

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

21ST ANNUAL *Families & Fathers National Conference*

LET'S GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL



HOSTED BY:




PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE OF THE NEXT LEVEL IS FEBRUARY 24TH
CONFERENCE OPENS FEBRUARY 25, 2020, CLOSURES WITH OUR GALA FEBRUARY 27, 2020


21st Annual Families and Fathers National Conference 
Hilton Los Angeles Airport  Limited Discounted Room Rates




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EARLY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION 
STARTS UNDER \$300.00 

More Information  fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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Exceptional Featured Speakers
Continuing Education Units Available
New 2020 - Fireside Chat General Sessions
New 2020 - Three Exciting Roundtable Series
New 2020 - Barnes & Nobles Bookstore Meet the Authors Opening Night Reception
New 2020 - Expo Exhibitor Opportunities

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GET INSTANT UPDATES - SAVINGS  TEXT NEXT LEVEL TO 31-996

FOLLOW US         livestream

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE?

Anyone or any organization that impacts the lives of children should be in attendance. Join us as the diversity of professionals from Head Start, Fatherhood Practitioners, Child Welfare, Early Childhood Educators, Child Support, Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists, Public Policy Analysts and Administrators, Criminal Justice, Interfaith Providers/Clergy and many others, as well as parents from all age ranges have over the past 20-years!



21ST ANNUAL FAMILIES AND FATHERS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**FEBRUARY
24-27, 2020**

**HILTON LOS ANGELES AIRPORT
5711 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90045A**

NEXT LEVEL
21ST ANNUAL FAMILIES AND FATHERS CONFERENCE
A NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE
A Visionary Experience For Educators, Practitioners, and Agencies
Who Maximize The Dreams of Children and Families

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WELCOME TO THE NEXT LEVEL 2020 CONFERENCE

When cultivated, the power of vision we have from childhood through adulthood turns aspirations into reality. The theme for this conference, *Next Level*, is a place to cultivate your aspirations with some of the finest presenters and speakers, regardless if you are attending as a mom or dad, new working with children and families, an expert in your professional field, or an executive building a model to strengthen families. Our agenda is a conduit of envisioning the wellbeing of children through the dynamic professional development and interpersonal events hosted by Fathers and Families Coalition of America.

Together, we create the *Next Level* at our 21st Annual Families and Fathers Conference, where we come together building on vision, proven practices, evidence-based interventions, and networking. A unique strength of this conference is the co-creation of connections that have formed sustained professional relationships and resources throughout the United States and internationally. We are honored to announce guest speaker, and 2020 national leadership honoree, **Honorable Lynn Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, Assistant Secretary Lynn Johnson** has confirmed joining Fathers & Families Coalition of America's 21st Annual Conference, February 24-27, 2020. We will honor her at our closing gala, the Drs. Ramon & Yolanda Nieves Family Affair Gala, Thursday night with the **Honorable John S. Martinez National Leadership Award**. Under her leadership are numerous programs impacting the lives of millions of children and families. **Grammy Award Winning Artist – Todd “Speech” Thomas** founder of **Arrested Development** is confirmed guest! Speech is just one of our Fathers of the Year at our closing gala, Thursday, February 27, 2020 that is the Next Level experience.

Who should attend this conference? Anyone or any organization that impacts the lives of children should be in attendance. You should attend this conference if you want to learn how to improve your professional skills while receiving encouragement from the fantastic professional experts from a variety of fields, authors, and exceptional exhibitors. To continuously improve strategies so that families can have better outcomes working with practitioners requires us to ensure we take our conference to the Next Level! If you have a fatherhood program or desire to create a fatherhood program, this is the perfect venue for you, and this conference has diverse attendance from Head Start, Fatherhood Practitioners, Child Welfare, Early Childhood Educators, Child Support, Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists, Public Policy Analysts and Administrators, Criminal Justice, Interfaith Providers/Clergy and many others.

