



**September 25 - 27, 2019**  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Columbus • 614-885-3334

# Champions For Children & Families

## YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2019 PCSAO ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

The theme of this year's conference is "Champions for Children and Families." We strongly believe that collaborating and connecting essential components in child welfare are important in training and empowering our child protection workers. The conference will focus on efforts to highlight collective knowledge and best practices in child protection that lead to improving outcomes for children and families.

### WHO should attend

Anyone involved in child protection from public and private organizations including directors, administrators, supervisors, attorneys, policy makers, and health & human services professionals.

### WHY attend the conference?

- Gain important new skills
- Get up to date on your CEU, CLE and Ohio Child Welfare Training Program training credits
- This is a unique opportunity to learn about new developments in current and emerging child protection issues
- Celebrate child protection champions at the inspirational award luncheons
- Meet child protection professionals from all over the state, exchange ideas and expand the child protection advocacy network
- Meet exhibitors and sponsors, our partners in the child protection system



# Welcome!



## Conference Schedule

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

- 8:00** Registration and coffee
- 8:30** Morning 3-hour workshops
- 9:30** Morning 2-hour workshops
- 11:45** Award luncheon,  
Keynote speaker
- 2:00** Afternoon workshops
- 4:15** Appreciation social

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

- 8:00** Registration and coffee
- 8:30** Morning 3-hour workshops
- 9:30** Morning 2-hour workshops
- 11:45** Award luncheon,  
Keynote speaker
- 2:00** Afternoon workshops
- 4:15** Networking reception

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

- 8:00** Registration
- 8:30** Award breakfast
- 10:00** Workshops
- 1:20** Conference adjourned

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It is a great honor to invite you to the 2019 PCSAO Conference. We are now in our 34th year of bringing together professionals dedicated to improving the lives and outcomes of children and families all over Ohio, and we have put together another robust line-up of workshops and speakers that we hope will inspire you in the days ahead.

Acknowledging that our successes are made possible through the collaboration of many individuals and agencies, the theme of this year's conference is "Champions for Children and Families." The conference will run September 25-27 in Columbus, and seeks to highlight collective knowledge and information sharing as essential components in developing our workforce of child protective service professionals.

Throughout the three days, the conference committee has put together 50 workshops designed to develop our workforce and keep the practice of child protective services moving forward. We hope that you and your colleagues will walk away from these sessions more connected to each other, and better equipped to continue the challenging work of keeping our children safe.

Our annual awards round out the schedule and give us the opportunity to focus not only on moving our practice forward, but also celebrating our champions, accomplishments and successes today. Nothing connects us with our mission and reminds us why we do this important work like the Rising Up & Moving On Awards, or our Family of the Year Awards. Our Outstanding Caseworker, Supervisor and Support Staff of the Year Awards give us a chance to honor our colleagues who lead, inspire, and support us day in and day out. Finally, we will use this gathering as an opportunity to honor some of our champions with the Child Advocate of the Year, Legislator of the Year, and Dan Schneider Leadership in Child Welfare Training awards.

Whether you have attended this conference for many years, or this will be your first one, I hope that you will make time during the scheduled networking activities to connect with professionals from all over the state. It is YOUR advocacy, best practice, and dedication that truly define all of you as champions, creating better outcomes and bright futures for Ohio's children and families!

*Kathi Spirk*

Kathi Spirk, PCSAO President  
Director, Clinton County Job and Family Services

# Registration Information

All attendees must register prior to the conference.

[Click here to register online.](#)

The registration fees include conference participation, conference materials, training credits, refreshments, lunch on Wednesday and Thursday, and breakfast on Friday during the conference.

## Registration Rates

	<b>EARLY</b> by Aug 17	<b>REGULAR</b> by Sept 5
<b>Member &gt; 1 day</b>	<b>\$170</b>	<b>\$190</b>
<b>Member &gt; 2 days</b>	<b>\$230</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Member &gt; 3 days</b>	<b>\$280</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>Member &gt; Fri only</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<b>Non-member &gt; 1 day</b>	<b>\$210</b>	<b>\$230</b>
<b>Non-member &gt; 2 days</b>	<b>\$270</b>	<b>\$290</b>
<b>Non-member &gt; 3 days</b>	<b>\$320</b>	<b>\$340</b>
<b>Non-member &gt; Fri only</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$120</b>
<b>UPP &gt; 1 day</b>	<b>\$70</b>	<b>\$80</b>
<b>UPP &gt; 2 days</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>\$140</b>
<b>UPP &gt; 3 days</b>	<b>\$180</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>UPP &gt; Fri only</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$70</b>

## Registration Confirmation

You will receive an electronic confirmation when you complete your online registration. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, please contact our office at [pcsaو@pcsaو.org](mailto:pcsaو@pcsaو.org).

## Cancellation Policy

A cancellation must be made in writing via email at [pcsaو@pcsaو.org](mailto:pcsaو@pcsaو.org). Refer to the following dates for refund deadlines:

- 100% refund, cancellation received by August 31.
- 50% refund, cancellation received by September 14.
- 0% refund, cancellation received after September 14.
- A replacement is allowed, but written notification is required.
- A \$25 processing fee will be applied to all cancellations.

## Hotel Reservations

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
175 Hutchinson Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43235  
614-885-3334 or 1-800-870-0349

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference attendees. Attendees must contact the hotel directly to make a room reservation. Attendees will be responsible for the cost of their rooms. Inform the hotel reservation desk that you are part of PCSAO's conference.

**The group code is PCS.**

**To receive the group rate, make your reservation by September 3.**

- **Room rate:** \$104/night (+ taxes)
- **Cut-off date:** September 3, or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first. Reservation requests received after the cut-off date will be offered at the group rate, based on availability.
- **Reservations:** Call 614-885-3334 or 1-800-870-0349. Be sure to mention that you are part of PCSAO's conference when making your reservation. [Click here to book online.](#)

## To Receive Tax Exemption

If you are a state employee and tax exempt, you **MUST** have a State Tax Exempt form and City of Columbus Tax Exempt form. The name on the credit card and check must match the name on the tax-exempt forms. Cash and personal methods of payment (personal checks, personal credit cards) cannot be used for payment.

# Training Records and Credits

## E-Track Users

After PCSAO receives your registration, your workshops will be recorded in E-Track. PCSAO's conference partner, the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program, will use E-Track to process training sessions. You will not be able to make any changes in E-Track. If you need to make workshop changes, please contact the conference coordinator at [pcsaو@pcsaو.org](mailto:pcsaو@pcsaو.org).

• **Evaluations** > Conference participants will complete their workshop evaluations in E-Track. Participants will receive emailed notifications linking them to their E-Track evaluations the day after each workshop and will have up to 7 days to complete these evaluations in E-Track. Participants can also access these evaluations by logging into E-Track where they will see surveys on their to-do lists. Participants will be provided workshop "notes" in their conference packets to refer to when completing their E-Track session evaluations.

• **Training Certificates** > Conference participants will receive an emailed notification containing a link to their completion certificates 8-10 days after the conference. Participants with special circumstances requiring a faster certificate should contact [pcsaو@pcsaو.org](mailto:pcsaو@pcsaو.org) for assistance.

• **Training Records** > Conference sessions will automatically appear in the E-Track transcripts of conference participants and will reflect both OCWTP training hours and CEU hours, where appropriate. Be sure to sign in at each workshop you attend. The sign-in sheets are the record of attendance and will be used to generate training certificates.

• **E-Track Friendly Reminder** > Make sure that your e-mail is correct on your E-Track account. If you have any questions about E-Track, please check the E-Track Help Center or contact your Regional Training Center.

## Non E-Track Users

If you are not an E-track user, be sure to sign in at each workshop you attend. The sign-in sheets are the record of attendance and will be used to generate training certificates. A Workshop Evaluation can be accessed online. Training Credit Certificate(s) will be e-mailed to you within five (5) business days after the conference.

## CEU Credits

The following credits are available through the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage & Family Therapist Board toward required hours of continuing education:

- **Social Worker**
- **Ethics**
- **Counselor**

The licensee is responsible for complying with board regulations for each license. Workshops not approved for CEU licensure credits will receive training credit through the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program to comply with ORC 3107.015, 5153.122, and 153.123. Those workshops are identified with an "OCWTP" designation.

## CLE Credits

Selected workshops may earn Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. The Supreme Court of Ohio is currently reviewing our application. The workshops that we submitted for CLE are listed as "CLE credit applied for" under the Credits.

## Important Note

Participants must attend their workshop(s) from beginning to end to receive training credits. It is important that attendees sign in at each workshop they attend.



PCSAO thanks the OCWTP for its continuing partnership and support of the PCSAO Conference.

# Workshop Information Wednesday 9/25/19

## 1. Assessing Safety and Safety Planning in Substance Abuse Cases

**8:30-11:30 AM**

This workshop is designed to enhance child welfare caseworker and supervisor knowledge and skills in the area of assessing safety and safety planning in cases involving substance use and abuse. It will include a framework for best practice in client engagement, assessing safety, and safety planning in these complex cases. The following areas will be thoroughly addressed: Applying the Assessing Safety Equation with the lens of substance-involved parents: safety factor exploration and analysis; child vulnerability impact; parent protective capacity; the barriers and common errors in assessing safety and safety planning in substance abuse cases; applying least restrictive Safety Planning to ensure safety. Trainers will work with participants on how to have effective conversations that lead to increased engagement, accurate assessment, and collaboration in planning to ensure safety. Trainees will participate in the process of critical thinking steps to enhance their understanding and application of CAPMIS concepts.

**Presenters:** Janie Rhoads, LSW; Amanda Beach, MPA; Alex Bishara, MSW, LISW, LCDC III, ICADC

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 2. Identification of Meth Labs

**8:30-11:30 AM**

Meth usage has increased drastically over the past 5-10 years, and more and more parents are manufacturing and using meth, oftentimes in their homes where their children may be present. Child welfare workers need to be aware of the signs of meth use and manufacture so as to report to the authorities if a worker comes upon a meth lab while in a client's home. Child welfare workers also must know the impact on children's health and wellbeing for those children who have been exposed to meth.

