Roots, Wings and BEYOND

COMING TOGETHER IN MURMURATION

Spotlight on Solutions: From Intervention to Transformation

November 10-12, 2026

Conference Description: For three decades, the Battering Intervention Services Coalition of Michigan (BISC-MI) has hosted one of the most respected gatherings in the field of domestic violence and battering intervention programs (BIPs). This year's 30th Anniversary Conference is more than a milestone; it is a moment to come together, reflect on the roots of this work, and shape what comes next.

Inspired by the phenomenon of murmuration, when hundreds of birds move together in powerful, coordinated patterns, this conference celebrates what becomes possible when passionate professionals gather, share insights, challenge one another, and move forward collectively.

Over three information-packed days, participants will engage with leading voices in the field, explore innovative program strategies, strengthen coordinated community responses, and deepen practices that promote accountability, responsibility, and victim safety. Just as importantly, those who join us will connect with a national community of colleagues who understand both the challenges and the profound importance of this work.

Whether you are a seasoned practitioner, or new to this work, this gathering offers the rare opportunity to learn, reconnect, be inspired, and leave energized with new ideas and relationships that will strengthen your work and your community. Our conferences are attended by participants representing a large range of disciplines, including BIP providers, survivor programs, probation officers, judges, law enforcement, counselors, child welfare, and others working in this field.

This is the conference where our movement gathers and we learn from each other!

Join us as we celebrate 30 years of leadership, learning, and collaboration, and help shape the next chapter of intervention work together, nationwide and internationally.

Roots. Wings. Beyond.
We hope to see you here!

Note: The conference is in Eastern Time (ET)

Pre-Conference: Monday, November 9, 2026			
Time - ET	**Description**	**Min.**	**CE's**
8:00pm - 9:30pm ET	**Conference Check-In**: At the registration area adjacent to the Grand Ballroom in the Kensington hotel in Ann Arbor.	90 min.	0

Day One: Tuesday, November 10, 2026			
Time - ET	**Description**	**Min.**	**CE's**
8:30am - 9:30am ET	Registration and Breakfast Provided	60 min.	0
9:30am - 10:00am ET	**Welcome**: Welcome to the BISC-MI 30th Annual Conference: Stacey Ettawageshik, Executive Director of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence & Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis, DVS Project Director of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence	30 min.	0
10:00am - 11:30am ET	**PANEL: Coming In Through the Front Door** **Description**: As we gather for BISC-MI's 30th Annual Conference to learn, share, connect, and celebrate, we are also called to reflect on who may still be missing from these spaces. This conversation invites us to consider how we can continue expanding participation in BIP work among clients, providers, and the broader community. While these discussions may feel challenging at times, they are necessary. We must recognize that our past efforts and existing assumptions have not always been enough to create programs and environments that are truly inclusive, relevant, safe, accessible, and welcoming for everyone. Together, we will explore both the large and small actions that can help transform our intentions into meaningful, lasting change. **Panelists**: Juan Carlos Areán, Desiree Coyote, Shon Hart, Christy Stillwell, and Teferi Brent **Facilitator**: Jeffrie Cape, BISC-MI Board Chair	90 min.	1.5
11:30am - 11:45am ET	**Break**	15 min.	0
11:45am - 12:45pm ET	**A Foundation's Approach To Reaching People Who Cause Harm** **Description**: This session will describe the work of the Michael Reese Health Trust, a Chicago area foundation that prioritizes preventing	60 min.	1.0

