



women aware

MOVING BEYOND ABUSE

<https://middlesexcountyfjc.org/news-event/middlesex-county-domestic-violence-conference/>

Registration is Free.

Requests for accommodation for disabilities can be made at the time of registration.

2024 Middlesex County Domestic Violence Conference
October 24-25, 2024

Please see agenda for presenter details.

Training Sessions:

- 1. Title:** *Coercive Control: Beyond the Violent Incident Model*
- 2. Course Description:**

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.”

Continuing Education Credit Available: 1.5 NBCC hours

- 3. Learning Outcomes:**

After this training you’ll be able to:

- Develop or create a greater understanding of Coercive Control and the tactics used by Coercive Controllers [abusers] to harm adult and child victims.
- Establish an understanding of the ways coercive control shows up in the legal and other systems.
- Discuss improved strategies to help victims better navigate legal and criminal justice landscapes.

- 1. Title:** *Neurobiology of Trauma*

- 2. Course Description:**

This presentation will provide foundational understanding of how trauma and stress impact the brain. Triune Brain Theory and Polyvagal Theory will help



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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. Emphasis will be placed on application to law enforcement, judges, and other community partners to more effectively understand behaviors and decision making related to domestic violence as well as ways to manage vicarious trauma.

Continuing Education Credit Available: 1.5 NBCC hours

3. Learning Outcomes:

After this training you'll be able to:

- Describe the various forms of power and control dynamics.
- Identify neurobiological trauma responses and their respective emotional and physiological symptoms.
- Assess for Trauma-Informed practices within their setting.
- Implement self-care strategies to combat vicarious trauma.

1. Title: *Confidentiality: Understanding Confidentiality and Our Obligations*

2. Course Description:

In this session, 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. Tailored for newcomers and seasoned professionals alike, this session serves as both an orientation for those new to working with VAWA-funded victim services professionals and a refresher for experienced practitioners.

Continuing Education Credit Available: 1.5 NBCC hours

3. Learning Outcomes:

After this training you'll be able to understand:

- What VAWA says about confidentiality.
- Why confidentiality is an important part of victim services.
- How confidential and non-confidential professionals can work together to support survivors of violence.



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1. Title: *Strangulation Part 1 and 2*

2. Course Description:

This presentation will increase the awareness of the seriousness of strangulation assaults and increase understanding of the signs and symptoms of strangulation. 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 of domestic violence.

Continuing Education Credit Available: 4.0 NBCC hours

3. Learning Outcomes:

After this training you'll be able to:

- Improve victim awareness and education about the risk of strangulation;
- Provide information about the use of evidenced-based risk assessment tools and other resources, and;
- Improve advocacy for the strangled victim/patient among all disciplines.
- Improve the prosecution of felony strangulation cases with or without the victim's participation;
- Improve offender accountability for the crimes they commit;
- Reduce the number of strangulation cases being dismissed or reduced to misdemeanors simply because the victim recants or doesn't appear in court, and;
- Improve victim safety through early intervention.

Please contact Women Aware for information about continuing education credits for counselors:

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