



Together, we are
The Network.

South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault



SEXUAL VIOLENCE INSTITUTE

April 12-13, 2023

Holiday Inn Convention Center

305 N 27th St

Spearfish, SD 57783



Featured Artwork by Jae Csongradi



DAY 1 AGENDA

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
APRIL 12	7 AM-4 PM	HOLIDAY INN SPEARFISH, SD

7:00-8:00 am: Registration and Networking

8:00-8:30 am: Welcome and Opening

Welcome: Marlys Big Eagle

Opening: Melissa Skeet

8:30-10:00 am: Keynote

Brett Garland – Multi-Disciplinary Approach

10:00-10:15 am: Break and Vendor Booths

Light Refreshments Provided by Native Hope

10:15-11:15 am: Keynote

Tifanie Petro – Vicarious Trauma

11:15-11:30 am: Break

11:30 am-1:00 pm: Luncheon Keynote

Deryn Fink and Annie Jones - No Means No

Lunch Provided by Native Hope

1:00-1:15 pm: Break and Vendor Booths

1:15-2:15 pm: Breakout Session 1

2:15-2:30 pm: Break and Vendor Booths

2:30-3:30 pm: Breakout Session 2

3:30-3:40 pm: Break

Light Refreshments Provided by Native Hope

3:40-4:00 pm: Day One Closing/Announcements

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DAY 2 AGENDA

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
APRIL 13	7 AM-3:30 PM	HOLIDAY INN SPEARFISH, SD

7:00-8:00 am: Registration, Coffee and Networking

8:00-8:15 am: Opening

Melissa Skeet

8:15-9:45 am: Keynote

Curt L. Muller - Case Study "Predator on the Reservation"

9:45-10:00 am: Break and Vendor Booths

Light Refreshments Provided by Native Hope

10:00-11:00 am: Keynote

Lara Roetzel and Heather Sazama – Jurisdiction in SD

11:00-11:30 am: Lunch and Vendor Booths

Lunch Provided by Native Hope

11:30 am-12:30 pm: Breakout Session 1

12:30-12:45 pm: Break and Vendor Booths

12:45-1:45 pm: Breakout Session 2

1:45-2:00 pm: Break

Light Refreshments Provided by Native Hope

2:00-3:00 pm: Keynote

Hollie Strand - Trends in Internet Crimes Against Children

3:00-3:30 pm: Day One Closing/Announcements

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OPENING SPEAKER



Melissa Skeet

Melissa Skeet is Diné [Navajo], born on the Navajo Nation and grew up at the Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona. Melissa received her undergrad at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ, and started her career path in Victim Assistance.

In 2017, Melissa was a victim of Domestic Violence, where she almost lost her life. Melissa discovered that roller derby was not only a savior for her during this time, but it was the empowering athletes within this sport who brought her back to life. Melissa earned the nickname Skeet Fighter through roller derby and is the name she is known for within her roller skating mission. Her love for the outdoors combined with roller skating turned into her passion for trail skating. In 2021, Melissa roller skated 192 miles across the Navajo Nation to bring awareness to Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons which led to a documentary to share her experience.

Melissa is a Native Hope fellow and through her fellowship, she will continue her trail skating awareness, with big plans to bring further awareness and education about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, health, wellness and healing.

Instagram: @skeet_fighter

Tiktok: @skeet_fighter

Facebook: Skeet Fighter

Linktree: Skeet Fighter linktree



DAY 1 KEYNOTE SESSIONS

Less Bumps in the Road: Multi-Disciplinary Approach

Brett Garland will facilitate this breakout session focusing on trauma-informed investigations and the importance of collaborative partnerships. Having a trauma-informed investigative protocol and being knowledgeable about victim services and all other organizations, agencies, and coalitions working together, on a multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural scale makes less bumps in the road to justice for victims and survivors.