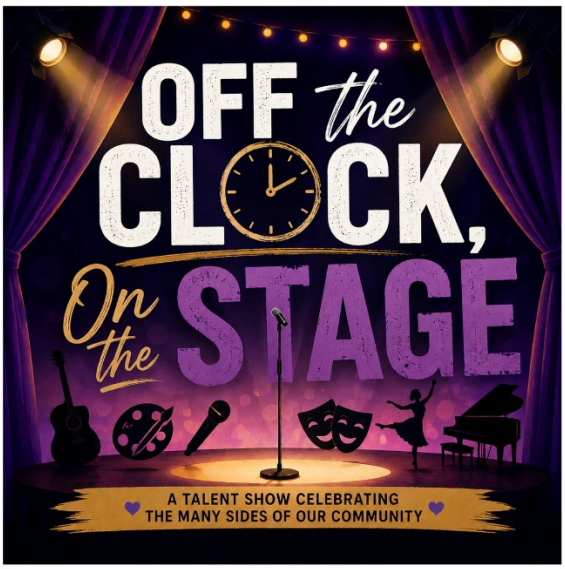
	domestic violence by focusing on people who cause harm. Central to this work is publication of a report in 2026 entitled, "Reaching People Who Cause Harm: A Landscape Scan of Policies, Funding and Strategies to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence in Cook County". This session will explain how the foundation selected working with people who cause harm as a priority area, share the report's major findings along with other work the foundation has engaged in to strengthen the local service sector, and share tips for securing funding from foundations. **Faculty**: Jennifer Rosenkranz and Callie Kaplan		
12:45pm - 1:45pm ET	**Lunch Buffet Provided - with Door Prizes**	60 min.	0
1:45pm - 3:15pm ET	**Stories of Hope: The Importance of Creating Community in Group** **Description**: This workshop will focus on the importance of group members finding community with one another. When emotional dependence is distributed across a broader support network, it becomes safer for participants' partners and models caring and compassion. In addition, participants can discuss topics and experiences that could lead to a probation violation with other men in the group, creating opportunities for support, accountability, and problem-solving. **Faculty**: Alyce LaViolette	90 min.	1.5
3:15pm - 3:30pm ET	Break	15 min.	0
3:30pm - 5:00pm ET	**Transgender Cultural Fluency** **Description**: Our Transgender Cultural Fluency Training is designed to increase participants' knowledge, awareness, and confidence when interacting with and supporting transgender people. Participants will explore key concepts related to gender identity, examine common myths and misconceptions, and discuss practical strategies for creating more inclusive and affirming environments. The training lays the foundation for participants to gain a better understanding of what it means to be transgender, learn common vocabulary, clarify common misconceptions about transgender people, become familiar with the challenges transgender communities face, and learn ways to be a strong and engaged advocate for transgender people. **Faculty**: Adrian Lawyer	90 min.	1.5
5:00pm - 6:30pm ET	**PANEL: Talked Over, Second-Guessed, Still Here: Lived experiences of Female and Non-binary Practitioners in this Work** **Description**: What is it like to be the only woman in the room of a batterer intervention group where everyone else is a man? What does co-facilitation actually look like across differences of gender identity, race, and sexual orientation? In this panel, women and non-binary people who work with men in batterer intervention and the broader domestic violence field speak candidly about their lived experience—co-facilitating men's groups and holding men accountable—while navigating a field whose power, privilege, and leadership remain predominantly cis-gender, male, heterosexual, and white. Panelists will name the reality of being talked over, second-guessed, and	90 min.	1.5

	having their expertise discounted, alongside the central irony of our work: that we demand accountability, equality and equity from the men in our groups while too often failing to confront the same entitlement, power, and privilege within our own field. How does gender socialization and sexist bias show up in our own work? This conversation will also turn inward, examining how power and privilege—and marginalization and entitlement—operate among women themselves. This session will include an honest conversation with doing accountability work inside structures that don't hold themselves to the standard they set. The session will also include anonymous Menti polling for the audience to share their thoughts and a reflective discussion. **Panel Members**: Jayme Burlison, Bea Cote, Naajee Dennis, Courtney O'Brien, Elisabeth Thoennes **Faculty Moderator**: Melissa Scaia		
6:30pm ET	Dinner on own		0
8:30pm - 9:30pm ET	Cookies & Chat ***(for in-person attendees only)***	60 min.	0

