# Coordinated Community Response Academy

November 15 -16, 2023 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM MT

## Wednesday, November 15

Time	Session Info
8:30 am - 8:45 am MT	Introduction to The Academy • Brief introduction of Faculty • Review objectives and Training Day Outline w/ lunch and breaks
8:45 am - 10:15 am MT	Understanding the Coordinated Community Response Model Session Description: Ensuring Safety for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking While Holding Perpetrators Accountable Through Collaboration and Action. Faculty: • Scott Miller
10:15 am - 10:30 am MT	Break
10:30 am - 12:00 pm MT	Understanding and Addressing Women's Use of Force Session Description: This session will highlight the complexity of understanding and addressing the unique needs of women who have resorted to using force in their intimate relationships. It will include a focus on understanding both the range of actions used and their experiences with formal systems. • The range of actions women use in their relationships • How women experience formal systems • Promising anti-violence intervention practices Faculty: • Melissa Scaia • Lisa Young Larance
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm MT	Lunch

## Wednesday, November 15

	<u>Right Brain/Left Brain: Understanding and Working with Judges</u>
	<b>Session Description:</b> Is your CCR still in the IKEA stage of coming together? We will show you how judicial inclusion will help you complete the project!
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm MT	<ul> <li>In this session, we will answer your questions:</li> <li>Why work with Judges?</li> <li>Why won't they work with us?</li> <li>How do we move forward?</li> </ul>
	This is an opportunity to ask anything you have ever wanted to of a judge but were afraid to ask!
	Faculty: • Ret. Judge Rosemary Collins • Ret. Judge Libby Hines
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm MT	Break
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm MT	Break <u>Looking for Systemic Problems, Not Practitioner Problems</u>
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm MT 2:45 pm - 4:15 pm MT	
	Looking for Systemic Problems, Not Practitioner Problems Session Description: Using observation and focus groups this will help organizers
	Looking for Systemic Problems, Not Practitioner Problems Session Description: Using observation and focus groups this will help organizers stay focused on identifying systemic barriers to safety and accountability. Faculty:

## See you tomorrow at 8:30am MT!



## Thursday, November 16

Time	Session
8:30 am - 8:35 am MT	Introduction to Day Two • Learning Objectives • Review of days agenda
8:35 am - 9:50 am MT	<ul> <li>The Role of Law Enforcement in the Coordinated Community Response</li> <li>Session Description: Learn how some law enforcement agencies have partnered with their local advocacy providers to build stronger relationships and collaboration. Strategies discussed will include CCR participation, policy review, utilizing an embedded advocate at the law enforcement agency, having advocates participate in all new hire training/academies, and utilizing other progressive department resources, such as an embedded social worker and AODA programs, to improve the response to domestic violence calls.</li> <li>Topic: Who is LE?</li> <li>Best approach for sustained collaboration</li> <li>Why work with them</li> <li>What to avoid, what worked, what didn't</li> <li>Don't come with a story, come with a trend</li> <li>Why collecting data is important</li> </ul> Faculty: <ul> <li>Chief Nicholas Alexander</li> <li>Sheriff Gordon Ramsey</li> </ul>
9:50 am - 10:05 am MT	Break

## Thursday, November 16

	<u>Who is Prosecution in a Coordinated Community</u> <u>Response to Domestic Violence?</u>
10:05 am - 11:20 am MT	<ul> <li>Session Description: A successful prosecution response to domestic violence is more than obtaining convictions, and being part of a coordinated community response to domestic violence is more than a monthly meeting. The presenters, former domestic violence prosecutors, and subsequently CCR consultants and trainers, will share with the audience:</li> <li>Why is it important for community partners, such as victim advocacy programs, police, and probation, to work with prosecutors? And remembering that this work is a two-way street, why is it also crucial that prosecutors proactively seek out partners to better coordinate a community partners? What is the best approach to prosecutor's office? What is the best approach for partners wishing to collaborate with a prosecutor's office? What is the best approach form a prosecutor's office wishing to collaborate with community partners?</li> <li>Within these coordinating efforts, what is best to avoid? (e.g., turf wars, politics, competition over funding, individual personalities, venting on social media, etc.)</li> <li>Examples of efforts that did and didn't work.</li> </ul> Topic: Who is Prosecution? <ul> <li>Best approach for sustained collaboration</li> <li>Why work with them</li> <li>What did and didn't work</li> </ul> Faculty: <ul> <li>Mary Asmus</li> <li>Rhonda Martinson</li> </ul>
11:20 am - 12:20 pm MT	Lunch
12:20 pm - 1:35 pm MT	<b>The Role of The Coordinated Community Response Team</b> <b>Session Description:</b> Most interpretations of CCR work has culminated in monthly meetings or task forces. However, the way it was originally designed was the change effort would be organized outside of the meeting by a coordinator. We will explore the pros and cons of each method of organizing. <b>Faculty:</b> • Scott Miller

