

## ***SHAPING THE FUTURE***

2019 ATSA Conference | Friday November 8 | 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

**F-46**

### **Prevention, Victim/Survivor Services, and Sex Offender Management: Working Together for a Common Mission**

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For too many years, government agencies, practitioners, researchers, and funding streams have all treated prevention, victim/survivor services, and sex offender management as distinct and separate endeavors. What may be ironic is that for the communities with whom we work, these distinctions may not be needed in the same way, especially when the trauma is within a single family. Over the last ten years, a number of ATSA members have begun to talk about the importance of prevention efforts with a perpetration focus and the need to build stronger connections with victim/survivor services. In fact, ATSA now collaborates with the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) on the Gail Burns Smith Award to recognize excellence and creativity in bridging between sex offender management and victim advocacy. This award is named in honor of the work of a pioneer who sought to make sex offender management more victim centered and to educate victim services about the importance of working with sex offender management systems.

ATSA also took the bold step of forming a prevention committee and providing its expertise related to prevention efforts. Initiated by Joan Tabachnick with the work of many others, the committee has worked on merging efforts to collaborate across the separate domains of prevention, victim/survivor services, and sex offender management. Indeed, Ms. Tabachnick has also brought this perspective to her work as a fellow for the SMART Office within the Office of Justice Programs, and has impacted both policy and funding decisions in this regard. Finally, Karen Baker, Chief Executive Officer of the NSVRC, has worked on behalf of ATSA along with ATSA's Executive Director, Maia Christopher, sitting on the boards of each other's organization to explore more deeply about how to bring the work of these different domains together, including participation in a conjoint grant project along with the Center for Effective Public Policy.

This collaboration on the national level is echoed by groundbreaking work at the state and local level. Based on the work of pioneers like Joan Tabachnick and Karen Baker, other jurisdictions such as Colorado are now exploring how to go about working together for a common mission. Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky is the Program Manager for the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB), which includes sitting positions for victim advocates

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and the organizations that represent them. This was established to improve the work of the SOMB, and support the SOMB's statutory mandate to provide for the safety of victims. However, more recently, Colorado has begun to explore how to establish a true collaboration between these individuals and the organizations they represent outside of the SOMB.

This workshop will highlight these and other examples of work that has been done to bring together prevention, victim services, and sex offender management; with the goal of inspiring additional collaborative opportunities. Topics to be discussed will include the benefits and challenges of such collaboration, beginning areas to explore in such efforts, and how to develop a common mission and language. Join us in talking about opportunities to join forces to accomplish our shared goals of reducing and ending sexual abuse.

### **Learning Goals:**

- At the end of the session, participants will have an increased understanding of the ways in which prevention efforts have been developed with a perpetration focus.
- At the end of the session, participants will identify ways to begin to develop collaborative efforts between sex offender management, victim/survivor service, and prevention professionals.
- At the end of the session, participants will learn ways in which they can use their knowledge and become involved in prevention efforts.

**Christopher Lobanov-Rostovsky** has worked for the Division of Criminal Justice within the Colorado Department of Public Safety as the Program Manager for the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board since 2006, where he is responsible for overseeing the development of standards for the treatment and management of sexual offenders, approving treatment providers, and providing legislative and policy input. Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky holds a Master Degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan, and has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) since 1990. Prior to his current position, Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky worked as a clinician and evaluator of adult sex offenders and juveniles who commit sexual offenses. Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky also works as a private consultant for a variety of federal, state, tribal, and private agencies in developing and enhancing sex offender management services, including providing training and technical assistance, program assessment, literature reviews, peer review of grant solicitations and reports, and legislative and policy development. More specifically, Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky was also a co-project consultant lead for the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) on the Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative (SOMAPI) to identify research supported sex offender management and treatment practices. Finally, Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky has published a number of articles and chapters related to federal and state sex offender management public policy, and was awarded the 2015 National Adolescent Perpetration Network Advocacy Award for his work in promoting evidence-based policies and legislation.

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**Joan Tabachnick** is nationally recognized for her expertise in sexual violence prevention and social marketing. Over the past 25 years, she has developed award winning educational materials and innovative programs for a wide variety of national, state and local organizations and asked to participate on national expert panels for a variety of organizations including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Office of Violence Against Women, and the Unitarian Universalist Association. Joan created all of the programming for a national nonprofit, Stop It Now! before starting her own consulting practice. Since then she has been the director of NEARI Press expanding their reach to an international audience, serves as the executive director of MASOC, and is currently a fellow with the Department of Justice, SMART Office. Joan is founding co-chair of ATSA's prevention committee and serves on a number of national and statewide task forces. She has written numerous articles and chapters focusing on the subjects of prevention, public policy and youth with sexual behavior problems. Her recent written work includes a National Sexual Violence Resource publications titled "*Engaging Bystanders in Sexual Violence Prevention*," and another titled "*Family Reunification after Child Sexual Abuse*," and a publication through the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers called "*A Reasoned Approach: The Reshaping of Sex Offender Policy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse*." Visit [www.joantabachnick.com](http://www.joantabachnick.com) for more information.

**Karen Baker** is serving as Chief Executive Officer of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) since March 2018. Prior to that, she served as the NSVRC Director since its opening in 2000. She works with local, state, and national leaders to prevent sexual violence and advocate for social justice. Ms. Baker is a Managing Partner of *RALIANCE*, a Washington DC- based collaborative to end sexual violence in one generation. She also serves on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and is a member of ATSA's Prevention Committee. With a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Kansas, she has expertise in prevention, messaging, children's issues, and collaborating for positive social change.