Brett Garland

Brett is currently the South Dakota School Safety Program Director, under the direction of the Department of Public Safety, Office of Homeland Security. Brett Garland will facilitate this breakout session focusing on trauma-informed investigations and the importance of collaborative partnerships. Having a trauma-informed investigative protocol and being knowledgeable about victim services and all other organizations, agencies, and coalitions working together, on a multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural scale makes less bumps in the road to justice for victims and survivors.

Vicarious Trauma: What is it? Why is it Happening? What do we do?

Tifanie Petro will share strategies based on research, evidence, and vast experience to assist in recognizing and responding to the impact of vicarious trauma on us as individuals and upon our organizations.



Tifanie Petro

Tifanie, MS, serves as the Director of Advocacy and Prevention, overseeing the Children's Home Child Advocacy Center and multiple statewide awareness and education campaigns. In addition to overseeing collaborative investigations of child abuse cases; Tifanie provides forensic interviews for local, state, federal, and tribal jurisdictions, court room testimony, and comprehensive trainings rooted in understanding trauma and recognizing and responding to child abuse. Tifanie believes that by empowering children we can create resilient families and communities. Tifanie received her BS degree in Psychology from Black Hills State University, her MS in Public Health from Capella University, Minnesota and her MS in Human Services from Capella University, Minnesota.

DAY 1 KEYNOTE SESSIONS

No Means No: Understanding Violence & Empowerment Self-Defense

In this session participants will learn about No Means No Worldwide's evidence-based programming focused on preventing sexual violence. Together, we will explore what violence is and how it is rooted in power and control. From here we will discuss how Empowerment Self Defense (ESD) can help us recognize harmful behavior and use mental, verbal, and physical skills to stay safe. We will cover the 5 "Fingers" or options of ESD: Think, Run, Yell, Fight, and Tell. This session will be highly participatory and interactive. This session covers sensitive topics such as sexual violence and will feature scenarios and role plays of harmful behavior.



Annie Jones

Annie has worked with No Means No Worldwide since 2019. As a Training & Program Coordinator, she supported the launch of No Means No programming in South Africa, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe. Now in her current role as Partnerships Specialist, she provides technical assistance to partner organizations across the globe as they implement No Means No's sexual violence curricula. She is passionate about empowering women, girls, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community and believes strongly in a future without sexual violence. She is very excited to be part of the SVI conference and to meet other people working in the violence prevention field.



Deryn Fink

Deryn is the Curriculum and Training Specialist for No Means No Worldwide (NMNW), a global nonprofit organization delivering sexual violence prevention programming to youth. In 2019, she joined the NMNW team where she teaches local Instructors Empowered Self Defense (ESD) skills who then empower young women and girls in their communities. She has led trainings in South Africa, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mexico and Ethiopia. She now works to develop both girls' and boys' programming by adapting curricula to meet different community contexts and to address specific types of violence youth face. Prior to her time at NMNW, Deryn served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in The Gambia as a teacher trainer for a rural primary school. Deryn is an incredibly passionate ESD professional who is committed to helping people live safe, healthy lives where they can be their most authentic selves.

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



Multi-Disciplinary Success - Brett Garland

Brett Garland continues to invest his 25+ years career in law enforcement in developing partnerships of people, organizations, agencies, and coalitions working together, on a multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural scale to end violence, abuse, and trauma. We are fortunate to get to learn from those experiences in this smaller group, breakout session.

Vicarious Trauma - Tifanie Petro

In this listening session, Tiffanie Petro will address questions related to individuals' vicarious trauma experiences. She will build upon answers to what is it? Why is it happening? What do we do about vicarious trauma? Additional strategies may be shared based on research, evidence, and vast experience to assist in recognizing and responding to the impact of vicarious trauma on us as individuals and upon our organizations.

No Means No - Deryn Fink & Annie Jones

In this roundtable listening session, Deryn and Annie invite attendees to ask follow-up questions in a smaller group from the noontime presentation, and if time allows, they will go into a more in-depth instruction. Our Rosebud and Oglala friends may recognize a bit of this content, as NO Means NO sexual violence curricula has been presented there.

