

COMMUNITIES.

CONNECT.

LEAD.

TRANSFORM.

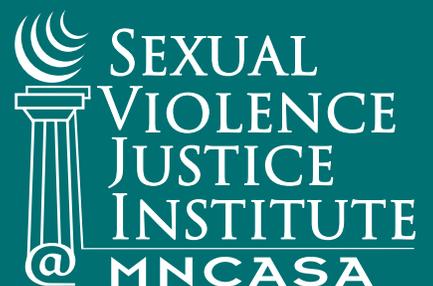
Transforming communities through
connection and leadership.

National Institute for SART Team Leaders

Virtual event

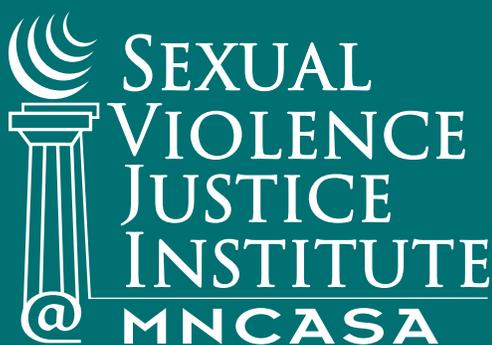
3 weeks | 6 sessions

June 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, & 24



About SVJI

SVJI@MNCASA assists multidisciplinary teams (CCRs, SARTs, MDTs, etc.) in designing and strengthening their response to sexual assault victims/survivors in their local communities. With continued partnership and support from the Office on Violence Against Women, we are excited to host our first virtual National Institute.



About the National Institute

The Institute is a 6-session program designed for coordinators, team leaders, and state and territorial level leaders who coordinate or support local teams responding to sexual violence.

The Institute will be virtual this year, with two sessions per week for three weeks:

June 8 & 10 | 12PM-2PM CST

June 15 & 17 | 12PM-2PM CST

June 22 & 24 | 12PM-2PM CST

About the Tracks

The Foundational Track is designed to get SART Coordinators who are relatively new to their positions with less than three years of experience off to a strong start.

The Advanced Track is designed for coordinators with a little more experience under their belt who want to dig into specific aspects of sexual assault response teamwork.

More Information

This brochure contains an event schedule for each day as well as information about session topics and presenters. You will receive information on how to join each session via your email. You will have an opportunity to select your own session for June 10 and June 15 via a survey. Live captioning will be available.

Schedule

June 8	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Opening	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM	Opening Plenary: Walking in Balance with All Our Relations: A Primary Prevention Curriculum Based on Indigenous Values	Strong Oak Lefebvre

June 10	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Grounding & Check-In	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM Foundational	SART 101: Strategies for Success	Fatima Jayoma & Miranda Gonzalez
12:30 PM Foundational	Beyond Conviction Rates: Measuring Success in Sexual Assault Prosecutions	Jonathan H. Kurland
12:30 PM Foundational	Starting a Sexual Response Team in Rural Arizona	Noemi Elizalde
12:30 PM Advanced	Trafficking and Protocol	Sarah Florman & Hunter Beckstrom
12:30 PM Advanced	Leadership Today	Jude Foster & Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM Advanced	A Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Victim Centered Care	Kim Nash

June 15	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Grounding & Check-In	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM Foundational	Systems Change as Prevention	Hunter Beckstrom & Sam Schmitt
12:30 PM Foundational	Evaluation from the Ground Up	Madison Cutler
12:30 PM Foundational	Community Centered Teams	Jenna Harper & Gina Lopez
12:30 PM Advanced	Working Collaboratively to Provide the Best Medical Forensic Care, Even When There Is No SANE in Sight	Angelita Olowu
12:30 PM Advanced	Centering the Margins and Building Community Centered Teams	Shandra Witherspoon & Olivia Montgomery

June 17	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Opening	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM	Critical Conversation: Pandemic, the Struggle is Real	Maria Limon

June 22	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Opening	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM	Minnesota SART Coordinator Panel	Minnesota SART Coordinators

June 24	Session	Presenter
12:00 PM	Opening	Nigel Perrote
12:30 PM	How It Will Be When We Actually Get to A Place of Racial and Gender Equity	Strong Oak Lefebvre

Session Information

June 8

Opening Plenary

Walking in Balance With All Our Relations: A Primary Prevention Curriculum Based on Indigenous Values Prior to Colonization to Promote the Safety of Youth, Adults, and Elders in Our Communities from a Racial Justice and Gender Equity Lens

Description:

Introduce community-based transformative/restorative justice practices based on the Indigenous understanding that circle practices are rooted in the wellness of communities themselves. There is a need to restore harmony to both those harmed and those who harm from a place of love and compassion so that our communities are safe and equitable for all beings. Identifying, addressing, and transforming the systemic racist, sexist, and capitalistic structures that are the source of violence and holding these systems accountable for the harm they have done is critical to lasting harmony and peace.



Strong Oak Lefebvre, MSSA

Executive Director and Co-Founder
 Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition Inc.
 Co-Author of *Walking in Balance with All Our Relations*

Please pick one session to attend on June 10 and indicate your selection via the [survey link](#) in your introductory email.

