



Speaker Bios

Melisa Acoba, MPH, is a Legislative Coordinator for the California Work & Family Coalition. Her background includes launching community-based education and outreach programs with local health clinics on Paid Family Leave and Paid Sick/Safe Days laws in Los Angeles. Ms. Acoba also works with Coalition partners to organize vulnerable communities in pushing for stronger legislation on job protection and other family-friendly policies.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – Paid Sick and Safe Leave: Helping Survivors & Their Families Stay Safe Without Losing a Job or Paycheck*

Gloria Aguilera Terry joined the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) in January 2008. In her role as CEO, Gloria guides and directs the statewide activities of TCFV, such as the Texas Legislative Session, establishing and fostering statewide tactical partnerships, working with staff to provide outstanding services to programs and strategically positioning TCFV to create the influence necessary to continue serving the needs of victims and their families. She currently offers her time to the Collaborative Council for the Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families with the Texas Supreme Court, VAWA Planning Committee with the Office of the Governor, National IPV Prevention Council, Diversity Committee of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, as faculty to the national Women of Color LEAP project, Board member of the Texas Society for Association Executives, and Board member and Treasurer to the National Network to End Domestic Violence.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Panel – Natural Disaster: The Impact on Already Marginalized Communities*

Tracey Breeden is Safety Communications Lead at Uber, where she has created human trafficking education for drivers as well as Uber's first safety tips for riders. Tracey is a leader in global sexual assault and human trafficking campaigns and a subject matter expert in sex crimes and domestic violence. During her nearly 15-year career as a police officer, she created a successful training as a police officer for first responders in the area of sexual assault, including the perceptions and treatment of survivors of sexual assault. In addition to her work with Uber, Tracey is the vice president of a Kick at Darkness, Inc., a non-profit founded by a survivor of child sex trafficking that helps fund healing services for survivors of human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, and hate crimes.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Working Lunch Discussion – Corporate Social Responsibility & Financial Inclusion*

Danielle Brower is the Accreditation and Technical Assistance Coordinator at the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence. In her current position, she works collaboratively to develop and implement best practices and standards for sexual and domestic violence programs in Kansas. Ms. Brower has been working in the social services field for eight years, including work at statewide Coalitions and at a local domestic violence program.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – It's Not Just Luck: Innovative Approaches to Economic Justice for Survivors*
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Krista Del Gallo is a Policy Manager at the Texas Council on Family Violence. Her work focuses on researching, analyzing, and promoting laws, policies, and options that expand the critical social safety nets for survivors of family violence, with a particular focus on housing, health, immigration remedies, and child welfare. Krista has been working within the domestic violence and sexual assault movements since 1994.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – New Climate, New Strategies: Engaging Immigrant Survivors in 2018*
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Alona Del Rosario is the Project Associate with the Institute for Women's Policy Research. She previously served as a public policy advocate at the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV). In this role, she advocated strengthening state and federal legislation to support sexual and domestic violence survivors and to increase funding and resources for survivors and service providers. She also worked on a range of issues, including intimate partner homicide, paid sick leave, and predatory lending, among others.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – Estimating the Cost of Violence Against Women*
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Ta’Nika Ellington is the Economic Justice Advocate at Peace River Center, a local center under the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Ms. Ellington came into the work with her own experiences with domestic violence as a survivor and has been working as an advocate for six years. Ms. Ellington developed the Economic Empowerment Program from start to finish. She is responsible for writing the policies and procedures, creating the program handbooks, developing forms and lesson plans, and building community relationships.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Creating Enthusiasm for Economic Justice: A Local Program Perspective*
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Sen. Patricia Farley is an Independent member of the Nevada Senate representing District 8 in Clark County. First elected to the Senate in 2014, she has greatly contributed to policy changes aimed to enhance economic security for victims and all women. During the 2017 legislative session, Senator Farley was a primary sponsor of Senate Bill 362, which provided employment protections for victims of domestic violence needing to leave work to attend court, access services or obtain medical care.

A native of Arizona, Senator Farley earned her BS in political science from the University of Arizona in 1996. A business owner, she transformed Southwest Specialties, Inc., into a fully woman-owned design, construction, and consulting firm. Her second business, Kids' Club Las Vegas, combines an ingenious playground for children aged 18 months to 8 years with a cafe for parents.

