Speaker Biographies

Session 1: Race and the Prosecution of Domestic Violence

James Gibbons-Shapiro, County of Santa Clara Office of the District Attorney
James Gibbons-Shapiro grew up in San Jose, attended Gunderson High School, Yale University, and UCLA Law School. He worked at the law firm of Fenwick & West for 2 ½ years before joining the Santa Clara County DA’s Office, where he has worked for 23 years. He has prosecuted every kind of case from murder to misappropriation of public funds. Currently he is one of the six Assistant DA’s that manage the trial and other teams in the DA’s Office. He supervises the Family Violence Team, The Crime Strategies Unit (using data analytics and information sharing to solve more crimes and prosecute them better), the Victim Services Unit, the High Tech Crimes Team, and the Regional Auto Theft Task Force prosecutors. He chairs the County’s Domestic Violence Death Review Team, and also chairs the annual effort to update and revise the County’s Domestic Violence Protocol for Law Enforcement. Since its first publication 4 years ago, he has led the effort to gather, analyze and publish the DA’s Office’s Race and Prosecution Report.

HaNhi Tran, County of Santa Clara Office of the District Attorney
HaNhi Tran currently serves as a Deputy District Attorney for the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Office. As a community-based prosecutor, HaNhi focuses on crime prevention initiatives serving the Vietnamese community. She earned her Bachelor’s Degree from Harvard University in 2006 and her Law Degree from UCLA in 2010. HaNhi joined the District Attorney’s Office in 2012, where she has worked on numerous teams including the Family Violence Unit, Major Narcotics Vendor Prosecution Unit, and the Community Prosecution Unit. HaNhi was the recipient of AACI’s Gordon N. Chan Leadership Award in 2020 and San Jose Police Department’s George W. Kennedy Excellence in Prosecution Award in 2017. The daughter of working-class Vietnamese refugees, HaNhi grew up in the Little Saigon community in Orange County, California.
Session 2: Technology-Enabled Domestic Violence: Latest Trends and Impact

Adam Dodge, EndTAB.org
As the founder of EndTAB.org (Ending Technology-Enabled Abuse), Adam’s work is characterized by his dedication to addressing the existing and future threats posed by technology to victims of crime and gender-based violence. He has written extensively on technology-enabled abuse, non-consensual pornography, co-authored a domestic violence advisory on the emerging threat of ‘deepfakes’ and created the first resource guide for victims of Nonconsensual Deepfake Pornography. Adam spends a great deal of his time delivering innovative technology-enabled abuse trainings to victim-serving organizations and government agencies around the world.


Zakia Afrin, Maitri
Zakia Afrin is a lifelong advocate for human rights for marginalized communities. For more than a decade, she has been a champion for immigrant women of color who suffer abuse. She manages the Helpline, Peer Counseling, Immigration Assistance and Legal Advocacy programs at Maitri in San Jose Bay area. As a senior Fellow and Adjunct professor of International Law at Golden Gate University in San Francisco, she teaches Introduction to Islamic Law and Intra-State Conflicts and Peace building and other courses. A social justice activist at heart, Zakia has served on the Board of CPEDV (2013-2016), currently serves at the Policy Advisory Council and an Advisory Board member of FVAP (Family Violence Appellate Project) Zakia is bi-cultural and multi-lingual. When not working, she can be found marching for equal rights, volunteering for a non-profit (SpaandanB) and recording Bangla Podcast “Auditiya Betaar” on Bangladesh, women and Society.

Cannon Han, Asian Pacific Institute on Gender Based Violence (API-GBV)
Cannon Han is a Senior Program Manager of the Language Access Program at Asian Pacific Institute on Gender Based Violence (API-GBV). He has over ten years of experience providing technical assistance and training to programs on: Title VI compliance and advocacy; language access; interpretation; and translation. Prior to re-joining API, he was the Title VI Administrator for Caltrain and the San Mateo Transit District. He also served as a Senior Court Services Analyst with the California Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Interpreter Program, and an attorney with the Mental Health Advocacy Project.
Session 4: The Little Blue Bubble: How Teen Dating Violence Manifests Online

