

SPEAKERS

Michelle Anderson, B.S., M.S., has over 15 year of public speaking experience. She is currently the Trauma-Informed Care Trainer/Coordinator for The Center for children and Families. She previously taught Public Speaking and Interpersonal Communication courses at MSU-Billings. She also has been an instructor of vocational and life skills training. Michelle has been a long-time advocate of resilience instruction and practiced meditation and mindfulness in her daily life.

Mindy Brookshire, MS, LCPC, is currently the Lead Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor at the Passages, a correctional facility for female offenders under Alternatives, Inc. Brookshire oversees the Assessment, Sanction and Revocation Center and the Pre-Release staff at Passages and coordinates the mental health care for residents. She previously worked as the Passages Pre Release counterpart, Alpha House and had a private practice in Billings. She was also has worked as a therapist for Montana Women's Prison and at the Community Crisis Center in Billings. Her professional focus is working with women who have a dual diagnosis (chemical dependency and mental health) within a correctional environment. She is an approved trainer in the University of Cincinnati Women's Risk and Needs Assessment.

Courage L.E. Crawford is the Program Development Specialist and Inpatient Treatment Center Planning Coordinator for the Spotted Bull Recovery Resource Center in Poplar, MT. He is a certified trainer in ASIST and SafeTALK and serves as part of many active teams on the Fort Peck Reservation and as a suicide prevention community aid worker. He is a co-founder of Fort Peck Medicine Wheel group and Camp Facilitator for Creator's Game Youth Camp. He previously served as a probation officer and Wellness Court team member for the Fort Peck DUI Court. He has a constant read on the pulse of the community and works to identify and address the needs of the local population. Courage uses his experience in working with youth and families on the Fort Peck Tribes Indian Reservation to help provide services for the community. He believes that by focusing on the youth and building leadership and family values, future generations can be sustained with positive family activities.

Kee Dunning, LCPC, is a licensed professional counselor in private practice, providing mental health counseling in Billings.

Fredricka Gilje is a retired nurse educator, working 40 years in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in North Dakota, Montana, Washington and Alaska. She is actively engaged in suicide prevention education and research. In addition she has engaged in international collaboration in nursing education and research in Norway and Sweden. She has authored and co-authored various publications in nursing journals, including articles concerning caring for suicidal persons. She is a board member for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention-Montana Chapter and participant in the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yellowstone Valley. She holds a PhD, Master and Bachelor of Science degrees in nursing and is a certified instructor in QPR Gatekeeper Training.

David W. Markel is a seasoned criminal justice and Title IX sexual assault compliance professional who is dedicated to pursuing justice for victims of crime. Markel is retired from the Lafayette (CO) Police Department, where he served as a patrolman and Investigator. In his

private business, he consulted with the US Army Criminal Investigative Command, Criminal Investigations Division, supervising and presenting the Army's sexual assault investigation training program for the Military Police School. He presented advanced sexual assault investigation training to investigative agents and trial counsel. He plays a key role for criminal justice professionals, colleges, and universities in effective training and consultation regarding common sexual assault victim behaviors and offender dynamics. In addition, Dave is one of the foremost experts in training the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview, a trauma-informed interview and investigation approach for sexual assault victims.

Tammy Mehlhaff is Director of Marketing for The Center for Children and Families and is a Trauma Informed Care instructor with the DeSTRESS Project. Tammy is passionate about Trauma Informed Care and sharing the facts about trauma's devastating effects on the community. She believes that through her work helping people find ways to take care of themselves she is making the world a better place.

Joan M. Nye, JD, is a lawyer serving Columbus, MT in Family Law, Divorce, and Child Custody cases. Having personal experience with suicide in her family, she also serves as Chair of the Montana Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and is involved with the local support group for survivors of suicide. She also helps organize the local Out of the Darkness walk.

Karl Rosston, B.S., MSW, LCSW, is the Suicide Prevention Coordinator for the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. He also maintains a small private practice in Helena. Previously, Karl was the Director of Social Services at Shodair Children's Hospital. He also was on the faculty of the University of Colorado, School of Medicine, and a clinical consultant with the Colorado Division of Youth Corrections. Karl provides evidenced-based programs to all Montana secondary schools, implements the State Suicide Prevention Plan, supports the Montana Suicide Prevention Lifeline, implements firearm safety programs and statewide media campaigns, provides suicide prevention trainings, and coordinates suicide prevention efforts around the state. Karl is adjunct faculty at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and a nationally certified trainer in Mental Health First Aid, and a Master level trainer in QPR.

Barbara Schneeman is the Vice President of Communications and Public Affairs at RiverStone Health. She has been with the organization for more than 13 years and during that time she has had the opportunity to develop relations with local and statewide journalists and connect them to sources of information within and outside of RiverStone Health. For the past six years Ms. Schneeman has served on the National Association of County and City Health Officials Public Health Communication Work Group. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, musical theater and gardening.