



Together, we are
The Network.

Together we are better. Together we are stronger. Together we can promote victims' rights for a safer South Dakota

Krista Heeren- Graber, Executive Director

On June 3, 1999, my kids were four and two years old. I had left the Children's Inn after twelve years to start this new endeavor with the SD Network. There was no official office and only one very part-time staff. The Network's membership consisted of fourteen agencies and was growing rapidly. With the amazing work of many advocates, law enforcement, and others, the Network became a strong statewide collaboration.

I just celebrated my 22nd year with the Network and now my kids are adults. My oldest child just finished a Masters' degree at Cornell University and is starting the PHD while working as a research assistant. My second child just graduated from Dakota State University and is currently working at Hy-Vee in Sioux Falls. The Network has a beautiful and spacious Sioux Falls office suite with twelve offices for staff and four for interns. Our conference room is large enough to hold a membership meeting which is usually around 50-60 in attendance. Desiree works primarily out of her home office in Yankton, and Tanya is stationed in Pierre. On July 1st, the Network will be opening a new office in Rapid City. The suite has five offices and a large open area, and the office building is located behind Working Against Violence, Inc. We will be hiring staff for the West River office very soon. The membership has grown to over seventy agencies. We love the partnerships and welcome new projects. How can we make sure that all victims, survivors, and their families receive the help that they need? To do so, we need to truly understand the inequities and barriers faced by many. Some of our newer projects include the following topics/research: coercive control and intimate partner violence; batterers' intervention programming and state standards; (Cont. on page 2)



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The bills signed into law during the 2021 Legislative Session will go into effect July 1st, 2021. There may have been some bills that already went into effect due to an emergency clause and/or other bills still in discussion. Here are just a few bills that may impact your work with victims and offenders; these bills will be effective July 1st.

- SB 102 will protect voter registration information for certain voters (victims of violence with protection orders and/or residing or receiving assistance from a crisis shelter).
- SB 148 will establish the crime of torture of a human trafficking victim.
- HB 1080 will increase the enhanced penalty for simple assault.
- HB 1081 will increase the penalty for protection orders violations.
- HB 1096 will provide a penalty for sexual contact with a minor by a person holding a position of authority.
- HB 1204 will revise criminal provisions regarding certain visual recordings or photographic devices.

(Cont.)victim advocacy training modules development; addressing the intersection of violence and addiction; development of sexual assault response team protocols; and providing multi-lingual victim services. It is my honor to work with our tribal partners and experience their culture and traditions.

Take care of yourself! My self-care rituals involve daily gym work outs. I love to be outside and look for opportunities for yard work, long walks, and hikes. Some have referred to me as the “crazy cat lady” through the years, but I prefer the “cat whisperer”. My family, friends, and felines keep me healthy. We can together prevent violence and continue to do our very best to help our SD families.

Emergency Service Funding



The Network is excited to announce that the Larson Family Foundation has awarded funding for emergency services for victims/survivors. This funding is a last resort source to remove barriers for victims/survivors to obtain safety. The funding can be utilized for bus tickets to relocate for safety, rent/deposit for a safe place to live, utility deposits, etc. For more information, please contact Kathy at kathy@sdnafusa.com or call 605-731-0041.

The Network Team

We threw in some throwbacks, just for fun 🎧

Kathy Rutten

Assistant Director

I have been with The Network for a total of 16 years in a variety of positions starting as a Grants Manager in 2002 and then became the Training Team Coordinator. In 2008, I left The Network for another position in a different field, however, I missed the work and was hired back as the Administrative Services Coordinator in 2011 and was promoted to Assistant Director in 2018. As the Assistant Director, I oversee membership for The Network, provide training and technical assistance to members and other agencies, and coordinate trainings and meetings. Before coming to The Network, I worked at Children's Inn, the domestic violence shelter in Sioux Falls, for 7 years in several different positions. When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with my husband, three children and dog. I love to shop, read and do walk/runs



Vien Hall

Office Manager

I have been working with the Network for about 3 years, enjoy providing the services to our agencies across the state and working with an awesome Network team!

