

Together We Can End Violence In The Lives of Alaska's Children

BP Energy Center, Anchorage Alaska

Elena Aluskak. Qimagalria Elena Aluskak, 46, mother of four wonderful children; three lovely daughters and one handsome son, grandmother of two beautiful boys and wife to a loving man, Moses. Elena was raised in the traditional Yup'ik custom by two caring parents, in a small tundra village of Nunapitchuk, located in Southwestern Alaska. She remembers many seasonal subsistence camping trips taken with parents and siblings which she still continues to carry on with her family. She warmly recalls her parents' unconditional, humble way of taking care of family issues and also their faith in our Creator. Qimagalria, after finishing high school in 1981, in her village, has been working with children and families. She started working as a pre-school instructor right after high school and upon her move to her husband's village in 1985, she became a Yup'ik instructor for all grades in their school. When she moved to Bethel in 2001, she was hired by the Tundra Women's Coalition as children's advocate and after two years in that department she moved onto the Children's Center as a child forensic interviewer. In 2005, while still an interviewer she was given the position of the project manager for the faith based program, which she has managed this project for two years. Presently, Elena is the program manager for Irniamta Ikayurviat (Children's Center). A program where children and families are served through a multi-discipline approach, collaborating with Law Enforcement, Child Protective Services, Medical and Mental Health Providers, Social Workers, District Attorney, Department of Juvenile Justice, as well as community leaders; faith-based, tribal, spiritual, elders, and parents and grandparents.

Jeannie Arledge has been working for the Office of Children's Services for over ten years. Most of her time with OCS has been spent in the Juneau Field Office as a caseworker and caseworker supervisor in the permanency planning unit, handling cases where OCS has taken legal custody of children. She has worked in the communities of Juneau, Hoonah, and Angoon. She also worked for two years in the in the OCS State Office Adoption Unit. She is currently the Regional Administrative Reviewer/Adoption Specialist for the Southeast Region of OCS. Prior to working at OCS, she volunteered at the AWARE shelter in Juneau. She is currently a part-time student in the distance MSW program at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Teresa Atkinson is the Technology Safety Program Coordinator for the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. This innovative program aims to connect domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims with resources needed to improve and enhance their lives while minimizing the risks associated with today's technology. The success of this program has been published in the Journal of Family Violence. Teresa is currently contracted through a cooperative agreement by the Office on Violence Against Women, to work with nine western states offering technical assistance and training on technology related stalking and safety to OVW grantees. She is a certified STAR (Small Town and Rural) trainer and also trains for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Training experience also includes groups such as the National Center for Victims of Crime and the National Sheriffs Association. She has worked

for WSCADV for over thirteen years and has Bachelor of Arts degree from Evergreen State College in Olympia.

Virginia (Ginger) R. Baim has served as the Executive Director of Safe and Fear-Free Environment, the Bristol Bay regional domestic violence/sexual assault victim assistance agency for eighteen years and as Administrator of Anana's House Emergency Receiving Home since it's opening in 1999.

Ms. Baim has been certified as an instructor in domestic violence and sexual assault prevention/response through the Alaska Police Standards Council and the University of Alaska. She is a trained SART responder (Sexual Assault Response Team), a certified trainer in the Mandt system, CORE Foster Parents training, Zero to Three – Partnering with Parents, Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention, and an approved trainer through the Alaska Domestic Violence Training Project for health care providers. She is a licensed foster parent who lives in Dillingham with her husband and two daughters still at home.

Pam Baker-Williams, LCSW has been working with traumatized children for over 12 years. She received her Masters in Social work at Walla Walla College and stayed in that area and worked at Children's Home Society for eight years. While working at the Children's Home Society, Ms. Baker-Williams worked with children and teens in many capacities including: individual and family therapy, community education and youth program management.

Ms. Baker-Williams returned to her home town of Juneau, Alaska in 2009 and began working at Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE) as a therapist. She also has a private counseling practice. When she is not working she enjoys sewing and knitting, spending quality time with her husband, their dog Sadie (who is a vizsla.) and her family.

