



## **Panelists**

Gayle Beck – Athena Project

Priscilla Blackmon – Family Safety Center

Vernetta Eddleman – Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape  
Crisis Center

Bill Gibbons – Shelby Co. Crime Commission and UofM Public  
Safety Institute

Phillis Lewis – Love Doesn't Hurt

Patricia Maynard – Kindred Place

Shannon N. McKenna – Memphis Area Legal Services

Phuong Nguyen – UofM Office for Institutional Equity

Marquiepta Odom – YWCA

Mearl Purvis

Deputy Chief Michael Shearin – Memphis Police Department

Inez Warner – Southwest TN Community College Office of  
Equity & Compliance

## **Resource Tables**

Agape

Athena Project

Casa Luz

Family Safety Center

Kindred Place

Love Doesn't Hurt

Memphis Area Legal Services

Memphis Area Women's Council

Memphis Police Department

Metropolitan Inner-Faith Association (MIFA)

The Pregnant Mom's Empowerment Program (PMEP)

Rhodes Office for Institutional Equity

Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Coalition (SAPAC)

Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center

Southwest Community College Office of Equity & Compliance

Successful Transitions Empowering Permanent Safety (STEPS)

UofM Office for Institutional Equity

Walking into a New Life

YWCA

## **Agape**

Through a client-informed approach, Agape has learned that some of our families' main concerns include safety, employment, education attainment and support, spiritual connection and healing, health, and social and economic support. In response, they have found or initiated programs such as after school tutoring, life skills classes, GED practice courses, workforce readiness programming and nutrition classes, just to name a few. Agape's counseling services provide support, direction and life-skills training as needed. Their prevention and intervention offerings are designed to strengthen relationships and help provide solutions to problems. Agape offers a full range of resources, programs and services in the areas of marriage and family counseling and relationship education. For more information, visit [agapemeanslove.org](http://agapemeanslove.org) or call (901) 323-3600.

## **Kindred Place**

For more than 30 years Kindred Place has helped adults and children find peace, ending the cycle of anger, violence, aggression and trauma inside their homes. Our staff of 35 includes licensed counselors and social workers who are trained to work with both victims of violence and family aggressors. Our mission is to end family violence.

To learn more about our programs or to schedule an intake for services, call 901-276-2200 or email [safe@kindred-place.org](mailto:safe@kindred-place.org).

## **Memphis Police Department**

The Domestic Violence Unit (DV) is responsible for investigating incidents involving domestic violence. The DV Unit works closely with the Citizens Dispute Office and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office regarding Domestic Violence warrants and protective orders.

## **The Athena Project**

The Athena Project is a mental health research center for women who have experienced intimate partner violence and abuse. We recognize that each woman is unique and so, we begin with a thorough assessment, focused on your emotional health. During the assessment, you will be interviewed about various kinds of mental health symptoms that you might be experiencing. We will also ask you to complete some questionnaires. At the end of the assessment, we will go over the results, including individually-tailored suggestions that map onto the issues that you are seeking help for. We offer treatment for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder relating to intimate partner violence at the Athena Project and if the assessment suggests that our treatment would be a good fit, we will make it available to you. If the assessment suggests that other kinds of services would better meet your needs, we will make suggestions for where you can obtain those services.

All information is kept confidential, within the limits of the law. All the services offered by the Athena Project are free and available to women ages 18 and older. We have worked with over 550 women since we opened and are committed to providing quality mental health services to the community. For more information or to inquire about assessment services, please contact Dr. Gayle Beck at the University of Memphis, Department of Psychology at (901) 678-3973.

## **Love Doesn't Hurt**

Love Doesn't Hurt helps to provide emergency resources to victims of crime in the LGBTQ+ Community in Shelby County, TN. Through the assistance of our partner agencies working together to provide educational sessions and presentations to promote equality, empowerment, and love while showing the impact that violence has made in the LGBTQ+ Community to help provide inclusive and diverse assistance to victims and survivors. For more information, email [lovedoesnthurt901@gmail.com](mailto:lovedoesnthurt901@gmail.com).

## **Family Safety Center**

The Family Safety Center is one location that effectively combines civil, criminal, health and social services for victims of family violence. By co-locating the services of their partner agencies in one location, the Family Safety Center can better serve the hurting families of Memphis and Shelby County who are caught up in the trauma of domestic violence. They aid victims by helping them navigate through the many services available to them. Ultimately, they strive to reduce incidents of domestic violence and strengthen families in Memphis and Shelby County.

