U.S. National Science Foundation
Sexual Assault and Harassment Prevention and Response Program Office

# USAP SAHPR Community Update

OCTOBER 2026

Prevention, response, resources, and support for the USAP community

## Meet Your USAP Victim Advocates (VA)

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**Shari Konarske** is a former USAP VA deployer and brings more than 35 years of experience advocating for and supporting crime victims. She previously served as the Regional Victim Witness Specialist with the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), covering a 19-state area, and as Victim Witness Coordinator with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Iowa. Shari graduated from the University of Iowa and the National Victim Assistance Academy and is an active member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Victim Services Committee. She lives in Iowa and is dedicated to ensuring survivors receive trauma-informed, compassionate support.



**Jennifer Pollitt-Hill** is the Executive Director of Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) and leads diverse community partners toward the common purpose of reducing the occurrence and impact of intimate partner violence in Maryland. She has held numerous leadership roles, including Senior Grants Manager with the District of Columbia Office of Victim Services, where she oversaw the District's sexual assault nurse examiner program and grants associated with the Violence Against Women Act and the Victims of Crime Act.

## Planned VA On-ice Schedule — 2026-27 Season

Dates are planned and may shift based on travel or operational conditions.

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|---|---|
| **Shari Konarske: Oct. 8 – Dec. 19, 2026** | **Jennifer Pollitt-Hill: Dec. 15 – Feb. 22, 2027** |

**Victim advocacy services are available to USAP deployers during and after deployment.**

## Victim Advocacy Support and Services

The VA provides direct, confidential, trauma-informed support for USAP deployers who have experienced or witnessed sexual assault, sexual harassment, or stalking within the USAP community. The VA does not conduct investigations, mediate conflicts, give legal advice, or make recommendations for administrative action.

## The VA Support Wheel




*Download a digital version of this graphic* qrco.de/bgmwno

*View more resources from NSF SAHPR* qrco.de/bgu8v5

## Term Spotlight

**DISCLOSURE:** In the context of victim advocacy and confidential support, disclosure refers to confidential communications with a Victim Advocate (VA) or Mental Health Counselor, not a "report" to law enforcement, a mandatory reporter (supervisor), human resources, or through a Community Incident (CI) Report.

**Why it matters:** Disclosing an experience of sexual assault, harassment, or stalking to a VA or mental health counselor, with or without the intent of reporting, gives someone an opportunity to process emotions and learn more about their options prior to taking additional actions.

## Helpful Resources

### Confidential Resources

- **NSF SAHPR Victim Advocate**
  USAPadvocate@LDSSCorp.com
  Phone: 720-568-1083, Ext. 42709
- **ASC Mental Health Counselor**
  usap-counselor@usap.gov
- **NSF 24/7 Safer Science Helpline**
  Phone: 833-673-1733
  Text: 202-932-7569
- **NSF SAHPR Office**
  Saferscience@nsf.gov

### Additional Resources

- **NSF Office of Inspector General (OIG)**
  notifyoig@nsf.gov
- **NSF SAHPR Program Office**
  https://new.nsf.gov/stopping-harassment/sahpr
- **NSF McMurdo Station Medical Services**
  Local extension: x42551 Pager: 876
- **NSF South Pole Station Medical Services**
  Local extension: x61602 Radio call number: 242
- **NSF Palmer Station Medical Services**
  Local extension: x52778

**Find this Newsletter on the NSF SAHPR webpage: www.nsf.gov/stopping-harassment/sahpr**