



## **Collaborating with Culturally Specific Community-Based Programs to Support Survivors of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

### **Round Table Presenters**

March 24, 2022

**Martina Moore-Reid, Community Accessibility Specialist with the [Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing under the Department of Health and Human Services](#).** Martina has been in this role for more than 16 years providing advocacy, consultation, and training to agencies and individuals. She is also involved in several non-profit organizations to talk about safety and train law enforcement, paramedics, 911 operators and local emergency preparedness workers about effective communications with Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind communities.

**Nikki Locklear, Director of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/ Human Trafficking Program, [N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, NC Department of Administration](#).** Miss. Locklear has worked 13+ years in DV Advocacy with over 10 years in direct services as an advocate and as a Shelter Director at a DV/SA/HT Agency. In these positions, she has had the opportunity to work with state and federally funded grants geared toward providing culturally congruent services to American Indians. She is currently the Director of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/ Human Trafficking Program for the NC Commission of Indian Affairs within the Department of Administration. Throughout her career, she has worked on many projects within North Carolina to assist and inform victims of violence in tribal communities. Most recently she has spearheaded a “Serving American Indian Victims” webinar series that is available through the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence’s website. She serves on the board of the NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking. She is also a member of the NC Domestic Violence Commissions Victim Services subcommittee. For the past few years, she has written the Governors Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women’s Awareness Day Proclamation. Her goal is to assist victims of interpersonal violence in North Carolina and in tribal communities in receiving culturally specific services that aid in supportive care.

**Kiricka Yarbough Smith, Consultant, and Human Trafficking Program Director, NC Department of Administration, North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement.** Kiricka Yarbough Smith is an expert in human trafficking, cultural diversity and cultural sensitivity, collaboration, and the development of rapid response teams (RRT). As the human trafficking program manager at the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault, she coordinated services for all victims of trafficking and provided training to 3,500 service providers and law enforcement officials throughout North Carolina. Ms. Smith served as the co-chair of the Pitt County Human Trafficking Task Force, a project funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance from 2018 to 2011. She is the chair of the North Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking and a member of Partners Against the Trafficking of Humans.

Ms. Smith is certified in cultural diversity and cultural humility. She has trained law enforcement and service providers on collaboration, coordination, and building an agency's capacity to serve all victims of trafficking. Ms. Smith also served as the lead for the development of RRTs in North Carolina, which provide culturally and linguistically appropriate, trauma-informed care in all aspects of victim care. She is a consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women and Futures Without Violence Project, Building Collaboration to Address Trafficking in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault cases. She partnered with the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina to develop and implement a domestic minor sex trafficking curriculum. Ms. Smith has a B.A. in Social Work from Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and a B.A. in Sociology from North Carolina State University.

**Maria Jose T. Fletcher is a co-director and founder of VIDA Legal Assistance, Inc.,** a non-profit organization formed to advance the rights of immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking in persons and other violent crimes. She provides direct representation of low-income immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking in persons, and other related violent crimes.

Ms. Fletcher is actively involved in local, state and national domestic violence and victim's rights organizations. She prepares and conducts educational presentations and trainings in the areas of immigration, domestic violence, and trafficking in persons in the United States and internationally.

Previously, Ms. Fletcher was a supervising attorney at Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (FIAC, now Americans for Immigrant Justice) and the Director of *Lucha: A Women's Legal Project* from June 2000 until February 2011. Ms. Fletcher is a founding member, past co-chair and currently a steering committee member of the Freedom Network to Empower Trafficked and Enslaved Persons (USA). Also, Ms.

Fletcher has been a faculty member of the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence, a joint project of the US Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, Futures Without Violence, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida and a J.D. from Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

**Hediana Utarti, Community Projects Coordinator, Asian Women's Shelter, San Francisco, CA.** Hediana Utarti, Ph.D, joined Asian Women's Shelter in 2000 and is currently its Community Advocate and Coordinator for Volunteer Program. She was the organization's point person for its Anti Trafficking Program and Services from 2006 to 2020 and was responsible for both direct services and prevention education. Her current main tasks involved including Community Building and Engagement and Prevention Education for both Anti-Trafficking and Domestic Violence.

