WE HAVE A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The Symposium Committee welcomes you to today’s event which spotlights the culture of child sexual abuse and secrecy. Child sexual abuse is a crime that occurs in all communities, across all socio-economic, racial and cultural groups, and in both rural and urban areas. The vast majority of child sexual abusers are someone the child knows such as a parent, relative, teacher, clergy member, neighbor, or friend. Only 10% of child sexual assaults are reported and of those that are reported, only a small percentage of the perpetrators are ever apprehended and/or convicted of their crimes. The purpose of today’s Symposium is to boost Santa Clara County's awareness of, and response to, child sexual abuse and to spur a leap forward in our efforts to prevent child sexual abuse. No child should be a victim of sexual abuse. No child should feel he or she is to blame for the abuse. No child should ever have to endure the fear of what might happen if they tell someone. Our community's adults and institutions must be better educated and more prepared to recognize abuse, be present for children disclosing abuse, and to competently report and respond to abuse. Thank you for participating in the discussion.

2019 SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

James Gibbons-Shapiro, Symposium Chairperson & Assistant District Attorney;
Margaret Petros, Immediate Past Symposium Chairperson & Executive Director of Mothers Against Murder (MAM);
Steve Baron, Retired Director of Family Court Services; Clarissa Hamilton, Supervising Deputy District Attorney;
Lydia Harris, Ph.D, J.D.; Nina Iyengar, Legal Advocates for Children and Youth; Annie Liu, MFT;
Alicia Newton, LCSW, Medical Social Worker; Mary Pat Panighetti, Board Member, CAPSAC;
Patty Peña DFCS Community Worker; Kathy Polzin, Mentor, Child Advocates;
Capt. Daniel Rodriguez, Sheriff's Office; Barbara Valdez, MFT; Yolanda Vega, DFCS Community Worker;
Becky Manchester Aidlberg, Child Abuse Prevention Council Coordinator
Institutional Abuse: Understanding and Responding to Child Abuse within Faith Communities, Sports, Youth Serving Organizations, and Universities

The news abounds with reports of child sexual abuse in institutional settings: hundreds of gymnasts sexually abused by a team doctor, a high school teacher sexually abusing and kidnapping his student, thousands of accusations of abuse by priests. Victims of sexual abuse in schools, camps, churches and on sports teams often suffer further trauma when the institution covers up the abuse, or points the finger at the victim, or does not adequately acknowledge or respond to the abuse. In this presentation, participants will learn of institutional dynamics that may allow child abuse to flourish. Applying this knowledge, participants will be given concrete steps for policy and training reform, and ideas to develop stronger collaborations between multi-disciplinary teams, faith communities, and youth-serving organizations.

Victor Vieth, JD, MA is the Director of Education and Research of the Zero Abuse Project, a public charity based in St Paul, MN, committed to education, training, and survivor support in order to eradicate child sex abuse and remedy its resulting harms. He is the 2018 President of the Academy on Violence & Abuse, and founder of the National Child Protection Training Center. With NCPTC and its partners, Victor has been instrumental in implementing 22 state and international forensic interview training programs and dozens of undergraduate and graduate programs on child maltreatment.

Lieutenant Jason Herr is a 24 year veteran of the San Jose Police Department. During his tenure, he has worked a variety of assignments including Special Operations, Field Training Officer, Supervisor of the Domestic Violence Unit and most recently Commander of the Field Training Unit. It was the four years in the Sexual Assaults Investigation Unit, Child Exploitation Detail and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force that have been the most meaningful of his career. Lieutenant Herr's experience in law enforcement and instruction covers many disciplines; however, it is the arena of childhood sexual abuse and victimization where his expertise and passion truly lie. His passion stems not only from his professional experience, but also the personal. Combining both his professional and personal experience into a heartfelt and courageous presentation, Lieutenant Herr has become a much sought-after presenter throughout the country.
The Child Sexual Abuse Accommodation Syndrome: Why It’s Still Relevant

It’s imperative that all members of the multidisciplinary team understand the dynamics of child sexual abuse, the pressures to maintain secrecy, and the risk factors for denial and recantation. In 1983, a seminal article by UCLA psychiatrist Roland Summit called “The Child Sexual Abuse Accommodation Syndrome” (CSAAS) described the plight of the sexually abused child in a disbelieving world. This article, and Summit himself, soon became mired in controversy, maligned and also celebrated for decades. Summit’s work has inspired over thirty years of empirical study that has elucidated accommodation, delayed disclosure and retraction. In addition to reviewing the purpose, features and limits of the CSAAS, three major areas of research, which converge to help us understand the disclosure of child sexual abuse, will be highlighted: population surveys with adult survivors of child sexual abuse, studies of offenders, and studies with child victims of confirmed sexual abuse. The implications of these findings for all aspects of response, investigation, prosecution, and treatment will be addressed.

