



September 22, 2020 Webinar Peer Exchange

Biographies for Presenters

Cindy C. Liou

Cindy C. Liou, Esq. is currently the State Policy Director at Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), a national non-profit working to provide legal counsel to unaccompanied refugee and immigrant children in the United States. Prior to this role, she served as the Deputy Director of Legal Services at KIND. Previously, she was the Director of the Human Trafficking Project at Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, where she also co-counseled several civil litigation cases on behalf of human trafficking survivors, and represented survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, and hate crimes. She continues to provide consulting and training on topics ranging from human trafficking, domestic violence lethality, to best practices on how to collaborate in cross-disciplinary teams to support survivors of violence.

Cindy is also formerly the Co-Chair of the Policy Committee of the Freedom Network to Empower Trafficked and Enslaved Persons (USA), a network of over 40 individual and member agencies representing trafficking survivors, and the winner of the 2013 San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking Modern Day Abolitionist Award for Policy and Advocacy. Cindy is also the co-author of several articles, practice guides, and manuals, including the second edition of Representing Survivors of Human Trafficking. Before working at API Legal Outreach, Cindy handled a variety of pro bono cases at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, ranging from asylum to police misconduct cases. Cindy is a graduate from Stanford Law School and the University of Washington.

Kiricka Yarbough Smith, 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.