



2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Fierce Urgency of Now:
***Collective Action to Ensure
Children and
Families Flourish***



For Conference
Updates Follow:
#CWLA2022
on Social
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April 27-29, 2022 • www.cwla.org/cwla2022

Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill • Washington, DC

Safe Children

Strong Families

Supportive
Communities

Every family will thrive with the support of a caring community.

Casey Family Programs is proud to support the CWLA 2022 National Conference, and the more than 100 years of leadership CWLA has shown in creating and advancing standards of practice, advocacy, and information sharing to enhance the well-being of families, children and youth.

By working alongside families and investing in what they tell us they need, we can all come together to build Communities of Hope that provide the support and opportunities that children and families need to thrive.

Visit casey.org to learn how communities are working to improve the safety and well-being of children and their families.

SAFE STRONG SUPPORTIVE

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Connecting Research to Action

At Chapin Hall, equity is central to our work. We embrace diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences in everything we do, from our research methodologies to our workplace culture. Together, we make a difference for children, families and communities.

Learn more about opportunities at Chapinhall.org

Welcome colleagues to Washington, DC, for the 2022 CWLA National Conference, *The Fierce Urgency of Now: Collective Action to Ensure Children and Families Flourish*.

After years of Zoom meetings, it is a privilege to be able to gather together again in person. The pandemic has changed each of us and the agencies and people we represent. The loss and social isolation of the pandemic, along with disturbing human rights violations in our country and around the world, are impeding our children's abilities to flourish and threatening to scar their psyches for life. There has never been a more important time for all of us to come together, to lift up and reinforce the importance of our work, and to recommit to working in partnership to protect and support children and families.

Over the past few years, CWLA, with support from many of you, has been engaged on a range of children's and child welfare issues, from state legislation targeting LGBTQ children and families to the crisis in the workforce. During this conference, we will be asking Congress to address our issues as they look to reauthorize SAMHSA, as well as addressing the issues outlined in the Hot Topics flyer.

This year's conference features a series of one-hour action labs, designed to help you identify actionable strategies that you, your organization, or the field as a whole needs to do to ensure that children flourish. Beyond the action labs, there will be ample time for shared learning and reconnecting with old and new peers.

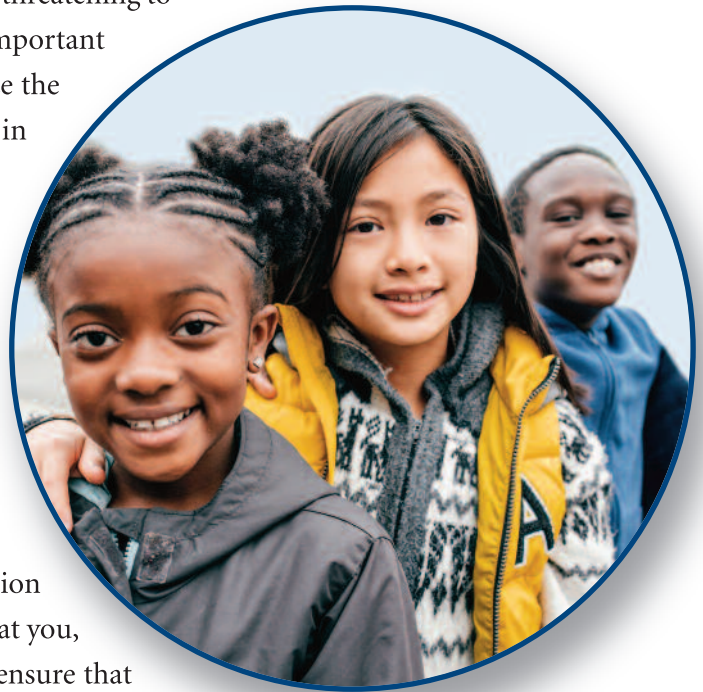
We are thrilled to have Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago as a partner in this year's conference. Their Spotlight Track will feature the newest research and thinking on how to advance a prevention-focused and equitable child welfare system. CWLA is also pleased to welcome our partner, AAICAMA, to the conference. Their special pre-conference session will focus on Medicaid law, rights, and advocacy, administration of the Interstate Compact, and transfer of Medicaid cases. Our post-conference Training Institute will include some of our most popular and timely trainings. We hope you will take full advantage of this important opportunity for learning, networking, sharing, and renewal.

An important note—although pandemic restrictions have relaxed in DC, we ask that you respect those who choose to wear masks, keep your distance from each other, and sanitize your hands frequently.

Welcome again to everyone—with a special welcome to new CWLA members and first-time conference attendees. We are glad you're with us. Enjoy the conference!

Christine James-Brown, *CWLA President & CEO*

Victoria Kelly, *CWLA Board Chair*



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*A warm thank you to the following individuals
for their contributions and assistance:*

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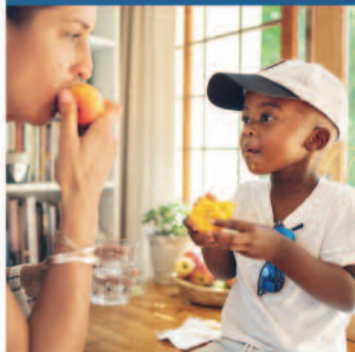
Thanks also to the CWLA staff for their dedication and effort!




30+
Years of
experience.



60K+
Trauma-informed
care trainings.



230K+
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to our care.



19
States' children
served.

Expert training.
Expert specialists.
Expert care.

Centene Corporation is the top managed care organization in child welfare services. Serving more than 230,000 children in 19 states, we deliver excellent service with our Centene Families and Futures model. Our commitment to whole health with a focus on individual needs helps us provide for each person in our care.

Learn more at [CenteneFosterCare.com](https://www.CenteneFosterCare.com).

CENTENE
Corporation

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday, April 26

- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm AAICAMA – ICAMA
State Member Sessions
(*Invitation only*)
- 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm Registration

Wednesday, April 27

- 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Registration &
CWLA Bookstore
- 9:00 am – 11:30 am *CWLA Standards of
Excellence* Input Session
- 11:45 pm – 1:30 pm Opening Plenary & Lunch
- 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Action Labs A
& Roundtables A
- 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Action Labs B
& Roundtables B
- 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm Action Labs C
& Roundtables C
- 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Welcome Reception in
the Exhibit Hall

Thursday, April 28

- 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Registration &
CWLA Bookstore
- 8:30 am – 9:00 am Coffee and Networking
- 9:00 am – 10:30 am Plenary Session

Thursday, April 28 *continued*

- 10:45 am – 12:00 pm Panel Session
- 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm Connecting with Congress
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch & Exhibit Hall
- 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm Action Labs D
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Action Labs E
- 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm Action Labs F
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Reception in Exhibit Hall

Friday, April 29

- 8:00 am – 2:30 pm Registration
& CWLA Bookstore
- 8:00 am – 8:30 am Coffee and Networking
- 8:30 am – 9:30 am Action Labs G
- 9:45 am – 10:45 am Action Labs H
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Action Labs I
- 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm Closing Plenary & Lunch
- 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm Post-Conference
Training Institute

Saturday, April 30

- 8:00 am – 8:30 am Coffee and Networking
- 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Post-Conference Training
Institute (*cont.*)



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 26



AAICAMA – ICAMA State Member Sessions (invitation only)

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Everglades / Yellowstone – 2nd Floor

CWLA is pleased to partner with the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (AAICAMA) to co-host their 2022 National Meeting. These special sessions are for AAICAMA state members.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

1:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Location: Lobby Level

Wednesday, April 27

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & CWLA BOOKSTORE

8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Location: Ballroom Level

CWLA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE INPUT SESSION

9:00 am – 11:30 am

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

Your Voice, Our Future: (Re)setting the Standards of Excellence

With kind support from Casey Family programs, CWLA is updating its Child Protective Services *Standard of Excellence* and creating a new Community-Based Prevention Services *Standard of Excellence*. To frame this work, CWLA and its *Standards of Excellence* (SOE) Committee are using the *CWLA National Blueprint for Excellence in Child Welfare* and have articulated what a reframed child welfare system looks like. To ensure that a broad group of child and family serving experts have input in the design of the two *Standards of Excellence*, we are inviting all who wish to participate to come to this pre-conference session. Attendees will be given opportunities to provide input on the reframed child welfare system and CWLA's redesign of the child protective services SOE and the design of the community-based prevention services SOE.

Facilitators: Terry Stigdon, Indiana Department of Children and Families, Indianapolis, IN; Pat Hunt, Family Run Executive Director Leadership Association (FREDLA), Columbia, MD; Julie Collins, CWLA, Washington, DC

OPENING PLENARY SPEAKERS

OPENING PLENARY

11:45 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level



*Special thanks to Casey Family Programs
for their generous sponsorship!*

We are very pleased to have Zeinab Chahine, Executive Vice President of Child and Family Services with Casey Family Programs, and Aysha E. Schomburg, Associate Commissioner in the Children's Bureau in the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, with us to open CWLA's first in-person conference in three years.



Christine James-Brown
President & CEO, CWLA



Victoria Kelly
CWLA Board Chair



Zeinab Chahine
*Executive Vice President
of Child and Family Services
Casey Family Programs*



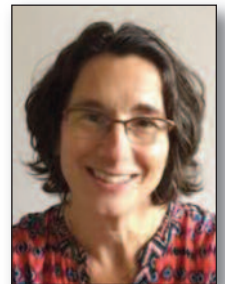
Aysha E. Schomburg
*Associate Commissioner,
Children's Bureau
Administration on Children,
Youth and Families*

Federal Level Collaboration Efforts to Ensure Children and Families Flourish

Panelists will share their collaborations with other federal departments to better meet the needs of children and families and share insights on efforts to address racial inequities in your programming. In addition, there will be a number of respondents from CWLA committees sharing their reflections on what they've heard from the panelists.



Melinda Baldwin



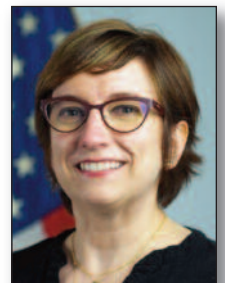
Jennifer Haight

Panelists:

Melinda Baldwin, Director, Prevention, Traumatic Stress and Special Programs Division, SAMHSA; Jennifer Haight, Director, Division of Performance Measurement and Improvement, ACF/Children's Bureau; Melissa Harris, Deputy Director, Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group (DEHPG), CMS/CMCS

Respondents:

Brandynicole Brooks-Harris, CWLA Member Equity Committee and CWLA Standards of Excellence Committee for Child Protective Services & Community-Based Prevention Services; Pat Hunt, CWLA Mental Health Advisory Board and CWLA Standards of Excellence Committee for Child Protective Services & Community-Based Prevention Services; Carl Ayers, CWLA Rural Committee and CWLA Board of Directors; Julie Collins, CWLA



Melissa Harris

Share Strategies • Exchange Ideas
Make Connections • Learn What Works

CWLA ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Join your peers for intimate, facilitated roundtable discussions on pressing issues affecting the field of child welfare, Wednesday afternoon in the Ballroom.

Roundtable Discussions A

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level

Advocacy in an (Almost) Post-COVID America

Facilitator: Tim Briceland-Betts, CWLA Senior Fellow

Mandated Reporting:

COVID-19's Impact
and the National
Decline in Child
Welfare Caseloads

Facilitator:

Gary Taylor, CWLA Senior Fellow

Engaging and Resourcing Relative and Fictive Kin Caregivers:

A Core Strategy for Transforming
Child Welfare, Advancing Race Equity,
and Promoting Family Well-Being

Facilitator: Krista Thomas,

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago



ACTION LABS A

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

A1 Establishing Effectiveness in Existing Pre- and Post- Adoption Counseling Services

Location: Congressional C/D – Lobby Level

University researchers and child protection leaders from a large Midwest metropolitan county established a research partnership to identify key factors related to maltreatment re-reporting, recurrence, and foster care re-entry, considering these factors in the context of significant policy and practice reforms occurring during the study period. Results of the research revealed three broad areas for practice and policy improvement: administration, child welfare implementation and coordination, and use of Structured Decision Making (SDM) tools. Presenters will discuss specific intervention opportunities for improving policy and practice within the child protection system.

