-1:15 LUNCH BREAK

1:15-2:30 WORKSHOP SET 4:

4-A: Transforming Trauma: The Conversation Continues-Part 2

Laura van Dernoot Lipsky, The Trauma Stewardship Institute

Mandalay 2

This workshop will dive deeper into what is addressed in the plenary session.

4-B: Substance Use and Interpersonal Violence

Leah Boe, Great Basin Counseling
Frank Blakeney, Committee to Aid Abused Women

Mandalay 3

Substance use is 2-3 times higher in women who are in violent relationships than the general public (Cunradi, 2000). Therefore as advocates who provide supportive services to survivors it is necessary that we learn how and why people use substances. This presentation will provide information about signs and symptoms of use and withdrawal from substances. We will review which substances have potential for overdose or death and when to refer to medical professionals. There will be screening tools provided and we will close with a thoughtful discussion of the current policies agencies have and suggestions for re-evaluation.

4-C: It Matters Where I Came From and Where I’m Going: A Holistic Approach to Healing for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence

Arlene Rivera, Immigrant Justice Initiative
Elena Espinoza, Iconn Consultants

Mandalay 4

While much has been written on the relationship between healing and domestic violence, less is known about the dynamics of immigrant communities and the process of survivorship. This presentation will elaborate upon the unique nature of domestic violence as experienced in immigrant communities generally, and Latino communities specifically. Using an intersectional model of healing, the presenters will elaborate on factors hindering and/or advancing the healing process for immigrant communities of domestic violence, especially within the state of Nevada. Special attention will be paid to the interventions of legal remedies and mental health as necessary first steps towards survivorship. The larger goal of the presentation is to advance an understanding of domestic violence for immigrants as a global phenomenon framed by local/national policy and health imperatives.
4-D: In Their Shoes-Part 2
Judy Henderson, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Mandalay 5
Continued from workshop in previous set.

2:30 — 2:45 BREAK

2:45 — 4:00 WORKSHOP SET 5:

5-A: Stronger than Glass: The Burden of Domestic Violence Against African-American Women
Genese Jones-Torrence, Safe Nest, Inc.

Mandalay 2
This interactive workshop explores the various ways in which responses to domestic violence in the African-American community have been shaped by oppression, racism, and sexism. Despite experiencing domestic violence at alarming rates, black women are less likely to seek outside legal and social services. To meet this objective, the facilitator will introduce a promising model in the delivery of culturally-specific services to the African-American community, Safe Nest’s Project S.O.S. (Saving Our Sisters)

5-B: Suicide 101: Gatekeeper Training
Janett Massolo, Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention

Mandalay 3
This workshop teaches the basics of suicide intervention. It also teaches the warning signs, along with the risk and protection factor. It will also provide tips and resources to help accomplish better, safer living circumstances.

5-C: Tribal Civil Protection Orders
Victoria Sweet, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Mandalay 4
This workshop will explore the impact of trauma on domestic violence victims and legal actions they may choose to take. It will also include an analysis of the history behind the VAWA 2013 language regarding enforcement against tribal and non-tribal members. This workshop will help participants better understand full faith and credit, firearms consequences of protection orders, and new enforcement requirements under VAWA 2013. We will review and explain these important aspects of civil protection orders, with a specific focus on tribal orders.

5-D: Creating an Environment Enhancing Social Justice and Acceptance- Transgender Basics
Kimi Cole, Transgender Allies Group
Jonathan “Katie” Cartwright, Transgender Allies Group
Kim Nichols, Northern Nevada HOPES

Mandalay 5
This workshop will provide a direct, understandable background of what it means to be transgender, as well as what it is not. Statistical information will be shared regarding an extremely high percentage of suicide attempts within the transgender community and challenges that occur while dealing with society in general will be presented. The workshop will also provide tips and resources to help accomplish better, safer living circumstances.
AGENDA Wednesday, September 30, 2015

8:00-9:00  REGISTRATION
9:00-10:00  PLENARY SESSION
Historical Trauma: Understanding the Legacy of Oppressions
Vanessa Timmons, Oregon Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
Mandalay A
Historical Trauma is often overlooked in the efforts to provide trauma informed organizations. This plenary discussion will raise awareness of the impact of trauma on historically oppressed communities and provide strategies deeply rooted in our movement and the trauma informed values that are core to our work.

10:00-10:15  BREAK

10:15-11:30  WORKSHOP SET 6:
6-A: Fundamentals: Technology Safety in a Digital World for Advocates
Judy Henderson, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
Mandalay 2
This presentation is specifically designed for advocates from community-based domestic and sexual violence programs who want to share strategies that may increase survivors’ safety while using today’s technology as well as the potential risks involved.

6-B: Growing Our Movement Forward
Elizabeth Ann Stoffel, Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
Mandalay 3
Domestic Violence organizations have found increasing challenges as they have adapted to a “new normal” of shifting environmental conditions. With fewer resources and a growing complexity of survivor needs, some organizations are “doing more with less” or “doing less with less.” This workshop will propose what we “do different with less” by using a social justice movement perspective to help solve some of our organizational challenges. Through a combination of lecture and small group activity, participants will learn how to apply a social justice movement perspective to their work.

6-C: Economic Justice
Teri Weathers, Safe Nest
Mandalay 4
This presentation supports the theme through examining the intersections of economics, capitalism, and oppression as a barrier to the healing and empowerment of victims, and will provide skills to work with survivors.
6-D: The Way of the Heroine: Writing as a Healing Practice

Vanessa Timmons, Oregon Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Mandalay 5

“Writing as a Healing Practice” is an interactive workshop. We will explore the neurobiology of trauma and the emerging wisdom of the field. Participants will learn practical tools to use with groups and individuals navigating personal and historical trauma.