Day Two: Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Time - ET	Description	Min.	CE's
8:30am - 9:30am ET	Registration and Breakfast Provided	60 min.	0
9:30am - 10:00am ET	**Welcome**: Tiffany Martinez, Human Trafficking and Special Projects Director, Division of Victim Services, Policy, Planning, and Operational Support, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	30 min.	0
10:00am - 11:30am ET	**PANEL: Force, Context, and Change: A Conversation with Women's Nonviolence Program Participants** **Description**: This session brings practitioners into direct conversation with women who have used violence against an intimate partner and/or who have completed a women's nonviolence program. Rather than talking about these women, the session creates space to listen to them — what brought them to use force, what they experienced in the legal and intervention systems, and what helped or hindered their work toward nonviolence. A central thread runs through the discussion: what happens when context is left out. When courts, evaluators, child protection workers, and even intervention programs treat all use of force as interchangeable — applying frameworks built for predominant aggressors to women whose violence is resistive, reactive, or rooted in their own victimization — the consequences for women are serious and often compounding. Women can be misidentified as the predominant aggressor, lose time with or custody of their children, be funneled into programs that don't fit their situation, and have their	90 min.	1.5

	own experiences of abuse erased in the process. A nonviolence program and CCR that fails to account for context can mirror these same harms, holding women to an accountability narrative that doesn't match the reality of their lives. Through facilitated dialogue, this session invites advocates, BIP facilitators, and Women Who Use Force facilitators to hear how these dynamics land for the women who live them, and to reflect on how their own practice — in the group room, in court, and in coordinated community response — can either reinforce or interrupt the loss women experience when context is ignored. **Panel members**: Anonymous **Faculty**: Melissa Scaia		
11:30am - 11:45am ET	Break	15 min.	0
11:45am - 1:15pm ET	**<u>One Group. Different Wounds. Different Realities: Moving Beyond One-Size-Fits-All Intervention</u>** **Description**: Men and women entering intervention programs often share similar labels but carry very different stories, trauma histories, and pathways to harm. In this session we will explore lessons learned from serving both men and women, challenging one size fits all approaches to batterer intervention services. **Faculty**: Shon Hart & Melissa Scaia	90 min.	1.5
1:15pm - 2:15pm ET	**Lunch Buffet Provided - with Door Prizes**	60 min	0
2:15pm - 2:45pm ET	**<u>Awards Ceremony</u>** **The COMPASS Award**: Michael Reese Health Trust **The Michigan ICON Award**: Peaty Hershberger **Champion Award**: Alyce LaViolette	30 min.	0
2:45pm - 4:15pm ET	**<u>Partner Abuse Intervention Programs process model: A framework for expanding measures of success.</u>** **Description**: This presentation will provide an overview of the development of an enhanced evaluation tool for Partner Abuse Intervention Programs (PAIPs). First, we will review a new model for thinking about how PAIPs work, and the processes occurring in such programs that are important for affecting change. This model is rooted in the research on PAIPs and in the perspectives and insights of PAIP facilitators, program managers, and scholars, as well as victims' advocates from across the country. It provides a framework for expanding our definition of "success" for programs by outlining the complex set of variables and processes that often get overlooked in traditional evaluations of PAIPs. Next, we discuss how we are using this model to build out an enhanced evaluation tool for programs that is low-cost, user-friendly and easily tailored/adaptable to meet specific program needs, modalities, etc. Lastly, we will present our long-term objectives related to PAIP evaluation and the need to build greater infrastructure across the country for supporting programs and the invaluable work they do. **Faculty**: Penelope Morrison & Rich Tolman	90 min.	1.5

