



# **VICTIM OFFENDER MEDIATION ASSOCIATION**

20th Annual  
International Training Institute  
& Conference

**November 2-5, 2003**

**Doubletree Hotel**

**Nashville, Tennessee, USA**

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The mission of VONA is "promoting and enhancing restorative justice dialogue, principles, and practices."  
Our mission will be achieved only with a commitment to full diversity and equality of participation for all people.

## **Greetings!**

On behalf of the VOMA Board, we cordially invite you to attend VOMA's 20th Annual International Training Institute and Conference. This event continues the tradition of VOMA and its members as leaders in the field of Victim Offender Mediation and Restorative Justice dialogue and practice.

This year's trainings and workshops will be challenging, exciting, and bring you the critical issues and creative ideas in the field. You'll have the opportunity to network with people from around the world committed to Restorative Justice and Peacemaking and participate in discussion and dialogue on those issues of importance and interest to you.

The Training Institute and Conference offers a wide range of trainings and workshops in a three-day period from noon Sunday, November 2 through noon, Wednesday, November 5. Highlights include:

In-depth training in **Basic Victim Offender Mediation and Conferencing.**

**Advanced** training in mediation.

Trainings and workshops exploring key themes including **diversity, youth, international applications, cultural issues, and evaluation.**

An exciting new format features six plenary sessions on **Race & Economic Justice - Replacing Violence with Peace, Spirituality/Faith and Social Justice, Offenders - Moving Beyond Punishment, Community Role and Community Processes in Restorative Justice, Victims - Reality and Vision, and Terrorism & Transformation in the Aftermath of War** and participatory **dialogue** and policy development following these plenary sessions.

And join Kay Pranis at a featured book signing for the newly released **Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community** by Kay Pranis, Barry Stuart and Mark Wedge (Living Justice Press, 2003)

VOMA's Board, as always, is very enthusiastic and excited about the Training Institute and Conference. A dedicated local site committee in Nashville is busy making arrangements for the best conference ever! Register now and make hotel reservations early in order to take advantage of the special conference room rate. See you in Nashville, Tennessee.

**-- VOMA Board of Directors**  
and co-chairs Walter Drew Smith and Annie Warner Robert

### **Dear VOMA Member:**

Please join us for our Annual Membership Meeting, to be held the last night of the Training Institute and Conference, Tuesday 4 November. The meeting will be held over dinner, in hopes of expanding your opportunity to participate and create a better forum for the exchange of information and ideas.

As VOMA moves forward with its strategic plan, it is vital that the membership plays an active role. In the meeting, you may look forward to:

- Hear stories of the past and hopes for the future as we celebrate 20+ years of work
- Announcement and recognition of our first round of mini-grant recipients
- Opportunity to dialogue with Board members and share ideas
- Meet your VOMA administrators from the Center for Policy, Planning, and Performance
- Learn what it means to be a member of VOMA's Board of Directors
- Call for nominations for new Board members
- Acknowledgement of outgoing Board members

The Board recognizes that the membership is, truly, the heart, soul, and conscience of what VOMA has, over its history, aspired to stand for. Your continued participation will help guide and support the Board through its transition toward achieving VOMA's strategic plan.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Barbara Raye, Administrator*

*Walter Drew Smith, Co-Chair*

*Annie Warner Roberts, Co-Chair*

## Training Institute and Conference Schedule Overview

### Sunday, 2 November

10:00 am – 2:30 pm Registration  
 Noon – 2:00 pm Lunch & Welcome  
*Plenary Presentation on Spirituality/Faith and Social Justice - Dr. A. J. Levine*  
 2:15 pm – 5:30 pm Trainings & Workshops  
 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Reception hosted by the VOMA Board and the Tennessee Site Committee

### Monday, 3 November

7:30 am Registration  
 8:00 am – 8:30 am *Plenary Presentation on Victims - OVC Vision for the Future- John Gillis*  
 8:45 am – Noon Trainings & Workshops  
 Noon – 1:30 pm Lunch  
*Plenary Presentation on Terrorism & Transformation in the Aftermath of War - Jan Goodwin*  
 1:45 pm – 5:00 pm Trainings & Workshops

### Tuesday, 4 November

7:30 am Registration  
 8:00 am – 8:30 am *Plenary Presentation on Offenders - Moving Beyond Punishment - Harmon Wray*  
 8:45 am - Noon Trainings & Workshops  
 Noon - 1:30 pm Lunch  
*Plenary Presentation on Race & Economic Justice - Replacing Violence with Peace - Pat Clark*  
 1:45 pm – 5:00 pm Trainings & Workshops  
 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm Membership Meeting with Dinner

### Wednesday 5 November

7:30 am – 8:30 am Closing Breakfast  
*Plenary Presentation on Community Role and Community Processes in Restorative Justice - Kay Pranis*  
 8:45 am – Noon Trainings & Workshops

### Training Institute and Conference Sessions:

This year our Training Institute and Conference will run concurrently, and at any one time we will be offering both workshops and trainings. This gives you the flexibility to choose whether you wish to attend trainings, workshops or a combination of both. The schedule of trainings to be offered can be seen on the next page. When registering, using the form enclosed, please indicate which training sessions you wish to attend.