Presenters: Kristine Piescher & Faith VanMeter, Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

A2 The Future of Parent Support Groups and How Agencies Can Help Them Thrive

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

This presentation will cover best practices for agencies to engage families in addressing complex trauma and building resilience in their children. The speaker will include lessons learned about best practices in running high-quality parent support groups, discuss how to create community in both online and in-person groups, and provide innovative resources and techniques for agencies to use. This presentation is based on four years of research into parent support groups for parents raising children exposed to trauma; extensive interviews with agency administrators, group facilitators, and parents; and two years of data from over 30 groups.

Presenter: Dawn Davenport, Creating a Family, Brevard, NC

A3 Supporting Healthy Relationships and Healthy Families: A Whole Family Approach in Southern New Jersey

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

The Pascale Sykes Foundation, in partnership with The Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs at Rutgers University-Camden (WRI) and the Family Strengthening Network, will present evaluative findings from a study on the Whole Family Approach. The presentation will describe the Whole Family Approach, highlight study results, and include a family who has benefited from the approach. The presentation will show that families who identify a second adult as a social support fair better overall in personal growth, as well as with relationships with and between children.

Presenters: Ross Whiting & Madeliene Alger, Walter Rand Institute-Rutgers University, Camden, NJ; Lydia Ramsey, Family Strengthening Network, Bridgeton, NJ

A4 Justice Systems from a Child's Perspective: Supporting Child Victims and Witnesses through Trauma-Informed Materials

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

Child welfare systems are intimidating, confusing, and overwhelming to many adults, but even more so for children, whose trauma and distress may be exacerbated by system involvement. This presentation will discuss the support and informational needs of children involved in the child welfare system and how child welfare practitioners can best meet these needs through an interdisciplinary approach of trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate court information and guidance, including through the use of interactive child witness support materials.


Presenters: Shashika Peeligama & Jordann Feinstein, Center for Court Innovation, New York, NY

A5 PRIDE (Parent Resource for Information Development and Education) Model of Practice

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

This action lab, based on a CWLA Signature Curriculum, will share how the PRIDE Model of Practice provides agencies with the opportunity to ensure that staff and resource families commit to your agency's vision, mission, and values; have complementary competency-based roles; use strengths-based language; implement culturally responsive best practices; and work to achieve outcomes that support safety, well-being, and permanency for the children in your care.

Presenter: Marcus Stallworth, CWLA, Washington DC



THANK YOU

for sharing the Foundation's belief that every child deserves a permanent home and a loving family.



Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

A6 Reimagining a Prevention-Focused & Equitable Child Welfare System for the 21st Century: Opening Session (*Spotlight Track*)

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Reimagining child welfare for the 21st century requires new perspectives if prevention and race equity are to be attainable. This facilitated plenary session opens *Reimagining a Prevention-Focused and Equitable Child Welfare System for the 21st Century* with a dialogue among innovative child welfare and human service leaders. Bryan Samuels, Executive Director at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, together with federal leaders from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will explore the current policy context and reimagine what's possible to both dramatically prevent the need for child welfare system involvement in the lives of families and to achieve racial equity.

Presenters: Bryan Samuels, Chapin Hall, Chicago, IL; Christine James-Brown, CWLA, Washington, DC; Aysha E. Schomburg, Children's Bureau, Washington, DC; Miranda Lynch-Smith, Office of Human Services Policy, Washington, DC

A7 Supporting Families Across the Prevention Continuum: Leveraging Housing as a Platform

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

Housing stability is foundational to the well-being, health, and long-term prosperity of children, youth, families, and communities at large. We also know that housing systems often present as a complex labyrinth of intertwined factors. This presentation will discuss how systemic partnerships between housing and child- and family-serving systems can effectively improve outcomes for children and families across the prevention continuum. In addition to an overview of strategies, key partnerships, and successful models, presenters will explore how stakeholders in New Jersey are tackling this critical issue to ensure that children, youth, and families are safe, healthy and connected.

Presenters: Katherine L. Stoehr & Kerry-Anne Henry, New Jersey Department of Children and Families

A8 Challenges for LGBTQ+ Children and Families

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

Join Lambda Legal, Family Equality, and other stakeholders as they speak about the biased, discriminatory, and damaging laws that are currently being debated in several states. Moderated by Joe Huang-Racalto, LGBTQ Civil Rights advisor to former Congressman Barney Frank and CWLA's VP of Public Policy and Strategic Partnerships.

Presenters: Currey Cook, Lambda Legal, New York, NY; Sa'Metria Jones, Family Equality, New York, NY; Joe Huang-Racalto, CWLA, Washington, DC; Gloria Brown Burnett, Prince George's County, Maryland Department of Social Services

“CareSource, a nonprofit managed care organization, serves more than 2 million members across 6 states focusing on strengthening families to build healthy children through prevention, meaningful relationships, access to quality care, and caregiver supports.”


CareSource
CareSource.com

Roundtable Discussions B

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level

How a White CEO Can Support Anti-Racist Work

Facilitators:

*Eric Masi, Wayside Youth & Family Support Network;
Ronald Richter, JCCA; Krisztina Udvardi,
All Faiths Children's Advocacy Center*

Effective Ways of Caring for Youth Who Present with Intense Challenges

Facilitator:

*Alan Vietze, CWLA Senior Fellow and Chair,
CWLA Mental Health Advisory Board*

Equity, Opportunity, and Support: What is Working and What is Needed for Emerging Leaders?

Facilitators:

*Alycia Blackwell,
Fairfax County Department of Family Services;
Terrell Thomas, Stanford Sierra Youth & Families;
Bacall Hincks, Dahlia's Hope;
Grey Hilliard-Koshinsky,
New England Association of Child Welfare
Commissioners & Directors*

Responding to Humanitarian Emergencies: Family Strengthening and Child Protection— A Receiving Country's Perspective

Facilitator:

*Ian Forber-Pratt,
Children's Emergency Relief International*



ACTION LABS B

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

B1 How Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) is Being Used to Transform a Child Welfare System (*Spotlight Track*)

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

A comprehensive CQI system is required to systematically and strategically harness data to build effective processes that enable continuous learning for the improvement of practices, services, and performance. Traditionally, CQI consists of data collection via the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) case review process. However, it is often driven by compliance rather than recognized as an opportunity for continuous learning. To shift this perspective, leadership must prioritize CQI as a lever for change and growth. Oregon's Child Welfare Division is embracing this approach through their Vision for Transformation with CQI as a Guiding Principle in the roadmap to achieve a child and family well-being system.

Presenters: *Leanne Heaton & Janese Evans, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; Alysia Cox, Oregon Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Division, Salem, OR*

B2 Novel Actions to Understanding the Health and Coping Responses of the Child Welfare Workforce: Efforts from a Collective Partnership

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

High levels of work-related stress in child protection remain a public health concern. Research suggests that traditional approaches to address and understand stress in social work have been ineffective or unevaluated. Furthermore, technological advances (e.g., online, biometric data) remain largely omitted. This action lab examines the feasibility and effectiveness of a novel stress reduction project with child welfare workers ($n = 32$) in Kentucky. Physiological results highlight variability in visceral responses (e.g., heart rate) to environmental stressors. Psychological measures (e.g., stress) offer an insight into workforce health in pre/post measures. The results will inform collective action to build a 21st-century child welfare workforce.

Presenters: Austin Griffiths, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, OH; Oliver Beer, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

B3 Meeting the Complex Mental Health Needs of Children Moving to Permanency by Enhancing Adoption Competency for Child Welfare & Mental Health Professionals

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

Children and youth in foster care, adoption, and guardianship often have diverse, unmet mental health needs. Parents who adopt cite finding competent mental health services as one of their greatest obstacles. Child welfare and mental health professionals serving these families often have limited understanding of the complex issues around adoption—including trauma, grief, loss, and identity—that contribute to common mental health problems and challenges for families. This presentation will include discussion about the need for adoption competency training for child welfare and mental health professionals, and present an overview and evaluation findings from two trainings available nationally: NTI Trainings and Training for Adoption Competency (TAC).

Presenters: Dawn Wilson, Center for Adoption Support & Education, Burtonsville, MD; Bonni Goodwin, The Center for Child Welfare Training & Simulation, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

New from:

CWLA
PRESS

Strategic Child Welfare Agency-University Partnerships to Advance Workforce Development

By Gary R. Anderson & Katharine Briar-Lawson



Available
at the
CWLA
Bookstore

This book is a must-read for child welfare practitioners, researchers, educators, and students. It contains several chapters that may impact on the professionalization of the child welfare workforce. The authors highlight several contributions to: reframe the service agenda; prioritize and expand workforce development strategies; build partnerships; foster organizational change; address racial equity and inclusion; initiate a data-driven system to address continuous quality improvement; foster workforce excellence; generate workforce support; ensure worker competencies; ease the school-to-work transition; and build a resilient workforce. These contributions are detailed, future-oriented plans for improving workforce quality through strategic partnerships.” — Patrick Leung, PhD

Item #2146 • \$39.95 • ISBN #978-1-58760-214-6

B4 Harnessing the Power of Family Time to Strengthen the Parent-Child Relationship and Support Reunification Efforts

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

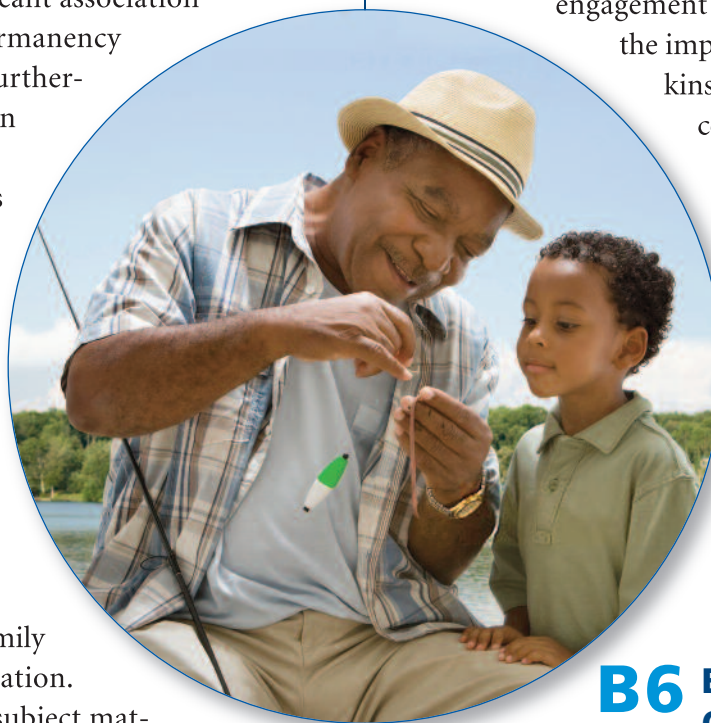
Research has found a significant association between family time and permanency and well-being outcomes. Furthermore, fathers' involvement in parenting is associated with increased reunification rates and more rapid exits from foster care. This presentation addresses the importance of quality family time and how to use family time to strengthen parent-child relationships. Presenters will discuss how to objectively track and discuss progress in family time to inform decisions about family time expansion and reunification. Participants will hear from subject matter experts and practitioners who prioritize frequent, quality family time and focus on the parent-child relationship.

Presenter: Alexis Balkey, *Children and Family Futures, Lake Forest, CA*

B5 Kinship Family-Centered Engagement and Systems Partnerships for Implementation and Evaluation of Kansas's Kinship Navigator

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

This action lab showcases the systems partnerships between the Kansas Department of Children and Families, Kansas Family Advisory Network, and the Capacity Building Center for States. These entities



collaborated to adapt their Kinship Navigator model to the goals of Kansas as a Kin-First State, Family First implementation, and the Title IV-E Prevention Services' Clearinghouse requirements for kinship navigator program evaluation. Participants will discuss how the Center's practice model has been operationalized to support kinship family-centered engagement and partnership, including the implementation of a statewide kinship navigator workgroup comprised of stakeholders.