## Thursday, November 16

1:35 pm – 1:50 pm MT	Break
1:50 pm – 3:05 pm MT	<b>The Role of Probation in the Coordinated Community Response</b> <b>Session Description:</b> This session will highlight the unique role of corrections/probation in a CCR to address domestic violence by holding perpetrators accountable while preserving victim safety. It will include a focus on the benefits and challenges of participating in a CCR, the changed role of the probation officer, and the need for specialized caseloads. <b>Topic: Who is Probation?</b> • Best approach for sustained collaboration • Why work with them • What to avoid, what worked, what didn't <b>Faculty:</b> • Kay Arola • Kelsey Swanstrom
3:05 pm – 3:20 pm MT	Break
3:20 pm – 4:35 pm MT	The Role of Battering Intervention in the Coordinated Community Response Session Description: Discussion on the inclusion of Battering Intervention, Mental Health, Alcohol or Drug rehab programming and the requirements for being a productive component of a CCR. Faculty: • David Garvin • Scott Miller
4:35 pm – 5:00 pm MT	Day 2 Wrap up: • Review Learning Objectives • Q/A • Evaluation link

# **Meet the Faculty**

## **NMCADV CCR Team**



#### David J. H. Garvin, MSW

Director of Battering Intervention & Systems Response New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

#### Contact: dgarvin@nmcadv.org

**David Garvin** serves as the Director of Battering Intervention and Systems Response for the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence. David has been directly involved in the anti-domestic violence movement since 1986 when he founded the Alternatives to Domestic Aggression (ADA) battering intervention program. David was named the 2009 National Association of Social Workers-Michigan (NASW-MI) Social Worker of the Year.

David's work in the movement to end domestic violence was featured in the book Gender-Based Perspectives on Batterer Programs: Program Leaders on History, Approach, Research and Development, by Edward W. Gondolf, 2015. In 2017 David was awarded the Glenn R. Winters Award (renamed the Nachtigal Award in 2018) from the American Judges Association. David is a cofounder and current Chair of the Battering Intervention Services Coalition of Michigan (BISC-MI: https://www.biscmi.org/).

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 2 3:20 pm - 4:35 pm MT	<u>The Role of Battering Intervention in the Coordinated</u> <u>Community Response</u>



#### Mica Reagan

Coordinated Community Response Statewide Specialist New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contact: Mica@nmcadv.org

**Mica Reagan**'s first opportunity to serve NM youth and families came as the program assistant for NMKids Matter Inc. There she learned from the incredible leadership just what kind of woman leader in community she wanted to be.

Her next opportunity to serve came when she went on to serve Valencia County as the Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator for crimes against children with Valencia Shelter Services Children's Advocacy Center. There she was also privileged to serve as a Victim Service Advocate for survivors of domestic violence as well as sexual assault. She was offered a position with All Faiths Children's Advocacy center to facilitate and supervise High Fidelity Wraparound and working with a core service agency that takes a holistic approach to serving the most vulnerable populations in community was important to her.

She is the proud parent of an incredible, intelligent, beautiful college student and a quirky covid puppy. She is also a proud veteran of the US Army.



#### **Melissa Silver**

Coordinated Community Response Team Leader New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Contact: Melissa@nmcadv.org

**Melissa Silver** coaches and provides technical assistance alongside community organizers, law enforcement, court personnel, and other systems to increase capacity and improve outcomes for survivors of intimate partner violence within the justice system.

