

SUMMER 2023

NEWSLETTER

Working together to promote victims' rights for a safer South Dakota.



**South Dakota Network
Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault**

P.O. Box 90453 ~ Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57109
(605) 731-0041 ~ Fax (605) 977-4742 ~ www.sdnafvsa.com

UPDATE ON FAST & MMIP INITIATIVES



Together, we are
The Network.



Above is a picture from the most recent MMIP conference in Deadwood, SD in May.

The FAST Tribal project continues to grow through partnerships with tribal partners and member agencies. FAST hosts a bi-weekly call to increase training, professional development, create space to share success, and advocate support. Part of the FAST Initiative was the creation of a crisis line. In partnership with the 211, the West River Human Trafficking Task Force, and Native Hope – the crisis line is now being expanded statewide as the Sex Trafficking and Sexual Assault Victim Hotline. The number is 1-888-352-8511 and will be listed on flyers and other informational documents being distributed in preparation of the Sturgis Bike Rallies.

The FAST Initiative recognizes the intersection between sexual violence and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relative issue. In partnership with South Dakota Urban Indian Health, we will be leading a support group in Pierre, beginning this fall, and hope to replicate it throughout the FAST community.

Tayna Grassel-Krietlow, FAST Coordinator at the Network, had the privilege to be invited and present on the successes of the FAST Initiative at conferences, both within South Dakota and out of state. She was asked to focus on multi-disciplinary relationships and cultural considerations when working with victims of trauma. It was Tanya's honor to share about the hard work, collaborations, and the sharing of resources being done by our agencies to ensure our most vulnerable have access to care.



SVI RECAP

The Sexual Violence Institute (SVI) in April, 2023 was a success thanks to our incredible staff, powerful speakers, meal sponsorship from Native Hope, breathtaking artwork for the program by Jae Csongradi, and all of the attentive attendees.

Photos and quotes from attendees indicate how impactful the conference was for our membership.



"This was so impactful and it brought me to tears."

"It was cool to learn about a case that got justice but also learn setbacks."

"Took away a lot of tools to use for myself and my clients."

"So informative!
Absolutely enjoyed it and learned so much."

"Was wonderful to learn about burnout and trauma. It will be great to take back as a nurse."

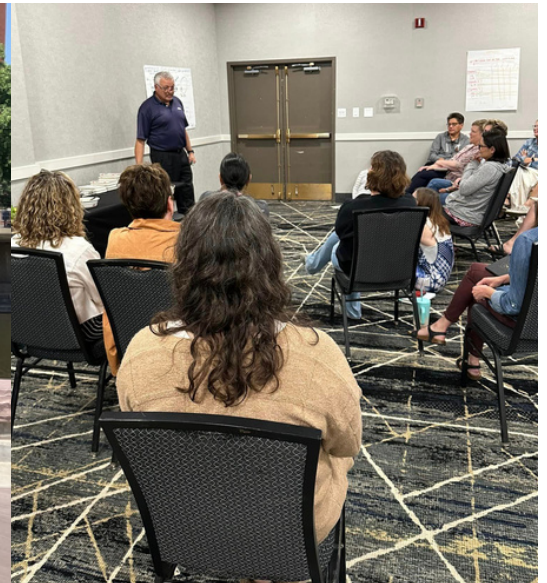


LEADERSHIP & STAFF RETREAT RECAP



Together, we are
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The week of July 17th, Network staff members and membership leaders participated in an Emotional Intelligence and Resilience training downtown Sioux Falls. Gerard Cleveland and Gregory Saville facilitated the training and covered several topics including personal and organizational resilience, cognitive learning, cognitive biases, self awareness and management, social awareness, relationship management, teaching techniques, conflict resolution, and more.



We are so grateful to have had this opportunity to learn more about how our emotions and reactions impact ourselves and others both personally and professionally.



APIP UPDATES

In 2022, House Bill 1272 became law. This legislation states that if a court placed a defendant on probation upon finding a defendant guilty for a crime involving domestic abuse, the defendant must attend domestic abuse counseling. The bill stipulates domestic abuse counseling must include "issues of power and control, accountability, emotional regulation, or cognitive work addressing errors in thinking."

Since the passage of the bill, The Network has been hard at work reaching out to providers throughout the state who are currently providing offender treatment, along with finding new providers who are interested in starting the work. The Network has also spent time researching different models of treatment to ensure best practices are being utilized in South Dakota, along with exploring trends in treatment for domestic violence offenders.



At the upcoming Domestic Violence Institute this fall, Abusive Partner Intervention Programming (APIP) will be a key focus. The conference will include presentations by local providers about their various approaches to this topic.

Kathy Burnette, MS, the Director of Clinical Services with Correctional Counseling, Inc. (CCI) will present at the conference on the cognitive-behavioral program and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT).

NEW NETWORK STAFF

TRACY DOLLISON DECKER

Attorney Consultant and Adviser



Tracey has practiced as an attorney in the Rapid City area since she graduated from the Knudson School of Law USD in 1999. Tracey worked as an attorney with the Pennington County State's Attorney's Office for nearly 20 years. For much of that time, she zealously worked to bring justice to victims and safety to the community through her prosecutions of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and homicide cases. She also served briefly as the Director of Victim's Assistance Program in Pennington County where she directly served victims of crime supporting them through the criminal justice process.

