# Safe at Home: A Community-Wide Response to Family Violence

# Full-Day Agenda

### (90 minutes) Bad to the Bone: The Interconnectedness of Pet Abuse, Partner Abuse, and Child Abuse

Description: Based on my recent publication in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence (2021), which is the first in literature to utilize police officer observations and victims reports from the scene to quantify risk in homes where DV and Pet Abuse co-occur, this workshop will describe the specific emotional and physical risks of harm for all children, adults, and animals residing in these homes. With nearly 80% of these victims fearing, they will eventually be killed by the suspect, these families are likely to require immediate and often pro-longed assistance to better ensure a more positive outcome. In addition to increased risk for victims, concerns for the safety of first responders at the scene of these incidents will also be addressed. Effective multi-disciplinary strategies for reducing risk and improving outcomes in homes where these forms of violence occur will be described. We cannot best protect humans from abuse if we are not including their animal companions in the process.

### Learning Objectives:

- 1. Identify common risk factors for domestic violence and pet abuse.
- 2. Describe risks for specific forms of emotional and physical injury/harm for all humans and animals residing in homes where pet abuse and domestic violence are known to co-occur.
- 3. Recognize efficient and effective methods for developing collaborative, data-driven, research-based efforts to better identify and assist victims residing in these homes (adults, children, and pets).

### (90 minutes) Increasing Family Violence: Unintended Consequences of the Covid-19 Response

Description: The national response to the Coronavirus (Covid-19), though necessary to slow the spread of the virus, dramatically increased risk of abuse perpetration in the home. Additionally, social distancing, self-quarantine measures, and the closures of schools, libraries, and churches made detection of abuse even more difficult. This presentation provides critical insight into these issues by exploring similar increases in family violence reported after natural disasters and highlighting a collaborative community response that incorporates both human welfare and animal welfare agencies. All victim-serving agencies must be aware of the increased risk for all in these homes (especially children and pets as they often represent the most vulnerable household members) and a potential increase in reports of victimization both during and for up to one year after the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### Learning Objectives:

- 1. Describe how specific actions to slow Covid-19 increased risk for family violence.
- 2. Identify trends in reporting for various forms of family violence before, during, and after Covid-19 lockdowns.
- 3. List similarities between common household/societal characteristics during the Covid-19 Pandemic and past natural disasters around the globe.
- 4. Recognize innovative approaches to reducing family violence during and after widespread disaster.

#### (90 minutes) More than Words: The Emotional Maltreatment of Children

Description: This presentation will discuss risks for psychological and emotional harm to children, with an emphasis on children who reside in a home or community where violence frequently occurs. Common misconceptions will be addressed, including the idea that a child can be "too young" to be impacted by exposure to violence, physically observable signs of injury are an appropriate estimator of victimization, and the idea that children who hear a violent act occur in the home but do not actually see it are not significantly harmed by it. Other topics to be

discussed include: the multiple forms of child emotional maltreatment, toxic stress and its effects on child development, child-caregiver attachment, "unavailable parenting", the effects of witnessing threats or violence against animals in the home or community, and caregiver risk factors for perpetrating emotional maltreatment.

### Learning Objectives:

- 5. Describe how domestic violence and child maltreatment intersect.
- 6. Identify specific risks of harm for children associated with violent-offending caregivers as well as caregivers victimized by violence.
- 7. Discuss approaches to protecting children and mitigating injuries that may occur to them in domestically violent homes.

## (90 minutes) All Eyes on DV: Developing a Multi-Disciplinary Perspective of Domestic Violence

Description: This presentation provides a unique take on domestic violence prevention, identification, and intervention by enabling participants to develop a multi-disciplinary perspective of violence in the home. Results from my national domestic violence survey of victim serving agencies across multiple disciplines will be discussed. Discipline-specific (and shared) barriers to working with victims of domestic violence will be identified (legal, church, law enforcement, education staff, social services, medical, animal, dv shelter). Participants will learn of critical concepts for overcoming these barriers, developing a multi-disciplinary response, and promoting data-driven, effective and efficient community-inclusive methods to better identify and assist these victims of violence.

#### Learning Objectives:

- 1. Identify common and discipline specific barriers to detection and reporting of family violence.
- 2. Develop a multi-disciplinary perspective to violence and abuse in the home.
- 3. Recognize efficient and effective methods for developing collaborative, community-wide efforts to better identify and assist victims of violence (adults, children, and pets).

**SPEAKER BIO:** Andrew Campbell is an expert on family violence and the associated risks of harm for adults, children, and animals residing in homes where this violence occurs. Utilizing cutting-edge data analysis, groundbreaking cross-discipline collaborations, and a personal perspective on violence in the home, he provides education for agencies across the country and assists in developing more efficient and effective community responses to physical and emotional violence. Andrew has presented at over 70 professional trainings over the last 3 years and his 10 major publications over the last 11 months include, groundbreaking pandemic analysis cited by the CDC in their recommendation to re-open schools, the first paper in academic literature to tie pet abuse to an increased risk for responders to domestic violence, and his analysis of nearly 10,000 first responder reports and observations from the scene of domestic violence incidents.

Presenter's relevant recent publications featured in presentations:

"Improving prevention of family violence during (and after) disaster: Lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic". Forensic Science International: Reports, Volume 3, July 2021, 100179.

"Stuck in a bad situation: How actions taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 affect family violence". Sheriff & Deputy, September/October 2020. Authors: Andrew M. Campbell and Sandy Runkle

"Unintended Consequences of COVID-19 Include Increases in Child and Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence". Wellbeing International. September 2020. Authors: Phil Arkow and Andrew M. Campbell

"The Hidden Dangers of Lockdown Orders for Domestic Violence Victims and Companion Animals".

Animal Legal Defense Fund News, April 2020. Authors: Brittany Hill, Phil Arkow, and Andrew M. Campbell.

"An increasing risk of family violence during the Covid-19 pandemic: Strengthening community collaborations to save lives." Forensic Science International. Reports, 2, 100089. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fsir.2020.100089. April 2020.

"Behind the mask: Animal abuse perpetration as an indicator of risk for first responders to domestic violence." Forensic Science International: Animals and Environments, Volume 1, November 2021, 100003.

"Following the Links: The Critical Role of Animal Control in Improving Detection and Prevention of Family Violence." Campbell, Andrew M. *Animal Care and Control Today*, Spring 2019.

"Healing Together: Sheltering Survivors of Domestic Violence with Their Pets." Campbell, Andrew M. Sheriff & Deputy, February 2019, Special Issue: Animal Cruelty.

"Intimate Partner Violence and Pet Abuse: Responding Law Enforcement Officers' Observations and Victim Reports from the Scene." Campbell, A.M., Thompson, S.L., Harris, T.A., & Wiehe, S. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, March 5, 2018. DOI: 10.1177/0886260518759653. http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0886260518759653

"Characteristics of Intimate Partner Violence incidents and the environments in which they occur: Victim reports to responding law enforcement officers". Campbell, A.M., Hicks, R., Thompson, S., & Wiehe, S. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, April 20, 2017. DOI: 10.1177/0886260517704230. http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0886260517704230

"The Emotional Maltreatment of Children in Domestically Violent Homes: Identifying Gaps in Education and Addressing Common Misconceptions". Campbell AM, Thompson SL. International Journal of Child Abuse & Neglect. Oct. 2015. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S014521341500277X

"More than Words: The Emotional Maltreatment of Children". Campbell AM, Hibbard RA. Pediatric Clinics of North America. Sept. 2014. http://www.pediatric.theclinics.com/article/S0031-3955(14)00118-7/abstract



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