



National Women's Shelter Network

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Washington, D.C. | January 2025

Shelters United for Women, Children & Families
Saving and Changing Lives

Conference Venue:

Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20009

Dates: **January 27th - 30th**

Sponsored by

The National Women's Shelter Network, Inc.

DAY 1

Monday, January 27th

Noon – 8pm

REGISTRATION & WELCOME

Meet and greet / Refreshments

1pm – 2pm

NWSN BOARDS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Lead Organizer: Grettel Jiménez-Singer, NWSN Director

2pm – 5:30pm

THE FORUM: Networking, Socializing and Resource Workshopping

The Forum is a welcoming place to meet and greet, build connections, discover new resources, consult with experts, and sit and relax with each other in shared community and learning. Meet our curated group of invitees with special offerings for NWSN members, designed to help shelter leaders build their organizational capacity, improve efficiency and effectiveness, save time, and save money. Join us at the Forum!

Lead Organizer: Naomi Mortensen, NWSN Community Outreach Director | Kelly Michel, NWSN Assistant Director of Operations & Support | Pat Morrell, NWSN Supportive Services Assistant Director

2:30pm – 3:30pm

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Lead Organizer: Gabriela Saenz, Director of Research, Education and Policy

3:40pm – 4:30pm

CAPITOL HILL PRE-PLANNING SESSION

Lead Organizers: Constance Collins, President & Executive Director | Gabriela Saenz, Director of Research, Education and Policy

6pm – 8pm

LITE DINNER RECEPTION

Welcome and Thank You's + Special Guest

Speakers: Grettel Jiménez-Singer, NWSN Director | Shakoya Green Long, NWSN Board Vice President | Christian Nunes, President, NOW



DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

8:30am – 9am

Welcome, Thank You's & Conference Launch Video

Speakers: Grettel Jiménez Singer, NWSN Director | Patricia Bosman, NWSN Board Secretary | Alexis Steel, NWSN Board Treasurer | Martha Figueroa, NWSN Advisory Board Member | Constance Collins, NWSN President & Executive Director & NWSN Board of Directors



9am – 9:30am

KEYNOTE BREAKFAST

SAFE SHELTER SAVES LIVES

Overwhelming numbers of children, youth, and families are flooding our nation's shelters. Many are victims/survivors of gender-based violence, have unmet health and mental health conditions, and other special needs. Shelters are the last and final safety net, first responders in this growing epidemic of homelessness in our nation. The women and children we serve are strong and resilient, richly deserving of respect, dignity, safety, shelter with enriched supportive services, a home and love. We can and must unite the leaders of shelters and safe haven programs, partners in business, philanthropy, health care and all public and private sectors for change, raise awareness and drive the resources we need to provide trauma-informed safe, supportive shelter to empower women, children, youth and families to successfully transition to end homelessness. Together we are stronger!

Speaker: Constance Collins, NWSN President & Executive Director

9:30am – 5:30pm

THE FORUM: Networking, Socializing and Resource Workshopping

The Forum is a welcoming place to meet and greet, build connections, discover new resources, consult with experts, sit and relax with each other in shared community and learning. Meet our curated group of invitees with special offerings for NWSN members, designed to help shelter leaders build their organizational infrastructure and capacity, improve efficiency and effectiveness, save time, and save money. Join us at the Forum!

Lead Organizer: Naomi Mortensen, NWSN Community Outreach Director, Kelly Michel, NWSN Assistant Director of Operations & Support | Pat Morrell, NWSN Supportive Services Assistant Director

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

9:30am – 10:30am

FUNDAMENTALS OF TRAUMA-INFORMED SHELTER AND SAFE HAVEN PROGRAMS

Welcoming Intake; Person-Centered Services; Therapeutic Supports; Enriching Programming; and Successful Exits. Basic principles of creating trauma-informed environments, person-centered, responsive and empowering services, integrating health and mental health supports, enriched and healing programming, educational advancement, peer specialists and mentors, and keys to successful exits.

Moderator: Alexis Steel, President, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children

Panelists: Kimberly Livsey, Chief Program Officer, Atlanta Rescue Mission | Theresa Lindberg, MSC, LPC, Managing Director, Child & Youth Services, CARF International | Dominique Alex, Chief Executive Officer, Mary's Place Family Shelter | Brenda Rosario, Provider Enrollment Processor, Blue Cross Blue Shield | Katie O'Brien, Executive Director, Rose Haven | Hannah Stohler, Executive Director, Marguerite's Place, Inc. | Christina Bryant, Chief Operations Officer, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children

10:45am – 11:45am

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING (DEI&B)

What does it mean, why is it important, and the challenges, strategies and steps to achieving DEI&B in your organization, shelter environment programs, and supportive services. In addition to exploring the benefits of a culture rich in diversity, equity, inclusivity, and belonging in shelters and safe haven programs, this panel will explain how and why DEI&B is the foundation for a truly trauma-informed environment, effective programming and supportive services, and successful outcomes for those we serve.

Panelists: Margaret Mitchell, CEO, YWCA USA | Emily Sepulveda Wheeland, CEO, The Delores Project

12pm – 12:45pm

ELEVATING THE VOICES OF THOSE WE SERVE & ENGAGING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND ALUMNI IN YOUR ORGANIZATION, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Program participants and alumni of your program offer the invaluable voices of persons served. Learn how to integrate alumni at all levels of your organization and develop pathways to full and meaningful engagement and participation. Discover the benefits of listening, investing in and empowering those we serve, and why this is probably your most important takeaway from this conference.

Moderator: Grettel Jiménez-Singer, NWSN Director

Panelists: Brenda Rosario, Provider Enrollment Processor, Blue Cross Blue Shield | Martha Figueroa, Operations Manager, Thomas House Family Shelter | Ronide Blanc, Director, Lotus House Thrift Chic Boutique | Runisha Johnson, Farm Coordinator, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Kelly Michel, NWSN Assistant Director of Operations & Support



DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

12:45pm – 1:45pm **KEYNOTE LUNCHEON**

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE EQUITY

A conversation with national leaders to explore how we can all work together to ensure women, children and families have access to safe shelter and holistic supportive services for successful transitions to end and prevent homelessness.

Moderator: Constance Collins, Executive Director, NWSN

Panelists: Darla Bardine, Executive Director, National Network for Youth | Stephanie Love-Patterson, CEO, National Network to End Domestic Violence | Barbara Duffield, Executive Director, Schoolhouse Connection | Cheryl Schuch, CEO, Family Promise | Margaret Mitchell, CEO, YWCA USA, Inc.



2pm – 3pm

SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, TRAFFICKING AND TRAUMA FROM INTAKE TO SUCCESSFUL EXITS

Trafficking and gender-based violence are on the rise and victims/survivors are too often invisible in shelters. Gender-based violence and crime victimization are a lead cause of homelessness, and complex trauma often underlies chronicity. This panel of experts will shed light on the importance of identifying and understanding the unique experiences of victims and survivors of gender-based violence, trafficking, and trauma, how shelters can support their healing and empower them to safer, healthier lives for successful transitions to their new homes. It is vital that we recognize the importance of, and ways to provide person-centered health and mental health care, supportive services, enriched resources, programming, and time to help women and children reclaim their lives and build the foundation for brighter futures as we aim to transform the trauma of homelessness into windows of opportunity.

