

MIATSA Conference

Bridging the Gap: Myths, Facts and the Shared Goal of Reducing Sexual Violence

Thursday, November 1, 2018 – 9:00 am – 3:30 pm with Registration beginning at 8:30 am

Location: Radisson Hotel, 111 N. Grand Avenue, Lansing, MI

PART I is Jacob's Hope – Patty will share her personal story of the investigation following her son's abduction as well as lessons learned from working with hundreds of searching families across the nation. She will offer suggestions as to what was helpful, what could have been better and how to best keep long term missing cases alive and active.

OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will have increased understanding of child abduction and the need for multijurisdictional collaboration in the ensuing investigation.
2. Participants will learn about resources for investigators, how to work with media and the victim's family.
3. Participants will fully comprehend how missing children are located, and follow up support needed for victims and their families.

PART II is Mind the Gap: The Importance of Working Together to accomplish our Shared Goals – Victim advocates and sex offender treatment providers are on the same team, but it hasn't always seemed that way. Maia will share strategies that have been used to bridge and decrease gaps; will share results of recent surveys from various professional groups talking about their collaboration efforts; and will identify some best practices. These ground-breaking partnerships are contributing to the expanded national conversation about sexual abuse prevention; and by working strategically together; we can influence a bold new direction for the future.

OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will be able to enumerate potential "unlikely" partnerships they can establish within their communities.
2. Participants will be better able to assess how the current societal climate increases the challenges of successful collaboration among groups.
4. Participants will be able to identify strategies to increase collaborative practices within their own communities.

PRESENTERS: Patty Wetterling and Maia Christopher

Part III is Bridging the Gap – Panel Discussion: Overcoming obstacles to working collaboratively within Michigan. Panelists will be sharing perspectives and be open for questions from the audience related to both victim and offender treatment and policy.

Panel participants: Chris Becker, Tom Cottrell, David LaGrand, Dan Myers, Debra Pinals, MD and John Ulrich, Ph.D.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This presentation is appropriate for all professionals working with persons with sexual behavior problems or victims of sexual abuse. Social Workers, Psychologists, Nurses, Lawyers, and Probation Officers, both adult and juvenile treatment arenas, encouraged to attend.

CONFERENCE FEES:

\$95 per person

\$85 per person if you register 3 or more from one agency together

\$35 per student rate

\$10 for 5.5 CEU's available for LMSW licenses – pay w/conference fee

I am a **current MIATSA member** (annual membership paid within past year – if so, registration fee reduced \$20 if affiliate membership and \$10 if full membership)

Registration Deadline: October 25, 2018

Snacks/beverages/lunch provided at the conference

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check (to Wedgwood)

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Bios

Patty Wetterling is the mother of Jacob Wetterling, who was abducted at the age of eleven, by a masked gunman on October 22, 1989 near his home in St. Joseph, Minnesota. Following a nearly 27-year search, Jacob's kidnapper and murderer confessed and the truth about what happened that night was finally revealed. Patty has become a nationally recognized educator on the issues of child abduction and sexual exploitation of children. Fighting for the safety of all children, Patty and her husband Jerry co-founded the Jacob Wetterling Foundation (now the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, a part of Gunderson Health Systems) to educate communities about child safety issues in order to prevent child exploitation and abductions.

Patty was instrumental in the passage of the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children Sex Offender Registration Act on the state level as well as part of the 1994 Federal Crime Bill. She was instrumental in establishing the statewide AMBER Plan in Minnesota and was a keynote speaker for the very first AMBER Plan training in Dallas, Texas. Patty has presented at four Missing Children's Day Ceremonies in Washington DC with John Walsh and Attorneys General Janet Reno, John Ashcroft, Eric Holder, and Loretta Lynch. Patty served on a panel at the very first White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children in October 2002, sponsored by President George and First Lady Laura Bush.

Currently, Patty presents Victim Impact sessions for law enforcement training programs (Investigative Strategies for Child Abduction Cases) and Amber Alert and Technical Assistance trainings. She is called on frequently as an independent consultant and joined the Gunderson NCPTC Speakers Bureau in 2015. Although she has become a highly recognized child advocate, Patty has never given up hope. She often says, "I'm just Jacob's mom trying to fight for the rights of children to grow up safe and to be able to follow their dreams." Patty is a dynamic and passionate speaker with a powerful message.