As a leader in her community and a content expert on CCR, intimate partner violence and sexual assault, Melissa serves as a key provider of training on intimate partner violence and systems change work. Melissa is the Treasurer for the Battering Intervention Services Coalition of Michigan (BISC-MI) and a former co-chair and founder of several interdisciplinary community response teams.

Before her work at NMCADV, Melissa spent several years at a domestic and sexual violence nonprofit organization as the Director of Advocacy & First Response, she also held positions as a First Response Court Advocate, and Crisis and Support Line Specialist. She began in the field as a peer advocate in college providing survivor-centered Title IX advocacy and training around intimate partner violence, sexual violence and bystander intervention. She is a passionate organizer who has dedicated her life to meaningfully addressing intimate partner violence and engaging communities to keep survivors safe and to hold offenders accountable.

#### **Diana Arreola**



Coordinated Community Response Community Organizer (Taos County)

#### Contact: Diana@nmcadv.org

**Diana Arreola** (she/her) was born in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, MX but immigrated to Taos, New Mexico when she was just a toddler and has been a resident of the community ever since. Diana began social justice and antioppression work five years ago, when she became a community educator for Community Against Violence, a dual domestic and sexual violence agency.

During her community educator role, Diana coordinated and facilitated multiple programs including their violence-prevention program, sex-ed program for adolescents, and their program that centered in providing anti-oppression training and technical assistance to youth and minority serving organizations. In addition to prevention, Diana also has experience doing outreach, social media, and volunteer coordination. In her role at NMCADV, Diana will be serving as the Coordinated Community Response Community Organizer in Taos. This consists of improving partnership, policies, and procedures within intimate partner violence collaborating with partners to ensure a unified response that leads to safety for survivors and accountability for offenders.

In her free time, Diana loves to spend time out in nature, connecting with her family and pets, and being artistic whenever possible. In addition, Diana loves reading especially about health, psychology, and her faith.



#### **Flor Gonzalez**

Coordinated Community Response Community Organizer (Dona Ana County)

#### Contact: Flor@nmcadv.org

Before coming to NMCADV, **Flor Gonzalez** was the Director of Support Services at La Casa in Las Cruces, New Mexico where she worked to serve victims of domestic violence and their families. As the Director of Support Services, she oversaw the case management, children and youth program, transitional housing, battering intervention program, legal advocacy department, and the crisis advocacy and intake department at the main office in Las Cruces and the satellite office located in Anthony.

Flor is certified as a National Community Crisis Response Team Member through the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and is specifically trained to provide trauma mitigation, education, and emotional first aid in the aftermath of a critical incident, either small-scale or mass-casualty. She is a Crisis Prevention Institute Certified Instructor (CPI) in non-violent crisis intervention and has completed the Coaching Boys Into Men advocate Certification and is prepared to facilitate Coaches Clinics in her community. She was selected to participate in the 2022 Leadership Education and Advancement for Professionals (LEAP) Cohort 8 Academy through ValorUS and the U.S Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. The LEAP Project is designed to provide intensive, interactive, training and practicum for leaders of color in the anti-violence field.

Prior to La Casa, she was the Prevention Education Coordinator at La Pinon Sexual Assault Recovery Services of Southern New Mexico for II years. During her time at La Pinon, Flor was a leading voice in sexual violence prevention efforts throughout the State of New Mexico. She was involved in the development of the It Starts With Us Communications campaign from start to finish which stresses the importance of understanding that we all play a role in ending sexual violence. In 2014, Flor was selected to participate in the development of the Statewide Strategic Plan for Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence and it was published in December of 2015.

Her life mission has been to end disparity against marginalized communities by working with communities of color, immigrant populations, poverty, older adults, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and working with diverse women and youth. In the 28 years that Flor has worked with these marginalized communities, she has been able to develop and implement curriculum as a tool that focuses on the importance of consent, respect, and empathy, challenging rigid gender roles and promoting social norms that protect against violence. Along with her lifelong commitment to ending gender-based violence she has a passion for working with youth. She is in her 29th year as an assistant volleyball coach at Las Cruces High School. She uses the opportunity not only to teach the game but also to teach life skills that will forever be instilled in these youth.

