NACC

WELCOME TO THE 47TH NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE LAW CONFERENCE

DUAL/ONSITE CONFERENCE August 12-14, 2024

PRECONFERENCE SESSIONS AUGUST 11

Hyatt Regency
Salt Lake City, UT

VIRTUAL/ONLINE CONFERENCE September 11-13, 2024

From the comfort of your home or office

NACCchildlaw.org

Conference@ NACCchildlaw.org Working Together, Working Differently: Justice, Compassion, and New Tools for Modern Advocacy

THE CONFERENCE $extsf{C}$

The theme of this year's conference is *Working Together, Working Differently: Justice, Compassion, and New Tools for Modern Advocacy.* This focus reminds us that if we truly want the child protection legal system to look different, we must be different. We believe this begins by centering the voices, wellbeing, and rights of children and parents in our daily work. From there, emerging trends in high-quality legal representation, harm reduction, compassion-based practice, technology, and preventive advocacy help chart the course forward. Looking inward plays a role as well — embracing discomfort, challenging established narratives, and leveraging privilege for a purpose. Conference sessions will build on these ideas and convey concrete tips and skills for attorneys and practitioners. As a community of advocates, if we want to end at a different destination, we must start from a different place.



GO TO





WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL FOR CHILDREN'S 47TH NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE LAW CONFERENCE!

Welcome to the National Association of Counsel for Children's 47th National Child Welfare Law Conference! We are thrilled to host this annual gathering of child welfare legal and policy professionals for three days of learning and exchange. Thank you to this year's conference faculty, sponsors, exhibitors, and partners for helping make this event possible.

We acknowledge the Indigenous peoples who were the original stewards of this land. Utah, named for the Ute tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homeland of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes. Today, Utah is home to eight distinct tribal nations. We encourage you to learn more about the historical treatment of Native Americans and the contemporary experience and contributions of tribal Nations in the Salt Lake Valley region.

To move beyond acknowledgement to action, NACC donated to the Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City and invited the center to exhibit at this conference. NACC also donated to the 1999 Collective, an organization led by lived experience experts in Utah, which will also be exhibiting. We hope you take the time to learn more about their leadership, the services they provide, and to consider donating.

The theme of this year's conference is *Working Together, Working Differently: Justice, Compassion, and New Tools for Modern Advocacy.* This year's conference theme emphasizes the idea that only by collaborating in new and different ways can we hope to transform the child protection system into one that centers the voices and wellbeing of children and families. From hot topics in the law to new technologies to creative strategies for client-engagement and self-compassion, this conference provides tips and tools to update the legal services you provide.

At NACC, *your practice is our purpose*. Our staff, Board of Directors, and Emeritus board are here to serve and support your conference experience. This event offers opportunity to learn, to improve skills, build community, and find renewed inspiration and commitment to this work. We are pleased to offer a technology demo room and a peaceful place room for you to explore this year. Throughout the conference we encourage you to network with NACC's National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation (NACCLR), and to connect with your NACC State Coordinator.

Thank YOU for joining us and for the work you do every day. Our work and our responsibilities are intense, and self-care is paramount. We hope you take some time to explore Salt Lake City, rest when you need to, drink lots of water, and have some fun at NACC's 90's Dance Party. We invite you to take a group photo at NACC's step-and-repeat and share on social media.

in Drachak

Kim Dvorchak, JD Chief Executive Officer

LaShanda Taylor Adams, JD Board President

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING YOUR OWN DONATION TO THESE LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:



UICSL.org Scan to donate:





1999collective.org

Scan to donate:







WE ARE NACC. TOGETHER WE ARE PROMOTING EXCELLENCE, BUILDING COMMUNITY, ADVANCING JUSTICE.





NACC EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2024 CONFERENCE SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS!

SAPPHIRE SPONSOR







ABOUT NACC 🗹

Founded in 1977, the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) is a nonprofit professional membership and advocacy organization dedicated to advancing justice for children, youth, and families.

NACC trains and certifies attorneys who represent children, families, and agencies; supports a diverse community of professionals; and advocates for policy reform alongside young people and families. NACC helps lawyers do this important work. NACC is the only national organization accredited by the American Bar Association to certify attorneys as Child Welfare Law Specialists.

Our Mission: NACC advances children's and parents' rights by supporting a diverse, inclusive community of child welfare lawyers to provide zealous legal representation and by advocating for equitable, anti-racist solutions co-designed by people with lived experience.

Our Vision: Every child, parent, and family is well-supported in their community and has equitable access to justice through culturally responsive, client-centered legal representation.

THE HOTEL

We are pleased to have our onsite conference at the Hyatt Regency Salt Lake City, 170 South West Temple, in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah. We encourage you to bring snacks and a water bottle.

THE CITY



Welcome to a place where elevation meets aspiration. A modern city with every urban amenity set minutes away from spectacular mountains. A place for open minds and fresh perspectives. Experience our unique blend of traditional and progressive. Our mind-blowing winter adventures both on the slopes and off. World-class arts and every kind of outdoor adventure. Incredible day trips and nightlife. When you're ready to find the kind of place that feels anything but ordinary, come plan your trip with us. In Salt Lake you'll find yourself right where you belong.



TAKE CARE

We are happy you have joined us in Salt Lake City! Below are a few tips to ensure your stay in Utah is enjoyable.

WEAR SUNSCREEN You are 4,265 feet above sea level. The sun is stronger here, so please protect yourself outside.

DRESS IN LAYERS Days will be hot and the meeting space temperatures can vary, so dress in layers.

DRINK WATER While you are here, drinking plenty of water is the number one way to help your body adjust easily to the altitude and climate. We encourage you to bring a water bottle.

MONITOR YOUR ALCOHOL INTAKE Alcoholic drinks pack more of a wallop at altitude. It is recommended that you go easy on the alcohol as its effects will likely feel stronger here.

WATCH YOUR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY The effects of exercise are more intense here.

COVID 19 Disposable masks and hand sanitizer are available at the registration desk and throughout the meeting space.





THE CONFERENCE

Conference Badges

These must be worn at all times while attending the conference sessions and breaks. Please visit the registration table if you lose your badge or have any questions.



Continuing Legal Education Credits

NACC has or will be applying for CLE accreditation in 8 states for onsite participation in Salt Lake City and live, real-time participation during the online conference. Accreditation status for these states will be updated as more details become available. Jump to the <u>CLE accreditation</u> <u>details page</u> for more information.



THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE ABSTRACT WORKGROUP!

Dianne Balmain Kathryn Banks Hon. Karen Braxton Erin Byington Christina Espejo Shannon Felder Chantel Harvey Jamie Harvey Amy Karp Priya Konings Laura Singer Stacey Snyder Parker Annie ValDez Josephine Vanderhorst

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE ONLINE CONFERENCE!

See *page 24* for what's planned for September. The online schedule and session links are also available on NACC's conference website, *NACCchildlaw.org/conference*.

Children's Advocacy Institute

Did you know that your client may be entitled to thousands of dollars in federal benefits?

If your client has a disability or a deceased parent, they may be entitled to Social Security benefits. But across the nation, child welfare agencies intercept these benefits and use foster youth's funds to reimburse themselves for the youth's care. This is money that could help a youth transition successfully to adulthood — providing the means to rent an apartment, fund their education, or buy a car. The Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law is working to stop states from taking foster youth's money, rather than using or conserving the funds to benefit the child.

To learn more about this issue, our advocacy, and how YOU can help protect your client, please scan the QR code.



info@caichildlaw.org www.caichildlaw.org

University of San Diego

CHOOL OF LAW







NACC CONGRATULATES THE 2024 PROMOTING EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS!

The National Association of Counsel for Children honors the champions who set the standard for excellence in child welfare legal advocacy. NACC presents the **Promoting Excellence Awards** annually to individuals and organizations making significant contributions to the rights and well-being of children and families through excellence in legal representation.

This year's recipients raise the bar for legal advocacy in our field. Please join us in congratulating the 2024 honorees. NACC will present the 2024 Promoting Excellence Awards at the 47th National Child Welfare Law Conference – in Salt Lake City in August and Online in September.

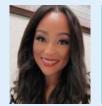


OUTSTANDING LEGAL ADVOCATE : AUBREY EDWARDS-LUCE, JD, MSW

Executive Director, Center for Families, Children and the Courts, University of Baltimore School of Law

For 15 years, Aubrey Edwards-Luce has advocated for justice alongside children and families as an attorney, policy advocate, leader, and organizer. Many nominators noted Aubrey's dedication to collaboration, client-centered practice, anti-racist representation, and holding systems to their duties to children and families. After graduating law school, she joined the Children's Law Center of DC and conducted policy advocacy in child welfare law and as part of coalitions addressing the needs of youth who have experienced homelessness, commercial and sexual exploitation, or being away from home. Her policy work continued at First Focus, where she pushed for federal policies and investments that prioritize children and families.

In 2020, she conceived the Child Welfare and Race Equity (CWARE) Collaborative, a network of lived experience experts who reimagine a child welfare system based on family integrity and child safety rather than family regulation. In her current role, she leads the Tackling Chronic Absenteeism Program and leverages her expertise as an active member of the Hidden Foster Care Coalition. As two of her nominators wrote: "Aubrey's energy and drive when it comes to helping families is neverending... Aubrey's care for the people in the many communities she is a part of is evident from the minute you meet her. More importantly, it is demonstrated in her every action, personal and professional. We cannot think of a more deserving recipient."



OUTSTANDING NEW LAWYER : ADREAIN REYNOLDS, ESQ

Staff Attorney, North Mississippi Rural Legal Services, Inc.

Since 2021, Attorney Adreain Reynolds has provided zealous representation to children and parents experiencing the child welfare system in 15 counties in North Mississippi. Working in a system that has far more people in need of representation than attorneys who can provide it, Adreain commits as much time as possible to represent as many families as she can. Inspired by her own personal experience, Adreain's efforts have reunited families, ensured children receive proper medical care, and improved the lives of clients protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Nominators describe her as an advocate with grit, grace, passion, and fearlessness. Adreain's work is exemplary of the enormous positive impact a dedicated lawyer can have in the lives of their clients. Her advocacy raises the bar for the next generation of advocates.



OUTSTANDING LAW STUDENT : MICHELLE PAPPAS, JD, MSW

University of South Carolina School of Law

Michelle Pappas began her post-graduate studies pursuing a master's degree in social work, working with children and families facing poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, and challenges related to disabilities and documentation. Michelle enrolled in the University of South Carolina's dual degree program to obtain a law degree to pursue systems-





level change to help families. During law school, she was an intern, extern, and law clerk for the Children's Law Center, where she collected public testimony and conducted national research on children's issues. She designed, created, and implemented a training course on adolescent development for South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice correctional staff.