Susan Moan Hardie, RN, Ph.D., is a registered nurse and developmental psychologist with over four decades of experience caring for abused children and for children with developmental disabilities and their families. Dr. Hardie is a member of the Board of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) and the President of CAPSAC, the California chapter of APSAC.
Margaret Petros
2019 Angel Award Recipient

Margaret Petros is well known as the long-time chair of the Symposium. When Margaret became a new member of the Child Abuse Council, she advocated for the return of the Symposium, which had been retired in the early 2000's due to the tremendous workload associated with putting on the event. She successfully revived it and went on to chair the Symposium for 14 years. We are literally all here today because of her tireless dedication.

Margaret was born and raised in Dora, a neighborhood outside of Bagdad, Iraq. She immigrated to the United States as a teenager in 1980 with her family of ten. As a minority Assyrian of Christian faith in Iraq, and later as a young immigrant in the U.S., she experienced discrimination and the feeling of being “other.” These early experiences have propelled Margaret to advocate for marginalized communities and to be a voice for the voiceless for more than three decades.

Margaret advocated for victims of crime at Victim Witness for twenty years. She was behind the ideas that changed laws, such as making parental abduction a covered crime for victim compensation. For the past ten years, Margaret has concentrated her advocacy on helping families of murder victims at the nonprofit Mothers Against Murder (MAM). She has successfully helped petition the United States Immigration for asylum for two dozen families who escaped ISIS in Mosul, Iraq in 2014 and 2015. She continues to work with them to reunite them with their family members still in Iraq.

Today we celebrate the wealth of ideas, connections, new practices, and innovations in the prevention and the response to child abuse as a result of Margaret’s enduring passion and dedication to the Child Abuse Prevention Council Symposium over the past years.

Grace Leonis
2019 Child Protector of the Year Award Recipient

It’s hard to “speak out” about being sexually abused, especially as a teenager. Most survivors don’t disclose sexual abuse for at least five years, and many never tell anyone. That’s why the Symposium Committee was particularly inspired by the courage that 19 year-old Grace Leonis displayed by not only reporting the abuse she suffered by her high school water polo coach, but also by sharing her story on camera with NBC Bay Area. In “speaking out” to thousands of viewers on TV and online, Ms. Leonis raised awareness about the incidence of sexual abuse on school campuses, highlighted the urgent need of schools to immediately report abuse, and empowered countless other survivors of abuse. Ms. Leonis is marking the honor with friends and family.

The 2019 Child Protector of the Year Award honors a “Silence Breaker” - an individual who spoke up about child sexual abuse, broke the silence and worked to protect victims.
Jordyn Wieber is an Olympic gold medalist and American gymnast from DeWitt, Michigan. The teenage-gymnastics-phenom caught the world's attention by becoming the 2011 American Cup Champion, beating out the reigning world-all-around champion at the time. She went on to become the best gymnast in the world when she won the all-around at the 2011 World Championships and became undefeated in six major gymnastics competitions in 2011 and 2012. A key member of the “Fierce Five,” Jordyn helped the U.S. Olympic Women's Gymnastics Team capture the team gold medal at the London Olympic Games in 2012. In 2017, Ms. Wieber graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from UCLA, where she currently serves as an assistant coach for the Women’s Gymnastics Team.

In January 2018, Coach Wieber came forward as a survivor of former USA Gymnastics team doctor Larry Nassar, one of the most prolific sexual abusers in recorded history. She is now dedicated to making gymnastics a safe sport again for young girls. Over the past several months, she has met with the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security to help create safeguards to prevent sexual abuse from ever happening again to athletes. At the 2018 ESPYs, Jordyn and more than 140 other survivors joined hands to be honored with the Arthur Ashe Courage Award.