## **CCR Expert**



#### **Scott Miller**

**Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs** 

**Scott Miller** is the Executive Director for the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs and has worked for the DAIP since 2000. Scott coordinates Duluth's coordinated community response to domestic violence by managing the system change efforts and men's nonviolence program. Scott trains nationally and internationally on the Duluth Model method of organizing. He also partners with communities around the world who are naming, organizing and creating innovative responses to domestic violence using the Duluth Model.

Scott has also co-authored the latest edition of DAIP men's nonviolence curriculum Creating a Process of Change for Men Who Batter.

Scott works independently as an expert witness in criminal and civil trials to explain how the tactics of abusers and the associated risks generated by battering are linked to the counterintuitive behaviors of victims. Scott has testified more than 40 times in state district courts, federal court and federal military court.

In 2021, Scott was hired by the Minnesota Child Welfare Training Academy through the University of Minnesota School of Social Work in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Scott will provide domestic violence training to social workers across the state of Minnesota.

From 2001 to 2015, Scott was a contract trainer and forensic interviewer for First Witness Child Abuse Resource Center in Duluth, MN.Scott was responsible for conducting forensically sound interviews of children suspected of being physically or sexually abused as part of a criminal investigation. Scott also trained nationally on how to conduct interviews with children and work from a multidisciplinary team approach in the investigation of child abuse.

Scott Miller has been working in the women's movement since 1985.

## **CCR Expert**



Scott Miller Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 1 8:45 am - 10:15 am MT	<u>Understanding the Coordinated Community Response Model</u>
Day 1 2:45 pm - 4:15 pm MT	<u>Looking for Systemic Problems, Not Practitioner Problems</u>
Day 2 12:20 pm - 1:35 pm MT	<u>The Role of The Coordinated Community Response Team</u>
Day 2 3:20 pm - 4:35 pm MT	<u>The Role of Battering Intervention in the Coordinated</u> <u>Community Response</u>

## **Women's Use of Force**



#### Melissa Petrangelo Scaia, M.P.A.

Global Rights for Women

**Melissa Petrangelo Scaia** is the Director of International Training for Global Rights for Women (GRW). At GRW, Melissa also co-facilitates a men's domestic violence offender group each week in our local program Pathways to Family Peace. She has been co-facilitating in offender programming for over 22 years. In her position at GRW she brings a wealth of experience as the former executive director of Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), also known as "the Duluth Model."

Prior to working in Duluth she was the executive director of Advocates for Family Peace (AFFP) for 17 years, a local domestic violence advocacy program where she advocated for victims of domestic violence. She has also led and organized two Coordinated Community Responses (CCR) to address domestic violence in Minnesota. She has been a consulting trainer for a number of national training organizations on domestic violence and child abuse, including the Center for Court Innovation (CCI), the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP) and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ).

As a qualified expert in the she testifies as an expert witness on domestic violence in criminal court cases in Minnesota and Wisconsin. She wrote her masters thesis on the effects of domestic violence on children and wrote her doctoral dissertation proposal to address supervised visitation, children and domestic violence. She has contributed to numerous publications related to domestic violence offender programing, supervised visitation, women's use of violence and domestic violence. She co-wrote a curriculum and DVD for working with men who batter as fathers entitled, Addressing Fatherhood with Men Who Batter. She also co-authored a curriculum and DVD with Ellen Pence, PhD and Laura Connelly for working with women who have used violence in intimate relationships entitled, Turning Points: A Nonviolence Curriculum for Women. Most recently, she authored Safe Consultations with Survivors of Violence Against Women and Girls, a guide with UN Women on how to conduct focus groups and interviews with survivors. She has been selected for numerous roundtable advisory discussion groups for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) through the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence.

