

Serving Survivors with Substance Use

March 17, 2020

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sheraton Novi Detroit Hotel – Novi, MI

Description:

We believe that the advocate's role is to provide trauma-informed and survivor-centered services. Survivors have complex lives and often use, rely on, and abuse substances as a way of coping with trauma. This training will examine how to advocate for and work with survivors engaged in substance reliance, including harm reduction and survivor choice, while still creating and maintaining safe spaces in a communal living environment. This training will be delivered with adult learning styles in mind, including small group activities.

Objectives:

1. *Participants will gain a basic understanding of the relationship between domestic violence, sexual assault, and substance use.*
2. *Participants will learn about the ways drugs and alcohol affect the brain, how this effect relates to trauma, and how to provide trauma-informed responses to issues of substance use.*
3. *Participants will be provided with practical tools to consider forms of harm reduction and how harm reduction might be navigated in communal living spaces.*

Audience:

This training is designed to be applicable to multiple levels of skill and experience for advocates engaged with survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Participants will be encouraged to engage in open and honest discussion with a mind toward survivor-centered and trauma-informed policies, intersectionality, positive change, and future-oriented thinking.

Schedule and Agenda:

8:30 am – 9:00 am Registration

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Training

Morning: Understanding Relationships amongst Violence, Trauma, and Substance Use

- Intersectionality and bias
- Why and how to talk about substance use
- Effects of drugs and alcohol on the brain

Lunch Break

- On your own
- 75 minutes

Afternoon: Best Practices and Practical Application

- Continuum of use
- Harm reduction and balancing harm reduction in communal living
- Systems change advocacy and community supports

FACULTY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



MERKEB YOHANNES joined MCEDSV in 2017 and is a **Senior Program Director**. She joins MCEDSV after nearly 10 years of working in advocacy and program management at a non-profit organization serving those with disabilities. Prior to that she lived in Atlanta, Georgia primarily working in social services amongst Immigrant and Refugee families and was an active member of various social justice community groups. Merkeb has vast experience working in developing countries with international non-profit organizations, local governments and faith-based organizations in areas of woman and girl

empowerment, grant management, HIV/AIDS prevention and intervention, media material development for public health issues, and workforce training and development. As a Lansing resident, she continues to volunteer in her community with local agencies that advocate and support survivors as well as with the Refugee community.



LISA WINCHELL-CALDWELL is the **Deputy Director** at MCEDSV. She brings experience in violence prevention, domestic and sexual violence survivor services, housing and homelessness, public policy, grant writing and project management, economic justice, and engaging and developing youth leadership. Ms. Winchell-Caldwell has led several national demonstration projects on the prevention of domestic and sexual violence during her almost twelve years at MCEDSV and has implemented prevention and intervention services for survivors for two decades. Of particular note she has worked closely with the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention on researching and implementing primary prevention best practices for almost ten years. She has worked on prevention projects from pre-K to elder mentoring groups and been a part of implementation teams focused on everything from a single daycare to coordination of statewide efforts. She has been fortunate during her time in the field to be a part of various prevention collaboratives including adolescent health/school-based health centers, maternal and child health, school districts, neighborhood centers, law enforcement, college campuses, youth-serving non-profits, sports teams, and other diverse partners.



PHILLIP BARNHART is an **Events & Program Manager** at MCEDSV. He joined MCEDSV having spent four years in his home community of Flint as it struggled through its water crisis. He served one year as an AmeriCorps VISTA, developing programs and community partnerships in Flint elementary schools, and then as a program manager at the United Way of Genesee County where he directed the Flint Recovery Corps, a service corps designed to connect residents effected by the water crisis with support resources. He continues to serve as a board member, administrator, program manager, and

instructor with the Flint Public Art Project, which he helped to found in 2011. FPAP seeks to connect Flint with the global conversation around reactivating blighted spaces through public art, and focuses on navigating trauma through the arts. In addition to his work at MCEDSV, he is currently a Lecturer II at the University of Michigan-Flint where he teaches Cultural Studies and American Philosophy in the Graduate School.



DANIELLE CHAUVIN is a **Program Manager** at the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence. She started at the Coalition in June 2019, with seven years of experience working directly with survivors of DV/SA, and their families. Danielle has helped survivors at the intersection of homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health. She has worked with communities in mid-Michigan, to provide education on how individuals can better support survivors and the agencies that serve them.

With her Bachelors of Art in Journalism, Danielle is passionate about communication and sharing information with others. She has helped DV/SA agencies explore options for engaging their community in activism, particularly via social media. She's collaborated with community stakeholders and other activists to create dynamic, sharable social media content.

As a Volunteer Coordinator, she trained new volunteers and staff, encouraging life-long, and collaborative learning. Danielle enjoys having conversations with new advocates that focus on empowering survivors and include discussions of trauma-informed care.



MARLENA MOORE is the **Hotline Coordinator** for the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence. She comes to MCEDSV with experience providing customer service in a way that connected community members with resources they otherwise would not be able to access. She is now utilizing her experience to focus on helping survivors by providing advocates with the necessary resources to be successful in their outreach efforts. Prior to working at MCEDSV, Marlena spent three years in public libraries helping patrons with technology and research based questions. As an instructor, she is well versed in meeting people where they are in order to assist them in meeting their self-identified goals. She graduated in 2017 with her Masters in Library Information science and has a Bachelor's of Art in English Literature.

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