



CARRIE GONSOR SANDERSON is the inaugural director of the SD Center for Prevention of Child Maltreatment and is a Pierre, South Dakota native. Ms. Sanderson's leadership style combines her extensive background in agency work with her first-hand knowledge of the justice system to positively influence policy and advocacy work surrounding child maltreatment in South Dakota. She earned her Bachelor of Arts, Master of Public Administration and Juris Doctorate degrees from the University of South Dakota. Immediately after receiving her education, Ms. Sanderson served as the Executive Director for the South Dakota Association for County Officials where she represented South Dakota's Auditors, Treasurers, and Registers of Deeds on a state and national level and coordinated training opportunities for officials. Ms. Sanderson soon entered private practice with the Moreno, Lee & Bachand, P.C. Law Firm in Pierre, South Dakota, focusing on civil litigation and support of alternative sentencing courts. Ms. Sanderson served as the Chairperson for Mental Health Boards in 12 rural counties and assisted in management of the South Dakota State's Attorneys Association. In 2014, Ms. Sanderson accepted a position with the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of South Dakota, where she prosecuted violent crimes. As an Assistant United States Attorney, Ms. Sanderson became intimately familiar with the services many victims require but are hard to come by due to the rural nature of our state and recognized that South Dakota has the potential to do more for people who experience trauma in their lives. Therefore, she became an adjunct instructor in the USD Child & Adult Advocacy Studies (CAAsT) certificate program that is housed within the School of Public Health. She is also hosting, with the South Dakota Unified Judicial System, month Court Improvement Program (CIP) trainings for attorneys, judges, and other multidisciplinary professionals working with families involved in abuse and neglect cases. In 2017, Ms. Sanderson became the Director of the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at USD. Ms. Sanderson is excited to continue working to protect South Dakota's children and to create resilient families in our great state.



BECKY RASMUSSEM is a public speaker, social advocate and minister. In 2015, she helped establish Call to Freedom, an anti-human trafficking organization based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Call to Freedom offers services to ensure the safety and well-being of women victimized by human trafficking. Becky draws on her experience of over 10 years working with non-profits and ministries as well as her 12 years in mainstream media, television and marketing to help Call to Freedom create a safe haven for victims and to build awareness of the grim reality of human trafficking. Becky currently is working hard to help establish and strengthen local and state laws to better protect children and women survivors while traveling the United States to build awareness of the grim reality of human trafficking. She has received several awards for her passionate advocacy and was humbled to be honored on the cover and featured in Sioux Falls Woman Magazine and Gritty Faith Magazine. Also joining Becky is a Survivor Mentor Coordinator at Call to Freedom (name TBD.)



MARY (JO) ZANONI: For 25 years, Jo has been an Emergency Department Registered Nurse, 21 as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). She is a member of the State SANE Task Force as well as SD Network Against Family Violence. As the SANE coordinator for Monument Health and through these task forces, Jo helps the training and collaboration among numerous medical facilities, shelters, advocates, law enforcement, military, mental health, and prosecutors.



DEPUTY BRANDON CABNEY: Certified peace officer of Akron Police Department and Le Mars Police Officer Brandon Cabney joined the Plymouth County Sheriff's office as the deputy in July 2020. Deputy Cabney holds a degree in police science and in his new role as deputy duties include patrol, service of civil papers, and court orders for the larger Plymouth area. Deputy Cabney made a human trafficking arrest then followed the case as it was turned over to the FBI for federal prosecution and sentencing about a year ago.



SENIOR OFFICER JOHN KASKIE: Having also played a role in the human trafficking case by interviewing the victims, Senior Officer John Kaskie hails from the Le Mars Police Department where he has worked as a drug recognition expert, one of 125 in the state. After earning his degree in police science he started police work in Hawarden as a reserve officer.