She was named to a National Consulting Group on Batterers Intervention Programs and as a National Advisory Committee Member for Law & Order: SVU actress Mariska Hargitay's Joyful Heart Foundation for survivor-based healing. She has also conducted research on topics related to domestic violence: 1) women's use of violence and 2) using videoconference software to conduct men's batter intervention programming (BIP). Recently at GRW, she has participated in a number of United Nations Expert Meetings related to domestic violence and worked withnumerous UN Women regional offices and local women's organizations globally. This past year she was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for Women in Public Service from Hamline University. Outside of her work she is a mother of two, a Minnesota State High School League volleyball referee, and has a passion for photography.

## **Women's Use of Force**



## Melissa Petrangelo Scaia, M.P.A. Global Rights for Women

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 1 10:30 am - 12:00 pm MT	<u>Understanding and Addressing Women's Use of Force</u>

## Law Enforcement



#### Gordon Ramsey St. Louis County Sheriff

**Gordon Ramsey** was raised in Duluth, Minnesota and spent endless hours hunting and fishing with his dad. He obtained his B.A. in Criminology and Sociology and a M.A. in Management. He has been married for 26 years, has two children and been a police officer since the age of 20. Gordon was elected as the St. Louis County Sheriff in 2022 and currently leads a staff of 270.

#### **Duluth Police**

Gordon was hired by Duluth PD in 1995 and worked his way up through the ranks with hard work and continuous collaboration with businesses/residents in the community to improve neighborhoods – primarily in the Central Hillside and Downtown areas. Gordon has made lifelong friends with those he served and is considered "family" by many from his days on the beat. He was awarded twice by the Central Hillside Community Club due to his crime reduction and relationship-building efforts. Gordon was appointed Duluth police chief in 2006. During his time as chief in Duluth, he served as the President of the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association where he worked to bring attention to the overreliance on police in mental health response. He collaborated with St. Louis County Commissioners and Social Services to create one of the first embedded social workers in a police department in the nation. During Gordon's time as chief, Duluth's community policing efforts were recognized at the national level. Due to these efforts and a strong sense of community support for the department, a new police headquarters was funded and built despite difficult financial times for the City of Duluth. Under Gordon's leadership, the department was one of the first midsize cities in the country to fully implement body cameras. A hallmark of Gordon's leadership is his collaboration with other entities to improve policing, strengthen relationships, and lower crime. Working with community members and elected officials, a first-ever Citizen Review Board was created with the purpose of fostering relationships and strengthening trust and communication between police and citizens of Duluth to further the interests of the city and residents. Gordon became involved with police leadership at the national level and was involved with the creation of the Mid-Size Cities Division of the International Chiefs of Police Association where he served as Chair. During his time as Chair, he also taught new and aspiring police chiefs on leadership through the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association. In various capacities, Gordon worked to secure funding and oversee the construction of the West Duluth Police Station, Police Headquarters building, and DTA Station Downtown. He also successfully sought funding to create and build a network of street cameras in Downtown Duluth and along the Lakewalk. From 2010 through Gordon's departure in early 2016, serious crime in Duluth was reduced by 14% - highlighted by record low residential burglaries and commercial robberies.

#### **Wichita Police**

In 2016, Gordon went to serve as police chief in Wichita, Kansas. Wichita is the 48th largest city in the United States and has a diverse population of over 400,000. Wichita was suffering from poor police-community relationships and was the subject of weekly protests. He managed a budget of \$110 million and led a staff of just under 1,000. During his tenure, he implemented changes in Wichita that greatly improved relationships between police and community and was able to secure funding for over 70 new positions and new police facilities. The department fully implemented body cameras and expanded technology capabilities to decrease crime. While many departments struggled with recruiting, WPD more than doubled the number of police applications in four years and was recognized nationally for its recruiting success. Under Gordon's leadership, WPD successfully developed programs to reduce the over-reliance on the police for addressing mental illness and reduced civil rights lawsuits by more than half during his tenure. During his 16 years as police chief, Gordon developed good working relationships with five mayors and over 25 city councilors. He was successful at getting things done by working in earnest with others, regardless of political beliefs or standings. His leadership style brings people together to get things done and is what is needed in today's polarized political environment. Because of his successful community policing efforts, Gordon was invited to the White House by President Barack Obama in 2016. In 2020, he was appointed to the Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement by President Donald Trump. Gordon oversaw policing in a major U.S. city during the most challenging time in the history of policing. Over 80 protests occurred in Wichita after the death of George Floyd in 2020 and Gordon's steady-handed leadership was recognized and emulated by other cities. The COVID- 19 pandemic further challenged the criminal justice system and society as a whole, requiring skilled leadership to keep the sensitive issues that arose from intensifying. Lastly, 2020- 2021 there was an 8% decrease in homicides and an approximate 3% decrease in aggravated assaults and batteries. There was a historical decrease in business robberies which were down 32% and burglaries which were down 9% according to the annual report.