Presenters: Michelle Rosenthal & Kerry Littlewood, *Capacity Building Center for States, Fairfax, VA*; Nina Shaw-Woody, *Kansas Family Advisory Network, Wichita, KS*; Corey Lada, *Kansas DCF, Topeka, KS*; Christine DeTienne, *Capacity Building Center for States, Wellsville, MO*

B6 Building Organizational Capacity for LGBTQ+ Inclusive Practice

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

Youth who are Black and Brown and are LGBTQ+ are overrepresented in foster care and, unfortunately, face bias and discrimination while in care. It is important to consider how navigating multiple marginalized identities can create unique challenges for these youth when providing services to them. This session will discuss the barriers faced by youth who are LGBTQ+, the additional challenges for youth of color who are LGBTQ+, how to use an intersectional lens to inform your work, organizational policies to reduce these barriers, and a model and tools from HRC's All Children—All Families for practice improvement.

Presenter: Phii Regis, *Human Rights Campaign, Washington, DC*

B7 How Leaders and the Media Can Transform the Narrative About Child Welfare

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

This exclusive session, for Commissioners/Directors and Executive Directors/CEOs only, will provide an opportunity for public and private leaders to discuss and share best practices in working with media to reshape the narrative about child welfare.

Presenters: Vicky Kelly, Connect Parent Group Network, Millsboro, DE; Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes of Connecticut Department of Children and Families; Steve Volk, Investigative Solutions Reporter, Resolve Philly and Stoneleigh Fellow, Lititz, PA

B8 The Unmet Need: Value of Post-Adoption Services, Preserving Permanency

Location: Congressional C/D – Lobby Level

The understanding and value of the post-adoption needs of families has been well documented in policy and research for decades, yet the funding, accessibility, and delivery of these services have been severely stunted. This action lab will explore best practices in the provision of post-adoption supports and assisting organizations in making decisions about developing effective, inclusive, and accessible services in their communities. Practice models will be provided that have been created in collaboration with state/county child welfare systems that have resulted in a continuum of services that meet the diverse needs of families formed by adoption.

Presenter: Debbie B. Riley, Center for Adoption Support and Education, Burtonsville, MD



Roundtable Discussions C

4:15 pm – 5:15 pm

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level

The Role of the Media in Shaping the Child Welfare Narrative

Facilitator:

Steve Volk, Investigative Solutions Reporter, Resolve Philly and Stoneleigh Fellow

Discussing Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Creating Safe Spaces in Organizations for DEI Conversations

Facilitator:

Gary Taylor, CWLA Senior Fellow

How Can We Integrate Cultural Responsiveness into the Child Welfare System to Empower Children and Families?

Facilitator:

Richard Heyl de Ortiz, CASA of New York State

Medicaid: A Vital Post Adoption Service

Facilitator:

Sharon McCartney, AAICAMA

ACTION LABS C**4:15 pm – 5:15 pm****C1 Advocacy in 2022***Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level*

This special action lab, presented by CWLA staff, will focus on the critical policy issues facing child welfare in 2022. Hot topics on Capitol Hill include: extending foster care supports and services to age 21 in all 50 states; ensuring access to high-quality, timely mental health services for all children and youth, including those in the child welfare system; and providing much-needed funding and support to the child welfare workforce. Join our Public Policy staff for an in-depth look at child welfare legislation today.

Presenters: *Joe Huang-Racalto, John Sciamanna, & Kati Mapa, CWLA, Washington, DC*

**C2 Operationalizing a
Community Pathway to
Prevention: Partnering with
Families to Strengthen
Communities (Spotlight Track)**
Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Is your jurisdiction interested in developing a community pathway for prevention services delivery? In this lab, participants will learn concrete strategies for delivering prevention services to families in communities outside the traditional child welfare paradigm. Attendees will also learn ways to incorporate their visions into their own Family First prevention plans and design actionable implementation strategies. Participants will use the Community Pathway Planning Tool to explore the designing, planning and implementation of a community pathway, and hear key lessons learned from jurisdictions doing this work in partnership with children, youth, and families.

Presenters: *Krista Thomas, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; JoShonda Guerrier, Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Hartford, CT*

**C3 Youth-Adult Partnerships
in Organizing for Positive
Change in the Evolving
Child Welfare System**
Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

Youth spend less time in the child welfare system as it evolves, and it has become challenging to foster youth engagement in our new virtual world. Additionally, federal legislation has shifted transition planning to begin at age 14. To address these issues, New England Youth Coalition (NEYC) youth advocates and adult supporters engaged in a strategic planning process to identify the best way to support youth in creating positive change in the child welfare system. In this interactive workshop, NEYC youth consultants will share their methods and lessons learned from a three-phase strategic planning process including planning, data collection, and synthesizing findings to provide concrete recommendations.

Presenters: *Grey Hilliard-Koshinsky, New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners and Directors, Boston, MA; Sylvia Parrott, New England Youth Coalition, Boston, MA*




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C4 Leading Systems Change through the Family Treatment Court Movement: A Coordinated Statewide Strategy

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

States and local jurisdictions are applying research and practices that have emerged from family treatment courts to improve outcomes for families in the child welfare system who are affected by substance use disorders. Reforming systems successfully to expand the reach to all families requires state and local collaboration. This session will highlight lessons from the Statewide System Improvement Program and feature a state and local practitioner who will discuss the benefits and challenges of this approach. Participants will learn strategies to enhance practice and improve outcomes for all families who are involved in the child welfare system due to parental substance use and/or mental health.

Presenters: Alexis Balkey, *Children and Family Futures, Lake Forest, CA*

C5 Incorporating a Racial Equity Lens in Implementation of Evidence-Based Models for Child Welfare Preventive Populations

Location: Congressional C/D – Lobby Level

This session will focus on the efforts of The Children's Village to incorporate a racial equity lens into their work with families. The presentation will provide historical data that points to the disproportionality of services delivery in communities of color and the resulting outcomes. In addition, policies impacting families involved in child welfare will be discussed and presenters will share strategies to engage in the implementation of services that focuses on both the research of racial oppression on families as well as on the empirical data of the models. The session will also describe how The Children's Village and their consultant developed an agency-wide training aimed at educating all staff on the history of family.

Presenter: Daphne Torres-Douglas & Monique Williams, *The Children's Village, Dobbs Ferry, NY*

MEMBERSHIP

At CWLA, we know that collaboration is key to improving the lives of children and families. That's why we foster and connect a diverse coalition of child-serving professionals who partner with us to fulfill our mission of advancing policies, strategies, and best practices that result in better outcomes for children, youth, and families.

CWLA provides members with the guidance and resources necessary to build on what works and invent what's needed. Members influence the direction of child welfare by connecting with federal lawmakers, serving on national committees, and sharing ideas with peers around the country. Staff at all levels of member organizations can fully participate in membership benefits—ensuring the families they serve have a national voice.

CWLA invites everyone entrusted with the well-being of children to join us, and create change that matters for those who need it most. Conference attendees can take advantage of a special membership sale: **30% off all new organizational memberships through the end of May!** Speak with a CWLA staff or Board member to learn more.

C6 Partnering with Medicaid-Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) in Child Welfare

Location: Glacier– 2nd Floor

This session will look at elements of successful cross system collaboration between state, local, and private agencies and MCOs. Presenters will focus on how Centene has collaborated with states to improve quality of life for the child welfare population. We will look at trauma-informed care initiatives, the Foster Care Centers of Excellence in Texas, and targeted training and behavioral health “in-lieu of services” with child welfare providers and professionals to impact the number of Behavioral Health inpatient admissions and readmissions in high-utilizing market regions in Florida.

Presenters: Stan Waddell, Centene, Lubbock, TX; Cheryl Fisher, Centene, Houston, TX; Nathan Hoover, Superior Health Plan, Lubbock, TX

C7 Every Student Succeeds Mean Students in Foster Care Too: What Child Welfare Advocates Can Do to Ensure Education Success

Location: Bunker Hill– 2nd Floor

This discussion will be led by the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law on the cross-section between education and child welfare. For children in foster care, education can be an important link to stability and community, but children in foster care face significant barriers to their educational progress. One barrier is the ongoing expectation that children in care move schools, when initially entering and during their time in care. School mobility causes disruptions with friends, teachers, classes, as well as academic credits, and takes an emotional and academic toll on youth in care who have already experienced trauma. This session will highlight tools and resources to support school stability and success and identify potential solutions and strategies to support remaining in the same school, including identifying parental and educational

decision-making, ensuring smooth transfer of records, and enhanced coordination between education and child welfare agencies and the courts.

Presenters: Kathleen McNaught & Emily Peeler, ABA Center on Children and the Law, Washington, DC

C8 It Takes Two to Tango: Social Services and Judicial Partnerships to Achieve Change

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

Child welfare is both a social services and legal system. This facilitated discussion will address legal system engagement as a key component of lasting child welfare reform efforts. In particular, the session will focus on the role of judges both as agents of law—with the responsibility of interpreting and applying statutes and rules in individual cases—and as agents of change—with a responsibility to support and facilitate reforms in the larger field. Facilitators will highlight partnership examples between judicial and agency leaders where successful practice change required coordination and commitment of both partners.

Presenters: Prudence Beidler Carr, ABA Center on Children and the Law, Washington, DC; Vicky Kelly, Connect Parent Group Network, Millsboro, DE; Judge Peter Jones, Family Court of the State of Delaware, Georgetown, DE

WELCOME RECEPTION IN EXHIBIT HALL

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Location: Columbia ABC & Foyer – Ballroom Level

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CWLA CONNECTS WITH CONGRESS

Thursday, April 28

REGISTRATION & CWLA BOOKSTORE

8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Location: Ballroom Level

COFFEE & NETWORKING

8:30 am – 9:00 am

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level

Special thanks to DLH for their generous sponsorship!



PLENARY SESSION

9:00 am – 10:30 am

*Location:
Regency ABC – Ballroom Level*



Joe Huang-Racalto

*Vice President
Public Policy and
Strategic Partnerships, CWLA*

Welcome and Keynote Speaker

CWLA Vice President of Public Policy and Strategic Partnerships, Joe Huang-Racalto, will introduce Keynote Speaker Congressman Jamie Raskin, who represents Maryland's 8th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Rep. Raskin serves on the House Judiciary Committee, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, the Committee on House Administration, the Rules Committee, and the Coronavirus Select Subcommittee. He was also renamed Chair of the Oversight Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and Chair of the Rules Subcommittee on Expedited Procedures for the 117th Congress. Prior to his time in Congress, Raskin was a three-term State Senator in Maryland, where he also served as the Senate Majority Whip. He was also a professor of constitutional law at American University's Washington College of Law for more than 25 years.



**Congressman
Jaime Raskin**

8th District of Maryland



Panelist: **Carnitra White**
*Director, Anne Arundel County
Department of Social Services*



Panelist: **Donna Pressma**
*President & CEO,
The Children's Home Society of New Jersey*

Panel Session

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Join policy leaders and public and private stakeholders as they discuss the crisis facing the workforce. Panelists will explore the obstacles facing child well-being advocates and what needs to be done to alleviate the pressures on the workforce. Moderated by CWLA's Joe Huang-Racalto and John Sciamanna.

Connecting with Congress

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Your voice is powerful!

The most important thing you can do while at the conference is promote child welfare priorities. The conference hotel is only a short distance away from Capitol Hill offices—making it easy for you to share the voices of the children, families, and communities you serve, as well as the staff and employees of your organization. This year, hybrid options will also be available to connect you with Congressional offices. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to connect directly with your members of Congress and their staff. Congressional staff members are valued advisors and can heavily influence decisions. Speak with a member of CWLA's policy team if you have questions about how to connect with your representatives.

LUNCH

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Location:

Columbia ABC & Foyer – Ballroom Level

Mingle with vendors in the Exhibit Hall before you grab your lunch and head off to connect with your Congressional representatives.