Providing Victim Services & Resources in the Native Culture - Marlys Big Eagle

We all know that providing services and resources to victims and survivors in their native culture is extremely valuable. Marlys Big Eagle will share why certain teachings are of important cultural value in Native American heritage. This listening session provides a forum for participants to engage in critical conversations around culture and victim services, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives, and Human Trafficking. Together, we advance MMIW, HT, and all victim services with better understanding of Native driven victim-centered content, grounded in protecting our Tribal communities and all our communities, now and for future generations

Wellness - Cary Thrall

An individual's own overall resilience, notably after dealing with vicarious trauma of crime victim and survivor responses and organizational stress impact our ability to effectively assist, collaborate and build necessary coalitions. Cary suggests multiple strategies leading toward personal resilience and wellness.

DAY 2 KEYNOTE SESSIONS

A Case Study: "Predator on the Reservation" (U.S. v Dr. Stanley Patrick Weber
Curt L. Muller is currently the Special Agent in Charge and Acting Senior Advisor for Investigative Operations, under the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He and former Bureau of Indian Affairs Special Agent Fred Bennett will present a Case Study of a multi-state historical child sexual assault investigation, in which the perpetrator was an Indian Health Service pediatrician. The presentation includes photographs, videos, trial testimony, and trial exhibits, as well as benefits of law enforcement and victim services collaboration.



Curt L. Muller

Curt is a 32-year veteran of state and federal law enforcement. Curt began his law enforcement career in 1990 as a Patrol Officer, was promoted to the position of Sergeant/Investigator in Elk Point, South Dakota, and was later appointed to be the Chief of Police and managed the department's personnel, budget, and Civil Defense Program. In 2000, Curt joined HHS-OIG' Office of Investigations as a Special Agent in the Sioux Falls Field Office, where he conducted a broad range of investigations involving health care fraud, child support enforcement, employee misconduct, and crimes against HHS programs and beneficiaries on Indian Reservations.

In 2015, Curt was promoted to Inspector with the Special Investigations Branch at HQ. In this capacity Curt served as OI's liaison to the Indian Health Service, responding nationwide to investigations and complaints concerning IHS employees, contractors, and grantees. One of the most notable convictions led to Dr. Stanley Patrick Weber being sentenced to five consecutive life terms plus 63 years of incarceration for his crimes against children. In 2019, Curt was promoted to Special Agent in Charge of the Kansas City Regional Office, where he leads the investigative and administrative operations of the region, which is composed of Missouri, Kansas, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado.

In 2020, Curt worked closely with the Presidential Task Force on Protecting Native American Children in the IHS System and the Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives. In July 2020, Curt joined members of the Presidential Task Force on Protecting Native American Children in the IHS System at the White House and briefed First Lady Melania Trump and others on the findings of their report and the investigation of Dr. Stanley Patrick Weber. This investigation subsequently received the Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service in Indian Country. Curt is currently on detail to his headquarters in Washington, DC as the Acting Senior Advisor for Investigative Operations. Curt received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice and political science from the University of South Dakota.

DAY 2 KEYNOTE SESSIONS

Jurisdiction in South Dakota

This training will address the jurisdictional challenges in South Dakota from both a state and federal perspective. Lara Roetzel, recently appointed Pennington County State's Attorney, has experience in prosecuting cases with jurisdictional complications. AUSA, Heather Sazama, can speak to federal jurisdictional matters in South Dakota as well as sexual assault and human trafficking cases being presented to the U.S. Attorney's Office for federal prosecution.



Heather Knox Sazama

Heather is an Assistant United States Attorney with the Department of Justice. Ms. Sazama prosecutes a wide array of criminal offenses involving the sexual exploitation of children and adults, including crimes involving child pornography and online solicitation of minors. She also prosecutes violent crimes that occur on the Pine Ridge Reservation, Ellsworth Air Force Base, and elsewhere in Western South Dakota, with an emphasis on homicides and sexual assaults of adults and children.