4:15pm - 4:30pm ET	Break	15 min.	0
4:30pm - 6:00pm ET	**A Heart for the Community – A First Nation Members Experience** **Description**: Words, phrases, and statements often serve as shorthand for the knowledge and skills we use every day, both in life and at work. Terms like “wraparound services,” “diversity,” “culture,” “data,” “inclusive,” and others—such as “safety,” “voluntary,” and “accountability”, are frequently used in broad, general ways. But what do these words actually mean in practice? How do they connect to our real, lived experiences? Let’s take a closer look at these broad terms and explore the realities behind them. As we do so, consider your own perspective: What is your “why” for addressing or ending violence? What personal experiences or motivations drive you to engage in this work? **Faculty**: Desiree Coyote	90 min.	1.5
6:00pm ET	Dinner on own		
6:30pm- 10:00pm ET	**BISC-MI 30th Anniversary Celebration *(separate ticket purchase required)*** **Tickets**: $30.00 **Include**: Dinner, Cash Bar, DJ Music, Karaoke, and an opportunity to showcase the talent of those in attendance at an event we are calling “Off The Clock, On The Stage”   **BISC-MI INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR 30TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION!** TICKETS FOR THIS EVENT ARE $30.00 AND MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE* *TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR DUE TO THE NEED FOR ADVANCED MEAL PLANNING. *We invite you to celebrate BISC-MI’s Anniversary, whether you are attending our conference or not*		

We know what you do for a living. But what do you do for FUN?

Can you sing? Dance? Play an instrument? Tell a great story? Do magic? Make people laugh? Have a completely ridiculous hidden talent that your colleagues would never expect?
This is your chance.

Off the Clock, On the Stage is our opportunity to put the serious work aside for an evening and celebrate the wonderfully talented, creative—and perhaps slightly strange—people who make up our community.
Solo acts, duos, groups, beginners, seasoned performers, and brave first-timers are all welcome.

Examples of what you can do to join in on the fun:

- Sing — solo, duet, group, karaoke-style, a cappella
- Play an instrument — guitar, piano, violin, drums, ukulele, harmonica, etc.
- Comedy — stand-up, humorous storytelling, impressions
- Dance — solo, partner, group, cultural/traditional dance
- Spoken word or poetry
- Storytelling — funny, moving, or meaningful
- Magic or illusions
- Juggling
- Lip-sync performance
- Trivia or unusual knowledge demonstration
- Original music or songwriting
- Dramatic reading or monologue
- Improv
- Art demonstration — speed drawing, painting, caricature
- Photography showcase
- Craftsmanship demonstration
- Martial arts demonstration
- Yoga, flexibility, or movement demonstration
- Yo-yo, hula hoop, jump rope, or other skill
- Whistling
- Beatboxing
- Voice impressions
- Comedy sketch with colleagues
- A group parody/song
- A culturally significant performance
- An unusual collection or hobby presented in an entertaining way
- A "Bet You Didn't Know I Could Do This" talent
- **Something we haven't thought of yet!**



YOUR 5 MINUTES OF FAME AWAIT → SIGN UP TO TAKE THE STAGE

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Day Three: Thursday, November 12, 2026

Time - ET	Description	Min.	# of CE's
8:30am - 9:30am ET	Registration and Breakfast Provided	60 min.	0
9:30am - 10:00am ET	**Welcome**: Josef Canaria Program Director, Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence	30 min.	0
10:00am - 11:30am ET	**This is Where I Learned Not to Sleep – Quest for Justice, Journey Towards Healing** **Description**: Domestic violence has an evident and long-term impact on adult victims as well as children who witness violence.	90 min.	1.5