Moderator: Laura Klinefelter, LMHC, CAP, Intake Director and Victims Services Specialist, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Dr. JoNell Enfantis Potter, PhD, APRN, FAAN, Professor of Obstetrics-Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine | Jacqueline Collazo, LMHC, Senior Director Domestic Violence Services, Volunteers of America of Greater New York | Dr. Edie Zusman, MD, MBA, FAANS, Trauma Neurosurgeon, Neuroscience Partners | Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, State Attorney for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida (Miami-Dade)

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

3:15pm – 4:15pm

SUPPORTING AN AGING GENERATION

Elders in shelters and on the streets are on the rise. The boomer generation is aging, facing deep economic insecurity in the post-pandemic wave of rising costs and medical expenses, and struggling with the loss of loved ones and their homes. Understanding and supporting their special needs is vitally important. They are experiencing untold grief and loss at a time in life when they are most vulnerable. There may be important medical and mental health concerns to address, in addition to the challenges of aging. Post-exit safety plans and services are vital. Learn how to help them heal, strengthen, build resilience and community connections, and thrive for successful transitions.

Moderator: Carly Grimm, JD, Director, Lotus Endowment Fund, Inc.

Panelists: Dr. Wendy Lichtenthal, PhD, FT, FAPOS, Director for the Center for Advancement of Bereavement Care, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine | Rosario Trejo, Deputy Housing Program Officer, Downtown Women's Center | Stephanie Padro, LMFT, Deputy Director Clinical Programs, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Kim Despres, DHA, RN, CEO, Circle the City



4:30pm – 5:30pm

IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND SUPPORTS MODELS FOR PARTNERSHIP

Deeply resource-constrained shelters and safe haven programs struggle daily with gaps and needs, barriers and challenges to accessing health and mental health care for those they serve. This panel of experts will explore collaborative solutions and real-world strategies for increasing access to health and mental health services in shelter and safe haven programs through deep engagement with community partners and providers. Learn how you can find willing collaborators and implement partnership solutions in your community to better serve sheltered women, children and families.

Moderator: Jennifer Hanlon Wigon, CEO, Women's Lunch Place

Panelists: Dr. James O'Connell, MD, President, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP) | Dr. Eileen Reilly, MD, Psychiatric Consultant, Women's Lunch Place Founder and BHCHP Street Team | Dr. Paulo Graziano, PhD, Professor of Psychology, Department of Child Psychology, Florida International University | Dr. Shana Cox, LCSW, PsyD, Deputy Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Ariana Gordillo De Vivero, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics | Beatrice Gonzalez, Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

2pm – 5:30pm

2pm – 3pm

UNDERSTANDING THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF SHELTERED CHILDREN, MOTHERS AND MOTHERS-TO-BE AND EFFECTIVE THERAPEUTIC SUPPORTS TO ADVANCE THEIR WELLBEING SESSION 1 OF 2

ROOM 1

Learn the latest lessons from groundbreaking research into the developmental status, social and emotional wellbeing and trauma histories of sheltered children and the mental health of mothers and mothers-to-be experiencing homelessness so that you can provide and connect them to interventions, supports and resources to meet their needs. Healing and strengthening children and families can help break cycles of violence, abuse, poverty and homelessness. We know the events leading up to and including homelessness are stressful for mothers and children. Understanding their needs is the first step. This is the first of a double session that dives deeply into the special needs of sheltered children and mothers and effective therapeutic interventions and programming supports for children and families led by national experts in child psychology and maternal mental health experienced in providing evidence-based assessments and supportive services to sheltered women and children.

Moderator: Dr. Paulo Graziano, PhD, Professor of Psychology, Department of Child Psychology, Florida International University

Panelists: Dr. Shana Cox, LCSW, PsyD, Deputy Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Muriel Ayala, LCSW, Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

2pm – 3pm *continued*

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND BRIDGING SYSTEMS

ROOM 2

Too often homeless and domestic violence continuums of care have operated in silos, creating confusion and barriers for survivors of GBV. Learn more about this new coalition building model integrating homeless and domestic violence systems breaking down barriers, improving survivor access across systems, enhancing information sharing, educational offerings and resources, and resulting in deep collaboration for the benefit of survivors. Together we are stronger!

Panelists: Amy Turk, CEO, Downtown Women's Center | Debbie Chang, CEO and President, Blue Shield Foundation | Suzanne Marcus, Gender-Based Violence and Housing Subject Matter Expert, The Cloudburst Group

SAFE PARKING PROGRAMS ARE SPRINGING UP ACROSS THE NATION

ROOM 3

Learn about supportive safe parking programs that have developed in response to the rising numbers of people experiencing homelessness. Providers are working hard to create safe spaces for those with vehicles and layering their parking lots with supportive services to help women, children and families successfully transition. They say necessity is the mother of invention!

Presenters: Kristine Schwarz, Executive Director, NBCC dba New Beginnings Counseling Center and Cassie Roach, Safe Parking Program Director, New Beginnings Counseling Center

HARM REDUCTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORT SHELTER PROGRAMS

ROOM 4

Explore the continuum of best and promising practices and programs for persons with substance use disorders. Learn new trauma-informed strategies for women seeking shelter that support their recovery, treatment and/or reduce harm, minimize loss of life, and help assure successful transitions. Join this insightful array of programs on the continuum of care, share and learn.

Panelists: Kimberly Roberts, LCSW, Chief Programs Officer, LA Familia Housing - The Arroyo House | Samantha Tucker, LCSW, Director of Interim Housing, LA Familia Housing - The Arroyo House | David Pretince, President and CEO, The Midnight Mission

ACCESS FOR ALL: ENHANCING HOUSING ACCESS AND SERVICES FOR TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS AND LGBTQIA+ FAMILIES

ROOM 9

This workshop will provide trauma-informed strategies and practices to support transgender and non-binary and LGBTQIA+ individuals and families who are seeking housing and shelter services. Conference attendees will participate in scenario-based activities and learn: barriers to housing that transgender and non-binary individuals and LGBTQIA+ families experience when accessing housing and shelter services; person-centered terminology when discussing sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression; trauma-informed strategies for diverse program participants; and the primary protections and requirements of the Equal Access Rule, how it applies to different projects and funding sources, and who is responsible for implementation.

