## "UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM" General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 18

## Overview:

- Team updates will be discussed at our next general meeting on 10/15/2024
- Procedure for the meeting protocol with a guest speaker and for asking questions
- Information about tonight's topic, guest speaker, introduction, and welcome
- Group discussion

## Notes:

- 1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM EST
  The 9/17/2024 meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the website.
- 2. Introduction and welcome to our member and guest speaker Amber Vlangas. Amber is a founding member and Executive Director of Restorative Action Alliance (RAA) and works with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). She started her professional career in the US Marine Corps and has over 24 years of experience in fundraising, public relations, and coalition building with various nonprofit and public organizations. She holds a BA in Visual & Public Communications, and certifications in Volunteer Management and Mindful Meditative Art. Amber is trained as a facilitator in the Ampersands Model of Restorative Justice for Sexual Harm and a Restorative Peer Support Circle keeper and trainer. She is the co-host of the podcast "Amplified Voices". Amber is an active participant in the movements to end cycles of sexual harm, abolish the sex offense registry, and end civil commitment. She is a strong believer in the power of human connections and effective storytelling to create positive change. Jason Wasserman and Kim Avery are co-presenters/circle keepers with Amber for the presentation.
- 3. Discussion and group questions.
  - Amber educated and explained restorative circles for support and activism, including the <u>RAA Peer Support Circle Program</u>. The history and elements of holding circles were explained and we were broken into three break-out circles.
  - Amber can be reached via email at: amber.v@restorativeactionalliance.org

9:15p.m. Adjourn Meeting

The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 7:30 p.m. EST