Patti Bland

Patti Bland currently directs the Train the Trainer Project for the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Juneau. She is also an associate of the Vera Institute of Justice in NY. Patti served twelve years as both an advocate and lead chemical dependency counselor for New Beginnings shelter and community-based program in Seattle. She developed the Domestic Violence/Chemical Dependency Outreach Project for King County at the Alcohol Drug Help Line in 1994. Patti's teaching experience is both practical and academic. She served as the Domestic Violence Trainer for Providence Health System Family Violence Program in Washington State for five years; as Adjunct Professor at Antioch University (teaching graduate coursework in psychology) and as an instructor at Seattle Central Community College. She also served as an instructor for Child Protective Services at CPS Academy in Seattle and currently serves as a consultant for the University of Northern Iowa Graduate School of Social Work Integrated Services Program. Patti provides training and technical assistance addressing the intersection between domestic violence and substance abuse for programs across the nation.

Patti has published several articles on chemical dependency and domestic violence and completed development of domestic violence curricula for the Washington State Medical Association and the Perinatal Partnership against Domestic Violence. She is also the author of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Curriculum for Advocates and

co-author, with Debi Edmund, for an advocacy teaching kit for working with women coping with substance abuse and interpersonal violence, "Getting Safe and Sober: Real Tools You Can Use," which is available in both English and Spanish at the ANDVSA website at andvsa.org.

(Dr.) Rita Pitka Blumenstein, TH. Rita Pitka Blumenstein is a Yup'ik Elder who has become the first certified traditional doctor in Alaska. Rita is also an artist, a teacher, speaker and storyteller. In her presentations around the world, Rita has focused on the health and social development of people. She is an able emissary for promoting international goodwill as well as the status of women. She is a learned voice for passing on knowledge of the environment and ways of the land. (Dr.) Rita has made outstanding contributions in health, social development, education, environment, human rights and international goodwill. She teaches by just "being" and is an outstanding role model for other women and for all those who encounter her.

Peggy Brown, Executive Director of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, has been working in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and advocacy since the early 1980's. Her educational background is in law enforcement, healthcare, engineering and policy development.

Peggy came to Alaska in March 1996 and joined the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) in April of that year. During her tenure at ANDVSA Peg has served the Network programs in varied capacities providing policy analysis, program management and development, project administration, and technical assistance and training of advocates, state agencies and community partners. Peg's policy analysis has included in-put on healthcare, welfare reform, housing, economic justice and information technology safety. She also has provided training for advocates across the state of Alaska and partnered with the Center for Disease Control DELTA program to work with communities on their prevention strategies towards ending violence against women.

Peggy is on the Steering Committee for several women's organizations and continues to support the silent voices of women and children in Alaska. She serves on a number of national work groups on domestic violence and sexual assault to ensure Alaskans are included in national safety efforts for women and children.

Robin Bronen is the executive director and co-founder of the Alaska Immigration Justice Project, a non-profit agency that is the only immigration legal service provider in the state and also houses the state's first Language Interpreter Center. She also implemented the first refugee resettlement program in Alaska. In 2007, the Alaska Bar Association awarded her the Robert Hickerson Public Service award. She has worked with immigrants and refugees in Alaska since 1994 and is a board member of the National Immigration Project. She began working with domestic violence victims in 1982 at a domestic violence program in California. After receiving her JD, she worked with Alaska Legal Services representing domestic violence victims in family law proceedings. Since 1994 she has worked with immigrant crime victims. The Alaska Immigration Justice Project represents approximately 150 domestic violence and sexual assault victims annually.

Corinne (Cory) Bryant, MSW, Manager of Outpatient Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Programs

Cory manages the daily operations of Alaska CARES and the Forensic Nursing Services of Providence, including oversight of the CHILD Safety Team (Anchorage MDT) and case management, to ensure the efficient coordination of child abuse and sexual assault cases in a sensitive manner. Cory has a master's degree in social work, and has twenty-five years of experience working with abused and neglected children and families.

Shea Daniels is a Juvenile Probation Officer with the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fairbanks. Ms. Daniels has been working for the past two years under a Federal grant through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, designing and implementing a Gang Prevention Program in the Fairbanks area, as well as carrying a caseload of gang-involved youth. For the past six months, she has served as the Project Director for the Gang Reduction And Intervention Network (GRAIN) comprehensive community gang assessment project. The assessment is a collaborative effort involving local law enforcement, the schools, the District Attorney's office, local social service agencies, both local military bases and the city and borough mayor's offices.

Michelle DeWitt is the Executive Director of Tundra Women's Coalition in Bethel. She has both lived in Bethel and worked for TWC since 1997. TWC is a 22-bed shelter and outreach program serving Bethel and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region. TWC's programs include the emergency shelter, community outreach, a children's program, a children's advocacy center, a homeless assistance program, transitional housing and Teens Acting Against Violence, a peer support and outreach group for at-risk teens.