Moderator: D. Fox, Senior Technical Assistance Provider, The Cloudburst Group

Presenters: Laura Kovach, Gender-Based Violence and Public Health Senior Analyst, The Cloudburst Group | Amanda Gould, Senior Program Manager, National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

2pm – 3pm *continued*

THE POWER OF SECTION 8 PRIORITIZATION AND COLLABORATION TO END HOMELESSNESS

ROOM 11

Imagine a housing authority choosing to prioritize sheltered individuals and families, working closely in concert with shelter teams, who in turn are working closely in concert with property owners, to help clients transition more swiftly from shelter to housing and remain stably housed. Brown County Housing Authority, Green Bay Wisconsin, did! The results are shorter shelter stays and successful outcomes - a model for communities large and small across the nation. Their innovative work together includes close collaboration with shelter teams for supportive services and solid relationships between those same shelters and landlords. Learn more about how government, nonprofits, and businesses can innovate and collaborate to end homelessness in your community. Together we are stronger!

Panelists: Patrick Leifker, Executive Director, Brown County Housing Authority | Beth Hudak, Director of Community Engagement, House of Hope

3:15pm – 4:15pm

EFFECTIVE THERAPEUTIC AND PROGRAM SUPPORTS TO ADVANCE THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF SHELTERED CHILDREN AND MOTHERS (SESSION 2 OF 2)

ROOM 1

Learn about evidence-based, therapeutic interventions and supports to enhance the well-being, school readiness and success of sheltered children, improve parent-child relationships, reduce parenting stress and support the mental health of mothers and mothers-to-be, the majority of whom are victims of gender-based violence, trauma, and loss. Shelters offer a unique window of opportunity to help children and families heal, re-build bonds of attachment broken by trauma, strengthen, and thrive. This panel of experts will explore effective child and family therapies, parenting supports and programming, tips and strategies for engagement, how to reduce maternal stress, and how to advance the health, happiness, and well-being of children and families in your shelter. This is the second of a double session that dives deeply into the special needs of sheltered children, mothers and mothers-to-be and how research has been used to identify and implement effective therapeutic and programming supports to advance their mental health and well-being.

Moderator: Dr. Shana Cox, LCSW, PsyD, Deputy Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Dr. Paulo Graziano, PhD, Professor of Psychology, Department of Child Psychology, Florida International University | Muriel Ayala, LCSW, Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter



DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

3:15pm – 4:15pm *continued*

THE ELEMENTS OF SANCTUARY ~ STRATEGIES AND ENVIRONMENTS TO EMPOWER, ADVANCE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, AND UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY

ROOM 2

This expert panel will discuss the ways in which our environment impacts our sense of safety and belonging, and how to transform shelters into sanctuaries for those we serve. Panelists will explore both the physical elements of sanctuary and core operational strategies that offer dignity and respect and promote healing and well-being.

Moderator: Emily Sepulveda Wheeland, CEO, The Delores Project

Panelists: Laura Rossbert, COO & Supporting Housing Specialist, Shopworks Architects | Katy Roth, Deputy Director Operations and Compliance, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Belinda James, MSW, LCSW, MOFDC, Director of Counseling, Our Lady's Inn | Dietra Clayton, Executive Director, The Sophia Way

TRAUMA-INFORMED DAY CENTERS AND DROP-IN SHELTERS

ROOM 3

Goals, Services, and Strategies for Success in Low Barrier Environments. Learn new steps and strategies for promoting health and wellness, deepening engagement, overcoming barriers to health and mental health services, and helping unhoused persons make successful transitions. Explore ways to help persons with severe mental health issues reconnect, build shared community, embrace services and find safe housing. Key words: dignity, respect, resources, connection, and love.

Moderator: Katie O'Brien, Executive Director, Rose Haven

Panelists: Nancy Armstrong, Senior Director of Operations & Programs, Women's Lunch Place | Isabelle Cetoute, Senior Director of Advocacy, Rosie's Place | Gina Murdock, LCSW, Deputy Program Officer, Downtown Women's Center

SYBIL HEBB, ESQUIRE, DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY ADVOCACY, OREGON LAW CENTER

ROOM 4

The Oregon Law Center was lead counsel for Gloria Johnson and other unhoused persons in the Supreme Court case, City of Grants Pass, Oregon vs. Gloria Johnson, et al., arguing against the criminalization of persons living on the street. The National Women's Shelter Network, joined by the National Organization for Women Foundation, was proud to support their efforts with an amicus brief highlighting the high special needs of women, youth and children experiencing homelessness. The Supreme Court's decision in favor of Grants Pass leaves us all wondering what are the limits now on cities and states that decide to criminalize persons living on the streets, making accessibility to safe shelter and safe have programs all the more important to assisting unhoused persons. Attorney Hebb will share their takeaways on the most important case in decades addressing the rights of persons experiencing homelessness and implications for the future.

Presenters: Sybil Hebb, Esquire, Director of Legislative and Policy Advocacy, Oregon Law Center

"Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it."

- Helen Keller

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

3:15pm – 4:15pm *continued*

THRIFT STORES—POWERFUL SOCIAL ENTERPRISES TO ADVANCE YOUR MISSION

ROOM 9

Thrift stores can be powerhouses, serving as real-world job training programs, providing pathways for community outreach and engagement, and providing clothing, necessities, and furnishings for successful transitions. At their core, they are businesses with a purpose. Learn from shelters who have successfully implemented these social enterprises to advance their mission and impact.

Presenters: Isabella Dell'Oca, Executive Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Pamela Kosteckii, Executive Director, Crisis Center of South Suburbia | Ronide Blanc, Director, Lotus House Thrift Chic Boutique

4:30pm – 5:30pm

MATERNITY PROGRAMS AND GROUP HOMES

ROOM 1

Addressing the special needs of mothers-to-be and mothers as they face the dual challenges of new motherhood and homelessness at the same time. Learn about their special needs and how you can help these fragile families at one of the most vulnerable times in their lives. From helping new mothers with breast feeding, bathing, and diapering to addressing post-partum depression and early childcare and education, trauma-informed shelter programs and group homes empower mothers and babies to stay together, keep babies safe, build loving attachments, and create the foundation for happier, healthier lives.

Moderator: Patricia Bosman, President & CEO, Haven of Grace

Panelists: Mengee Khasu, Director of Parenting Youth and Transitional Housing Programs, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children | Donna Frautten, Executive Director, Godparent Ministries, Maternity Program | Hannah Stohler, Executive Director, Marguerite's Place | Shellena Eskridge, Executive Director, Homeless Prenatal Program



DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

4:30pm – 5:30pm *continued*

LEARN HOW TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND INCREASE REVENUES

ROOM 2

Medicaid/Medicare Demystified. Shelters have historically been under-resourced for the important work we do of saving and changing lives. We know every dollar raised allows us to enrich our services and advance our mission. Imagine being paid for what you do, without loads of paperwork and tedious reporting. All states have programs that can help, but California is leading the way. This informative session will help demystify Medicaid and Medicare as a resource and explain what your organization needs to do to build the capacity to get paid for your work and expand your services. Learn the fundamentals of how to garner these important financial resources to advance the health, wellbeing and successful outcomes of women, children and families in need. Are you ready to take the next steps? You decide!