	This keynote/plenary presentation will explore the complex relationship between childhood exposure to family violence, policing, and efforts to break the cycle of violence. The film “This is Where I Learned Not to Sleep” follows retired Nashville (TN) Lieutenant Mark Wynn as he revisits his haunting childhood through his work to reform police response to family violence. Lt. Wynn started the first domestic violence division in the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department and presents his quest for justice and journey towards healing while providing effective strategies for police response to family violence. The audience will view the 38 minute video and then the discussion will be moderated by Mark. **Faculty**: Mark Wynn		
11:30am - 11:45am ET	**Break**	15 min.	0
11:45am - 1:15pm ET	**Silence, Loyalty, and Collusion: How Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Violence Are Protected** **Description**: This presentation examines how silence, minimization, avoidance, and misplaced loyalty can unintentionally reinforce abuse. Grounded in a survivor's experience, the session challenges men, intervention providers, and community partners to recognize how everyday responses either interrupt harm or protect it. Participants will hear the survivor's view of strategies that were helpful, harmful, enabling, and necessary for meaningful accountability and safety. **Faculty**: Dottie Davis	90 min.	1.5
1:15pm - 2:15pm ET	**Lunch Buffet Provided - with Door Prizes**	60 min	0
2:15pm - 3:15pm ET	**Discussion: Integrating Domestic Violence Intervention Into Communitues To Create Systemic Sustainable Change: 2 Communities 2 Approaches** **Description**: Homeboy Industries from Los Angeles, CA and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood and Community Safety, City of Detroit, MI will have a facilitated conversation on how they are each systematically approaching domestic violence. This engaging conversation will be focused on how safety for families and communities requires creating a multi dimensional community approach to expand and integrate awareness and intervention about domestic violence to include a variety of formal and informal touch points. **Faculty**: Dr. Kyla Williams, Teferi Brent, Christie Stillwell **Facilitator**: Jeffrie Cape, BISC-MI Board Chair	60 min.	1.0
3:15pm - 4:45pm ET	**Beyond Mandates: What Motivates People Who Use Violence to Seek Accountability and Change?** **Description**: This session will explore emerging research on why some people who use violence and coercion seek help and remain engaged in Battering Intervention Programs without system mandates. Drawing on interviews and focus groups with survivors, practitioners, and non-mandated participants, the presentation and panel of experts will examine motivation, accountability, community,	90 min.	1.5

	and the conditions that support meaningful and sustained change. The conversation will consider how survivor-defined accountability, relationships, and community engagement can reshape responses to domestic violence beyond compliance and punishment. **Faculty**: Juan Carlos Areán, Shon Hart, Alyce LaViolette, and Chris Huffine.		
Total # of CE's for Full 3-Day Conference: Day One: 7 | Day Two: 6 | Day Three: 5.5 TOTAL: 18.5 CEs (For Virtual Attendees, 3 day total CEs: 18.5)			

Conference website: **https://www.biscmi.org/2026-conference/**

Membership Fee Reduction: There is a reduced fee for in-person or virtual attendees who are

For more information about membership, go to: **https://www.biscmi.org/about/get-membership/**

Door Prizes: For those attending in person, please help make our conference fun and successful! Please bring any item(s) that highlights your program, community, or that would make fun gifts to receive! Bring these to the registration table when you check-in to the conference. These will be passed out to in-person participants throughout the conference. Thanks, in advance, for adding to the BISC-MI conference.**BISC-MI is delighted to be joined once again by the Self Esteem Shop Bookstore)!**

The Self Esteem Shop is delighted to share a preorder coupon code for free pick up at t

Use Coupon Code "BISCMI2026" for 15% OFF and FREE Conference pick up on your order, of October 31st, 2026!

This program has been intentionally designed to ensure an integrated, comprehensive, dynamic professional development experience. ***Full, in-person conference attendance is strongly encouraged.*** *For those unable to attend all three days (in-person or virtually), daily virtual livestream registration is available. We regret that we are not able to offer daily in-person registration, and virtual programming is not being recorded.*

NOTE: *In-person registration includes two meals per day, snacks, and an opportunity to attend evening ev at or near the Kensington Hotel in Ann Arbor, Michigan are an additional fee. Virtual registration covers ad* *exp**enses**.*

