

WELCOME
TO THE

CHILD ADVOCACY EXPO

SPONSORED BY ANGELS AGAINST ABUSE, INC.

"Better Together"



15TH ANNUAL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES MEET OUR SPEAKERS

Jennifer Barbookles

General Magistrate

Sixth Judicial Circuit

Pinellas County Justice Center

Jennifer began her work in the dependency system as an attorney ad litem for dependent children while attending Florida State University College of Law. Her legal career has centered on dependency matters. After graduating, she spent more than 11 years at the State Attorney's Office handling dependency cases in Pasco County. For the past nine years, she has served as a dependency general magistrate in Pinellas County.

Jennifer will discuss current trends and opportunities for improvement, including extended foster care and broader communication. She will emphasize the value of open conversation in understanding what best supports families involved in the system.

Damja Kelly, MA, LMHC

VP of Homeless Services

The Boley Center

A trauma-informed presentation exploring the changing environmental landscape facing children and youth in Pinellas County. This presentation examines current foster care trends, the increasingly complex needs of older youth entering care, and the layered generational trauma today's children carry after growing up in a world shaped by 9/11, school shootings, community violence, social media exposure, and the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The presentation will emphasize how domestic violence, substance abuse, child abuse, neglect, and complex trauma remain core drivers of foster care involvement and profoundly shape a child's physical, emotional, and psychological safety. These individual traumas interact with broader societal crises outlined in the first part of this presentation, creating a compounded stress environment unlike any prior generation of foster children entering and aging out of foster care.

Thank you For Your Participation and Support

2200 Tall Pines Drive, Suite 100, Largo, FL 33771

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