We are still developing a workshop schedule to bring you a variety of subject areas. These include, but are not limited to volunteering, experience of RJ in countries around the world, the experience of Oregon in developing mediation programs for serious and violent crimes, the evolution of RJ and biblical principles of RJ. You will not be required to sign up for workshop sessions in advance.

**Plenary Sessions:**

This year we have an exciting new format of 6 plenary speakers who will each present on one of the following topics:

- ***Race & Economic Justice - Replacing Violence with Peace***
- ***Spirituality/ Faith and Social Justice***
- ***Offenders - Moving Beyond Punishment***
- ***Community Roles and Community Processes in Restorative Justice***
- ***Victims - OVC Vision for the Future***
- ***Terrorism & Transformation in the Aftermath of War***

**Pat Clark** is the Executive Director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), an interfaith organization advocating peace, justice and nonviolence. She served with the American Friends Service Committee as National Criminal Justice Representative focusing on issues such as hate violence and restorative justice, juvenile justice, and the death penalty on which she became a national spokesperson. Clark also worked for The Southern Poverty Law Center as director of the Klanwatch Project and collected research that was used in litigation against the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist groups. She began her social justice work with Habitat for Humanity International in the 70s and early 80's in Zaire.

**John Gillis** is the Director of the Justice Department's Office for Victims of Crime. Following the murder of his daughter he helped found the Justice for Homicide Victims and the Coalition of Victims Equal Rights a statewide organization that works on behalf of the rights of victims and their families. In 1991 he was presented with the National Crime Victim Service Award for his work in helping crime victims. From 1962 to 1988 he served with the Los Angeles Police Department and served as a Commissioner of the California Board of Prison Terms, acting as chairman from 1991 to 1993.

**Jan Goodwin** is a recipient of three Amnesty International Media Awards. She is the author of "Caught in the Crossfire" written about her 3 months with the Afghan Resistance during the Soviet-Afghan war. It was nominated for best book on the war by the L.A. Times and as the book of the year by Doris Lessing for the London Sunday Times. She is also author of the "Price of Honor" about the lives of Muslim women—a New York Times "notable book". As a journalist Goodwin has covered wars/unrest in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cambodia, Congo (DRC), El Salvador, Ethiopia, Kosovo, the Middle East and Gulf, Northern Ireland, Sierra Leone, and South Africa.

**Dr. Amy-Jill Levine** is the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies and Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Her numerous books and articles address such topics as Christian origins, formative Judaism and the "Historical Jesus". Recent projects include editing a twelve-volume series "The Feminist Companions to the New Testament and Early Christian Literature", a study of the old Testament Apocrypha, and a commentary on the Greek Book of Esther. Levine uses historical-critical rigor, literary-critical sensitivity, and a dash of humor to expose and expunge anti-Jewish, sexist, and heterosexist theologies.

**Kay Pranis** was responsible for the first restorative justice dialogue in Minnesota. As Restorative Justice Planner for the MN Dept. of Corrections she guided statewide development and funding of community-based restorative justice programs. She provides training to community groups, criminal justice professionals and educators to support implementation of restorative approaches to crime and conflict. She has been actively involved in several national restorative justice initiatives and featured in articles and books on women's leadership and peace making. Her passion since 1996 has been peacemaking circles. Pranis has written numerous articles, essays and books, the most recent being Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community, co-authored with Barry Stuart and Mark Wedge.

**Harmon Wray** is a longtime criminal justice reform advocate and is the Executive Director of the National Association of Sentencing Advocates. He served as Executive Director of the Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and of the Restorative Justice Ministries of the General board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Wray taught "Theology and Politics of Crime and Justice in America" at Vanderbilt Divinity School and has written extensively on criminal justice issues, most recently "Restorative Justice: Moving Beyond Punishment". He is a frequent television and radio show guest, speaking to audiences on crime, prisons, restorative justice, and the death penalty.