## Law Enforcement



### Gordon Ramsey, cont. St. Louis County Sheriff



#### Leadership in Law Enforcement and Other Organizations

Gordon took a key leadership role on the executive board in the Major City Chiefs of Police Association (MCCA) during the most difficult times in policing's history. The MCCA is an influential organization representing the largest cities in the U.S. and Canada.

In 2020, Gordon was appointed as the only law enforcement representative by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly to the Commission on Racial Equity and Justice. Gordon served in making recommendations to the Governor and Legislators on issues around race, equity, and the criminal justice system.

In 2020 Gordon was appointed to the Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and served as a Commissioner with the goal of making improvements to U.S. law enforcement for years to come. The Commission assembled a report that reviewed a variety of critical issues affecting law enforcement and their ability to safequard our communities.

#### **Other Leadership Roles**

Major Cities Police Chief Association - Executive Board Member (2016-2022) Justice Center - Council of State Governments - Board Member (2017-2022) Boys and Girls Clubs of America - Board Member (2017-2022) Rise Up for Youth - High School Mentoring Program - Board Member (2019-2022) Metro Area YMCAs - Board Member (2017-2022) Midwest High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) - Executive Board Member (2017-2022) Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement - Commissioner (2020-2021) University of Minnesota Duluth - Adjunct Instructor Criminology (2012-2016) Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association - Instructor (2009-2016) International Chiefs of Police Association - Mid-sized Cities - General Chair (2010-2015) Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association - Board Member/President (2008-2016) Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association - Legislative Co-Chair (2009-2016) Minnesota Violent Crimes Coordinating Council - Vice-Chair (2011-2014) League of Minnesota Cities - Improving Service Delivery Committee (2009-2012) Minnesota Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Committee (2010-2012) Safe Haven Shelter for Battered Women (2004-2008) Neighborhood Youth Services - Youth Mentor (1997-1999 and 2005-2008) Life House for Homeless Youth - Board of Directors (1998-2001) Central Hillside Community Club - Board of Directors (1997-2000)

## Law Enforcement



#### **Chief Nicholas Alexander**

Superior Police Department

**Chief Nicholas Alexander** has been with the Superior Police Department for nearly 25 years. He began his service in patrol and worked in that capacity for about 5 years. He then spent a year as a narcotics investigator before becoming a patrol sergeant. While a patrol Sergeant Nick began working in the area of computer forensics and digital evidence. He is currently an adjunct instructor for Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, WI and the University of Wisconsin Superior where he instructs courses on cyber-crime, digital evidence, ethical policing, criminal deviance, and interview and interrogation.

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 2 8:35 am - 9:50 am MT	<u>The Role of Law Enforcement in the</u> Coordinated Community Response

## Prosecution



#### Rhonda Martinson Rhonda Martinson Consulting, LLC

**Rhonda Martinson** consults on violence against women: coordinating and assessing criminal justice responses; training on response, investigation, and prosecution; and writing articles, reports, and training materials. In 2020 she co-authored a tipsheet for STOP grant administrators - Addressing the Gaps in Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction.

Previously Rhonda was an attorney at AEquitas: The Prosecutor's Resource on Violence Against Women. She presented on violence against women trial strategy, legal analysis, and policy; and provided case consultation and technical assistance for prosecutors and others. She also managed AEquitas' initiative, Improving the Justice System Response to Witness Intimidation, to develop, evaluate, and refine responses to intimidation.