Erica Wiley, YWCA Silicon Valley

Erica Wiley currently holds the position of Prevention Education & Community Engagement Coordinator II at YWCA Silicon Valley. She started her work in Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention in 2018 as a Prevention Specialist and is currently working on her Associates degree with an emphasis on Gender and Women Studies. Erica oversees YWCA’s school-based prevention programming for grades k – 12 throughout Santa Clara County. As a survivor of domestic violence herself, Erica knows the importance of providing youth with tools and education on subjects such as consent, healthy relationships, body autonomy, and safe bystander intervention. Erica believes that by empowering and engaging our youth on these issues, we can work towards building a community free of Gender-Based Violence.

Session 5: Universal Education: A Local Approach to Improving Health Outcomes for Survivors through Integration

Melissa Luke, Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)

Melissa Luke is the Associate Director of Wellness Services at AACI, where she oversees AACI’s domestic violence and anti-human trafficking program Asian Women’s Home. Melissa has been part of the movement to end violence against women and girls for 19 years. She sits on the leadership teams of the Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium of Santa Clara County, the YWCA Mid-Peninsula Donor Advised Fund, and the East San Jose PEACE Partnership. She is also a commissioner on the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council and a board member of the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence. Originally from Los Angeles, Melissa is a 2nd generation Chinese American and has a B.A. in Feminist Studies from Stanford University.

Elizabeth Hunt, Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)

Elizabeth Hunt is the Senior QI Manager for the AACI Health Center. Liz has over 30 years' experience providing behavioral health and primary care for at-risk safety net populations, including 10 years as the Chief Executive Officer of the Indian Health Center in San Jose, CA. She is experienced in complex project management that incorporates multiple viewpoints, and creates programs that are high quality, patient-centered, and operationally effective. She is also Vice President of the Board of the San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter School.

Erica Villa, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence

Erica Villa is the Manager of Community Prevention at Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence. Erica has been key in developing Next Door Solution’s initiatives in the area of community prevention, leveraging her deep knowledge of the local community to focus on improving health outcomes and preventing gender-based violence. In 2016, she spearheaded a pilot initiative to develop a “DV and Healthcare Partnerships Toolkit” designed to help health care providers develop or improve their
internal processes to better screen and provide universal education on the effects of violence on health and on children so that individuals and families who are in an abusive situation can connect with help available through a domestic violence agency.

El Comité de Mujeres Fuertes, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence

El Comité de Mujeres Fuertes is a group of Spanish-speaking survivors who volunteers with Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence. The mission of this Committee of Strong Women is to support Spanish-speaking women seeking help in escaping domestic violence.

Session 6: California Law and Trauma-Informed Court Responses

Arati Vasan, Family Violence Appellate Project

Arati Vasan is a Senior Managing Attorney at Family Violence Appellate Project (FVAP), where she manages the training, technical assistance and law student programs, and represents clients on appeal. She has been attorney for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking since 2009. Prior to joining FVAP Arati led the Domestic Violence Family Law Project at Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO). Her work focused on trauma-specific client representation, cultural responsiveness and language access services for survivors. Arati co-chaired the San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium for three years. As a member of the SFPD Language Access Working Group, Arati helped develop protocols and training to improve law enforcement interactions with survivors and to improve protections for survivors who were cross-reported to CPS. Prior to APILO, Arati had her own family law practice and volunteered at Bay Area Legal Aid. Arati is a volunteer with Narika, a domestic violence agency for South Asian survivors. She received her Domestic Violence Counselor certification through Asian Women’s Shelter in 2009. Arati is a graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Law.