Ashley Dwyer

Grants Project Specialist

I have an amazing partner; Nick and we have a handsome chocolate lab (Dakota) and cat (Henry).

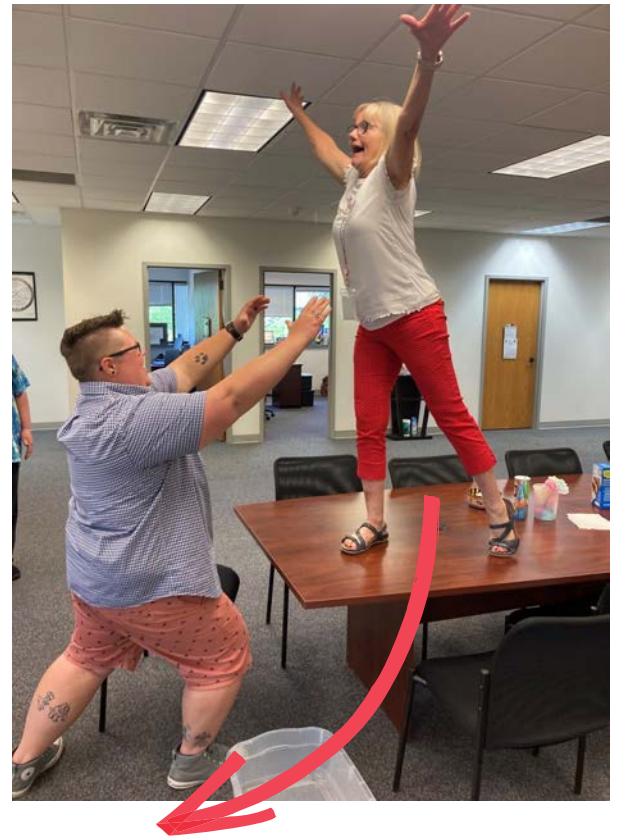
I received my education in 2004 (Associates – Youth/Adolescent Counseling & Addictions Counseling), 2013 (Bachelor of Social Work) and 2017 (Master of Social Work). I am a licensed social worker in South Dakota. I am currently working on my clinical licensure and certificate in Energy Medicine.

I started at the Network in February 2018. I came on board as the SV project specialist and have transitioned into additional roles.

I am a natural healer; I am clairsentience and claircognizance.

My DAILY selfcare is continuing my healing journey by using nonwestern techniques. My favorite thing is to connect with nature and ground myself. Next time you are outside, take those shoes and socks off – take the leap to be at peace and your true authentic self.

Sending you all love and light – I hope to see you all in the here and now.



Lora Ronning

Financial Assistant

Silly, but this picture demonstrates the trust and support I have always felt from my coworkers and The Network as a whole. I started with The Network in 2000 as the in-house financial person when the Treasurer of The Network, Betty Johnson who was the Director of the Family Crisis Center in Redfield, had decided to retire. My hours were very small as was our budget and the size of our membership. As the budget and organization grew, so did my position which grew to full time and the title of Financial Director. During my time with The Network I had the pleasure of meeting and working with so many caring people and witnessing it grow into the strong collaborative organization that it is today. Bonnie, who aided me in the finance department, took over my position when I retired in 2017. When I was asked to come back, a couple of years later, as a part time “Bonnie” because Bonnie didn’t have a “Bonnie” to help her with the ever-growing tasks and responsibilities that her position has had to assume, I felt complimented but mostly, the trust that Krista and The Network had had in me. Today, I help with writing and rewriting our many grant budgets and am a second set of eyes on the processing of vouchers and expenses. It is such a privilege to be a part of such an awesome group.

