Right From the Start:
Understanding, Investigating, and Intervening in Violence Against Women and Children

Valliere & Counseling Associates, Inc.

October 26th, 27th, and 28th, 2016
Bear Creek Ski Resort, Macungie, PA
(610) 530-8392 or www.vallierecounseling.com
This year’s conference theme is the “community of the offender.”

As we have presented before, the offender is unsuccessful without a community who supports him/her. Whether this community is the offender's family, society, the judge, the jury, or the professionals, if the offender is successful at creating a mirage, exploiting misinformation about abuse, camouflaging him/herself with a good image, being tolerated because of value the community, or manipulating helpers, he or she will succeed. Victims will continue being harmed – through contact, retaliation, disbelief, acquittals, and poor decision making. The workshops were chosen to help arm the community to better expose the offender and hold that offender accountable while decreasing the harm to the victim. Knowledge is power.

This year’s conference will offer free yoga/meditation mornings on Thursday and Friday thanks to the generosity of Ann Friedenheim. For anyone interested, there will be a 30 minute yoga session at 7:30 am. Kripalu Yoga is a gentle form of hatha yoga which can be practiced by beginners as well as experienced individuals. The classes will incorporate breathing techniques, gentle movement and deep relaxation. Please wear comfortable and loose clothing and bring a yoga mat if you have one.

Registration is encouraged but walk-ins are welcome. Please sign up ahead of time or indicate your interest on your registration!

Course Descriptions

October 26, 2016

8:30 A.M.  Keynote Speaker: Major Sarah Sykes

9:00 – 12:00  “Blinded by Bias: How Offenders Prey on Ignorance” – V. Valliere, Psy.D.  Dr. Valliere will explore our own biases and how offenders rely on our misinformation, denial, and antipathy towards victims allows offenders to continue to succeed in their abuse of our men, women and children, as well as contribute to an abuse tolerant society.

LUNCH – 12:00 – 1:00

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  Choose one

“The King, the Crook, and the Con – Narcissistic, Antisocial, and Psychopathic Personalities” – V. Valliere, Psy.D (part 1) – Character pathology is a factor highly correlated with persistent violence. Dr. Valliere will discuss the personalities most often associated with violent behaviors, as well as expose the illusion of “normal” that personality disorders initially create.

“Does Assaulting Your Own Kids Make You a Low Risk?” – B. Beckwith, Psy.D.  There persists a myth that “incest dads” are not a danger to other children in the home or children outside the home. Dr. Beckwith will discuss the science and the impact that misinformation can have on protective decision making for children and management.

“Introduction to Effective Communication and Interview Techniques” (Part 1) – K. Davis  A strategic interview with sophisticated observation skills can be a powerful tool in investigating crimes and questioning victims. Ken Davis will present a beginner to intermediate workshop on interviewing that will include enhancing communication skills, learning to observe verbal and non-verbal behavior, and learning the difference between interview and interrogation. This workshop has two parts.

“Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery in Our Midst” – M. Tokash, JD  Human Sex Trafficking is the fast growing crime world-wide. Human traffickers generate hundreds of billions of dollars in profits by trapping millions of people in horrific situations around the world, including here in the U.S. This presentation will focus on traffickers who use violence, threats, deception, debt bondage, and other manipulative tactics to force people to engage in commercial sex or to provide labor/services against their will.

Break with refreshments
October 26, 2016 (continued)

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Choose one

“The King, the Crook, and the Con – Narcissistic, Antisocial, and Psychopathic Personalities”  – V. Valliere, Psy.D (part 2)

“Risk Factors for Future Violence” – B. Beckwith, Psy.D.  There are many risk factors related to the risk of violence, including child abuse and domestic violence. Failure to identify and integrate these factors in decision making can lead to lethal consequences. Dr. Beckwith will discuss the risk factors, including the fluid nature of risk.