**Schedule: Training Institute and Conference**

Day 1:		Day 2:		Day 3:	
Sun: Noon – 5:30	Mon: 8:45 – Noon	Mon: 1:45 – 5:30	Tues: 8:45 – Noon	Tues: 1:45 – 5:30	Wed: 8:45 – Noon
A: Basic Victim Offender Mediation and Conferencing (3 Days)					
B: Mediated Dialogue in Crimes of Severe Violence (2 Days)				P: Sex Offenders and Restorative Justice (1 Day)	
C: Advanced Mediation Skills Training (2 Days)				Q: The Restorative Justice movement from an Indigenous Perspective (1 Day)	
D: Starting a Victim Offender Mediation Program (1 Day)		J: Restorative Justice and Domestic Violence (1 Day)			
E: Restorative Justice in the School Community (1 Day)		K: Racial/Cultural Issues in Mediation (1 Day)		R: A Framework for Assessment (1 Day)	
F: Understanding Victimization (1 Day)		L: Community Justice: A model to overcome disproportionate minority contact in the criminal justice system (1 Day)		S: Restorative Justice in Diverse Communities (1 Day)	
G: Hate, Bias and Violence: A Restorative Justice (1 Day)		M: Ethnic Conflict and International Restorative Justice Practices (1 Day)		T: Dialogue: Race & Economic Justice	U: Dialogue: Community Roles and Processes
H: Dialogue: Spirituality/ Faith and Social Justice	I: Dialogue: Victims - OVC Vision for the Future	N: Dialogue: Terrorism & Aftermath of War	O: Dialogue: Offenders - Moving Beyond Punishment	<i>Subject to change</i>	

Throughout the three days workshops will also be offered *at the same time* as the above trainings. If you are planning to attend workshops you do not need to sign up for each individual session.

### **Training Institute Sessions**

#### **Training A: Basic Victim Offender Mediation and Conferencing (3 days) - Tim Hansen/Danielle Reister**

This session will include benefits and risks of VOM & Conferencing, philosophy and principles, stages of a mediation case including pre meeting, face to face sessions and follow up. It will also explore ethical issues of practitioners and include multiple role plays and practice. This training assumes that participants have basic conflict resolution or mediation skills training.

#### **Training B: Mediated Dialogue in Crimes of Severe Violence (2 days) – David Doerfler/Jon Wilson/Karen Ho/DaveGustafson/Sandi Bergen**

This training will introduce participants to the diversity of philosophies and goals, approaches and content, application and implementation of facilitating mediated dialogue in crimes of severe violence. This training would serve to expose participants to the various trainings in this field so that they are prepared to choose according to their personal or programmatic needs.

#### **Training C: Advanced Mediation Skills Training (2 Days) – Winnie Backlund/Shoshi Goldfus**

This advanced session will lay a framework for a relational model of mediation. It will also explore how interaction is shaped, patterns and concepts of practice, and rhythm and timing of a mediation session.

#### **Training D: Starting a Victim Offender Mediation Program (1 day) – Mary Ellen Bowen/Linda Mix**

This training highlights the essential keys and strategies in building a successful mediation program, including types of organization, types of cases, funding and development, mediator training and community education, networking, expansion, mentoring and other issues and concerns of participants.

#### **Training E: Restorative Justice in the School Community (1 day) – Polly Wolner**

This training will help you to implement the Restorative Discipline process in your school community. This would include how to partner with your school, where to start and how to get your school districts to buy in. The training will provide you with the materials to use in conducting your own school trainings. You will also learn the components of peacemaking circles and participate in a circle to resolve a current issue.

#### **Training F: Understanding Victimization (1 day) – Cathy Warmington/Gregory Williams/Sheri Gatts**

In this training participants will explore the dynamics of victimization, background information of the Victim Rights Movement, insight into the consequences of violence and victimization, information on different victim populations, and how to introduce mediation to victims and victim involvement for a balanced approach. It will also explore the growth of the victim service profession, victim rights legislation, and strategies for collaboration with victim service professionals.

#### **Training G: Hate, Bias and Violence: A Restorative Response (1 Day) – Jean Handley/Lou Furman**

This training will provide an historic overview of and theoretical foundation for how the current system uses bias and hate to allow humiliation and shame to fester and lead to violent outcomes. It will explore the Restorative Justice responses that transform the current model and look to develop strategies and responses that are relevant to the needs of the participants.