Registration Rate:
Member: $385.00 | Non-Member: $485.00

Student Rate offered for Virtual or In-Person Conference

Students interested in a low-cost conference:
BISC-MI is offering student scholarships and seeking applications available to undergraduate and graduate students, for our 2026 hybrid conference.
Students whose applications are accepted can attend virtually or in-person for $45.00 per day, with the choice of attending one, two, or three of the days.
Note for students attending in-person:
The $45.00 daily fee covers meals and conference registration.
Lodging costs are not included at or near the Kensington Hotel in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
To fill out an application to apply for the student rate, click: https://forms.gle/FdrNyxKCa3Jy7Wwb9

Fee for Social Work CE's: $50.00 additional cost (covers one, two or three days) – for those covered by Michigan NASW. Participants can earn up to 18.5 CE's. This course is approved by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education (CE) Collaborative. Other states are dependent on reciprocity with Michigan.

Course Approval: **#20261110-CA-BISCMI**


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Juan Carlos Areán

Faculty

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Juan Carlos Areán, Ph.D., is an internationally recognized activist, public speaker, and published author. Since 1991, he has worked to engage men across cultures to become better fathers, intimate partners, and allies to end domestic violence and achieve gender equity. He currently serves as Program Director in the Children and Youth Team at Futures Without Violence. Previously, he served as Director of the National Latin@ Network at Casa de Esperanza and as a Sexual Assault Prevention Specialist at Harvard University.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Teferi Brent

Faculty

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Teferi serves as the Senior Director for Madam Mayor Mary Sheffield's Office of Neighborhood and Community Safety. In addition to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Teferi is most passionate about serving as the Minister of Education for the Isuthu Training Institute, the nation's oldest African Centered Christ Rooted Male Rite of Passage/Mentoring Program. Recently, Teferi was recognized as one of the state's top Black Community Leaders and appointed to the Governors Black Leadership Advisory Council and serves as Chairman of the Community Safety & Justice Committee.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Jeffrie Cape

Faculty



Jeffrie K. Cape LMSW ACSW, CAADC is the director of Charron Services LLC and current chair of the BISC-MI board. In 2002 she started HEAL (Helping Explore Accountable Lifestyles) a 52-session battering intervention program and WEAVE (Women Exploring Accountably Violent Encounters) in Oakland County, Michigan. She facilitates, supervises, develops and refines curriculum for those programs. She is one half of the partnership, Cape & Garvin Innovations LLC training and consulting company specializing in battering intervention facilitator training and program development.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Desiree Coyote

Faculty



Based on lived experience such as surviving intimate partner violence, sexual assault, the systems, and racial intimidation, Desireé has a strong drive to enhance safety of our community specifically for victims of crime and their families. Currently she is the Program Manager for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Family Violence Services program managing direct services to victims of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, trafficking and stalking in rural and Tribal communities.'s side.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Dottie Davis

Faculty

Dottie Davis is an internationally recognized speaker who previously served 32 years with the Fort Wayne Police Department where she attained the rank of Deputy Chief and was last assigned as the Director of Training at their police academy. She implemented and wrote policy for the agency for the Crisis Intervention Team and for the Lethality Assessment Program and served as a hostage negotiator for 7 years. During her career she received two Meritorious Service Citations, named law enforcement officer of the year by the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and a Lifetime Achievement Award recipient from the Rocky Mountain Women in Law Enforcement.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Shon Hart

Faculty

Shon Hart is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of InvolvedDad, a husband, father of three, premier keynote speaker, and renowned coach to professional athletes and emerging speakers. As a leading authority on fatherhood, Shon brings over a decade of experience managing, developing, and leading fatherhood initiatives that transform lives and communities. He currently serves on several boards committed to empowering families and driving meaningful community impact. Through InvolvedDad, Shon trains practitioners, government agencies, and researchers on how to effectively engage fathers and ensure they contribute to the healthy development and well-being of their children. Shon is also a six-time published author, with his most recent book titled "Broken Boys Become Broken Men".