Michelle also served as President of the Children's Advocacy Law Society, formalizing its status as an NACC student chapter, and she was involved in many law school organizations related to public policy and pro bono work. During her final months of law school, Michelle pursued funding so future law students can explore careers advocating for children. Additionally, Michelle volunteered and led projects and fundraisers to benefit people in need, among other academic and community activities. Her many nominators describe her as a natural leader who supports and sets an example for people around her, and who saw her education as an opportunity to become the best advocate she could be. One nominator wrote Michelle is one of the most impressive law students you will ever meet. Another wrote: "Seeing Michelle's passion combined with her ability is inspiring and gives me hope for the future of this specialized area of law."



OUTSTANDING CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICE : **LEGAL COUNSEL FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN RHEA YO**, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, **ERIN LOVELL**, FOUNDER AND SPECIAL COUNSEL

Since 2010, Legal Counsel for Youth and Children has provided holistic representation to young people experiencing the child welfare system, the juvenile legal system, and other legal challenges in Washington State. Having grown from a single attorney – founding executive director Erin Lovell – to a team of 16, LCYC works remotely across multiple counties to meet children where they are, center the client in the advocacy, and reach traditionally marginalized populations. LCYC works across systems to address the legal needs of some of the most vulnerable young people in Washington, including LGBTQIA+ people, youth experiencing homelessness, immigrants, youth with disabilities, people who speak a language other than English, and others. The large number of supporting nominations NACC received from community partners in Washington reflects how LCYC has become an essential legal lifeline for young people in need, and also how LCYC's expertise, partnership, and legal advocacy elevate the quality of care youth receive across organizations.

Additionally, LCYC has been at the forefront of legislative efforts, including the passage and implementation of landmark 2021 legislation expanding right to counsel for young people in Washington State. LCYC's holistic, anti-racist, community-based, client-centered approach is a leading example of NACC's Recommendations for Legal Representation in practice. As founding executive director Erin Lovell steps down this summer, NACC is pleased to celebrate her, LCYC, and the positive impact it has made on the lives of thousands of young people across Washington.



PRESIDENT'S AWARD : NYU LAW SCHOOL FAMILY DEFENSE CLINIC

NACC's President's Award recognizes excellence in advocacy organizations working to advance the legal rights of children and parents.

NACC President LaShanda Taylor Adams chose the NYU Law School Family Defense Clinic to honor and recognize its exceptional dedication to preserving family integrity while molding the next generation of public interest lawyers. The clinic's innovative and compassionate approach not only provides immediate legal relief to those in need but also works toward long-term systemic changes that benefit the broader community. By addressing both individual cases and overarching policy issues, the clinic plays a pivotal role in creating a more just and equitable child welfare system.

The Family Defense Clinic's impact can also be measured by the long-lasting influence it has had on the students who pass through its doors. These students go on to become passionate advocates for justice, equipped with the knowledge and experience needed to effect meaningful change in the legal system. Congratulations to Professor Christine Gottlieb, and Emeritus Professor Marty Guggenheim.







SALT LAKE CITY CONFERENCE PROGRAM ONSITE AT THE HYATT REGENCY SALT LAKE CITY REGENCY

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

NSITE preconference : sunday, aug 11

7:30ам - 5:30рм	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
12:00рм - 5:30рм	EXHIBITS	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
12:00рм - 5:30рм	A PEACEFUL PLACE Need a moment to unwind and recharge? Visit A Peaceful Place – a serene space do from the hustle and bustle of the conference. This tranquil environment offers vario rejuvenate. Take advantage of this peaceful retreat to recharge your mind and body your conference experience.	ous stations to help you relax and
	RED BOOK TRAINING REGISTRATION OPEN! C SHANNON FELDER, JD, CWLS - National Association of Counsel for Children The Red Book Training is NACC's signature training, designed to provide a compreh law and practice as well as to assist attorneys in preparing for the Child Welfare La exam. This one-day training is based on the 4th edition of Child Welfare Law and Pro- Parents, and Agencies in Neglect, Abuse, and Dependency Cases - more commonly training will cover the following areas of the Red Book, as well as practice exam quite Overarching Legal Structure and Themes Legal Case from Beginning to End Discrete Issues Lawyering Roles Essential Lawyering Skills	w Specialist (CWLS) certification actice: Representing Children, / known as the Red Book. The
	SEPARATE REGISTRATION AND FEE REQUIRED – BOX LUNCH INCLUDED 🖉	
10:00am - 4:00pm	CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICE PROJECT CONVENING NACC's Children's Law Office Project Convening provides specialized training for th nonprofit children's law offices, government agencies, and private firm's providing The training will include NACC's newly released <i>Children's Law Office Cuidebook</i> , S opportunities for senior leaders and e nerging leaders to learn best practices in org children and youth.	he leaders and managers of children's legal representation. Second I <mark>idi</mark> tion, and offer
	Every CLOC attendee will receive a complimentary copy of <i>Awakening Compass</i> , provided by Casey Family Programs.	ion at Work,

SEPARATE REGISTRATION AND FEE REQUIRED – BOX LUNCH INCLUDED





10:00am - 11:30am CLOC #1 Presenters	SESSION 1 Regency AB, Level 4 HOW WE ESTABLISHED A STATEWIDE CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICE JANET BLEDSOE, JD, LLM, CWLS - Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts ASHLEY CHASE, JD, CWLS - Colorado Office of the Child's Representative GWENDOLYN CLEGG, JD - Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma, Inc. LESLIE JONES, JD, CWLS - New Mexico Office of Family Representation and Advocacy STACEY SNYDER, JD, CWLS - New Mexico Office of Guardian ad Litem and CASA NATALECE WASHINGTON, JD, CWLS - National Association of Counsel for Children Expert panelists from Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and U tah will share the various steps each state tock to establish a state vide children s law office - the premiere means of delivering high- quality legal services. Discussion will include how and why the organizational models were selected, stazifing options, how high-quality legal representation is ensured, and the legistative enactments, appropriations, and funding sources necessary to launch and maintain the centralized legal services. Discussion will include how and why the organizational models were selected, stazifing options, how high-quality legal representation is ensured, and the legistative enactments, appropriations, and funding sources necessary to launch and maintain the centralized legal services. Discussion will include how and why the organizational models were selected, stazifing options, how high-quality legal representation is ensured, and the legistative enactments, appropriations, and funding sources necessary to launch and maintain the centralized legal services.
11:30ам - 12:30рм	LUNCH AND NETWORKING – BOX LUNCH INCLUDED
12:30pm - 1:30pm CLOC #2 PRESENTERS	UNLIKELY ACCOMPLICES: MAKING FRIENDS AND INFLUENCING PEOPLE TO PROMOTE LEGISLATIVE REFORMS JULIA HANAGAN, JD, CWLS - Dependency Legal Services JULIE MCCORMICK, JD, CWLS - Children's Law Center of California JODY RODGERS - Birth Parent / Parent Mentor Legislative change can be the driving factor in improving advocacy and outcomes for children and their families. But legislators often focus on youth, ar i parents are not always given the attention the / deserve. Building a coalition of advocates from different perspectives can be the key to succes). This approach can shift the focus away from specific sides to one that looks at what is best for families. This session will be ted by 2 atterneys and a parent partner who succeeded in passing A.B937 legislation in CA that allows extended reunification services for families after a finding of no reasonable efforts. They will illustrate how their collaboration advanced policy plans that posi- tively impacted families involved in the system, even if their overarching goals or reasoning diverged.
1:30pm - 1:45pm 1:45pm - 2:45pm CLOC #3 <i>presenters</i>	BREAK SESSION 3 Regency AB, Level 4 FINDING AND KEEPING CHILDREN'S LAWYERS IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING FIELD: A GROUP DISCUSSION OF NEW APPROACHES TO RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, AND RETENTION ANGELA ORKIN, JD - True North Child Advocates JIM WALSH, JD - Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County Hiring and keeping children's lawyers today is completely different than it was just a few years age. We all know the big issues: pay, caseloads, burnout - but what are the solutions to over co ning these issues in our communities? This presentation will share real-time, real-wor'd strategies the presenters are using to fill positions, and recent experience in training and supporting new lawyers. The presenters will engage the room to draw out other strate- gies that are working, as well as cetbacks that have been identified. By the end of the session, attendees will know they are not alone in this challenge and will leave with new ideas, new connections, and an understanding of how to build and retain the workforce needed to serve children.
2:45рм - 3:00рм	BREAK





PRESENTERS	LEADING WITH HEART: ELEVATING CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICES THROUGH COMPASSION SHERI FREEMONT, JD – Casey Family Programs, Judicial and National Engagement VIVEK SANKARAN, JD, CWLS – University of Michigan Law School JOSEPHINE VANDERHORST, JD, CWLS – National Association of Counsel for Children	IN
	This session will empower attendees to cultivate compassionate leadership within children's law offic sizing self-compassion, integrating empathy into office practices, and promoting cultural humility. Pa gain actionable insights to enhance organizational effectiveness, employee wellbeing, and client outo foster care representation.	rticipants wil
4:00рм - 6:00рм		Regency Foye
	The NACC Career Fair aims to promote positions in child welfare law offices and agencies for law stud grads, new lawyers, and persons with lived experience in foster care. Additionally, the Career Fair offo opportunity to network with NACC members and law office leaders from across the country. Prior to the Fair, NACC will provide registered employers a list of students/prospective candidates who have regist Career Fair. Likewise, registered prospective candidates will receive a list of registered employers. No resume-swapping, and scheduling interviews will occur during this time.	ers the he Career stered for the
	SEPARATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED 🗹	
5:00рм - 6:00рм	CWLS RECEPTION Sundance To	errace, Level
	NACC extends a warm invitation to Child Welfare Law Specialists, CWLS applicants, Red Book Trainin and participants from the Children's Law Office Project Convening to attend this special reception. Thi opportunity to come together, celebrate your remarkable achievements, and connect before the confe	s is a unique
6:00рм - 8:30рм	HIKE: EXPLORING COMPASSION AND CONNECTION THROUGH NATURE Meet in Hyatt R	legency Lobb
GROUP LEADERS	SHERI FREEMONT – NACC Board Member SHELDON SPOTTED ELK – Senior Director, Casey Family Programs ROB WYMAN – Senior Director, Casey Family Programs BROOKE SILVERTHORN – Senior Director, Casey Family Programs RACHEL KONRAD – Director, Casey Family Programs ALLISON GREEN – Legal Director, NACC VIVEK SANKARAN – Clinical Professor, University of Michigan Law School	
Ş	Craving some time outside to breathe in the fresh mountain air and connect to nature? Research shows in nature has many positive benefits, including reduced stress and cortisol levels, increased feelings of increase in empatity and compassion, enhanced learning and concentration, and improved creativity, p solving and overall, well-being. Join us for an evening of light hiking (1 hour) in nature and connection w colleagues. Two hiking trait options are available for you to choose from: one is more intense with a high gain for experienced hikers and the other is more level for beginners or those looking for a more laid-based for a more laid-based for solutions.	f calmness, roblem- vith fellow her elevation
	THIS IS A FREE, LIMITED-CAPACITY EVENT SPONSORED BY CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS.	







THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

Developing Solutions

to build a brighter future for children, youth, families and communities

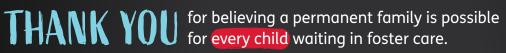
www.aecf.org





ONSITE CONFERENCE DAY 1: MONDAY, AUG 12

I.	7:30ам - 5:30рм	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
	8:00ам - 5:30рм	EXHIBITS	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
	8:00am - 5:30pm	A PEACEFUL PLACE Need a moment to unwind and recharge? Visit A Peaceful Place – a serene space de from the hustle and bustle of the conference. This tranquil environment offers varie rejuvenate. Take advantage of this peaceful retreat to recharge your mind and body your conference experience.	ous stations to help you relax and
	8:00am - 8:30am	BREAKFAST	Regency Foyer, Level 4
	8:30am - 8:45am	WELCOME KIM DVORCHAK, JD – NACC CEO LASHANDA TAYLOR ADAMS, JD – NACC Board President	Regency AB, Level 4
	8:45ам - 10:15ам		Regency AB, Level 4
	P1	On the Threshold of Change	
	PRESENTERS	ALEX BRISCOE, MA – California Children's Trust PARKER, MSW – NACC's National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation JENNY POKEMPNER, JD – Youth Law Center JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ, JD – Youth Law Center KRISTINA TANNER – Youth Law Center	
		Movements toward a future where all can thrive too often forget the voices and dre members of our communities: children and youth in foster care. Inspired by current vision of an approach to transition to adulthood for youth in foster care that prepare is co-designed with young people and is built to prepare young people for a rapidly thrive, Youth Law Center, California Youth Connection, and Institute for the Future p to understand the forces shaping the next decade, craft new futures and to reimagi to adulthood for youth in care that are just, relational, and accountable. This plenar important role lawyers and advocates for youth play in co-creating new futures for relationships, support restorative care and equitable transitions, and harness the to flourish, and 2) share hopeful signals of the future of extended foster care we can is possible to make the radical changes young people in foster care need.	t challenges as well as a shared es young people to be future ready, changing world where they can partnered to build youth's power ine approaches to transition ry session will 1) highlight the r youth in foster care that prioritize power of technology to allow youth





Dave Thomas Foundation *for* Adoption[®]

Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

davethomasfoundation.org/ForProfessionals



National Association of Counsel for Children #PROMOTING EXCELLENCE #BUILDING COMMUNITY #ADVANCING JUSTICE 12





10:15AM - 10:45AM **COFFEE BREAK**

10:45AM - 12:15PM BREAKOUT SESSION A



Lawyers in the Field: How Hands-On Lawyering Can Advance Your Current Legal Theory and Better Prepare Transition Age Youth for Adulthood Rege

t

Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2

Regency C, Level 4

PRESENTERS ERIKA INGRAM, JD – Children's Law Center of California DEVANY SOTO SAVAGE, MSW, JD – Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc.

While extended foster care exists in some jurisdictions, many young adults who exit the system at a later age continue to struggle with skills critical to their independence. Two attorneys who practice in a collaborative courtroom will share tips they learned in representing parenting youth, victims of commercial sexual exploitation, and other transition age youth (TAY). Presenters will discuss how attorneys can "meet their client where they are," but also invite clients to fully participate in their legal case. Case studies in trauma-informed lawyering alongside collaborative case management will illustrate how to better understand client experiences and improve legal advocacy; thus increasing the likelihood of positive outcomes for youth transitioning to adulthood.

A2 Students in School: Education Advocacy Tips and Tricks for Clients who are Experiencing Mental Health and Emotional Struggles

Salt Lake A, Level 2

PRESENTERS AMY CONNELL – Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada JACQUELINE DEAM, JD – Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

> This breakout session will address how to secure legal protections for students with disabilities in the school setting. The presenters will discuss how trauma manifests in behaviors and communication in the classroom, and review the federal laws that promote classroom inclusion, prevent unnecessary disciplinary removals, and impact permanency goals. Attendees will learn tips and tricks to effectively advocate for trauma-informed education, individualized education plans, and protections for children with emotional and mental health challenges.

A3 Defining "Services" within Reasonable Efforts – A Focus on Safety Services for Prevention of Removal and Promotion of Reunification

Salt Lake B, Level 2

PRESENTER TODD HOLDER, MSW - ACTION for Child Protection, Inc.

During this workshop, attendees will explore the definition of reasonable efforts through a safety lens. The error in defining, and applying, reasonable efforts through a treatment service delivery lens is the absence of identifying the current safety concerns within the home that have resulted in the need to place a child and/or maintain the child in out-of-home care. The provision of safety services, to prevent removal and support reunification, have a direct impact on the number of children entering care, and the length of time children remain in care. Safety services, deployed using in-home safety plans, are designed to ensure child safety within the home to allow for treatment services to occur to address the underlying family conditions that resulted in the child being unsafe.

Salt Lake C, Level 2

A4 Do No Harm: The Effects of No Contact

PRESENTERS DARICE GOOD, JD, CWLS – Good Legal Firm S. COLLEEN PUCKETT, PARENT WITH LIVED EXPERTISE – Good Legal Firm and Families' Anchor, LLC

"The child acts out after visit", "Mother was too emotional during the visit", "It's in the child's best interest to end contact". In this session attendees will learn from a Child Welfare Law Specialist and a family therapist the importance of meaningful contact for families in foster care, how to facilitate positive contact, and the legal foundation of family contact while in foster care and post-adoption agreements. Attendees will also learn from a reunified family and their experience with the long-term effects of limited contact while in foster care.





Rethinking Termination of Parental Rights: Mitigating Unintended Harm Salt Lake D, Level 2

PRESENTERS

JULIA HANAGAN, JD, CWLS – Dependency Legal Services JULIE MCCORMICK, JD, CWLS – Children's Law Center of California ROBYN ROBBINS, BS – Children's Trust Fund Alliance JODY RODGERS – Birth Parent / Parent Mentor

This session will explore the collateral consequences of termination of parental rights (TPR) from the perspective of those with lived experience, their attorneys, and clinicians. TPR often results in loss of contact with family, removal from community, disconnection from culture, and a break in generational history. We will discuss how to identify potential harms when evaluating permanency for children in care, explore alternatives to TPR where those harms are likely to occur, and, in cases where adoption remains the permanent plan, we will discuss mitigation strategies. This interactive session will emphasize the importance of bringing the child's need for identity, family, and community to the center of any permanency decision, notwithstanding common codified preferences for TPR.

Regency D, Level 4

A6 Ecosystems that Move the MOVEMENT

PRESENTERS COREY BEST – Mining For Gold, LLC ALEXANDRIA CINNEY, JD – Children & Youth Law Clinic, University of Miami School of Law

Social change requires an exploration into the power of ecosystems. During this immersive workshop, participants will be introduced to and interact with the Social Change Ecosystem Framework. The Framework embodies the idea of building communities of resistance around shared values and goals to create connection, solidarity, accountability, and strategies to propel social change. This is a fast-paced, low-risk (to your comfort), skills-building opportunity. Collectively, attendees will strategize, with over a quarter of a century since ASFA, sixty years post-civil rights. This social change gathering will be infused with transformative learning to ensure: 1) relaxed alertness, 2) orchestrated immersion, and 3) active processing. Come equipped to share your love, curiosity, humor and truth-seeking.

A7 Technology Demonstration Room

Salt Lake E, Level 2

Regency AB, Level 4

Come visit select Conference Sponsors as they demonstrate their products and services. Plan to linger a while!

NOT ACCREDITED FOR CLE

12:30рм - 1:45рм **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

OR

LUNCH & LEARN

Alignment on Family: System Change, Racial Justice, Consent Decree Exit, and a Culture of Safely Preserving Families

PRESENTERS COMMISSIONER JODI HILL-LILLY, MSW – Connecticut Department of Children and Families IRA LUSTBADER, JD – Children's Rights JOSHUA MICHTOM, JD – Office of the Chief Public Defender, State of Connecticut

This NACC staff-moderated discussion will explore system changes over the past 6 years at the Connecticut Department of Children and Families that drove measurable results in family preservation and support, a shrinking foster system, a durable commitment to racial justice and the exit of a decades-long federal consent decree. Panelists include the current Commissioner of DCF, the Lead Attorney for Plaintifis in the now closed *Juan F*. litigation, and a Parent Attorney whose clients are seeing the impact of these changes. Topics include practice and cultural changes that shrank the foster system, reduced congregate care, and increased reunification and kinship support; how DCF built a unique agency-wide racial justice program; lessons learned in impact litigation to change child and family serving systems; and the road ahead.

SEPARATE REGISTRATION AND FEE REQUIRED – SPACE IS LIMITED – LUNCH INCLUDED





2:00PM - 3:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION B

B1 Attorney Tools & Tips for Representing Immigrant Children and Parents Regency C, Level 4

PRESENTERS

CRISTINA COOPER, JD – ABA Center on Children and the Law MYLA GARCIA, JD – National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council RACHEL KONRAD, JD – Casey Family Programs

Immigrant children and parents involved in child welfare proceedings and immigration proceedings deserve highquality legal representation in both. Child welfare lawyers serving agencies, children, and parents can play key roles in ensuring access to immigration attorneys. Presenters will identify potential needs of immigrant children and adults and highlight new resources: a Referral Tool for children's attorneys to identify non-citizens and refer them for immigration legal representation; a Community of Practice for legal and court professionals; and policy recommendations by individuals with lived expertise in child welfare and immigration proceedings. We also will offer interview tips and sample scripts for conversations using culturally humble, trauma-informed, and child-centered practices.

B2 Designing Intersecting Legal Strategies to Protect TAY Rights to Housing Salt Lake A, Level 2

PRESENTERS

CHRISTINE BRADSHAW, JD – Public Counsel IZIKO CALDERON – California Youth Connection TARA FORD, JD, CWLS – Public Counsel

Despite state and federal entitlements to housing, many transition age youth in foster care are denied access to housing and supportive services while attempting to navigate their transition to adulthood. In this breakout session, a youth advocate and attorneys from Public Counsel will discuss the realities of advocating for the housing rights of current and former foster youth through both individual and systemic advocacy. We will explore the strategies involved in working directly with youths facing housing instability to help them obtain or maintain their housing; the experience of simultaneously pursuing large-scale reform through impact litigation; and the triumphs and failings of these distinctive remedies.

B3 Standing with Families at Family Court in their Battle to Survive Trauma from Guns, Drugs, Poverty, & Discrimination

Salt Lake C, Level 2

PRESENTERS JAMESIA MANNING, MA – Lived Experience Expert SAMANTHA MUNGAI – Lived Experience Expert LAURIE SNELL, JD – Jackson County Pro Bono Attorney

The Battle at Court is only one battle for the families that we work with. In 2024 scourges from guns, drugs, poverty, and discrimination proliferate and compound the challenges that families face. We will explore ways that we in the system can help families through all the multiple challenges they face in society today while reducing the resulting harms and traumas.