ACTION LABS D

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

D1 An Analytic Framework to Address Economic-Related Risk Factors in Child Welfare (Spotlight Track)

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

This presentation describes an analytic framework that state and local child welfare agencies and system partners can use to measure economic risk factors in child welfare. Efforts that aim to address economic risk, (e.g., income and housing supports) require adequate analytic approaches to define economic risk among children and families, collaborate with stakeholders to prevent maltreatment, and assess the effectiveness of prevention practices that mitigate economic risk. This analytic framework was developed using a multi-disciplinary roundtable of experts from academia with federal, state, and local agencies. This presentation will describe the framework, data, and analytic methods agencies can use to implement the framework, and lessons from applications of these methods.

Presenters: Robin Ghertner & Emily Madden, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC; Dana Weiner, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL



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D2 National Family Preservation Network's (NFPN) Family Assessment Tools

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

This hands-on workshop will highlight NFPN's family functioning assessment tools. The speakers will provide a brief history of NFPN before instructing participants on the application of the tools. Participants will then be given case studies and tool samples and practice using them. Discussion will then be lead on the results of participants' practice assessment. Finally, participants will use the results to develop a portion of a case plan and learn how to use the tools to measure program outcomes.

Presenters: Michelle Reines, National Family Preservation Network, Asheville, NC; Anne Cornell, First Home Care, Washington, DC

D3 Mobilizing Data & Communities to Support Families (Kinship and Adoptive)

Location: Yellowstone – 2nd Floor

OhioKAN partners with systems to identify and develop collaborative strategies to address knowledge and capacity gaps in communities across Ohio. This action lab outlines a comprehensive process to convene and mobilize cross-county regional advisory councils comprised of professional partners as well as families (kinship and adoptive) members with lived expertise. Presenters will walk step-by-step through a process of identifying family needs, assessing community resources, gathering community input, and co-designing cross-system action plans to reduce barriers and increase access to services that support families (kinship and adoptive).

Presenters: Veronica Burroughs, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Columbus, OH; Stephanie Clone, Kaye Implementation and Evaluation, Tacoma, WA; Amber Phelps, Kinnect, Cleveland, OH

ACCREDITATION MATTERS

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D4 Stratifying Treatment: Creating Change Through the Lens of Culture and Trauma

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

The evidence-based Family Centered Treatment model, from its very first session with a family, initiates a comprehensive series of assessment activities aimed to gather information related to protective and risk factors, historical and generational trauma, cultural influences, and natural community-based supports. Both formal and activity-based assessments are utilized to increase the engagement of the family in the process. A team approach ensures all involved parties are aware of the findings and routine reassessment occurs at targeted intervals during treatment. This experiential action lab will explore the steps of the process and provide participants with concrete tools for use in their field.

Presenter: *Stephanie Glickman, Family Centered Treatment Foundation, Charlotte, NC*

D5 Partnering with Parents: Building a Birth Parent Advisory Board

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

This session will focus on the value and purpose of having a Birth Parent Advisory Board as an integral part of policy and practice reform in child welfare agencies. Participants will learn about the stages of Birth Parent group development, how to navigate potential barriers, and what it takes to implement a successful Birth Parent Advisory Board.

Presenters: *Rachael Hudgins & Monica Roose, Indiana Department of Child Services, Indianapolis, IN*



D6 Building a 21st-Century Research Agenda to Increase the Use of Research in Child Welfare Decision-Making

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Since 2020, Lived Experience Experts, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Casey Family Programs (CFP) and the William T. Grant Foundation have been working in partnership with individuals representing a broad array of experts, stakeholders, and people with lived experience to identify research gaps in community-based family support, child protective services, out-of-home care, and post permanency services. CWLA, the American Public Human Services Association, and the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, along with Black Administrators in Child Welfare, the National Indian Child Welfare Association, Child Trends Hispanic Institute and Social Currents were partners in this effort. The Transformative Research Agenda is grounded in principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and was co-designed with those with lived experience. The intent of the agenda is to use research to transform the way in which we support families and communities.

CWLA will continue to advance this work by hosting the agenda on our website, sharing important research efforts and opportunities that support the agenda in our various publications and at our National Conferences. The purpose of this session is to familiarize people with the agenda and to discuss how it can be used to support the transformation of child welfare. The session will be facilitated by representatives from CWLA and Casey Family Programs, who were involved in the creation of the agenda.

Presenters: *Christine James-Brown & Julie Collins, CWLA, Washington, DC; Peter J. Pecora, Casey Family Programs, Seattle, WA*

D7 Child Protection System Reform in Sri Lanka: Global Theory and Practice with Relevance for FFPSA

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

After six years of advocacy and support to child protection authorities in Sri Lanka, key government and civil society partners are ready to roll out UN-defined alternative care in Sri Lanka. In this interactive workshop, we'll go through a strategy for working with government, the complexities of care reform, and the global measures that point to country success in a transition to family-based care. Through working groups, we will wrestle with each aspect of systemic change and look at how to examine the policy to practice gaps—all with an “it can be done” spirit.

Presenter: *Ian Forber-Pratt, Children's Emergency Relief International, St. Louis, MO*

D8 CASA: A Model for Community Investment and Collaboration

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

CASA, or Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children, is a unique model that brings trained, supported, and supervised community volunteers into our court and child welfare systems to collaborate with the many people involved in a child's case and advocate for children and their families. CASA has long worked hand-in-hand with families and has had its own 4As approach: advocacy that informs awareness, creates action, and promotes accountability. We'll discuss the impact and fundamentals of CASA's work and the answers they offer to our child welfare community as we work to meet the demands of FFPSA implementation and respond to the call for bold change in our system.

Presenter: *Richard Heyl de Ortiz, CASA of New York State, Albany, NY; Alexandra Fields-Evans, CASA of DC, Washington, DC*

ACTION LABS E

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

E1 Evidence Based Program (EBP) Exploration and Cost Tool: A Family First Planning and Implementation Tool for Effective Selection of EBPs (*Spotlight Track*)

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

This session will guide attendees through the use of Chapin Hall's EBP Exploration and Cost Tool in the planning and implementation of the Family First service array. We will discuss how various jurisdictions have used the tool to enhance the service selection process, lessons learned, and key financial implications when assessing implementation costs of EBPs. Participants will walk away with a better understanding of the tool and how it can be used in the context of Family First implementation.

Presenters: *Kristen Gore & Jason Brennen & Katrina Dorse, Chapin Hall, Chicago, IL*

E2 Raising the Future: Shared Leadership® with Diverse Groups of Parents & Youth Nationwide

Location: Yellowstone – Ballroom Level

This presentation by the National Parent Leadership Team® and Parents Anonymous® Inc. will focus on 10 Essential Steps to Meaningful Shared Leadership with Parents & Youth to achieve positive outcomes. The best practices and research results of the California Parent & Youth Helpline and online weekly Parents Anonymous Groups for Parents, Children and Youth will be discussed. Actionable local, state, and national policy efforts and funding strategies to support a National Parent Leadership Network in shared leadership® with local communities will be addressed, ensuring anti-racist, anti-classist, and anti-sexist results that support the empowerment journey of ALL parents, children, and youth.

Presenters: *Lisa Pion-Berlin, Parents Anonymous, Claremont, CA; Antonia Rios, National Parent Leadership Team®, Claremont, CA*

E3 Caseworker Intensity Measures: What Our Caseworkers Told Us and How We Can Leverage New Understanding of their Experiences Investigating Allegations of Maltreatment to Prevent Caseworkers from Leaving the Field

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

In 2021, the Indiana Department of Child Services spoke with caseworkers about the difficulties of conducting investigations of maltreatment. We found that not all allegations are created equal and that caseworkers want more than anything to do their jobs well. How can this knowledge inform reductions in the intensity caseworkers face in the field? This is a challenging task, but it is vital to creating a stable workforce. Caseworker turnover is a hallmark obstacle in child welfare—but the options available to tackle this challenge are improving.

Presenter: Aubrey Kearney, Indiana Department of Child Services, Indianapolis, IN

E4 Keeping Kids Safely at Home: Blending Science and Technology for Better Outcomes

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

Many children involved in the child welfare system have a parent with a behavioral health disorder. This skills-building workshop offers a brief history and overview of effective behavioral-based interventions, highlights the science behind these interventions, and identifies barriers that have limited the expansion of these models. Using science, technology, and federal funding as a framework, participants will discover opportunities and strategies to improve awareness, accountability, and outcomes for families affected by behavioral health disorders. The session will conclude with the sharing of technical assistance and training resources available through the Division of State Systems (DSS) in the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF).

Presenters: Philip Breitenbucher, California Baptist University, Riverside, CA; Kerry Browning, Department of Health and Human Services, Lackawanna County, PA



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E5 Prevention, Permanency, Proven Results: The National Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Teams (START) Model

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

START is a specialized child welfare service delivery model that has been shown to improve outcomes for children and families affected by parental substance use and child maltreatment. The model uses a variety of strategies to promote collaboration and systems-level change within and between child welfare agencies, substance use and mental health treatment providers, the judicial system, and other family-serving entities. This action lab will provide an overview of the National START Model, including discussion on implementation pathways, available funding sources, program evaluation design, and a detailed review of current scientific evidence including comparative outcomes for Black children served by START.

Presenters: Tina Willauer, *Children and Family Futures, Lake Forest, CA*; Brook Kearley, *University of Maryland School of Social Work Institute for Innovation and Implementation, Baltimore, MD*

E6 Overcoming the Workforce Crisis in Public Child Welfare

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

While critical conversations about the future of child welfare are occurring across the nation, many public and private agencies continue to struggle with workforce issues such as shortages of qualified candidates and high turnover. There is no more significant impact on the ongoing instability of child welfare agencies

than the current workforce crisis. Participants in this action lab will join other child welfare leaders in a facilitated, solution-focused conversation regarding the current state of these workforce issues and how our investment in human capital is critical to the quality of services delivered to children and families. We will explore national data on turnover in child welfare and comparable industries, discuss recruitment and retention issues, address the impact on staff and the families they serve, and highlight promising practices.

Presenters: Jeff Lukich, *DLH Corporation, Atlanta, GA*; Paul DiLorenzo, *CWLA Senior Fellow, Bala Cynwyd, PA*; Bobby Cagle, *Los Angeles County DCFS (retired)*

E7 The Significance of Child Welfare Data Linkages

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

This session will examine the importance of states sharing and linking data in order to leverage prevention services and health systems interventions for children in or at risk of entering the foster care system. Findings from the Child Maltreatment Incidence Data Linkages project, conducted by Mathematica in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation and Children's Bureau, will be discussed followed by a facilitated discussion with attendees about the significance of data linkages for improving and advancing a stronger focus on prevention.

Presenters: Todd Landry, *Maine Office of Child & Family Services, Augusta, ME*; Robin Ghertner, *Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC*; Allon Kalisher, *Mathematica, Washington, DC*



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E8 Families at the Center: Supporting Families with Young Children Through Voluntary Home Visiting

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

Funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program will expire in September 2022. The program, which has been recognized as the gold standard in evidence-based policy-making, is an equity accelerator by fostering human-to-human relationships that enable home visitors to provide supports based on individual families' specific needs and goals. COVID-19 placed more children at a high risk of adverse experiences that negatively impact their development. Home visiting services were able to offer to preventive support and stability to families. Join us to learn more about home visiting, MIECHV and the National Home Visiting Coalition's reauthorization priorities.

Presenters: *Catriona Macdonald, Association of State and Tribal Home Visiting Initiatives (ASTHVI), Washington, DC; Natalie Towns, Prevent Child Abuse America, Washington, DC*

ACTION LABS F

3:45 pm – 4:45 pm

F1 Service Array Transformation: Leveraging a Service Referral Application to Build Cross-System Collaboration and Improve Outcomes for Communities in Washington, DC, that are Vulnerable (Spotlight Track)

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

The CWLA *National Blueprint* identifies the importance of having an array of services that help vulnerable families accomplish developmental tasks. However, child welfare systems often face barriers to achieving this goal due to the challenge of assessing community service needs, the inability to identify gaps in service arrays based on assessed needs, and the absence of a CQI processes to improve access to services over time. This action lab will

focus on the implementation of a service referral technology within Washington, DC, that addresses these barriers, and its implications for child welfare nationally.

