

# 2024 Rural Sexual Violence Response National Conference

Transforming-Ourselves. Our Community. Our Response.

JULY 16-17 2024

Hilton Minneapolis St. Paul Airport Hotel  
Bloomington, Minnesota

Session Information Booklet



# DAY 1 SESSIONS

## REGISTRATION

**8:00am-9:00am CT**

Location: Second Floor

## WELCOME AND OPENING

**9:00am-9:30am CT**

*Nigel Perrote and PaHoua Vang, MNCASA*

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

## PLENARY: THINKING OUTSIDE THE SART BOX: TRANSFORMING OUR TEAMS

**9:30am-10:30am CT**

*Nicole Kass Colvin, Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence*

Multidisciplinary sexual assault response teams (SARTs) assist our communities in building best practice responses to survivors; however, they can also be challenging in many ways, including team turnover, conflict, lack of engagement, and not meeting the needs of all survivors. In this session, we will explore how the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence strives to approach SART work in creative and personalized ways to engage communities, best meet survivor needs, and restore team energy.

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

## BREAK

**10:30am-10:45am CT**

# Workshop Block 1

## WORKSHOP 1A: Q&A WITH MINNESOTA SART COORDINATORS

**10:45am-12pm CT**

*Facilitator: Aubrey Sampson, SVJI at MNCASA*

*Q&A Participants/Panelists: Brenda Skogman and Susan Powell*

This session offers an opportunity to learn from Minnesota SART coordinators with diverse experiences. Panelists will share their teams' past projects, successes, and how they celebrated them. They will also discuss the gaps and challenges they have encountered in SART work and how they have addressed these issues. Participants are encouraged to bring their own questions and experiences to discuss what they have been experiencing with their teams.

**Location: Cardinal Perch**

## WORKSHOP 1B: FOCUS GROUPS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

**10:45am-12pm CT**

*Bree Adams Bill and Elena Anderson Eggert, Praxis International*

Focus groups are a tool that may be used to assess and enhance the coordinated community response to gender-based violence in rural communities. They help to identify the gaps between what survivors need and what the system provides. They help to clarify how different groups experience certain practices as helpful or unhelpful. They can serve as an essential way to engage survivors in the work to end gender-based violence and the systems of oppression. This interactive workshop will describe focus groups as a vehicle for social change and system reform efforts.

**Location: Eagles Nest**

## WORKSHOP 1C: SEXUAL ASSAULT CARE USING TELEHEALTH TECHNOLOGY 101

**10:45am-12pm CT**

*Diane Daiber, International Association of Forensic Nurses*

This presentation will outline how the use of telehealth technology for sexual assault care is being implemented to improve access to quality medical forensic exams in rural and frontier communities. The presenters will highlight the key components for the development of a trauma-informed, patient-centered telehealth response to sexual assault care, including the value of partnerships between clinicians and advocates in that response. Additionally, this presentation will reveal the new online teleSAFE toolkit, a step-by-step resource to guide communities in the development of a teleSAFE program for sexual assault care.

**Location: Hawks Ridge**

## LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

**12pm-1:45pm CT**

## Workshop Block 2

## WORKSHOP 2A: WORKING TOWARD LANGUAGE EQUITY: HOW SARTS CAN EXPAND LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR SURVIVORS

**1:45pm-3pm CT**

*Madeline Gonser, SVJI at MNCASA*

Take a deep dive into the world of language access within rural SARTs. In an ever-evolving landscape of demographics and languages across America, SARTs encounter unique challenges and opportunities in providing support to survivors of sexual assault. Join us as we embark on a journey to understand how language access is not just an essential component of comprehensive care, but also a powerful tool for dismantling systemic barriers and fostering social change. This workshop aims to empower SARTs with the knowledge and strategies they need to provide inclusive services.

**Location: Cardinal Perch**

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**Location: Eagles Nest**

## WORKSHOP 2C: RURAL ADVOCACY THROUGH A HEALING LENS

**1:45pm-3pm CT**

*LaShae Lopez, Resource Sharing Project*

Healing is unique to every survivor, so how do survivors and advocates know where to start? This workshop will focus on what healing from trauma can look like, common healing modalities, and what the role of an advocate is in helping survivors of sexual violence on their healing journey. Together, participants will explore their individual advocacy approach to healing and the skills necessary to support healing for survivors of sexual violence. Bring your questions and curiosity! Let's healing explore together.

**Location: Hawks Ridge**

**BREAK**

**3pm-3:15pm CT**

## Day 1 Connection Calls

### CONNECTION CALL 1A: NETWORKING

**3:15pm-4:15pm CT**

*Fatima Jayoma and Miranda Gonzalez Paul, SVJI at MNCASA*

This session is designed to provide an opportunity for conference attendees to expand their professional networks, exchange ideas, and connect with other SART coordinators and members from across the country.

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

## CONNECTION CALL 1B: SART NEEDS

**3:15pm-4:15pm CT**

*Nigel Perrote, SVJI at MNCASA*

This discussion-based session aims to create a space for SART coordinators and members to convene, discuss both the successes and needs of SARTs, and share insights. Participants will engage in meaningful conversations to foster collaboration and enhance the overall effectiveness of sexual assault response efforts.

**Location: Eagles Nest**

## CONNECTION CALL 1C: CENTERING THE MARGINS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

**3:15 pm-4:15pm CT**

*Bree Adams Bill and Diane Docis, Praxis International*

This discussion-based session will explore the disparity of impact of gender-based violence for historically marginalized survivors in rural communities and how to center their experiences in community response.