As president of the board of trustees for Aid for Aids of Nevada (AFAN), one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the state and the largest AIDS service organization, Senator Farley increased AFAN's annual revenue during some of Nevada's worst economic circumstances. Under her leadership, the organization earned the "Key to the City" for exceptional work in the community in 2011.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Welcome and Opening Remarks*
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Debbie Fox, MSW, is the Senior Housing and Policy Specialist at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV). She has worked in the domestic and sexual violence movement for over 20 years with a focus on fundraising, organizational development, nonprofit administration, and domestic violence population-specific housing and economic justice programming.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – VOCA & Housing: Successes, Challenges, & Tips*
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Kim Gandy has served as president and CEO of NNEDV since 2012. A former prosecutor in New Orleans, Gandy wrote Louisiana's first Domestic Abuse Assistance Act, which became law in 1983. She worked with Joe Biden and Barbara Boxer to pass the original VAWA in 1994, and organized nationally for passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which became law in 2009. Prior to joining NNEDV, Gandy was a women's rights leader, having served 8 years as national president of the National Organization for Women (NOW), as a Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and as Vice President of the Feminist Majority Foundation.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Welcome and Opening Remarks*
 - *Thursday, March 8th, Working Lunch Discussion – Corporate Social Responsibility & Financial Inclusion*
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Laura Glaza has been the Lead Consultant for The Allstate Foundation since 2014. She champions social impact initiatives and fundraising efforts for Allstate Foundation Purple Purse. The program goal is to reduce domestic violence in America through financial empowerment. She joined Allstate in 2009, first focusing on engaging Allstate's 30,000 employees in improving Allstate's reputation and driving business results. Prior to joining Allstate, Laura directed marketing functions for Chicago-based nonprofit organizations including The Conservation Foundation, The Morton Arboretum, and Feeding America. She was a marketing consultant for eight years following a decade in marketing with The Quaker Oats Company.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Allstate Foundation Purple Purse Update*
 - *Thursday, March 8th, Working Lunch Discussion – Corporate Social Responsibility & Financial Inclusion*
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Sarah Gonzalez Bocinski has been the Director of the Economic Security for Survivors Project (ESS Project) since 2012. She creates and executes trainings, tools, and curricula. She also provides technical assistance to justice system professionals and domestic/sexual violence programs seeking strategies to better address the intersections of survivor economic security and safety. Sarah specializes in the development and implementation of economic and employment-focused curricula for transitional housing as well as fostering comprehensive community-based support strategies, particularly in rural communities. Sarah has presented at national and regional conferences for domestic and sexual violence advocates and criminal justice professionals.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – Estimating the Cost of Violence Against Women*
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Stevi Gray works at the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence where she provides technical assistance and training on sheltering, housing, and homelessness related to domestic violence on the state and national level. She has been working in the domestic violence field since 2007. Since this time, she has worked with survivors in shelters, courts, in the hospital, on the crisis line, and through community outreach. Ms. Gray obtained her Master of Social Work degree from the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis in 2011.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – VOCA & Housing: Successes, Challenges, & Tips*
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Kendra Gritsch is a Domestic Violence Housing First project coordinator with the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. For the past 5 years she has been working on the Domestic Violence Housing First (DVHF) project. DVHF is a nationally known innovative advocacy model, proven to successfully support survivors of domestic violence and their children in retaining or gaining housing stability, and in rebuilding their lives economically, financially, and emotionally. Ms. Gritsch provides technical assistance and capacity building to domestic violence programs who are implementing the DVHF approach.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – It's Not Just Luck: Innovative Approaches to Economic Justice for Survivors*
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Lisalyn R. Jacobs is the CEO of Just Solutions: Bringing in Justice to Counteract Injustice, where she advises clients on a variety of issues, including: campus sexual assault; workplace and other economic protections for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking; racial equity; criminal justice and policing reform; and the intersections of two or more of these issues. She also currently serves as the Interim Legal & Policy Director at the Center for Survivor Agency & Justice,

where she leads a groundbreaking new initiative, the Racial & Economic Equity for Survivors Project (REEP).