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Callie Kaplan

Faculty

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Callie Kaplan is the Director of Research with the Social IMPACT Research Center. Callie's project focus areas include public health and social determinants of health. She has led evaluations in partnership with community partners, including New Moms and diverse Heartland programs. She has extensive experience in mixed-methods research and evaluation and is a strong advocate for participatory methodologies and transparent, ethical research. She recently completed a multi-year project exploring housing instability among young people with systems involvement, and a previous RWJF-funded community engaged research project exploring barriers to TANF among young families in Illinois.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Alyce LaViolette

Faculty

I began working at the WomenShelter in Long Beach as a shelter advocate in 1978. In 1979 I founded Alternatives to Violence, one of the first programs in the country to work with men who abuse their intimate partner. In 1984, I took my programs into private practice and expanded my focus. Today, I continue to counsel while training teams and speaking to groups locally, nationally, and internationally. I have a trauma-focused practice with survivors and perpetrators of adult violence as well as childhood and adolescent abuse, couples in conflict, separated and divorced couples who need to learn to parent together, and individuals struggling with life transitions.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Adrian Lawyer

Faculty

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Adrien is the Co-Director at the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico. He co-founded TGRCNM in 2008 with Zane Stephens to be a clearinghouse of service provision, education, and advocacy for the transgender community in New Mexico. He has facilitated over 4,000 Transgender Cultural Fluency training sessions throughout New Mexico and the US, including correctional professionals, attorneys, police departments, public and private schools, healthcare and social service facilities, and countless businesses, nonprofits, and other entities. Adrien has led successful advocacy efforts for model transgender student policies, gender-neutral restrooms, trans inclusion in social service facilities, statewide bullying prevention, and updating the law that governs birth certificate gender marker change.

Full bio at: **https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true**

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Penelope Morrison

Faculty

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Penelope Morrison, PhD, MPH, is the Associate Professor of Biobehavioral Health at Penn State New Kensington. Her current research interests include experiences of facilitators, clients, and others involved in battering intervention services, with an eye toward uncovering best practices for reducing the incidence of abuse, and on the risk factors associated with engaging in partner violent behaviors. This is her third time presenting at the BISC-MI Annual Conference, following her 2024 and 2023 presentations: "Looking for alternative outcomes for partner abuse intervention programs: what does the research tell us about what "works"?"; and "The challenges and facilitators of working with men who cause harm: Lessons learned from over a decade of research with battering intervention programs."

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Jennifer Rosenkranz

Faculty

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Jennifer seeks to create a world where people can live free from violence in their homes, which became a passion through her volunteer service at a domestic violence shelter. As the Senior Program Director, Jennifer is responsible for building and executing the Michael Reese Health Trust's domestic violence strategy, including grantmaking, incubation and advocacy. Currently, her domestic violence work at Michael Reese is focused on strengthening services for people who cause harm.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Melissa Scaia

Faculty

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Melissa (Petrangelo) Scaia has worked to address domestic violence for over 26 years locally on the Iron Range, Minnesota, nationally, and globally. In Minnesota, she works part-time for Domestic Abuse Project as an Intervention/Prevention Facilitator in their intervention program for men and women and as the Systems Advocate Coordinator of the Minneapolis Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic violence.She works internationally as part of the Global Alliance for Women's Safety and Equality (GAWSE).

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Christy Stillwell

Faculty

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Meet Christy Stillwell, the head of domestic violence services here at Homeboy Industries. Christy walked through our doors and started working in Homegirl Café seven years ago. She was working in catering when her case manager, knowing her story, approached Christy with an opportunity to facilitate domestic violence classes.

"After realizing that I was a victim [of domestic violence] and after working on myself, I wanted to take on that role in helping people. I wanted to advocate for victims. I wanted to hear women out and give them the empowerment that I got. So it was a dream of mine, to be a domestic violence group facilitator."