**Presenter:** Lee Hawks

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 3. Developing a High-Performing Team through Psychological Safety

**8:30-11:30 AM**

Need help developing a high-performing team? Participate in a Team Based Learning demonstration to explore supervisory practice to support staff and develop psychological safety in your teams. Learn how to make positive changes in organizations battling toxic stress. Enhance your knowledge of how to use supportive supervision and coaching to strengthen the supervisor and worker relationship and develop critical thinking in caseworkers.

**Presenters:** Lois Roberts; Marquetae Betts, LISW-S

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 4. Ohio Adventure Therapy Coalition: Working Together for Families Trapped in Trauma

**8:30-11:30 AM**

In Ohio the child protection and behavioral healthcare systems have joined forces to increase the availability of trauma-informed, innovative, effective programs for our most vulnerable populations. We are working to increase cross-system understanding, competencies and practices with these partnerships, as well as mandatory data collection for ongoing applied research. This workshop will present the three primary components of the OATC project: evidence-supported, experiential treatment for traumatized youth and families; an implementation strategy that includes ongoing consultation and technical assistance; and a culture that embeds data collection and research into the programming. By combining these three critical components we have been able to provide effective, sustainable treatment to children and youth with significant trauma histories, while validating this engaging programming and helping to launch local, sustainable treatment.

**Presenter:** Bobbi Beale, PsyD

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 5. Building an Effective Mentoring Program to Strengthen and Retain Caregiving Families

**8:30-11:30 AM**

This class will give participants an understanding of the adult principles of learning and how they apply to mentoring. We will examine the role and purpose of a mentor for caregivers and common characteristics of effective mentors and mentees. Participants will gain an understanding of how to develop an effective mentoring program. Also, participants will understand how the mentoring process can be used to build stronger caregiving families with better outcomes for the placements in their homes.

**Presenter:** Deanna Prezioso, MSW, LSW

**Target Audience:** Attorneys, Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

# Workshop Information Continued Wednesday 9/25/19

## **6. A Strengths-Based Perspective for Bridging the Continuum of Care**

**9:30-11:30 AM**

The Strengthening Families™ and Protective Factors Framework is a research-informed approach to increase families' strengths, enhance child development and reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. The five key protective factors include parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports in times of need, and social and emotional competence of children. The Protective Factors Framework can be used to guide programs, services, supports and interventions aimed at preventing child maltreatment and promoting healthy outcomes for children and families. This workshop focuses on 'Bridging the Continuum of Care' between primary, secondary, and tertiary child abuse and neglect prevention services by making practical connections between the Protective Factors Framework and the concepts of Protective Capacities and Child Vulnerabilities, which are central to Ohio's Child Welfare Assessment Model. Participants will learn practical applications for using the Strengthening Families Framework to enhance protective factors within families.

**Presenters:** Lindsay Williams, MSW, LSW;

Nicole Sillaman, MBA

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **7. Supporting Our LGBTQ+ Youth**

**9:30-11:30 AM**

If a young person came out to you as LGBTQ+, how would you respond? What do we mean when we ask for pronouns? How is gender identity different from sexual orientation? And why is all of this so important for youth-serving professionals to know? Supporting Our LGBTQ+ Youth is designed to give educators and youth-serving professionals tools to create environments that are more inclusive and affirming of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning young people. Participants will learn basic language and terminology, discuss the added risk that comes with being an LGBTQ+ young person, and learn best practices for supporting their youth.

**Presenter:** Amanda Erickson

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **8. Generational Gaps in the Workplace and Social Media & Technology**

**9:30-11:30 AM**

There are more active generations in today's workforce than at any other time in the modern era. But, how do employers manage this diversity? Work to live. Live to work. Hate to work. When dealing

with a multigenerational workforce, these are but a few of the stereotypes that a modern employer has to overcome to achieve maximum productivity and employee retention. Generational gaps in the workplace have always existed but do seem to be a bit more exaggerated nowadays due to technology, social media, and different outlooks on workplace etiquette. During this presentation, speakers will address ways to help mitigate generational differences and how to help both sides of the equation work together to bridge the gaps. We will also cover how those generations utilize social media and technology in both their personal lives and in the workplace, addressing the nexus between the two, including confidentiality concerns.

**Presenter:** Brian D. Butcher, JD, BA

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **9. Maximizing Your Independent Living Allocation**

**9:30-11:30 AM**

Too often, our foster youth leave care without permanent connections and supports or the knowledge and skills they need to be self-sufficient. The John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood provides federal funding to assist the PCSA with providing the youth in foster care (14 years and older) and emancipated young adults with services to strengthen their independent living skills and offer the opportunity to experience activities supporting normalcy. Ohio recognizes the increased need for Independent Living services and has created a funding source (TANF Independent Living Allocation) to provide additional resources for our transition-age population. Recently, Ohio has created a new process so the PCSA can also use IL funds to support young adults who have emancipated and are now enrolled in Bridges when applicable. In this workshop, attendees can expect to be shown ways to effectively braid these funding sources to maximize the support for the transition-age youth and offer meaningful supports.

**Presenters:** Laurie Valentine; Sarah D. Levels, MSW; Domonique Chapman

**Target Audience:** Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **10. Ohio Case Law & Legislative Update**

**9:30-11:30 AM**

This workshop will review recent Ohio court decisions and legislative updates that clarify, modify or amplify Ohio judicature in the child welfare and adoption arenas. The session will include a PowerPoint presentation summarizing and analyzing recent decisions and legislation. Attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions about the current state

# Workshop Information Continued Wednesday 9/25/19

of Ohio law in these areas and to contribute to the discussion with personal perspectives and case insights. In addition, the workshop will enable participants to analyze and discuss current trends, both in Ohio law and in the context of the national perspective, and to predict future trends.

**Presenters:** Thomas E. Zani, Esq; Megan McCombs Heydlauff, JD

**Target Audience:** Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 2 CLE Hours Pending Approval

## **11. Increase You Knowledge, Improve Your Skills: Federal Resources for Child Welfare Professionals**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Child Welfare Information Gateway is the congressionally mandated and federally funded information service of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The information gateway covers a wide range of child welfare topics, including child abuse prevention, recognizing child abuse and neglect, family preservation, foster care, achieving and maintaining permanency, adoption, State and Federal laws and policies, and national data. The resources and publications on Information Gateway help professionals in child welfare and closely related fields connect with reliable and relevant information that will support their practice and provide them with the tools and knowledge to help them address the needs of children and families in their communities. This session will explore and connect professionals with various resources and publications available from Child Welfare Information Gateway, and other federally funded programs, that can help inform and improve their work.

**Presenter:** Penny Putnam Collins, MPA

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **12. Legal and Case Management Tips That Will Help You Sensitively Handle Issues of Sexual Orientation and Identity in Young People**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

A lot of young people today identify sexual orientation, sexual behavior, and gender identity with more flexibility than their parents did; while some parents embrace identity and orientation differently from their parents and sometimes differently from their children. When child- and family-workers are called in to help, their input can help to resolve tension or increase it. Professionals who work with families and children should know how to address issues of sexuality in ways that will reassure clients,

preserve dignity, and enhance their clinical skills. This workshop will review definitions of orientation and identity, techniques to enhance communication, counseling tips, and legal decisions, statutes and ordinances. The workshop is appropriate for both legal and social work disciplines.

**Presenter:** Douglas Althauser, Esq, LICDC-CS, MAC, ICADC, ICC

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 2 CLE Hours Pending Approval and 2 CEU Hours Approved

## **13. Bridges: Supporting Ohio's Young Adults Emancipating from Foster Care**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

On February 1, 2018, enrollment for Bridges, Ohio's first state-administered child welfare program, began. Bridges extends financial support to provide safe and stable housing options and case management through the allocation of federal and state funds to young adults 18-21 who have aged out of foster care in Ohio. This workshop will offer caseworkers and supervisors an overview of this program, provide an in-depth explanation of the warm handoff process between Bridges and the PCSAs, and discuss ways PCSAs and Bridges Provider Agencies can collaborate to maximize resources. Participants will be able to use the information they receive to assist in final transition planning for their youth and aiding in a successful transition to Bridges.

**Presenter:** Chynna Kelley, Esq

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **14. Influencing Legislation and Working with Legislators: YOU Can Do It!**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

The children services system is impacted by public policy, including legislation. In order to effectively influence public policy, it is critical that children services leaders understand how those policy decisions are made and develop effective relationships with legislators. This workshop will provide an overview of Ohio's legislative process, resources for working with policymakers and monitoring legislation, and suggestions for relationship-building.

**Presenters:** Mary Wachtel, MSW; Daniel Brenneman, John Folk, Rachel Massoud

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 2 CLE Hours Pending Approval and 2 CEU Hours Approved

## **15. Safe Harbor Protections for Juvenile Victims of Human Trafficking**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Through legislation and increased awareness, Ohio

# Workshop Information Continued Wednesday 9/25/19

has seen increased identification and response to juvenile victims of human trafficking, but there is still more work to be done to ensure trafficked children and youth receive the protections and services they deserve. Trafficked children and youth may be compelled to engage in delinquent activities such as prostitution or selling drugs, and instead of being treated as victims, many youths are criminalized and prosecuted. Ohio's Safe Harbor Law allows courts to intervene in lieu of adjudication. This training will describe Ohio's Safe Harbor Law, including how a trafficked youth may qualify and how courts can develop diversion programming for trafficked children and youth. This training will utilize case studies and small-group discussions to help participants understand how and when to utilize Safe Harbor.

**Presenters:** Bhumika Patel, MA; Rebekkah O'Bryan; Emily Dunlap

**Target Audience:** Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 2 CLE Hours Pending Approval and 2 CEU Hours Approved

## **16. Effective Strategies for Engaging and Serving Families with Substance Use Disorders**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

During this workshop, presenters will discuss the strategies employed in the Ohio START Program used to engage parents with substance use disorder. We will discuss collaborating with community partners to better serve families, the benefits of peer mentors and tools to successfully onboard a peer mentor into the PCSA.

