



The Intersection of Human Trafficking & Persons with Disabilities
January 26, 2023, 8:30 a.m. - Noon
F.S.U. College of Law

Presenters

Elizabeth Bowman - is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Gallaudet University. She is also a minor domestic sex trafficking survivor, anti-trafficking advocate, mother of two teens, researcher, clinician, and speaker. In her clinical practice she works with trafficking survivors using trauma-informed yoga group therapy and also has a clinical practice supporting children and adolescents with anxiety and other challenges. She holds clinical social work licensure in DC, Virginia, and Maryland and is a Registered Yoga Teacher, RYT-200. She is the founder and executive director of the Restoring Ivy Collective in Washington, D.C., a survivor-led organization which provides referral and outreach, group therapy, and support to survivors of sex trafficking with a focus on intentional community.

Caitlin Clibbon, Esq. is a Public Policy Analyst with Disability Rights Florida. As an attorney and former social worker, Caitlyn has experience working with survivors of human trafficking utilizing a holistic approach to advocacy. In her current position, Caitlyn advocates for broad legal reform and betterment of services to support survivors.

Jackie Fortmann was born and raised in Dubuque, Iowa. She moved to Tallahassee in 2011 to pursue her education and obtained her master's in social work from Florida State University in 2017. Jackie has worked extensively in housing and homelessness since beginning her social work degree. Jackie is the Deputy Director at The Center for Independent Living of North Florida (Ability1st) and one of her duties includes overseeing the agency's programming, including their housing and homelessness programs and their victims of crime program.

Daynica Harley, Esq. joined FSU Law as a fellow and clinical professor with the Public Interest Law Center in 2021. Co-teaching alongside Professor Paolo Annino, Harley supervises student advocacy and manages cases through the Children's Advocacy Clinic and Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project. While a student at the College of Law, Harley participated in several clinical opportunities, including the Gender and Family Justice Clinic, Children's Advocacy Clinic, and Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project. In 2020, Harley was honored as a Clinical Legal Education Association outstanding Clinical Student for excellence in clinical fieldwork. While a law student, Harley also completed an internship with the Legal Aid Society of New York in the Manhattan division of the Juvenile Rights Practice. Prior to attending law school, Harley graduated from the University of Central Arkansas with an M.S. in college student personnel services and administration and from the University of Memphis with a B.B.A. in economics.

Elizabeth Kimbel is the Program Specialist at The Restoring Ivy Collective, and the Survivor Advocate at The Center on Human Trafficking, at Montclair State University. Liz is a Survivor/ Lived Experience Expert of minor domestic sex trafficking and has been working in the Anti-Human Trafficking field for over a decade. Liz has also been involved in working alongside survivors of domestic violence, and individuals with disabilities. Beginning in 2012, Liz has been involved in program design and implementation, prevention and intervention education, legislative work, training, public speaking, and media interviewing. Liz is a mother to two pre-teens, married to her high school sweetheart, a part time starving artist, an avid coffee drinker and has a deep love for time spent out in nature.

Christabelle Robinson is the Communications and Media Specialist for The Global Center on Human Trafficking, where she is involved in everything from programmatics, media, graphic design, events, research, and training. A survivor herself, her passion for survivor advocacy and rights is at the forefront of her work. Christabelle has years of survivor advocacy experience including training, consultations, programmatic development, blogs, interviews, and public speaking on human trafficking and related issues. She believes in survivors leading the fight against human trafficking, and it's her goal to support other survivors of human trafficking in that mission. Christabelle leads that mission with the understanding that many survivors are left out of the field due to discrimination and inequalities, and aims to increase inclusion in anti-trafficking work by including ALL survivors, from all backgrounds, races, sexual orientation, nationalities, social status', and sex.

Peter Sleasman, Esq. is the Executive Director at Disability Rights Florida (DRF). He is an attorney with 35 years' experience in federal civil rights litigation and disability law with a personal passion for equal justice and the attainment of basic human and civil rights. After collaborating with DRF for over 20 years, Sleasman joined the non-profit in 2015. He previously served as the agency's Director of Investigations, Legal Director, and Interim Executive Director. He has held staff attorney and legal management positions at Florida Legal Services, the Advocacy Center of Central Florida, Southern Legal Counsel, and Florida Institutional Legal Services. Sleasman received his bachelor's degree from Centre College in Danville, KY and J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He is a member of the Florida Bar, United States District Court for the Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He is also a member of the Public Interest Law Section of the Florida Bar and a past chair of the Disability Law Committee.

Meghan Torres serves as the Program Administrator for Quality Improvement for the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). In her role, she provides direction and leadership to multiple agency functions and initiatives that improve the quality of services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Oversight areas include operations for community incident management, zero tolerance of abuse, neglect, and exploitation; provider background screening compliance; and Agency actions against non-compliant providers. Since joining APD in 2010, Meghan has over a decade of experience in the industry. She has led the Agency's initiatives to combat human trafficking for over 10 years and was in the forefront of the Florida Strategic Plan to combat human trafficking through participation in multiple anti-human trafficking interagency work groups. Meghan coordinated and facilitated statewide human trafficking trainings to APD employees, self-advocates, providers, and families to support awareness of the issues surrounding human trafficking. Meghan is a proud graduate of Florida State University, where she received a bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in psychology.