Moderator: Brateil Aghasi, CEO, Wise Place

Panelists: Christine Achre, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Community Health Solutions Group | Shakoya Green Long, CEO, Thomas House Family Shelter

ROUNDTABLE BREAKOUT: A DEEPER DIVE

ROOM 3

A Deeper Dive into the Special Health and Mental Health Needs of Victims and Survivors of Gender-Based Violence, Trafficking and Trauma. A follow-on to the plenary session, our powerhouse panel of medical and social services experts will take a deeper dive into the health and mental health needs of survivors of GBV, trafficking, and other serious trauma. It is vital that shelters and safe haven programs recognize the importance of and ways to provide person-centered health and mental health care, supportive services, enriched resources, programming, and time to help women and children heal, reclaim their lives, and look forward to healthier, safer, happier futures.

Moderator: Laura Klinefelter, LMHC, CAP, Intake Director and Victims Services Specialist, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Dr. JoNell Enfantis Potter, PhD, APRN, FAAN, Professor of Obstetrics-Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine | Jacqueline Collazo, LMHC, Senior Director Domestic Violence Services, Volunteers of America of Greater New York | Dr. Edie Zusman, M.D., MBA, FAANS, Trauma Neurosurgeon, Neuroscience Partners | Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, State Attorney for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida (Miami-Dade)



SINGLE YOUTH (18-24) PROGRAMS: ENGAGEMENT, EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT

ROOM 4

Youth in shelters have high special needs and have already experienced high levels of trauma in their young lives. This panel of experts will discuss proven strategies for engagement, specialized services, therapeutic and educational supports, and resources needed to empower single youth to successfully transition from the streets to safe, stable homes. This work changes and saves lives!

Presenters: Stephanie Padro, LMFT, Deputy Director Clinical Programs, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Hanna Getachew-Kreusser, MA, Executive Director, Face To Face Health & Counseling, Inc. | Yvonne Monique Aviva, BA, MPA, Senior Director of Residential, Foster Care, Friends of Youth | Modou Nyang, Senior Director of Homeless Youth Services, Friends of Youth | Carolyn Rayford, Director of Shelter, Alternative For Girls

DAY 2

Tuesday, January 28th

4:30pm – 5:30pm *continued*

BUILD AND STRENGTHEN YOUR CAPACITY TO SERVE VICTIMS/SURVIVORS

ROOM 9

This interactive session will highlight the connections between domestic violence and sexual assault to housing/homelessness and the intersection of racial and gender equity. Topics covered will be how domestic and sexual violence relates to families' homelessness; the VAWA 2022 housing expansions and protections for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are seeking to access or maintain their federally assisted housing with these rights; how to support survivors in homeless programs; and the housing-related resources that are accessible to survivors and how to build partnerships across homelessness and victim service providers.

Panelists: Suzanne Marcus, Gender-Based Violence and Housing Subject Matter Expert | Brittany Eltringham, Director of Safe Housing Initiatives, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

STRATEGIES TO HELP SHELTERED SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

ROOM 10

Across the nation, children are absent from the classroom in record numbers. Sheltered children face even greater risks for absenteeism and a widening education gap. Explore creative ways to keep your sheltered children on track and in school, preserve and strengthen important school ties, support their school readiness and success, and advance their education.

Moderator: Isabella Dell'Oca, Executive Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Linda Bazerjian, Managing Director of Communication, Homes for the Homeless | Shakoya Green Long, CEO, Thomas House Family Shelter | Martha Figueroa, Operations Manager, Thomas House Family Shelter, NWSN Advisory Board Member | Cynthia Perez, Director of Education, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Runisha Johnson, Program Coordinator, Lotus House Women's Shelter, NWSN Advisory Board Member

5:30pm – 5:45pm

HEALTH CARE SHEROS & PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP NWSN AWARDS PRESENTATION

6pm – 8pm

LITE DINNER RECEPTION

TOVAH KASDIN, JD
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR, SAMHSA

Tovah Kasdin, is a public health advisor at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), where she leads the violence, trauma and human trafficking portfolio. She will bring attention to the intersections of gender-based violence, homelessness, and the role of safe shelters with supportive services in saving lives, as well as the important work of SAMHSA in supporting shelters.



National Women's Shelter Network Conference



DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

9:30am – 5:30pm

THE FORUM:

Networking, Socializing, and Resource Workshopping.

The Forum is a welcoming place to meet and greet, build connections, discover new resources, consult with experts, sit and relax with each other in shared community and learning. Meet our curated group of invitees with special offerings for NWSN members, designed to help shelter leaders build their organizational infrastructure and capacity, improve efficiency and effectiveness, save time, and save money. Join us at the Forum!

Lead Organizer: Naomi Mortensen, NWSN Community Outreach Director | Kelly Michel, NWSN Assistant Director of Operations & Support | Pat Morrell, NWSN Supportive Services Assistant Director



8:15am – 8:45am

KEYNOTE BREAKFAST

Join the Acting Director of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) as she addresses the resources offered by OVW to shelters to advance their work on behalf of women and children experiencing homelessness who are survivors/victims of gender-based violence; the complex impacts of gender-based violence contributing to homelessness and the importance of safe shelter and enriched supportive services in saving and changing lives.

Speaker: Ginger Baran Lyons, Deputy Director for Grants Development and Management



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

9am – 9:30am

SURVIVORS SPEAK

The Healing Power of Storytelling. Christina Love is a proud Alaskan Native (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq) mother of two who brings her authentic voice and transformative spirit to the forefront as an internationally acclaimed speaker, award winning advocate and broadcaster, writer, educator, and consultant. She offers her story for our healing, for hers, for all women and children who have experienced gender-based violence, trafficking and homelessness, for those who survive and those who do not. An activist and advocate, we are proud to have Christina share her story of resilience, hope, and call to action.

Presenter: Christina Love, Indigenous (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq) Storyteller, Survivor, Multi-Level Advocate



9:30am – 10:30am

NWSN NATIONAL ACTION PLAN AND ADVOCACY TO SUPPORT SHELTERS AND THOSE WE SERVE TO END AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

We are your voice in Washington. Learn more about the NWSN's strategic initiatives to address the challenges, gaps and needs faced by shelters and safe haven programs across the country and how you can support those efforts. We will explore steps and strategies to becoming effective advocates for our programs, how to educate our national, state, and local governmental leaders, and advance our mission and impact with added resources. Together, we will improve access to funding and additional resources to advance our work on the ground in shelters and safe haven programs all across our nation to save and change lives.

Speaker: Constance Collins, Executive Director, NWSN | Guide Consulting | NWSN Team, Board and Advisory Board

10:45am – 11:45am

FROM SHELTER TO STABILITY: DREAMS REALLY DO COME TRUE

Innovative, trauma-informed shelters addressing the gender specific needs of women, children and gender expansive persons in the US, highlighting state of the art models with enriched supportive services across the country.

