

Engaging Men in Gender-Based Violence Prevention:

The Roles of Law Enforcement, Military, & Mental Health Professionals

Join us for a panel discussion on engaging men in gender-based violence prevention and hear from three professionals who contribute to this work in their careers. At the conclusion of the panel, there will be time for open questions from the audience.

March 3, 2023 at 10:30AM

Russell Salvatore Dining Commons



Dr. Matthew Abrams, Licensed Psychologist

Dr. Abrams is a licensed psychologist in the state of NY with academic affiliations to several local colleges/universities including Niagara University. He works full-time as a program manager at the VA Western NY Healthcare System with a clinical expertise in the treatment of Veterans diagnosed with serious mental illness. There he also serves as the Whole Health Clinical Director. He is a former U.S. Marine where he served as a rifleman within an infantry unit. Dr. Abrams provides clinical training and supervision to psychology doctoral interns & practicum students, psychiatric residents, and licensed mental health counselors. He also provides individual counseling at a private practice with expertise in the relationship between emotional and physical wellness.

David Augustyniak, CMHC & Retired Police Officer

David has over 33 years of experience in law enforcement as a police officer serving in the Niagara Falls Police Department. He is an alumnus of Niagara University having earned a B.A. in Criminology & Criminal Justice and a M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. David also earned an M.A. in Pastoral Ministry from Christ the King Seminary and is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy. Currently, he serves as a clinical mental health counselor with Monsignor Carr Institute of Catholic Charities of WNY. David is also a deacon in the diocese of Buffalo. David's life experience & education have placed him in a unique role of service to the community. He has an ardent desire for justice and is committed to the work of elevating persons to a place of equality.



Thomas Gibbons, Retired NYSP Senior Investigator

Thomas served for 25 years with the New York State Police (NYSP) and was assigned to the Campus Sexual Assault Victims Unit. He served as the regional coordinator responsible for being the liaison between the NYSP and every private and State college & university in the eight counties of Western NY. Thomas organizes and implements trauma-informed trainings targeted at local police departments, prosecutors and campus personnel responsible for responding to sexual assaults, dating/domestic violence and stalking (DVDVSAS). Thomas also presents to middle and high schoolers in Erie, Niagara, and Orleans Counties DVDVSAS.



QUESTIONS? Contact Us!

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