

ICESA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

May 2018

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A Letter from Tracey

“We must become the change we want to see.” I love this Mahatma Gandhi quote as it perfectly describes what we strive to achieve every day. The change we want to see is a state free of sexual violence. At ICESA, we are proud and humbled to work alongside you to achieve our shared result.

Many of you from around the state shared the multiple SAAM events your agencies were holding during the month of April. We were inspired by the creativity of these events that ranged from speaker panels, to 5ks, and from speak outs to wellness activities, etc.

We are so grateful for your persistence, determination, compassion and advocacy for survivors and their loved ones. Thank you for continuing to be the change that holds survivors in the center of all you do.

-Tracey Horth Krueger

Trauma-Informed, Evidence-Based Best Practices for Sexual Violence Response

Ransburg Auditorium -- 1400 E. Hanna Avenue, Esch Hall -- Indianapolis, IN 46227

Monday May 21st -- 10:00AM – 4:00PM (Registration 9:30AM)



Rape Culture and Implicit Bias
Mahri Irvine, PhD



Neurobiology of Trauma
Julia M. Lash, PhD, HSPP



Suspected False Reports through a Trauma-Informed Lens
Detective Kimberly Minor

Tuesday May 22nd -- 8:00AM – 5:00PM (Registration 7:30AM)



Certified FETI: A Real Change in the Conversation

Turning the Case Upside Down: Rethinking the Art and Science of Suspect Interviewing

Russell Strand, Special Agent (retired)

Wednesday May 23rd -- 9:00AM – 5:00PM (Registration 8:30AM)



Arousal Response Mechanism in Sexual Abuse and Assault Survivors

Andrew Pari, LCSW, Diplomate

Disability Justice & Sexual Violence Prevention

Webinar Series

ICADV, MESA, and ICESA have collaborated to bring you a series focused on disability over the course of 2018. This series is designed to increase skills, knowledge, and use of best practices in advocacy and prevention that are inclusive of disability. It is our hope that this series will serve as a catalyst to spark much-needed conversations about improving Indiana's systematic responses to pervasive violence committed against people with disabilities. More information will be forthcoming, but in the meantime, please note the following dates and times in your calendars.

Webinar #1 – Historical & Cultural Context for Disability Justice & Primary Prevention:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8326846038890968578>

Webinar #2 – Legal Guardianship & Consent

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8841822101386549761>

Webinar #3 – Advocacy & Survivorship

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4229392813098869761>

Webinar #4 – Best Practices for Working with People with Disabilities

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8388787026859235073>

Webinar #5 – Preventing Violence Against People with Disabilities

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2941449081577999361>

Teal Out on the Canal

A reflection from the day.

April 7 “Teal Out on the Canal”. A perfect day.

Perfect for several reasons: we are standing in solidarity with sexual assault service providers; we are graced by devoted and powerful speakers; we are celebrating the shared vision of ending sexual violence in Indiana Today is ICESA's 3rd annual kickoff to Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Today, we, as a community, are standing together to hold tight to the SAAM 2018 theme, Embrace Your Voice. The theme lifts us all up to feel empowered to change a culture which enables sexual violence to exist.

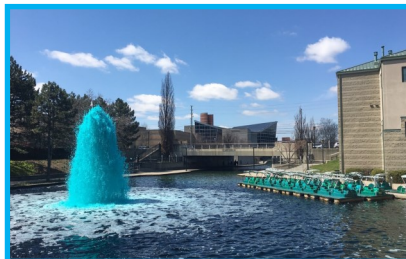
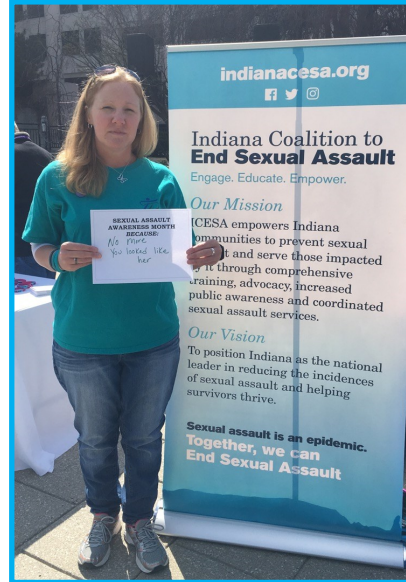
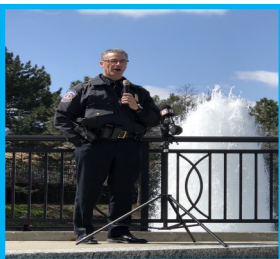
Today, a small section of the downtown canal is dyed teal. It is amazing how a bit of dye can flow and spread throughout the canal. It's a beautiful reminder of how small actions can make a significant difference. Raising awareness about the prevalence of sexual violence in our state and making the commitment to end it is the first step.