Moderator: John Greenwood, Executive Director, Homes for the Homeless

Panelists: Kimberly Livsey, Chief Program Officer, Atlanta Rescue Mission | Dominique Alex, CEO, Mary's Place Family Shelter | Katy Roth, Deputy Director Operations and Compliance, Lotus House Women's Shelter

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th



12pm – 12:45pm

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS, JOB READINESS TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

Enriched educational resources, training programs, life skills, financial literacy and other employment assists, from resume prep and work outfits to job readiness training programs and in-house job fairs, help empower women and youth to launch careers and attain greater financial self sufficiency and long term success. All build self-esteem and the confidence it takes to succeed in the work world and life. Leverage your community's financial and business resources in your programs and learn how innovative programs across the country are making a difference. Best of all, hear from those they serve.

Moderator: Lisa Michaelson, Vice President Women's and Children's Programs, Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities

Panelists: Jennifer Watkins, Vice President Emergency Shelter and Housing Problem Solving, Crossroads Rhode Island | Leora Braden Ibraheem, Chief Program Officer, N Street Village | Cynthia Perez, Director of Education and Employment, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Amy Turk, CEO, Downtown Women's Center

12:50pm – 1:45pm KEYNOTE LUNCHEON

A CONVERSATION WITH GLORIA ESTEFAN

Gloria Estefan is a Cuban-American singer, songwriter, actress, and businesswoman. Estefan is an eight-time Grammy Award winner, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient, and has been named one of the Top 100 greatest artists of all time by both VH1 and Billboard.



DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

2pm – 3pm

TRAUMA-INFORMED, ENRICHED AND EMPOWERING PROGRAMMING FOR WOMEN

Enliven your program and enrich the experiences of those you serve with diverse and empowering programming for women. Arts and activities offer alternative pathways to healing, build self-esteem and confidence, remind us of our creative source and strength, and build shared community. See examples of creative programs across the country. All spell success!

Moderator: Cam Carpanzano, Director of Programs & Impact, The Delores Project

Panelists: Kimberly Livsey, Chief Program Officer, Atlanta Rescue Mission | Soma Snakeoil, Executive Director, The Sidewalk Project | Runisha Johnson, Program Coordinator, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Antonia Wright, Artist | Katie O'Brien, Executive Director, Rose Haven

3:15pm – 4:15pm

POST-EXIT FOLLOW UP, SERVICES, SUPPORTS AND PROGRAMS TO SECURE LONG-TERM SUCCESS

Every end is a beginning. Explore the many ways you can empower women, children and families exiting your program to their new homes to achieve long-term stability and success.

Moderator: Shakoya Green Long, CEO, Thomas House Family Shelter

Panelists: Rosario Trejo, Deputy Housing Program Officer, Downtown Women's Center | Anddy Perdomo, MPA, Assistant Vice President of Veterans and Economic Empowerment Initiatives, Volunteers of America of Greater New York | Gwendolyn Johnson, MHS, Manager Alumnae Services, Deborah's Place | Patricia Bosman, President & CEO, Haven of Grace

4:30pm – 5:30pm

TRAUMA-INFORMED SUPPORT FOR SHELTER TEAMS

Every shelter leader knows their team is their most valuable resource. Secondary trauma, burnout, turnover, and harm to self and others are all risks. Explore innovative ways to truly support and inspire your team. Make sure you are providing core trainings to equip your team to handle "crisis normalized," heal, empower and uplift, improve quality and standards of care, increase efficiency and effectiveness, build team spirit and collaboration, and increase retention. Help them provide compassionate, contemplative care and enliven their commitment to service.

Moderator: Jennifer Hanlon Wigon, CEO, Women's Lunch Place

Panelists: Joanne James, Executive Director, Yawkey House, Pine Street Inn | Erin Wederbrook Yuskaitis, MA, CMS, Principal, Yellow Room Consulting, LLC | Angela Verseane, Human Resources Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter



DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

2pm – 5:30pm

2pm – 3pm

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING SESSION 1 OF 2

ROOM 1

Organizational Capacity To Advance Mission and Impact. Learn the strategies and steps to ensuring your nonprofit is ready for success. It begins with a strong foundation and organizational infrastructure. This panel of experts will explore best practices to fortify your organizational capacity, including strategic planning; financial transparency, systems and controls; data management, quality control, accountability and reporting; "living policies and procedures;" risk mitigation in a high risk environment; investing in and supporting your leadership and team; and the importance of a deep commitment to continuous improvement. This inter-related series of topics is so important for shelter leaders and administrators we have created a three-part series. A primer on best practices and checklist for a solid foundation for the future, make sure you have the building blocks in place for success.

Moderator: Alexis Steel, President, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children

Panelists: Chasity Chamberlin, Managing Director, Employment and Community Services and Vision Rehabilitation Services, CARF International | Abbie R. Teague, CLCS, Vice President, Brown & Brown of Florida, Inc. | Tara Davis, Senior Manager, PwC Bookkeeping Connect | Meredith Clay, Chief Quality and Compliance Officer, New Reach, Inc.

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

2pm – 3pm *continued*

RECUPERATIVE CARE FOR PEOPLE FACING HOMELESSNESS

ROOM 2

Hospitals are discharging unhoused persons to the street with acute care needs. Many persons living on the street and in shelters are suffering from severe medical and mental health issues and an aging generation is becoming homeless in record numbers. Learn how one organization, Circle the City, recently featured in the New York Times, now provides recuperative care, and has expanded its services in both recuperative facilities and on the street, to address the high special needs of those we serve. Be inspired to take the next step in your shelter and learn how!

Presenter: Kim Despres, DHA, RN, CEO, Circle the City

CREATING IN-HOUSE CULINARY, HOSPITALITY AND RETAIL TRAINING PROGRAMS (A CASE STUDY AND REAL WORLD MODEL)

ROOM 3

Creating Pathways to Financial Independence, Enriching Your Program, and Empowering Persons Served. This session will explore how shelter and safe haven programs and their thrift stores mirror the hospitality, culinary, and retail industries and provide rich learning environments to prepare program participants to succeed in the work world. At the same time, real world job readiness training programs provide pathways to elevate and advance the voices and experiences of your program participants and alumni. Learn how you can create a job readiness training program in your shelter to enrich your leadership and program and professionally manage core operations and programs in your shelter. Key trainings, paid internships, certificates of completion, and empowering those we serve with the education, tools and resources to succeed allows them and your shelter to blossom with the knowledge, experience and expertise of persons served.

Moderator: Katy Roth, Deputy Director Operations and Compliance, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Julie Grimes, Managing Partner, DoubleTree Hilton Grand | Angela Verseane, Human Resources Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Cynthia Perez, Employment and Education Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Ronide Blanc, Director, Lotus House Thrift Chic Boutique

SPECIAL NEEDS OF NEWLY IMMIGRATED SHELTERED WOMEN AND CHILDREN

ROOM 4

Shelters are experiencing a rise in newly arrived women and children. Many are suffering from nearly unimaginable gender-based violence, trauma, loss and grief, even as they face the daunting challenges of barriers in language, education, employment, legal issues, and homelessness. Learn about strategies and programs to help them navigate a new country, build the foundation for safer, happier lives, and successfully transition to their new homes.