Their mission is to build a community where domestic violence victims can survive and thrive. Their vision is a thriving community free from domestic violence. For more information, contact (901) 222-4400.

## **CasaLuz**

CasaLuz is the first and only non-profit organization in the Memphis/Shelby County area that culturally and exclusively serves Hispanic/Latino victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes. Founded in October of 2015 by Inés Negrette, CasaLuz's mission is to prevent and reduce domestic violence and related crimes in the Hispanic community, and to promote equal access to justice and other services. CasaLuz supports Latino and Hispanic immigrant victims, taking a holistic approach in order to promote healing, well-being, and lives free of violence and fear within the Hispanic community; empowering them to follow through with legal remedies while seeking safety, independence, and healing from the effects of violence. CasaLuz has a bilingual/bicultural staff that serves clients through shared language and culture, while connecting the rapidly growing Memphis-area immigrant community with law enforcement, government agencies, and other service partners and resources. For more information, visit [casaluzmemphis.org](http://casaluzmemphis.org) or call (901) 500-8214.

## **Memphis Area Legal Services, Inc. (MALS)**

MALS is the primary provider of civil legal representation to low income families in the western Tennessee counties of Shelby, Fayette, Tipton, and Lauderdale. MALS is a multi-faceted, non-profit law firm guided by values that embody our commitment to equal access to justice for those in need. MALS provides free legal assistance ranging from giving legal advice to unrepresented people, to representing clients in court and administrative proceedings, to community education and outreach to some of the most vulnerable residents in West Tennessee. MALS helps individuals and families facing potentially life-altering situations including domestic violence.

To make an application for assistance, you can call us at (901) 523-8822, or visit one of our offices located at 22 North Front Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, in downtown Memphis, and 899-A Highway 51 South, in Covington, Tennessee.

## **Memphis Area Women's Council**

The Women's Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to changing local policies to improve women's lives in health, education and economic self-sufficiency. Due to the epidemic levels of violence against women and girls, the Council has an ongoing strategic focus on the needs of survivors, on system change to increase prosecution of batterers and rapists and to increase resources and community response to these crimes, to victim/survivors and to perpetrators. Deborah Clubb is executive director of the Memphis Area Women's Council, coordinator of the Memphis Says NO MORE campaign and an award-winning advocate for women and survivors of violence. For more information, visit [memphiswomen.org](http://memphiswomen.org) or call (901) 378-3866.

## **Metropolitan Inner-Faith Association (MIFA)**

MIFA's Family Programs provide basic services to prevent homelessness, stabilize families, and encourage independence. The Homeless Hotline is a 24-hour resource that connects homeless families with minor children in Memphis and Shelby County to shelter and/or other resources. For any families experiencing homelessness after 4:30 PM, please contact (901) 529-4545. Emergency Shelter Placement helps families with minor children secure temporary shelter if homelessness cannot be avoided through mediation. Families must meet HUD's definition of literal homelessness and have no other resources to prevent homelessness may be eligible for placement if shelter is available. Screening hours for Emergency Shelter are Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Rapid Rehousing helps eligible homeless families quickly obtain permanent stable housing. Families must be currently in emergency shelter in order to qualify.

## **The Pregnant Mom's Empowerment Program (PMEP)**

The Pregnant Moms' Empowerment Program (PMEP) at the University of Memphis is a free, group intervention for pregnant women who have recently experienced intimate partner violence. Each group consists of 4-5 women and 2 group leaders. Groups meet for a total of 10 hours over the span of 5 weeks at a time and location that is convenient for the participants. Meals will be provided at each group meeting and participants will receive 5 small baby care items over the course of the program. Transportation assistance and childcare during the sessions are available for free. Participants will be compensated \$160 for completing 4 assessments at 4 different time points: before the program, after the program, at 3 months postpartum, and at 12 months postpartum. To see if you are eligible to participate, please call (901) 646-0499.

## **Sexual Assault Prevention Association and Coalition (SAPAC)**

The Sexual Assault Prevention & Awareness Coalition has a strong student leadership team committed to primary prevention initiatives around sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual harassment, and stalking. Through peer education, campus events, and advocacy, SAPAC aims to educate the campus community on positive social norms, bystander intervention, and consent. For more information, please email [sapac@memphis.edu](mailto:sapac@memphis.edu).

