



Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Conference

Thursday, April 10th

Agenda

8:00 am – Welcome

8:15-9:20 am - Student led awareness projects

9:20 am-Introduction of Victim impact panel discussion

Jason Tanner, Dean of Arts and Sciences
Chattahoochee Technical College

9:25-10:25 am Victim impact panel discussion

Angela Williams, Founder and CEO, Voice Today
Jace Cameron, Student, Chattahoochee Technical College

10:25-10:40 am Break

10:40 am Introduction of Speakers

Jason Tanner, Dean of Arts and Sciences
Chattahoochee Technical College

10:45-11:30 am Victim impact speakers

The Hill Family

11:30-1:00 pm Lunch

Afternoon Break Out Sessions

1:00-3:30 pm

Darkness to Light Certification and Training Session

****Participants must attend the entire session for certification****

Presenter	Topic	POST credit
Maria Abercrombie Chattahoochee Technical College	Darkness to Light training/certification Mandatory reporting certification (FREE)	POST and BFTS credit

1:00-1:50 pm Break Out Session 1

Presenter	Topic	POST credit
Chris Ugi- Voice Today Tough Talk to Tender Hearts	Teaching children about sex, reasons, and tools against abuse.	
Kim McCoy Cobb County Victim Witness Unit	Victim resources and court process	X
Tiffany Sawyer Georgia Center for Child Advocacy	Starting a prevention initiative in your community	

Afternoon Break Out Sessions

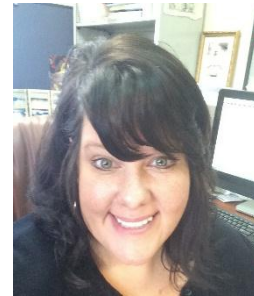
2:00-2:50 pm Break Out Session 2

Presenter	Topic	POST credit
Elisa Covarrubias YWCA	Caring for sexual assault victims	
Danielle Chaney, Misty Henderson, Ashley McIntosh Voice Today	Internet safety	
Patty Sipos Department of Family and Child Services	Handling and processing crimes against children	X

3:00-3:50 pm Break Out Session 3

Presenter	Topic	POST credit
Detective John McCraw Acworth PD & Paula Sparks Safepath Advocacy Center	Georgia laws and forensic interviews	X
Ted Buckenham Harbor House & Jeanne Alshouse- HEROES Great & Small	What now? Supporting a child victim of sexual abuse.	
Chandra Southern Delivered Vessels, Inc.	Education and prevention program for children of child sexual abuse	
Patty Sipos Department of Family and Child Services	Handling and processing crimes against children	X

PRESENTERS



Maria Abercrombie has been with the Early Childhood Care and Education department of Chattahoochee Technical College since 1998. In addition to being an instructor she is actively involved across the state as well as within local communities as a mediator, child advocate, speaker, and trainer. She specializes in program development and grant writing for programs serving families and children.



Michelle Allen is the Executive Director and Licensed Professional Counselor at [Potter's Wheel Counseling](#) in Cartersville, GA. Her specializations include child & adolescent counseling and trauma resolution therapy. Michelle also works part-time in the Learning Support classes at Chattahoochee Technical College as well as teaching the college and young adult Sunday school class at GracePointe Marietta Church.



Danielle Chaney is the Executive Administrative Assistant at VOICE Today, a non-profit organization whose mission is to break the cycle and silence of child sexual abuse through awareness, prevention, and healing programs since August 2013.

Danielle is responsible for maintaining, planning, and organizing all administrative logistics. Additionally, she directs the volunteer coordination and organizes events, conferences, and seminars. She also assists with monthly awareness and educational workshops, such as Internet Safety 101 and Stewards of Children.

Danielle graduated Magna Cum Laude from Mercer University in December 2013, earning her Bachelor's Degree in Public Safety Leadership. She received recognition on Mercer University's Deans list for four consecutive semesters. She also received her Associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Chattahoochee Technical College in May 2012. While attending Chattahoochee Technical College, she served as the Secretary of the Public Safety Club, in which she was awarded an honorary award for her service, commitment, and dedication to the club.

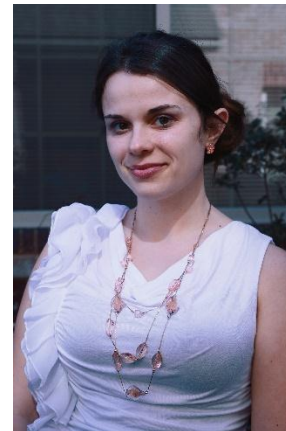
Danielle has served her community in many capacities through participation in several non-profit organizations such as VOICE Today, YWCA of Northwest Georgia, Mothers against Drunk Driving, Shepherd's Rest Ministries, and numerous other outreach activities through the Public Safety Club.

Danielle received her training by participating in workshops from other child advocacy groups such as Darkness to Light, a national non-profit organization whose mission is to prevent child sexual abuse, among several others.