Deborah Downs has been in the field of child protection for thirty-eight years beginning her career in Los Angeles. She subsequently worked in the field in Oregon for eighteen years, ultimately managing a large metropolitan office in Portland. She has lived and worked in Petersburg, Alaska for the past fifteen years where she has been with OCS as a field worker and supervisor of various rural communities in Southeast. As a Program Officer for OCS in the late 90's, she was the staff person responsible for moving new child protection statutes through the legislative approval process. Deborah's focus has always been to establish strong collaborative child protection networks in various communities, creating and developing resources and partnerships. She is very recently retired from OCS and continues to be an instructor for various law enforcement agencies regarding child abuse and neglect investigations.

Tracy Dompeling is a District Supervisor/Juvenile Probation Officer with the Division of Juvenile Justice in Fairbanks. Ms. Dompeling has worked for the Division since 1996 and supervises the Juvenile Probation Officer position working under the Federal Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program grant through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. She is a co-chair of the Gang Reduction and Intervention Network (GRAIN) Steering Committee, which oversees the comprehensive community gang assessment project in Fairbanks. She was also one of the key developers of the Fairbanks Multi-Agency Gang Task Force which brought together all local law enforcement agencies from Local, State and Federal government as well as two military installations. They work within the Fairbanks North Star Borough to take a targeted-enforcement approach to gang activity in the community.

Terri Gamage is the Educational Outreach Manager at STAR (Standing Together Against Rape) in Anchorage. She has worked with STAR for over twelve years. Terri has worked extensively with victims of sexual violence and their families. Formerly Lead Child Advocate and Direct Service Advocate at STAR, Terri has worked closely with law enforcement, nurse examiners, and the Office of Children Services at the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Center and Alaska CARES, the local child advocacy center. Terri is part of a team that travels throughout rural Alaska continuing to bring sexual violence awareness to communities through educational presentations and trainings.

Lori Grassgreen is the Director of Prevention Projects with the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Her work focuses on primary prevention of intimate partner violence, promoting healthy relationships and healthy sexuality, and developing robust systems in community coordinated planning for promoting healthy relationships. Lori places an emphasis on partnering with youth for primary prevention of teen dating and intimate partner violence and working collaboratively with community partners. Lori holds a Bachelor's in social work from the University of North Carolina- Greensboro and a Masters in Gender and Development Studies from the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom. Lori has spent the past ten years working on healthy relationship promotion, youth development, organizational capacity building, international development, and gender programming in Alaska, Central Australia, India, Belize, and Shri Lanka.

Deanna Hardin is a life long resident of Dillingham, Alaska. She raised three children in the rural community of 2500 residents. After her children were older, she received her BA in Children and Family Services through the University of Alaska Fairbanks rural campus in Dillingham.

Deanna has worked with children and families for over twenty years. She has been a home visitor/educator for the Infant Learning Program, worked for Head Start, she ran a children's emergency shelter and is currently a Case Manager for "Nitaput" Child Advocacy Center. Besides helping children and families Deanna enjoys the outreach and prevention opportunities her current position provides.

Kyrstin Hardin, is the Youth Activities Coordinator for SAFE in Dillingham. She is a 22 year old college senior who plans to study law after college. Kyrstin was born and raised in Dillingham with her two brothers, and is passionate about serving her community and preventing intimate partner violence by working with youth.

Tia M. Holley CDCII, NCACI, RHS, AAS

An Alaska Native, descendent from King Island Inupiat and raised in Western ways. I have talent for pulling together Traditional Healing and Western Modalities to present a blend of information that is good for all human beings. I am dedicated to guiding people to utilize the strengths from their culture, from ancestors and today. My combined Western and Native experiences give me a greater understanding of the importance of my Native culture as well as encouraging me to continue to strive to honor all cultures.

Over fifteen years experience creating and presenting a multitude of informational/education groups, classes, and workshops from Child Sexual Abuse, Domestic Violence, to Addictions and Co-Occurring Disorders to Preventative and Educational material to all age groups in many formats from small groups to auditorium

Steve Hudson has been the Intake Supervisor for the Ketchikan field office of OCS for the past eleven years. Steve is responsible for supervision of all intakes and investigations for Ketchikan, Metlakatla, and outlying areas. Steve is also the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Specialist for the Southeast Region of OCS. In that role, he monitors cases involving Native children and works to ensure compliance with the ICWA. Steve has worked in the social services field since 1990. Steve has a Masters in Social Work.