Presenters: *Michael J Stiehl, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; Sharafdeen Ibraheem, DC Child & Family Services Agency, Washington, DC; Samantha Adelberg, Unite Us, New York, NY*

F2 Nature and Healing: A Partnership to Spread the Word

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

Casey Family Programs and the Children & Nature Network have joined together to form a unique partnership. When we connect what we know about the negative impacts of trauma with the equally restorative effects of spending even short periods of time in nature, we can recognize enormous opportunities. Join us for a conversation as we explore and spread the word on this free resource—the healing power of nature—and the benefits for families impacted by the child welfare system.

Presenters: *Patsy Sellars, Casey Family Programs, Seattle, WA; Monica Lopez-Magee, Children & Nature Network, Austin, TX; Francis Mendoza, Children & Nature Network, Austin, TX*

F3 The Transformative Power of Youth Engagement

Location: Yellowstone – 2nd Floor

This session will provide insights on the importance of engaging youths with lived experience to transform the way child welfare services are delivered. Tools will also be provided on how to engage youth locally, inform policies, and create greater outcomes for youth who have transitioned from the child welfare system. Information on how to develop a local youth council will also be provided. A segment of this session will focus on quality parenting and in particular a Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI). QPI is a process to improve permanency and well-being for children by shifting systems away from bureaucracy and toward an approach based on relationships.

Presenters: *Demarco Mott & Marcel C. Rivas & Dominique Rosario, Citrus Family Care Network Youth Advisory Council, Miami, FL*

F4 Functional Family Therapy in Foster Care: A Family-Based Model for Improving Stability and Permanency in Foster Care

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

There is a need for systematic, specific, evidence-based treatment programs that focus on supporting foster parents, identifying and serving the current needs of children and youth while at the same time working toward permanency as a primary outcome. Few emerging, evidence-based practices focus specifically on the family relational system as the primary point of intervention. Functional Family Therapy in Foster Care (FFT in FC) is a family focused and trauma informed treatment designed for the Foster Care System. FFT in FC is a comprehensive, systematic approach to help families overcome individual and relational trauma in order to promote stable placement and long-term permanency. This presentation will provide an overview of FFT in FC and discuss the results of recent evaluations indicating how FFT in FC promotes stability and successful permanency.

Presenters: Thomas Sexton & Marta Anderson, FFT Partners, Bloomington, IN

F5 Keeping Families Together Using Safe@Home

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

How can public and private child welfare agencies work together to strengthen families and protect children? The Safe@Home in-home parent skill-based model has achieved positive outcomes for children and families in Nevada by preventing out-of-home placements for children determined to be “unsafe,” dramatically increasing the percent of reunified families, and substantially decreasing time in out-of-home care. This action lab will describe how public and private agencies can work together using the Safe@Home model, and present promising results of a rigorous research

study designed to test its effectiveness on placement and permanency outcomes.

Presenters: Todd Holder, Action for Child Protection, Charlotte, NC; Sarah Kaye, Kaye Implementation & Evaluation, LLC, Tacoma, WA; Judy Tudor, Clark County Department of Family Services, Las Vegas, NV

F6 Supporting Families Access and Navigation of Multiple Service Systems: The Flourishing Family Approach

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

Children and families involved with and receiving services from multiple human service delivery systems experience a myriad of challenges. To mitigate these issues, advance families’ well-being, avoid missed opportunities for addressing unmet needs, and prevent harm arising from trauma and separation, social work professionals are urged to adopt a Flourishing Family Approach to their child and family practice with families receiving services and supports in multiple service systems. The Flourishing Family Approach is an innovative, integrated family-driven and -centered practice approach with a single point of entry that identifies and supports individual family members, honors family strengths, and creates flexible and seamless service pathways that advance resiliency. This session will highlight the key components of this approach and provide attendees with action steps they can take to implement this approach in their practice and organization.

Presenters: Alan Vietze, CWLA Senior Fellow and Chair, Mental Health Advisory Board, Vallejo, CA; and MHAB members: Pat Hunt, FREDLA, Columbia, MD; Susan Montague, St. Francis Ministries, KS; Julie Collins, CWLA/MHAB Staff Support, DC

F7 Advancing Equity in Child Welfare

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Members of CWLA’s Member Equity Committee will provide examples and facilitate a discussion on how to begin, sustain, and navigate barriers surrounding equity

efforts at child welfare agencies. They will also seek input from action lab participants about their successful efforts in this area and what types of tools and materials they feel would support the field in advancing equity and justice. Participants in this action lab will also have a chance to continue the conversation in the months to come if they so choose.

Presenters: Alger Studstill, Jr., *Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Lincoln, NE*; Anayra Túa-López, *Proyecto Nacer Inc, Bayamón, Puerto Rico*; Traci Jones, *Virginia Department of Social Services, Richmond, VA*; Kelli McKnight, *Options, OR*; Antonia Rios & Lisa Pion-Berlin, *Parents Anonymous® Inc, CA*

F8 Restoring Hope

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

For 75 years, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, FL (JWB) has existed to meet the most pressing and immediate needs of Pinellas County children. JWB ensures kids are ready to learn, ready to succeed, and ready to thrive in homes, schools, and neighborhoods that are healthy and safe. This action lab will feature the work and impact of JWB and its partners during fiscal year 2021—a year where the organization adjusted to a new normal on the heels of a global pandemic, and began to shift from crisis to calm. Together, JWB and its partners filled in the missing pieces to strengthen children and families, and RESTORE HOPE!

Presenter: Yaridis Garcia, *the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, FL*

RECEPTION IN EXHIBIT HALL

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Location:

Columbia ABC & Foyer – Ballroom Level

It's your last chance to connect with all the vendors.

Be sure to come hear the announcement of the lucky winners of our fabulous prizes!

New from CWLA PRESS

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR EFFECTIVE CO-PARENTING

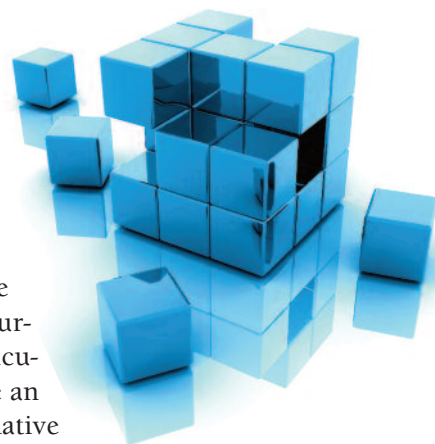
New!

by Marcus Stallworth, LMSW

*Building Blocks
for Effective
Co-Parenting* was

developed with the intention of filling a need for families who are separating or have separated. The purpose of this curriculum is to provide an engaging, informative framework that highlights the importance of effective co-parenting. The material offers tools and strategies to assist those who are responsible for raising children.

Author Marcus Stallworth has developed a foundational framework that includes an educational seminar, a facilitator's guide, and a companion workbook designed for families to use in training and as resources for families who are co-parenting. This curriculum provides lectures, peer-to-peer learning opportunities, group activities, and self-reflection and assessment tools.



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Item#: 2153 Cost: \$19.95

COMPANION WORKBOOK

Item#: 2160 Cost: \$14.95

**REGISTRATION &
CWLA BOOKSTORE**

8:00 am – 2:30 pm

Location: Ballroom Level

COFFEE & NETWORKING

8:00 am – 8:30 am

*Location:
Regency ABC – Ballroom Level*

ACTION LABS G

8:30 am – 9:30 am

**G1 Flexible Funds in Kentucky
to Increase Well-being:
Operationalizing the Evidence
on Economic and Concrete
Supports (Spotlight Track)**

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

Promoting well-being and preventing foster care requires numerous services and supports. States are deploying evidence-based services and “moving upstream” to strengthen families. This infrequently includes services that address economic hardship, which can be a driver of child welfare system involvement. Recent policy action in Kentucky makes available \$1,000 per family in flexible funding. This action lab will describe the state’s family preservation services, including flexible funding. An overview of evidence will be presented showing relationships between economic and concrete supports and child welfare system involvement. Participants will explore the integration of economic and concrete supports into the service array.

Presenters: Clare Anderson, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Washington, DC; Christa Bell, Department of Community Based Services at the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Lexington, KY

**G2 The Need to Ensure an
Integrated, Comprehensive
Approach by Child Welfare
Practitioners When Investigating,
Assessing, and Treating a Child
or Youth Alleged to have been
Sexually Abused within an
Intrafamilial Context**

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

Unfortunately, in many instances, different aspects of child sexual abuse investigation, assessment, and treatment are carried out by separate entities with limited communication. This gap can lead to counterproductive decisions and unnecessary long-term trauma for the child or youth who has been sexually abused. The research material that will be presented provides a model for knowledge and subsequent implementation that seeks to enhance engagement, positive outcomes, and the use of a trauma-informed focus in the best interests of children who have been sexually abused, non-offending parents or caregivers, and those accused or suspected of sexual abuse. The material covered will be delivered in the context of anti-oppressive approaches and has been recently compiled into a comprehensive manual for Canadian investigative and treatment practitioners.

Presenters: Andrew Koster, Family Services, Brantford, ON; Gerald Walsh, Brant Family and Children’s Services, Brantford, ON

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2023 National Conference

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Washington, DC**

G3 Developing a Culture of Wellness at DC's Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA)

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Through a partnership between its agency's leadership and human resources, CFSA has created a culture of wellness that promotes healthy lifestyle choices and employee engagement and focuses on addressing secondary traumatic stress (STS) at all agency levels. While the secondary traumatic stress workgroup provides clinical means to enhance resiliency for agency social workers and staff, the agency's Wellness Works program takes it a step further by targeting three areas: healthy choices, recognition and support, and employee engagement. This session will provide participants with recommendations towards implementing STS and wellness strategies based on DC CFSA's strategy and lessons learned.

Presenters: Brandynicole Brooks and Tokeitha Wilson, DC Child and Family Services Agency, Washington, DC

G4 Transforming Child Welfare through Public and Private Partnerships

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

The Fairfax (VA) County Department of Family Services (DFS) is engaged in an innovative, two-year, public-private partnership project to transform its child welfare system by strengthening families, protecting children, and supporting a professional, competent, and stable child welfare workforce. This session will provide an overview of the implementation of the evidence-based Safe & Connected™ model, engagement of innovative partnerships to support child and family well-being, steps to strengthen practice and community partnerships, development process of a comprehensive child welfare training program, and use of Title IV-E training funds.

Presenters: Michael Becketts, Fairfax Department of Family Services, Fairfax, VA; Adan Hernandez, Accenture, Austin, TX

G5 Family First: Recruiting & Utilizing Relevant Assets for Lasting change

Location: Yellowstone – 2nd Floor

This action lab is a facilitated panel discussion that will highlight how Family First strategies have been used to leverage the unique and inherent assets of rural communities for positive impact. Panelists will discuss some of the distinctive challenges faced with implementation and sustainability of Family First in rural communities, why specific programs and interventions were selected, and how these strategies are resulting in successes for children and families. Hear reports from the field about interventions that are promoting equity and inclusion. Programs will be highlighted from Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Maine, and Nebraska.

Presenters: Carl Ayers, Casey Family Programs, Wytheville, VA; Bobbi Johnson, DHHS Maine, Augusta, ME; Pamela Cornwell, Saint Francis Ministries, Wichita, KS



Jamika

My name is Jamika. As a mother of two, Kingsley House has been a game-changer for me and my family. I love how Early Learning Services is giving my son a head start for success in kindergarten and beyond. Because of this place, and Ms. Azeb who saw my potential, I also enrolled in Kingsley Connections for professional development and training, going from a so-so job to a rewarding career. Kingsley House helps make good happen, and for that I give thanks.