“Introduction to Effective Communication and Interview Techniques” (Part 2) – K. Davis  Workshop continued

“Intelligence Led Policing Approach to Understanding Police Response to Domestic Violence” – M. Miles  Law enforcement response is more effective when guided by research and analysis, especially in response to domestic violence. M. Miles will present on the utility of analyzing and understanding arrest rates, effectiveness of intervention, and repeat offender targeting in enhancing law enforcement response.

4:30 pm - ?  Networking in the pub for fun!!

October 27, 2016

8:45 am – Noon Choose one (each choice is 3 hours)

“Vicarious Trauma: Caring for the Caretaker” – A. Friedenheim, MS  Daily exposure to secondary trauma can have effects similar to post traumatic stress disorder and other stress related problems. This training will be educational and experiential, addressing the concepts of vicarious traumatization, burn out and compassion fatigue. In addition, participants will examine how self care can help build resilience and thereby assist in having greater wellbeing and longevity in one’s chosen field. Participants will be provided with many simple practices used in developing a self care based lifestyle and do a self-assessment for self-care. Ideas for physical, mental and emotional practices will be shared and practiced during the course of this workshop. Participants will leave with practical techniques to use in their lives.

“Making it Magic: The Successful Prosecution of Interpersonal Violence”  B. Ryan, JD & R. Gordon, JD  This training is about the magic of successful prosecution of interpersonal violence, as much of an art as a science. This training will address successful jury selection, including understanding biases and juror factors rampant regarding interpersonal violence, as well as developing a focused voir dire. Attendees will learn strategies for effective victim preparation and winning direct examination, as well as approaches to embrace and defuse defense theories. Finally, to close the case, techniques for an encompassing closing argument will be explored. This training, though clearly beneficial for attorneys, will be valuable for all disciplines that deal with victims in the system.

“The Invisible Victim: The Non-Protecting Partner of the Abuser”  – V. Moyer, BA & B. Becker, MA  - The non-offending or non-protecting parent is often the vilified and overlooked victim of the offender. While some partners purposefully protect the offender, most are overwhelmed by grief, victims themselves, and manipulated and deceived by the offender. This workshop will provide insight into the experience of the offender’s partner, exploring the impact of the abuse on the parent and the profound influence of the offender. Intervention strategies will be provided.

LUNCH – 12:00 – 1:00

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Choose one

“Intimidation of Witnesses in Domestic Violence”  – Hon. D. Miles & B. Ryan, JD  Offenders use threats and intimidation, directly, covertly, and through third parties to bully their victims and interfere in prosecution. This workshop will explore the dynamics and impact of intimidation on the victim and prosecution process. New approaches and suggestions for investigation and charging will be offered.
October 27, 2016

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (continued) Choose one

“Strangulation Injury” – J. Markowitz, ND  Strangulation injury is often overlooked and underreported, yet it’s association to lethality is irrefutable. This workshop will explain strangulation and it’s consequences, as well as emphasize investigation techniques and observations to identify it’s presence in an assault situation.

“Trauma Sucks and So Do You!” – V. Valliere, Psy.D.  Trauma can make victims reactive, defensive, and irritable. Often, helpers can be the target of the anger and fear that the victim is experiencing, making dealing with victims sometimes trying and frustrating. Trauma will be discussed, as will the benefits the offender gets out of the victim’s trauma.

Break with refreshments

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Choose one

“Prosecution without a Victim” – Hon. D. Miles & B. Ryan, JD  One of the most frustrating issues for prosecutors of domestic violence is getting victim cooperation and the loss of a case when the victim drops out or recants. This workshop will explore the dynamics of this phenomenon and offer practical, attainable strategies for prosecuting the case without the victim.

“The Myth of Genital Injury” – J. Markowitz, ND  This session addresses the common myths that exist regarding medical evidence and the limits of medical expert testimony in sexual assault cases. The presentation will explore the current state of the science related to issues such as the presence and absence of genital injury following assultive episodes and challenge the audience regarding widely held misconceptions that often are perpetuated in court.

