



# Reporting and Supporting: Approaching Mandated Reporting with Care

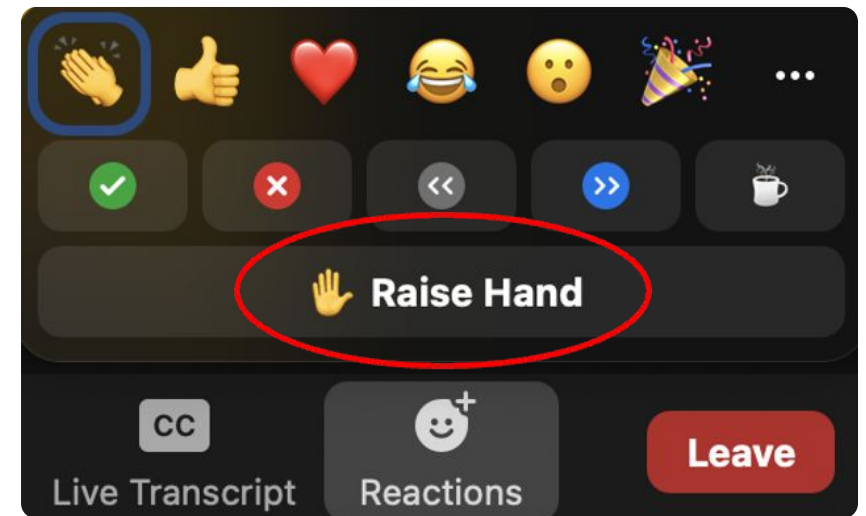
Thursday, April 24, 2025  
11:00am - 12:30pm PT

C.A.  
LEADDs

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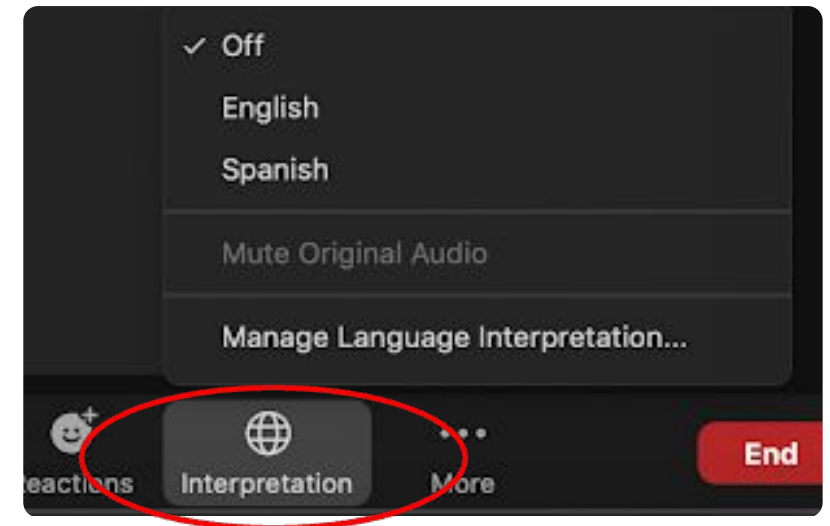
# Accessibility

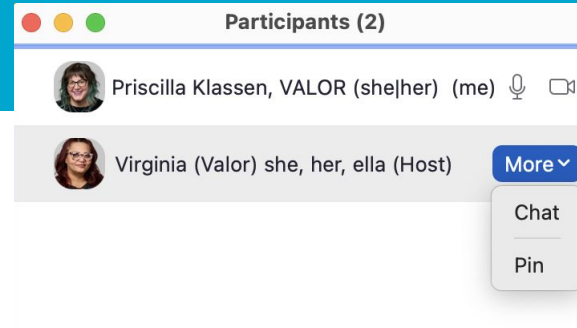
- English Closed Captions can be accessed by selecting the “Show Captions” button.
- Use the raise hand feature or chat function to ask questions throughout the web conference.
- Message conference facilitators Ashleigh or Priscilla, for technical support.