My name is **Tamra Truett Jerue**, I live in Anvik Alaska, a small Athabascan community on the Yukon River. I am the mother of four children and the grandmother of two. I am the Executive Director of the Alaska Native Women's Coalition. I have worked in the field of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for the last thirty years in various capacities. My education includes a Bachelor degree in Social Work, Community Psychology and Secondary Education. I have been involved with many non profit Boards over the years and have worked most of my professional life in rural Alaska in many fields such as Therapist, Sexual Assault Counselor, Teacher, Tribal Administrator, ICWA Social Worker, and Trainer. The many experiences of myself, my family and my friends with Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault has kept me passionate in helping facilitate change at a community level, within systems, and families to help survivors live a violence free life

My name is **Nelson Kanuk**, I am from Kipnuk, Alaska and I was born in Bethel, Alaska. I am fifteen years old and I am in ninth grade and currently attending Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka, Alaska. I grew up in Kipnuk, Bethel, Napakiak, and Anchorage, Alaska. I love sports and outdoor activities such as hikes, paintball, camping trips, basketball, wrestling, Native Youth Olympics, and other sports.

Christine King has worked in the field of disabilities for over seventeen years as a peer mentor, direct service provider, and systems change advocate. Christine was the Center for Human Development (CHD) Training Coordinator for the Personal Assistance Services and Supports (PASS) Project where she spearheaded the development of the 40-hour PCA curriculum and standardized exams for the State of Alaska, as well as provided training and technical assistance for PCA agencies, PCA instructors, and PCA consumers and their supports. Currently, Christine is a CHD Coordinator working with the Justice Initiative, a statewide collaborative effort to increase community awareness of the high incidence of interpersonal violence against victims with disabilities and to promote the dignity of victims with disabilities through community education and training.

Mera Matthews, who was born and raised in Alaska, obtained a bachelor's degree in English Literature from Smith College, and earned her JD from the University of Washington. Following graduation from law school, she worked as a law clerk to the Honorable James K. Singleton and the Honorable Timothy Burgess. She worked as an Assistant Public Advocate at the Office of Public Advocacy for three years before joining Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) as their staff attorney.

As ANJC's staff attorney, Matthews provides legal representation and counsel to ANJC clients on civil legal matters arising as a consequence of being the victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence or stalking.

Linda McLaughlin is the Victim Advocate/Trainer for the Alaska Native Justice Center. She meets with families affected by past or present domestic violence or sexual assault (dv/sa). Transitioning from the rural areas to Anchorage can be traumatic enough. Unfortunately, that move sometimes is the result of the dv/sa. As a trainer for ANJC, she travels throughout Alaska, collaborating with other agencies, presenting at domestic violence and interpersonal violence forums. Linda is committed to the wellness of the Native peoples of Alaska and finds that a proactive approach towards systemic change is both challenging and rewarding. You can contact her at 907-793-3568 if you have any questions.

Naomi Michalsen is the Executive Director at WISH (Women in Safe Homes) in Ketchikan. Naomi's true passion is working to ensure safety and wellness for teens and youth. She is creative and enjoys seeing young people reach their full potential. Naomi is a strong advocate of prevention efforts. She works hard to eliminate the roots of violence by developing avenues for young people to strive for social justice and safety within their communities.

Doug Modig is a Tsimshian of the Eagle Clan. He was born and raised in Ketchikan, Alaska. Professionally, Doug has worked with Native peoples since the early 70s. He has trained nationally in the drug courts initiatives and for Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT). Doug is a longtime advocate for people taking personal responsibility for their actions, which helped begin what has become known as the Alaska Sobriety Movement. He and his wife, Amy, are the co-authors of *Nation Building: An Alaska Native Guide to Personal and Community Empowerment*. Doug works with communities that wish to understand how traditional values can be used by organizations to improve work environments.

Shirley M. Moses (Inupiaq Eskimo) is the Alaska Native Women's Coalition Shelter Manager. Shirley has worked in the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault field for eight years. She is currently managing ANWC's Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault model safe home, "Our Grandmother's House," which is located in Fairbanks, Alaska.