Discussion moderated by James Gibbons-Shapiro, Symposium Committee Chair
**Workshops: Session A**

**2:05 PM - 3:20 PM**

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**Nick Birchard,** Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Santa Clara County

**James Gibbons-Shapiro,** Assistant District Attorney, Santa Clara County

**Glenn McMillon,** Retired Supervising Group Counselor, Santa Clara County Probation Department

**Mary Young,** Community Support Advocate, YWCA

In 2000, a young man was placed in Juvenile Hall in Santa Clara County with another young man. One of them raped the other multiple times, was prosecuted as an adult, and was sentenced to 12 years in prison. The other was treated for his physical and emotional injuries. Both have lived with this memory. We will look back at that case to understand how it happened, how staff responded, and what effect that had. We will talk about the changes in the way juvenile detention works now and the safeguards that have been put in place to prevent these crimes from happening. We will talk about the broader issue of sexual assault in juvenile detention. Finally, we will address the long-term victim impacts of this abuse, and how we as a society view victims of these crimes now, and how we might begin to think of them differently.

**Julie Robbins,** MSW, LCSW, Secretary of CAPSAC

This workshop will provide an overview of how complex trauma impacts the brain and biology of the child, the long-term behavioral and emotional effects of complex trauma, and the cognitive and affective issues that impact the child and inform treatment.

**Notes**
### Workshop B1: Building our Children’s Future: Creating a Child Advocacy Center for Santa Clara County

**James Gibbons-Shapiro**, Assistant District Attorney  
**Erin Harper**, Executive Director, CALICO, Child Abuse, Listening, Interviewing, and Coordination Center  
**Karen Meredith**, Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Children’s Advocacy Centers of California  
**Marlene Sturm, MD**, Medical Director, Center for Child Protection, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center

The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) model provides victim-focused care to children and youth who have experienced physical and sexual abuse and other forms of trauma. The child advocacy center is accepted as a best practice model across the United States. This panel will explore these questions: What services do CACs provide? What are the different community models and organizational structures for CACs? What are the best practices and steps for establishing a CAC? How do communities acquire the funds to establish and maintain a CAC? How can Santa Clara County move from the current dispersed services for victims to a unified response in one location?  
**Moderated by Lydia Harris, Ph.D, J.D**, CAPC Symposium Committee Member

### Workshop B2: Child Sexual Abuse: A Risk Factor for Sex Trafficking and Justice System Involvement

**Elisa Carias, JD**, Supervising Probation Officer  
**Erica Elliott, MSW**, Sexual Assault and Prevention Program Manager, Community Solutions

In efforts to make any change in the trajectory of those entering the criminal justice system and/or sexual exploitation, we must explore risk factors that lead to criminal justice involvement in the first place. A major individual level risk factor for women is child sexual abuse. The impact of child sexual abuse can have long lasting implications if left unaddressed. This session will explore the trajectory from child sexual abuse to justice system involvement and/or the commercial sexual exploitation of children, prevalence, prevention strategies, and trauma-informed policies and practices that reduce harm and improve outcomes for youth.
Santa Clara County Social Services Agency (SSA) is approved by the CA Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and/or LEPs. Santa Clara County SSA maintains responsibility for this program/course and its content. This conference meets the qualifications for 5 hours of continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs and/or LEPs, as required by the CA Board of Behavioral Sciences. The CA Association of Marriage and Family Therapists is the BBS recognized approval agency.

—Provider # 60165.

Attorneys will receive 5 hours of MCLE credit for attending the Symposium.

Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number CEP 2056 for 5.5 Contact Hours - Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Nursing

THANK YOU!

So many stepped up to make today’s event possible. Thank you to:

* Today’s Symposium speakers and panelists who volunteered their time and expertise
* The Child Abuse Prevention Council for their decades-long support of the Symposium
* The California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC) for co-sponsoring the event
* Donors Jane Odell and the Presbytery of San Jose
* Sgt. Chuck Crowell and Det. Mike Leslie from the Office of the Sheriff for their assistance with all things audio/visual
* The Social Services Agency for coordinating the Behavioral Health CEUs
* Valley Medical Center for providing CEUs for nurses
* The Office of the District Attorney for hosting Symposium committee meetings and coordinating MCLE credit
* The D.A.’s Office Public Information Officer Sean Webby for his assistance with media relations
* Chad Keele, Hong Thai, Paul Tran, and Jorge Montes for their support with fiscal management
* The Public Awareness Committee for donating prevention and awareness materials
* The YWCA, Community Solutions, and the Victim Services Unit for offering victim advocate support throughout the day
* The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors for supporting the mission and the work of the Child Abuse Prevention Council
* The Chairperson and Officers of the Child Abuse Prevention Council, Stacy Castle, Steven Dick, Steve Baron, and Andrew Cain
* And last but not least, thank you to the Symposium Committee members who volunteered countless hours to bring you today’s event, with a special nod to our intrepid chair, James Gibbons-Shapiro.