



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

8:00 - 9:00am	Registration
9:00 - 9:15am	Opening and Welcome
9:15 - 10:00am	Keynote Speaker: Rachel Louise Snyder
10:00 - 10:30am	Q&A and book signing with Rachel Snyder
10:30 - 12:00pm	<p>Trauma-Informed Care, Rebecca Vazquez, PhD, LPC, NCC</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>
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch (Lunch is provided)
1:00 - 2:30pm	<p>Coercive Control: Beyond the Violent Incident Model, Christine Cocchiola, DSW, LCSW</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. Coercive control is the underpinning of abuse and 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>
2:30 - 2:45pm	Book signing with Christine Cocchiola and Break
2:45 - 4:15pm	<p>Confidentiality: Understanding Confidentiality and Our Obligations, Laisa Schweigert, Technology Safety Specialist NNEDV</p> <p>Participants 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>
4:15 - 4:30pm	<p>Giving Litigants Agency, Lisa Johnson, Co-Founder of Been There Got Out</p> <p>Focusing on the legal abuse survivors of domestic violence often experience, this presentation will speak to the hope that practical, actionable strategies give to survivors, especially those representing themselves in court.</p>
4:30 - 5:00pm	Q&A and book signing with Lisa Johnson



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Friday, October 25, 2024

8:00 - 9:00am	Registration
9:00 - 9:05am	Opening and Welcome
9:05 - 9:30am	Keynote Speaker: Maliha Janjua
9:30 - 10:00am	Message from Attorney General Matthew Platkin Guest Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theresa Hilton, Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Director, NJ Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety• Patricia Teffenhart, Executive Director, Division of Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance (VIVA)• Yolanda Ciccone, Middlesex County Prosecutor
10:00 - 12:00pm	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 This presentation will increase the awareness of the seriousness of strangulation assaults and Increase understanding of the signs and symptoms of strangulation.
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch (Lunch is provided)
1:00 - 3:00pm	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 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.
3:00 - 3:30pm	Q&A and Closing Reflections