

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS – MORNING (10:45-12:00)

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### **Velvet Glove: Iron Fist**

**Penn State Room**

**Workshop Leader: Shanie Robin, Member Ni-Ta-Nee NOW and Legal Advocate, Centre County Women's Resource Center**

**Panelists: Dana Cuomo, Legal Advocate, Victim-Centered Intensive Case Management (VCICM) Unit; Doug Hearn, Attorney, Mid-Penn Legal Services; Det. Deidri Fishel, VCICM, State College Police; & Maximus J. G. Weikel, Penn State Men Against Violence**

A look at Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault through the legal and criminal justice system. A discussion and analysis of the current state of affairs for victims of such crimes and the necessary next steps to improve the legal and criminal justice response to these crimes in Pennsylvania.

### **Women, Emergency Contraception, and Health Care: The Need for Reform**

**Ballroom D**

**Workshop Leader: Cindy Purvis, NW PA NOW and Co-Chair, Health Care for All PA**

**Panelists: Janice Horn, PA NOW At-Large; Elizabeth Cook, Ni-Ta-Nee NOW; and Shelley Vukman, Ni-Ta-Nee NOW**

A discussion of single payer healthcare reform, its advantages for women and the need for equal access to emergency contraception for women across the state of Pennsylvania.

### **Excellent Public Education for Every Child**

**Ballroom E**

**Workshop Leaders: Anne Gemmell, Program Manager, Education Voters Pennsylvania & Anita Weikel, Director of Administration, Pennsylvania PTA**

A discussion of statewide issues facing Pennsylvania public education pre K-college. Participants will share insights, opinions, hopes and concerns for public education in their communities. Presenters will explain how Education Voters PA organizes, advocates and generates a strong, broad political voice in support of excellent public education.

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS – AFTERNOON (3:00 – 4:15)

<b>Winning Justice for Women on Both Sides of Long-Term Care</b>	<b>Penn State Room</b>
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**Workshop Leader:** Lisa Frank, Home Care Director, SEIU Healthcare PA

**Panelists:** Renee Sluzaliz, Center for Independent Living – Williamsport & Carol Jones, Home Care Worker and member SEIU Healthcare PA

Home health care is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy, but it has been slow to meet the needs of seniors, people with disabilities, and the home care workers who take care of them. Home care consumers—the majority of them women—struggle to find and keep the qualified and reliable caregivers they need to remain independent and active members of the community. Home care workers—about 90 percent of whom are women—receive poverty wages and no health insurance for the important services they provide. This workshop will introduce participants to a new movement for justice in Pennsylvania addressing these issues.

<b>The Future of Mental Health Recovery as a Feminist Issue</b>	<b>Ballroom C</b>
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**Workshop Leader:** Michelle Hamilton, Member, Ni-Ta-Nee NOW; Counselor and Advocate, Centre County Women’s Resource Center and Centre County MUST (a drop-in center for people with mental disabilities)

**Panelists:** Val Barner, Centre County Base Services Unit; Carol Carmargo, Centre County MUST; and Christina Clyde, Centre County MUST

The majority of people diagnosed with mental illness and the majority of service providers are women. Sixty percent of women are diagnosed with PTSD (Post-Traumatic-Stress Disorder), major depression, anxiety, and/or substance abuse. This workshop will address questions of discrimination towards mental health consumers, including LGBT and women of color; legislative actions past and present; and what the Feminist and Recovery Movements can bring to this issue through the testimonies of consumers, service providers, and service administrators.

<b>Addressing Violence Against Women on Campus (Sponsored by the PSU Commission for Women)</b>	<b>Ballroom D</b>
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**Workshop Leaders:** Peggy Lorah, Member, Ni-Ta-Nee NOW and Director, PSU Center for Women Students & Corey Cook, Victim Advocate, Centre County Women’s Resource Center

This workshop will detail the efforts of campus and community partners to address violence against women on campus at Penn State University, specifically sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. It will highlight the efforts of two groups, a county-wide task force and a university coalition, to develop a coordinated response to these issues. It will further offer action steps that other communities and campuses can take in confronting this kind of violence.

<b>Feminist Action in the Past and Future: A Personal Journey</b>	<b>Ballroom E</b>
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**Workshop Leader:** Colina Jordan Seeley, Member, Ni-Ta-Nee NOW

**Panelists:** Karen and Karena Bibbins, Alexandria, VA

Personal reflections of a divorced woman raising two daughters in the nineties while pursuing her doctorate and a discussion of how women can learn from each other’s struggles.