**Location: Hawks Ridge**

# DAY 2 SESSIONS

## OPENING: RURAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

**9:00am-9:15am CT**

*Fatima Jayoma, SVJI at MNCASA*

In this dynamic session, you will have the chance to meet and interact with your rural training and technical assistance providers. Our speakers come from advocacy backgrounds while focusing on system change work. They are here to share SVJI's values, services, and experiences with you.

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

## PLENARY: FROM A SURVIVOR: IMPROVING OUR RESPONSE

**9:15am-10:15am CT**

*Danielle Leukam, President and Founder of WISH: We Inspire Survivor Healing*

We will begin the final day of the conference by recentering why we have gathered: Improving the community response to sexual violence. In this session, we will hear from Danielle Leukam, a survivor, advocate, author, and public speaker. She will share her experiences and how we can continue to improve our responses within our community.

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

**BREAK**

**10:15am-10:30am CT**



# Workshop Block 3

## WORKSHOP 3A: PRINCIPLES OF FACILITATION: KEEPING YOUR SART ON TRACK

**10:30am-11:45pm CT**

*Nigel Perrote, SVJI at MNCASA*

This session will discuss the fundamental principles of meeting facilitation and how SARTs can utilize time management and effective facilitation tools to keep their team on track. Afterward, attendees will understand how to reflect on personal facilitation style, individual strengths, and areas for improvement; use templates of agendas, meeting minutes, schedules, and other key documents for SARTs and adapt for their own purpose; and utilize time management and facilitation tools intended to support SART coordinators to be effective leaders.

**Location: Cardinal Perch**

## WORKSHOP 3B: WORKING WITH CORRECTIONS ON YOUR SART

**10:30am-11:45pm CT**

*Alana Schoenborn, Canvas Health*

This session encourages SARTs to expand their team by including corrections. Participants will learn about the various roles within the corrections response and the importance of having corrections professionals as team members. The session will also cover methods and strategies to engage these professionals and develop their buy-in for the SART.

**Location: Eagles Nest**

## WORKSHOP 3C: STORY OF A SART

**10:30am-11:45pm CT**

*Rachel Martin Asproth and Becca Gilbuena, MNCASA*

American author and civil rights activist James Baldwin said, “Stories are powerful because they transport us into other people’s worlds.” SARTs may not always see themselves as part of the community they serve, as part of that community's story. In this session, attendees will practice ethical community storytelling as a form of victim advocacy and learn how the story of a sexual assault response team fits into the broader community story.

**Location: Hawks Ridge**

## LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

**11:45pm-1:30pm CT**

## Workshop Block 4

### WORKSHOP 4A: PRINCIPLES OF FACILITATION: KEEPING YOUR SART ON TRACK

**1:30pm-2:45pm CT**

*Nigel Perrote, SVJI*

This session will discuss the fundamental principles of meeting facilitation and how SARTs can utilize time management and effective facilitation tools to keep their team on track. Afterward, attendees will understand how to reflect on personal facilitation style, individual strengths, and areas for improvement; use templates of agendas, meeting minutes, schedules,

and other key documents for SARTs and adapt for their own purpose; and utilize time management and facilitation tools intended to support SART coordinators to be effective leaders.

**Location: Cardinal Perch**

**WORKSHOP 4B: WORKING TOWARD LANGUAGE EQUITY: HOW SARTS CAN EXPAND LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR SURVIVORS**

**1:30pm-2:45pm CT**

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**Location: Eagles Nest**

**WORKSHOP 4C: HOLISTIC REPRESENTATION: SEEING THE WHOLE CLIENT**

**1:30pm-2:45pm CT**

*Kate Hannaher, SVJI at MNCASA and Bernadette Casey, Hennepin County Adult Representation Services*

The needs of victims/survivors of sexual violence often extend far beyond medical/forensic support or criminal justice system advocacy. Effective advocacy accounts for the needs of the whole person. Join MNCASA Staff Attorney Kate Hannaher and Adult Representation Service Legal Services Specialist Bernadette Genis Casey, MSW, LISW for a discussion of holistic advocacy for victims/survivors of sexual violence.

**Location: Hawks Ridge**

**BREAK**

**2:45pm-3pm CT**

## **Day 2 Connection Calls**

**CONNECTION CALL 2A: CHALLENGING GROUP DYNAMICS**

**3pm-4pm CT**

*Nigel Perrote, Madeline Gonser, and Aubrey Sampson, SVJI at MNCASA*

Navigating meetings made up of members from various disciplines can be challenging. From addressing differing goals to working through conflict, teams face tests of collaboration. In this interactive session, participants will discover practical techniques that can be used to work through various group dynamics. Participants will roleplay various scenarios to practice these techniques before bringing the information back to their community.

**Location: Minnesota Valley Ballrooms I-II**

## CONNECTION CALL 2B: NETWORKING (DAY 2)

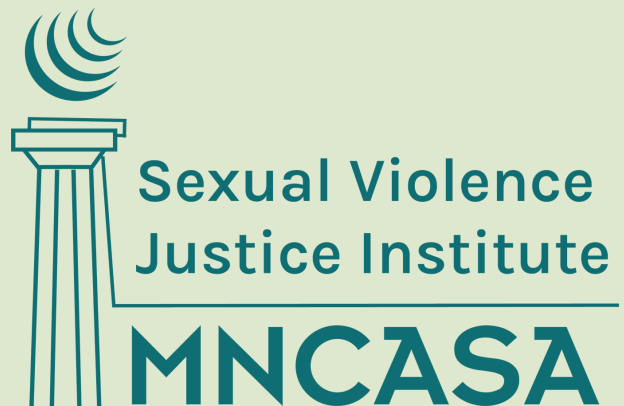
**3pm-4pm CT**

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**Location: Cardinal Perch and Eagles Nest**

## Scan for Post-Session Evaluations



This project was supported by Grant No. 15JOVW-22-GK-04024-RURA awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.