Jordan Catlett

Cultural Outreach Specialist



Hello! My name is Jordan Catlett. I was born and raised in South Dakota. I am the daughter of a special education teacher, a retired airman, a photographer/accountant, and a carpenter. I have one sibling, an older sister named Morgan (pictured above). In my world today, I am a mom and auntie to both human and fur children. I am a soon to be wife, to an incredible woman, who's sparkle lights my soul.

In my personal time I enjoy creating/crafting, and spending time in community. I am extremely grateful to indulge in sewing, woodworking, and trying to repurpose and find beauty in discarded objects. I am also proud to partake in South Dakota's first LGBTQ+ softball league!

Rural Project: This project provides funding for eleven, part-time rural advocates to cover 42 rural counties in South Dakota. This includes providing outreach, community education, and services to victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. This also includes building, supporting, and maintaining Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTS).

Rape Prevention Education (RPE): Under the RPE funding, The Network coordinates a Sexual Violence Prevention Tribal Advisory Group. The Tribal Advisory group has meet quarterly over the past year. This group gathers to discuss sexual violence prevention in tribal communities and engaging Native Americans in urban areas in sexual violence prevention. Topics of past meetings include engaging men in sexual violence prevention, and overviews of the current sexual violence prevention programming.

Avera SANE: The SD Networks role on the Avera SANE project is to assist Avera in connecting E-SANE locations to local victim service resources.

Coalition Funding: The coalition funding provides for more culturally specific outreach and technical assistance to victim service programs.

CTAS: This funding provides transitional housing and an additional advocate to provide culturally informed services in the Flandreau area. This grant funding is ending Fall 2021.

UNL/CDC - Youth Voices in Prevention: This project is a youth-led sexual violence prevention project with a research component, based in Rapid City, SD. Although, the project specific funding is ending, the programming with youth leaders is continuing in Rapid City through the amazing work of the project's partners.



Desiree Johnson

TA Coordinator

I joined the Network Team in October of 2020—before the Network I served as the Executive Director of River City Domestic Violence & Family Connections for 12 years. Now, in my role as a technical assistance provider, I channel all the experienced I gained in my past position to assist agencies in the state with Executive Director training, grant management, advocate training, law enforcement training. I also assist in managing the Rape Prevention Grant and work on the SAKI team.

At home, I am surrounded by the three loves of my life—

Alex(husband), Connor(son, age 14) Landry(son, age 4). As a family we spend our weekends at our cabin in Nebraska—hiking, swimming, kayaking, fishing and relaxing around the fire.

I spend the rest of my time lovin' being a "boy mom"-- watching Connor play ball and building traintracks throughout our entire house with Lando.

Raina Boyum

SAKI COORDINATOR

I grew up in Omaha, Nebraska and received my social work degree from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. I originally started with the Network in 2003 working on the Safe Haven Visitation Grant. After a 2 year move to Fargo from 2007-2009, I returned to the Network and have spent the past 12 years working on the STOP training grant, Rural and the ICJR grants.

I am currently working on the SAKI Grant (Sexual Assault Kit Initiative) and our team is working to increase technical assistance for prosecutors, setting up research on how sexual assault kits impact prosecutions and working to increase the number of cases entered into the federal ViCap system. Prior to working at the Network, I spent 7 years at Child Protection Services in Sioux Falls. I have been married for 25 years and spend my time watching my two sons play baseball and keeping up with our family's two Norwegian Elkhound dogs. I am addicted to reading, drinking coffee and sneak chocolate whenever possible.



Olivia Boese

Grants Project Manager

For my self-care, I enjoy walking outside and enjoying the fresh air. I like to spend free time with family and friends, making new memories. I also enjoy reading when I can set aside some quiet time. Of course, dessert is self-care too, in moderation!

I work on the disability and justice grant programs.