# Spanish Interpretation

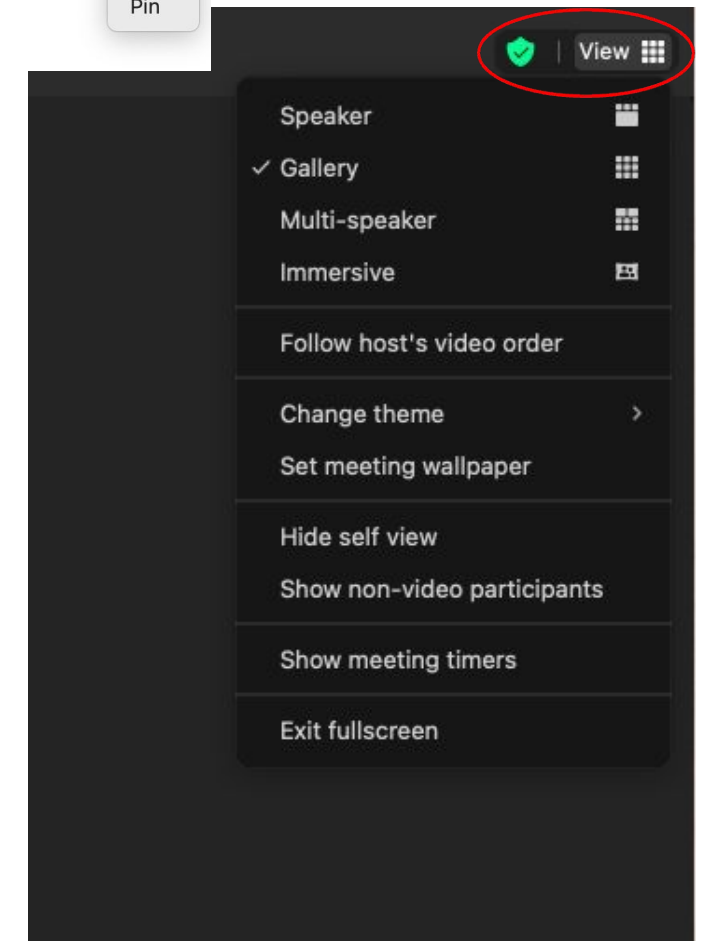
- This web conference is offered in English with live Spanish interpretation.
- Click on the Interpretation Globe icon in your Zoom toolbar to select a language.
- Spanish interpretation is only available when using internet audio, “join audio by computer.”
- Those dialing in over the phone will only hear English.
- If you need to hear the Spanish interpretation, please join with computer audio only.





# ASL Interpretation

- We have ASL Interpreters joining us today. We have the interpreters spotlit.
- You can control your view by selecting “View” on the upper right of your screen.
- You can pin speakers and interpreters by hovering over their name in the participants window, selecting “More”, then “Pin.”
- If you would like to ask a question in ASL, please use the “Raise Hand” feature and wait to be spotlit.





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\*\*This project is supported by Grant No. 15JVOW-22-GK-00220-DISA awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.\*\*

VALORUS 



# Presenters



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VALOR



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Executive Director  
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Client Advocate  
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# Objectives

- Explain the basics of trauma-informed care
- Demonstrate trauma-informed practices
- Assess appropriate community supports
- Examine products created to help improve services for survivors with intellectual and developmental disabilities at rape crisis centers and within disability serving organizations

# Trauma-Informed Care



# Moving from Disability Responsive to Trauma Responsive

- Recognize the high prevalence of sexual violence amongst people with DD
- Assess and remove barriers that prevent survivors with DD from disclosing
- Train staff to believe survivors with DD and respond compassionately
- Train staff to incorporate healthy sexuality and healing into existing service plans
- Collaborate with rape crisis centers on protocols to provide prompt, survivor-centered services

# Components of Trauma-Informed Support

Understanding

Safety

Trustworthiness  
& transparency

Peer support

Collaboration &  
mutuality

Empowerment,  
voice, & choice

Humility &  
responsiveness

# 4 R's of Trauma-Informed Care

**Realizes**  
the widespread  
impact of trauma  
and understands  
potential paths for  
recovery

**Responds**  
by fully integrating  
knowledge about  
trauma into  
policies,  
procedures, and  
practices

**Recognizes**  
the signs and  
symptoms of  
trauma in clients,  
families, staff, and  
others involved  
with the system

**Resists**  
re-traumatization

# Survivor-Centered Approach

The survivor has a right to:

- Be treated with dignity and respect
- Choose the course of action
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Non-discrimination
- Receive comprehensive information to help them make their own decision

# Considerations

- Behavior = Communication/Coping skill
- Trauma has an impact
- Trauma is often overlooked or unidentified
- Routine isn't always best
- Healing takes time



# Things to Remember

- Believe the survivor.
- People with disabilities are entitled to the dignity, consideration, respect and rights that you expect for yourself.
- Be intersectional: recognize the individual's culture, background, and lived experiences and how trauma impacts people differently.
- Treat adults like adults.
- The survivor is the expert in what they need.
- Offer to stop for a break if the survivor is tiring out or getting upset.