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Public Benefits & Domestic Violence Victims' Economic Security*
 - *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Transforming the Economic Landscape Facing Survivors: A Local Perspective*
 - *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – What Does #MeToo Mean for Survivors' Employment Rights?*
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Andrea Johnson is the Senior Counsel for State Policy at the National Women's Law Center (NWLC). In her role, she coordinates efforts to advance state policies across multiple NWLC teams. Ms. Johnson also works directly on legislation and litigation related to pay discrimination, sexual harassment, pregnancy discrimination, and unfair scheduling practices. Prior to joining the Center, Andrea was a law clerk for the Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. She also clerked for the Honorable Eric T. Washington, Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – What Does #MeToo Mean for Survivors' Employment Rights?*
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Laura Jones is the Statewide SANE/SART Projects Coordinator at the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence. In her role, she provides training and technical assistance to a wide range of multidisciplinary professionals, including sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) on sexual and domestic violence dynamics, response, and prevention. Ms. Jones has been with KCSDV since 2014. In her prior role as the KCSDV Rural Collaboration Coordinator, she worked with rural communities across the state to develop local collaboration efforts focused on victim safety and perpetrator accountability, including work with sexual assault response teams (SARTs) and other sexual assault focused initiatives in rural Kansas communities.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – It's Not Just Luck: Innovative Approaches to Economic Justice for Survivors*
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Francine J. Lipman is a professor at the University of Las Vegas, Boyd School of Law. After working as a CPA in an international accounting firm and as the Chief Financial Officer for a chain of retail jewelry stores, Professor Lipman turned to law, where she served as the Editor in Chief of the UC Davis Law Review and was recognized as an Outstanding Law Student and a member of the Order of the Coif. Following a similarly stellar record in NYU's Graduate Tax Law Program, where she was a Tax Law Review Scholar, she practiced law with O'Melveny & Myers, LLP, and Irell & Manella, LLP.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Economic Recovery – A Look Back & Forward at Nevada's Experience*
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Latifa Lyles is the Vice President of External Affairs for NNEDV, where she leads NNEDV's communications efforts and external partnerships. Prior to her role at NNEDV, Lyles served in the Obama Administration as Director of the Women's Bureau at the Labor Department. While there, she led efforts on women's advancement in the workplace and related policies, such as equal pay and paid leave. She also served as Vice President for Membership for the National Organization for Women, where she led fundraising efforts and served as a media spokesperson.

- *Tuesday, March 6th, Opening Remarks*
 - *Thursday, March 8th, Closing Remarks*
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Monica McLaughlin is the Director of Public Policy at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), where she works to improve federal legislation and increase resources to address and prevent domestic violence. She leads and co-chairs various national coalitions, educates Congress, implements grassroots strategies, and engages various government agencies to ensure that addressing domestic violence is a national priority. Ms. McLaughlin has led national appropriations efforts to secure record federal investments in programs that address domestic violence and sexual assault.

- *Thursday, March 8th, What Domestic Violence Advocates Need to Know About Federal Policy – Open Forum*
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Anne Menard is the CEO of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. Ms. Menard has been CEO since 2005, a position she previously held from 1994–99. She is an activist who has worked on policy, practice, and research issues affecting domestic violence and sexual assault survivors since the mid-1970s. Her particular focus has been on survivor-defined advocacy, as well as public policy and research affecting women and their families, especially those living in poverty and with housing instability.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Public Benefits & Domestic Violence Victims' Economic Security*
 - *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – VOCA & Housing: Successes, Challenges, & Tips*
-

Susan Meuschke currently serves as the Executive Director for the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV) formerly the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence. She has been involved with the domestic violence movement since 1984. Beginning as a volunteer providing advocacy services through a local shelter program, then as the Director of Community Relations with the same program, and for the last 29 years, in her current position as Executive Director of NCEDSV.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Welcome and Opening Remarks*
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Michelle Mitchell is Director of Government Relations at NNEDV. She brings 15 years of experience in public policy and government relations to her new role, as well as a background in

domestic violence. Previously, she served as Senior Associate Director of Government Affairs with the American Nursing Association (ANA) and Manager of Legislative Affairs at Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA). Michelle served as congressional staff for eight years. Most recently, she served as Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Congressman William Lacy Clay. Previously, she worked as Professional Staff on the House Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives. Prior to beginning her policy career, Michelle was a therapist for children who were survivors of domestic violence at Lydia's House in St. Louis, MO. Michelle obtained her Master's degree in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis.

