

VOICE • ACKNOWLEDGEMENT • POWER

VICTIMS' RIGHTS & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

Professional Development Sessions

Join us on the University of Alaska Anchorage's main campus for three days of events to educate and empower Alaska's current and future leaders in the victim service, advocacy, and support fields to use restorative justice practices to give voice, acknowledgement, power, and justice to those impacted by crime.

Lunch and Learn Day 1:

***Helping Victims Access Restorative Justice Practices:
What's to Gain?***

Thursday, April 27, 12 - 3pm

Learn how restorative justice can work for and benefit crime victims and how to incorporate these justice options into practice with keynote speaker sujatha baliga.

Lunch and Learn Day 2:

***Accessing Restorative Justice Practices in Alaska:
What does the Law Allow and How does it Work with
the Criminal-Legal System?***

Friday, April 28, 12 - 3pm

Learn how Alaska statute does and does not allow for restorative justice practices and how these practices can be used in and outside of the criminal justice system from Alaskan justice and policy professionals.

Registration is required for these professional development sessions. Register at bit.ly/akrj2023.

Lunch and Learn Day 1 Keynote Speaker: sujatha baliga



sujatha baliga is an internationally recognized leader in the field of restorative justice. A former victim advocate and public defender, she spent the past 15 years helping communities across the nation implement restorative justice alternatives to youth incarceration. Today, sujatha's dedicated to community-based restorative justice responses to intimate partner violence and sexual abuse. She's a lay member of the Gyuto Foundation, a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery in Richmond, CA, where she leads secular meditation. sujatha is a co-founder of Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice, was named a 2019 MacArthur Fellow, and is working on her first book.

Lunch and Learn Day 2 Panelists:



*Jeff May, J.D.,
Rural Magistrate and Professor in the UAF Justice Department*

Jeff D. May is an Associate Professor in the University of Alaska Fairbanks Justice Department and a part-time circuit magistrate judge in Interior Alaska. His research highlights issues such as jury selection policies, restorative justice, and increased local collaboration in the justice system. He has helped develop restorative justice processes such as Circle Sentencing in Galena, the Fairbanks Community Restorative Justice Program and Diversion Initiative, and the Nenana Peacemaking Circle.



*Eric Smith, J.D.
Former Alaska Superior Court Judge*

Judge Eric Smith was a Superior Court judge in Palmer, Alaska from 1996 to 2016. He focused heavily on alternative dispute resolution, and was responsible for implementing court rules that authorize judges to refer criminal cases to tribes and other organizations for their recommendations on sentencing. He received the Alaska Federation of Natives' Denali Award in 1996 and the Alaska Supreme Court's Community Outreach Award in 2016.



*Geran Tarr, M.A.
Former Alaska State Representative*

Geran Tarr is a human rights activist, a former state legislator, an educator, and a restorative justice advocate with decades of experience in advocacy, policy, and strategic planning. As a legislator they worked on implementing restorative practices in our public education and criminal justice systems, hosted seven statewide restorative justice summits, and passed legislation implementing a trauma informed policy for the Department of Health and Social Services.

And sujatha baliga

The Voice! Acknowledgement! Power! Symposium also includes two evenings of restorative justice documentary nights followed by community discussions (April 27 and 28) and a closeout reflection circle on Saturday, April 29. See accompanying flyer or registration link for details. We hope you can join us for all events!

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