



# MONTAGE INITIATIVE

Proudly Presents

## Emerging from a Wounded World

Thursday, March 13th at 10:30AM

While PTSD rates are higher for women than men in areas not in conflict, exposure to events and images in countries that are, whether first hand or witnessed on screens everywhere, gives PTSD a global reach. Montage Initiative explores what PTSD is, what it does to us and ways in which we can alleviate its affect.

Coinciding with the UN's 69th Commission on the Status of Women and 25th Anniversary of the Beijing +30 Declaration, Montage Initiative highlights 3 of the 12 Areas of Concern for women flagged in the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action; Violence Against Women, Women in Armed Conflict and the Human Rights of Women.

**Moderator: Joanne Watkins, Founder & CEO, [Montage Initiative](#)**

**H.E. Ambassador Dr. Carlos Garcia, President & CEO of [OPAD at the United Nations](#), [Secretary General UN Association of El Salvador](#) and Former UN Ambassador for El Salvador**

H.E. Ambassador Garcia shares Opening Remarks along with his thoughts on why PTSD rates in the developed world has arguably become a global epidemic.

**Tonia Meyers, Visionary Founder & Clinical Director, [Transformation Haven Counseling](#)**

Tonia is a qualified multi-disciplinary therapist and EMDR psychotherapist; a treatment designed to alleviate distress associated with traumatic memories including PTSD - a therapy used to help first responders and traumatized victims around the globe. Drawing on a range of expertise, including Cognitive and Dialectical-Behavioral therapies, Tonia offers insights on the many ways trauma touches our lives and simple tips on seeking relief that we can do for ourselves.

**Meera Khanna, Trustee & President, [Guild for Service](#)**

Author of "*In a State of Violent Peace*" gender rights activist, Meera spearheaded "The Last Woman First" Global Alliance, and is co-founder and South Asia Chapter Chair of the Every Woman Coalition. Drawing on over 35 years of experience working to improve the lives of women, Meera shares her thoughts about how being 'In a State of Violent Peace' impacts women everywhere.

**Ingrid Stellmacher, Founder & CEO, [Le Menach Foundation](#)**

What is the long-term impact of violence and discrimination against women and girls, on not only the victims but the perpetrators? Do repeated acts of violence on others affect the brain development of those committing it, rewiring the way they see the world, and what is its global impact? Ten years after launching the 'Dignity Diaries' at the United Nations in New York, Ingrid revisits those questions and the collective condition it creates that she calls 'Poverty of the Heart'.

**Kim Aris, [Aid to Burma](#)**

Son of former Burmese/Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi, Kim works tirelessly on initiatives and awareness of the desperate situation in Burma, where 30 million people are living in poverty, 20 million are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, and millions are forecast by the UN to face starvation conditions by 2025. Inevitably the level of PTSD and trauma affecting women and girls is huge through the level of armed conflict, violence, and impact on the overall attack on their Human Rights as women. Kim shares personal insights about the loss of freedom and dignity women experience in Burma and how he works to bring it back.

**H.E. the Hon. Robert Rae, [Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN for Canada](#)**

His Excellency the Hon. Robert Rae is Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN in NY and elected the 80th President of the 2025 session of ECOSOC. Ambassador Rae gives his perspective and updates on the current prevalence of PTSD in Canada.

**Time: Mar 13, 2025 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Meeting ID: 840 3356 9846 Passcode: wghg8h  
ZOOM LINK: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84033569846?pwd=BbfCrLm8aGyFywGSPYwcIaq9zzUaG4.1>**