“Why Are Most Criminals Men? Toxic Masculinity’s Impact on Violence” – B. Becker, MA  Given that nature cannot account for the high percentile of male criminality, the exploration of the social impact on male violence is imperative. This workshop will explore the development and perpetuation of destructive “toxic” masculinity that pervades society, values violence, and contributes to abuse in all its forms. Strategies for identifying and addressing it will be offered.

5:00 - ??  Reception and Networking in the Fireside Suite – All welcome!

October 28, 2015

8:45 am – 10:15 pm Choose one

“The Myth of Supervised Visitation” – R. Kapadia, Psy.D.  Decision makers often choose supervised visits as an intermediate solution to an abuser’s contact with a child (who may or may not be a victim), believing that this option offers the child safety and maintains the parent-child relationship. The myth of supervision will be addressed, including the issue of covert communication and intimidation, maintenance of the trauma bond, impact on recantation, and impact on the victim and offender.

“Don't hurt your case! Being a better witness” – C. Kollet, JD.  This hands-on, interactive workshop is for the witness who wishes to understand the cross-examination process, have practice enhancing testimony skills, and avoid common pitfalls and failure that can harm the case. Bring a report to use! This workshop will be repeated, but will be limited to only 15 participants.

“Advanced Case Consultation” – Dr. Valliere and other experts will provide participants case review and analysis in a small group, didactic experience to demonstrate ways to conceptualize, explore, and analyze cases of interpersonal violence. The group will dissect current or past cases to brainstorm strategies for investigation, interview, and intervention. Participants should bring cases for review!
10:30 am – noon  Choose one

“Innovative Analytical Approaches to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault” – M. Miles  Ms. Miles will offer law enforcement new and practical suggestions to enhance the investigation of interpersonal crimes. These will include issues with cell phone analysis, social media exploitation, and pattern crimes. Targeting of the repeat offender will be discussed, all for the goal of making investigation more effective to contribute to more successful prosecutions.

“Don’t hurt your case! Being a better witness” – C. Kollet, JD.  This hands-on, interactive workshop is for the witness who wishes to understand the cross-examination process, have practice enhancing testimony skills, and avoid common pitfalls and failure that can harm the case. This workshop will be repeated, but will be limited to only 15 participants.

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Conference concludes!
Certificate Distribution
Right From the Start
October 26, 27, 28, 2016
Bear Creek Ski Resort, Macungie, PA

REGISTRATION

Name: ____________________________

[ ] October 26, 2016

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1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  CHOOSE ONE

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[ ] “Introduction to Effective Communication and Interview Techniques” (Part 1) – K. Davis
[ ] “Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery in Our Midst” – M. Tokash, JD

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[ ] October 27, 2016

8:45 am – Noon  CHOOSE ONE

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[ ] “Intimidation of Witnesses in Domestic Violence” – Hon. D. Miles & B. Ryan, JD
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[   ] “Advanced Case Consultation”

10:30- Noon  CHOOSE ONE

[   ] “Innovative Analytic Approaches to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Investigation” – M. Miles
[   ] “Don’t hurt your case! Being a better witness (repeat)” – C. Kollet, JD
[   ] “Advanced Case Consultation (continued)”

$389.00 for 3 days; $329.00 for 2 days; $189.00 for a single full day.

Breakfast and Lunch included for 2 days!

Save 10% for early registration – before 8/30/16

Save 5% for more than 3 per agency

Save 25% for student discount with valid ID

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
Agency: ________________________________
Phone: __________________ Enclosed: ______________
Email: ________________________________ Type of CE Needed: ________________________________

Send check with forms to: Valliere & Counseling Associates, Inc.,
P.O. Box 864, Fogelsville, PA 18051;
Email: ftsdrv@ptd.net or ftshb@ptd.net
Call to register at (610) 530-8392 or Fax registration to (610) 530-8940

CE’s credits are available for Social Workers, NBCC, PCACB, and PA/NJ CLE’s. Other CE’s must be submitted by the participant. Anticipated CE’s for the entire conference will be 15 credits for all three days, 6 per full day, 3 for last day. We have applied for PA Law Enforcement credits – to be announced!

DEADLINE: October 15, 2016

After this date, call for availability