➤ *Thursday, March 8th, What Domestic Violence Advocates Need to Know About Federal Policy – Open Forum*

Mona Muro is the Economic Justice Policy Coordinator for the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV). In her position at TCFV, she provides consultation and technical assistance on economic empowerment and self-sufficiency policies and practices that enhance safety opportunities for survivors. She specializes in developing and implementing economic advocacy efforts at family violence programs across Texas. The programs have an emphasis on child support, consumer rights, housing, financial literacy, asset building, tax advocacy, and immigration.

➤ *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – New Climate, New Strategies: Engaging Immigrant Survivors in 2018*

Zulma Oliveras Vega is a Puerto Rican human rights activist. She is an advocate for the freedom of political prisoners; and has participated in protests in Chiapas and Vieques, Mexico. She currently works at *Coordinadora Paz para la Mujer* (Peace for Women Coordinator) and is the Specialist on Social Empowerment and Program Coordinator. She led and organized *Caravana Violeta* (Purple Caravan) in which *Coordinadora Paz para la Mujer* brought services, including mobile units with nurses, doctors, psychologists, and a legal brigade as well as food supplies, to different towns around the island during Hurricane Maria.

➤ *Wednesday, March 7th, Panel – Natural Disaster: The Impact on Already Marginalized Communities*

Kimberly Parker is the Housing Victim Advocate with The Alliance, serving Chaffee County Colorado. She developed the new long-term housing program for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and coordinates the other key components of housing including safe and transitional housing. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business and Information Systems as well as experience in advocacy. She uses her entrepreneurial vision to innovate in service of survivors of violence. She has applied her business and technology experience in the United States and other countries, empowering individuals and families with educational material, medical supplies, and micro-financing for sustainable projects.

➤ *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – VOCA & Housing: Successes, Challenges, & Tips*

Kim Pentico is Economic Justice Director at the National Network to End Domestic violence (NNEDV), where she works to ensure and enhance survivor access to economic justice and long-term safety. Kim has been working with and on behalf of survivors of sexual and domestic violence since 1990. Prior to NNEDV, she worked for over seven years at a local domestic violence program in Kansas, and another seven years at the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence. She has also worked for the STOP Technical Assistance Project in Washington, DC.

- *Tuesday, March 6th, Closing*
 - *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Allstate Foundation Purple Purse Update*
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Jillian D. Prieto, Esq., was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. In 2007, Ms. Prieto was appointed by Chief Judge Kathy Hardcastle to serve as In-House Counsel for the Eighth Judicial District Court as well as the Las Vegas Justice Court. As Counsel, she was responsible for advising elected officials and court administration on legal matters, leading the court through litigation, and representing the court during legal proceedings. Ms. Prieto served on various Nevada Supreme Court Committees that developed statewide court policies and enhanced access to justice as well as the Eighth Judicial District Court’s Legislative Committee. Ms. Prieto also served as Spokeswoman for the Court and handled several high-profile cases.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Economic Recovery – A Look Back & Forward at Nevada’s Experience*
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Julie Proctor was a founding member of S.A.F.E. House, Inc., which was established in 1994. She has been on the Board of Directors since the organization’s inception and took the position of Executive Director in June of 2003. Ms. Proctor is a member of the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, Henderson Chamber of Commerce, Nevada’s Corporate Citizenship Initiative Team, and the Henderson Coordinated Community Response Team. During her leadership, S.A.F.E. House received an award for being the Outstanding Non-Profit from the City of Henderson.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Economic Recovery – A Look Back & Forward at Nevada’s Experience*
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Vogue Robinson the author of *Vogue 3:16*, a collection of her original poetry, Robinson was recently named the second-ever Poet Laureate for Clark County, NV. She is a four-time national competitor for the Las Vegas Battle Born Slam and has been the champion of a few notable poetry slams. The former cast member of Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues” now serves as a guest co-director for Don’t Even Tripp Productions, a theater company, and as the Executive Director of Poetry Promise, a nonprofit dedicated to increasing the knowledge and practice of poetry.