Before joining AEquitas Rhonda was an attorney at the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP), a resource center on the justice response to domestic violence. Rhonda provided training and technical assistance to criminal justice professionals in a coordinated community response (CCR) to domestic violence, and contributed to and edited education and training materials on CCR. She also consulted for communities on auditing/assessing these responses, and continues to do so today. In 2021 she co-presented – with local coordinator Scott Miller – Developing CCR Policies and Practices to Reduce Victim Intimidation.

Rhonda is for Education for Critical Thinking, the organization that produced the awardnominated documentary on exploitation and violence against women – With Impunity. She is a past advisor to the Stalking Resource Center, the Family Justice Center Alliance, and the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, for whom she researched and wrote We Need Information on Witness Intimidation – Our DV Fatality Review Identified It as a Risk Factor in 2016.

Her recent CCR-related consulting has been with Global Rights for Women, with Praxis International's program on Blueprints for Safety, and with the Institute for Coordinated Community Response work with rural Texas communities.

She also was a prosecutor, and a 911 calltaker/jail officer, in Wisconsin.

Rhonda received her BA in psychology, graduating summa cum laude, and her JD, from the University of Wisconsin. She is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar.

## Prosecution



#### Mary Asmus

Ret. Chief Prosecutor for Duluth, Minnesota City Attorney's Office

**Mary Asmus** graduated from the University of Minnesota, receiving both a bachelor of arts degree in sociology, summa cum laude, and a juris doctor degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. She was the chief prosecutor for the Duluth, Minnesota City Attorney's Office for many years and retired in December, 2018.

As an active member of Duluth's coordinated community response, she was instrumental in developing the office's policies and procedures for the prosecution of domestic violence cases. She has spoken about the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence at numerous conferences nationally and internationally. Mary has conducted many coordinated community response trainings, as well as police and prosecutor trainings regarding effective investigation and prosecution techniques.

Her publications include "Prosecuting Domestic Abuse Cases in Duluth: Developing Effective Prosecution Strategies From Understanding the Dynamics of Abusive Relationships" (Hamline Law Review); with Denise Gamache, "Enhancing Networking Among Service Providers: Elements of Successful Coordination Strategies" (Coordinating Community Responses to Domestic Violence: Lessons from Duluth and Beyond); a monograph, At a Crossroads: Developing Duluth's Prosecution Response to Battered Women Who Fight Back; and a practice piece for the National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women, "Got Justice? Options for Prosecutors When Battered Women Fight Back." Additionally, Mary was featured in A Woman's Place, a PBS documentary film about changes women are making in the legal system.

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 2 10:05 am - 11:20 am MT	<u>Who is Prosecution in a Coordinated Community</u> <u>Response to Domestic Violence?</u>

## Judiciary



#### Hon. Elizabeth Pollard Hines (ret.)

District Court Judge for Ann Arbor, Michigan

**Elizabeth ("Libby") Pollard Hines** served as 15th District Court Judge in Ann Arbor, Michigan, from her election in November of 1992 until she chose to retire in November of 2020. She handled a primarily criminal docket, including a nationally-recognized specialized domestic violence docket. Judge Hines helped create and launch "Street Outreach Court," a community project of the Washtenaw County criminal justice system and advocates for people experiencing homelessness, helping people help themselves to get off the street and on their feet.

Judge Hines received her BA, with honor, from the University of Michigan in 1974, and her JD from the University of Michigan Law School in 1977. While on the bench, she helped train judges in Michigan and across the country on domestic violence. She served on numerous local, state and national committees and task forces, including the Board of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). She remains active with the American Judges Association and the Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board, a 7-member, Governor-appointed body with duties including recommending to the Governor and Michigan legislature policy and legislation concerning DV and sexual assault. The Governor appointed her Chair of the Board in 2023. A past member of the AJA Executive Committee, Judge Hines currently serves on the AJA Board of Governors and as Chair of the AJA Domestic Violence Committee. She also serves on the Michigan State Planning Body addressing legal services in Michigan.