**Presenters:** Marla Himmeger, LSW; Fawn Gadel, JD

**Target Audience:** Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **17. Trauma and Anxiety Relief: Learn Emotional Freedom Technique**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

The purpose of this workshop is to begin to address and reduce the high levels of vicarious trauma and burnout that service providers experience. In this program, participants will walk away with more than theory. They will learn and practice evidenced-based Emotional Freedom Technique/EFT (also called Tapping). Clinical trials have shown that EFT is able to rapidly reduce the emotional impact of memories and incidents that trigger emotional distress while also affecting gene expression (potential to rewire their brains to not be triggered in the first place). This is a highly experiential workshop. Participants will apply EFT to their own circumstances in order to learn how to teach clients. Please be prepared to engage at this level for maximum learning and personal benefits.

**Presenter:** Tijana Coso, BA, MA

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **18. Tell Me Something Good: Exploring What Primary (Birth) Parents, Caseworkers and Caregivers Need to Know About One Another**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

The recovery movement has proven the value of peer relationships in successfully overcoming alcoholism and addiction. Building on that foundation, child welfare has been exploring the use of Parent Peers to support parents as they encounter the foster care system with their children. A panel of Parent Peer Partners will discuss their own lived experience as well as the experience of parents they are mentoring. This discussion will include their experience with caseworkers and caregivers, identifying ways in which working together will achieve the best outcomes for children in care. Specific examples of strategies for Family Team Meetings, Team Decision Making Meetings, court hearings and one-to-one meetings will be discussed. The workshop will be interactive, with panelists sharing what they want caseworkers to know and providing opportunity for caseworkers to ask questions of the panelists in this non-threatening environment.

**Presenters:** Renay Sanders, MSSA, LISW; Danica Pirgle; Arlana Strickland

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## **19. I Am NOT a Statistic: Cultivating Resiliency in Foster Youth as a Catalyst for Change**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Do you know that less than 3% of foster youth will graduate college? This interactive workshop on supporting foster youth to reach their goals and shatter statistics includes a "Soul-Inspired Story" and addresses the importance of building developmental assets and caring relationships. The presenter will use a variety of hands-on activities to equip participants with strategies and resources to support foster youth in being REFLECTIVE and ROOTED IN ACTION to break the cycle of poverty. Participants will learn techniques to help students practice self-sufficiency and resiliency especially in the face of adversity. This workshop will enhance one's capacity/flexibility to empower foster youth to NEVER GIVE UP while changing the trajectory of their future.

**Presenter:** Kimberly C. Rhyan

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

# Workshop Information Continued Thursday 9/26/19

## 20. Champions of Change: Unleashing Equity

### Is Our Superpower

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Any team that wants to become a champion understands that to win big, every member of the team must buy into the team concept. Additionally, every member of the team needs to know that their personal needs will be met based on their unique values, qualities and the skills they bring to the whole. Similarly, a PCSA is a team made up of individuals all working together to champion the needs of all the children and families they serve. Thus, this team should reflect the racial makeup of those communities composing its service population. All too often, however, children of color are overrepresented in the child welfare population, meaning in many cases the PCSA team is quite different from the children and families for which we are champions. This workshop will explore tools that all PCSAs can use to examine racial disproportionalities within their jurisdiction. Using Franklin County as an example, we will see how this work has evolved and what actions the agency is taking in response to its results and future plans for using these findings to enhance equity in the child welfare system.

**Presenters:** LaShaun Carter, Jessica Foster, Brad Gregg

**Target Audience:** Directors, Administrators

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## Thursday 9/26/19

## 21. All Stressed Up and No Way to Let Go

**8:30-11:30 AM**

This stress management workshop is designed to help participants recognize stressors, become aware of their own personal stress level and discover some healthy, effective methods to reduce stress. Time management and humor are discussed as methods for effective stress management. A personal stress level assignment and plan for healthy stress management will be the outcome of the training.

**Presenter:** Karen Vadino

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors,

Directors, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 22. Identification of Meth Labs

**8:30-11:30 AM**

Meth usage has increased drastically over the past 5-10 years, and more and more parents are manufacturing and using meth, often in their homes where their children may be present. Child welfare workers need to be aware of the signs of meth use and manufacture so as to report to the authorities if a worker comes upon a meth lab while in a client's home. Child

welfare workers also must know the impact on children's health and wellbeing for those children who have been exposed to meth.

**Presenter:** Lee Hawks

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 23. Conflict Resolution for Supervisors

**8:30-11:30 AM**

This 3-hour course will enable child welfare supervisors to more effectively resolve and manage conflicts. Maintaining calm with emotional intelligence and using empathy statements will be covered, as will common negotiation strategies.

**Presenter:** Beth Philey

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 24. 30 Days to Family® Ohio Panel

**8:30-11:30 AM**

This workshop will take participants through the exciting implementation of 30 Days to Family® Ohio. 30 Days to Family® is an intense short-term intervention developed by the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition that features two major elements: family finding and family support interventions. Participants will get to hear from a 30 Days to Family® Ohio Regional Director, Family Specialist, Supervisor and Coach. Panelists will share their insights on the program's attributes including: finding 80-150 relatives on cases, using GenoPro (a genogram program) and the RoadMap to Family tool. We will cover the roles and goals on 30 Days, and panelists will share some amazing stories. Participants will get to ask questions about implementation across Ohio, challenges to the work, the program's evaluation and expected outcomes.

**Presenter:** Malinda Hamm, LSW

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 25. Effective Resiliency-Based Case Plan

**Writing**

**8:30-11:30 AM**

Caseworkers often describe case plan writing as one of the most laborious parts of their paperwork. They speak of the time and effort they must expend in order for it to be well written and all inclusive of the concerns and objectives. Since certain case plans become court orders, it is important for caseworkers to have a case plan they can testify to and defend during the court process, and one that meets the requirement of reasonable efforts. This workshop provides the legal basis of case plans by examining OAC §5101:2-38 and ORC §2151.412, as well as several examples of effectively written case plans that are

# Workshop Information Continued Thursday 9/26/19

resiliency based. Time will also be spent reviewing case plan tips from collective veterans in the field.

**Presenters:** Kelly Crampton; Shelby Cully, JD; Lauri Wolfe, MCJ

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 26. JDAI and Child Welfare: A Community Collaboration Case Study

**9:30-11:30 AM**

Trumbull County Children Services worked closely with the Trumbull County Juvenile Court to provide an innovative treatment program to a specific crossover youth. This youth had extensive histories with both agencies, and his behaviors were becoming more violent as all treatment efforts proved to be ineffective at deterring his behaviors. The program they developed was centered on trauma-informed care and utilized brain mapping to better understand the youth. It was a major effort that required commitment from both agencies as well as outside community resources. It was especially innovative for the Court, which was going forward with the effort because of its recent commitment to the tenets of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI), a movement in juvenile justice reform that focuses on things like family-centered treatments and reducing detainment of nonviolent youth.

**Presenters:** Corinne Milentijevic; Nikki Hazlett; Jessica Riffle

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Caseworkers, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 27. Resilient Leadership: Building Staff Bounce!

**9:30-11:30 AM**

In this workshop, leaders will have an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a resilient leader and how to build the bounce (resilience) of staff. "Resilient leadership" is the term used to describe those leadership behaviors that help others withstand crisis, adapt to or rebound from adversity. Leaders will reflect on ways to support their staff resilience. This workshop provides many opportunities to learn and develop meaningful and resilience-building strategies for staff. Finally, leaders will have an opportunity to reflect on their own resilience and explore strategies to build their personal bounce.

**Presenter:** Marla Himmeger, LSW

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 28. LEAN Thinking in Child Welfare

**9:30-11:30 AM**

This presentation will provide attendees with information about how LEAN Manufacturing

concepts can be translated to public child welfare work. In particular, Summit County Children Services will outline the LEAN principles used to prepare for and implement the Statewide Enterprise Document Management System (EDMS) and Traverse. By using the Kaizen/A4 process, Summit County was able to reduce waste and streamline processes to allow for a better transition to a "paperless" model of work.

**Presenters:** Valarie A. Nash, SHRM-SCP, CLRP; Elizabeth Mangon, LSW, JD; Jessica Miller, JD, MSSA, LSW

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 29. Case Weighting: Implications for Caseload and Workload Management

**9:30-11:30 AM**

This workshop will explore the challenges facing child welfare administrators, managers and supervisors in managing caseloads and workloads in the constantly changing environment of caseworker turnover and competency, budgetary constraints, case complexity, and evolving best practices. Discussions will focus on the historical aspects of case weighting, development of case weighting framework, implementation, and benefits and challenges for casework and supervisory staff. Attendees will learn first-hand how a successful case weighting system was implemented in Montgomery County, lessons learned, and early outcomes and trends.

**Presenters:** Monica Burton, MS, PCC; Adam Mash, MSW, LSW; Michele Williams, MSSA, LISW-S; Brian Poe

**Target Audience:** Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 30. Ethics and Professionalism: A Different Approach to Working Together

**9:30-11:30 AM**

Ethics and professionalism are typically presented as a black-and-white topic. You are ethical or you are not ethical. Why? Ethics and professionalism are a joint effort of all participants in juvenile justice. Using the concepts contained in the ethical codes of law and social work, participants in this training will look at situations that give rise to ethical and professional questions in the area of juvenile justice. Participants will work together to focus on improving the ethics and professionalism of those who work in juvenile justice and ultimately the outcomes of children and families.