Today the canal was dyed teal. We are grateful to everyone who stands with us here and across the state. You are change agents. You are powerful. You are the dye – just a small amount brings a vibrant change that flows and spreads.

Today, we dyed the canal teal so one day we won't have to.



A photograph of three young women standing outdoors on a grassy hill. They are all smiling and looking towards the right. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing sunglasses and a patterned jacket. The woman in the middle has dark hair and is wearing a black quilted jacket. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a black jacket and a blue and green patterned scarf. All three women have white face paint on their cheeks, featuring a blue ribbon symbol and a heart shape. In the background, there is a grassy hill, a building, and a parking lot.



A large group of people are seated at round tables in a conference room, attending a meeting. A presentation screen is visible at the front of the room.

Day 2 featured an eye-opening keynote address from Nicole Pittman, who spoke about the practice of putting children on sex offender registries across the United States. In addition to these phenomenal large-group sessions, the conference also featured nineteen breakout sessions presented by outstanding service providers from across the state.



Outstanding Service Awards

ICESA honored five outstanding individuals/teams for their exemplary commitment in the fight to end sexual assault. They are leaders (with or without formal titles) in their disciplines when it comes to providing compassionate, evidence-based, trauma-informed service to victims and survivors of sexual assault. After receiving dozens of nominations from across the Hoosier state, ICESA is honored to announce the inaugural winners of the ICESA Statewide Sexual Assault Conference Outstanding Service Awards!



Michael Haskett

Sex Crimes Detective, Noblesville Police Department

Category: Law Enforcement



Aly Austin

Sexual Assault Survivor Advocate, Families First

Category: Victim Advocate



Nadia Wardrip

Deputy Prosecutor, Lake County

Category: Prosecutor



IndyStar Investigations Team

Marisa Kwiatkowski, Mark Alesia, Tim Evans, Robert Scheer & Steve Berta

Category: Media/Journalism

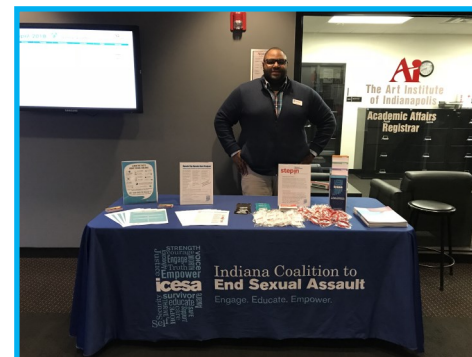


Cathy Clark

Center of Hope Coordinator, Franciscan Health Lafayette East

Category: Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner

Burton, the Betas, and SAAM



Burton at the Art Institute of Indianapolis

Burton, ICESA's RPE Coordinator along with the young men of the Pi, Delta, Tau, and Alpha Psi Chapters of Beta Theta Pi were "all in" when it came to engaging their voices and raising awareness of sexual assault during Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). These young men are active participants in SUSOP (Speak Up, Speak Out Project) ICESA's Primary Prevention Initiative, and are aspiring ally's in the sexual violence movement as they are committed to do their part to end sexual violence and create safe communities. They do so by challenging toxic masculinity, redefining their own positive definitions of masculinity, identifying privilege, accepting personal responsibility, building healthy relationships, and as they **StepIn** as proactive bystanders when there is either the potential for or outright harmful and/or unhealthy behaviors that increase the risk of violence; specifically, sexual violence.

Beta Theta Pi, THANK YOU for your participation in SAAM 2018! Thank you for taking the time to "Engage Your Voice" by engaging students in conversations to end sexual violence!

2.



Paul Reese and Colton Drebes
Butler University

3.



**Paul Reese, Michael Walker, Nicholas Kuster,
Jared Clemons, and Thad Boone)** *Butler
University*

4.



Grant Germano and Alec Hale -
DePauw University,



Brian Combs *Indiana University
Bloomington,*

6.