## **Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center**

The Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center envisions a healthier, safer, and more well-informed Shelby County, where victims of crime are treated with dignity and respect as they heal from trauma and navigate the justice system, and community members are empowered to join together to reduce violence and its traumatic effects. The Center is located at 1060 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104. Their office phone number is (901) 222-4350. The 24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline number is (901) 222-4350.

## **Southwest TN Community College Office of Equity & Compliance**

The Office of Equity & Compliance is responsible for advancing and sustaining a positive environment which supports both the letter and spirit of the laws regarding equal opportunity and access in employment and education. To this end, the Office of Equity & Compliance ensures that the College complies with federal and state laws and regulations regarding equal opportunity. Dr. Inez B. Warner is the Director of Equity & Compliance for Southwest TN Community College. For more information, email [equityandcompliance@southwest.tn.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@southwest.tn.edu) or call (901) 333-5005.

## **Successful Transitions Empowering Permanent Safety (STEPS)**

STEPS is a nonprofit organization that assists survivors of domestic violence during the transitions of rebuilding their lives. STEPS is dedicated to helping victims connect with local and out of state resources that provide services designed specifically for their individual needs. Their services include the following: assistance locating emergency, transitional, and/or permanent housing; assistance with understanding the court process and other legal proceedings; goal accountability workshops, support groups, domestic violence and sexual assault awareness presentations; assistance with locating and receiving supportive services; and 24-hour peer support. For more information, visit [stepsbyfaith1st.org](http://stepsbyfaith1st.org) or call (901) 436-2332.

## **UofM Office for Institutional Equity**

The Office for Institutional Equity monitors the University's policy on equal opportunity and affirmative action in employment and education in that it will not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex (except where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification), disability, where the person is a qualified disabled person, or because of their status as a qualified disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam era.

## **Walking into a New Life**

Walking into a New Life, Inc., is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide community awareness and share tangible resources, education and awareness for individuals affected by domestic violence and its intersections. Its audience includes a diverse group of men, women and teens with no exclusion regarding educational, religious, social economic backgrounds or sexual orientation. It actively hosts and/or participates in facilitating workshops, panel discussions and ongoing community awareness activities. Some of its signature events and programs include Pamper and Support Day, Girls Night Out, Men Against DV Awareness Initiatives, Sync 4 UR Life, and our Boot on the Ground Podcast/Blog. Tangible resources include flex spending cards, relocation assistance, and referrals to partner agencies for additional services as needed. Walking into a New Life, Inc., is actively engaged in learning about current policy and legislation specific to domestic violence and its intersections to better advocate on behalf of victims/survivors of abuse. Joyce Kyles is the Founder and Executive Director. For more information, visit [wianl.org](http://wianl.org), call (901) 466-6182, or email [info@wianl.org](mailto:info@wianl.org).

## **YWCA**

YWCA Greater Memphis (YW-GM) has provided mission-driven programs and services supporting women, children and families since 1919. YW-GM is a member of YWCA USA, which - in turn - is a member of World YWCA. YW-GM empowers women and strengthens families by promoting personal and economic self-sufficiency through comprehensive programs such as: After School Childcare and Education as well as Community Education and Training (this includes our Racial Justice Program). YWCAs believe that direct services are not enough to address systemic issues; thus, we work to change inequity via public policy advocacy focused on racial justice and gender equity. YWCA Greater Memphis' mission: "Eliminating racism and empowering women." And we accomplish that in many ways, one way is through our 16-unit, state-of-the-art facility providing a safe-haven for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. YWCA is also deeply rooted in victim advocacy and community outreach in the Mid-South.

## **Shelby Co. Crime Commission/ UofM Public Safety Institute**

Bill Gibbons serves as President of the Memphis Shelby County Crime Commission and Executive Director of the Public Safety Institute at the University of Memphis. The Crime Commission seeks to improve public safety by advocating implementation of the best practices. The primary mission of the Crime Commission is to spearhead a plan (Operation: Safe Community) to significantly improve public safety in the Memphis area, galvanize diverse leaders and stakeholders in the implementation and support of the plan, and manage the hard work necessary to achieve implementation.

The Public Safety Institute is committed to identifying and advancing best practices in the field of public safety through applied research. The PSI is funded initially through the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a 50-member board of directors that serves as a leadership team for reducing crime in Memphis and Shelby County. The board is comprised of top leaders in law enforcement, criminal justice, business, government, the non-profit community, and the faith community.

For more information about the Crime Commission or the Public Safety Institute, call (901) 678.2794 or email [psi@memphis.edu](mailto:psi@memphis.edu).