



2018-2019

VERMONT VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

Core Trainer Biographies

ELLIE BREITMAIER, LICSW ellie.breitmaier@vermont.gov

Ellie is currently Coordinator of the Domestic Violence Unit at the VT Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division. She earned her Master's in Social Work from the University of Vermont in 1996 and has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the state since, 2000. Ellie has been working for DCF Family Services Division since 1996, and has been part of the Domestic Violence Unit since 1998. In her capacity as the DV Unit Coordinator, she supervises a team of Domestic Violence Specialists who work with the district offices to consult on domestic violence and child maltreatment cases. Ellie provides training to DCF staff and community partners; works on policy and practice issues related to domestic violence and child maltreatment and sits on multiple statewide community coordinated response advisories (VT Council on Domestic Violence, DV Fatality Review Commission, AHS DV Steering Committee, DCF DV Advisory Group, Supervised Visitation Advisory Committee, and the AHS Child and Family Trauma Workgroup). Ellie is the 2014 recipient of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, *Commissioner's Award* for outstanding leadership and service in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. In addition, she is the 2012 recipient of the *Partner in Social Justice Award*, from the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. Prior to her work in domestic violence and child protection, Ellie worked for 10 years in the field of early childhood education with a focus on natural science and environmental education and worked for many years as a children's residential summer camp director in the state of Maine.

AMY FARR amy.farr@vermont.gov

Amy is the Victim Advocate at the Attorney General's Office. She provides direct service to victims of crime and their families. Amy is also a member of the Vermont Children's Alliance, the Vermont Human Trafficking Task Force, and the SANE Advisory Board. Amy has also worked as the Advocate serving the Criminal Division and Medicaid Fraud Unit. Prior to working at the Attorney General's Office, Amy was an Advocate at the Chittenden County State's Attorney's Office, specially assigned to the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations, CUSI. Before entering her career as an Advocate, Amy worked as an educator in alternative education and day treatment settings.

ITA MENO itameno@aol.com

When she was 16 years old, Ita attended the Anytown Leadership Institute in San Antonio, TX. This experience provided her with the groundwork, and launching pad, she needed to enter the field of anti-racism, anti-oppression training and community building. Ita attended Marquette University, has worked with and supported the work of the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee, the Society of St Vincent de Paul and the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. She was given a commendation from then Governor of Wisconsin, Jim Doyle, for the extensive and innovative work she had done with queer youth of color and young queer women. Ita moved to Burlington VT in 2003. For 5 years, she worked in Community Development, providing capacity building and organizing services throughout Burlington. Currently, she is a Health and Housing Inspector for the City of Burlington. For this work, she was recognized as one of 27 Outstanding Women by VT Works for Women's Labor of Love exhibit. Since being in Burlington, she has supported the work of Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom, facilitated groups at Outright VT, chaired the RU12? Queer Community Center Board of Directors, was an activist/organizer with the Queerleaders and Radical Cheerleaders, a member of Kings Local 802 and a founding member of the House of Lordes, both activist-oriented drag performance groups, and actively worked statewide with a group of activists to add "Gender Identity and Expression" to the State of Vermont's list of protected classes. She previously served as the Chair of the Board of Directors at Outright VT, a 25-year-old non-profit dedicated to providing safe, healthy and supportive environments for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth ages 13-22. Ita is a principle partner with CQ Strategies, LLC. CQ Strategies is a cultural competency consulting group that works with non-profits, business and government groups to understand the role that power and privilege play in our workplace and work towards dismantling this power through insight, empathy and intention. With a special fondness for pickup trucks, tool belts and the color pink, Ita lives in Burlington. She can often be seen traipsing about town in stripes or bright colors, talking loudly, interrupting hurtful remarks and breaking up fights.

ANNE SMITH anne@vtnetwork.org

Anne is the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator at the Vermont Network and Sexual Violence. Anne began supporting victims in Vermont nearly 15 years ago at a Vermont Network program and has held a number of roles supporting both victims of domestic and sexual violence and victims of crime in the years since. She has trained children, college students, community members and professionals on numerous topics related to domestic and sexual violence and social justice. As the mother of twins, what she feels most qualified to provide training on is how to carry as many things in your arms as humanly possible and still open the front door.

