

# 2023 Conference

## Keynote Speakers

### Keri Moran-Kuhn (she/her)

Since 1991, Keri has been engaged in supporting survivors. Her work began in Ohio, then continued in the Rocky Mountains of Montana and eventually lead her to Oregon in 2000. Keri has been with the Coalition since 2005 in various roles and currently is the Associate Director. Keri works on behalf of Oregon's local domestic and sexual violence community-based programs and utilizes her skills advocating for survivors and for the programs who serve them, with state systems as well as nationally. She is the proud mama of three kiddos.



### Mel Phillips (he/him)



What I do is find old tossed things to make cool new things with. Like my race and the world around me, my media is mixed. I try to find scrap material for all my paintings and sculptural pieces. I am far from classically trained or seeped in technical nuances and the slight-of-hand of a modern master. I envy you magnificent impresarios who dance around the canvas stabbing, swishing and swooshing like paint brush matadors. Me, I'm the raging Brahma bull with gnarly spray paint horns. I lunge at the canvas with nostrils flared. I sling paint and slap it down, scrape it off, smear it on again, inflame it, smudge and smack it more, pounding out the colors and beating up the textures to flesh out purpose and character. It is intense tough love but it jives with my

style of impassioned discourse with the larger universe. I believe that understanding and solutions wait around the corner at the intersection of hurt and healing, but we must be bold to get there. Like Jackson Pollock, let's break the school rules and dare to explore outside the margins and wade into the gravel and glass. Like Calder, let us rise above walls of separation to pin our purpose upon the horizon and paint the skyline with our clear bold vision for the world to see. And in the spirit of Van Gogh, let us bring our own unique selves to the work and acknowledge that our world is designed to be messy, so let us make a beautiful mess of it together. Without each other we are nothing. This is true for art and the artist. It is true for us all.

## Tracy D. Wright (she/her)



Tracy D. Wright is the Interim Director with the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCCASA) for the National Resource Sharing Project. Her current work provides technical assistance and training to the fifty-six (56) state and territorial sexual assault coalitions. In this capacity, Tracy works with national entities to create a coordinated response to ending sexual violence, addresses emerging issues and carves out initiatives specifically for communities of color coalition staff in the anti-sexual violence movement. Ms. Wright holds a BA in Mass Communications from Shaw University and a Master's of Science in Print Journalism from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Tracy is the project lead for the Young Advocates Institute, a service learning opportunity that houses and trains 200 youth, ages 13-17, over a weekend of prevention

education and leadership development workshops.

## Vanessa Timmons (she/her)

Vanessa Timmons has been a writer, activist, and women's health advocate for over 25 years. She attended Marylhurst University's Multidisciplinary Studies Program in Portland, Oregon, and has continued her formal education through certificates and training, including the Interpersonal Neurobiology of Trauma Certification Program at Portland State University. Vanessa has served as the Director of Programs at Raphael House of Portland, a Northwest regional field organizer for the National Organization for Women, and the domestic violence program coordinator for the Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordination Office, in addition to serving OCADSV in the past as the Women of Color Coordinator and Board Chair.