Elisa Covarrubias is the Director of Sexual Assault and Advocacy Programs at the YWCA of Northwest Georgia. She has worked with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault for eight years and previously worked with consumers of mental health services. Elisa is involved in various local task forces that address victim safety, is a member of the Georgia Latin@s

Against Domestic Violence Advisory Board, and coordinates the Sexual Assault Response Teams for Cobb, Paulding and Cherokee Counties.



Misty Henderson is an intern with Voice Today, Inc, a non-profit organization whose mission is to break the cycle and silence of child sexual abuse through awareness, prevention, and healing programs. Misty is currently a senior at Kennesaw State University and is expected to graduate in May 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology with a concentration in criminology. Misty's interest lie in human social behavior,

societal impact on gender socialization, and preventing deviance and violence within society. She has been involved in Alpha Kappa Delta, an International Sociology Honor Society, since 2012 and currently holds the position of Vice President and acting Secretary. In 2013, she served on a panel, with three other colleagues, at the Georgia Sociological Association Conference, speaking about the impact and implications of technological innovations on social stratification. Misty has a passion for serving the community in many aspects which is reflected in her participation in DSAA Buddy Walk, the Cherokee County Foster and Adoptive Parents Association, and lastly her volunteerism as a Sunday school teacher at North Metro Church.



Kim McCoy is currently the Director of the Victim Witness Unit for the District Attorney's Office in Cobb County since April, 1999. From Nov, 1997 to April 1999, she was employed with the DA's Office as the Domestic Violence Training Coordinator. Prior to employment

with Cobb County, she was employed with the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit (Cherokee County) as the Director of Victim Witness for five years.

Kim is currently a board member for the YWCA of Northwest Georgia; Member of the Prosecuting Attorney's Council, Victim Services Committee; Cobb County SANE/SART Committee, the Cobb County Domestic Violence Task Force, and the Cobb Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention; Board member - Georgia's Sex Offender Registry Review Board (2007-2012).

Kim is also an adjunct instructor for the Department of Human Services at Kennesaw State University – primary course – Dynamics of Family Violence. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Kennesaw State University and Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from The Women's College of Brenau University.



Ashley McIntosh is a passionate volunteer at VOICE Today, Inc., a non-profit organization that is ending the cycle and silence of child sexual abuse through awareness, prevention, and healing programs. Ashley graduated from Michigan State University in 2008, earning her Bachelors of Arts degree in Psychology, with a specialization in Women's Studies and Social Justice. She started volunteering with

VOICE Today in September 2013. During Ashley's time with Voice Today she has worked on numerous projects, such as researching and organizing the *Unveiling Child Sexual Abuse: A Mental Healthcare Professional's Role* presentation, reaching out to the Metro Atlanta school systems and Parent Teacher Association's about educational workshops on child sexual abuse, and assisting with the facilitation of monthly awareness workshops. She is currently working on her Masters of Science in Professional Counseling at Grand Canyon University and will graduate in January 2015. Ashley dedicates her free time to helping VOICE Today by spreading their message of "breaking the silence and cycle of child sexual abuse" and is passionate about women and children's issues.



Detective John McCraw began his law enforcement career in 1978. He retired from the Cobb County Police Department in 2012, after 28 years of services. He is currently a detective with the Acworth Police Department and handles their child

abuse investigations. He has been assigned to several specialized units within the Cobb County Police Department including the Narcotics and Homicide Units. Detective McCraw was assigned to the Crimes Against Children Unit and has been placed on the FBI Match Task Force to investigate Child Sexual Trafficking in the Metro Atlanta Area and is currently on the Georgia ICAC Task Force. John has completed CornerHouse Forensic Interview training, Finding Words & Advanced Finding Words of Georgia, Authorized Facilitator of Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children training, and Facilitator-Enough is Enough; an online training program for internet safety. He is currently the president of the Fraternal Order of Police 13 and has served as the second Vice-President of the State Fraternal Order of Police as well as Chair of SafePath's Prevention Arm. John was previously awarded Officer of the Year on two occasions while serving in the uniform division at Cobb County Precinct #3, been a recipient of the Drew Brown Community Service Award, and a recipient of the SafePath Prevention Arm VIP Award.



Tiffany Sawyer is the Director of Prevention Services at the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, a child advocacy center whose mission is to facilitate the healing of children and families who have experienced child sexual abuse. She joined the staff of the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy in 2006. In her capacity at the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Mrs. Sawyer is responsible

for the statewide planning, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of the Center's statewide sexual abuse prevention initiative with the goal of training adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

Prior to her work in Georgia she worked for three years as the Associate Director of Programs at Darkness to Light, a national non-profit for the prevention of child sexual abuse by putting the responsibility for prevention squarely on adult shoulders. While at Darkness to Light, she assisted in the creation of the Stewards of Children training curriculum and helped to launch the program on national and international levels. She serves on the Governor's Office for Children and Families' Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Taskforce.