**Presenter:** John D. Everett, JD

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 2 CLE Hours Professionalism and Ethics pending approval

# Workshop Information Continued Thursday 9/26/19

## **31. The Poverty Brain: Neuroplasticity and the Role of the Child Welfare System**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Individuals living in poverty experience mental health disorders at a higher rate than the general population. Studies have demonstrated how poverty alters brain development, which can lead to maladaptive patterns of social attribution and/or elevated physiological stress. Understanding how these brain changes impact client outcomes is critical for child welfare professionals. Child welfare workers must also be aware of effective interventions to help mitigate the effects of poverty. This workshop will address how individuals living in poverty see the world, barriers to effective treatment, and evidence-based interventions that mitigate the effects of poverty.

**Presenter: Michelle Kreidler, MSW, LSW**

**Target Audience: Caseworkers**

**Learning Credits: Approved for 2 CEU Hours**

## **32. Improving Child Welfare Services to LGBTQ Children and Youth**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

LGBTQ youth are undercounted and overrepresented in child welfare agencies, and often staff don't know how to ask youth about their Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression (SOGIE). This workshop will focus on practices developed to help uncover the hidden youth in our care. Cuyahoga County Children and Family Services is one of four child welfare sites in the country working with the National Quality Improvement Center for Tailored Services to LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care. Learn about the agency's strategies to safely identify LGBTQ youth in care, develop affirming foster homes, and help LGBTQ youth identify safe and affirming family members. Learn about our work to help all chosen families become more accepting and affirming. There will be a discussion of how to authentically incorporate young people into the work of establishing programs, policies and procedures at the child welfare agency.

**Presenters: Karen Anderson, LISW-S; Shannon Deinhart, MSSA, LISW-S; Jennifer Croessman**

**Target Audience: Caseworkers, Supervisors**

**Learning Credits: Approved for 2 CEU Hours**

## **33. Worker Safety in a Changing Community**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Very few caseworkers enter the child welfare field recognizing that they may be a target for assault. Yet threats of violence and actual assaults are real and occur more frequently than we care to admit. Violence toward social workers is a result of many factors each serious unto itself. This workshop will focus on understanding environmental factors including

neighborhoods with high crime rates, drug and alcohol concerns, and social workers' own attitudes. We will explore worker safety risk factors and identify strategies to increase safety for workers. Finally, the workshop will have each participant develop an individual worker safety plan that can be used before, during and after home visits.

**Presenter: Debra Huff, LISW-S**

**Target Audience: Caseworkers**

**Learning Credits: Approved for 2 CEU Hours**

## **34. Influencing Public Policy Through Rules**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

In order to effectively influence public policy, it is critical that children services leaders understand how policy decisions are made and develop effective relationships with policymakers. This workshop will provide an overview of Ohio's rule-making process, resources for monitoring and commenting on rules, and how to influence rules.

**Presenters: Mary Wachtel, MSW; Shelby Cully, Esq; Rachel Massoud**

**Target Audience: Supervisors, Directors**

**Learning Credits: Approved for 2 CEU Hours**

## **35. Improving Testimony in Juvenile Court**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Looking to improve your courtroom testimony? Are you tired of walking into court unprepared? This training will give you a look at reasons why the courtroom is so daunting. Then, using 10 rules of testifying, you will be given concrete ideas to improve courtroom presentation.

**Presenter: John D. Everett, JD**

**Target Audience: Attorneys, Caseworkers**

**Learning Credits: 2 CLE Hours Pending Approval and 2 CEU Hours Approved**

## **36. How Are We Doing? Using Data to Assess the Effectiveness of Ohio START**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Child welfare agencies across the state are placing more children in out-of-home care, keeping those children in placements longer, and seeing reductions in rates of reunification, largely due to the rise in substance-affected families. This workshop will show administrators, supervisors and caseworkers how data can inform all aspects of the implementation of the Ohio Sobriety, Treatment and Reducing Trauma (Ohio START) intervention. More specifically, we will (1) identify ways in which counties differ on readiness for intervention, (2) present a data dashboard that allows workers to assess the degree to which the intervention is being implemented with fidelity, and (3) assess how child wellbeing is affected. We will also show how Ohio START affected child welfare outcomes of

# Workshop Information Continued Thursday 9/26/19

interest, including number of children placed in out-of-home care and rates of reunification. Finally, we will conclude with discussion about how to use these data to improve practice.

**Presenters:** Bridget Freisthler, PhD; Elinam Dellar, PhD; Alicia C. Bunker, MSW, PhD; Susan Yoon, MSW, PhD; Katie Maguire-Jack, MSW, PhD

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 37. Service Planning to Enhance Empowerment for Survivors of Human Trafficking

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Juvenile survivors of human trafficking should be supported through services that help them feel safe and respected and moves them to self-sufficiency. This training will focus on how to understand and address the complex needs of survivors of human trafficking. To improve outcomes for survivors of human trafficking, caseworkers need to be able to develop trauma-informed, gender-specific, and culturally appropriate service plans. Recognizing that no single agency can address the complex needs of survivors, this training will also describe how to utilize a multi-disciplinary team approach to service planning. Caseworkers should be able to utilize a survivor-centered and strengths-based approach with survivors to encourage independence and reduce re-traumatization. In addition to lecture, this training will utilize case studies and small-group discussions to identify strategies caseworkers can use to support youth who may have experienced this form of victimization.

**Presenters:** Bhumika Patel, MA; Rebekkah O'Bryan, BSSW

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 38. MRSS: From Family Crisis to Family Champions

**2:00-4:00 PM**

As a part of a SAMHSA System of Care grant, the Northwest and Southwest regions of Ohio are in the process of implementing MRSS (Mobile Response Stabilization Services). MRSS teams, made up of clinicians and youth and family member peers, respond to families with youth experiencing behavioral health issues in the home with the goal of calming the immediate situation and working with the whole family to teach skills and provide supports that prevent future crises. MRSS strives to provide community-based support for families with the goal of diverting youth with behavioral health disorders from repeated ER visits, involvement in juvenile justice, or unnecessary removal from the home. This workshop

will explain the basics of how MRSS works with a system of care, challenges faced in the regions during implementation, as well as some findings and success stories from our first year of implementation.

**Presenters:** Wilma Townsend, MSW; Laura Payne, BA

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

## 39. Using Traverse to Strengthen Your Social Work Superpowers

**2:00-4:00 PM**

Superheroes are strengthened by many different things: yellow suns, adamantium, vibranium, and more. Now, Ohio's children services caseworkers have their own new tool to strengthen their superpowers: Traverse. The electronic content collection and case discovery solution puts forms and case file information in the caseworker hands when they're in the office and in the field providing services, giving them the power to focus on doing more high-value work with families. During this session, attendees will be provided with an overview of Traverse Web, Mobile, and Case Discovery, as well as walk through best practice use of the functionality. Attendees will also learn about features that have been added to Traverse throughout the year and will have the opportunity to ask practice-based questions to help inform their agency's use of Traverse.

**Presenter:** Michelle Pellman

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 OCWTP Hours

## 40. Developing Future Leaders

**2:00-4:00 PM**

This 2-hour class will point out the differences between management and leadership, helping participants identify potential leaders by reviewing the mindset and skillsets involved in leadership. Emphasis is placed on the role of informal leaders, allowing those without formal authority to positively influence their peers. The importance of properly managing informal leaders will be reviewed. Adult learning, coaching and mentoring, delegation, and feedback will be presented as ways of building leadership skills.

**Presenter:** Beth Philey

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 2 CEU Hours

# Workshop Information Continued Friday 9/27/19

## Friday 9/27/19

### 41. Exploring the Parallel Ethics of Attorneys, Social Workers and Counselors who Work with Children and Families

**10:00 AM-1:15PM**

Attorneys, social workers and counselors who work with children, juveniles and families hold a three-faceted professional responsibility to address the wishes of their clients, serve the interests of society as defined by law, and uphold the integrity of their disciplines as established in professional codes of conduct. When those three responsibilities clash, a professional must use professional ethics to determine how to proceed. The Ethical Codes of professionals working with children are surprisingly similar, even though the duties of those professionals vary. This workshop will define and compare professional ethics between the disciplines that work with children and families and review real case decisions that demonstrate how disciplines can work in tandem, applying ethical decision-making, sometimes even when those decisions are dissatisfying to the clients.

**Presenter: Douglas Althauser, Esq, LICDC-CS, MAC, ICADC, ICC**

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers, Supervisors, Directors, Attorneys

**Learning Credits:** 3 CLE Hours Professional Ethics Pending Approval and 3 CEU Hours Approved

### 42. How Servant Leadership Develops Staff for Leadership Roles through Mentoring Relationships

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Child welfare staff often become experts in their day-to-day practice but search for ways to grow and develop outside of their current roles. Staff can often become stagnant if they don't have new challenges and opportunities for growth and development. Franklin County Children Services has developed a leadership program where agency staff are part of a program to give them growth opportunities. Staff are matched with a mentor and focus on specific developmental goals throughout the year. They are part of a group that meets bi-monthly to learn from leadership stories and strategies of others. The program teaches staff how to lead from their current position, but also how to develop themselves in order to be more successful candidates for future leadership opportunities. The focus of the program is on the servant leadership style, which will also be discussed.

**Presenters:** Karen Copeland Willhite, MSSA, LISW-S; Vicky Rhoads, BSW, MS

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

### 43. Intensive Home-Based Treatment:

#### Ohio's Proven Model for Family Stability and Resilience

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

IHBT is an intensive, time-limited mental health service for multi-system youth from families with multi-generational trauma histories. IHBT is a flexible framework that can be utilized with youth with serious emotional disabilities and their families, provided in the home and community where the youth lives, with the goal of safely maintaining the youth in their home, the least restrictive, most normative environment, by stabilizing the family system. This workshop will present the main components of the IHBT model, including key techniques like facilitating family resilience and increasing social safety nets, all designed to promote positive functioning for youth and families. With more than three decades of effective implementation across Ohio, IHBT plays a vital role in the system of care continuum and offers real hope and respectful partnerships to our overwhelmed and multi-stressed families. We will also explore adaptations to the model to support recovering families and kinship providers.