B4 Locked In and Locked Out: Advocacy for Children Stuck in Inappropriate Placements and Denied Access to Education

Salt Lake B, Level 2

PRESENTERS

KISHÁ JONES, JD – Office of the Cook County Public Guardian ANA NUÑEZ, PSYD – Office of the Cook County Public Guardian JEFFREY STERBENC, JD – Office of the Cook County Public Guardian

Last year, over 1,000 children in Illinois languished in inappropriate placements such as jails and psychiatric hospitals because the state lacks appropriate placement resources, a nearly 50% increase from two years ago. Youth in care often lag behind their peers educationally even before being left in hospitals or jails unnecessarily. When children are stuck in inappropriate placements, their social, emotional, and educational losses increase. In Cook County, a dedicated court call was created to address the practice of warehousing children in unsuitable placements. Through the voices of these children, we will explain the corrosive impact of this practice. We will also present strategies to obtain appropriate placements for such youth and tips on how to assess prospective placements.





B5 Changing the Game: Transforming Mental Health Systems for Kids and Families

Regency D, Level 4

PRESENTERS

KIMBERLY ABBOTT, JD, CWLS – Children's Attorneys Project, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada MARISOL GARCIA, JD – Health Law Advocates, Inc

One of the big challenges for lawyers in securing mental health services for their child and youth clients is that needed services may not exist in their communities. What can lawyers do when the services their clients need are just not available? This session will give tips for lawyers at all levels to help them join with others to transform mental health systems so that they actually meet the needs of our children, youth, and families.

B6 My Crown and My Glory: What Attorneys, Advocates, and Judges Should Know about the Significance of Hair to Black Youth

Salt Lake D, Level 2

PRESENTERS

HON. MARGUERITE DOWNING – Los Angeles Superior Court BRENDA ROBINSON, JD, CWLS – Children's Law Center of California TEMICA WOFFORD, MA – Loving Me

This session is designed for stakeholders in the dependency and juvenile justice systems to learn about and understand the cultural connection, mental health impact, and importance of Black hair, its care, and style expressions to the African American community and its youth.

B7 Technology Demonstration Room

Come visit select Conference Sponsors as they demonstrate their products and services. Plan to linger a while! **NOT ACCREDITED FOR CLE**

3:30PM - 4:00PM COOKIES, COFFEE, AND TEA

Thank you to **RubySnap** for sponsoring this break!

4:00рм - 5:30рм **PLENARY 2**

P2 Navigating the Next Frontier: AI in Child Welfare Legal Practice

PRESENTERS HON. KATHLEEN QUIGLEY – Pima County Superior Court, Juvenile Bench JACQUELINE SCHAFER, JD – Clearbrief.ai ANDREA TOVAR, JD – Baker McKenzie

This presentation delves into the complex landscape of employing Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the child welfare legal system. It explores the promises of AI in enhancing efficiency, accuracy, and resource allocation. However, it also confronts the perils, including biases, privacy concerns, and ethical dilemmas inherent in algorithmic decision-making. Through various perspectives, attendees will gain an overview of the opportunities and challenges posed by integrating AI into child welfare legal practice, paving the way for additional learning and informed and responsible implementation strategies for families.

5:30PM - 6:30PM WELCOME RECEPTION

NACC invites you to come mingle, engage, and connect with fellow conference attendees over appetizers and drinks. It's a time to unwind, celebrate your achievements, and immerse yourself in a community of dedicated advocates for children, parents, and families.

Salt Lake E, Level 2

Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2

Regency AB, Level 4

Sundance Terrace, Level 6





ONSITE CONFERENCE DAY 2: TUESDAY, AUG 13

protect the rights of pregnant and parenting clients.

7:30ам - 5:30рм	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
8:00am - 5:30pm	EXHIBITS	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
8:00ам - 5:30рм	A PEACEFUL PLACE	Blue Spruce, Level 2
	Need a moment to unwind and recharge? Visit A Peaceful Place – a serene space design from the hustle and bustle of the conference. This tranquil environment offers various s rejuvenate. Take advantage of this peaceful retreat to recharge your mind and body, ensyour conference experience.	tations to help you relax and
8:00am - 8:30am	BREAKFAST	Regency Foyer, Level 4
8:30ам - 10:00ам	PLENARY 3	
P3	Emerging Legal Topics in Modern Advocacy	Regency AB, Level
FACILITATOR	KATHRYN BANKS, JD – Children's Permanency Clinic, Saint Louis University School of Law	
PRESENTERS	MELISSA CARTER, JD – Barton Child Law & Policy Center, Emory University VIVEK SANKARAN, JD, CWLS – University of Michigan School of Law HON. SHELDON SPOTTED ELK – Casey Family Programs	
	Join us for an enlightening panel discussion on emerging legal topics in modern advoca tioners. This session, led by esteemed law school professors who served as editors of the Red Book, will explore a range of contemporary issues impacting child welfare, emphase trends in early legal advocacy and permanency. This interactive session is an invaluable practitioners to engage with leading experts in the field and take your practice to the next	he fourth edition of NACC's izing appellate and legislat opportunity for child welfa
0:00am - 10:30am	COFFEE BREAK	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
10:30am - 12:00pm	BREAKOUT SESSION C	
C1	Comprehensive Representation of Pregnant and Parenting Youth	Regency C, Level
PRESENTERS	GRACE ANN CALFEE, JD – Wilbanks CEASE Clinic JOCELYN CRUMPTON, LMSW – Wilbanks CEASE Clinic	
	Representing pregnant and parenting youth in state custody presents a variety of unique	e challenges. Parents who a

or parenting youth, as well as legal and social work interventions that can be used to best represent, support, and





PRESENTERS

Whose Job Is It Anyway? The Court, Lawyer, Specialist, and Youth Working Together to Support Family Reunification

Salt Lake A, Level 2

ERS HON. KAREN BRAXTON, CWLS – 3rd Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan OV'VAR'SHIA GRAY-WOODS, MSW – Park West Foundation / EFyTECH LYNDA MCGHEE, JD, CWLS – Michigan Children's Law Center

In the child welfare system, parents face temporary and termination of parental rights petitions for issues such as homelessness, mental health disorders, domestic violence, poverty, substance use disorders and many others. There are numerous national and grassroots organizations that address these issues and prevent termination of parental rights. Although these agencies exist, many are left with the question of how to find and connect with these organizations. More importantly, there is often the dilemma of whose job it is to find these organizations for the parent(s). In this session, the presenters will provide information on how judges, lawyers, agency specialists, and youth with a lived experience can work together to find resources that will assist in reunification efforts.

C3 Transformative Disruption: An Overview of Early Legal Advocacy Programs & the Potential to Transform the System

Regency D, Level 4

PRESENTER EMILIE COOK, JD - Barton Child Law & Policy Center, Emory University

In this session, we'll explore the transformative potential of early legal advocacy as a potent tool in the fight against family policing, racial disparities, and unnecessary system involvement. Our focus lies in exploring the ongoing efforts of preventive legal advocacy and pre-petition programs across the country that are working to change the system through early, interdisciplinary legal representation of families at risk of system involvement. Through this session, we hope to empower the legal community to challenge existing norms and rethink what it means to ensure justice, support child and family wellbeing, and prevent undue interference in families' lives.

C4 LGBTQ+ Youth Under Attack: National Trends, Law & Policy Strategies, and Resources for Advocacy

Salt Lake B, Level 2

PRESENTERS DANNI LEADER, JD, MSW, MSED – Fulton County Office of the Child Attorney ANISSA PATTON, JD, CWLS – Fulton County Office of the Child Attorney

> Trans youth's healthcare has been heavily curtailed and 41% of LGBTQ+ youth report seriously considering suicide. 1 in 3 foster youth openly identify as LGBTQ+ yet child welfare systems provide few focused services, few LGBTQfriendly homes, and limited healthcare options. This workshop will discuss the effect the new laws have on transitioning youth, what services are still available, and resources for queer youth in foster care and turning 18. It will also discuss practical trial advocacy strategies and provide an overview of national and state law and policy, recommended practices, and publications which may help persuade judges and other stakeholders.

C5 The Latest (and Greatest!) After SCOTUS – Indian Child Law and Policy Developments for Systemic Change

Salt Lake D, Level 2

PRESENTER KIMBERLY CLUFF, JD – California Tribal Families Coalition

The Indian Child Welfare Act is one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation for tribes and tribal people in the last century. ICWA survived a Supreme Court challenge in 2023 and continues as the Gold Standard of U.S. child welfare. This session will focus on ICWA in 2024 – what is being done to realize the full potential of ICWA, what policy and legal advances have and will result, what forward-thinking lessons can be learned by practitioners and policy leaders focused on equity in child welfare. With both a practical look at ICWA post SCOTUS, a view to the future of ICWA as the "miners' canary" of policy and practice, and a robust Q&A, attendees will leave with a solid understanding of the current state and horizon of ICWA and tribal child welfare practice.





Mississippi Youth Voice: Elevating Youth Voice for Policy Change through Authentic Youth Engagement and Strategic Storytelling

Salt Lake C, Level 2

REBECCA CLARK - Mississippi Youth Voice PRESENTERS SAMANTHA KALAHAR, BSW - First Place for Youth MAKYLA WATSON, BS - Mississippi Youth Voice

> Mississippi Youth Voice (MSYV) is a group of young advocates with lived experience in the foster care system. These youth and young adults have been working to effect positive change within the Mississippi foster care system for more than 5 years. In 2023, the members of MSYV issued a formal list of policy and practice recommendations to child welfare leaders, foster care agencies, and lawmakers. The report, Pathways to Independence, uses member experiences to ground the recommendations posed within the report. Presenters will share about the role of MS Youth Voice in the state, the recommendations report, and how strategic storytelling is effecting change. A full version of the report can be found at https://firstplaceforyouth.org/pathways-to-independence-report/.

C7 Technology Demonstration Room

Salt Lake E, Level 2

Regency AB, Level 4

Come visit select Conference Sponsors as they demonstrate their products and services. Plan to linger a while!

NOT ACCREDITED FOR CLE

12:15pm - 1:45pm ANNUAL LUNCHEON AND AWARDS

2:00PM - 3:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION D



D1 Collaboration: Coming to the Table for the Benefit of Children and Families Regency C, Level 4

PRESENTERS HON. SUCHADA BAZZELLE - Fourth District Juvenile Court, State of Utah HON. RICK SMITH, CWLS - Fourth District Juvenile Court, State of Utah

> This session will explore the benefits of collaboration among organizations, agencies, attorneys, and courts when seeking to serve at-risk children and families. We will identify best practices in collaboration as promulgated by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and how those practices have been implemented in Utah's Juvenile Court system. Barriers to collaboration will be addressed, particularly in the arena of an attorney's duty of zealous advocacy. Group discussion will help to generate ideas and suggestions on how to accomplish increased cooperation among your own organizations.