Session 7: A Collaborative, Intersectional Approach to GBV

Perla P. Flores

Perla P. Flores has worked on issues of gender-based violence since 2003. In her current role as Division Director, Ms. Flores oversees domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking programs at Community Solutions, a non-profit human services agency serving South Santa Clara County and San Benito County. She is a founding member and current chair of the South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking. Ms. Flores co-authored the Human Trafficking Advocate Manual, A Resource Guide for Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Advocates Working With Human Trafficking Survivors and has developed several guidelines and promising practices on human trafficking crisis intervention and case management. Ms. Flores is a commissioner on the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council and an alternate commissioner on the Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission. She is also a member of the Santa Clara County CEDAW Task Force. Ms. Flores holds a master’s degree in public administration and a Juris Doctor. She was a recipient of the 2010 California Peace Prize and the 2015 Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council Outstanding Advocate Award.
Session 11: Supporting Queer and Trans Survivors Self Determination

Kyle Neil, Community United Against Violence (CUAV)
Kyle Neil (any pronouns) is an abolitionist born in Montreal, Quebec and has been in the SF Bay Area since 2013. Kyle holds a BA in African and African American Studies from Stanford University. For the past six years, Kyle’s movement work has been involved anti-violence work, organizing to close down one of SF’s jails, supporting currently and formerly incarcerated black trans people, and fighting to liberation for black queer and trans communities. As a Survivors Advocating for Freedom Today (SAF-T) Program Manager at CUAV, Kyle focuses on member leadership development, peer advocacy, healing justice, and organizing. Kyle also enjoys reading, being near water, learning tarot, and watching anime.

Gloria Delgadillo-Martinez, Community United Against Violence (CUAV)
Gloria Delgadillo-Martinez (she/hers/ella) is a Latinx Bay Area native. She graduated with a degree in Gender and Women’s studies from UC Berkeley where she became passionate about the history of LGBTQI+ communities of color and the intersectionality of identities. She has worked with a few community-based non-profits including some dedicated to education equality and disability rights. She currently works as a Bilingual Peer Advocate for CUAV serving survivors of violence in the LGBTQI+ community. She lives with her wife in the East Bay where she enjoys visiting beaches, gardening and trying new foods.
Keynote: Rachel Louise Snyder, Award-Winning Author and Journalist

Rachel Louise Snyder is the author of Fugitive Denim: A Moving Story of People and Pants in the Borderless World of Global Trade, the novel What We’ve Lost is Nothing, and No Visible Bruises: What We Don’t Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us. Her print work has appeared in the New Yorker, the New York Times magazine, Slate, Salon, the Washington Post, the Huffington Post, the Chicago Tribune, the New Republic, and others.

Since 1991, Snyder has traveled to more than fifty countries. In 1998, she spent two months traveling through Tibet, Nepal and India and interviewed the Dalai Lama. In 2000, she spent a month driving across Cuba on the eve of the new millennium. Once, she attended a fashion show in the desert outside of Niamey, Niger at midnight—a fact she has never managed to work into any story anywhere. She has covered natural disasters like Hurricane Mitch in Honduras in 1998 and the Asian tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia in 2005.

In 2003, she relocated from Chicago to Phnom Penh, Cambodia and became a contributor for the public radio shows “Marketplace” and “All Things Considered.” While there, she rescued a Cambodian street dog and gave birth to her daughter. The dog is surprisingly uppity. After six years in Cambodia, she moved to Washington, DC and created the 3-minute interstitial “The Global Guru” which she also hosted. “The Global Guru” aired on more than 100 NPR stations across the country and received a 2010 “Zeitfunk Award” for the third most licensed interstitial of the year by the Public Radio Exchange (PRX). Her first book, Fugitive Denim (Jan. 2008), was excerpted on “This American Life” and received a 2006 Lowell Thomas Award from the Overseas Press Club. When her novel, What We’ve Lost is Nothing, was published in 2014, the Library Journal named her “an outstanding new voice in fiction.” Her most recent book, No Visible Bruises (May 2019) received the Lukas Work-In-Progress Award from the Columbia School of Journalism and Harvard’s Nieman Foundation, and she is a 2020 Guggenheim Fellow. She holds a B.A. from North Central College and an M.F.A. from Emerson College. Currently, Snyder is an Associate Professor Creative Writing and Journalism at American University in Washington, DC.
Featured Training Series presented by The Institute on Strangulation Prevention

Casey Gwinn, Esq. serves as the President of Alliance for HOPE International. He has been recognized by The American Lawyer magazine as one of the top 45 public lawyers in America. He is an honors graduate of Stanford University and UCLA School of Law. Casey served for eight years as the elected City Attorney of San Diego from 1996 to 2004. His transformative work as a prosecutor changed the face of domestic violence prosecution in the United States. He is the visionary behind the Family Justice Center movement, the founder of Camp HOPE America for children impacted by domestic violence, and one of the leading thinkers in the country on the power of hope in the lives of adult and child trauma survivors as well as helping professionals.