**Presenter: Bobbi L Beale, PsyD**

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

### 44. Creating Effective Cross-Generational Teams

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

This training will address the various characteristics of five current work generations. The two different schools of thought regarding assigning characteristics to a generation will be covered. Discussion will center around the ways each worker may bring certain qualities to the unit and how best to harness these qualities to form a functioning team. Attention will be paid to the stereotyping that occurs regarding each generation and how these can make or break your team if not recognized. Participants will self-assess what part they play and if they are making a positive impact on their team. Activities will show participants how to work together as a functioning team so they may in turn share these same ideals with their assigned units.

**Presenter: Kelly Hickle-Lentz**

**Target Audience:** Supervisors, Directors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

# Workshop Information Continued Friday 9/27/19

## 45. Creating a Learning Environment for UPP Students or New Child Welfare Professionals

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

In this workshop, participants will have an opportunity to share their expertise in supervising new casework staff and University Partnership Program (UPP) students. Through sharing of ideas and addressing challenges, participants will leave the session with a reinforcement of their current practice along with new techniques to guide the development of new child welfare professionals. We will explore how other factors influence and impact the new caseworker's/ student's motivation and commitment to learning the role of a child welfare caseworker.

**Presenter:** Lisa Fleischer, MSW, LISW

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 46. Child Trauma Screening: Identifying Children at Risk

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

An understanding of how trauma affects a child can help caregivers and other professionals recognize the underlying cause of challenging behaviors and how to respond in supportive ways. As a result, children are more likely to get the help they need. The Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center (CTAC) developed a screening tool for children who have experienced trauma and adverse childhood experiences. Their tool was chosen for use in the Ohio START initiative to help caseworkers better identify trauma exposure and associated behaviors in the children they serve. This tool supports appropriate triaging of services and/or referrals in your agency and community. This training will assist workers with how to use the CTAC screening tool, interpret the results, provide feedback to the family, and offer recommendations for further assessment for treatment services.

**Presenter:** Marla Himmeger, LSW

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 47. The Integrated Co-Occurring Treatment Model: Evidence-Informed Practice for Youth and Their Families

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

The Integrated Co-Occurring Treatment (ICT) model, an evidence-informed practice, uses an intentionally integrated and domain-guided treatment approach, which aligns with the Intensive Home Based Treatment (IHBT) design. The reciprocal interactions of co-occurring substance use and serious emotional disabilities are addressed directly, with each

considered 'primary.' Guiding principles include System of Care (SOC) core values, a developmentally mindful and resiliency-oriented approach, strong family partnering, intentionally integrated screening and assessment, integrated and stage-matched treatment design, and ongoing safety and risk assessment. Youth, family and community engagement is emphasized and evaluated at all phases. ICT therapists receive weekly coaching and consultation in order to stay on top of the multi-faceted challenges and evolving areas of focus.

**Presenters:** Michael Fox, LPCC-S, CCDCIII

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 48. SOGIE 101: Working with Youth Who Have Diverse Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Youth with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression need the support of the child welfare system to be able to meet their needs effectively. LGBTQ+ youth are overrepresented in the child welfare system and are at greater risk of negative outcomes, including homelessness, suicide attempts and unhealthy risk-taking behaviors. This training will offer foundational information about gender identity and sexual orientation and the influence of affirmative caregiving while providing practical interventions to help child welfare staff support and affirm LGBTQ+ youth.

**Presenters:** Sonia Emerson; Jennifer Wenderoth, LISW-S

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 49. The Highs and Lows of Medical Marijuana

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

This session will include a basic overview of what marijuana is and some uses throughout history. The main focus will center on medical marijuana. Specific attention will be directed to the key tenets of the Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program.

**Presenter:** Amanda Burke, PhD, CTRS, CHES

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 50. The Enhancement of Services and Practice for Resource Families in Lorain County: Foster and Kinship Families

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Due to the growing need for resource families (kinship and foster families), Lorain County Children Services created new programming to help assist with this need through development of a kinship unit and recruitment coordinator position. Through this

# Workshop Information Continued Friday 9/27/19

workshop, participants will gain skills and knowledge on incorporating new practice ideas and techniques to service resource families as well as recruit and retain families.

**Presenters:** Julie Schoenlein; Nancy R. Griffiths, MSSA

**Target Audience:** Caseworkers

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

## 51. Engaging Staff: Building Worker Retention

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

This workshop will examine two of the top causes for worker turnover: unresolved conflict and worker burnout/vicarious trauma. Attendees will learn some of the causes and some simple solutions to reduce these issues. Finally, attendees will learn about engaging and appreciating workers to aid in employee retention.

**Presenter:** Diana Hoover

**Target Audience:** Supervisors

**Learning Credits:** Approved for 3 CEU Hours

# Presenters

**Douglas Althausen** holds Ohio licensure as a Chemical Dependency Counselor and as an Attorney. He worked for more than 20 years as a mental health and addiction counselor before attending law school. He has focused his career on young people and families in need. He is a national presenter and an international author. He frequently lectures on the similar dynamics of ethics in professional disciplines that serve the same clients.

**Karen J. Anderson** is the Special Projects and Pay for Success Coordinator at the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services. She is responsible for development, implementation and leadership of projects focused on best practices, special populations and evaluation. She has worked in foster care, adoption and mental health programming as a senior leader at private agencies and as a consultant with child welfare and housing organizations to develop, implement and evaluate programs.

**Amanda Beach** is a Training Manager with the Institute for Human Services specializing in casework practice, CAPMIS and SACWIS. She has a bachelor's degree in Sociology and a master's degree in Public Administration. She has 17 years of experience in child welfare with experience in child welfare screening, intake, ongoing and supervision. She also served as the Associate Director of Performance Review, supervisor of family support services.

**Bobbi Beale**, founder and CEO of Life Adventures for All, Senior Research Associate at the Center for Innovative Practices, is CIP's resident trauma & resilience expert and spends most of her time traveling around Ohio to support behavioral health providers of youth and family services. Bobbi specializes in designing non-traditional programs that utilize

adventure therapy for youth and family populations that are at risk or have trauma histories, to increase resiliency at the individual, family and community levels.

**David Beck** is employed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services as a Policy Developer for Foster Care Licensing. He has been a policy developer in this area since 2004 and has over 20 years of experience with state agencies. David is currently responsible for nearly a hundred rules located in chapters 5101:2-5, 5101:2-7 and 5101:2-9 of the Administrative Code. He has also served and continues to serve as a subject matter expert with various legislative committees when needed.

**Marquetese Betts** has over 20 years of experience in the field of child welfare. She is a trainer for OCTWP and currently serves as a Supervisor at CCDCFS. She has received multiple recognitions for her work with vulnerable populations, such as CCDCFS's Director's Award and an Honorable Mention from PCSAO. She currently serves on CWRU's Alumni Board, as well as Ohio's CQI New Initiatives Subcommittee.

**Alex Bishara** has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Master of Social Work. After providing 5 years of substance abuse counseling, he moved into program management. Over the next 10 years he opened and directed four substance abuse and mental health centers across Ohio. In 2016, He joined NCH as Clinical Coordinator and recently joined the Behavioral Health Community Engagement team as the Behavioral Health Network Specialist. He is also substance abuse treatment trainer with OCWTP.

**Danny Brennaman** is a life-long resident of Coshocton County and went to College at Cumberland College in Williamsburg Kentucky.

He studied Education and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in History and Political Science and Mathematics. After graduation he returned to the Coshocton area where he entered the construction field. From there I started with CORC Job Training under the Job Training Partnership Act as a case manager and teacher. Then he was promoted to Workforce Administrator with the inception of our quad-combined Job & Family Services. He's been the director of Coshocton JFS since October 2017. Most recently and currently, I'm honored to serve as your PCSAO board treasurer.

**Alicia C. Bunger** is an associate professor at the College of Social Work at Ohio State University. Dr. Bunger's research investigates strategies for promoting coordinated, high quality services across systems. Her research focuses on collaboration among human service organizations and implementation of evidence-based practices. She serves on the OSU evaluation team for the Ohio START project.

**Dr. Amanda Burke** works as a Prevention Specialist at Townhall II, a nonprofit social service agency in Kent. Simultaneously, Burke functions as an assistant professor at Kent State University in the School of Health Sciences. She holds dual national certifications serving as a Certified Health Education Specialist and a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist.

**Monica Burton** is a graduate of Wright State University in Dayton, where she received her MA degree in Applied Behavioral Science in 2003 and her MS degree in Mental Health Counseling in 2006. Burton has worked in the field of child welfare for the past 12 years, supervising both intake and ongoing caseworkers at Montgomery County Department

# Presenters Continued

of Job and Family Services. Additional professional experiences include work in the areas of mental health and substance abuse counseling, domestic violence, crisis intervention services, and homelessness prevention

**Brian Butcher** is Vice President/COO at Clemans Nelson & Associates, advising clients in human resources, compensation, labor relations and negotiations, regulatory compliance, discipline and policy development. He conducts training on diverse HR and labor issues such as FLSA, FMLA, ADA, discriminatory harassment, leave abuse and social media in the workplace for public sector statewide associations. Brian received his JD from Capital University Law School and his BA from Muskingum University.

**LaShaun Carter** (Shaun) is Director of Strategy, Diversity, and Evaluation Services for FCCS.

**Domonique Chapman** currently serves as a Foster Care Youth Advocate with Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Families and Children. Chapman works with both county and private agency child welfare stakeholders to advocate and assist with programming needs for foster youth and emancipated young adults being served by the Bridges program. Chapman has formerly gained valuable experience working as a primary care manager, providing case management services to promote recovery and wellness in adults with chemical dependency. She has additional experience in community outreach and transitional housing coordination services for women undergoing treatment and maintaining sobriety. Chapman looks forward to using her background and personal experiences to help empower young adults and assist child welfare providers in better serving the needs of foster youth.

**Tijana Coso** offers live experiential staff programs, continuing education and corporate retreats using Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT). In addition, she specializes by offering her EFT expertise to assist with trauma-informed care, secondary trauma, unconscious bias and with those battling addiction. Her corporate work addresses unconscious bias as it relates to successful work teams, attitude and managing people. Tijana is one of the only certified EFT professionals who offers live EFT training within the Midwest for CE and corporate engagements.