Mrs. Sawyer earned her bachelor degree in French Education from the College of Charleston and taught high school French before getting involved in child advocacy. Tiffany has conducted over 400 trainings and presentations both nationally and internationally throughout her career. Some conferences include Governor's Second International Conference on Children, Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, Children's Act Grantee's Conference, Washington, D.C., Genesee County CASA for Children Conference, Child Sexual Abuse: New Perspectives on an Old Problem, Batavia, NY, and Georgia Grantmakers Alliance, Atlanta, GA.

Patti Sipos holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Services. She has been employed for over 23 years at Cobb Department of Child and Family Services Child Protection Services. Patti has over 6 years investigating child abuse referrals and has worked on multiple high profile cases. The past 17 years she has supervised the Emergency Child Protective Services After Hours Unit. This unit works extensively with community partners ie: Law Enforcement (in all Cobb jurisdictions) and medical personal at all area hospitals. This collaboration incorporates the multidisciplinary concept, thus reducing multiple questioning of victims and aids in evidence gathering. The After Hours Unit services the emergency needs for foster care, family preservation and child protection and is on-call when the main agency is closed.



Chandra Southern was born in Brooklyn, NY and raised in Raleigh, NC. She is a proud Alumnus of William G. Enloe High School and Winston-Salem State University where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration with a Concentration in Marketing. Chandra is a former volunteer of Big Brother/Big Sister, Girl Scouts of America, NCNW-GAMS Chapter, Fulton County CASA-VOP division. She currently holds a License in Cosmetology and Real Estate in GA/NC, Certification in Nonprofit Organization Management from Nonprofit University, Atlanta, GA.

Ms. Southern is currently a Certified and Authorized Facilitator/Educator in the areas of HIV/AIDS through American Red Cross, Positive Youth Development and Character Development Leader, (CSEC)-Child Sexual Exploitation Programs, Stewards of Children/Darkness to Light Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Curriculum.

Chandra founded a non-profit organization in 2009, Delivered Vessels, Inc. with a vision of **"Restructuring Lives of Youth Through Knowledge & Empowerment."** Delivered Vessels, Inc. is a 501 c3 tax exempt nonprofit whose mission is to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of children, to provide a safe welcoming and supportive haven for young sexually abused youth confronted with the multiple challenges in our communities. It also seeks to empower & promote healthy relationships, educational development, prevention, family values, financial responsibilities, wellness and spirituality as well as encourage youth who are being exploited to "Please Tell."



Paula Sparks has worked in the fields of child protective services, law enforcement, child advocacy (nonprofit) and public administration for over 28 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, from the University of South Carolina, with a minor in Social Work and a Master's Degree in Public Administration, from Columbus State

University. In 2012 Paula retired from the Cobb County Police Department as Major over the Police Department Crimes Against Persons Unit, which included Homicide, Robbery, Domestic Violence/Stalking, Crimes Against Children and Hi Tech Unit. She is currently Asst. Director for SafePath Children's Advocacy center since October 2012.



Chris Ugi is the Executive Director at VOICE Today, Inc., a non-profit organization that is ending the cycle and silence of child sexual abuse through awareness, prevention, and healing programs. She joined the staff of VOICE Today, Inc. in July 2013. Chris graduated from the College of New Jersey with a Bachelor's degree in Nursing. She previously served as the Director of The Master's Academy of

Fine Arts, a non-profit school in Quakertown, Pennsylvania for 11 years. She was also an independent curriculum evaluator and developer for Bridgeway Academy. Her extensive experience in academia and the medical profession has led her into child advocacy. She is presently working on her graduate certificate in instructional design. Chris Ugi has received training in child advocacy with programs such as, *Darkness to Light Stewards of Children*, *7 Steps to Protect Children from Child Sexual Abuse*, where she is trained as a workshop facilitator, as well as VOICE Today's Tough Talk to Tender Hearts, Single Parenting, and Courage to Speak prevention programs.



Angela Williams: Founder, CEO of VOICE Today, Inc.

Angela Williams is the founder and CEO of VOICE Today. She received a bachelor of arts in journalism from Georgia State University in Atlanta, Ga. Angela is a trained facilitator for Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs

and the author of ["From Sorrows To Sapphires,"](#) co-author of ["Pathway to Healing"](#) and ["Tough Talk To Tender Hearts."](#) She is a tireless child advocate, and an international speaker on child sexual abuse prevention and healing. As a survivor of 14 years of sexual abuse as a child, she is passionate about breaking the silence of child sexual abuse and saving the next generation of children. She received the 2011 Woman of Influence Award by the Life Changers International Club and honored as the 2013 Honorary Unsung Heroine on behalf of Saving Our Children & Families (SOCAF). She has appeared on CNN's Headlines News, In Session TV, NPR, AFR and many other local and national media outlets.