Bonnie Tschetter

Finance Director

I started with The Network in December of 2014 as a Finance person for the Voices for Children division and to assist Lora in her duties. I worked with Voices for Children's remaining entries and bills to pay as they no longer had any employees. At the time, I was hired to work part time roughly 15 hours a week to finish up that portion. As that work load and entity was ending, I found that there wasn't as much time needed as was originally thought. So I was looking for something to occupy my time. I began reading anything and everything I could find for grant management and learned what I could. I then took over the physical filing system at The Network and got the agency better organized for maintaining grant docs. This later led to the creation of the current electronic filing system which mirrors the actual physical filing system.

I also took on the responsibilities of assisting Lora with the initial review of reimbursements and began a tracking system for that, along with issuing contracts to sub-recipients, and sub-recipient monitoring. My title has changed over the years from Bookkeeper to Finance Assistant, to Grants Financial Manager, to then becoming Finance Director in November 2017 after Lora retired. As Finance Director currently, I am assisted by the great Finance staff of Lora, Sara, and Vien who all support the work of The Network. Currently my duties are to do the final review on reimbursements/payments, QuickBooks entries and payments, timesheet review and payroll, monthly allocations, federal and state drawdowns, maintain a budget to actual on awards, and assist the membership when they have questions or issues they have when it comes to finance. I'm also the main person to organize and provide back up documentation to our auditors when it comes time for our annual audit. Don't be alarmed when I ask you for more documentation when you are submitting your drawdowns to us, we are simply making sure we have all the back-up we need to be able to support those expenditures and that we have all our ducks in a row. That, and also because it's very difficult to go back and find something a year later when an issue does come up.

When I'm not working at The Network, I also work seasonally at a franchise in Sioux Falls filing individual income taxes and feel like that continues to increase my knowledge professionally. I also work very minimally at a small town library as a library clerk on the side, and am in love with the organizational skills that that library needs to maintain to be able to function. In my free time I like to work on home improvement projects as time and money allows, watching movies and Netflix, going camping and boating with my son Shad (15), daughter Jazzlyn (14), and husband Mark, and blasting music during my daily commute all the while hoping no one hears me singing along!

Becki Jordan

Law Enforcement Training Coordinator

Becki Jordan has been with the Network since last February as the Law Enforcement Project Coordinator. In her role, Becki organizes training for law enforcement and other community partners, manages technical assistance for Sexual Assault Response Teams and supports rural advocates across the state. Becki enjoys spending time at the lake, traveling near and far with her children and friends, and crafting fun projects and jewelry in her spare time.





Tanya Grassel- Krietlow

FAST Coordinator

I manage the FAST Grant for The Network and work predominately West River. Before joining The Network, I was fortunate to work for various federal and non-profit agencies with a presence on tribal land in South Dakota.

I enjoy adventures with my family, life along the Missouri River and spending time in the Black Hills. I also love to read, garden and backyard birding.

Sara Kindvall

Grants Financial Manager

I am a survivor, speaker, and coach and use my personal struggles and triumphs to empower others. My passion is to guide others beyond their past pains, rebuild self-worth and confidently live in their purpose. My goal of educating and opening people's eyes around DV and healthy relationships is paramount. I am a Mom to two daughters, enjoy watching them dance, play basketball and lacrosse and spend my leisure time writing, reading and connecting with family and friends. The opportunity to join The Network as Grants Financial Manager has been a true gift. Working amongst the amazing staff inspires me daily to be involved in the service driven work firsthand and just simply continue working to be my best self.



TRAINERS WANTED

The Network is seeking Law Enforcement Officers & Prosecutors who are interested in joining our statewide training team

Seeking trainers with expertise in:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- Strangulation
- Human Trafficking

Trainer Benefits Include:

- Opportunities for professional development
- Training on emerging topics and best practices
- Inclusion on the Network's multi-disciplinary training team
- Compensation for time, travel, and meals

Interested individuals are encouraged to reach out to

Becki Jordan

becki@sdnafvsa.com

605.731.0041



Mary Beth Hanson

Summer Intern

Hello, my name is Marybeth Hanson. I am a relatively recent transfer to the South Dakota area. I've previously lived in Iowa, Kentucky and am originally from Illinois. I've traveled to many states within the US but did not take my first trip out of the country until 2020 when my family and I went to Ireland. I returned from that trip right before the pandemic hit. I was thankful I made it home but would have been okay to be stuck in Ireland for a couple more weeks! My career, education, family (including the furry family), and friends are very important to me and not necessarily in that order. I have many interests and hobbies, but the only way I truly enjoy them is when I am with others.