She oversees the day to day shelter, provides outreach for domestic violence /sexual assault prevention to the local and outlying rural Alaskan villages and regional hubs. Shirley also participates in various committees and task forces dealing with domestic violence, sexual assault, disability, and education. Additionally, she assists with local, regional, and statewide trainings.

Before joining Alaska Native Women's Coalition, Shirley taught elementary school in villages throughout Rural Alaska for fourteen years and worked in the mental health field for approximately fifteen years. Shirley was a coordinator for Family Centered Services of Alaska, working with special needs children and their families and support systems, and Crossroads Counseling and Fairbanks Resource Agency managing group homes for a number of years.

Shirley is an enrolled member of the Bering Straits Native Corporation, Sitnusauk Native Corp, and a Board member of Fairbanks Native Association. She also represents Alaska native

students and their families on the Fairbanks School District Alaska Native Education Policy committee and the Effie Kokrine Charter School Policy Advisory Committee.

Shirley received her Bachelor's in Elementary Education in 1975 from the University of Alaska. She holds a Masters in Education Administration from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

Dawn Carol Lee Musgrove has been involved with helping change people's lives for thirty plus years. She is a certified teacher who has worked in grades K-12. She has also taught life skills and parenting skills through community schools. In the early 80's she had a "Safe Home" for Domestic Violence victims before Kenai had it's women's shelter. Dawn worked as a volunteer Client Advocate when the shelter was built. For the last twenty seven years Dawn has been a foster parent and therapeutic foster parent. As a foster parent she has requested to work with teens, who are some of her favorite people.

Dawn currently works at the LeeShore Center as the Youth Outreach Advocate, where she teaches in K-12 classrooms from Cooper Landing to Nikiski and south to Tustamena Elementary in Kasilof. The topics she teaches are Bullying, Bullying/Cyber Bullying, Conflict Resolution, Communication Skills, Sexual Harassment, Self-Esteem, Dating Violence, and Healthy Relationships. She is also a part time Client Advocate.

Dawn has been married for thirty eight years and has five children and eight grandchildren.

Ati Nasiah, Rural and Community Outreach Manager, Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE, Inc). Ati has worked at AWARE for three years and has worked in the field of interpersonal violence intervention and prevention for seven years. Ati currently provides crisis intervention and prevention services to nine communities in northern Southeast Alaska as well as managing violence prevention programs in Juneau. She is the Council Director for Girls on the Run of Southeast Alaska, the first chapter in the state, and is excited to continue to promote quality prevention programs for Alaskan youth.

My name is **Karen F. Neagle**. I am an Inupiaq Eskimo, born and raised in Nome, Alaska. My father was a reindeer herder in Northwest Alaska, so it was a very important part of my culture. I am married to Peter and we have four children, Jeffrey, Michael, Rebecca and Andrew. I am very involved in my Inupiaq culture and recognize how important it is to share it, it is very much a part of who I am today.

I graduated from University of Alaska Anchorage with an Associate of Applied Science in Human Services and a Bachelor of Arts in Justice with emphasis on Alcohol issues. For the last fifteen years I have been working with both troubled youth and adults, who have come in contact with the justice system. My experience includes working with youth and adults who are transitioning back to rural communities, after release from State institutions. I am currently the Youth Program Coordinator for Alaska Native Justice Center. Programs we offer are: Rural Juvenile Alcohol Safety Action Monitoring program, Technical Assistance provider for Tribal Youth Community Diversion program, Prime For Life Prevention, Tribal Youth Re-entry program, Managing Emotions Effectively and the Aggression Replacement Training program. I am certified to teach Prime for Life, which is an educational prevention program for underage drinking. I am also certified to teach intensive instruction on the Aggression Replacement

Training program, which provides youth an alternative for anger management and dealing with aggressive emotions.

I currently sit on the Juvenile Justice Working Group, Disproportionate Minority Contact, Anchorage Youth and Development Coalition, Mentoring Project and other state-wide youth programs that provide transitional services for youth in Alaska, focusing on collaboration with rural communities.

Kari Robinson has directed the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault's (ANDVSA) Legal Advocacy Project (LAP) for the past twelve years and has worked in the field of domestic violence since 1987. As director of the LAP she provides legal consultation, technical assistance, and cutting edge legal training on best practices for legal advocates with Alaska's eighteen domestic violence and sexual assault programs. She also supervises the ANDVSA Pro Bono Program, which provides direct representation to victims primarily in divorce, custody and protective order cases. Ms. Robinson has brought in over four million additional dollars in federal and private grant funding for the State of Alaska through her grant writing. Ms. Robinson coordinates a Legal Assistance for Victims grant funding attorneys with ANDVSA, Alaska Legal Services, and the Alaska Immigration Justice Project to provide direct representation to victims in family law, immigration and protective order proceedings. Ms. Robinson serves on the board of directors for the Alaska Immigration Justice Project.