12 Hey, Let's Be Reasonable!! But Wait, What Are "Reasonable" Efforts and What Are "Reasonable" Accommodations?

Salt Lake A, Level 2

PRESENTER AMBER WALDEN, BS, JD - Family Law Office of Training and Education Services, LLC

"Reasonable" comes up in almost all areas of law, however it means something different in each area. "Reasonable" is subjective – what is reasonable to one person in a certain set of circumstances may be completely unreasonable to



Your Complete Legal Tech Stack, Supercharged by Al

Filevine - Legal case management software that makes managing cases easier.



Get a free demo today at filevine com







another person. So how do we assess this ambiguous concept in the context of our child welfare cases, and how do we determine what meets the level of reasonable accommodations for parents and children with disabilities? We will discuss and analyze the reason and purpose of reasonable efforts to prevent removal of children and reunify families. We will also discuss when reasonable accommodations are required to ensure services are accessible and attainable by the parents and children, and provide quidance on how to implement reasonable accommodations.

IK Engaging Youth and Prioritizing Kin in the Permanency Process

Salt Lake B, Level 2

PRESENTERS MELINDA HAGGERTY, JD - Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption ADRIENNE KENNEDY, DSW - Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

Youth voice is essential in permanency planning and kin should always be among the first considered. Participants will learn how to effectively engage youth in permanency conversations and methods to engage kin to find permanency. Presenters will discuss various roles that kin can play in recruitment, even if they were ruled out earlier in the youth's case, including as a potential placement option, as an informational resource to identify other potential kin placements, to provide knowledge and history of a youth's background, or as a support to stay connected with family. The session will cover how to move beyond notification statutes to true engagement in the permanency process, and how the legal community can support or hinder these efforts through no contact orders and bias against kin.

Regency D, Level 4

D4 Life in Limbo

PRESENTER TORI SHULER, BA - Fostering Great Ideas

Life in Limbo allows participants to experience foster care for a moment in time. Participants become the child who enters foster care, the parent whose children are temporarily removed, the caregiver who tries to bring stability, or the community observer viewing the chaos, joys, and struggles. Life in Limbo is highly interactive and emotionally intense. Learning is significant for many who participate.

IF Unveiling Gaps in Service Provision: A Holistic Approach to Advocacy for Vulnerable Multisystem-Involved Youth

Salt Lake C, Level 2

PRESENTERS

SHAPLAIE BROOKS, BA - Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth RAYNA HILL, MPP, MA - Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth

Attendees will delve into the intricate challenges facing marginalized youth in the child welfare system, and examine common pitfalls perpetuated by child welfare professionals working in often-siloed service spaces. Bridging off the federal mandates of child welfare agencies to provide safety, permanency, and wellbeing for young people, we will explore the complex system of child-serving agencies and the experiences of LGBTQ youth who are multisystem-involved. Lastly, the workshop will provide participants with the tools needed to develop a system for service provision to advocate for the most vulnerable youth in their state.

Inclusivity Matters: Navigating Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity

Salt Lake D, Level 2

PRESENTER PARKER, MSW - NACC's National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation

Join us for an engaging workshop that overviews the core aspects of creating inclusive spaces and fostering positive relationships within gender-diverse communities. This session is designed to empower individuals, professionals, and organizations in understanding and embracing the diversity of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE).

D7 Technology Demonstration Room

Salt Lake E, Level 2

Come visit select Conference Sponsors as they demonstrate their products and services. Plan to linger a while!

NOT ACCREDITED FOR CLE

3:30pm - 4:00pm **COFFEE BREAK**

Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2





4:00PM - 5:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION E

Mobilizing Motivation, Reducing Resistance: Motivational Interviewing for Legal Professionals

Regency C, Level 4

PRESENTERS BRAD LUNDAHL, PHD – University of Utah, eSym Training STACY PITTMAN, JD, CWLS – Pittman Law

Individuals involved in child welfare are expected to engage in efforts to strengthen family functioning and reduce child abuse/neglect. Success requires many ingredients including time, access, finances, support, classes, health, mental health, etc. If, however, an individual is not motivated then they are unlikely to follow through or maintain change. Motivational Interviewing (MI; Miller & Rollnick, 2023) is an evidence-based approach increasingly used in child welfare to promote motivation and reduce resistance. MI is endorsed by the Family First Prevention Services Act. This session will provide a basic understanding of MI along with practical skills to help improve communications with clients, build trust, lower resistance, and establish legal objectives based on client goals.

2 Using Direct Appeals to Prevent the Needless Separation of Families Salt Lake A, Level 2

PRESENTERS

E1

HON. MAURICE PORTLEY, RET. – Casey Family Programs VIVEK SANKARAN, JD, CWLS – University of Michigan Law School

This session will examine why direct appeals are underutilized as a tool to challenge needless removals. The session will highlight divergent appellate practices on whether parents or children can challenge removal decisions in direct appeals, whether they have a right to counsel in those appeals, and whether those appeals are expedited in any way. Participants will also discuss additional barriers to challenge unjust removals, including making an adequate record on issues such as reasonable efforts. Finally, participants will learn of key opinions involving removals to see the impact that appellate review can have on systems. Through this conversation, participants will begin to construct a model appellate system that can allow advocates to challenge unnecessary removals.

The Ethics of Communicating with Minor Clients in Dependency Cases: From Non-Verbal Infants to Adult Non-Minor Dependents and Everything in Between

Salt Lake B, Level 2

PRESENTERS LAURIE BURNS, JD, CWLS – Juvenile Defense Panel PAULINE OBATA-HIROSE, JD – Juvenile Defense Panel

This session will review, highlight, and compare the rules and standards of practice governing communicating with minor and non-minor dependent clients regardless of age. The Model Rules of Professional Conduct (1.2, 1.4, 1.6, and 2.1), the NACC Recommendations for Legal Representation of Children and Youth in Neglect and Abuse Proceedings, and the ABA Standards of Practice for Lawyers who Represent Children in Abuse and Neglect Cases will form the backbone of this presentation. This session will seek to offer practical suggestions for maintaining regular communication with clients, as well as suggestions for maintaining culturally sensitive and age-appropriate communication strategies.

E4 Your Case, Your Rights: Educating and Empowering Youth to Believe in, Know, Advocate for, and Exercise Their Rights

Regency D, Level 4

PRESENTERS GINA CABIDDU, MSW – NACC'S National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation DANIELLE WHITTAKER, JD – NACC'S National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation

This session will equip every attendee with the guidance and resources to be an expert in exercising their (clients') rights. Each of the speakers will give a brief talk introducing an innovative approach to exercising rights that can be applied in legal practice. There will also be a panel discussion informed by a mixture of stories from lived experience, reflections on applying NACC's Your Case, Your Rights framework, and guidance for embedding it into zealous client advocacy. Attendees will also experience a demo and presentation of the new NACC interactive map and Your Case, Your Rights resources. Lastly, this session will feature an interactive activity, where the session presenters will help each attendee build out a personalized action plan for using the resources in their practice.





Building Futures and Empowering Families: An Innovative Collaboration of Law Enforcement and the Child Welfare System Working Together to Save Lives

Salt Lake C, Level 2

PRESENTERS

JACOB B. SLESS, JD - New Jersey Office of the Public Defender, Office of Parental Representation MICHAELA SLESS, BS, NREMT - Hope Exists Foundation

This is a presentation of lived experiences about individuals who received necessary and successful treatment for substance use and mental health emergencies through timely response. The primary case presented involves a young mother who was drug-addicted and homeless at the birth of her child. Although the regional social service agency was assigned the case, they had no ability to respond immediately to the risks she faced. She was in immediate need of a referral to an acute substance use facility, but there was no timely response service available. The Hope Exists Foundation provided an immediate response and placement. The express need for funding, statewide timely response programs, and recovery support will be discussed in this session.

E6 Ensuring Equity for Parents with Disabilities in the Child Welfare System Salt Lake D, Level 2

PRESENTER ROBYN POWELL, PHD, JD - National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities

Parents with disabilities face alarming disparities in the child welfare system -20% of foster kids have a disabled parent, with 50-80% higher termination rates for those with psychiatric disabilities versus nondisabled parents. These unequal outcomes result from discriminatory biases and lack of accommodations, violating disability rights laws. This presentation reviews how disabled parents navigate unsupportive systems and provides advocacy guidance for allies including covering accommodations for participation in meetings, services, and courts; confronting biases about disabled parenting capabilities; and analyzing disability rights enforcement activities and pertinent legislation. Attendees will gain skills to advocate alongside disabled parents facing threats to their rights.

Technology Demonstration Room

Salt Lake E, Level 2

Come visit select Conference Sponsors as they demonstrate their products and services. Plan to linger a while!

NOT ACCREDITED FOR CLE

7:00рм - 10:00рм **90S DANCE PARTY** REGISTRATION OPEN!

The Exchange 🖸 32 Exchange Place, Salt Lake City

Another year, another decade! Step into a time machine and journey back to the iconic 90s at our themed dance party! Get ready to move to the best beats of the 90s, while dressed in your raddest 90s attire. From flannel shirts and ripped jeans to scrunchies and bucket hats, channel your inner 90s fashionista or grunge rocker for our costume contest. Join us for a night filled with nostalgia, epic tunes, and prizes that'll make you feel like it's 1999 all over again!

SEPARATE REGISTRATION AND FEE REQUIRED

S CONFERENCE DAY 3 : WEDNESDAY, AUG 14

7:30ам - 12:00рм	REGISTRATION DESK OPEN	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
8:00ам - 12:00рм	EXHIBITS	Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2
8:00ам - 12:00рм	A PEACEFUL PLACE	Blue Spruce, Level 2

Need a moment to unwind and recharge? Visit A Peaceful Place – a serene space designed to provide you with a break from the hustle and bustle of the conference. This tranquil environment offers various stations to help you relax and rejuvenate. Take advantage of this peaceful retreat to recharge your mind and body, ensuring you get the most out of your conference experience.



The 47th National Child Welfare Law Conference

ONSITE Aug 12-14, 2024 ONLINE Sep 11-13, 2024



8:00am - 8:30am **BREAKFAST**

8:30AM - 10:00AM PLENARY 4



Regency Foyer, Level 4 Regency AB, Level 4

Rules of Disengagement: Independent Representation for Youth, Parents, & Caregivers in Ancillary Legal Proceedings

AYESHA LEWIS, JD - Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund PRESENTERS NESTA JOHNSON, JD - National Center for Lesbian Rights SHOMARI WARD, JD - Youth Represent

> In May, the Children's Bureau finalized a new rule effective July 9, 2024, entitled "Foster Care Legal Representation." The rule will allow title IV-E agencies to claim federal financial participation (FFP) for the cost of providing representation in ancillary civil legal matters. Providing counsel reduces unnecessary intervention and removal, promotes kin placement, reduces academic disruptions, and speeds reunification and system exit. Providing legal counsel in cases involving issues such as housing and public benefits can prevent family separation in "neglect" cases and helps to stabilize and support youth, parents, and families experiencing system intervention. Lived experience experts endorse the value of legal representation, which has been recognized by the Children's Bureau as a "powerful tool for parent and youth voice." Join us for a discussion on implementation of this important new rule.