I grew up in a small farming community in Illinois of about 1,000 people and a graduating class of 22 people. I went to college after high school in Southern Illinois and then moved to Kentucky after graduation. From there I moved back to Illinois and began my journey West through Iowa and now live in Sioux Falls, SD.

Currently, I am an Equal Employment Opportunity Program Manager.

I earned a Bachelor of Art degree in Photography and Art History at Southern Illinois University Carbondale; Go Salukis! Currently, I am earning a Master of Social Work at the University of Iowa Online Program; Go Hawks!

I do not have human children, but I do have 3 furry kiddos. 2 Cats: Slater (12, Grey/White) and Roxanne (11, Rust/White) whom I have had since they were kittens. They were both rescued from being left in dumpsters and abandoned. Recently, I have adopted a Pit Bull mix, Briggs (3), who was also abandoned. Briggs and the cats are living their best life. Self-care for me is ensuring I allow enough time to get 7-9 hours of sleep every night. A self-care type treat for myself includes getting my hair done as I always feel like a million bucks when I leave the salon and lounging on my patio in my backyard with family, friends, and my dog.



Becky Rasmussen

Call to Freedom Executive Director

2021 Visionary Voice Award

NSVRC offers the Visionary Voice Awards, in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month each April, to recognize the creativity and hard work of individuals around the country who have demonstrated outstanding work to end sexual violence. Each year, state, territory, and tribal coalitions select an outstanding individual to nominate for the awards. Nominees may be partners from a local community or other outstanding individuals that have worked to end sexual violence.

In 2015, Becky felt a push to get involved with the anti-human trafficking movement. This led her to get involved with Call to Freedom, a faith-based organization in South Dakota working with victims of human trafficking. Later that year, Becky had an encounter with a young girl named Marissa who realized she was potentially a trafficking victim who was re-recruited. This interaction launched a deep desire for Becky to become even more involved, so she filed for Call to Freedom to become its own 501c3 organization. Stepping out in faith, Call to Freedom opened its doors under Becky's leadership in March 2016 with no money. By 2021, the organization has grown to a staff of 21 and two offices. Today, Call to Freedom provides supportive services for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation by creating a strong network of frontline providers who offer safe housing, mental health counseling, medical assistance, chemical dependency, transportation, and other supportive services.

What is the SVI?

During this 2 day conference, participants will learn from presenters about cutting-edge topics related to advocacy services, investigations, and prosecutions of sexual assault cases. A primary purpose of this institute is to bring together law enforcement, advocates, SANES, prosecutors, mental health, educators, and many more. Join us for this educational opportunity to come together, as a state, to address emerging issues and effective responses to Sexual Violence.

NON- REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE:

The conference registration fee is \$25.00- this fee will cover the cost of the training luncheon on day 1 and snacks.

Must register by July 16, 2021.

CEUs Available.

To Register:



<https://sdnafvsa.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/25>

Lodging:

Arrowwood Resort at Cedar Shores
*SVI LOCATION
888.697.6363
1500 Shoreline Dr.
Oacoma, SD 57365

Howard Johnson
605.679.6367
203 W HWY 16
Oacoma, SD 57325



Accessibility accommodations for participants, such as auxiliary aids and services, are available upon request. These may include sign language interpretation, assistive listening devices, etc. An interpreter can be provided for LEP. Please submit accommodation request with registration.

Attendees are responsible for booking their stay- a block of rooms has been reserved at these hotels. Member Agencies may contact the Network if in need of scholarships.