**Kelly Crampton** is the Manager of the Northwest Ohio Regional Training Center at Lucas County Children Services. She has worked in child welfare for 21 years in a variety of roles. She has a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and obtained her LPC in 2017. She currently provides counseling services to children and adolescents through private practice. Kelly acted as the project manager for the implementation of a trauma grant awarded to LCCS in 2015 and continues to spearhead the agency's trauma-informed care initiative.

**Jennifer Croessmann** is a social programs administrator for the Director of the Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services. Currently, she focuses on systems change and innovations in health and human service programs. Jennifer has led team decision making meetings to create safe plans for children and families and case review meetings to discuss the safety, permanency and wellbeing of children in out-of-home care. Jennifer has 22 years of experience in child welfare.

**Shelby Cully** has been in the field of child welfare for more than a decade as a mediator, GAL, attorney, legal manager, and now chief counsel for her agency. She devotes a portion of her time

and attention to meeting with caseworkers to help them prepare for court and other legal matters. She is a tremendous support and mentor for her colleagues and others involved in the CSB process.

**Shannon Deinhart** is a leader in reshaping the way Ohio's child welfare system works with families and youth. With 20+ years' experience advancing foster care, adoption and children's advocacy, she is a resource in local, state and national child welfare with regards to Family Search and Engagement and Child-Focused Permanency Planning. She specializes in program development, research and evaluation, with an emphasis on the use of reliable data to guide planning and improved outcomes.

**Dr. Elinam Deller** conducts research on the short, and long-term consequences of child abuse and neglect. A key area of interest is the effect of early life trauma on adult behavior and health. Her expertise is in trauma-related physiologic processes as mediating pathways to adult chronic health conditions. Her research focuses on the feasibility of collecting chronic stress biomarkers among child welfare-involved families and caregivers with a focus on HPA-axis (hair for cortisol) and immune system (dried blood spots for Creactive protein) activity. She also studies the use of internet technology in linking vulnerable families to social, behavioral and health services.

**Emily Dunlap** provides direct legal services and advocacy to trafficked and exploited persons in a variety of legal matters at Advocating Opportunity. Emily received her J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 2014 and her undergraduate degrees at The Ohio State University. Prior to joining Advocating Opportunity, Emily was The OSU Mortiz College of Law's Greif Fellow in Juvenile

# Presenters Continued

Human Trafficking, representing exploited and trafficked children in a wide variety of legal proceedings.

**Denielle Ell-Rittinger** is the Child Protective Services Section Chief at Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

**Sonia Emerson** is the project coordinator for Affirm Me—a grant project with Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services—to develop evidence-based practices promoting positive outcomes for LGBTQI+ youth who experience the child welfare system. In this capacity, Sonia provides trainings around issues particular to youth in foster care who have diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression (SOGIE). Sonia also serves in leadership roles with the Jim Casey Foundation and the YWCA of Greater Cleveland.

**Amanda Erickson**, originally from Michigan, received her Bachelor of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University before spending two years in the Peace Corps as a teacher trainer in the South Pacific. Since moving to Columbus, she has spent most of her time educating through various nonprofit organizations. She joined Kaleidoscope Youth Center in the fall of 2017, and has presented numerous LGBTQ+ training sessions, reaching over 1,500 youth-serving professionals throughout central Ohio.

**John D. Everett** is an attorney in the City of Kettering, having worked as a prosecutor for 20 years. He is a trainer for the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program, a frequent speaker for Ohio CASA and has developed training programs for the Ohio Supreme Court and various local agencies. He is on the editorial board of the ABA Children's Rights publication and a member of several juvenile justice committees. Everett earned

a BA in history from Kenyon College and a JD from University of Dayton School of Law. He is married and has two children.

**Lisa Fleischer** began her career in child welfare at Franklin County Children Services in 2003. She served in the role of a caseworker and supervisor in the Ongoing Department before transferring to the Intake Department to supervise an IPV/AR Unit. Lisa transitioned to supervising mentors who assisted in the onboarding of new staff. Lisa remains at the Intake Department and was promoted to a Social Program Administrator 1 in November 2018.

**John Folk** was named Director of Hardin County JFS in August 2017. Prior to that, he worked for both Allen County JFS and the Workforce Investment Act Ohio Area 8.

**Jessica Foster** is a senior-level evaluator with FCCS.

Integrating experiences from mental health and substance use direct treatment, system and collateral coordination and teaching with research-driven data, **Michael Fox** strives to disseminate demonstrated and promising practices to assist the work of professionals and communities toward decreasing risks for youth and families. He provides educational training and consultations to professionals working with youth and families living with co-occurring mental health and substance use issues, trauma and developmental trauma and developmental disabilities.

**Bridget Freisthler** is Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development at The Ohio State University. She directs studies on how drinking and drug use contexts affect child maltreatment, implementing interventions that reduce child abuse and neglect for substance-affected parents, and examining

how web-based technology creates a more streamlined process for matching client referrals with service providers to reduce length of stay for children in foster care and increase reunification rates.

**Fawn Gadel** is the Director of Ohio START at the Public Children Services Association of Ohio. She started her career at the Family and Youth Law Center, where she most recently served as the Associate Director and Clinical Supervisor. She began her work with the center during her first year of law school in 2004 as a legal intern, transitioned to a staff attorney in 2007 and became the Associate Director in 2014. Ms. Gadel received her bachelor's degree in marketing magna cum laude from Xavier University and her Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School cum laude, concentrating in Children and family law.

**Brad Gregg** is the Director of Evaluation at FCCS.

**Nancy Griffiths** holds a bachelor's degree in Human Ecology from The Ohio State University and a master's degree in Social Service Administration from Case Western Reserve University. Nancy has practiced social work at Lorain County Children Services for over 27 years. For 25 years she worked in direct services as an intake and ongoing worker and for 13 of those years as a direct services supervisor. In 2017 Nancy moved over to the Family-Based Care Department, where she is currently the kinship supervisor. She supervises caseworkers who complete home studies on kinship families and a 30 Days to Family Worker.

**Malinda Hamm** is a Regional Director at Kinnect. She is currently supporting the Southwest Region of Ohio with implementation of the 30 Days to Family® Program. Malinda has six years of child welfare experience

# Presenters Continued

as an ongoing and alternative response worker. Malinda also has experience working as a therapist in the education setting and with community-based mental health services. She is the author of "This is Mine: My Story, My Life," a book sharing life stories of foster care alumni. Malinda earned her bachelor's degree in social welfare from The University of Washington.

**Lee Hawks** is a Sergeant with the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office assigned as the field operations supervisor for the Fairfield-Athens Major Crimes Unit in Lancaster. His duties include the investigation of narcotics traffickers and organized criminal groups. Sgt. Hawks is also a team leader for the Fairfield County SWAT team.

**Nikki Hazlett** has been in the field of residential treatment for the last 13 years as direct care staff to residential director. She holds a bachelor's from Youngstown State University. She has also been a Wrap Around Facilitator for Trumbull County Children Services mental health board, and currently she is the Coordinator for one of the Residential Units at Trumbull County Children Services.

**Kelly Hickle-Lentz** is currently the Operations Administrator with Wood County Department of Job and Family Services. She has served in this position for two years. She currently supervises a variety of programs including fiscal, data security, IT, and custodial staff. Prior to this, she spent 20 years in child welfare in a variety of roles including Intake Worker, Intake Supervisor, and Ongoing Supervisor. Eighteen of the 20 years were in Supervision. She has been a member of numerous state and local committees including Implementation and Practice Advancement Team as well as the Supervisor Advisory Committee. She has been a trainer for over fifteen years and is currently an Ohio Child Welfare Training

Program certified trainer.

**Marla Himmeger** currently works with PCSAO as the Program Manager for Ohio START. She retired in 2012 from the Ohio Department of Mental Health, after serving as Program Administrator for the ODMH Early Childhood Mental Health Program since 2000. Prior to working at ODMH, Himmeger worked in the field of child welfare in Ohio for 20 years at the county, district and state levels. She also has worked with childhood trauma programming and is an affiliate member of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

**Diana Hoover** is a licensed Social Worker with 30+ years' experience in child protection. Formerly a Child Protection Administrator and JFS Director of a quadruple-combined agency, Diana has experience in leadership development and succession planning in all areas of job and family services. Diana currently is a trainer and executive coach for OCWTP, a trainer for OHSTP, and a consultant with Partners for Leadership Growth.

**Debra Huff** is a Licensed independent social worker with supervision, designation and training coordinator, NEORTC, Akron, Ohio. Deborah has worked in the field of child welfare for 29 years. Her areas of interest include professional development, mentoring, LISW-S. supervision, worker safety, cultural diversity and issues impacting family's and children within the child welfare system. She holds a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University.

**Michelle Kreidler** is a licensed social worker in the state of Ohio and has been practicing for over 25 years. She has experience in case management, therapy and supervision in both behavioral health and child welfare. She is currently in private practice and

works as a consultant at Aultman College's Social Work Program.

**Megan McCombs Heydlauff** is a Senior Attorney at the Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School. Her role focuses on the coordination of adoption and permanency-related projects and initiatives. She is also an adjunct professor at Capital University Law School and teaches the Summer Adoption Law Institute and the Interdisciplinary Child Welfare Institute. Heydlauff is a graduate of Denison University and received her law degree from Capital University Law School.

**Chynna Kelley** is currently a Policy Developer for ODJFS, Office of Families and Children, working on the development and implementation of Bridges, the state's program to extend housing and case management supports to young adults who have aged out of the foster care system. Prior to her joining the Bridges team, she served as a Foster Youth Advocate where she incorporated her experience as a former foster youth to help develop policy and programming to best suit the needs of transitioning foster youth. Prior to coming to ODJFS, Kelley served as an assistant state attorney with the Miami Dade State Attorney's Office in the domestic violence unit.

