



MIDDLESEX COUNTY

**Family Justice  
Center**

# Middlesex County Domestic Violence Conference

*We are better together*

**New Jersey Law Center  
One Constitution Square  
New Brunswick, NJ**

**Thursday, October 24, 2024**

<b>8:00 - 9:00am</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00 - 9:15am</b>	<b>Opening and Welcome</b>
<b>9:15 - 10:00am</b>	<b>Keynote Speaker: Rachel Louise Snyder</b>
<b>10:00-10:30am</b>	<b>Q&amp;A and Book Signing with Rachel Louise Snyder</b>
<b>10:30-12:00pm</b>	<p><b>Trauma-Informed Care, Rebecca Vazquez, PhD, LPC, NCC</b></p> <p>This presentation will provide foundational understanding of how trauma and stress impact the brain. Triune Brain Theory and Polyvagal Theory will help participants conceptualize the biology of threat and safety. Trauma-Informed Systems and Care will be reviewed, along with a case study for participants to apply new concepts.</p>
<b>12:00-1:00pm</b>	<b>Break (Lunch Provided)</b>
<b>1:00-2:30pm</b>	<p><b>Coercive Control: Beyond the Violent Incident Model, Christine Cocchiola, DSW, LCSW</b></p> <p>Looking through the “violent incident model” does not give us the full picture of how and why abuse occurs. Abuse is about exerting power over another. Coercive control is the underpinning of abuse. Understanding the circumstances of your clients will help you to better prepare for how the system is often used to further harm these individuals. Learn how coercive control is inflicted upon victims-survivors and how perpetrators attempt to further wield the court system to wield legal abuse. This evidence-based training will fully support you as you navigate these challenging cases, often incorrectly referred to as “high conflict.”</p>
<b>2:30-2:40pm</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>2:40 - 4:00pm</b>	<p><b>Confidentiality: Understanding Confidentiality and Our Obligations, Laisa Schweigert, Technology Safety Specialist NNEDV</b></p> <p>Participant will gain insights into VAWA confidentiality requirements and the link to survivor-centered advocacy. Exploring privacy concepts, this presentation will highlight empowering survivors in their choices when it comes to sharing information, particularly how it relates to professionals with different confidentiality obligations working together to improve community responses to violence.</p>



MIDDLESEX COUNTY

**Family Justice  
Center**

## Middlesex County Domestic Violence Conference

*We are better together*

New Jersey Law Center  
One Constitution Square  
New Brunswick, NJ

**Friday, October 25, 2024**

<b>8:00 - 9:00am</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00 - 9:05am</b>	<b>Opening and Welcome</b>
<b>9:05-9:30am</b>	<b>Keynote Speaker: Maliha Janjua, LCSW, Director of Client Services, Women Aware, Inc.</b>
<b>9:30 - 10:00am</b>	<b>Video Message from Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin</b> Guest Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Theresa Hilton, Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Director, NJ Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety</b></li><li>• <b>Patricia Teffenhart, Executive Director, Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance (VIVA)</b></li></ul>
<b>10:00 - 12:00pm</b>	<b>Strangulation Part 1 - Gael Strack, Esq., Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Alliance for HOPE International; and Joe Bianco, Law Enforcement Support Coordinator, Alliance for HOPE International</b> This presentation will increase the awareness of the seriousness of strangulation assaults and increase understanding of the signs and symptoms of strangulation.
<b>12:00 - 1:00pm</b>	<b>Break (Lunch Provided)</b>
<b>1:00 - 3:00pm</b>	<b>Strangulation Part 2 - Gael Strack, Esq., Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Alliance for HOPE International; and Joe Bianco, Law Enforcement Support Coordinator, Alliance for HOPE International</b> This presentation will improve participants' understanding of the documentation of evidence and follow-up investigations related to strangulation and improve understanding of advocacy for victims in Middlesex County.
<b>3:00 - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A and Closing Reflections</b>