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www.kingsleyhouse.org

G6 Psychiatric Medication and Foster Care: Red Flags

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

Multiple studies have concluded that children in foster care are prescribed psychiatric medication at a rate significantly higher than other populations of children. Many of these medications are prescribed off-label, with little proven benefit but significant risk. Compounding the problem, biological parents or legal guardians are frequently pressured to sign consents forms without having ever spoken to the psychiatric provider. Child advocates, attorneys representing parents and children, family court judges, state child welfare leaders, agency child welfare staff and caseworkers can play a vital role in reducing the overuse of medication. This presentation will cover the “red flags” that can help them recognize situations where the child’s treatment with psychiatric medications may be problematic and/or parents’ objections may be reasonable. Possible solutions will be discussed.

Presenter: Martin Irwin, NYU Grossman School of Medicine, New York, NY

G7 From the Exam Room to the Community: Where Social Determinants of Health and Child Development Connect

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

As part of an ambitious, multi-year strategy to advance racial justice and equity in medicine, the AMA has committed to working in partnership with key stakeholders to address determinants of health and set more children up for long and healthy lives. In this action lab, AMA Board Chair Bobby Mukkamala, MD, a head and neck surgeon from Flint, Michigan, will offer his personal perspective on the devastating impact of social determinants of health and how addressing problems upstream can lead to better outcomes for children and families. He will be joined by Cheryl Fisher from Centene to discuss the impact of social determinants of health from a child welfare perspective. Centene and CWLA are partnering to produce a special issue of the *Child Welfare Journal* focused on this critical issue, and are developing

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micro learnings and other activities to advance the dialogue in child welfare. A focus of this conversational session will be shared learning across systems.

Presenters: Bobby Mukkamala, AMA, Flint, MI; Cheryl Fisher, Centene, Houston, TX

G8 Incorporating a Racial Equity Lens in Implementation of Evidence-Based Models for Child Welfare Preventive Populations (session repeat)

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

This session will focus on the efforts of The Children's Village to incorporate a racial equity lens into their work with families. The presentation will provide historical data that points to the disproportionality of services delivery in communities of color and the resulting outcomes. In addition, policies impacting families involved in child welfare will be discussed and presenters will share strategies to engage in the implementation of services that focuses on both the research of racial oppression on families as well as on the empirical data of the models. The session will also describe how The Children's Village and their consultant developed an agency-wide training aimed at educating all staff on the history of family.

Presenter: Daphne Torres-Douglas and Monique Williams, The Children's Village, Dobbs Ferry, NY

ACTION LABS H

9:45 am – 10:45 am

H1 Building the Next Generation of Child Welfare Leaders: Leading, Learning and Linkages

Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level

Many emerging professionals are eager to begin their careers in child welfare, but encounter challenges when

they are ready to climb the career ladder. It is vital that we support this emerging generation of new leaders as they navigate the serious challenges and complexities of transforming and leading the public and private sectors. This session will focus on learning from accomplished emerging child welfare professionals; understanding the importance of creating and seeking opportunities for leadership; and building linkages and networks in the professional community. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about practical strategies and tools they can use for their own development, or how to build infrastructures for emerging professionals in their workplaces.

Presenters: Grey Hilliard-Koshinsky, New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners and Directors, Boston, MA; Ellen Keithley, Options Counseling & Family Services, Salem, OR; Keith Luebcke, Indiana Department of Child Services, Lafayette, Indiana



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H2 30 Days to Family®: A Revolution in Urgency

Location: Yellowstone – 2nd Floor

30 Days to Family® is an urgent, intense, 30-day evidence-based intervention that works tirelessly to get children who have just entered foster care placed with family. Armed with the knowledge that family members are the experts, specialists waste no time in engaging with all family members, identifying family caregivers, backup placement options, and mapping out a robust natural support system. The program focuses on keeping children with their families, and maintaining their history, culture, and traditions—it's what every family deserves. Join us to learn how the program blends family finding + family engagement + kinship navigation and how it's scaling nationally!

Presenter: *Melanie Moredock, The Institute for Child Welfare Innovation, Saint Louis, MO*

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Supporting Equitable Access to
Quality and Inclusive Services for
Children and Families

H3 Safety Science in the Face of Adversity: Indiana's Paradigm Shift

Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor

The implementation of strength-based, safe system reviews has provided our agency with an opportunity to shift the approach to understanding our system at each unique layer of the organization. Utilizing safety science to impress value on all individuals participating allows us the space to critically think with peers while exploring ways to improve our practice through data-driven decision-making. This shift in our process has opened up the opportunity to embed psychological safety, influence change initiatives, and construct alternative forms of education for the purpose of continuous improvement.

Presenters: *Ashley Krumbach, Department of Child Services, Noblesville, IN; Rachel Parrett, Ashley Kaelin, Lauren Zyla-Whetstone, Department of Child Services, Indianapolis, IN*

H4 Removing Bias in the Child Welfare System: A Promising Strategy Toward Reducing Over- representation of Children in Foster Care (from minority groups) through the Blind Removal Process

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level

Racial bias has no place in our child welfare system, and yet, despite the best efforts, intentions, and desires of child welfare professionals to help all children and families, implicit bias can easily and unconsciously seep into decisions of removal and reunification within the child welfare system. The purpose of the Blind Removal Process is to promote racial equity within the child welfare system in order to achieve better outcomes for children and families. The implementation of a Blind Removal Process statewide is another step toward ensuring social justice and human rights for the children and families of New York.

Presenters: *Lisa Ghartey Ogundimu and Teresa Boykins and John Thompson, New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Rensselaer, NY*

H5 Innovation and Equity in Child Welfare Practice: A Follow-Up to Bethany's Innovative Practice Report

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

At the beginning of 2020, Bethany boldly proclaimed new organizational values. The events of 2020—including a global pandemic, a nationwide conversation about systemic racism, and a contentious election—allowed us to immediately put our core values into practice. Bethany made significant programmatic and operational changes, which are described in our report “What the Pandemic Taught Us” (funded by The Annie E. Casey Foundation). This session will include an overview of innovations Bethany made to help meet the needs of children and families receiving foster care services during the pandemic, the importance of data disaggregation by race in championing justice, and advocacy and practice changes that Bethany has incorporated since our report was released.

Presenters: Cheri Williams, Bethany Christian Services, Grand Rapids, MI; Julia Fukuda, Bethany Christian Services, Atlanta, GA

H6 InstruMENTal: Recognizing the Importance of the Male Role in Child Welfare

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

For years, CWLA has been asking males within child welfare why many men in the field often feel overlooked and under-utilized. With feedback from resource and kinship dads, direct staff, managers, supervisors, and community members, we have developed an initiative designed to make intentional efforts to ensure all members of our professional team are valued and included. Five areas of focus have been identified that individuals, agencies, and community providers can utilize to maximize the assets men in child welfare bring to the table. Ensuring males feel included and heard can impact resource parent recruitment, staff retention, and overall organizational culture. Please join us for this lively session, where we will rely on networking and shared experiences to further this nationwide effort.

Presenter: Marcus Stallworth, CWLA, Washington DC

H7 Public & Private Partnerships: How LA County is Collaborating to Transform Child Welfare

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

Government and philanthropy often share common goals and a capacity to enable wide-scale systems change. When they work together, they make ideal partners—philanthropy contributing nimbleness and a spirit of experimentation, while government commands the resources to sustain what works. In Los Angeles County, such collaboration was catalyzed by the murder of an eight-year-old boy in 2013. Since then, an increasingly durable and agile spirit of collaboration in L.A. fuels an ability to test new ideas, assess their effectiveness, and bring them to scale in ways that significantly impact child welfare reform. Join us as we discuss models for enhanced collaboration and how to drive change in child welfare systems across the country.

Presenter: Wendy Garen, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Los Angeles, CA; Tamara Hunter, LA County Commission for Children and Families, Los Angeles, CA; Elise Weinberg, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles, CA

H8 Stratifying Treatment: Creating Change Through the Lens of Culture & Trauma (session repeat)

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

The evidence-based Family Centered Treatment model, from its very first session with a family, initiates a comprehensive series of assessment activities aimed to gather information related to protective and risk factors, historical and generational trauma, cultural influences, and natural community-based supports. Both formal and activity-based assessments are utilized to increase the engagement of the family in the process. A team approach ensures that all involved parties are aware of the findings and routine reassessment occurs at targeted intervals during treatment. This experiential action lab will explore the steps of the process and provide participants with concrete tools for use in their field.

Presenter: Stephanie Glickman, Family Centered Treatment Foundation, Charlotte, NC

ACTION LABS I**11:00 am – 12:00 pm****I1 Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10-14***Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level*

In this session, attendees will be introduced to the evidence-based Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10-14. The presenter will discuss the topics of the seven weeks of parent, youth, and family sessions and share the research that led the World Health Organization to name SFP 10-14 the number one prevention program in the world. Participants will preview some of the interactive activities, learn about the global aspect of SFP 10-14 as it has been implemented in over 25 countries, and, finally, understand how to become certified facilitators and implement the program locally.

Presenter: Cathy Hockaday, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

I2 Building Protective Factors So Adult and Child Survivors of Domestic Violence Can Thrive*Location: Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level*

Families mandated into the child protection system often experience significant adversity, oppression, and trauma in addition to family violence. Healing from trauma and promoting resilience are pathways to child and family well-being that should be integrated into child welfare practice. The Quality Improvement Center on Domestic Violence in Child Welfare is testing the feasibility of a Protective Factors Framework for Survivors of Domestic Violence in Massachusetts, Illinois, and Pennsylvania. This action lab will describe the research- and practice-informed Protective Factors Framework for survivors of domestic violence and offer guidance for integrating the framework when working with survivors of family violence.

Presenter: Juan Carlos Arean, Futures Without Violence, Boston, MA

I3 Faith-Based Partnerships to Promote Child & Family Well-Being*Location: Glacier – 2nd Floor*

This action lab will provide an opportunity for participants to learn about LA County Faith in Motion, the faith-based engagement framework that the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Families developed and has been implementing. This framework was developed to expand faith partnerships and better engage faith communities in supporting the needs of families, youth, and children who are in, or may be at risk of entering, the child welfare system. Participants will have an opportunity to share best practices and hear about lessons learned to help them apply concepts and approaches.

Presenters: Grace Weltman, Communities in Motion, Los Angeles, CA; Dominique Robinson, LA County Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles, CA; Pastor Dan Broyles, Valencia Hills Community Church, Los Angeles, CA; Erica Holmes, Faithful Central Bible Church, Los Angeles, CA

I4 Kinship Care and Kinship Navigators: Transformation of Support to Families During COVID and Lasting Changes in a Post-Pandemic World - CANCELLED**I5 Child Welfare and Medicaid: Making Medicaid Happen***Location: Yellowstone – 2nd Floor*

Participants will receive a basic overview of the federal Medicaid program and an understanding of its importance in the wellbeing of children and youth in and from foster care. The content of Medicaid State Plans will be covered, with an emphasis on the mandatory service of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) and its function in the provision of specific services. The impact of trauma on the brain will be discussed to provide a context for understanding the increased need that youth who have experienced state care have for access to medical services, and the vital role practitioners play

in understanding and advocating for their Medicaid. Together, the many stakeholders in child welfare-in addition to families and the states-can work to Make Medicaid Happen for youth in foster, adoptive, and guardianship care.

Presenters: Sharon McCartney, AAICAMA, Washington, DC; Adrian Owens, AAICAMA, GA

I6 The Intersection of Race & Trauma

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

Although race is merely a social construct, it has fractured American society for centuries. Race has been the impetus for war, both historically on the battlefield and, in more recent times, on the streets of America and around the globe. Do we really understand the power race holds while being only an illusion? And what trauma is caused by race and its influence on laws, policies, and individual behaviors? This workshop begins the critical conversation about the intersection between race and trauma, and its impact on us collectively and as individuals.

Presenter: Deborah Gadsden, VOCE, Harrisburg, PA

I7 How Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) is Being Used to Transform a Child Welfare System (session repeat)

Location: Grand Teton – 2nd Floor

A comprehensive CQI system is required to systematically and strategically harness data to build effective processes that enable continuous learning for the improvement of practices, services, and performance. Traditionally, CQI consists of data collection via the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) case review process. However, it is often driven by compliance rather than recognized as an opportunity for continuous learning. To shift this perspective, leadership must prioritize CQI as a lever for change and growth. Oregon's Child Welfare Division is embracing this approach through their Vision for Transformation with CQI as a Guiding Principle in the roadmap to achieve a child and family well-being system.

