

# Meet our Presenters



Alaine Pakkala



Dr. Pakkala is the founder of Lydia Discipleship Ministries. For 35 years she has focused on ministry to the deeply wounded. As well she has produced over 80 resources to equip counselors and helpers to understand and effectively minister to those with dissociative issues.

Kate Kleinsasser



Kate Kleinsasser is an apprentice of Jesus living somewhat nomadically the last year with her husband Eric and son Rafael. She is a nurse and crisis counselor and works with survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation by connecting them to holistically transformative discipleship in healthy church community.

Renita Petersheim



Renita Petersheim grew up in Oregon and moved to Pennsylvania to teach school at age 18. She is the former Team Director of Restore Training, mother to six children and one daughter-in-law, a grandma, and wife to Daryl, who pastors at Family Harvest Mennonite in Fredericksburg, PA. She loves studying the Word, teaching, coffee with a friend, a good book, and perennial flowerbeds.

Lori Zimmerman



Lori Zimmerman lives in Chiang Mai, Thailand and has been involved in ministry there for the past 6 years. She has been working specifically with ministries in the sexual exploitation industry in Thailand for the past 4 years. She loves opportunities to travel around the beautiful country and experience more of the culture and people. She also enjoys crafting and continuing her education through reading and schooling.

Katarina MacLeod



Katarina MacLeod, founder and Executive Director of registered charity "Rising Angels Awareness & Restorative Care", has survived exploitation, sexual & physical abuse, drug addiction, forcible confinement, and domestic prostitution & trafficking. In 2008, after 15 years in 'the Game', she gained freedom and now walks alongside women who, like her, want to start over and realize they cannot do it on their own. Katarina is also an internationally respected speaker, author, and training expert on the realities of commercial sexual exploitation. She has studied Addictions and Community Service, Sexual Violence, and Trauma Counselling for Front Line Workers. This mother of four is a courageous survivor who lives her restored life with purpose.

Patricia Carrillo



Patricia Carrillo is from Mexico. More than a decade ago, her heart was moved to work with women survivors of abuse, commercial exploitation and human trafficking. Her passion is to see the light and truth of the gospel establishing in the darkest places. She has lived in several countries, but currently is living in Greece.

## Leola Frey



Leola Frey lives in Glen Allen, Ontario. She is the middle of 5 children and while she enjoyed growing up on a farm, after years of living in various Asian cities, she much prefers city living now. She is an English for Academic Purposes instructor with a Master's in Education, focused on adult education. Her career provides continual opportunities for her to engage with individuals from different cultures, as well as supporting vulnerable and exploited individuals. When she is not working, she can be found at the local climbing gym or acting as a self-appointed food critic at local restaurants.

## Alyssa Martin



Alyssa lives in Québec with her husband Josh, her son Raphael and is looking forward toward to welcoming their second son in the new year. She is passionate about exemplifying Jesus and caring well for the hurting and broken. Alyssa is the youngest of five sisters - walking with women in the struggle of life was something that began organically in her own family and through her own experiences. She is also a licensed funeral director and professionally trained to coordinate events and serve the vulnerable in times of grief. She currently serves with Restore Training, Options Grossesse, Café Rencontre and DestiNations International.

## Lauren Byler

Lauren Byler lives with her husband Philip in an ancient walled city in northern Africa. As a young intern, fresh out of college, she encountered domestic human trafficking in the country she currently resides in. Fired by a passion to end this injustice, and a love for God, she began Beauty for Ashes Africa in 2013 in order to address the vulnerabilities that leave so many young women open to the fraud, deception, and coercion that leads to exploitation. Beauty for Ashes runs transition homes to enable at-risk girls to finish their education while living in a stable loving environment and receiving the counseling and help that they need to thrive. Beauty for Ashes also engages in direct outreach to women and girls currently living in exploitation, sharing the love of God, forming caring relationships, and walking beside them, and their children, as they seek a new way to live. They are also in the process of establishing social businesses in order to employ their dear friends. Lauren holds an M.A. in Theological Studies from Reformed Theological Seminary and an M.A. in Counseling from Westminster. She enjoys reading, writing, coffee with friends, good jokes, exercising, and eating.

*"For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds," says the Lord, "Because they called you an outcast."  
Jeremiah 30:17*