**Sarah Levels** has been in child welfare for over 18 years. She currently serves as a Human Services Policy Developer for ODJFS Office of Families and Children, working on Bridges, Ohio's new program to extend housing and case management supports to young adults who have aged out of Ohio's foster care system. Previously, Levels served as a Supervisor in the Emancipation Department of Franklin County Children Services.

**Dr. Katie Maguire-Jack** is an Associate Professor at the

# Presenters Continued

Ohio State University College of Social Work. She researches child maltreatment prevention, with a specific focus on community supports. She teaches courses in social policy, macro issues in child-serving systems, and family violence. She has dual master's degrees in Social Work and Public Administration, and a PhD in Social Welfare from the University of Wisconsin.

**Elizabeth Mangon** is the Department Director of Client Rights and Quality Improvement for Summit County Children Services. She has been employed at SCCS since 1996 in various capacities, serving as an ongoing caseworker, legal counsel, and records supervisor, prior to assuming her current position. In her current role, Mangon oversees the agency's records department, serves as the Client Rights Officer, and manages the agency's quality improvement activities. Mangon has a bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Juris Doctor from the University of Akron. She is a licensed social worker and attorney in the State of Ohio.

**Adam Mash** earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2002 and a Master of Social Work from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2007. He is a Licensed Social Worker with over 15 years of experience working in child welfare and other related social services. Currently, Mash supervises a team of 6 intake/ongoing caseworkers and a family support worker at Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services-Children Services Division.

**Rachel Massoud** is a Policy Analyst for the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO). As a member of CCAO's advocacy team, she covers health and human services, workforce, workers' compensation, and solid

waste policy. Prior to joining CCAO, Rachel was the Legislative Advocate for the Ohio Municipal League and a Senior Legislative Aide at the Ohio Senate. During her time at the Ohio Senate, Rachel was responsible for the senator's policy portfolio and managed the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee. She is a graduate of DePauw University with a degree in Political Science.

**Corinne Milentijevic** is the Administrator of Clinical Services for Trumbull County Children Services. She has been practicing social work for over 25 years. She holds a MSSA from Case Western Reserve University. Her focuses have been victim advocacy, clinical mental health, Certified Juvenile Sexual Offender Treatment, EMDR and adventure therapy.

**Jessica Miller** currently serves as Supervisor, Quality Improvement and Records Management with Summit County Children Services and previously filled the roles of Coordinator, Quality Improvement and Protective Social Worker since joining the agency in 2010. She began her professional career in prevention before transitioning to providing treatment to youth in a residential setting. Jessica is also a graduate of the Child and Family Leadership Exchange.

**Valarie A. Nash** has been in the human resources field since graduating from Mount Union College in 1993. She began her professional career in healthcare, in addition to working in a union manufacturing environment for several years. Currently, Valarie works in the public employment sector for Summit County Children Services as Deputy Executive Director, Human Resources and Support Services and previously worked in the same role for Stark County Job & Family Services. As the Deputy Executive Director, Valarie is responsible for all aspects of the human resources

and support services Valarie is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), Job and Family Services Human Resource Association, currently serving as Vice President, Ohio Public Employers Labor Relations Association, National Public Employers Labor Relations Association, and Akron Area SHRM.

**Rebekkah O'Bryan** currently serves as the Juvenile Justice Human Trafficking Liaison for Ohio Department of Youth Services, where she is responsible for overseeing all trafficking-related activities within the department. Before joining ODYS, Rebekkah served survivors of human trafficking and at-risk youth in various roles such as Coordinator of Community Programming for Gracehaven. Rebekkah earned her BS in Social Work from The Ohio State University and will earn her MBA from Ohio Christian University in 2019.

**Bhumika Patel** joined PCSAO in March 2018 to serve as Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator and work with children services agencies in improving the response to child trafficking in Ohio. Prior to joining PCSAO, Bhumika served as Coalition Specialist in the Anti-Human Trafficking Program at The Salvation Army of Greater Cincinnati. Bhumika attained her MA in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from the University of Cincinnati and her BA in Women's Studies from Agnes Scott College.

**Laura Payne** is a Researcher with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. She assists with the evaluation of the SAMHSA System of Care Grant, ENGAGE 2.0. Payne graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in English.

**Michelle Pellman** is currently a Traverse Solution Analyst with Northwoods, specializing in

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training and onsite support, as well as child welfare consulting. Prior to joining Northwoods, Michelle gained 18 years of front-line child welfare experience while employed at Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services. At Northwoods, she enjoys getting to work alongside social workers – helping them do their jobs more efficiently, which, in turn, helps the children and families they serve.

**Beth Philley** was a foster and adoptive parent in Ohio from 1995-2014. She fostered over 40 children, adopting three special-needs boys. Beth has over 20 years of experience as a supervisory employee at two Fortune 500 companies. Her real-world experience allows her to share best practices in supervision and management. She currently makes her living as a self-employed independent trainer, serving government and private clients internationally.

**Danica Pingle** is a recovering addict with almost 4 years sober. She is a survivor of childhood trauma and became addicted to escaping reality through drugs and alcohol at a young age. Her addiction took her places she never thought it would like multiple CPS cases and incarcerations, homelessness, prostitution, overdoses and loss of custody of her child. With a lot of support, Danica now is an amazing mother and a certified peer supporter who empowers and supports parents just like her who felt hopeless at ever being able to be a parent again.

**Brian Poe** is a Social Program Coordinator in the Quality Improvement division of the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services. He began his career with JFS at an entry level position processing Medicaid only applications but did not stay put for long. By taking advantage of the free and

already-available applications provided on the county PCs he began developing ways to reduce manual work and automate processes. Over the next several years he implemented numerous data management products that are now heavily relied upon for the Family Assistance division in its daily operations. Brian now leads a small team with data analysts and programmers working with the Family Assistance, Child Support Enforcement, and Children's Services divisions and continues focusing on innovative solutions to the challenges faced by a metro county's workforce.

**Deanna Prezioso** is a licensed social worker with her Master of Social Work and currently supervises the foster care program at Trumbull County Children Services. She has over 15 years of experience working in child welfare with foster and adoptive caregivers. Deanna is an OCWTP trainer, training in the specialty areas of sibling connections, grief and loss and compassion fatigue among caregivers, and mentoring programs. She combined her research and experience to develop a successful Foster Caregiver Mentoring Program focusing on the strengthening of newly licensed foster and adoptive caregivers as well as retention of current foster and adoptive caregivers.

**Penny Putnam Collins** has 30 years of experience in child welfare practice, administration, training, program evaluation, and research. She is currently the Senior Manager of Child Welfare Strategic Initiatives for Child Welfare Information Gateway and supervises a team of child welfare subject matter experts, the development of strategic partnerships, and audience engagement.

**Kimberly C. Rhyan** has been working in higher education since

2003 and earned her BA in Fine Art from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and MA in Creative Arts Therapy from Hofstra University. She is a former foster youth and national advocate who supports foster youth to defy statistics. Kimberly isn't just a former foster youth, she is a soul-inspired storyteller, entrepreneur, artist, mother, educator and writer. Connect with Kimberly on social media via @soulinspiredkcr.

**Janie Rhoads** is a veteran trainer with the OCWTP. She primarily trains CAPMIS and Caseworker Core. She was an ongoing caseworker and supervisor at a PCSA before founding a foster care and adoption agency. Janie worked with children, foster parents and primary parents throughout the opioid crisis in Chillicothe and partnered with substance abuse experts. Rhoads continues to gain content mastery with ongoing contact with caseworkers, service providers, current research and interventions.

**Vicky Rhoads** has worked for Franklin County Children Services for 29 years and currently works in the Professional Development Department as a Social Program Administrator doing Leadership Development. Vicky has also worked for Ohio Health as a Manager of Social Workers at both Riverside and Grant Hospitals. She also has taught as a Professor for Ohio Christian University in Business and Human Services.

**Jessica Riffle** has trained and studied extensively to pursue her passion. Beyond her enthusiasm and dedication, she also has a solid background in trauma focused therapy, victim advocacy, case management, administration, supervision, data collection, working in an urban setting with diverse populations as well as multiple collegiate experiences and working with and for grants.

# Presenters Continued

**Lois Roberts** has over 20 years of experience in the health and human services field. She specializes in conducting comprehensive assessments and developing leaders in the child welfare field. She currently serves as a Training Supervisor at CCDCFS, where her work has earned her the Director's Award on multiple occasions.

**Ranay Sanders** is the Director of Synergy Force, offering training, consultation and retreat services to social service organizations and related groups. She has expertise in child welfare as it pertains to child protection and permanency planning. She is experienced in the provision of permanency through reunification, kinship care and adoption. She has provided direct service and administered programs in neighborhood development and child welfare.

**Julie Schoenlein** has practiced social work at Lorain County Children Services for 10 years starting as a direct services caseworker and eventually moving to Family-Based Care supervising recruitment, placement and foster care. Julie is currently the Family Recruitment Coordinator, where she oversees recruitment, training, and retention services for foster parents. She holds a master's degree in social work from Cleveland State University.

**Nicole Sillaman** joined the Ohio Children's Trust Fund as a program manager in 2014. At the Trust Fund, Sillaman works with both statewide and local partners to implement child abuse and neglect prevention programming. She also serves as the Project Manager for several Trust Fund initiatives, which include human trafficking prevention, the Strengthening Families Framework Learning Networks, enterprise grants management and child wellbeing data dashboard.

**Arlana Strickland** became addicted to opioids and anxiety medications after the birth of her first son. Her addiction became worse as she tried to escape the pain of an abusive marriage. Arlana's family was supportive of her and her children during her treatment. Today Arlana is a certified peer supporter and supports parents entering child welfare during children services meetings. Arlana says she wants other parents to know you can change your life one day at a time.