His work has been profiled nationally on the Oprah Winfrey Show, CBS The Early Show, USA Today, The Huffington Post, New Yorker Magazine and a host of other news outlets. Most recently, Casey received the Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime.

Casey has authored or co-authored ten books since 2006. Casey’s newest book, written with Dr. Chan Hellman from the Hope Research Center at the University of Oklahoma, is entitled “Hope Rising: How the Science of HOPE Can Change Your Life.” It is a roadmap to a life-well lived and points the way toward the power of hope in the lives of all those who have experienced hardship or adversity.

Gael B. Strack is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder for Alliance for HOPE International. Programs of the Alliance include: National Family Justice Center Alliance, Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, Camp HOPE America, Justice Legal Network and VOICES Survivor Network. Prior to launching the Alliance for Hope with Casey Gwinn, Gael served as the Founding Director of the San Diego Family Justice Center from October 2002 through May 2007. In that capacity, she worked closely with 25 on-site agencies (government and non-profit) who came together in 2002 to provide services to victims of domestic violence and their children from one location. The San Diego Family Justice Center was featured on Oprah in January 2003, recognized as a model program by President Bush and was the inspiration for the President’s Family Justice Center Initiative launched in Oct 2003. Prior to her work at the Family Justice Center, Gael was a prosecutor at the San Diego City Attorney’s Office. She joined the office in 1987 and served in many capacities including Head Deputy City Attorney responsible for the Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Unit. Gael has also worked as a deputy public defender and a deputy county counsel for the San Diego County Counsel’s office handling juvenile dependency matters. She graduated from Western State College of Law in December 1985.
Gael is a former board member of the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, past President of the San Diego Domestic Violence Council and former commissioner of the ABA’s Commission on Domestic Violence. In her spare time, Gael is an adjunct law professor for California Western School of Law teaching “Domestic Violence and the Law.” Gael has been honored with numerous awards, including San Diego Attorney of the Year for 2006 and most recently by United States Attorney General Eric Holder as the 2010 Recipient of the National Crime Victim Service Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services.

Gael has also co-authored a series of strangulation articles in the Journal of Emergency Medicine, the National College of District Attorney’s Practical Prosecutor, and the Journal of the California Dental Association. Gael has co-authored five books with Casey Gwinn, JD, on the Family Justice Center movement including a Guide to Co-Located Services in the Middle East and in Mexico. Gael has also coauthored a book with Judi Adams, called “The Big Girls Club – Little Girl Rules for the Big Girl Workplace” which describes the ten rules of friendship that can help women thrive and succeed in the changing workplace.

**Chan M. Hellman** is a professor of social work at the University of Oklahoma and Director of The Hope Research Center. He has written more than 100 scientific publications and has presented at numerous national and international conferences worldwide. Chan’s research is focused on hope as a psychological strength helping children and adults overcome trauma and adversity. Chan just published a new book “Hope Rising: How the Science of Hope Can Change Your Life” with his co-author Casey Gwinn published by Morgan James.

Chan joined the University of Oklahoma in 2002. Chan is a professor in the Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work and Founding Director of The Hope Research Center. Chan holds Adjunct Professor appointments in the Department of Internal Medicine and Department of Pediatrics for the OU College of Medicine and the Department of Health Promotion Sciences for the OU College of Public Health. Chan has numerous scholarly publications in scientific journals, technical reports, books and has presented his research at both national and international conferences. Chan’s research is focused on the application of hope theory to those impacted by trauma and adversity. He is also interested in the impact of prevention and intervention services on increasing and sustaining client hope.

Chan teaches master’s and doctoral level students primarily in the areas of positive psychology, research methods, and statistics. He also directs student research in the areas of hope and nonprofit organizations.

Chan is a lifelong Oklahoman, and lives in Tulsa Oklahoma with his wife Kendra. They enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren, traveling, and reading.