Supporting the Health and Economic Needs of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault and Trafficking Survivors during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

June 3, 2020 Webinar

Biographies for Presenters

Anisa Ali, Senior Program Specialist, Futures Without Violence
As a Senior Program Specialist at FUTURES, Anisa provides technical assistance for Project Catalyst: Statewide Transformation on Health, IPV, and Human Trafficking and Building Collaborative Responses for Human Trafficking. Anisa also leads the Campus Leadership Program and develops educational materials for the National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence. She is also currently a fellow for the Women’s Policy Institute-State, through the Women’s Foundation of California. Anisa earned her MA in Gender and Women’s Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her undergraduate degrees in International Studies and Spanish from Virginia Tech.

Sarah Gonzalez Bocinski, Program Manager, Economic Justice and Workforce Initiatives, Futures Without Violence
Sarah works on FUTURES’ initiatives relating to economic justice and security, safety and gender equity in the workplace, and improving access to quality employment opportunities for survivors of trafficking and gender-based violence. Prior to joining FUTURES, she oversaw the Economic Security for Survivors Project, a national training, technical assistance, and research project at the Institute for Women’s Policy Research and Wider Opportunities for Women. Sarah received her BA from Colgate University and MPP from the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

Anna Marjavi, Program Director, Health Program, Futures Without Violence
As a Program Director at Futures Without Violence, Anna provides technical assistance and program development consultation to cities, states and American Indian/Alaska Native communities across the U.S. on addressing violence against women, children and families. Working across public health and health delivery systems for over twenty years, Anna has developed national campaigns, academic conferences and multi-state initiatives. Currently, Anna directs a national statewide initiative, Project Catalyst, funded by U.S. DHHS agencies to engage community health centers and domestic violence programs on IPV and human trafficking intervention and support. She also directs the national project, Building Collaborative Responses to Trafficked Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence, funded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. DOJ. She provides training to professional athletes and coaches on violence prevention and healthy relationships; and speaks nationally on the topics of IPV, human trafficking and health.
Tina Pennington, Founder/Executive Director, Beloved Haven

Tina Pennington is ordained minister, women’s empowerment speaker, and a human trafficking advocate. She has served in numerous areas of community outreach organizations such as; Moyock Women’s Club as an active member, a Girl Scout leader, President of the Parent Teachers Associations, I Will Stand International as a board member, also a member of The Inspired Women Community, member of the NCCASA, founder of Raised Hands for Africa, serving several countries in Africa, host for Women Empowering Women retreats and conferences, and founder of Beloved Haven. Tina has served in women’s outreach for over eleven years locally and globally. She continues to support the work in Rwanda while serving with IWSI (I Will Stand International). Her love and passion for women has been the foundation for her own organization. Tina has worked with local law enforcement, SBI, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She has over a hundred hours of training on the issue of human trafficking. She educates her community on the topic through community awareness presentations, events and training.

Tina is the founder and Executive Director of Beloved Haven, which was founded in 2015, with the mission to educate and equip communities to recognize the warning signs of human trafficking, while assisting victims in finding healing, restoration and hope. Tina is passionate about this work and consistently seeks opportunities to share love and hope with others. Tina and her husband Daniel live in Currituck, NC and have four beautiful children. She is inspired by the quote: “See with your heart.”

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 form Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and a B.A. in Sociology from North Carolina State University.