Moderator: Alyssa Sanchez, LMHC, Asst. Vice President Transitional Housing, Samaritan Daytop Village

Panelists: Marcus Foxx, Program Administrator Transitional Housing, Samaritan Daytop Village | Kristin Miller, Executive Director, Homeless Services United | Laura Klinefelter, LMHC, CAP, Intake Director and Victims Services Specialist, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Anuj Nagpal, Community Engagement Manager, Apna Ghar (Our Home)



DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

2pm – 3pm *continued*

CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH GRIEF, BEREAVEMENT AND HOMELESSNESS

ROOM 9

Many children and youth experience homelessness as a consequence of the death or loss of a parent, guardian, family member, friend or other loved one. Others experience loss of a loved one during homelessness. Learn how shelters, school systems and bereavement centers around the country can work together to support the healing process of already vulnerable children and youth in the face of the compound challenges of death, grief and homelessness.

Presenters: Debra Albo-Steiger, LCSW, CEO, and Julissa Reynoso, LMHC, Director of Programming, Children's Bereavement Center

ANTI-TRAFFICKING YOUTH PROGRAM

ROOM 10

Youth who have been trafficked, or are at risk, have high special needs that require shelters to provide specialized support and services designed to heal, empower and uplift. Learn about the special trauma-informed environment created by House of Hope, designed by youth for youth, and the deeply supportive, compassionate services they provide for youth, both single and parenting, to safe and successful transitions.

Presenters: Shannon Wienandt, Executive Director, House of Hope | Beth Hudak, Director of Community Engagement, House of Hope of Green Bay, Inc. | Karrie Harmon, Director of Programming, House of Hope of Green Bay, Inc.



3:15pm – 4:15pm

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING SESSION 2 OF 2

ROOM 1

Organizational Capacity to Advance Mission and Impact. Learn the strategies and steps to ensuring your nonprofit is ready for success. It begins with a strong foundation and organizational infrastructure. This panel of experts will explore best practices to fortify your organizational capacity, including strategic planning; financial transparency, systems and controls; data management, quality control, accountability and reporting; "living policies and procedures;" risk mitigation in a high risk environment; investing in and supporting your leadership and team; and the importance of a deep commitment to continuous improvement. This inter-related series of topics is so important for shelter leaders and administrators we have created a two-part series. A primer on best practices and checklist for a solid foundation for the future, make sure you have the building blocks in place for success.

Moderator: Alexis Steel, President, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children

Panelists: Chasity Chamberlin, Managing Director, Employment and Community Services and Vision Rehabilitation Services, CARF International | Abbie R. Teague, CLCS, Vice President, Brown & Brown of Florida, Inc. | Tara Davis, Senior Manager, PwC Bookkeeping Connect | Meredith Clay, Chief Quality and Compliance Officer, New Reach, Inc.

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

3:15pm – 4:15pm *continued*

EMBEDDING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, CARE CENTERS AND PRE-SCHOOLS IN SHELTERS AND SAFE HAVEN PROGRAMS

ROOM 2

Learn how shelter programs can support the learning and wellbeing of sheltered infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Explore these beautiful model childcare centers in operation in shelters and learn the benefits, challenges, and some real world solutions. Discover how doing so supports and advances childhood health and wellbeing, parent-child relationships, school readiness, and the success of sheltered families.

Moderator: Muriel Ayala, LCSW, Director of Children's Services, Lotus House Women's Shelter

Panelists: Renee Da Silva, LMHC, Director of Behavioral Health and Clinical Services, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children | Hannah Stohler, Executive Director, Marguerite's Place | Sandra Jackson, President & CEO, House of Ruth | Gladys Montes, Early Childhood Education and Care Expert

TRAUMA-INFORMED STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT SHELTERED CHILDREN AND YOUTH

ROOM 3

Shelter staff understand that the children and youth they serve are highly traumatized, but they often don't feel equipped to support them or intervene with challenging behaviors. Serving a vulnerable population in crisis can also take an emotional toll on shelter personnel who experience both primary and secondary trauma while doing their jobs. This breakout session presented by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCCTS) will help attendees recognize the signs of child traumatic stress, understand the impact of trauma on children's development and on parenting, and learn strategies for effectively engaging with children who have experienced trauma while managing their own stress reactions. We will introduce a wide range of free training and resources available through the NCCTS, as well as ways to connect with the NCCTS at a national and local level.

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Maze, PhD, Clinical Psychologist and Co-Director, UCLA-Duke University, National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCCTS)



THE INTERSECTIONS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND AMERICA'S HISTORICAL LEGACY OF COLONIZATION AND VIOLENCE

ROOM 4

Why are women abused more than men? Why are Indigenous people, and our LGBTQ2S+ relatives physically and sexually assaulted at much higher rates than any other demographic? What is the connection between gender-based violence and climate change? This training explores the roots of violence that have led to a (non-native) culture of abuse and violence. It will examine the history of genocide, colonization, assimilation, the anti-violence movement, and climate change. Learn how gender-based and race-based oppression and violence intersect leading to higher rates of victimization, lethality, land theft and environmental degradation. This training offers a nuanced understanding of the multifaceted relationship between trauma, gender-based violence, climate change, and societal disparities. Armed with this knowledge, attendees will be better equipped to address these challenges within their communities and organizations, promoting healing, equity, and systemic change.

Moderator: Christina Love, Indigenous (Alutiiq/Sugpiaq) Storyteller, Survivor, Multi-Level Advocate

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

3:15pm – 4:15pm *continued*

RENT READY?

ROOM 9

This unique emergency shelter program offers its sheltered guests a step by step action plan with tools and resources to help them prepare for the next step - finding housing in a challenging rental housing market. When clients complete the program, they will have a housing portfolio, rental resume, letter of explanation, proof of ability to pay, reference letters, key information, and a rent ready certificate. In today's housing market, being Rent Ready is more critical than ever to successful transitions to end homelessness. Learn from these experts key strategies, tips and resources for your program.

Presenters: Beatriz De La Rosa Perez, Program Director, Anacortes Family Center | Ella Nacht, MC, Staff and Client Support Counselor, Anacortes Family Center

4:30pm – 5:30pm

CARF INTERNATIONAL

ROOM 1

An international, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services programs has just issued new standards for shelters and safe haven programs serving persons experiencing homelessness. The NWSN contributed to the work group that helped formulate the new standards, which have undergone extensive field review and comment. Learn what the new standards require, whether or not your organization is interested in accreditation. They are a checklist for basic standards of care and best practices!

Moderator: Chasity Chamberlin, Managing Director, Employment and Community Services and Vision Rehabilitation Services, CARF International

SUCCESSFUL CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS AND ENDOWMENTS ADVANCE YOUR IMPACT

ROOM 2

Learn the basics for a successful capital campaign, including board engagement, strategic planning, developing your community outreach and marketing plan, design and development of collateral materials, marketing naming opportunities, finding your hidden donors, branding and media communications, and tips for a successful campaign. Capital campaigns, endowments and legacy giving go hand in hand. Learn the benefits of endowments for achieving your strategic goals, how they can be structured, and enhance your capital campaign and legacy giving to help ensure your shelter and safe haven programs are financially sound, sustainable and a resource for generations to come.