Ms. Sazama has been the co-chair of the West River Human Trafficking Task Force since 2021. In 2018, the Western South Dakota Child Protection Council recognized Ms. Sazama with the “Helping Strengthen Families” award for her commitment to keeping children safe from abuse and neglect. In 2016, she was awarded the Victims’ Champion Award for her work on cases related to domestic violence in Rapid City. Ms. Sazama is a member of the South Dakota State Bar Association, the Pennington County Bar Association, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys, the South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault, and the West River Infant/Child Death Review committee.

Prior to joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Sazama served as a deputy state’s attorney in Pennington County, South Dakota. She has been a state and federal prosecutor since 2013. Ms. Sazama received her law degree and undergraduate degree in criminal justice from the University of South Dakota.

DAY 2 KEYNOTE SESSIONS

Jurisdiction in South Dakota Cont.



Lara Roetzel

Lara is the Attorney Consultant and Advisor for the South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault. Her mission is to strengthen South Dakota's victim services. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and Creighton University School of Law. Ms. Roetzel began her legal career as a prosecutor in 1996 for the Pennington County State's Attorney's Office in Rapid City, South Dakota. From 2000-2003 she was in private practice, specializing in family law.

Ms. Roetzel resumed her prosecutorial career in 2003. Since that time, Roetzel has been a felony prosecutor, specializing in sexual assault and homicide cases and administration. Roetzel served as Pennington County's Criminal Chief Deputy for seventeen years. She was appointed the Interim State's Attorney for Pennington County from June 2022 to January 2023 and has now been appointed as Pennington County State's Attorney. She is a statewide trainer on the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault and domestic violence offenses and national trainer on collaborative justice projects. Roetzel was named the "Victim's Champion" by the Pennington County Victim's Advocacy Program and her team recognized by WAVI (Rapid City's domestic violence shelter) with their Spirit of Peace Award. In 2017, she was named South Dakota's Prosecutor of the Year. Lara is a wife, mother of five and a chronic volunteer.

Current Trends in Internet Crimes Against Children Cases

This training emphasizes the trends currently being seen by the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, how cases are referred, how victims are identified, how they work these challenging cases and in-person victimizations that are currently trending in western South Dakota. This presenter sprinkles her magic throughout the session, even while sharing information on a very difficult topic.



Hollie Strand

Hollie works as a Forensic Examiner for the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Working in the field for the last 22 years, she has held the positions of police officer, forensic interviewer, and counselor with an extensive history providing therapy for individuals in the correctional system. She received her BS in Interdisciplinary Studies, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, MS in Counseling, South Dakota State University and MS in Forensic Science, Nebraska Wesleyan University.

DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSIONS



Predator on the Reservation - Curt L. Muller

Have you ever wanted to have the chance to ask about all these acronyms; US DHHS/OIG/OI? Curt L. Muller is offering the opportunity to ask just what are responsibilities for the Special Agent in Charge and Acting Senior Advisor for Investigative Operations, under the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services? SA Muller and former Bureau of Indian Affairs Special Agent Fred Bennett will also allow ample time for questions about the Case Study of a multi-state historical child sexual assault investigation, in which the perpetrator was an Indian Health Service pediatrician. The breakout listening session will emphasize benefits of law enforcement and victim services collaboration.

How Can You Do This Work? - Hollie Strand

Resiliency For Advocates and Those We Serve. This training emphasizes the role of living by decision rather than default in one's resilience, a necessary resource for advocates and those we serve. Hollie Strand will share from her personal experience, and emphasize the role technology can play while honing everyone's resilience. Ample opportunities to bring in the insightful voices and impressions of peers will be provided.

Wellness - Cary Thrall

See notes from the day 1 breakout session.

Providing Victim Services & Resources in the Native Culture - Marlys Big Eagle

See notes from the day 1 breakout session.

