

ACE-DV Speakers

Initiative Series:

Not One Path: Speaking to Our Relationships with Those Who Abuse



Breckan Erdman: Welcome to today's webinar! I'm Breckan, the Program Specialist at NRCDV. I'll be moderating the chat box this afternoon.

Breckan Erdman: The webinar will start at 2. If you have not already done so, please dial 1-877-594-8353, pass code: 527-89-148# for audio. You may also listen through your computer.

Breckan Erdman: Although you can listen via your computer, we do recommend dialing in on your telephone for the best sound quality. If you experience any trouble with sound, please be sure to dial 1-877-594-8353, passcode: 527-89-148#.

NRCDV Admin: Hello all, thank you so much for joining us today. Please take a moment to introduce yourself here in the public chat.

Melissa Schulz: Hello. Melissa the family violence specialist with OAG child support division in Texas.

Chany Darr: Hi all! My name is Chany Darr, I am the Program Director for domestic violence services for families with Child & Family Service on Kauai in Hawaii.

MaryKaitlyn LoPresti: Hi all, I am Mary-Kaitlyn LoPresti from Voices Against Violence in MA. I am the supervised visitation manager.

Breckan Erdman: Welcome, friends!

Michelle White: Hi everyone! I am Michelle White from the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Daniel Aspiri: Dan Aspiri, Domestic Violence Services of Benton & Franklin Counties, Washington State

Angela Yanez: Hello from the west coast. My name is Angela Yanez from Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

Bal Sindal: Hello all, Bal Sindal from San Francisco DA's office with Victim Service's Division

Jacia Mim: Hi! I work as a case manager with SAVE in Fremont

Casey Keene: Welcome! So happy to see so many familiar names here today :)

Shatel Francis: Greetings from Atlanta, GA. I am Shatel Francis, the Crisis Mental Health Advocate with Partnership Against Domestic Violence in Atlanta

Sarojini Schutt: Hello my name is Sarojini Schutt from TurnAround in Baltimore MD. I am the community educator!

Farzana Karim: Hi all, Farzana Karim from Sakhi for South Asian Women- I serve as a Youth Empowerment Advocate.

Samatha Anderson: Samatha, Auburn Washington, Housing Advocate

Breckan Erdman: Welcome, everyone! We're so happy to have you joining us today. The webinar will start in just a few minutes. In the meantime, keep introducing yourselves here in the chat!

Staci Jenson: Hello. Staci from North Dakota

Breckan Erdman: If you have not already done so, please dial 1-877-594-8353, pass code: 527-89-148# for audio. You may also listen through your computer.

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Kayla Anderson: I'm Kayla a LSW from Minnesota. I used to work as a case manager in Children's Mental Health in a rural county setting.

Elizabeth Moschella: Elizabeth Moschella, I'm from Portsmouth NH, and a volunteer advocate with HAVEN.

Breckan Erdman: Welcome, Kayla and Elizabeth!

Breckan Erdman: Be sure to submit your questions for the presenters here in the public chat – we will do our best to pose them during our time together.

Breckan Erdman: A recording of this webinar, in addition to copies of the PPT and related materials, will be posted on VAWnet.org and shared via email with all participants.

Breckan Erdman: You can access our We Stand statement on VAWnet.org: <https://vawnet.org/material/nrcdv-stands-statement>

KRYSTLE DOVE: Hello, Krystle Dove Domestic Violence Coordinator from Harrisonburg, VA.

Megan Kleefeld Brewin: Hello Everyone

Breckan Erdman: Speakers Guide: <https://vawnet.org/material/front-room-sharing-your-childhood-story-domestic-violence>

Breckan Erdman: If you experience any trouble with sound, please be sure to dial 1-877-594-8353, passcode: 527-89-148#.

Trashaun Powell: Hello, my name is Trashaun Powell from New Jersey! Hi Sheena!!!!

Sandee Starcher: Hello. Sandee Starcher Women's Resource Center WV

Aisha Farooq: Hi My name is Aisha. I'm joining from DVRP (Domestic Violence Resource Project)

Breckan Erdman: ACE-DV webinar #1: Valuing Your Story <https://vawnet.org/material/ace-dv-speakers-initiative-series-valuing-your-story>

Shenna Morris: Hi Trashaun!!!

Breckan Erdman: ACE-DV webinar #2: Navigating Challenges with Audiences <https://vawnet.org/material/ace-dv-speakers-initiative-series-navigating-challenges-storytelling-audiences>

ISELA ARRAS: Will the slides be sent out to the participants?

Breckan Erdman: Yes! A link to a VAWnet record with the slides, recording, and other materials will be included in the follow-up email.

Breckan Erdman: You can also access it here: <https://vawnet.org/material/ace-dv-speakers-initiative-series-not-one-path-speaking-our-relationships-those-who-abuse>

Jessica Swinkford: Hello! Jessica Swinkford, prevention outreach, CSA and DV victim working in WCU.

Samatha Anderson: This is helping me understand how to better look at what my child who witnessed ipdv and not excusing her behaviors but better manage my end as mom, and as the victim.

Jessica Swinkford: WNC, not WCU, apologies.

Casey Keene: Thanks so much for sharing this, Samantha <3

Jessica Swinkford: Samantha, sorry for the failure of communication, but what's IPDV?