Moderator: Carly Grimm, JD, Director, Lotus Endowment Fund, Inc.

Panelists: Amy Turk, CEO, Downtown Women's Center | Lisa Michaelson, Vice President Women's and Children's Programs, Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities | Alexis Steel, President, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children | Sandra Jackson, President & CEO, House of Ruth

"Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope."

- Maya Angelou

DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

4:30pm – 5:30pm *continued*

FINANCING YOUR DREAM SHELTER, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY FACILITY

ROOM 3

Explore development and financing resources for renovations, expansions, and new shelter, transitional housing, and community facilities. Learn about Low Income Tax Credit, New Markets Tax Credit and other financing, programs, and resources available to make your dream facilities a reality. This valuable session with preeminent financial, business, and legal experts is designed to help you identify and access resources to finance the facilities you need and want. Dream big!

Moderator: Debbie Kleeban, Esq., Applegate & Thorne-Thomsen

Panelists: Tony Smith, Partner, SB Friedman Development Advisors, LLC | Jennifer Westerbeck, Vice President, New Markets and Historic Tax Credit Investments, US Bancorp | Andrew Rubin, Partner, Nixon Peabody | Jennifer Alberding, Senior Manger - Structured Finance, Enterprise Community Investment, Inc.



SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES TO ADVANCE YOUR MISSION

ROOM 4

Advance your program mission and impact with a kaleidoscope of private and public sources, fundraising and friend-raising. Learn new strategies to take your fundraising to the next level. What works, what doesn't, and how to leverage your lean teams to the greatest impact. This expert panel has decades of combined experience worth its weight in gold!

Moderator: Liz Starke, Director of Development, Rose Haven

Panelists: Sammie Rayner, Co-CEO, Community Forward SF | Beatrice Gonzalez, Director, Lotus House Women's Shelter | Beth Hudak, Director of Community Engagement, House of Hope of Green Bay, Inc.



DAY 3

Wednesday, January 29th

4:30pm – 5:30pm *continued*

ADVANCING ECONOMIC EQUITY FOR SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

ROOM 10

There is no safety for survivors of gender-based violence without economic security. And while anyone can experience gender-based violence, not everyone has access to the resources needed to get, be, and stay safe. Since 2007, the Center for Survivor Agency and Justice has advanced economic equity for survivors across the nation. This session will offer research and experience on the connection between economic security and domestic violence and share CSAJ's work to enhance individual advocacy, strengthen organizations and communities, and fuel systems and policy change that transforms the economic landscape facing survivors. Participants will have opportunities to apply these approaches to their own organizations and policy advocacy.

Presenters: Erika Sussman, Founder & Executive Director, Center for Survivor Agency and Justice | Mona Muro, Public Policy Manager, Center for Survivor Agency and Justice

6pm – 8pm

LITE DINNER RECEPTION

FINAL REMARKS

MARGARET MITCHELL
CEO OF YWCA, USA

Margaret Mitchell leads YWCA USA, which has been at the forefront nationwide of the most critical social movement for over 160 years – from women's empowerment and civil rights, to affordable housing and pay equity, to violence prevention and health care.



DAY 4

Thursday, January 30th

9am

NATIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE

NWSN on Capitol Hill
NWSN Team | NWSN Board

Everyone is invited!



9:30am – 12pm

JOIN US FOR A FUN AND EXCITING DAY ON CAPITOL HILL!

We will meet with legislators to educate them on the importance of safe, supportive shelter for women, children and families experiencing homelessness and the need for more federal resources to support their successful transitions. This promises to be an unforgettable experience! The NWSN team and volunteers will help by pre-scheduling appointments with your state's legislators and policy staff and help guide you to meetings. Photo ops and souvenir shopping in the Senate and House gift shops a must! We are stronger together!

NWSN Team | NWSN Board




National Women's Shelter Network Conference



*At the time of printing

PANELISTS

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHRISTINE ACHRE FOUNDER & CEO COMMUNITY HEALTH SOLUTIONS GROUP | BRATEIL AGHASI CEO WISEPLACE | DOMINIQUE ALEX CEO MARY'S PLACE | NANCY ARMSTRONG CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE | YVONNE-MONIQUE AVIVA SR. DIR. RESIDENTIAL & FOSTER CARE SERVICES FRIENDS OF YOUTH | MURIEL AYALA DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DARLA BARDINE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NATIONAL NETWORK FOR YOUTH | LINDA BAZERJIAN MANAGING DIR. OF COMMUNICATIONS HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS | RONIDE BLANC PROGRAM DIRECTOR LOTUS HOUSE THRIFT CHIC BOUTIQUE | PATRICIA BOSMAN PRESIDENT & CEO HAVEN OF GRACE | CHRISTINA BRYANT COO ST. MARY'S CENTER | CAM CARPANZANO DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS & IMPACT THE DELORES PROJECT |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ISABELLE CETOUTE SR. DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY SERVICES ROSIE'S PLACE | CHASITY CHAMBERLIN MANAGING DIRECTOR CARF INTERNATIONAL | DEBBIE CHANG PRESIDENT & CEO BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION | MEREDITH CLAY CHIEF QUALITY & COMPLIANCE OFFICER NEW REACH, INC. | DIETRA CLAYTON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE SOPHIA WAY | JACQUELINE COLLAZO SECTOR DIR. OF DV VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA GREATER NY |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CONSTANCE COLLINS PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NATIONAL WOMEN'S SHELTER NETWORK | SHANA COX DD OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER | RENEE DA SILVA DIR. OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND CLINICAL SERVICES ST. MARY'S CENTER | TARA DAVIS SR. MANAGER PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS | BEATRIZ DE LA ROSA PEREZ PROGRAM DIRECTOR THE ANACORTES FAMILY CENTER | ISABELLA DELL'OCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| KIM DESPRES CEO CIRCLE THE CITY | BARBARA DUFFIELD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SCHOOLHOUSE CONNECTION | BRITTANY ELTRINGHAM DIRECTOR OF SAFE HOUSING INITIATIVES NRCDV | SHELLEN ESKRIDGE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HOMELESS PRENATAL PROGRAM | KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE STATE ATTORNEY ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA | MARTHA L. FIGUEROA OPERATIONS MANAGER THOMAS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DEBBIE FOX SR. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER THE CLOUDBURST GROUP | MARCUS FOXX PROGRAM ADM. FOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SAMARITAN DAYTOP VILLAGE | HANNA GETACHEW-KREUSSER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FACE TO FACE | BEATRICE GONZALEZ DIRECTOR LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER | ARIANA GORDILLO DE VIVERO SR. DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES NAFC | AMANDA GOULD SR. PROGRAM MANAGER NATIONAL LGBTQ INSTITUTE ON IPV, LA |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PAULO GRAZIANO PROF. OF PSYCH. DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PSYCHOLOGY FIU | SHAKOYA GREEN LONG CEO THOMAS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER | JOHN GREENWOOD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS | JULIE GRIMES MANAGING PARTNER HILTON BENTLEY HOTEL | CARLY GRIMM DIRECTOR LOTUS ENDOWMENT FUND, INC. | KARRIE HARMON DIR. OF PROGRAMMING HOUSE OF HOPE GREEN BAY |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JENNIFER HANLON WIGON CEO WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE | SYBIL HEBB DIR. OF LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY OREGON LAW CENTER | BETH HUDAK DIR. OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HOUSE OF HOPE GREEN BAY | LEORA IBRAHEEM CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER N STREET VILLAGE | SANDRA JACKSON PRESIDENT & CEO HOUSE OF RUTH | BELINDA JAMES DIRECTOR OF COUNSELING OUR LADY'S INN |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JOANNE JAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR YAWKEY HOUSE | GRETTEL JIMENEZ-SINGER DIRECTOR NATIONAL WOMEN'S SHELTER NETWORK | GWENDOLYN JOHNSON CBS RESIDENTIAL & LOCATION MANAGER DEBORAH'S PLACE | RUNISHA JOHNSON FARM COORDINATOR LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER | TOVAH KASDIN PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR SAMHSA | MENGE KHASU YOUNG PARENTING PROG. & TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROG. DIR. ST. MARY'S CENTER |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DEBBIE KLEBAN ATTORNEY APPLEGATE & THORNE-THOMSEN | LAURA KLINFELTER DIR. OF INTAKE & VICTIM SERVICES LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER | PAMELA KOSTECKI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CRISIS CENTER FOR SOUTH SUBURBIA | LAURA KOVACH GBV & PUBLIC HEALTH SR. ANALYST THE CLOUDBURST GROUP | WENDY LICHTENTHAL FOUNDING DIRECTOR CABC | THERESA LINDBERG MANAGING DIRECTOR OF CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES CARF INTERNATIONAL |

