Greater WI EAPA Chapter: Unmasking the Invisible Wounds: Human Trafficking Awareness for Mental Health Providers

Keynote Speakers:

Neal Lofy

Neal Lofy is a Special Agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation (WI DOJ-DCI) and has over 18 years of law enforcement experience.Prior to WI DOJ-DCI, Neal was an investigator with the City of Racine Police Department, assigned to the Special Investigation Unit as a Task Force Officer with FBI's Human Trafficking Task Force. Neal helped create the Human Trafficking Unit within the Racine Police Department and has collaborated with local, state, and federal agencies to investigate national and international sex and labor trafficking cases. Neal is a frequent trainer and has trained professionals from a variety of backgrounds and brings a victim-centered, trauma-informed approach to his work with human trafficking victims. Neal has taken his approach abroad, having trained internationally, and was recently awarded Marquette University Young Alumna of the year.

Erica Lounsberry

Erica Lounsberry is an Assistant United States Attorney and serves as the Human Trafficking Prosecutions Coordinator for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. For more than seven years, she has worked closely with federal, state, and local law enforcement, victim specialists, and community service providers to conduct investigations, prosecute complex cases, and deliver justice and restoration for survivors of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation.

Ms. Lounsberry's commitment to combatting human trafficking began in 2006 during an internship with the International Justice Mission in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. There, she worked directly with child victims of the sex trade, helping them through the court process and connecting them with services.

From 2010 until 2017, Ms. Lounsberry served as an Assistant State Attorney with Florida's Eleventh Judicial Circuit in Miami-Dade County, where one of her assignments was in the Human Trafficking Unit. In addition to prosecuting trafficking crimes, she assisted fellow prosecutors in identifying possible connections to trafficking in their cases, helped survivors to expunge criminal records related to their victimization, and conducted trainings.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Lounsberry has interviewed, directed and supported hundreds of survivors in more than one hundred trafficking investigations and prosecutions. Her experience also includes assisting victims of gender-based violence, including sex trafficking, in pursuing immigration relief, including T- and U-Visa applications, VAWA self-petitions, and asylum petitions.

Ms. Lounsberry graduated summa cum laude from American University's Washington College of Law in 2010 and was honored as a member of the Order of the Coif.She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Intercultural Studies from Indiana Wesleyan University, and a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from TEFL International in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

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Breakout Session #1

Working In Partnership With Survivors of Human Trafficking
Emily Zernick, MSW, APSW

Goal: Training attendees will leave the session with a general overview of working with victims of human trafficking.

Learning Objectives:

- Attendees will learn about understanding possible indicators of both sex and labor trafficking, and how traffickers exploit vulnerable communities.
- Attendees will learn about best practices when working with survivors of human trafficking including victim-centered and trauma-informed approaches.
- Attendees will learn about a multi-disciplinary approach to combatting human trafficking and why it is crucial to the anti-trafficking response.

Emily Zernick, MSW, APSW is the Victim Services Program Manager of the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force, which is an Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force funded by the Office for Victims of Crime to develop and implement a coordinated and collaborative, victim-centered, trauma-informed multidisciplinary response to human trafficking in the state of Wisconsin. Emily has provided victim services since 2018 and is a Victim Services Case Manager at Project Respect, an organization in Madison, WI that serves survivors of all forms of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Emily is passionate about addressing service barriers to ensure equitable access for all survivors of human trafficking to trauma-informed, victim-centered care. Emily is a licensed advanced practice social worker in the state of Wisconsin and holds a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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Breakout Session #2

Resiliency Building and Supporting Long-Term Recovery for Survivors
Jan Miyasaki & Sue Moran, MS, LPC, CSAC, ICS

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the basics of complex PTSD & impact of complex trauma and human trafficking on person
- Understand what symptoms look like in workplace setting
- Apply basic symptom management skills
- What to do in a crisis
- Knowledge of services and resources; working with case managers
- Self-care for providers, what to do if you find you are triggered

Jan Miyasaki has led Project Respect since 1993 and has 30 years of experience providing direct services to victims of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking providing advocacy, case management, crisis intervention, legal assistance, education, group facilitation and individual mentoring; providing program administration and management including data collection and reporting, grant writing, training; coordinate services on multidisciplinary teams. Under her direction Respect has secured FY11, FY14, FY16, FY19, FY23 OVC awards to respond to the needs of human trafficking victims. She is co-author of "Commercial Sexual Exploitation: Dane County Needs Assessment" (2011), "WI Human Trafficking Protocols and Resource Guide" (2012). "Hidden in Plain Sight: A Baseline Survey of Human Trafficking in Wisconsin" (2008). She is a Senior Lecturer in Ethnic Studies at the University of Wisconsin. Recognition includes Partnership in Building Trust Award from Madison Police Department. She holds a juris doctor degree from Marquette University.

Sue Moran, MS, LPC, CSAC, ICS has been providing mental health and substance health services for the past 34 years. Sue began her career in community mental services in Dane County, WI helping women who were parenting small children while struggling with substance and mental health. Sue spent 5 years in clinical supervision for treating dissociative disorders and complex PTSD as well as completed many hours of training to treat adults with complex trauma and dissociative disorders. Sue has held management positions in outpatient mental and substance health services in Wisconsin as well as crisis intervention services for northeastern Colorado. Sue provided mental health services in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina as well as post trauma services for employees of Paradigm following a workplace shooting in 2018. Sue is trained in EMDR, hypnosis, and DBR (Deep Brain Reorienting) as well as specific assessments and interventions for dissociative disorders and substance health. She is a member of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation as well as the Dissociative Disorders listserv and the Ritual Abuse Mind Control listserv. Sue currently is the owner/director of Four Winds Counseling LLC, a private practice clinic in Middleton, WI that specializes in treating dissociative disorders and complex PTSD. Sue maintains a full-time clinical practice while supporting therapists to gain knowledge, experience, and skills necessary to treat adult survivors of severe abuse.