- *Tuesday, March 6th, Spoken Word Performance*
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Gabriela Sandoval, Ph.D. has a deep and abiding commitment to work that addresses inequity and injustice and seeks to build social and economic justice every day. She is currently the Research Director for the Addressing the Health Impacts of Utility Shutoffs project at The Utility Reform Network (TURN). Gabriela works with community-based organizations throughout California—with a focus on communities struggling to make ends meet and communities of color—to develop a better understanding of where and why utility shutoffs occur, how shutoffs impact the health of families and communities, and how to stop them.

Before joining TURN, Gabriela was Research Director at the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, a national “think-and-do tank” in Oakland, where the focus of her work was the *Closing the Racial Wealth Gap Initiative*. Previously, Gabriela was a faculty member of the Department of Sociology at UC Santa Cruz and Academic Coordinator for a professional midwifery school in Mexico. She holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a Masters in Regional Planning from Cornell University.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Policy & Change: Race, Economic Security, and Racial Wealth Disparities*
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Nasim Sarabandi is Project Coordinator at the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She began working with the organization in November 2016, she was previously at the DC-area nonprofit Tavaana. While at Tavaana, Nasim educated students about gender inequality and violence against women. She also served as a project coordinator at the Municipality of Tehran in Iran where she implemented projects to reduce crime and violence and provide treatment to HIV patients and individuals living with drug addiction.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Panel – Natural Disaster: The Impact on Already Marginalized Communities*
 - *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Curriculum: Intersection of Domestic Violence & Natural Disasters*
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Laura Stadler-Tobaben is the Outreach Advocacy Coordinator at SAFEHOME, a domestic violence agency in Johnson County, Kansas. Prior to joining SAFEHOME, Laura served as a shelter and hotline advocate with the YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment in Topeka, Kansas. She has a Bachelor’s in Human Services with a certificate in Victim/Survivor Services from Washburn University.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Creating Enthusiasm for Economic Justice: A Local Program Perspective*
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Traci Underwood is Economic Justice Program coordinator at the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Ms. Underwood has been working at the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV) for 11 years. WSCADV believes women and girls should have access to money, housing, childcare, and education so they can make decisions about their relationships without regard for the financial impact of those decisions. The Economic Justice Project aims to promote financial security and dignity for survivors by monitoring policy and

practice on public benefits and housing, collaborating with anti-poverty groups, and supporting the economic stability of survivors through community partnerships and action.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – It's Not Just Luck: Innovative Approaches to Economic Justice for Survivors*

Andrew Jack VanSingel is the Director of Disaster Legal Services (DLS) for the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division and the Local Taxpayer Advocate for Taxpayer Advocate Service's Chicago office. In addition to his role as the Director of DLS, Mr. VanSingel is the Vice Chair of the American Bar Association's Section of Taxation Pro Bono & Tax Clinics Committee. He is also deeply involved with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. Mr. VanSingel managed the Low-Income Tax Clinic at Prairie State Legal Services, Inc., where he was responsible for all Clinic activities. Additionally, he is a former member of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel, a Federal Advisory Committee comprised of 75 individuals dedicated to making systemic improvements to the IRS.

- *Wednesday, March 7th, Panel – Natural Disaster: The Impact on Already Marginalized Communities*
- *Wednesday, March 7th, Breakout – Navigating the Federal Emergency Management Agency & Small Business Administration*

Katie Wutchiett is a Skadden Fellow and Attorney for the Work and Family Program and Project Survive at Legal Aid at Work (LAAW). She heads LAAW's Contra Costa Medical-Legal Partnership. In this role, she provides representation, free legal advice, and community education to low-wage parents, caregivers, survivors of domestic violence, and individuals who are pregnant or caring for their own health conditions across the state. As a part of this work, she also trains health care providers and community advocates serving these communities and engages in policy advocacy to improve the protections available.

- *Thursday, March 8th, Breakout – Paid Sick and Safe Leave: Helping Survivors & Their Families Stay Safe Without Losing a Job or Paycheck*

Download conference materials at: [NNEDV.org/EJSummitMaterials](https://nnedv.org/EJSummitMaterials)