Previously, she lived and worked in Honolulu, Hawaii, where she earned her Ph.D in Political Science at University of Hawaii at Manoa. While working on her graduate degree, she also worked as the Co-Director at the University's Women's Center and worked part time as a support group facilitator for Women's Groups at Honolulu's Family Peace Center.

**Isaira Hernandez, Promotora, with Community Solutions, in the Farmworker Triqui Indigenous Community in San Benito County, CA.** For over five years, Isaira has been raising awareness on domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, and providing support, accompaniment, and advocacy to community members. She is the bridge and helps make connection to social and health services. Currently, she is working in a vaccine program with Community Solutions based on support from a grant provided by the Health & Human Services Agency. She is also an interpreter for survivors of intimate partner violence, health programs, and Mexican consulate. Her life experience as a survivor, understanding of the culture, customs, and values, have helped win the trust of the community and build links with service providers. She feels proud to be able to support her community. Thanks to her leadership and community work, the number of reported domestic violence cases and support to families in the farmworker community have increased. Additionally, Isaira is a business person, she sells crafts at the local market. Isaira has participated in several radio and social media interviews.

## **Isaira Role and Support to the Community**

- Forms relationships with community members and promotes information on the existence of resources.
- Provides education on family violence, abuse, sexual harassment, and human trafficking through community presentation, one on one, and in the fields.
- Refers community members to social services, support resources, doctors, and mental and health care providers, including therapists.
- Provides transportation to the offices of Community Solutions and other nonprofit or governmental agencies, so they may receive the resources and support that they need.
- Provides accompaniment and follow-up to survivors, including follow-up support calls and transportation.
- Gains the trust and ensures confidentiality.
- Assures that she does not know the Triqui Leader, so that she is not from their same communities, to prevent conflict.
- Helps negotiate and deal with Triqui principal leaders in divorce cases, which involve paying a payment to the partner's family.
- Educates service providers about the culture and customs of the Triqui community.

### Español / Spanish

**Isaira Hernandez, Promotora, Trabajadora Comunitaria con la Agencia de Salud y Servicios Humanos y Community Solutions en la Comunidad Campesina Triqui Indígena** en el condado de San Benito, CA. Por más de cinco años, Isaira ha estado promoviendo concientización sobre violencia familiar y trata de personas, brindando apoyo y acompañamiento a miembros de la comunidad. Ella es un puente entra la comunidad, ayudando a conectar a servicios sociales y de salud. Por el momento está trabajando en un programa de vacunación con Community Solutions en base a una beca otorgada por la Agencia de Salud y Servicios Humanos. También es intérprete para sobrevivientes de violencia familiar, programas de salud, y el consulado mexicano. Su experiencia de vida como sobreviviente, conocimiento de su cultura, costumbres y valores, ha ayudado a ganar la confianza de la comunidad y formar lazos con los proveedores de servicios. Se siente orgullosa de poder apoyar a las personas. Gracias a su liderazgo y trabajo comunitario el número de casos de violencia familiar reportados y apoyo a las familias y comunidad campesina ha aumentado. Además, Isaira es

emprendedora y vende artesanías en un mercado local. Isaira ha participado en varias entrevistas de radio y por las redes sociales.

### **Isaira Rol y Apoyo a la Comunidad:**

- Forma relaciones con miembros de la comunidad y promueve información de que existen recursos ayuda.
- Provee educación sobre violencia familiar, abuso y acoso sexual, y trata de personas en presentaciones comunicariás, de una a una, y en los campos de trabajo.
- Refiere a personas de la comunidad con servicios sociales, recursos de apoyo, y médicos, incluyendo terapeutas, doctores...
- Transporta a sobrevivientes a las oficinas de Community Solutions y otras agencias sin fines de lucro, o gubernamentales, para que reciban los recursos y apoyo que necesitan.
- Provee acompañamiento y seguimiento a sobrevivientes, incluyendo llamadas de apoyo y transporte.
- Gana confianza y asegura confidencialidad.
- Asegura que no conoce a los Lideres Triquis o que no es de sus comunidades, para prevenir conflicto.
- Ayuda a gestionar y negociar con líderes principales Triquis en casos de divorcio en el cual envuelve pagar una multa a la familia de la pareja.
- Educa a los proveedores de servicios sobre la cultura y costumbres de la comunidad Triqui.