John Matthew Faijt *Wabash
University*

7.



Jeff Inman *Wabash
University*

Illuminate: Casting Light on Survivors

In partnership with Legacy House and in honor of Crime Victims Rights Week, ICESA held it's 2nd annual Illuminate: Casting Light on Survivors, on Monday, April 8th. This event is a moving and visually impactful display of floating lanterns symbolizing the collective strength and resilience of survivors affected by sexual violence in Indiana. The beautiful voices of Freshly Brewed, Butler University's all female acapella group, serenaded those in attendance with two songs - Black Bird by the Beatles and Stand by Me by Ben E. King. While the poignant lyrics echoed through the air, survivors, advocates, and community members placed candlelit lanterns into the canal.

We would like to thank Freshly Brewed and those who attended this event.



SAAM SART Engagement

ICESA's Statewide SART Coordinator, Laurie Gray, at the FWSATC on Denim Day providing a training for the LaGrange County SART with Michelle Ditton.



ICESA's Statewide SART Coordinator, Laurie Gray representing ICESA at the 122nd Air Force Base in Fort Wayne on Saturday, April 7th and Sunday, April 8th with their Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Lt. Col. Julie Burcroff and the Chief Nursing Officer of the Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Treatment Center, Michelle Ditton providing resources and information on sexual assault during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Lake County, Indiana Leading the Way in Rape Kit Reform

The Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault was honored to be invited and to take part in the Lake County SART Press Conference on April 4, 2018 announcing their commitment and plan for Rape Kit Reform. As a county dedicated to a coordinated, victim centered, collaborative, interdisciplinary response to all victims of sexual violence, Lake County has demonstrated that a Sexual Assault Response Team, under the leadership of a strong, determined, and proactive prosecutor's office can move an idea into ACTION.



Below is language from the Official Press Release:

During the 2017 legislative session, Senate Resolution Number 55 was passed and adopted by the Indiana General Assembly. In adopting this resolution, Indiana State Police were urged to conduct a thorough audit of all untested rape kits within the state. Participation in the audit, while strongly recommended and even noted as expected, was voluntary.

Lake County submitted a net number of 239 untested rape kits that are in evidence storage. It was also noted that not all agencies within the county reported data towards the total. The lake County SART will both address our current backlog and prevent any future backlog.

Beginning April 2, 2018:

- Every rape kit shall be picked up by law enforcement with corresponding jurisdiction from the hospital within 72 hours of being notified of the kit. This includes anonymous and non-anonymous kits.
- Every non-anonymous rape kit shall be taken down to Indiana State Police (ISP) Laboratory within 30 days of pick-up.
- Anonymous kits will be stored by law enforcement in a secure location and shall be destroyed after 365 days if the victim does not come forward.

Addressing the backlog of cases:

- Every non-anonymous rape kit performed from January 1, 2008- Present shall be tested, beginning with the newest to oldest.
- Any rape kit performed prior to January 1, 2008 shall be destroyed.
- Survivors who had a rape kit performed prior to January 1, 2008 and would like their kit tested are instructed to contact Fair Haven- Lake County's Rape Crisis Center before Monday, August 6, 2018 at 219-218-2552 for assistance.

As a county, our SART is making a commitment to **Start By Believing** victims/survivors by testing every (non-anonymous) rape kit.

Lake County SART Co-Chairs: ~ Nadia Chivers, Deputy Prosecutor ~ Michelle Resendez, Franciscan Health-NWI Regional Center of Hope SANE Coordinator ~ Kelly Vates, Executive Director, Fair Haven

St. Joseph County, Indiana Rape Kit Reform

St. Joseph County located in northern Indiana, has similarly to Lake county, their neighbors to the west, committed to rape kit reform following the December, 2017 statewide audit of untested SAKs. The Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault reached out to the St. Joseph County Prosecutors Office to learn more about the changes to be implemented throughout the county.

Below is a submission from Prosecuting Attorney Ken Cotter:

In December 2017, Indiana State Police released results from its audit of untested Sexual Assault Examination Kits across the state. Based on these results, I re-assigned a detective and a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, full time. Their task was to review every original investigation from St. Joseph County, and determine why the kits were not sent to the lab.

This examination took 4 months. We found that there were 414 unexamined and untested kits in our county. Some of these kits dated back to the 1990's. Of these 414 cases, 331 kits that were not submitted were done so for legitimate reasons (i.e., Jane Doe kits; victim requested that we not proceed or discontinued cooperation; defendant was convicted of the crime, etc.).