National Women's Shelter Network Conference



KIMBERLY LIYSEY
CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER
ATLANTA MISSION



CHRISTINA LOVE
APPOINTED MEMBER
U.S. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING



STEPHANIE LOVE-PATTERSON
PRESIDENT & CEO
NNEDV



SUZANNE MARCUS
GBV & HOUSING SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT
THE CLOUDBURST GROUP



JENNIFER MAZE
CO-DIRECTOR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS



LISA MICHAELSON
VP OF WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
UNION GOSPEL MISSION TWIN CITIES



KELLY MICHEL
ASSIST. DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & SUPPORT
NATIONAL WOMEN'S SHELTER NETWORK



KRISTIN MILLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HOMELESS SERVICES UNITED



MARGARET MITCHELL
CEO
YWCA USA



GLADYS MONTES
FORMER GROUP VICE PRESIDENT
UNITED WAY



PAT MORRELL
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
NATIONAL WOMEN'S SHELTER NETWORK



GINA MURDOCK
DEPUTY PROGRAM OFFICER
DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER



MONA MURO
PUBLIC POLICY MANAGER
CENTER FOR SURVIVOR AGENCY & JUSTICE



ELLA NACHT
STAFF & CLIENT SUPPORT
THE ANACORTES FAMILY CENTER



ANUJ NAGPAL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER
APNA GHAR



MODOU NYANG
SR. DIRECTOR OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES
FRIENDS OF YOUTH



KATIE O'BRIEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ROSE HAVEN



JAMES O'CONNELL
PRESIDENT
BOSTON HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS PROG.



STEPHANIE PADRO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
CLINICAL PROGRAMS
LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER



ANDDY PERDOMO
ASST. VP VETERANS & ECON. EMPWMT.
VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA GREATER NY



CYNTHIA PEREZ
EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION DIRECTOR
LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER



JONELL POTTER
PROF. OBSTETRICS, GYN. & REPROD. SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI



DAVID PRENTICE
PRESIDENT & CEO
THE MIDNIGHT MISSION



CAROLYN RAYFORD
DIR. OF SHELTER & TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM
ALTERNATIVES FOR GIRLS



SAMMIE RAYNER
CO-CEO
COMMUNITY FORWARD SF



EILEEN REILLY
FOUNDER
WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE



JULISSA REYNOSO
DIR. OF PROGRAMMING
CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER



CASSIE ROACH
SAFE PARKING PROGRAM DIRECTOR
NEW BEGINNINGS COUNSELING CENTER



BRENDA ROSARIO
PROVIDER ENROLLMT. PROCESSOR
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD



LAURA ROSSBERT
COO & SUPPORTING HOUSING SPC.
SHOPWORKS ARCHITECTURE



KATY ROTH
DD OF OPERATIONS AND COMPLIANCE
LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER



ANDREW RUBIN
PARTNER
NIXON PEABODY



GABRIELA SAENZ
DIR. OF RESEARCH, EDUCATION & POLICY
NATIONAL WOMEN'S SHELTER NETWORK



ALYSSA SANCHEZ
ASST. VP TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
SAMARITAN DAYTOP VILLAGE



CHERYL SCHUCH
CEO
FAMILY PROMISE



KRISTINE SCHWARZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NEW BEGINNINGS COUNSELING CENTER



SOMA SNAKEOIL
EXEC. DIRECTOR
THE SIDEWALK PROJECT



EMILY SEPULVEDA
WHEELAND
CEO
THE DELORES PROJECT



TONY SMITH
PARTNER & EXEC. VP
SB FRIEDMAN DEV. ADVISORS, LLC



LIZ STARKE
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
ROSE HAVEN



ALEXIS STEEL
PRESIDENT
ST. MARY'S CENTER



HANNAH STOHLER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MARGUERITE'S PLACE



ERIKA SUSSMAN
FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CSA)



ABBIE TEAGUE
VICE PRESIDENT
BROWN & BROWN INSURANCE



SAMANTHA TUCKER
DIRECTOR OF INTERIM HOUSING
LA FAMILY HOUSING



ROSARIO TREJO
DEPUTY HOUSING PROGRAM OFFICER
DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER



AMY TURK
CEO
DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER



ANGELA VERSEANE
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR
LOTUS HOUSE WOMEN'S SHELTER



JENNIFER WATKINS
VP OF EMERGENCY SHELTER
CROSSROADS RHODE ISLAND



ERIN WEDERBROOK
YUSKAITIS
PRINCIPAL
YELLOW ROOM CONSULTING, LLC



JENNIFER WESTERBECK
VP & SR. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE
US BANCORP



SHANNON WIENANDT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HOUSE OF HOPE GREEN BAY



ANTONIA WRIGHT
ARTIST



EDIE ZUSMAN
TRAUMA NEUROSCIENCE PARTNERS



Scan here for full bios on each panelist, or visit our website at thenwsnconference.org!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Lotus Endowment Fund, Inc.



Anita Broad



Ted and Nena Rich



At the time of printing.

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER!

For general information please contact: info@thenwsn.org
or visit our website at www.thenwsn.org