Tracey is not new to the South Dakota Network. Throughout her time as a prosecutor she worked as a trainer under the STOP project, traveling across South Dakota to train law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and victim advocates about the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Tracey has previously served on the West River Human Trafficking Taskforce, the Black Hills Children's Home Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board, and the South Dakota State's Attorney's Association Board of Directors. Tracey is a past president of the Public Sector Section of the State Bar of South Dakota. She continues to support the State Bar of South Dakota through her service on its Ethics and Women in Law Committees. She currently serves on the One Heart Board of Directors in Rapid City, SD. Over the years Tracey has been recognized for her work with crime victims by having been awarded the WAVI Victim's Champion Award and the Western South Dakota Child Protection Council's Building Strong Families Award.

Tracey will be providing victim advocates with free technical assistance and training to prepare victim service professionals to provide civil and criminal legal advocacy for victims of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.



ALEX VAN VOORHIS

Grants Program Manager

Alex recently graduated with a Master of Social Work degree from the University of South Dakota in May. She was an intern with The Network 2021-2022 and Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment 2022-2023, where she had the opportunity to learn about the work being done across the state to prevent and respond to all forms of violence. Alex is a board member of Move to Heal South Dakota and enjoys volunteering her time with The Compass Center and performing in LiRa Dance Theatre Company.

Prior to entering the field of social work, Alex received a Bachelor of Science in Music and Strategic Communications from North Dakota State University (go bison), and has spent the past several years in the sales, marketing and communications fields.

She brings with her a background in event planning, project management, and communications including her most recent positions as a Media Strategist at Lawrence & Schiller advertising agency in Sioux Falls and Sales and Events Manager at the Radisson Hotel in Fargo. Alex will be managing the Rural grant and STOP trainings for law enforcement, prosecutors and victim advocates throughout the state.

MARIA GALLEGOS

Summer Intern

Maria is originally from Morris, MN and is currently a Senior at South Dakota State University pursuing a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies with a minor in sociology. In Maria's free time she enjoys watching TV shows (true crime, sitcoms, and fictional crime shows) and movies (really cringey romantic comedies especially from the early 2000s) reading, baking, and spending time with family and friends.

Maria has always been someone who cares for others and wants to make sure they have the resources they need to live a happy and healthy life. She feels this is reflected in the career field she has chosen, and the work being done at The Network.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Together, we are
The Network.

New Laws Making Sex Without Consent a Felony Became Effective July 1st

On July 1, 2023, two bills became law that ensure everyone has the right to a safe and healthy sexual relationship. The State Legislature passed, and the Governor signed Senate Bill 90 and 91 which defined consent and made sex without consent a felony. As defined, consent is a person's positive cooperation in act or attitude pursuant to the person's exercise of free will. South Dakota was one of twenty-five states with no definition of consent in their state laws prior to the passage of these bills.

State Senator Tim Reed of District 7 prime sponsored SB 90 and 91 and stated, "Before these bills, if a victim said no or stop to a sexual encounter, it would not be considered rape, there had to be use of force or coercion for it to be considered rape." Both the State Senate and House of Representatives passed the bills with overwhelming support. Adding consent language to South Dakota statutes started in the 2021 session.

Everyone has the right to a safe and healthy relationship, and healthy sexuality is part of that. Consent is not something you 'get'; it is an on-going conversation with another person about what you like or do not like, what you want or do not want. Consent is respectfully discussed prior to and during sexual activity and can be changed or revoked at any time. Silence, the lack of an explicit 'no', or consent to other prior activities does not equal consent. Consent cannot be negotiated if 'no' is not a viable option, meaning if someone is coerced, manipulated, afraid to say 'no,' or otherwise forced into saying 'yes', that is not consensual.

We want to thank South Dakota Senator Tim Reed District 7 for sponsoring this important piece of legislation. It is critically important that we educate our youth and others to understand what a healthy relationship is. We need to talk about it. We do not want one more person becoming a victim of sexual violence.

ATTORNEY ASSISTANCE

Under the Justice for Families and Legal Assistance grants, The Network has contracts with the following attorneys across the state. These attorneys can provide victims of domestic violence with assistance in cases related to divorce, custody, protection orders, child support cases, victim representation on criminal matters of their perpetrator, and more.

SIoux FALLS

Mindy Werder
Lynn, Jackson, Shultz & Lebrun, P.C.

110 N. Minnesota Ave. Suite 400
(605) 332-5999
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Beth Baloun
Baloun Law, PC

4700 E 57th St. Suite 102
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Taneeza Islam
South Dakota Voices for Peace
serves immigrant, refugee & Muslim communities

300 South Minnesota Ave
(605) 782-9560
taneeza@southdakotavoicesforpeace.org

ABERDEEN

Jodi Brown
Brown Law Firm PC

103 S Main St.
(605) 229-3021
jodi@jodibrownlaw.com

PIERRE

TBD

REGISTRATION OPEN



ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING

September 5
1-5 CST

DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
INSTITUTE

September 6 & 7
8:15-5:15 CST

HILTON GARDEN INN
DOWNTOWN SIOUX FALLS, SD

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn. To make a reservation please call 605-444-4700 by August 5th and ask for the South Dakota Networking block.

Limited scholarships for those who work with victims of domestic violence are available to reimburse for mileage, lodging and per diem expenses.

SCAN TO
REGISTER



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