10:00AM - 10:30AM COFFEE BREAK

10:30AM - 12:00PM CLOSING PLENARY 5

P5 Decriminalize Our Foster Care Experience

PRESENTERS APRIL CURTIS, MSW - Foster Care Alumni of America ARIQUE DROSS, III, JD, LLM – NACC'S National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation and the Dross Law Firm, PLLC ALIYAH ZEIEN, MSW - National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council

Children in foster care face a stark reality: they are significantly more likely to interact with law enforcement and enter the juvenile justice system compared to their peers. This alarming trend, known as the "foster-care-to-prison pipeline," has devastating consequences, perpetuating cycles of disadvantage and trauma. The National Foster Care Youth & Alumni Policy Council, in its 20th priority statement, calls for the decriminalization of being in foster care. NACC's new Crossover Prevention Tip Sheet, prepared with its National Advisory Council on Children's Legal Representation (NACCLR) encourages children's lawyers to be more proactive in child welfare cases. We must recognize foster youth as vulnerable children experiencing challenging circumstances and take action to prevent arrest.

12:00рм - 12:05рм **CLOSING AND RAFFLE**

Regency AB, Level 4

Join us as we draw the raffle winner of a complimentary registration to next year's Child Welfare Law Conference in Cleveland, Ohio!





HopSkipDrive is proud to be partnering with The National Association of Counsel for Children in support of its mission to advance justice for children, youth, and families.

HopSkipDrive solves complex transportation challenges where there is a heightened need for safety, equity, and care.

Learn more: www.hopskipdrive.com

Salt Lake Foyer, Level 2

Regency AB, Level 4







ONI INF PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR **HOME OR OFFICE**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

N - CONFERENCE DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, SEP 11

9:00am - 10:45am WELCOME AND ONLINE PLENARY 1



OP1 There's No Place Like Home: Understanding Harm of Removal in Child Welfare

PRESENTERS JACOB D'ANNUNZIO, JD - Washington State Office of Public Defense - Parent Representation Program LAURA VOGEL, MPA - Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts' Family & Youth Justice Programs

> The idea of removing kids first and sorting it out later to "avoid" abuse is one of the greatest oxymorons in the history of governmental spin. The child welfare system has historically undervalued the enormous impacts of removal to children and has largely failed to recognize that even temporary separation can result in irreparable damage. In 2023, Washington became one of the first states in the nation to statutorily require courts to consider the likely harms a child will experience if removed from their home. This training will introduce participants to the concept of "harm of removal" in child welfare and how Washington used a multidisciplinary approach to create practical tools and training that support cross-system identification and mitigation of harms of removal to children.

11:15AM - 12:45PM **ONLINE BREAKOUTA**

OA1 Medical Cases: A Multidisciplinary Approach

PRESENTERS DARICE GOOD, JD, CWLS - Good Legal Firm S. COLLEEN PUCKETT - Good Legal Firm and Families' Anchor, LLC

> Cases involving pediatricians, abuse pediatricians, and other experts regarding nonaccidental trauma and medical abuse or neglect allegations may require unique attention and support for families involved. Attendees will learn tools & resources they can put into practice that day as well as trial skills and legal strategies from a Child Welfare Law Specialist and a parent with lived experience in a child welfare medical case. Through these tools, attendees in the role of attorney, case manager, service provider, or other stakeholder will learn how to apply a multidisciplinary approach to their own medical cases that will support the family and support a successful and safe reunification. We will utilize handouts, polls, and open discussion to share these tools and how to implement them.

0A2 Understanding Judges' Reasonable Efforts Decisions: Findings from the Reasonable Efforts Findings Study (REFS)

PRESENTERS

EVA KLAIN, JD - ABA Center on Children and the Law ALICIA SUMMERS, PHD - Data Savvy Consulting

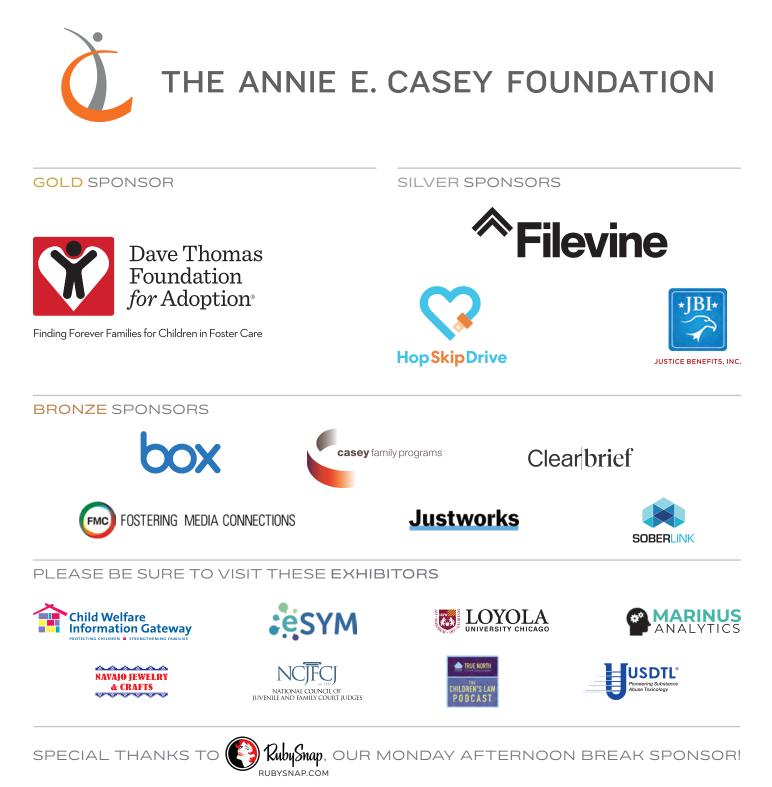
This session highlights the findings of the Reasonable Efforts Findings Study (REFS), a multisite, multimethod study that explored judges' reasonable efforts findings. REFS sought to understand factors associated with judges' reasonable efforts decisions and how reasonable efforts decisions relate to case outcomes. The study included a structured review of closed child welfare cases and observation of initial hearings. We conducted regression analyses to examine what factors were related to judges' reasonable efforts decisions (e.g., case characteristics, hearing quality, information provided to court). We also examined how reasonable efforts decisions relate to likelihood of reunification and time to permanency. Study findings and significance for legal professionals will be discussed.





NACC EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2024 CONFERENCE SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS!

SAPPHIRE SPONSOR







1:15PM - 2:45PM ONLINE BREAKOUT B

OB1

When Kids are at Court: Elevating Attorneys' Trauma-Responsive Strategies for Communication and Engagement

PRESENTERS SYDNEY GROLL, JD – Support Center for Child Advocates DUANE PRICE, AA – Defender Association of Philadelphia

To support youth at court, attorneys have an ethical responsibility to implement trauma-responsive strategies to improve their representation of child clients and interactions with child witnesses. Staff from the Support Center for Child Advocates will provide takeaways and lessons learned from a year's work of intensive interviews and research across the state of Pennsylvania to develop a curriculum on utilizing the science of trauma and child development to help attorneys improve communication with children. Sydney, Marcía, and Duane – representing multidisciplinary collaboration as an attorney, social worker, and youth advocate – will co-present strategies for trauma-informed communication, culturally sensitive engagement, and self-reflection to elevate communication and rapport-building with youth and improve experiences at court.

OB2 Recovery is in the Community: Utilizing Peer and Recovery Support Programs to Engage Parents with Substance Use Disorders

PRESENTERS

ERS DEENA DAVIS, CARES, CPS-AD – Family Treatment Court, Douglas County, GA EMILY SVOBODA, MS – National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

More than 21 million US children lived with a parent who misused substances each year from 2015–2019. Research shows prompt entry into SUD treatment significantly increases the length of time parents spend in treatment while increasing the likelihood of parents' treatment completion and reunification with their children. Peer support specialist programs have shown positive outcomes: 1) increased treatment completion and recovery rates for parents, 2) reduced time children spend in out-of-home care, and 3) improved family reunification rates. This session introduces NCSACW's Peer and Recovery Support Programs for Families Affected by Substance Use and Substance Use Disorders and Involved with Child Welfare Services: A Five-Module Implementation Toolkit.

3:15рм - 4:45рм **ONLINE PLENARY 2**

OP2 The Balancing Act: What Attorneys Should Know about AI Integration in Child Welfare

PRESENTERS DANIEL GIBBS, MSW, JD, PHD – University of Georgia MATTHEW TRAIL, JD – Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

This session is designed to equip child welfare attorneys with the knowledge and insights needed to navigate the evolving landscape of AI in dependency cases. Discover how social services agencies are leveraging AI technologies to enhance decision-making processes, streamline case management, and improve outcomes for children and families. Gain valuable perspectives on the ethical considerations, best practices, and challenges associated with the integration of AI in child welfare. Receive insight on how to effectively advocate for your clients in this rapidly changing environment.

TITLE IV-E FUNDING Child Welfare Law Should Be Focused On Families And Outcomes...Not Budget Issues. JUSTICE BENEFITS, INC It's Hard To Make A Difference With: A Partnership With JBI On Title IV-E Funding Provides: Declining Budgets & Increasing Costs Program Development & Expansion Overwhelming Caseloads Maximized Reimbursements JBI+ • No Time To Onboard New Funding Sources Cost Analysis & Claim Preparation No Support Staff Technology & Time Tracking Solutions Less Client Visits Additional Resources To Expand Services Kim Bork V-E Legal Expansion Lead Rising Training Costs Compliance & Audit Support oork@jbi-Itd.con High Quality Legal Representation Is Your Business. Federal Funding Is Ours.

National Association of Counsel for Children #PROMOTING EXCELLENCE #BUILDING COMMUNITY #ADVANCING JUSTICE 26





NINE CONFERENCE DAY 2 : THURSDAY, SEP 12

ALL TIMES MOUNTAIN TIME

9:00AM - 10:30AM ONLINE BREAKOUT C



How Advocacy in Municipal Courts Results in Long-Term Impacts for System-Involved Youth

PRESENTERS

LUCY JOHNSTON-WALSH, MSW, JD – Penn State Dickinson Law Children's Advocacy Clinic JAMESHA CALDWELL, BA, 3L – Penn State Dickinson Law Children's Advocacy Clinic

Increased police presence in schools has led to increased arrests of school students. Often the arrests are for charges related to behavioral incidents such as a cafeteria fight, truancy, or wearing sagging pants. Youth of color are most likely to be impacted by these actions, and foster youth are also more likely to be subject to school discipline. If charges are filed against the youth, they are often referred to municipal courts where they must appear without representation. Legal representation is not provided and often youth face punishment of fines and fees which they cannot pay. The impact of these proceedings has long-term consequences in the youth's ability to obtain housing, employment, and even higher education. Providing legal representation at this stage is crucial.