Breckan Erdman: Thank you so much for sharing that, Samatha!

Jessica Swinkford: Oh, never mind, Google to the rescue!

Samatha Anderson: Intimate partner domestic violence

Jessica Swinkford: Thanks <3

Casey Keene: We're happy to take your questions - please feel free to post them here!

Elizabeth MacConnell: Hello, sorry I'm late checking in but I've been concentrating on listening! I'm Elizabeth MacConnell, Victim Witness/Domestic Violence Service Advocate for Seneca County, New York

Breckan Erdman: Welcome, Elizabeth! We're so glad you're here with us today.

Elizabeth MacConnell: Thank you!

Jessica Swinkford: I apologize, it's difficult to tell who is speaking right now, but your story resonates closely with mine, and I just want to say that I empathize and thank you for sharing your story.

Breckan Erdman: Thanks for sharing that, Jessica. Lenny was the speaker - thank you so much for sharing, Lenny <3

Jessica Swinkford: And given the high rates of PTSD (and how those family dynamics can trigger that trauma to resurge), even if your past abusers aren't directly perpetrating abuse anymore... That seems like its own kind of "violence" continuing.

Jessica Swinkford: As far as being involved with family members who were abusive?

Ericka Kimball: I think that is true for me, Jessica.

Jessica Swinkford: But hey! That's one of the "silver linings" for those of us who do have PTSD and educate in this field! :)

Debbie Ramirez: Hi, I am Debbie Ramirez. I am the Legal Advocate for a DV/SA center in South Texas.

Jessica Swinkford: We may have to deal with PTSD, but at least it makes us more empathetic and approachable sometimes.

Breckan Erdman: Yes Jessica, the resilience of survivors is an amazing asset! :)

Samatha Anderson: I am a housing Advocate, and just share about what I have been through

Samatha Anderson: I wish there was a way to formally say legal siblings versus sibling from birth and on

Casey Keene: That's interesting, Samantha. Why do you raise this?

Samatha Anderson: That people have more than one traumatic event that they are coming up and needing help and services that providers need to start being aware of this fact of life.

Breckan Erdman: Thanks for raising this important point, Samatha.

Breckan Erdman: How do you all attend to your wellness and healing when sharing your story?

Casey Keene: Thanks, Samantha - I really appreciate your point

Samatha Anderson: Yup

Jessica Swinkford: Dressing nice, haha! I try to dress in a way that feels empowering, and honestly, sometimes I lean towards wearing "shawls" or "ponchos" because it feels like wrapping myself up in a blanket!

Casey Keene: Ooh - so comfy!

Breckan Erdman: I *love* that self-care strategy!

Jessica Swinkford: And fancy! People always think you're going the extra mile with a dress/poncho, but they don't know it's just because I wanna be COMFY

Casey Keene: Haha!

Jessica Swinkford: Happy to! :)

Carolyn Ingerson: Thanks all of you for sharing.

Kayla Chan: Can you speak more to how accountability looks different across cultures?

Breckan Erdman: Great question, Kayla! The presenters will try to answer that.

Bal Sindal: I have talked about it as it was in the past

Breckan Erdman: Feel free to share any other questions!

Ines Cano: It's refreshing to hear advocates' personal experiences versus clients' experiences! thanks so much for sharing

Ines Cano: It's validating to me and comforting to know that we're not alone in this

Jessica Swinkford: I agree with Ines! All of you who have shared today can at least rest knowing that you've helped some of us today! Thank you so much. If nothing else, yes! Assuring to know we aren't alone.

Cosset Cerra: Very good point Erica

Megan Kleefeld Brewin: In what ways do spouses support your ongoing complex relationship with abusive parent?

Jessica Swinkford: Sometimes it can be difficult because so many of my fellow advocates don't struggle the same ways I do in this field; it can make me feel like a poor advocate. It's good to hear from successful advocates.

Jessica Swinkford: @ Megan - obviously I'm not one of the speakers here, but one thing my spouse helps with is being that voice that says, for example, "No, you don't have to answer that phone call." It can be hard as a victim sometimes to remind yourself that you're safe(r) from repercussion

Breckan Erdman: Thank you so much for everything you've shared, Jessica! It's great that your spouse is able to help you navigate the complexities of your relationship in that way.

Casey Keene: Agreed!!

Shenna Morris: Thank you for sharing Jessica!!!

Jessica Swinkford: Happy to! Sorry if it's a little too much - this is a topic I am passionate about and actively trying to learn a lot. Thanks to all of you for putting together this programming!

Ericka Kimball: You're great, Jessica!

Breckan Erdman: Thank you for joining today's session, everyone! Please be sure to respond to our brief survey upon logging out.

Daniel Aspiri: Thank you to everyone.

Arlene Vassell: Thank you to everyone!

Sur Ah Hahn: Thank you everyone for sharing your stories!

Bal Sindal: Thank you for such a great training and lots of respect to the great panelists

Yvonne McCoy: Thank You.

Elizabeth MacConnell: Thank you all.....this was amazing

Cosset Cerra: Thank you all!

Megan Kleefeld Brewin: Thank you

Ivonne Ortiz: Great job!