Judge Hines has received numerous awards, including the first annual "Judicial Excellence Award" from her peers in the Michigan District Judges Association. In 2012, the AJA created and awarded to Judge Hines the "Judge Libby Hines Domestic Violence Award" that honors each year a judge in the US or Canada who has taken innovative steps to reduce domestic violence. In November of 2018, the Hon. John G. Roberts, Jr., Chief Justice of the United States, presented Judge Hines with NCSC's "William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence" at a ceremony at the US supreme Court.

## Judiciary



## Hon. Judge Rosemary Collins (ret.) Domestic Violence Civil & Criminal Court Judge

Judge Rosemary Collins (Ret.) was the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts Division, the Presiding Judge of the Family Law Division, and carried a full time felony trial calendar as a Circuit Court Judge. Judge Collins established and was the Chairperson of the 17th Judicial Circuit"s Family Violence Coordinating Council and served as the Chair for over twenty years. She also established and served as the President of the Board of Directors for Children's Safe Harbor which is a safe visitation exchange and supervised visitation program.

She was instrumental in bringing one of the first Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts Division in the nation to the 17th Judicial Circuit, and spoke to the Conference of Chief Justices in 2016 about establishing dedicated domestic violence courts. In 1998, she spearheaded the opening of the Domestic Violence Assistance Center in the courthouse, which advocates for victims of domestic violence throughout the order of protection process. Judge Collins served as a Faculty Assistant at the National Judicial College Mediation Program, and has lectured at the University of Illinois School of Medicine in Rockford, II., and the Northern Illinois University's College of Law on legal and family violence issues. She has regularly trained on domestic violence and sexual assault for the Northern Illinois University's Football team. She helped establish a Family Peace Center in Rockford, II., and serves a a founding member of their Board of Directors. She has received numerous national, state, and local awards for her work on violence prevention, and serves as consulting faculty for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 1 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm MT	<u>Right Brain/Left Brain: Understanding and</u> <u>Working with Judges</u>

## **Probation & Parole**



#### Kelsey Swanstrom, Probation Officer III, B.S. Criminal Justice

Probation Officer for Carlton County

**Kelsey Swanstrom** was born and raised in Duluth, Minnesota and attended the University of Wisconsin-Superior where she graduated in 2012 with her Bachelors of Science Degree in Legal Studies with a Criminal Justice Concentration.

She worked as an intern, a temporary employee, and a volunteer for Arrowhead Regional Corrections (ARC) doing probation work before being hired in Duluth in July 2013 as a Probation Officer with a domestic violence caseload. While in Duluth, Kelsey was part of the team that helped create Blueprint for Safety which was a CCR for St. Louis County. Kelsey then stayed with ARC but moved to Carlton County in 2015 into a standard probation officer position before developing a specialized caseload in that county and creating a domestic abuse response team with criminal justice partners in Carlton County.

Kelsey is passionate about her role as a probation officer in working with both offenders and survivors of domestic violence. She knows how imperative a CCR and specialized caseloads are to working specifically with this population in corrections.

## **Probation & Parole**



#### **Kay Kavlie Arola**

Former Executive Director of Arrowhead Regional Corrections

**Kay Kavlie Arola** has recently retired as the Executive Director of Arrowhead Regional Corrections. She has over 40 years of experience in the field of corrections. As the Executive Director she was responsible for all areas of the agency including budgeting, programing, policies, procedures and personnel. Arrowhead Regional Corrections provides all probation services to a large geographic region in northeastern Minnesota. In addition, it operates an adult male corrections facility and a juvenile detention facility.

Before being named Executive Director of Arrowhead Regional Corrections, Kay was the Chief Probation Officer for ARC. She was responsible for oversite of 8 probation offices serving in both rural and urban settings. She also has 20 years of experience as a probation officer having supervised all levels of offenders with an emphasis on domestic violence cases.

Most recently Kay has been consulting with Global Rights for Women providing trainings on effective probation practices in the supervision of domestic violence offenders. She has provided these trainings in the Republic of Georgia, Armenia and Australia.

Kay's happy place is the family cabin on a lake in northern Minnesota where she is surrounded by her children, grandchildren and sunshine.

Sessions	
Time	Session Title
Day 2 1:50 pm - 3:05 pm MT	<u>The Role of Probation in the Coordinated Community</u> <u>Response</u>