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Rich Tolman

Faculty

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Richard M. Tolman is the Sheldon D. Rose Collegiate Professor of Social Work at the University of Michigan and an American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare Fellow. Rich's work focuses on prevention and intervention to end gender-based violence (GBV). He began this work as a practitioner in a battering intervention program in Anchorage Alaska in 1980. Subsequently he worked in BIPs in Minnesota, Illinois and Michigan and founded the BIP program at Sarah's Inn in Oak Park, Illinois. He helped to set BIP standards in both Illinois and Michigan. He was an author of one of earliest books on battering intervention- Edleson, J. L., & Tolman, R. M. (1992). Intervention for men who batter: An ecological approach. Sage Publications, Inc.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Kyla Williams

Faculty

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Dr. Kyla T. Williams is a retired law enforcement professional, researcher, and public service leader with more than 27 years of experience serving the City of Detroit. She retired from the Detroit Police Department as a Sergeant and Officer-in-Charge of the Domestic Violence Unit, where she oversaw daily operations and investigations involving intimate partner violence throughout the city.

Dr. Williams holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University, a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Strategic Management from Davenport University, a Post-Graduate Certificate in Human Resource Management from Davenport University, a Master of Philosophy in Human and Social Sciences from Walden University, and a Ph.D. in Human Services with a specialization in Criminal Justice from Walden University.

Full bio at: https://www.biscmi.org/?page_id=10687&preview=true

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Mark Wynn

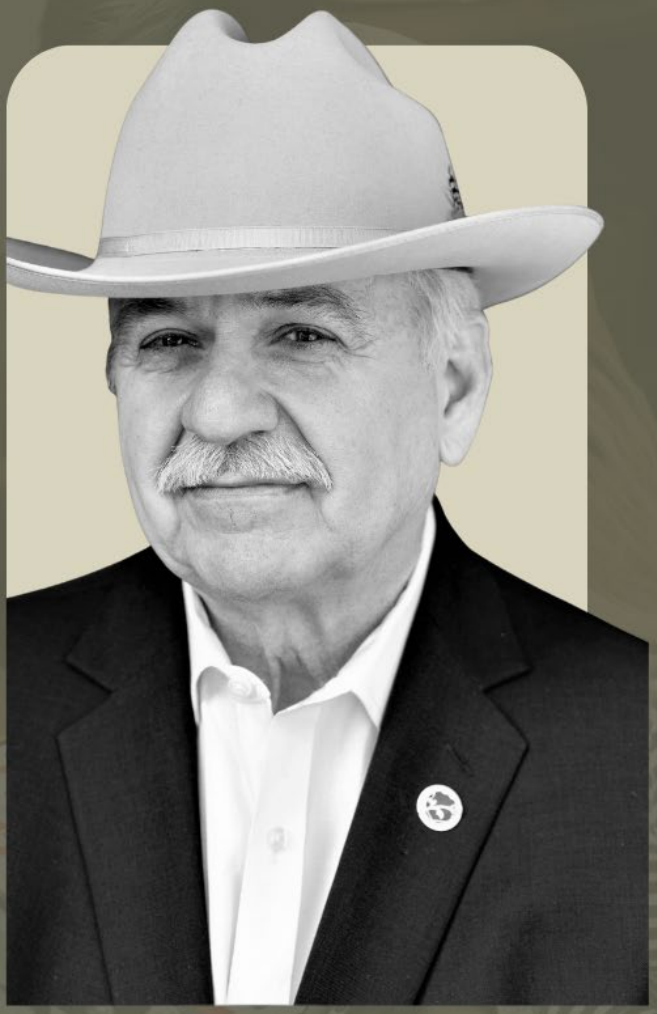
Faculty

"Mark is woven into the fabric of the battered women's movement", said Lynn Rosenthal, our country's first White House adviser on violence against women. He is a national trainer to police executives, patrol officers, training officers, prosecutors, judges, legislators, social service providers, healthcare professionals and victim advocates in all fifty states. As a Fulbright Specialist for the Department of State, he has lectured and trained at police academies worldwide. 78,313 miles to all 50 states and 16 other countries to guide 1,250 cities, towns, and villages to strengthen their response to investigate, and prevent interpersonal violence.

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