Burning Bridges to Building Bridges of Hope & Healing - Judy Mildren

We all know that providing services to traumatized victims and survivors can result in a variety of challenging situations. What do you do as a victim service provider when the crime victim you are assisting has "burned their bridges" with other shelters or service providers? This smaller listening session will provide the chance to ask those difficult questions and brainstorm solutions without sharing any identifying information during this opportunity to connect on a deeper level.

MEET THE BREAKOUT SPEAKERS



Cary Thrall

Cary is the owner of CAT Scratch Studios-Creative Arts and Therapies. We each have unique and vast experiences. There are many threads woven into the stories of each of our lives. Some of the aspects of my story define me as educator, artist, yogi, change-maker and a peaceful, persistent activist in my community, which is not limited to one place.

I am a small town, Black Hills/He Sapa as it is known in my Lakota language, winyan(woman), originally from Lead, South Dakota. My particular interests led me on a path of creativity early on. I've been lucky to combine my passions for education, yogic practices and art the past several years through my business. I believe with creativity and flexibility ANYONE can get through most anything. I like to stay on the sunny side. However, toxic positivity is not useful. Rather, by embracing my whole self, I come to terms with everything that I am, conscious and subconscious.

Some of that is not always bright and shiny, but a little icky sticky too. All of those feelings and situations make life truly unique. It is my soul's work to teach how to do that, in a variety of ways. I make space for people to come together, grow, learn and create. I teach how to discern which visions to move towards and the process of manifesting those in our mundane world. Accomplished through my leadership style which is to guide by example with a team mentality in daily life. By building relationships with the facets of my business, I facilitate and co-host yogic and creative events with multiple and diverse groups throughout South Dakota and beyond. Those creative community collaborations foster vision and healing. People listen, share, connect deeper to themselves and to each other. We build, strengthen relationships and shape resilient communities.



Marlys Big Eagle

Marlys Big Eagle is the Department of Justice's first National Native American Outreach Services Liaison at the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA). In this position she is focusing on addressing the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Person (MMIP) crisis in Indian country.

Ms. Big Eagle first joined EOUSA as a Management and Program Analyst, providing policy guidance to the United States Attorneys' offices victim witness programs. Prior to joining EOUSA, Marlys served as the Victim Witness Coordinator for the United States Attorney's Office in the District of South Dakota for over 20 years. In this role, she primarily worked supporting victims of federal crimes in Indian country.

Marlys is an enrolled member of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe and grew up on the Crow Creek Indian reservation in South Dakota.

MEET THE BREAKOUT SPEAKERS



Judy Mildren

Judy works in Human Services and chose this field because of her great compassion for others. She likes to share encouragement and hope with her clients. Judy began her career at Children's Inn (in Sioux Falls) as a Counselor and as Shift Supervisor. After a move to Arizona, Judy worked at the Arizona Baptist Family Services, writing home studies. Later she was promoted to Program Director for their Foster Care and Adoption Services. After moving back to South Dakota, she was hired by the Cornerstone Rescue Mission. There she worked in various capacities, and with the homeless women and children. It was during that time that she joined the newly formed SD West River Human Trafficking Task Force.

Since then, Judy has helped many victims/survivors of Human Trafficking while working as an Advocate with anti-trafficking agencies. Judy is on the Board of Esthers Rising, an organization that will provide services to adolescents who are survivors of sexual exploitation or sex trafficking. She likes networking and recently started the Youth Community Collaboration. It is designed to gather information from youth and youth serving agencies to be used by the HT Awareness and Prevention Committee. We hope to see how this collaborative effort can help impact and raise awareness of internet danger, and help the prevention of recruitment and grooming of youth.

Thank You to our Generous
Meal Sponsor



NATIVE HOPE

One Journey. One Family.

Native Hope exists to address the injustice done to Native Americans. We dismantle barriers through storytelling and impactful programs to bring healing, inspire hope, provide educational resources, and assist Native communities.



A Special Thank You to
Jae Csongradi for Providing the
Artwork Featured in this Program



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