DR. ARON STEWARD aron.steward@vermont.gov

Dr. Aron Steward completed a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at SUNY Buffalo in 2007, where her areas of interest were alternative therapy modalities, violence prevention and intervention, clinician self-care, and qualitative research. Following graduate studies, the NJ DOC recruited Dr. Steward to develop behavior management programming in maximum security prisons for female offenders labeled most violent and aggressive and create intensive outpatient programming for the states' most persistently mentally ill female offenders. Following that, Dr. Steward supervised a Los Angeles County DCFS mental health team interacting with the highest risk foster care youth. Dr. Steward then accepted a position working for Los Angeles County law enforcement teams in community crisis response toward suicide and homicide prevention. Currently, Dr. Steward is the Chief of Psychological Services at Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center under the DCF in Vermont. Dr. Steward's early professional experience with burn-out elicited a desire to promote self-care, specifically educating other professionals about vicarious trauma, providing the latest research, and instructing on self-care strategies. She is currently completing her MBA at UMASS Isenberg School of Management in healthcare administration.

ANDREA VAN LIEW, M.ED. andrea.vanliew@ccvs.vermont.gov

Andrea is the Director of the Community Engagement and Training Department at the Center for Crime Victim Services (CCVS). She joined the CCVS in September of 2005 after spending the previous five years as a training specialist and training coordinator for the University of Vermont/Department for Children and Families, Child Welfare Training Partnership. She holds a Master's Degree in Education from St. Michael's College with a focus on Adult Education. Andrea is an enthusiastic practitioner and certified trainer of Dialogue Education. She loves training design, meeting facilitation and collaborative projects. She lives in Essex Jct VT with her two teenage children and loves cross country skiing, bicycle riding and backyard farming. Andrea is a certified Life Cycle Celebrant who creates ceremonies and celebrates life's transitions.

KAREN DOLAN kdolan@ESSEX.ORG

Karen Dolan has been a Restorative Justice Specialist at the Essex Community Justice Center since early 2016; coordinating community panels, assisting schools, and offering community trainings. In addition to that role, she is a coordinator and facilitator for Vermont's Safe Driving Program, working to address distracted driving in the state through a restorative curriculum. Previously, Karen spent five years, based at the women's correctional facility in South Burlington, working as a Program Manager for Vermont Works for Women and during that time she also had the pleasure of serving on the Burlington CJC's Parallel Justice Commission. The opportunity to observe the criminal justice system from a variety of perspectives has provided tremendous insight as Karen has developed her toolbox of restorative practices.

AMANDA ROHDENBURG amanda@outrightvt.org

Amanda Rohdenburg is the Director of Advocacy at Outright Vermont. She earned a BA in Gender Studies and Political Science from Saint Michael's College and has been an advocate for queer and trans youth with Outright since 2014. When not working to build safe, healthy, supportive environments for youth, Amanda cooks all things from scratch and goes on adventures.

MARC WENNBERG

Marc Wennberg is former director of the St. Albans Community Justice Center and currently works as a restorative justice consultant. Marc has extensive experience facilitating strategic planning and program development efforts that engage and invest stakeholders in the design and implementation of research-proven restorative practices, with a particular focus on offender reintegration programs. Independent Consultant, 802-249-0397
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KIM COLVILLE kcolville@vcil.org

S. Kimberly Colville has worked with individuals with disabilities for many years in various capacities. She has worked for the Vermont Center for Independent Living for the past five years as a Peer Advocate Counselor and trainer. Her work covers many different areas that effect people with disabilities, but her passion is working with individuals to overcome their personal obstacles and reach their goals to live the most independent life possible. She is a graduate of the Vermont LEND program and is currently working on the Masters' Certificate in Disabilities Studies at the University. Kimberly brings her own personal life experience into the work that she does with victims and finds that while the topics covered are hard to talk about, educating others about these issues can be a source of empowerment and healing.

J. SCOTT DETWEILER, VTNG, State Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
john.s.detweiler.mil@mail.mil

Scott has served in the Vermont National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention & Response office since January 2014. In this role he oversees both Army and Air programs for National Guard members across the state, including awareness, education and response efforts. He attended the 2014-2015 Vermont Victim Assistance Academy as a participant and is proud to have enrolled Army and Air National Guard service members in every cohort since, demonstrating the strong relationship between community agencies and the Guard. He has had the honor of serving as Core Trainer with VVAA since the 2016-2017 class. He lives in Huntington with his wife and two boys, 6 & 3.