#### **Training H: Dialogue – Spirituality/Faith and Social Justice (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by *Dr A. J. Levine* and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

#### **Training I: Dialogue – Victims - Reality and Vision (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by *John Gillis* and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

#### **Training J: Domestic Violence and Victim Offender Mediation (2 day) – Alan Edwards/Susan Sharpe**

Through a combination of lecture, small group work, and discussions, participants will consider a restorative approach to mediating domestic violence cases. Participants will gain an understanding of the realities for domestic violence victims and offenders, they will understand some of the cultural and political factors that influence abuse and will weigh the considerable demands of responsible domestic violence works with the strengths and weaknesses of Restorative Justice.

#### **Training K: Racial/Cultural Issues in Mediation (1 day) – Sheri Gatts**

In this training participants will consider their own values and cultural biases, gain more awareness of how their values and cultural biases affect their work, and develop strategies for continued awareness.

**Training L: Community Justice: A Model to Overcome Disproportionate Minority Contact in the Criminal Justice System (1 Day) – Dale Landry**

This session will explore the evolution of Restorative Justice into the emerging Community Justice movement and how it can be used to address Disproportionate Minority Contact throughout the criminal justice system. Attendees will get a snapshot of: the duality of laws (and justice); America's New Civil War on Crime and its impact on the Black Community; the emergence of Restorative Justice philosophy and practices; the evolution of Community Justice in response to community needs.

**Training M: International Restorative Justice Practices (1 Day) - Panel of Practitioners**

This training shares the unique experiences of some international practitioners in ethnic or tribal conflict and peace building after civil war and systemic oppression. It will also discuss international conflicts and what is being learned about the use of RJ values and practices in these situations.

**Training N: Dialogue – Terrorism and Transformation in the Aftermath of War (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by *Jan Goodwin* and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

**Training O: Dialogue – Offenders - Moving Beyond Punishment (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by *Harmon Wray* and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

**Training P: Sex Offenders and Restorative Justice (1 Day) – Mark Yantzi**

This introductory training will provide an understanding of restorative justice and its relation to sexual offending, including assisting participants in identifying their own responses to this topic. The training will provide an understanding of sexual abuse from the perspectives of victims, offenders and their respective families, present a model for facilitated dialogue, and apply this model to real life situations, and strategize ways to address obstacles.

**Training Q: The Restorative Justice movement from an Indigenous perspective (1 Day) - Harley Eagle/Ada Pecos Melton**

Over the last few decades the concept of restorative justice rooted in indigenous cultures has grown into what most would call a movement, influencing society to begin addressing crime, conflict, and harm in more inclusive, collaborative ways. What does this mean to Indigenous people the world over? How can the restorative justice movement continue to learn from these roots?

**Training R: A Framework for Assessment (1 Day) – Tom Quinn**

In this training participants will be introduced to different types of assessment, learn tools to define what should be assessed and how, understand how to communicate the results and outline an approach to evaluate a real world problem of interest to the participants using the tools introduced in the training. It will also introduce a model outcomes tool for RJ programs being developed by VOMA.

**Training S: Restorative Justice and Diverse Communities (1 Day) – Barb Toews/Melissa Crabbe**

This training will explore diversity – race, worldview, religion, culture, etc. among victims and offenders and how that diversity shapes our understanding of restorative justice. There will be a focus on diversity within the prison environment.

**Training T: Dialogue – Race & Economic Justice - Replacing Violence with Peace (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by Pat Clark and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

**Training U: Dialogue – Community Role and Community Processes in Restorative Justice (1/2 Day)**

A dialogue session led by Kay Pranis and a VOMA board member following the presentation on this topic. This will give participants the opportunity to explore this issue in more depth and to consider public policy or other implications for VOMA.

## VOMA

### Join us for our 20<sup>th</sup> Annual International Training Institute and Conference in Nashville, Tennessee November 2-5 2003

The Training Institute and Conference is to be held at the **Doubletree Hotel**, Nashville, TN. Located in downtown Nashville, this hotel is within blocks of the downtown Historic District, Gaylord Entertainment Center, and the Country Music Hall of Fame. The hotel offers 338 well-appointed rooms and has an indoor pool and fitness center. The Plaza Café serves regional cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner, in addition to the numerous dining options in downtown Nashville.

Hotel Accommodation can be booked by calling 1800-222-TREE and asking for the Victim Offender Mediation Association group rate:

\$82 per room for 1 or 2 people (exc taxes)  
\$122 per room for 3 or 4 people (exc taxes)

*Airport Transportation:*

- Gray Line Tours has scheduled airport service from Nashville International Airport to downtown hotels. They depart the airport every 15 minutes and every 30 minutes from hotels. Cost is \$11 one way and \$17 round trip.
- Taxicabs are also available for a \$20 flat rate



#### **Victim Offender Mediation Association**

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