Presenters: Leanne Heaton, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, IL; Alysia Cox, Oregon Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Division, Salem, OR

I8 Interventions Being Used by States for Their Family First Plan & Interventions That Have Evidence of Their Effectiveness with Families of Color

Location: Regency D – Ballroom Level



This Action lab will review two intervention issues: (1) What are the most common interventions that States are using in their Family First plan? And (2) What interventions being provided with Family First funding have been shown to be effective with families of color? Ample time will be provided for brainstorming practical strategies for addressing this situation, including making the most out of community-developed interventions for families of color and agency management information system data.

Presenter: Peter J. Pecora, Casey Family Programs, Seattle, WA

I9 Equitable Standards on Transitions from Care

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

Join the Child Welfare League of Canada for a reflection on an ongoing, groundbreaking research and social justice action initiative made by and for youth in and from care. This session will address the challenges and successes of creating and then implementing equity building policy, and why this key initiative is one of the first of its kind. Attendees will learn about the Eight Pillars of Equitable Standards (Financial, Education & Professional Development, Housing, Relationships, Culture & Spirituality, Health & Wellbeing, Advocacy & Rights, Emerging Adulthood Development), and explore purpose-built policy, which centers the expertise of First Voice Advocates and bridges gaps between National and Provincial legislation and policy in Canada.

Presenter: Tanya Ironstone Locke, Child Welfare League of Canada, Ottawa, ON

CLOSING LUNCH PLENARY SESSION

Friday, April 29 • 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

Location: Regency ABC – Ballroom Level

Looking Back, Moving Forward

This final plenary session will begin with a celebration of key leaders in child welfare. CWLA will acknowledge those who are retiring from careers of service or rotating off the CWLA Board of Directors. The Congressional Advocate of the Year will be awarded to members of Congress who have achieved demonstrated policy and funding improvements related to services and supports for children in the child welfare system. The Anna Quindlen Award for Excellence in Journalism on Behalf of Children and Families will be awarded to professionals who have delivered constructive, informative reporting that has advanced awareness, understanding, and action to meet the needs of children and families who are vulnerable. Finally, Victoria Kelly, CWLA Board Chair, and Christine James-Brown, CWLA CEO & President, will facilitate a conversation between CWLA key committee leaders to identify strategies for our collective efforts to move the field forward.

ANNA QUINDLEN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM WINNERS

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Weekend Morning Anchor
WGN-TV



Susan K. Livio
Statehouse Reporter
NJ Advance Media



Jan Moller
Director
Louisiana Budget Project



CWLA CONGRESSIONAL ADVOCATES OF THE YEAR



**Representative
Jackie Walorski**

Representative Jackie Walorski is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Indiana's 2nd district. She assumed office in 2013. Prior to serving in the U.S. Congress, Walorski worked as a television reporter and non-profit director. From 2000 to 2004, she lived in Romania as a Christian missionary and founded Impact International.



**Senator
Sherrod Brown**

Senator Sherrod Brown has represented the state of Ohio since 2007. Prior to serving in the United States Senate, Brown served as a United States Representative for the 13th District, Ohio's Secretary of State, a member of the Ohio General Assembly, and has taught in Ohio's public schools and at The Ohio State University.

CWLA HONORS OUR STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS

Recognition of Retirement

For extraordinary service. Thank you for your immeasurable commitment, support, and dedication to children and families.

CWLA BOARD MEMBERS



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Keith Liederman



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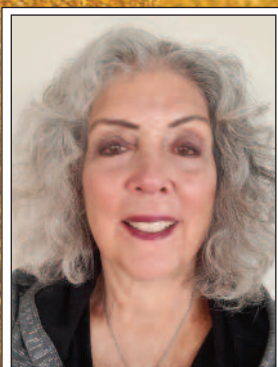
CWLA STAFF MEMBERS



Tim Briceland-Betts



Margie Fowler



Eileen Mayers Pasztor



Donna Petras



John Sciamanna

TRAINING INSTITUTE SESSIONS

(“Premium” Full Conference Registration Required)

2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Crisis Assessment & Intervention When Trauma Strikes: A Five-Step Approach to Hope, Collaboration, and Change – Part 1

Location: *Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level*

A skills-based training that examines facilitated conversations using a five-step approach, developed by CWLA Senior Fellow Michael Schultz, as one way to foster the hope, collaboration, and change needed to assess and intervene when trauma and tragedy strike. Healthy families, organizations, and teams share common features. These characteristics are building blocks for healing, empowerment, and resilience during times of crisis and trauma. Effective and respectful facilitated conversations assume that as helping professionals and organizations enhance their capacity to rebound from immediate crisis and weather persistent stress, they also gain vital resources to deal more efficiently with future challenges. Thus, in fostering resilience among professionals, every learning moment is a preventive measure.

Please note: This is a two-part training on Friday and Saturday. Attendance is required for both sessions. Required material, *Systems Consultation When Trauma Strikes: Stories of Hope, Collaboration, and Change*, is available to purchase.

Facilitator: *Michael Schultz, CWLA Senior Fellow*

Essential Skills for Kinship, Foster, and Adoptive Family Preservation: From Oh No! to Oh Yes!

Location: *Regency Foyer – Ballroom Level*

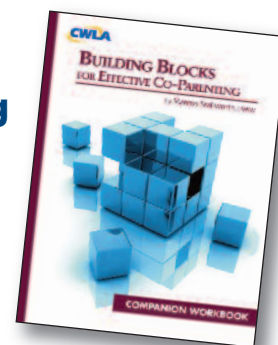
Preparing, developing, and supporting kinship caregivers and resource families to ensure children in their care have relationships that are safe, nurturing, and

enduring continues to be a decades-old challenge. This is now exacerbated by the health and social injustice pandemics. This training session focuses on essential skills that relatives, foster, and adoptive families must have to ensure that the children in their care are served by a trauma-informed team with clear roles and responsibilities. Skills to aid birth parents in reunification will be emphasized in support of FFPSA. Training as an advocacy strategy connected to agency mission and reinforced by trauma-informed supervision will be shared. Trainers will collaborate with participants to experience mission-driven, model of practice work tools to ensure kinship, foster, and adoptive family preservation and minimize disruptions.

Facilitators: *Eileen Mayers Pasztor, DSW, and Charlene Ingram, MSW*

Building Blocks for Effective Co-Parenting

Location: *Concord –
Ballroom Level*



The purpose of this training is to provide an engaging, informative framework that highlights the importance of effective co-parenting. When done properly, effective co-parenting can aid and assist in the overall growth and healthy development of children. We understand that families become separated for a variety of reasons and this training provides an opportunity to: recognize reasons why some relationships end; learn how these actions can impact children's identity and self-esteem; and offer strength-based, solution-focused, strategies and techniques to create consistency and support for all involved parties. Many of these core principles can be applied to all families—including birth, kin, foster, and adoptive. The purpose is to create a resource that can assist separating families, training specialists, community providers, court mediation staff, and others in learning how to work together with the common goal of putting the needs of the children first.

Required material: *Building Blocks for Effective Co-Parenting: Companion Workbook*, is available to purchase.

Facilitator: *Marcus Stallworth, LMSW, CWLA Director of Training and Implementation*

Show Your Support. Fly our Flag.

THE **CWLA** CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG INITIATIVE

The centerpiece is simple. A red flag depicting blue, paper-doll-like figures of children holding hands.

In the center, the white chalk outline of a missing child symbolizes the children lost to violence.

Created by a 16-year-old student in Alameda County, California, and flown on the fourth Friday in April, the Children's Memorial Flag honors each lost child and raises public awareness about the continuing problem of violence against children.

Join the nearly 300 organizations, in over 100 cities, and participants in all 50 states that support Children's Memorial Flag Day. Fly your flag on the fourth Friday in April—or all year long—and support CWLA's efforts to protect every child from violence and harm.



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\$110.00

Item: FLAG5x8 Size: 5' x 8'



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Size: 1" square
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Ignite action in others by showing
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have been the victims of violence.



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CWLA is donating 20% of our proceeds to ChildFund. The non-profit organization is working in partnership with several non-governmental organizations on the ground in Poland to assemble and distribute hygiene kits and toys in support of Ukrainian children made refugees by the war.

ChildFund®

For Purchase at the CWLA Bookstore / Ballroom Level

COFFEE & NETWORKING

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Location: Lexington – Ballroom Level

TRAINING INSTITUTE SESSIONS

(“Premium” Full Conference Registration Required)

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Crisis Assessment & Intervention When Trauma Strikes: A Five-Step Approach to Hope, Collaboration, and Change – Part 2

Location: Bunker Hill – Ballroom Level

A skills-based training that examines facilitated conversations using a five-step approach, developed by CWLA Senior Fellow Michael Schultz, as one way to foster the hope, collaboration, and change needed to assess and intervene when trauma and tragedy strike. Healthy families, organizations, and teams share common features. These characteristics are building blocks for healing, empowerment, and resilience during times of crisis and trauma. Effective and respectful facilitated conversations assume that as helping professionals and organizations enhance their capacity to rebound from immediate crisis and weather persistent stress, they also gain vital resources to deal more efficiently with future challenges. Thus, in fostering resilience among professionals, every learning moment is a preventive measure.

Please note: This is a two-part training on Friday and Saturday. Attendance is required for both sessions. Required material, *Systems Consultation When Trauma Strikes: Stories of Hope, Collaboration, and Change*, is available to purchase.

Facilitator: Michael Schultz, CWLA Senior Fellow

The 4 A’s Approach to Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Location: Columbia C – Ballroom Level

In this training session, we will introduce and discuss the 4 A’s Approach to Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This framework will challenge participants to reflect and evaluate how individuality is considered with agency staff and the children and families they serve and support. We will concentrate on the four following areas: Awareness, Acknowledgement, Action, and Accountability. This presentation is designed for peer interaction, shared learning, and strategy development.

Facilitator: Marcus Stallworth, LMSW, CWLA Director of Training and Implementation

Assessing Our Capacity for Family Support & Prevention Programming

Location: Concord – Ballroom Level

This training has been developed to take participants, preferably in organizational teams, beyond the slogans and big picture themes associated with Family First and emphasize a more detailed and operational approach to the task of redesigning an agency’s programs and practices to prioritize more accessible, non-stigmatizing, and common-sense approaches to service delivery. Participants will utilize The 7 P’s Exercise—developed by CWLA Senior Fellow Paul DiLorenzo during his 30+ years of planning, developing, implementing, and managing community and neighborhood-based family support programming—to create a “To Do” list for transformation, and at the same time, highlight existing strengths and opportunities that a provider might not have considered in their desire to become more primary prevention oriented.

Facilitator: Paul DiLorenzo, CWLA Senior Fellow

Conference Survey

Can you spare a few minutes to take our conference survey?

Your insights on conference topics, speakers, and pathways to move the field forward will help CWLA shape its direction over the next year.