Ms. Robinson has worked at domestic violence shelters in Alaska and Washington and with homeless families. She has served on several Alaska statewide domestic violence working groups and task forces and in 1995 received the Governor's Volunteer Award for her work at Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies in Juneau. In 2006, Ms. Robinson received the American Marshall Memorial Fellowship and traveled to Europe for three weeks to meet with leaders from other countries. The Fellowship is a rigorous, intellectually challenging travel program designed to introduce Fellows to political, economic and social issues in Europe including violence against women as a global human rights issue. In April 2007, Kari received the Beyond the Call of Duty Award from Alaska's Violent Crimes Compensation Board and in 2004 the Advocacy Role Model award from Victims for Justice during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

She received her B.S. with distinction from the University of Washington in Women Studies and Sociology, and her J.D. from Seattle University School of Law in 1993, where she was a Washington Women Lawyers Scholar award recipient. Kari left private family law practice in 1996 to work for the ANDVSA. Ms. Robinson has taught classes at the University of Alaska Southeast on Women's Issues in the Law. She has several published law review articles including Women's Ghetto Within the Legal Profession and Gender Bias in the American Bar Association Journal: Impact on the Legal Profession.

Rene' Rouzan

In the past fifteen years, I have experienced a great deal of gratification in my field of employment. I have been a positive influence in the lives of the troubled youth in our community by assisting them in identifying resources to help them navigate obstacles in the path to successful citizenship. I have an enthusiastic demeanor when involved with such work. For seven years I have provided social skills training for emotionally and mentally challenged youth

and assisted in developing psychosocial rehabilitation plans that included skill building, skill maintenance and identifying resources in the community for the purpose of assisting and supporting the child in successfully living, working and socializing in various environments. I spent four years as a Prime for Life instructor, educating youth in substance abuse prevention. I volunteer as a facilitator in “Camp Hope” a FAS camp for effected youth age 5 – 12 years. I volunteer for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program where I work with the grandfathers in finding resources to help them to raise grandchildren due to the parents drug use. I travel to rural communities in Alaska teaching the Prime for Life class to youth. I am presently the probation officer at ANJC for the Rural Juvenile Alcohol Safety Action Program (Rural JASAP).

Sandy Samaniego is the Executive Director at the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA). Ms. Samaniego has nearly twenty years of program and personnel management experience and has significant experience in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault. In the past, she served as the executive director for the victim service program in Fairbanks. During her tenure there she acted as the Chair of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Ms. Samaniego’s diverse experience also includes work with the Fairbanks Native Association and she was most recently employed by Sealaska Heritage Institute in Juneau as their Chief of Operations.

Hanna Sebold is the assistant attorney general for the southeast region in child protection. In her capacity as an assistant attorney general she provides advice and legal representation to the Office of Children’s Services. She has been with this office for more than five years. Prior to this she practiced both criminal and civil law in southern California. Hanna currently sits on the Alaska Legal Services Board and is the Juneau representative on the Board of Governors. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon in English and her juris doctorate from California Western School of Law.

My name is **Janice Smith**. I'm 17 years old from Gustavus Alaska. I am a freshman at the University of Alaska Southeast. My hobbies are beading, fire poi, being outdoors hanging out with friends.

Julia Smith is the DELTA prevention coordinator for Sitkans Against Family Violence. She loves to spend time in the outdoors, work with teens, and be creative. She is committed to discovering new and innovative ways of spreading messages about peace and equality in our world.

Nicole Songer is a licensed Substance Abuse Counselor. Working with children and their families, teens and adults, Nicole has years of case management experience. She has been a strong advocate for Cordova families since 1998. Nicole has experience in the mental health and domestic violence fields. Currently Executive Director of the Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC), Nicole excels at forming working relationships with local, state and federal agencies. She recently oversaw the renovation and expansion of CFRC’s office space and was responsible from the securing of the funds, design, awarding of contracts, to the final picture nail. Raised in a military family, Nicole has made Alaska her home since 1991. Sunny days will find her 4-wheeling with her family.

