

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Friday November 8 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

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Criminal Justice, Offender Management, and Violence Prevention: Building Necessary Collaborations

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Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

Sexual, and other forms of violence, are preventable, and we all play a role and have a responsibility in preventing them.

Traditionally, the solution to sexual violence in our society has been conceptualized within public safety systems. Law enforcement, criminal justice, offense treatment, and legal solutions have been seen as the primary, if not only, legitimate responses to violence. Public safety concepts encourage us to deal with sexual violence after it happens. Alternately, when we view violence as a public health issue, we promote the role and responsibility everyone has in proactively addressing perpetration, specifically its root causes.

The World Health Organization recognizes the centrality of oppression to sexual violence when it states “sexual violence is a common and serious public health problem affecting millions of people each year throughout the world. It is driven by many factors operating in a range of social, cultural, and economic contexts. At the heart of sexual violence directed against women is gender inequality.”¹ Sexism and other forms of oppression including racism, classism, ableism, and heterosexism have significant effects on the perpetuation of sexual violence. Oppression impacts all of our work, whether we work together or not to address it, is critical to ending violence.

Choosing to engage collaboratively, as a community, focused upon healthy interactions and equity leads us to a more comprehensive, social justice approach, to ending sexual violence. But, what does this mean? The Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force was created with the explicit goal of facilitating and supporting a collaborative, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence. We accomplish our mission by advancing primary prevention and providing multi-disciplinary training and technical assistance to responders in Oregon and nationally. In many ways, reflective of this work throughout the world, we haven't historically prioritized collaborations between criminal justice efforts, offender management, and prevention efforts throughout our state.

¹ Krug E.G. et al (Eds) (2002). “World Report on Violence and Health.” Geneva: World Health Organization.

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We recognize how critical it is, however, for each of our missions, to work collaboratively and understand how we each play a role in building a future that is healthier and safer for all people.

In this presentation, we will explore the intersections between criminal justice work, offense treatment, and prevention efforts, and identify strategies for collaboration. We will investigate the ways public safety and public health approaches can effectively work together. This includes looking at ways to address the many silos we've created between these different efforts, and how we can more effectively incorporate prevention into all of our work. When we work together, we can move toward a healthier proactive vision for relationships, for our communities, and for our lives.

Learning Goals:

By the end of this session:

- Participants will be able to define the root causes of violence and describe at least two ways the root causes and prevention intersect with their work.
- Participants will be able to identify at least three prevention strategies they can incorporate into their treatment and other work.
- Participants will be able to identify at least three overlaps between public safety and public health approaches to addressing violence

Michele Roland-Schwartz, Executive Director. Michele Roland-Schwartz joined the Sexual Assault Task Force in 2013. She earned her Bachelors in Sociology from the University of Oregon and her Master's in Interdisciplinary Studies from Oregon State University. Michele's has served survivors of sexual and domestic violence in Oregon, Tennessee, and Arizona. Michele has experience leading Sexual Assault Response Teams, Forensic Nursing programs, and providing crisis response and advocacy services. Pronouns: She/her/hers. Specialty Areas: Advocacy, medical-forensic exams, medical advocacy, untested kits, SAPO.

Ashley Anstett, Criminal Justice Coordinator. Ashley Anstett joined the task force in 2018. She graduated from The Evergreen State College with a BA in Liberal Arts with a focus on education, law, and public policy. Ashley began working with survivors of sexual violence in 2015 with The Sexual Assault Resource Center, primarily with survivors of domestic human trafficking. While at SARC, she was able to serve as a confidential advocate to youth and young adults, and helped them to navigate systems to access resources. Ashley worked as the legal advocate, connected incarcerated youth to services before their release, was the minor program coordinator, and facilitated at Multnomah County Buyers Accountability and Diversion Program. Before this she worked with domestic violence offenders, and while at Evergreen, she worked with male identified youth convicted of sexual violence. Pronouns: She/he/hers. Specialty Areas: Domestic Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEC), Confidential Advocacy, criminal justice collaboration.

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Megan Foster, Prevention Program Coordinator. Megan Foster joined the SATF team in June 2015. Since that time, she has worked to support prevention efforts across the state, and foster better multidisciplinary prevention partnerships statewide to build a culture of prevention across the lifespan throughout Oregon. Prior to joining SATF, Meg taught violence prevention and healthy relationships classes in middle and high schools in Oregon. Meg also spent two years in Rwanda as a community health and development associate for the United States Peace Corps where she provided support for public health campaigns in the rural community of Kitabi. At the University of Oregon she worked for an organization aimed at reducing the risk of sexual assault for students and staff, while she earned degrees in Public Policy, Planning and Management as well as Journalism and Communications. Pronouns: She/he/hers. Specialty Areas: Comprehensive Prevention, Sexual Health Promotion, Men's Engagement, Prevention Across the Lifespan.