New from CWLA Press:

Systems Consultation When Trauma Strikes

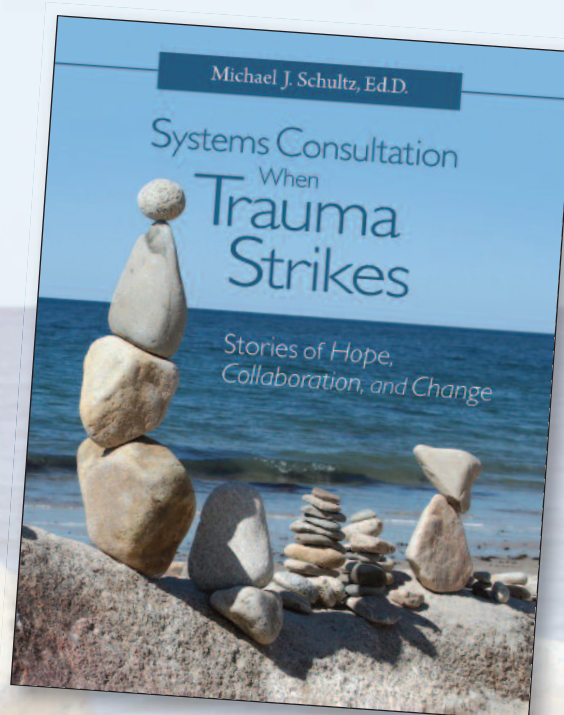
Stories of Hope, Collaboration, and Change

CWLA Press is pleased to announce the publication of ***Systems Consultation When Trauma Strikes: Stories of Hope, Collaboration, and Change***, by family therapist, psychologist, systems consultant, and CWLA Senior Fellow Michael Schultz, Ed.D. Using a collaborative, information-sharing approach, this book guides helping professionals in using systemic assessment and intervention with groups experiencing crisis, trauma, and serious interpersonal conflict.

Systems Consultation When Trauma Strikes takes an “empowering approach to organizational crisis intervention and group facilitation [that] is creative and experiential [T]his book is an essential guide for organizations that strive to foster a culture of resiliency, even in the midst of a crisis, by way of hope, collaboration, and change.”

— Christine Lynn Norton, Ph.D.,

LCSW Professor School of Social Work, Texas State University.



Michael J. Schultz, Ed.D.

Don't miss our upcoming VIRTUAL TRAINING:

***Crisis Assessment and Intervention When Trauma Strikes:
A Five-Step Approach to Foster Hope, Collaboration, and Change***

In four training sessions, we will examine facilitated conversations in a range of organizational contexts, driven by different content areas such as administration and leadership, conflict resolution, teambuilding, responses to traumatic events, and wellness, among others.

Visit www.cwla.org/training for more information.

Item #: 2139 • Price: \$39.95 • www.cwla.org/pubs • 202-688-4171

For Purchase at the CWLA Bookstore / Ballroom Level

Thanks to our conference sponsors for their generous support!

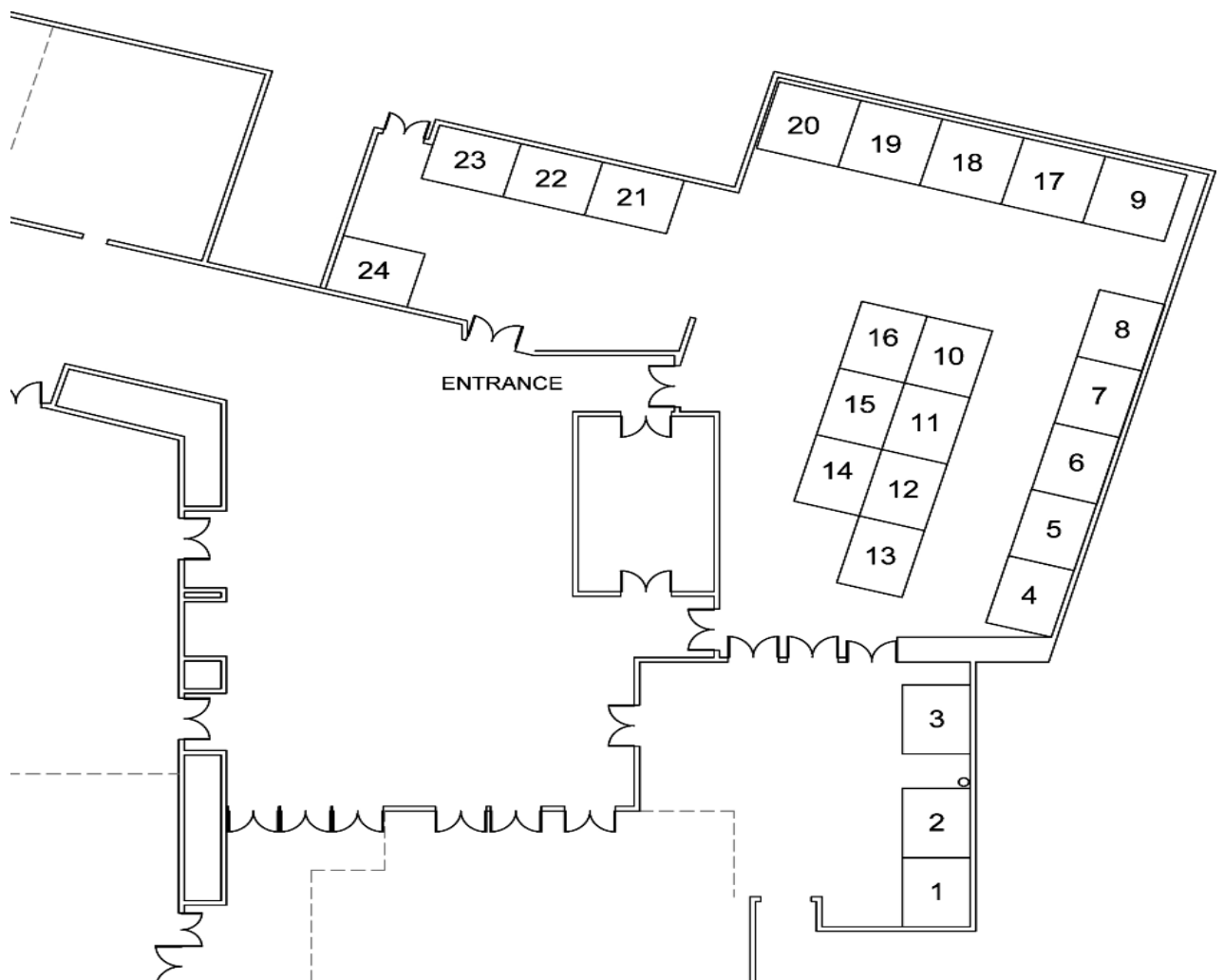


CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS & FLOORPLAN

A Heartfelt Thanks to Our 2022 Vendors

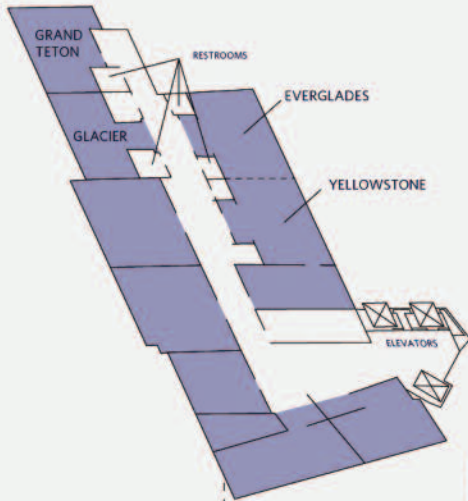
Exhibitor	Booth Number	Exhibitor	Booth Number
BerryDunn	10	Creating a Family	5
CARF International	14	NEXUS Family	3
Centene	13	Augintel	2
Anthem	20	AdoptUSKids	18
Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago	16	Konnect Apps	12
Relias	15	Alvarez and Marsal Public Sector Services	19
The Joint Commission	22	Unite.ly	17
Life Skills Reimagined	23	Social Current	9
FirstMatch	21	Functional Family Therapy	8
Benchmark Human Services	1	National Foster Parent Association	24
Supervised Visitation Network	4	Child Welfare Information Gateway	7
SpeakWrite	11	USCCB-Migration and Refugee Services	6

Play Booth Bingo for a chance to win great prizes!

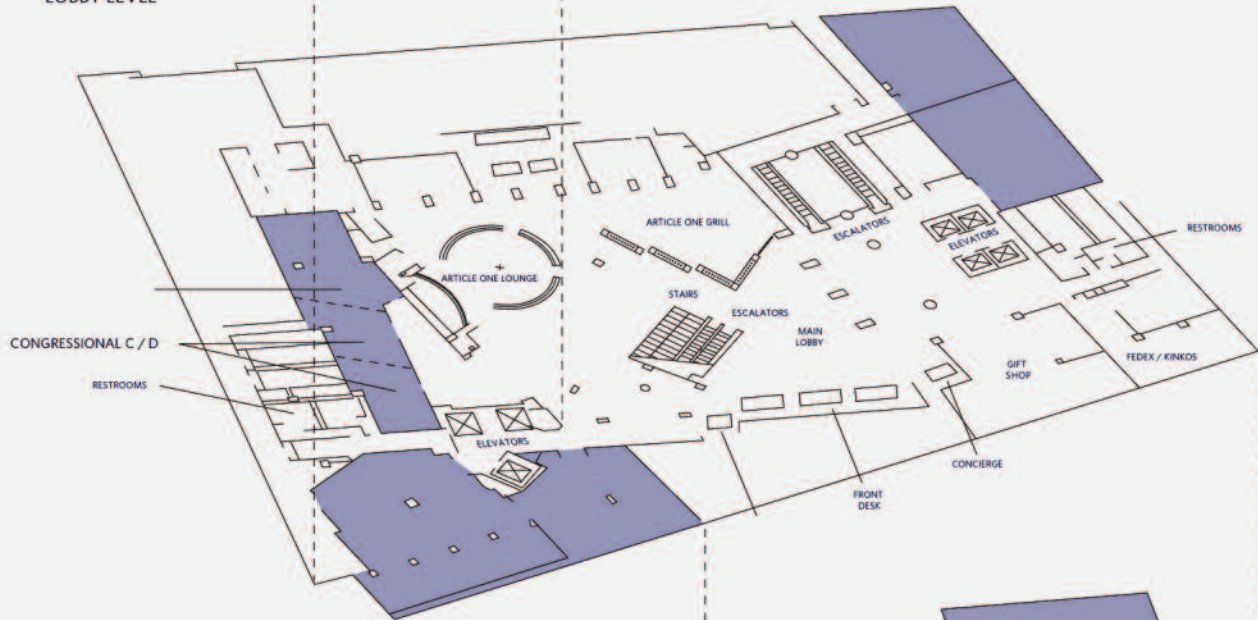


MEETING ROOMS FLOORPLAN

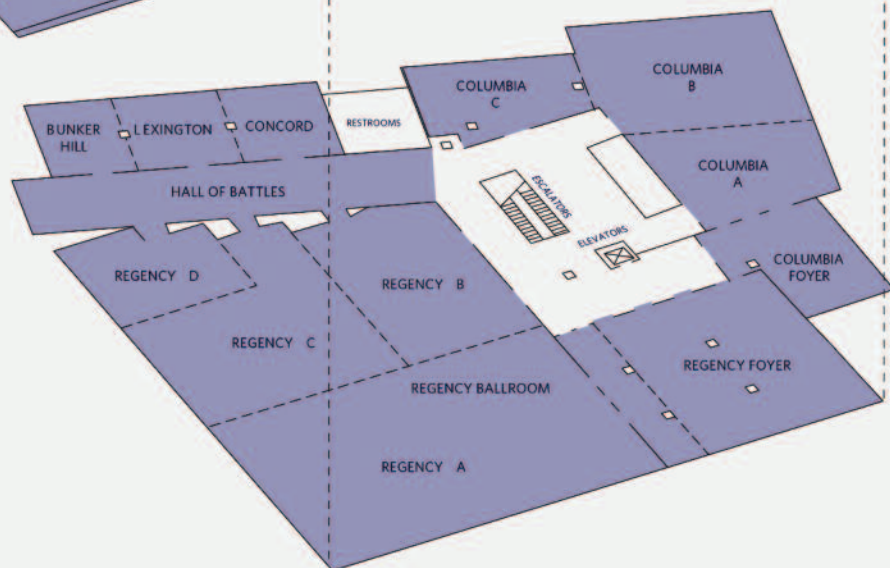
2ND FLOOR



LOBBY LEVEL



BALLROOM LEVEL



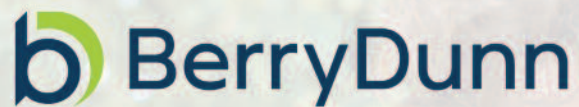
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- Service Providers
- Supervisors
- Agency Leadership



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- Family First Prevention Services Act
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