June 10

Session 2a Foundational **SART 101: Strategies for Success**

Description:

This training will focus on building a baseline knowledge of systems-change sexual assault response teams (SARTs). The training will also provide SARTs with the knowledge and tools for effective multidisciplinary teamwork. We will use the SVJI resource, “A Ten Factor Framework for Sexual Assault Response Team Effectiveness,” as the foundation.



Fatima Jayoma

Rural Projects Coordinator
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute



Miranda Gonzalez

Rural Projects Coordinator
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute

Session 2b Foundational **Beyond Conviction Rates: Measuring Success in Sexual Assault Prosecutions**

Description:

Success in criminal cases is traditionally measured by conviction rates, but convictions alone fail to capture the unique challenges in sexual violence cases. The crimes themselves—how they happen, who commits them, who is victimized—are widely misunderstood by those who have not been educated on perpetrator-victim dynamics and victim responses to trauma. Too often, a

singular focus on conviction rates causes even well-intentioned law enforcement officers and prosecutors to “weed out” difficult cases, based on a perception that the cases will prove to be “unwinnable”—that the legal and factual challenges are insurmountable. As a result, few cases make it to the courtroom and even fewer result in conviction.

This presentation will discuss promising practices for the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases as well as performance measures to assess how we are actually doing. The presenter will discuss how data collection and case review can help us review and understand our decision-making processes. The suggested performance measures will assess the quality of justice system interventions and encourage allied professionals (the



Jonathan H. Kurland

Attorney Advisor
AEquitas

Session 2c Foundational

Starting a Sexual Response Team in Rural Arizona

Description:

This 90-minute training will focus on creating a SART in a rural community. A SART coordinator will discuss her experience with how she engaged her community to create a coordinated community response to sexual assault to improve survivor well-being. She will share strategies for engaging and conducting outreach with SART members, protocol development, and overcoming resource scarcity. This training is applicable for any responder or community member that wants to start a SART.



Noemi Elizalde

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Coordinator
Mariposa Community Health Center

Session 2d Advanced

Trafficking and Protocol

Description:

Minnesota has made ground-breaking strides in legislation and service provision for sexually exploited and trafficked youth. However, victims/survivors often have a variety of needs and encounter significant structural barriers in accessing services. Since 2018, SVJI has been working with communities across Minnesota to improve the systems response to survivors of sexual exploitation and trafficking using the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) model. This presentation will help you determine if your SART should incorporate sexual exploitation and sex trafficking into their work, and highlight the key elements for responding to sexually exploited and trafficked youth, including successes and lessons learned from the field. We will focus on practical skills and techniques for developing tailored protocols that reflect the unique needs of each community.



Sarah Florman

Sexual Assault Response Teams Project Coordinator & Trafficking Policy Coordinator
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute



Hunter Beckstrom

Prevention & Sexual Exploitation Specialist
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute

Session 2e Advanced
Leadership Development

Description:

This session will explore today's environment and challenges that SART leaders may find themselves facing today in an ever changing environment. The presenters will walk through their experiences and share approaches they have utilized in their work so help support SART leaders with the intent to increase their tools and skills to handle large scale issues their teams may face.



Nigel Perrote

National and State Programs Director
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute



Jude Foster

Statewide Medical Forensic Policy Program Senior Coordinator
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute

Session 2f Advanced

A Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Victim Centered Care

Description:

The success of Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) hinges on active involvement from each key stakeholder. An MDT that is comprised of a healthy collaborative group of advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, college campus representatives, behavioral health representatives, and sexual assault nurse examiners/forensic nurse examiners (SANEs/FNEs), will find their approach and response to trauma-informed, victim-centered care to not only be successful, but sustainable. Through the lens of the forensic nurse, challenges faced by key stakeholders while building a collaborative victim-centered response will be discussed with a particular focus on sustainability of the medical forensic team. As a result of this interactive audience presentation, participants will gain a better understanding of the importance of victim-centered care through a well-functioning MDT model.



Kim Nash

BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P
Forensic Nurse Specialist
International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN)

Please pick one session to attend on June 15 and indicate your selection via the [survey link](#) in your introductory email.

June 10

Session 2a Foundational

Systems Change As Prevention

Description:

Sexual assault response teams can improve access to healing and justice for victims/survivors and increase offender accountability. However, SART members may be wondering how they can contribute to the prevention of sexual violence in their communities when their teams are focused on responding to sexual violence. In this presentation, attendees will learn about the relationship between systems change and prevention and explore opportunities for implementing prevention principles and strategies in their SART work.



Sam R. Schmitt

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Projects Specialist
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute



Hunter Beckstrom

Prevention & Sexual Exploitation Specialist
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute

Session 2b Foundational **Evaluation**

Description:

This interactive workshop is devoted to making evaluation approachable and showing teams how to effectively measure change, virtually. Through hands-on activities and exploring creative ways to use information, participants will see how assessments can drive improvements, measure the effectiveness of changes, engage communities in addressing sexual violence, and help to increase access to justice for victims/survivors. Participants will learn how to make a case for evaluation to their teams and walk away with tools and strategies to begin improving their work through evaluation.