However, there were 83 untested sexual assault kits that should have been sent to the laboratory, but were not. All of those inappropriately untested kits have subsequently been sent to the ISP laboratory for testing. The Lead Prosecutor for Sexual Assaults will thereafter review them to determine what further action is necessary. This Office will vigorously prosecute any case that is chargeable.

As a result of this investigation, our Office and the Special Victims Unit have implemented several policy changes. These changes will improve oversight. Most importantly, these changes will ensure that this never happens again. Some of those policy changes include:

- Requiring all non-anonymous kits be sent to the laboratory for testing, unless the SVU Commander or the Lead Deputy Prosecutor approve, in writing;
- Requiring that every investigation be reviewed by the Commander or Lead Deputy Prosecutor;
- Developing a tracking system for every case that has a sexual assault kit, ensuring that the results are timely reviewed by a Deputy Prosecutor;
- Conducting a yearly internal audit.

My Office has discussed these findings and policy changes with local law enforcement agencies, community partners (including the YWCA and the Family Justice Center), as well as the media and the public. I wanted citizens of St. Joseph County to understand how seriously we took these failings and to reassure them that a structure was being put in place to prevent this from ever happening again.



Support for Survivors of Incest

Recently ICESA became aware of a newly formed support group for survivors of incest. We asked Katelyn Lipa and Pamela Sojka, creators and co-facilitators of this group to share a bit more about the group and any insights or takeaways they have learned that may be helpful to colleagues. Here is what they say:

This January, Middle Way House's crisis intervention services coordinators (CISCs) began offering the first support group for survivors of incest in the agency's history. The CISCs, Katelyn Lipa & Pamela Sojka, had been facilitating a support group for survivors of any type of sexual violence for the two years prior. They were contacted by a survivor who had learned of the sexual assault support group and shared that they'd been hoping to connect with others who could really relate to the specific experiences of what it's like to be harmed by your own family. Katelyn and Pamela consulted with this survivor about what the two of them could offer. From this conversation they developed a support group for survivors of incest.

This group is formatted similarly to the sexual assault support group where discussions and topics are led by members, and the facilitators are there to maintain and promote a safe space for healing and connection. The groups are led by participants, but facilitators will provide options for activities that promote healing from trauma - should participants want them. The development of this group has proven to be an incredibly powerful space for survivors to connect with one another and feel less alone. Members often express feeling a need for more spaces like this where they know their stories/experiences will be heard and they will be made to feel welcome and valued. It is our hope to help bring awareness to this need and help others create space for survivors of incest to build community and room for healing in whatever way they need. We feel it is important to share that this group is open to and does contain survivors of mixed genders and feel this aspect of the group has helped enhance the experience of members.

Anyone interested in joining our groups can call our 24/7 crisis line at 812-336-0846. Let the person know you are interested in our support groups and they will take a message or connect you with a facilitator.

If anyone is interested in starting a support group and would like to share ideas or learn more about our process, please feel free to get in touch with us. **You can reach us by email (best) at CISC@middlewayhouse.org, or by calling Middle Way House at 812-333-7404.**

In the meantime, here are a few ideas we found helpful in this process:

- Have initial meetings, not intakes during initial meetings provide a transparent and open dialogue with what someone can expect from the space, facilitators, and other members
- It's okay to start something that you may not have done before! (Don't over rely on education) Co-facilitating helps here. Having a co-facilitator allows for each other's strengths and weaknesses to complement one another. If you have not facilitated a group before, choose a co-facilitator who has. Trust your skills, your knowledge of sexual violence and its impact, and never hesitate to consult with colleagues.
- As a facilitator resist the urge to educate, and rather focus in on your role of facilitating (which is to maintain the integrity of the space)
- As a facilitator, be mindful that you speak less than group members
- Do not require members to RSVP
- People may not come every time - do not give up! We have several members who come every other time, or once a month etc., for a variety of reasons
- Do not encourage or discourage that members work with a therapist, or that they sign a release for "coordination of services"
- Make yourselves as facilitators available and open to feedback and provide options on how they can communicate that feedback
- Have co-facilitators
- Everyone will need different things at different times and by using this format you will regularly have to assess how structures are working with the current attendees, be willing to adapt as needed and expect to navigate challenging situations