OC2 Advancing Meaningful Participation in Litigation with Lived Experienced Kids (Global Perspectives)

PRESENTERS

HON. LIBERTY ALDRICH – The Children's Law Center SHAUNEEN LAMBE, BARRISTER/ATTORNEY – Impact - Law for Social Justice IJEOMA MOORE, BS – We Belong Activist

The Child Law Network is based in the UK with a Global Board of Advisors. This breakout session delivered by Shauneen Lambe, Ijeoma Moore, and Liberty Aldrich trains practitioners who want to improve, undertake, and practice Participatory Litigation with lived experienced young people. Shauneen Lambe created the child participation toolkits in the global project, Advancing Child Rights Strategic Litigation (ACRISL). She has worked with Ijeoma Moore since 2015 when she was 16 and had contact with the legal system and then became involved in Impact Litigation that went to the UK Supreme Court. Liberty Aldrich is the Executive Director of the Children's Law Center New York, a former judge who has worked with children in both roles, she was a trustee of The Centre for Justice Innovation.

11:00am - 12:30pm ONLINE BREAKOUT D

OD1 Supporting and Advocating for LGBTQI+ Youth: In and Out of the Courtroom

PRESENTERS TAMAR ALEXANIAN, JD – American University, Washington College of Law VIDA KHAVAR, MA, LMFT – Family Builders By Adoption DANIELLE (DANNY) KING, JD – National Center for Lesbian Rights

LGBTQI+ youth are overrepresented in the child welfare system. They experience higher rates of suicidality, higher numbers of placements, report more negative experiences, and experience higher rates of homelessness. In particular, LGBTQI+ youth of color see the most negative outcomes. Considering the disparate outcomes these youth experience, it is of utmost importance that we educate ourselves to better support LGBTQI+ youth. Systems of care have at times not involved parents or caregivers who struggle to accept their LGBTQI+ children – but with support, families can thrive. This session will discuss youth disparities and legal advocacy tools when representing LGBTQI+ youth, as well as employing the Youth Acceptance Project model as an intervention to prevent removal and/or reunify families.





What Would You Do?: Replacing Traditional System Responses with Primary Prevention Solutions in Child Trafficking and Exploitation Cases

SARAH BENDTSEN DIEDHIOU, JD - Shared Hope International PRESENTERS TERESA FORLITI, BA - Lived Experience Expert Advisor CHRISTINE RAINO, JD - Shared Hope International

> Children and families impacted by trafficking are often shepherded through child welfare or dependency court with little regard for or understanding of the resulting harms and poor outcomes. In fact, CPS processes arguably mirror those of the criminal justice system; the effect on families subjected to such responses, either as a result of their child's victimization or their own engagement in commercial sex, is not only traumatizing, but ineffective. However, incorporating primary prevention principles into system responses can uncover opportunities to support, rather than punish, families and equip parents/caregivers with resources, supports, and tools to ensure unity, safety, and longterm wellbeing for the family, and generate a significant cost-savings to states and systems.

1:00pm - 2:30pm ONLINE PLENARY 3



Preventing Burnout in Specialty Courts

PRESENTERS ALEXIS KENNEDY, JD, PHD - University of Nevada, Las Vegas TERESA MARIE, JD - University of Nevada, Las Vegas

> In the emotionally charged atmosphere of specialty courts, where individuals are often grappling with intense trauma, addiction, or mental health issues, the risk of burnout among staff members is heightened. A former specialty court clerk with lived experience as a child abuse victim will outline self-identifying personal triggers. Learning to recognize physical, behavioral, and psychological signs of stress allows for early interventions. This panel will introduce science-based approaches to stress reduction. Implementing evidence-based strategies for coping and resiliency-building will help both individuals and the workplace. Understanding sources of burnout can help create a supportive organizational culture that prioritizes wellbeing and resilience.

3:00PM - 4:30PM **ONLINE BREAKOUT E**



Ensuring that Immigrant Children Receive Holistic Representation in the Child Welfare System

PRESENTERS ANDREA (LUPE) CAMACHO, MSW - Kids in Need of Defense MIKAELA HARRIS, JD/LLM - Kids in Need of Defense

> Children and families in the child welfare system often lack stability. That can include a lack of permanent immigration status, inhibiting access to supports and systems. However, many children – and sometimes their families – in the child welfare system qualify for humanitarian-based immigration relief to regularize their status. This session will address those options, including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, U & T Nonimmigrant Status, and the Violence Against Women Act. Further, we will provide updates regarding SIJS Deferred Action and retrogression. We will also discuss some resources for which undocumented children might be eligible, like recognition from the Office of Trafficking in Persons, which social workers and case managers can assist children in accessing.

NF2 Rethinking Child Welfare: The Safe Babies Court Team Approach

PRESENTERS

DARNESHIA ALLEN - Safe Babies, A ZERO to THREE Program JAMI HAGEMEIER, JD, MPA - Youth Law Center EVA MORALES, JD - Polk County Attorney's Office

The litany of research on early brain development that has surged in recent years has highlighted the need for innovative approaches and reform where the legal system and social work professions intersect: child welfare. The Safe Babies Court Team (SBCT) approach is taking on this challenge. SBCT is a collaborative, trauma-informed approach to resolving child welfare cases involving infants and toddlers. This approach applies the science of early childhood development to meet the needs of young children and families with juvenile court involvement. This session will highlight the special needs of infants and toddlers under court jurisdiction, examine the pillars of the SBCT approach, discuss impacts and outcomes, as well as provide takeaways for implementation.





ONLINE CONFERENCE DAY 3 : FRIDAY, SEP 13

ALL TIMES MOUNTAIN TIME

9:00am - 10:30am ONLINE PLENARY 4

OP4 LGBTQ+ Youth Under Attack: National Trends, Law & Policy Strategies, and Resources for Advocacy

PRESENTERS

DANNI LEADER, JD, MSW, MSED – Fulton County Office of the Child Attorney ANISSA PATTON, JD, CWLS – Fulton County Office of the Child Attorney

Trans youth's healthcare has been heavily curtailed and 41% of LGBTQ+ youth report seriously considering suicide. 1 in 3 foster youth openly identify as LGBTQ+ yet child welfare systems provide few focused services, few LGBTQfriendly homes, and limited healthcare options. This workshop will discuss the effect the new laws have on transitioning youth, what services are still available, and resources for queer youth in foster care and turning 18. It will also discuss practical trial advocacy strategies and provide an overview of national and state law and policy, recommended practices, and publications which may help persuade judges and other stakeholders.

11:00AM - 12:30PM ONLINE BREAKOUT F



Does the Data Support the Diagnosis & Treatment? Preventing Misdiagnosis/ Inappropriate Psychotropic Medication and Using EMDR as a Healing Approach

PRESENTERS BARBARA ELIAS-PERCIFUL, JD – Texas Lawyers for Children ANA M. GÓMEZ, MC, LPC – AGATE Institute RACHAEL KEEFE, MD, MPH – Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital

New medical research that is garnering national attention shows that children in foster care face a risk of being misdiagnosed with a mental disorder and given inappropriate psychotropic medication rather than having their trauma addressed. Understanding the magnitude of these harms will compel judges and attorneys to chart a new path in protecting children. This session will provide practical ways to change practice. This multidisciplinary presentation includes the doctor leading the research and other nationally-recognized speakers: an award-winning child therapist who specializes in the most effective ways to heal child trauma, including EMDR Therapy, and an attorney who has been at the forefront of addressing this issue and who received the 2018 NACC Outstanding Legal Advocate Award.







OF2 Meeting Families' Basic Needs: Professionals' Role in Improving Social Determinants of Health

PRESENTERS ASHAY SHAH, MSW – Center for Children and Family Futures ANDREA SIVANICH, JD, PHD – Center for Children and Family Futures

Recovery is more than treatment completion. Families living in poverty, especially those of color, are more likely to be investigated and have children placed in out-of-home care. Explicit and implicit biases affect how families are treated at every child welfare decision point. Research is clear that in addition to high quality SUD treatment, families require a comprehensive array of community services to sustain recovery. Social determinants of health (SDOH) provide a framework for professionals to select strategies that create the conditions where families can thrive.

1:00pm - 2:30pm **ONLINE PLENARY 5**

OP5 Thinking Big: Remaking Society to Prioritize Children

PRESENTER ADAM BENFORADO, JD - Drexel University Kline School of Law

Advances in psychology, neuroscience, sociology, and public health have provided us with an ability unparalleled in human history to understand and protect children. But we have not seized the moment. This is a moral problem, but it's also an economic and social one: by failing our children today, we doom ourselves in the years ahead. The root cause of nearly every major challenge we face – from crime to poor health to poverty – can be found in our mistreatment of children. But in that sobering truth is also the key to changing our fate as a nation. We must reform our world – our institutions, our laws, our business practices, our parenting – to put children first.

3:00PM - 4:00PM CLOSING AND AWARDS





CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

The very latest information on CLEs can be found on <u>NACCchildlaw.org</u>, including our upcoming Conference CLE FAQs and Details Guide, which has important instructions on the CLE sign-in process, reporting responsibilities, session evaluations, and accreditation status updates.

Accreditation Status

NACC has or will be applying for CLE accreditation in 8 states for onsite participation in Salt Lake City and live, realtime participation during the online conference. Accreditation status for these states will be updated below as more details become available. The online sessions will be recorded and available for later viewing, but NACC will not be seeking accreditation for on-demand viewings (recordings) in any jurisdiction and NACC will not track or report on-demand participation for any attendee.

For Jurisdictions Not Listed Below

It is the responsibility of attendees to independently apply for CLE credit in any jurisdiction where NACC, as the sponsor, did not seek CLE accreditation. We encourage you to review the individual CLE application requirements in your jurisdiction as soon as possible (especially with regard to the online portion of the conference). Please take a moment to determine if there are specific application timelines that must be adhered to in your jurisdiction such as pre-approval of online programs before the event or short submission periods after the event. If you have any questions regarding CLE, please email <u>CLE@NACCchildlaw.org</u>.

