

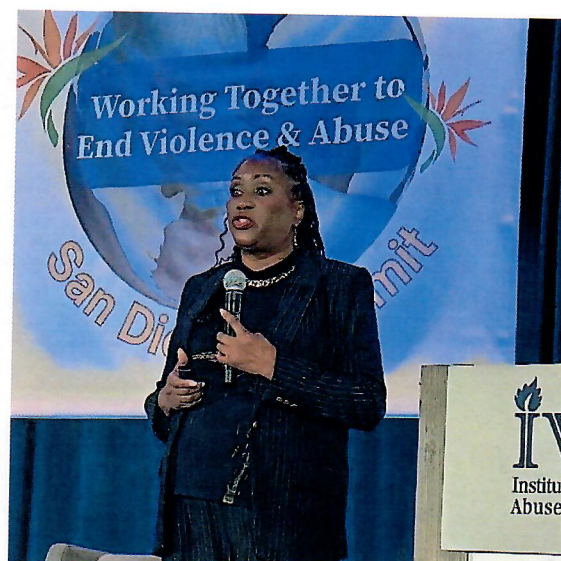
SUMMIT CLOSING PLENARY AND CEREMONIES



Closing Plenary Speaker, Lauren Book

The Summit Closing Plenary and Ceremonies, held on Thursday, August 21st, opened with remarks from **Sandi Capuano Morrison, MA**, CEO of IVAT, before transitioning into two powerful keynote presentations. Former Florida State Senator **Lauren Book, MEd**, Lauren's Kids, delivered ***How Parkland Students Turned Trauma into Change***, sharing how she drew upon her own lived experience as a survivor of childhood sexual abuse to support the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in the aftermath of the 2018 mass shooting. By standing alongside them as they navigated grief and urgent advocacy, she helped empower their voices—facilitating trips to the Capitol, bipartisan meetings with lawmakers, and ultimately, the passage of Florida's most significant gun safety reforms. Her keynote highlighted how trauma can inspire compassionate leadership, amplify survivor voices, and catalyze systemic change.

The plenary concluded with an engaging delivery from **Carolyn West, PhD**, University of Washington. Presenting ***Reflecting on our Past, Present, and Future: Bold Strategies for Anti-Violence Professionals***, Dr. West offered both inspiration and practical strategies, tracing her journey from the granddaughter of sharecroppers to a student activist who successfully filed a sexual harassment lawsuit, to an award-winning professor, author, researcher, expert witness, and filmmaker. She urged professionals to ground their work in survivor-centered, culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and strengths-based approaches as the field confronts new and ongoing challenges. Together, these closing presentations left participants with a call to action: to continue transforming trauma into change, and to boldly shape the future of anti-violence work.



Closing Plenary Speaker, Carolyn West

AWARDS

Each year, the San Diego International Summit proudly recognizes individuals whose work embodies excellence, innovation, and dedication in the fields of violence prevention, trauma response, and healing. This year's awardees reflect a remarkable breadth of scholarship, advocacy, mentorship, and leadership across disciplines.

Distinguished Service and Excellence in Film Award

Jointly presented by the **Leadership Council on Child Abuse and Interpersonal Violence (LC)** and IVAT, this award honors media contributions that increase public awareness of interpersonal violence and challenge the social and institutional barriers that silence survivors. This year's award was presented to **Carolyn West, PhD**, Professor of Clinical Psychology at the University of Washington, internationally recognized speaker, filmmaker, author, and domestic violence expert. Dr. West has authored over 100 publications, including *Violence in the Lives of Black Women: Battered, Black, and*

Blue, and has been a featured expert in numerous documentaries that highlight the intersections of race, gender, and violence.

Donald R. Fridley Memorial Award for Excellence in Training and Mentoring

Honoring the legacy of Dr. Donald Fridley, this award recognizes individuals who have shaped future generations of professionals through innovative training and mentorship. This year's awardee, **Carole Warshaw, MD**, Director of the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health, has spent over 40 years developing culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and gender-based violence services while advancing cross-sector collaboration. Her leadership has transformed service delivery systems nationally and internationally, with lasting impact on survivors and communities.

IVAT Volunteer of the Year Award

This award recognizes extraordinary volunteer service that exemplifies IVAT's mission. **Joy Johnson-Green, PhD**, was honored for more than 35 years of leadership in domestic violence prevention, including establishing Canada's first accredited childcare center designed for children exposed to violence and trauma. Beyond her professional accomplishments, for approximately 19 years, Joy has been a tireless supporter of IVAT's Summits and committees, embodying the spirit of service, advocacy, and community engagement.

Linda Saltzman Memorial Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Researcher Award

Named in honor of Linda Saltzman, PhD, a CDC epidemiologist who dedicated her career to advancing IPV research and prevention, this award encourages new and established researchers making substantial contributions to the field. This year's award was presented to **Jennifer Gómez, PhD**, Assistant Professor at Boston University and founder of Cultural Betrayal Trauma Theory. Her groundbreaking book, *The Cultural Betrayal of Black Women & Girls*, has already earned national recognition, including the 2024 ISSTD Outstanding Book Award, cementing her influence as a next-generation IPV researcher.

William Friedrich Memorial Child Sexual Abuse Research, Assessment, and/or Treatment Award

Named after William Friedrich, PhD, whose pioneering work advanced the assessment and treatment of child sexual abuse, this award honors those carrying forward his legacy of scientific rigor and clinical compassion. This year's recipient, **Gail Goodman, PhD**, Distinguished Professor Emerita at UC Davis, is a trailblazer in research on trauma, memory, and children in the legal system. Her findings have influenced national and international policies, and her scholarship has even been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Lifetime Achievement in Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Intervention

Presented to **Lynn Rosenthal, MPA**, co-leader of the MOSAIC initiative at BWJP and former White House Advisor on Violence Against Women. Lynn's career has spanned decades of leadership at the highest levels of government and advocacy, from chairing the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Harassment and Assault in the U.S. Military to leading domestic violence prevention initiatives nationwide.

Lifetime Achievement in Intimate Partner Violence Prevention and Intervention

Awarded to **Oliver Williams, PhD, MPH, MSW**, Professor Emeritus at the University of Minnesota and former Executive Director of the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community. With over 40 years in the field, Dr. Williams has advanced culturally specific IPV interventions, community-based leadership initiatives, and national collaborations addressing the intersections of violence, incarceration, and reentry.