Maia Christopher is the Executive Director of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA). Focusing on preventing sexual abuse through understanding and interrupting the behaviors of people at risk of offending, ATSA specializes in disseminating research, defining and supporting effective treatment practices and promoting evidence base policies. Ms. Christopher started her work providing treatment services and developing treatment protocols for individuals who have offended sexually and non-sexually. She spent 19 years providing treatment services to incarcerated individuals that committed violent offenses in Correctional Services of Canada and Washington State Department of Corrections. Ms. Christopher has presented extensively in the areas of practice guidelines of sex offender treatment, collaborating with community stakeholders invested in successful offender reintegration and policy pertaining to sexual offending. She is a member of the Violence Prevention Alliance, a network of World Health Organization Member States. She has served as President of the National Coalition to End Sexual Violence, is the Chair of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center Advisory Committee and is a member of Prevent Connect Advisory Committee.

Panelists

Chris Becker after serving as an Assistant Prosecutor for 21 years, 5 as the Chief Assistant under Bill Forsyth, voters elected Chris as Kent County Prosecuting Attorney in November, 2016. His 4-year term began January 1, 2017.

Tom Cottrell is the Chief Programming Officer for the YWCA West Central Michigan, managing child sexual abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence and prevention programming. Tom has been with the YWCA for 35 years and continues to provide direct clinical services to individuals who have been sexually victimized as well as those who have sexually offended. Tom is qualified as an expert witness on topics related to child sexual abuse in 23 counties in Michigan and conducts training throughout the State on dynamics surrounding child sexual victimization.

David LaGrand is the 75th District State Representative (D). He previously worked as an attorney in the areas of family and criminal law. Some of his greatest achievements involve working with his clients and their community to seek socially responsible solutions to the breach of law. David has also been active in the West Michigan business community. David was elected to the Grand Rapids City Commission in 2007 and helped the city through difficult economic times. David was elected to the Grand Rapids Board of Education in 2012 and has helped implement a restorative justice program as well as various environmental initiatives.



Dan Myers is a police officer with the Grand Rapids Police Department. He has 18 years of experience which have included various assignments. He spent 4 years on second shift Patrol, seven years as a Community Officer, one year in the Warrant Unit, three years with Youth Commonwealth which partners with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids, and has been the Prisoner Re-Entry/ Parole Liaison Officer for the past 3 years. In his current assignment, Officer Myers visits the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility twice per month and visits with men before they parole. He then works with Parole and runs a support group for men after their release. This support group is called the CLEAR group and was started in 2008.

Debra A. Pinals, M.D. is the Director of the Program in Psychiatry, Law, & Ethics and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan and the Medical Director of Behavioral Health and Forensic Programs for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. She was the Assistant Commissioner of Forensic Services and the Interim State Medical Director for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health. Dr. Pinals was a clinical lead and supervisor for the development and conceptualization of the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health program for the treatment and assessment of people with Mental Illness and Problematic Sexual Behavior (MI/PSB), and oversaw the program between 2008 and 2012. In addition to forensic evaluations regarding individuals charged with sexual offenses, she has provided clinical consultation and risk assessments regarding discharge of persons with sex offending histories and problematic sexual behavior to Massachusetts and Michigan's state mental health and developmental disability departments. She has worked in outpatient, inpatient settings, forensic and correctional facilities, emergency rooms and court clinics, has received public service awards and has been an expert witness in many cases. She is Board Certified in Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine. She has taught and published extensively and lead justice and behavioral health federal grants. She is a past President of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, current Chair of the American Psychiatric Association Council on Psychiatry and the Law, and past Chair of the Forensic Division and current Secretary of the Medical Directors Division of National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. She is a Senior Consultant to Policy Research Associates, Inc. and the SAMHSA GAINS Center.

John Ulrich Ph.D. is a psychologist in private practice in Traverse City MI. Beginning in 1987; he worked as a marriage and family therapist with intra-familial child sexual abuse. His doctoral work in psychology was on denial among adults who had sexually abused children. Throughout his career he has conducted assessments and provided treatment for juveniles and adults adjudicated or convicted for criminal sexual conduct in out-patient community-based settings. He has been a member of ATSA since 1993 and is a current board member of the Michigan Chapter of ATSA.