	ONSITE Pre-Conference Red Book Training	ONSITE Conference Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn	ONLINE Conference
CALIFORNIA	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This course is accredited by the State Bar of California for a maximum of 6 hours of credit, including a maximum of: 0 hours of Bias credit 0 hours of Ethics credit 0 hours of Tech credit 	Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This course is accredited by the State Bar of California for a maximum of 20.75 hours of credit, including a maximum of: • 1.5 hours of Bias credit (Session E6) • 1.5 hours of Ethics credit (Session E3) • 1.5 units of Tech credit (Session P2)	 This course is accredited by the State Bar of California for a maximum of 16.5 hours of credit, including a maximum of: 3 hours of Bias credit (Sessions OD1 and OP4) 0 hours of Ethics credit 1.5 hours of Wellness credit (Session OP3)
COLORADO	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This course is accredited by the Colorado Board of Continuing Legal and Judicial Education for a maximum of 7 units of credit, including a maximum of: O units of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity credit O units of Legal Ethics credit 	Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This course is accredited by the Colorado Board of Continuing Legal and Judicial Education for a maximum of 24.9 units of credit, including a maximum of: • 5.4 units of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity credit (Sessions B1/B6, C4/C5, and D2/D5/D6) • 1.8 units of Legal Ethics credit (Session E3)	 This course is accredited by the Colorado Board of Continuing Legal and Judicial Education for a maximum of 19.8 units of credit, including a maximum of: 3.6 units of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity credit (Sessions OD1 and OP4) 0 units of Legal Ethics credit
LOUISIANA	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This course is approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association for a maximum of 6 hours of credit, including a maximum of: 0 hours of Ethics credit 0 hours of Professionalism credit 0 hours of Law Office Management credit 	 Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This course is approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association for a maximum of 20.75 hours of credit, including a maximum of: 1.5 hours of Ethics credit (Session E3) 6 hours of Professionalism credit (Sessions B1, C4, D6, and E6) 0 hours of Law Office Management credit 	 This course is approved by the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association for a maximum of 16.5 hours of credit, including a maximum of: O hours of Ethics credit 4.5 hours of Professionalism credit (Sessions OD1, OP3, and OP4) O hours of Law Office Management credit Note: The online maximum credit limitation is 4 hours annually. Participation in excess of that will

be reported but not applied to your transcript.



The 47th National Child Welfare Law Conference

onsite Aug 12-14, 2024 | online Sep 11-13, 2024



	ONSITE Pre-Conference	ONSITE Conference Including Pre-Conference CLOP	ONLINE Conference
	Red Book Training	Convening and Lunch & Learn	
SSISSIPPI	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	This course or a portion thereof is approved by the Mississippi Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 6 hours of credit , including a maximum of: • O hours of Ethics/Professionalism credit	Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This course or a portion thereof is approved by the Mississippi Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 18 hours of credit, including a maximum of: • 1.5 hours of Ethics/Professionalism credit (Session E3)	This course or a portion thereof is approved by the Mississippi Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 16.5 hours of credit , including a maximum of: • O hours of Ethics/Professionalism credit
10	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This program is approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 6 hours of CLE credit, including a maximum of: O hours of Professional Conduct credit 	 Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This program is approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 20.75 hours of CLE credit, including a maximum of: 1.5 hours of Professional Conduct credit (Session E3 or E6) 	This program is approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 16.5 hours of CLE credit, including a maximum of: 4.5 hours of Professional Conduct credit (Sessions OD1, OP3, and OP4)
NNSYLVANI	A ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	This program is approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 6 hours of CLE credit including a maximum of: • O hours of Ethics credit	(including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn) This program is approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 20.5 hours of CLE credit including a maximum of: • 1.5 hours of Ethics credit (Session E3)	This program is approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 16.5 hours of CLE credit including a maximum of: • O hours of Ethics credit
XAS	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This course is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the maximum amount of 6 credit hours, of which a maximum of: O credit hours may apply to Legal Ethics/ Professional Responsibility credit 	 Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This course is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the maximum amount of 20.75 credit hours, of which a maximum of: 1.5 credit hours may apply to Legal Ethics/Professional Responsibility credit (Session E3 or E6) 	 This course is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the maximum amount of 16.5 credit hours, of which a maximum of: 4.5 credit hours may apply to Legal Ethics/Professional Responsibility credit (Sessions OD1, OP3, and OP4)
AH	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED	ACCREDITED
	 This activity is approved by the Utah Supreme Court Board of Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 6 hours of credit including a maximum of: 0 hours of Ethics credit 0 hours of Professionalism credit 	Including Pre-Conference CLOP Convening and Lunch & Learn This activity is approved by the Utah Supreme Court Board of Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 20.5 hours of credit including a maximum of: • 1.5 hours of Ethics credit (Session E3) • 1.5 hours of Professionalism credit (Session E6)	 This activity is approved by the Utah Supreme Court Board of Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 16.5 hours of credit including a maximum of: O hours of Ethics credit 4.5 hours of Professionalism credit (Sessions OD1, OP3, and OP4)







DUAL CONFERENCE (ONSITE AND ONLINE) REGISTER NOW!

CWLS	\$450.00
NACC Member	\$ 575.00
Nonmember	\$775.00
ONSITE ADD-ON EVENTS	
PRECONFERENCE RED BOOK TRAINING REGISTER NOW 🗹	
NACC Member	\$225.00
Nonmember	\$300.00
PRECONFERENCE CHILDREN'S LAW OFFICE PROJEC'T CONVENING	
NACC Member	\$225.00
Nonmember	\$300.00
PRECONFERENCE CAREER FAIR REGISTER NOW 🗹	
Employers	\$75.00
All Conference Attendees	Free
PRECONFERENCE HIKE EXPLORING COMPASSION AND CONNECTION THROUGH NATURE	\$ FREE
LUNCH & LEARN SOLD OUT	\$ 75.00
90S DANCE PARTY REGISTER NOW 🗹	\$ 25.00

ONLINE ONLY CONFERENCE REGISTER NOW!

CWLS	\$275.00
NACC Member	\$ 400.00
Nonmember	\$ 600.00



NACC STAFF

Chief Executive Officer

Membership Coordinator

Shannon Felder, JD, CWLS

Allison Green, JD, CWLS

Communications Manager

Breanna Smith, MSW

Director of Certification,

Sales, and Technology

Senior Staff Attorney

Policy Counsel

Sara Willis, MA

Kim.Dvorchak@NACCchildlaw.org

National Law School Student Organizer

Policy and Communications Associate

Administrative and Program Assistant

Josephine Vanderhorst, MFP, JD, CWLS

Natalece Washington, JD, CWLS

Business and Conference Manager

Certification Administrator & Technical Writer

Kim Dvorchak, JD

Ginger Burton

Fmily Dufour

Training Director

Legal Director

Evan Molinari

Caroline Thuer

Daniel Trujillo

Kennedy McGhee



NACC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

LaShanda Taylor Adams, JD Legal Director Children's Law Center of Washington, DC WASHINGTON, DC

VICE PRESIDENT

Dawne Mitchell, JD Attorney in Charge, Juvenile Rights Practice | The Legal Aid Society NEW YORK, NY

TREASURER Akin Abioye, Ed.D Principal | Consulting for the Culture BALTIMORE, MD

MEMBERS

Mickey Aberman, JD, MBA James, McElroy, & Diehl, P.A. CHARLOTTE, NC

Kathryn Banks, JD Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Saint Louis University School of Law SAINT LOUIS, MO

Janet Bledsoe, JD, LLM, CWLS Director, Attorney ad Litem Program Administrative Office of the Courts FORT SMITH AR

Hon. Karen Braxton, CWLS Judge, Family Division – Juvenile Section 3rd Circuit Court of Michigan DETROIT MI

LilCrystal Dernier, MS, MNM Community Engagement and Children's Needs Coordinator | Voices for Children MIAMI FLORIDA

Sheri Freemont, JD Managing Director Casev Family Programs Judicial and National Engagement DENVER, CO

NACC EMERITUS BOARD

Candace Barr, JD, CWLS Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada HENDERSON, NV

Donald C. Bross, JD, Ph.D. Professor of Pediatrics (Family Law), Associate Director for Pediatric Law, Policy and Ethics Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect Aurora, co

John B. Ciccolella, JD Ciccolella Family Law, P.C. COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

Robert Fellmeth, JD Executive Director / Professor University of San Diego Law School. Children's Advocacy Institute | SAN DIEGO, CA

SECRETARY

Currey Cook, JD Director of the Youth in Out-of-Home Care Project Lambda Legal NEW YORK, NY

PAST PRESIDENT Leslie Starr Heimov, JD, CWLS Executive Director Children's Law Center of California MONTEREY PARK, CA

Amy Harfeld ID National Policy Director & Senior Staff Attorney Children's Advocacy Institute, USD School of Law WASHINGTON, DC

Priya Konings, JD Senior Director, Field Operations Kids in Needs of Defense, Inc. (KIND) WASHINGTON, DC/MARYLAND

Yali Lincroft, MBA Vice President, Philanthropic Services Whittier Trust SEATTLE, WA

David Smith. JD Partner O'Melveny & Myers, LLP LOS ANGELES, CA

Dan Wilde, JD Attorney Steamboat Law, LLC CHEVENNE WY

NACC NATIONAL ADVISORY **COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S** LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Alistair, MSW MISSOURI Gina Cabiddu. MSW | WASHINGTON Arique Dross III, JD | NEW YORK Parker, MSW | CALIFORNIA Kristen Powell, BS | OREGON Danielle Whittaker, JD | GEORGIA

NACC STATE COORDINATORS

AL : Fernando Morgan, JD, CWLS AZ : Jillian Aja, JD CA : Dean Conklin, JD, CWLS CO : Ashley Chase, JD, CWLS DC : Keely Magyar, JD, CWLS **DE** : Stephanie Reid, JD, CWLS FL : Tim Stevens, JD GA : len Carreras, ID, CWLS H : Valerie Grab, JD A : Ellen Ramsey-Kacena, JD, CWLS IN : Jessalyn Hopkin, JD, CWLS IN : Nicole Goodson, JD KS : Kerrie Lonard, JD LA : Rebecca May-Ricks, JD, CWLS MD : Richard Perry, JD ME : Chelsea Peters, JD M : Esther Flowers, JD MN : Debra Kovats, ID MO : Claire Terrebonne, JD, CWLS MS : Jennifer Morgan, JD, CWLS MT : Sarah Chase Rosario, JD, CWLS NH : Lisa Wolford, JD NJ : Neha Gogate, JD NM : Beth Gillia, JD NV : Angela Cook, JD NY : Melissa Paul-Franklyn, JD **OH** : Kimberly Jordan, JD **OK** : Timothy Michaels-Johnson, JD **OR** : Cathy Ouellette, JD, CWLS PA : Nesta Johnson, JD SC : Margaret Bodman, JD TN : Thomas Coupé, JD, CWLS TX : Lyda Ness Garcia, JD, CWLS UT : Dianne Balmain, JD, CWLS VA : Valerie L'Herrou, ID

- VT : Marshall Pahl, JD
- WA : Bailey Zydek, JD
- WV : Cathy Bond Wallace, JD
- WY : Cynthia Sweet, JD, CWLS



John Myers, JD Visiting Professor of Law UC College of Law SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Henry J. Plum, JD Attorney & Consultant New Berlin, WI

Janet G. Sherwood, JD, CWLS Deputy Director | Advokids CORTE MADERA, CA

Associate Professor, Child Protection Team Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

Sonia C. Velazquez Consultant CHICAGO, IL

Chris Wu. JD Director of Government

Relations National Center for State Courts Arlington, va

John H. Stuemky, MD (Retired)

SAVE THE DATES!

NACC2025 CLEVELAND

MONDAY, AUGUST 11 THRU WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025 PRECONFERENCE AUG 10

iiii ii'a V

HILTON CLEVELAND DOWNTOWN CLEVELAND, OH







2027

Y Part and the

AUGUST 5 THRU AUGUST 7 PRECONFERENCE AUG 4

DENVER, COLORADO