Madison Cutler

Minnesota SART Program Coordinator
The Sexual Violence Justice Institute

Session 2c Foundational **Community Centered Teams**

Description:

We will discuss how we can expand SART work to engage with the community. With a focus on community connection and accountability, we will examine how we can expand membership and work toward more opportunities for healing and working toward ending sexual violence outside of mainstream SART models.



Jenna Harper

Sexual Assault Response Program Manager
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault



Gina Lopez

Rural & Indigenous Communities Specialist
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Session 2d Advanced

Working Collaboratively to Provide the Best Medical Forensic Care, Even When There is No SANE in Sight

Description:

With the understanding that communities vary vastly, the need for effective and innovative multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) are continuously highlighted in the response to sexual violence. The relationships and guidance that evolve within these teams are imperative to facilitating this response amongst all disciplines. This response process should remain fluid and cohesive whether the community has direct access to a sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) or if they only have access to non-SANE trained health clinicians to provide medical forensic exams. This session will provide an overview of a recently released training that was developed to provide a clear understanding of the needs of individuals that have experienced sexual assault and the process of the medical forensic exam. This session will elaborate on how this new training can be utilized by MDTs to assist in standardizing the response to sexual violence within their



Angelita Olowu

Forensic Nursing Specialist
The International Association of Forensic Nurses

Session 2e Advanced

PREA and Providing Victim Services

Description:

This training will provide an overview for key PREA Standards providing access to outside support services for incarcerated survivors. The logistics are different for victims in confinement, but PREA provisions assist community-based advocates to provide services to this population. Establishing and building relationships with correction partners is vital in this process.



Melanie Barton

PREA Advocate Coordinator
Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Session 2f Advanced

Centering the Margins and Building Community Centered Teams

Description:

Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) were created on the basis of only centering the legal system, building their foundations around systems level work. However, sexual violence is a public health pandemic and a community issue, which requires community responses to truly eradicate and respond to this violence. Coordinators will learn how they can transform their teams, expanding on the work of their current SARTs, to become Coordinated Community Response Teams, centering the voices of the entirety of their communities, with an emphasis on those who reside at the margins of the margin. The presenters will share the strategic plan they developed to host community forums and listening sessions with marginalized communities, to transform the work of SARTs/CCRTs. Additionally, SART Coordinators will explore the composition of their communities. Through examination of data, we will discuss community demographics, who experiences sexual violence, who engages with various system and in what capacity. Coordinators will discuss the work in which their SARTs have engaged community members.

**Please bring county census data with you to this session.*



Olivia Montgomery

Coordinator for Equity and Inclusion
Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence



Shandra Witherspoon

Director of Coordinated Community Responses
Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

June 17

Critical Conversation: Pandemic, the Struggle is Real

Description:

The work of transforming culture, ensuring safety, and providing for healing in our communities is challenging enough. The health pandemic and natural disasters threw the balance sexual assault programs achieved off kilter. This session offers opportunity for dialogue among colleagues to reflect on recent events, compare notes, and use the lessons learned and the new tools developed. Participants will consider how public health theory related to connection as a protective factor can help improve outcomes as programs establish relationships and engage communities to support their leadership of intervention and prevention efforts as we chart a course to enter the “new normal.”



María Limón

Rural Technical Assistance Manager
Center on Domestic Violence, University of Colorado

June 22

Critical Conversation: Minnesota SART Coordinator Panel

Description:

This session will provide space to learn from Minnesota SART leaders with a wide variety of experience. The presenters will discuss the gaps and challenges they have seen during the past year and how they have overcome those challenges, and what they have done to continue to collaborate within their SART. The session will also encourage participants to reflect on their own experiences and discuss what they have been facing in a small group discussion format.



Brenda Skogman

Victim Services Coordinator
Isanti County SMART Coordinator



Claire Exley

Victim Services Coordinator
Winona County Attorney's Office



Mary Faulkner

PAVSA Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Site Coordinator
Southern Saint Louis County SMART Coordinator



Katherine Cross

Goodhue County SMART Coordinator
Safe Harbor Protocol Team Coordinator



Riley Irish

Criminal Court Advocate
Coordinator for Beltrami SMART Team

June 24

Closing Plenary

Transforming Communities Through Connections and Leaderships: How It Will Be When We Actually Get To A Place of Racial and Gender Equity *Description*

Introduce community-based transformative/restorative justice practices based on the indigenous understanding that circle practices are rooted in the wellness of communities themselves. When harmony is fully restored, and all people can be safe wherever they live these behavioral values will be in place.



Strong Oak Lefebvre, MSSA

Executive Director and Co-Founder
Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition Inc.
Co-Author of *Walking in Balance with All Our Relations*

Questions?

Please contact Rural Project Coordinators [Fatima Jayoma](#) and [Miranda Gonzalez](#).

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