# Trauma-Informed Practices



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# Plain Language Guide



Reporting Abuse: Who, What,  
When, Where, Why, and How

FEBRUARY 2023



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# Plain Language Guide



Reporting Abuse: Who, What,  
When, Where, Why, and How

FEBRUARY 2023

# Creating Transparency



## **WHO**

is a mandated  
reporter?  
do they report about?  
do they report to?



## **WHAT**

is a mandated  
reporter?  
do they have to  
report?



## **WHEN**

do they have to  
report?



## **WHERE**

are mandated  
reporters?



## **WHY**

do they have to  
report?



## **HOW**

do they report?



# Creating Transparency

## The Step-by-Step Process

A mandated reporter finds out about abuse or thinks that abuse happened.

Mandated reporter calls APS or Ombudsperson and tells them and then sends a written report.

APS or Ombudsperson will decide if they need more information.

They may call you or other people to find out more about what happened.

They may visit you or other people to find out more about what happened.

After they get enough information they will try to figure out the best way to help you.

# Reporter Guide



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Best Practices for Including  
Survivors with I/DD during  
Mandated Reporting

FEBRUARY 2023

# Mandated Reporting

- **Describe reporting process to survivor in plain language**

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- Describe reporting process to survivor in plain language
- **Involve survivor in process of reporting**

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- **Discuss additional supports and trusted individuals survivor may want to reach out to, offer to assist them**



# Mandated Reporting

- Describe reporting process to survivor in plain language
- Involve survivor in process of reporting
- Discuss additional supports and trusted individuals survivor may want to reach out to, offer to assist them
- **Provide follow up care**

# Reminders for Mandated Reporters

- Clarify roles early and often
- Each reporter has their own duty
- Mandated reporting does not guarantee safety
- Be patient with the survivor

## Breakout Room

Go through your group and take turns informing each other that you are a mandated reporter and what that means, in plain language.

Inform your group that you will need to make a report to APS and what that means, in plain language.

# Community Supports

# Use the Principles as a Framework:

- How are we promoting safety?
- How are we building trust and being transparent?
- How do we nurture and grow peer support?
- How are we acting with and promoting collaboration and mutuality?
- How are we centering empowerment and choices?
- How are we acknowledging and including cultural, historical, and gender issues?

# Resource Inquiries

- Mission and program goals
- Clients/customers they serve
- Language and cultural capacity and/or emphasis
- Shared goals and/or philosophy for clients
- Preferred referral process

# Diving Deeper

- Are culturally sensitive services available?
- Are they aware of governmental policies impacting a disabled survivor's residency status?
- Do they speak the language that the survivor prefers to use?
- Are there interpreter services available?

# Diving Deeper

- Are they easily accessible by public transportation?
- Are they easily accessible for persons with disabilities? What types of disabilities?
- Are they able to accommodate support people who may accompany the survivor?
- Are they able to provide virtual or hybrid services?



# Diving Deeper

- Are there costs involved?
- What is their average response time to a survivor?
- Do they have evening hours?
- What is the best way to communicate with them?

# Types of Services

- Healthcare facilities
- Social services
- Food banks
- Homeless shelters
- LGBTQ service centers
- Independent living centers
- Consulates
- Substance abuse treatment facilities
- Faith-based organizations
- Legal Aid, private attorneys, or organizations, such as those for immigrants' legal needs
- Counseling or therapy services and support groups
- Self-defense classes
- Victim Compensation Board
- Culturally specific organizations
- Transportation

# Outreach Materials



## Understanding Sexual Abuse



It's important for everyone to learn about sexual abuse, including adults with developmental disabilities. Sexual abuse can happen to anyone and it is never your fault. Knowing what it is and how to talk about it can help you feel stronger. This pamphlet will give you important information about sexual abuse and how to get help.



[valor.us/gethelp](https://valor.us/gethelp)

# Creating an Individualized Referral Plan

- **Identify needs**

# Creating an Individualized Referral Plan

- Identify needs
- **Determine & assess options**

# Creating an Individualized Referral Plan

- Identify needs
- Determine & Assess options
- **Make a plan**

# Resource Guide



A ValorUS and  
Arc of California Project

Supporting Sexual Assault Survivors  
with Developmental Disabilities in  
California: A Resource Guide

SEPTEMBER 2024

Questions?







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