**Wilma Townsend** is Project Director for the SAMHSA System of Care Grant, ENGAGE 2.0. She previously worked as a Public Health Analyst for SAMHSA and as former president of WLT Consulting, a firm specializing in Mental Health and Substance Use Recovery, Consumer Involvement and Cultural Competence. She was a board member of the National Leadership Council for African American Behavioral Health, the American College of Mental Health Administration, and founding member of Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence.

**Karen Vadino** is a Motivational Speaker, Humorist, Trainer and Consultant. In her 30+ years as a human service professional, most of Karen's experience has been in the field of chemical dependency, both as a licensed clinician and as a certified prevention specialist. She has experience working with children and families, having served as a clinician and supervisor in children services group homes and a children's psychiatric hospital. For the past 25 years, Karen has been a nationally recognized speaker and trainer sharing her inimitable insights with thousands of people adults and youth each year. Karen has been described as "one of those rare people who can make you laugh and cry in the same moment."

**Laurie Valentine** currently serves as a Transitional Youth Coordinator for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Families and Children. Valentine has a vast array of knowledge and direct service experience in the field of child welfare with specialization in providing technical assistance and guidance about independent living skill development, adolescent health and wellness needs, transitional youth housing and funding needs. Valentine has worked with the State Automated Child Welfare Information System. As a member of the Transitional Youth Programs team, Valentine represents the office on several collaborative efforts with key stakeholder organizations including Ohio Reach, Ohio Interagency for Youth Council, and the Balance of State Continuum of Care Board. She advocates and assists foster youth ages 14-21 in reaching their higher educational and vocational goals, address their health and wellness, and achieve their desired personal goals.

**Mary Wachtel**, PCSAO Director of Public Policy, brings 25 years' experience advocating for children and families, including administrative and legislative advocacy and building grassroots support for issues. She is skilled in distilling complex policy issues for policymakers and the public in order to create understanding and support for issues.

**Jennifer Wenderoth** has 20 years' experience supporting children and families who experience child welfare. As Project Director, Chosen Affirming Family, Jennifer directs the development and implementation of a pilot program to improve outcomes for LBTQ2S youth who experience foster care.

# Presenters Continued

## **Karen Copeland Willhite,**

MSSA LISW-S; Karen is currently a Child Welfare Caseworker Training Supervisor in the Professional Development Department at Franklin County Children Services. Karen also coordinates the SAIL (Shaping Attitudes Inspiring Leadership) Program at FCCS. Karen came to FCCS in 2010 after previously working in three other counties in the state in various roles. Karen has been working in the field of child welfare since 1990 and has worked in various leadership positions since 2001.

## **Lindsay Williams**

is the Executive Director of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund, Ohio's sole dedicated public funding source for child abuse and neglect prevention. Williams has over 15 years of experience in the field of child welfare. Her prior experience includes working as a children services caseworker, casework supervisor, SACWIS Business Analyst, and Human Services Program Administrator overseeing the initial design and implementation of a program to prevent child abuse and neglect fatalities.

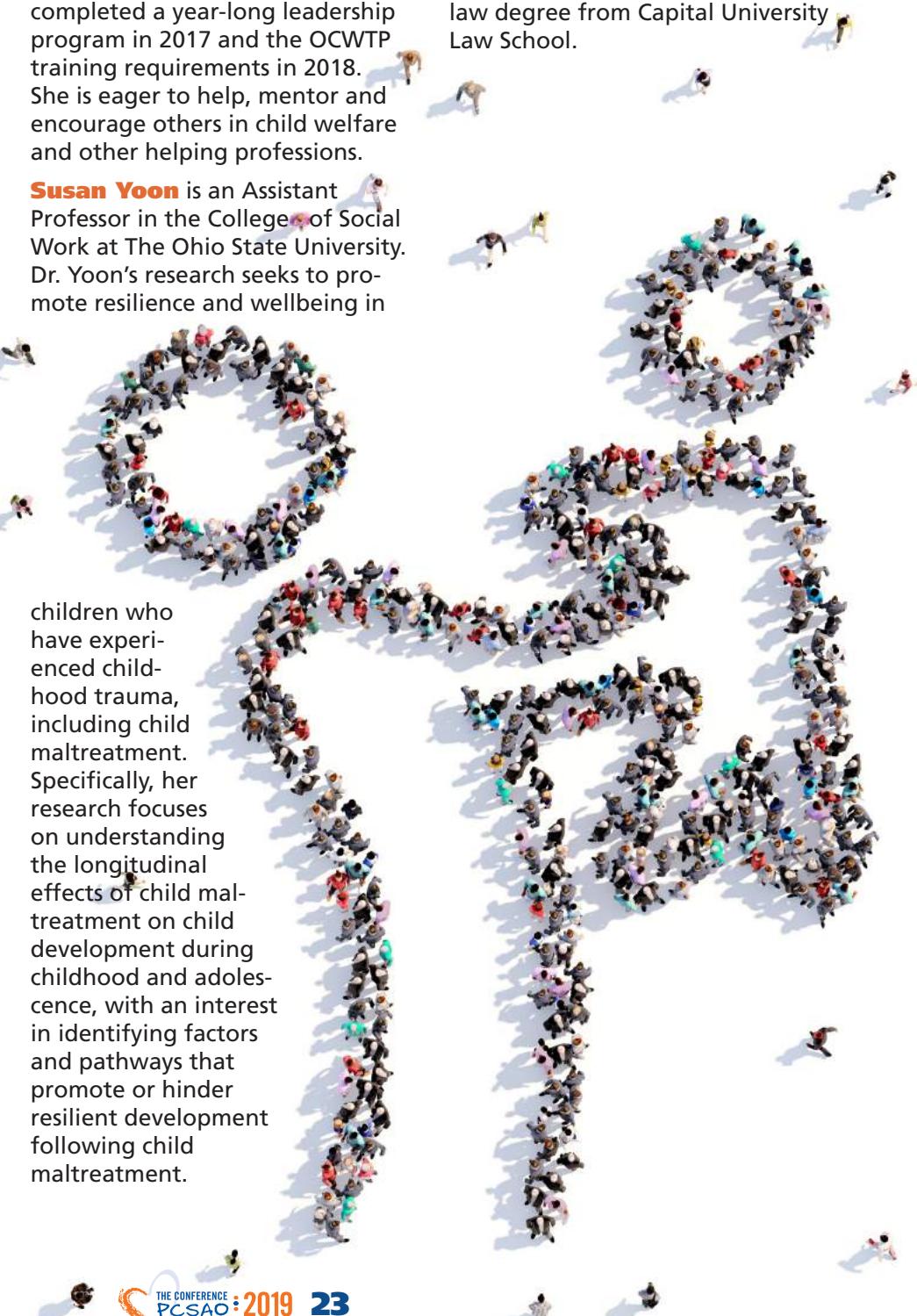
**Michele Williams** has over 17 years in direct child welfare experience in multiple capacities at Montgomery County Children Services and currently serves as a Casework Supervisor over intake assessment and ongoing casework services. Michele has worked as a mental health crisis therapist in adult corrections focusing on suicide prevention. Michele has worked as a home assessor in Franklin County completing home studies for foster/adoptive parents seeking licensure. Michele was a selected speaker/trainer in 2005 for the Georgia Coalition against Domestic Violence. Michele holds a Master of Science in Social Administration from Case Western Reserve University. She is a Licensed Supervising Independent Social Worker.

**Lauri Wolfe** has worked in the field of child welfare for nearly 15 years both as an ongoing caseworker and a therapeutic foster parent. As owner of ADDRESS the STRESS, she strives to help others reduce secondary trauma and situational stress and develop and enhance job skills. She earned her Bachelor of Psychology and Master of Criminal Justice from the University of Toledo. She completed a year-long leadership program in 2017 and the OCWTP training requirements in 2018. She is eager to help, mentor and encourage others in child welfare and other helping professions.

**Susan Yoon** is an Assistant Professor in the College of Social Work at The Ohio State University. Dr. Yoon's research seeks to promote resilience and wellbeing in

## **Thomas E. Zani**

is a Senior Attorney/Clinical Supervisor at the Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School. He is an adjunct professor, and his role focuses on teaching the Family and Youth Advocacy Clinic course, the Pro Se Assistance project and co-ordinating a national competition in adoption law and child welfare. Zani is a graduate of Wheeling Jesuit University and received his law degree from Capital University Law School.



children who have experienced childhood trauma, including child maltreatment. Specifically, her research focuses on understanding the longitudinal effects of child maltreatment on child development during childhood and adolescence, with an interest in identifying factors and pathways that promote or hinder resilient development following child maltreatment.

# The Conference 2019 Opportunities



## Be a part of our team!

PCSAO needs volunteers each year to help make the conference a success. Volunteering is a great way to network while getting a behind-the-scenes look at the conference and earning a conference discount. Volunteering is open to all conference attendees.

## Volunteer Opportunities

20% discount	Full-day Workshop Monitors
15% discount	Half-day Workshop Monitors
10% discount	2-hour Registration Staff (7:30AM – 9:30AM)
5% discount	1-hour Registration Staff (7:30AM – 8:30AM)

### Volunteers are the face of our conference

Our volunteers are expected to be punctual, responsible, respectful and helpful during their shift.

### Volunteers are the key to our success

To empower our volunteers to do their best, all of our volunteers are required to attend the Volunteer Orientation meeting before the conference and our on-site briefing meeting during the conference. Confirmed volunteers will be informed about these meetings and provided with updates and information.



## SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

We are inviting you to be part of our annual event by exhibiting and sponsoring at the conference. The conference offers you the opportunity to interact one-on-one with individuals who are working in and involved with child protection. Sponsorship opportunities are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to register online today.

The word "GIVE" is spelled out in four wooden blocks with black letters.

### Call for Gift Basket Donation

We invite you and your agency to donate a gift basket to the conference. The gift baskets that we receive will be given away to conference attendees at the networking events and award luncheons. If you want to donate a gift basket to our conference, please e-mail [pcsaو@pcsaو.org](mailto:pcsaو@pcsaو.org). We want to make sure that we recognize your generosity in the conference program.



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