Margaret Volz, MN, PNP

Marg has been a pediatric nurse for over thirty years and has worked in pediatric oncology, school health, home care, and primary care. She completed her graduate training in 1994 for becoming a pediatric nurse practitioner and has worked in the field of child abuse for over twelve years. She co-founded The Children's Place, a Children's Advocacy Center for the Mat-Su Valley in 1999. Currently Marg provides comprehensive medical evaluations for children when there is a concern for possible sexual or physical abuse or neglect at Alaska CARES in Anchorage. She received the Alaska Nurse Practitioner of the year award in 2001 and the Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year from the March of Dimes in 2006. She was appointed to the Alaska Children's Trust Board in 2007 and helped to develop the Shaken Baby Prevention Project at Mat-Su Regional Medical Center.

Working with her at Alaska CARES is her fifteen-month old lab mix puppy, Jackson, who is in-training as a therapy dog for the children coming in for evaluations at the CAC.

Linda Zinke, Executive Director, Nebraska AEYC

Linda Zinke began working for Head Start at Community Opportunities in Carroll, Iowa in 1985. At Community Opportunities, she served as a Home Visitor, Social Services/Parent Involvement Coordinator, Transportation Coordinator, Child Abuse Training Coordinator, and Site Coordinator.

In 1997 she moved to Omaha, Nebraska and worked at the Child and Family Development Corporation Head Start program as the Program Director and Early Head Start Director. She has also served as a trainer in Region Seven and peer reviewer for Head Start.

In 2001 she accepted the position of Executive Director of the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children and the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA Director, a position she still holds.

Linda is a member of numerous committees, teams and advisory groups and is currently a member of the governor-appointed Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council. She has received several awards from early childhood organizations, most recently the 2007 Nebraska Head Start Association's Children's Champion award.

She earned her Bachelor's degree from Iowa State University (Ames, IA) in 1993 and her Masters of Arts in Leadership from Bellevue University (Bellevue, NE) in 1998, where she serves as an adjunct professor in the Healthcare Administration track.

Ms. Zinke has LBSW from the Iowa Department of Health (Des Moines, IA, 1997), which is currently on inactive status. She also has a LPN degree from Iowa Western Community College (Council Bluffs, IA, 1981), which is currently on inactive status.

Michelle Zinke, Training and Resource Coordinator, Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition. Michelle Zinke has worked in human services for the past fifteen years. She

worked in domestic violence/sexual assault programs in Iowa for five years, serving as a local advocate, coordinator of a group for women arrested for violence, program director, and rural outreach director. All of her positions involved direct service activities, community outreach, collaboration with other agencies, and providing trainings. Michelle also served as a Team Leader for the AmeriCorps*National Civilian Community Corps (A*NCCC) in Denver, CO, where she completed a variety of projects related to education, safety, and environmental issues.

In 2000, Michelle accepted a position with the Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition. She is currently the Training and Resource Coordinator. This position focuses on providing training and education to domestic violence/sexual assault programs and other organizations. Much of this position entails collaboration with several key networks, including the Nebraska Head Start Association/NE Head Start State Collaboration Office, Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska and local religious communities, and Nebraska Health & Human Services. A primary component of these collaborations has been improving responses to victims of violence and their children.

Michelle regularly provides trainings on a variety of issues, and has presented at local, regional, and national levels. She has a BA degree from Central College (Pella, IA, 1995), and a LBSW from the Iowa Department of Public Health (Des Moines, IA 1998, currently on inactive status). She is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in Leadership program with Bellevue University (anticipated graduation date of January 2010).

Rural Grantee Panelists

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV), Sarah Gilmore, Youth Services Coordinator; Jan Miller, Rural Outreach Coordinator, Youth Presenters: Raechyl Huisingsh, Valdez; Abigail Merioles, Valdez; Caleb Helkenn, Copper Center.

Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE)- Ati Nasiah, Rural and Community Manager, Youth presenters: Nelson Kanuk, Kipnuk; Janice Smith, Gustavus, Youth Leader

Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC), Nicole Songer, Executive Director; Melanie O'Brien – Mattson, Client Advocate; Youth Presenters: Erin Kimber, Cordova, Laura Kacsh, Cordova.

Tundra Women's Coalition (TWC)- Michelle DeWitt, Executive Director, Abigail Smith, Teen Advocate; Youth Presenters: Nikki Worm, Bethel; Cynthia Andrew, Bethel and Kisha Lee, Bethel.