**Colleen Schmitt**

**Bio**

Colleen Schmitt, Director of Day One

Cornerstone

Ms. Schmitt is a graduate from St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN with a major in Social Work and minor of Women’s studies. She has over 30 years of experience in the field of interpersonal violence. Ms. Schmitt was involved with the evolution of Day One by consulting on the original team charged with developing the processes, protocols, practices and trainings. She was hired by Cornerstone when Day One was acquired by the organization in 2005. Currently she is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the program including the technology, partner relationships, program evaluation, training and technical assistance. She is part of the Cornerstone’s Senior Management Team. Her skills in developing collaborative groups across multidisciplinary fields have led Cornerstone to implementing and overseeing five initiatives actively working to reduce barriers survivors communities encounter when seeking services - The Opening the Door Collective, Minnesota Alliance for Family and Animal Safety, Abuse in Later, Anti-trafficking Collaboration and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Project. She utilizes her skills to work on decreasing interpersonal violence on local, national and international levels.

