BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults

Invitation to the Heroes of Adult Protection (HOAP) Film Premiere

Highlighting Exceptional Leaders in the Massachusetts Sexual Assault Movement

Event Date: April 29, 2026 1:30-4:00

The Building Partnerships for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults Initiative (BPI) is pleased to invite you to the premiere of the docuseries, Heroes of Adult Protection (HOAP) to be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at the Showcase Cinema de Lux Legacy Place, Dedham, Massachusetts. HOAP is a docuseries that reveals the rarely seen challenges of adult protection professionals helping victims with disabilities become thriving survivors. This episode features Leigh Ann and Patty, two extraordinary sexual assault survivors with a disability who, on their paths to healing, became Peer Support Leaders within the Sexual Assault Response (SAR) Team at the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC).

Special Acknowledgment: SAR Team





In July 2017, the Sexual Assault Response (SAR) Team, primarily funded by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA), was created at the DPPC to increase access to trauma services for persons with disabilities to aid in their recovery of sexual abuse. SAR provides navigation, peer support and clinical matching services to sexual assault victims with disabilities. SAR works with individuals with disabilities, families, and support teams by providing information, resources, referrals and assistance. BPI and DPPC are pleased to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of Leigh Ann and Patty, featured in the HOAP film, along with their SAR colleagues, as they work to ensure sexual assault victims with disabilities get accessible access to trauma services.

Special Recognition Award: Joan Meunier-Sham, RN, MS, FAAN



In recognition of exceptional leadership and innovative contributions to the field of sexual violence and survivors with disabilities, the Building Partnerships for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults Initiative (BPI) and the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC) are pleased to honor Joan Meunier-Sham at the HOAP Film Premiere. Joan, the Director of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (MDPH) Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program, has served with distinction since 2012. She leads the SANE statewide program that provides forensic nursing expertise to over 2,500 patients of all ages, each year, in 72 locations across Massachusetts. Prior to becoming Director, Joan served as the Pediatric Associate Director for SANE from 2005-2011. On behalf of BPI, DPPC, and the thousands of survivors with disabilities whom Joan has personally given voice, we thank her for the passion she brings to this special area of nursing and for making a difference in so many lives, one survivor at a time. Very simply, Joan is a thinker, a doer and heart-led leader.

Reserve Your Seat on Eventbrite: Register now to attend the HOAP Film Premiere

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The HOAP premiere is hosted by the statewide Massachusetts multidisciplinary initiative, Building Partnerships for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults (BPI), that brings together law enforcement, prosecutors, adult protective and human services, self-advocates and others to address abuse, neglect and crimes committed against persons with a disability and older adults.

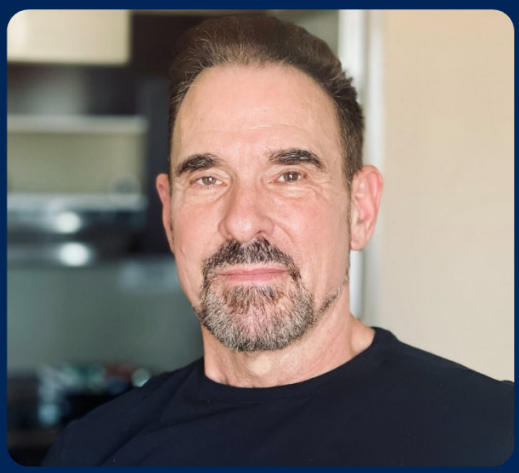
The HOAP premiere will be held at the Showcase Cinema de Lux Legacy Place 670 Legacy Place, Dedham, Massachusetts from 2:00–4:00 p.m. on April 29, 2026. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. Please join us as we proudly highlight the work of DPPC's SAR Peer Support Leaders and as we give special recognition to the SAR Team and to Joan Meunier-Sham, MA SANE Director, in celebration of their work to support sexual assault survivors with a disability.

Scan the QR Code to Reserve Your Seat!

The Clowder Group

HOAP was created by The Clowder Group founders, Director Stu Maddux and Producer Joe Applebaum. Recognized for award-winning documentary films, they're known for creating media that sparks conversations and social change by masterfully crafting stories that elevate voices too often left in the shadows. With seven Emmys and restless curiosity, Stu and Joe bring communities together through screenings and discussions at local, state and global events.





Disabled Persons Protection Commission
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