

# MEET OUR SPEAKERS!



## Catharine Kessack

Turning Point  
(TPLV): Director  
of Housing  
Advocacy

**Catharine Kessack** is the Housing Advocacy Director for Turning Point of Lehigh Valley whose mission is to eliminate domestic and intimate partner abuse in the Lehigh Valley through survivor empowerment, and community education and engagement.

She has her Masters in Social Work, is an LSW, and is pursuing her Doctorate of Social Work in Human Rights Leadership.

Prior to working for Turning Point, Catharine was the Executive Director of The Valley Against Sex Trafficking (VAST). Under her leadership, VAST opened a drop-in center in Allentown for individuals who were currently being exploited, at risk of being exploited, and survivors of human trafficking looking for a supportive community.

Catharine collaborated with Nani and Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) to ensure their teams were trained to respond to human trafficking victims as LVHN rolled out their Human Trafficking Response Protocol. She has a strong passion for social justice and human rights and is an ally to the community's most vulnerable.



## Nani Cuadrado

Heal Trafficking:  
Director of  
Education

**Nani Cuadrado** is the Director of Education for HEAL Trafficking which leads innovative health solutions to eradicate human trafficking in our communities worldwide.

She began working as an emergency medicine physician assistant for Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) 20 years ago and, with HEAL Trafficking resources, championed the network's Human Trafficking Response protocol. She established a team at a local refugee resettlement site to provide health care for unaccompanied minors primarily from Central America, many of whom were victims of human trafficking or exploitation. She taught graduate physician assistant students how to care for the community's most vulnerable and spearheaded efforts to provide free health care to a local residential home for sex-trafficked women.

In 2019, she was asked to serve on an expert work group for the Department of Health and Human Services to review the intersection of human trafficking and family planning services. In 2021 she was awarded American Academy of Physician Assistants' (AAPA) Physician Assistant of the Year for exemplary service to vulnerable communities.