Why is this conference special? The immediate answer is based on an event focusing on the impact fathers have on the lives of children, families, and communities from varying perspectives. Ask yourself, “*Do we have programs with commitment and purpose in seeking greater outcomes for children?*” Regardless of how you answer as an individual, practitioner, or from an organizational perspective, enrolling in this conference will help advance strategies to work with fathers, enhance strengthening families’ initiatives, early-childhood programming, prevention programs, and more. Hosting the 21st Annual Families and Fathers Conference would not be able to happen without our sponsors and a wonderful team of volunteers. Next Level 2020 Featured Sponsors include The Annie E. Casey Foundation; The California Endowment Foundation; Data Caliper; State of California First 5; The Law Office of Jeffery M. Leving; First 5LA and Los Angeles County Child Support Services.

TEXT NEXT LEVEL TO 31-996 FOR INSTANT UPDATES

James G. Rodriguez

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & PRESIDENT

Next Level 2020 Conference : www.fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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CONFERENCE INFORMATION PAGE & ONLINE REGISTRATION:

<http://fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html>

ONLINE REGISTRATION

cvent

<http://www.cvent.com/d/vyqq15/4W>

Featured Co-Sponsors for The Next Level 2020

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THE ANNIE E. CASEY
FOUNDATION



New This Year!



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
#SupportLA

We are proud to share a new schedule for the 21st Annual Families and Fathers Conference. Our co-title sponsorships allow for a new experience in 2020! Collaboratively, we are hosting two-roundtable series and two-fireside chats. The roundtable sessions will take attendees deeper from a workshop of skills and professional development into areas to challenge and inspiration. FFCA and our title sponsors will bring some of the finest speakers offering compelling stories, methods to improve skills, strengthening services to parents and children. Attendees and speakers will go into a process of co-creating a new blueprint towards models of excellence in father involvement.

Why have we chosen to compliment our luncheon with a fireside chat? People are here for a reason. We want to establish an environment where attendees are part of the conference's impact. We choose to use these two luncheon times to go deeper from our Opening Talk Session if you are looking for knowledge and information. We are prepared to host tremendous experts and professionals who understand going through adversity into the Next Level of both professional and personal journeys. The casual atmosphere of a fireside chat also opens the doors for something else: audience participation.

Immediately following the lunch, we set the stage for us all to learn together from a range of topics that are not limited to youth who enter into systems of care and become parents. How healthy relationships impact the wellness of children from pregnancy and for many their entire life. How can we become part of the process of working with others for the best outcomes for children and families now? Attendees will have time to ask the exceptional speakers to share their knowledge, experience, and advice, the FFCA Fireside chat is a great time together.

Do you want to avoid long lines at check-in? Attendees will enjoy our new registration and check-in system with our new partner, CVENT. When you register online, your name badge will be emailed to you for the full conference, credential programs, or closing gala to avoid long lines. FFCA will have a new kiosk check-in system to further enhance your first experiences at the 21st Annual Families and Fathers Conference

There are so many new programs and sessions, as well as the new format. Barnes and Nobles Bookstore had partnered with us to co-host the opening night receptions' Meet the Authors! Stay connected for instant [conference updates by texting to 31-996 Next Level](#) as we are ready to host you for a wonderful experience!

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CONFERENCE AGENDA

Monday, February 24, 2020

8:00 am - 3:00 pm Conference Registration Open
8:00 am - 5:00 pm Expo & Vendor Displays Open
8:30 am - 4:30 pm Advanced Practitioner Credential (Separate Fee)
5:00 pm-8:00 pm Hollywood Tour (Separate Fee)

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Conference Registration Open
8:30 am - 10:15 am Expo & Vendor Displays Open Located in Pacific Ballroom
10:30 am-Noon Opening General Session
Noon - 1:00 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions I
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Lunch on Your Own
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions II
2:45 pm - 4:15 pm Break
5:00pm-7:00 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions III
Opening Night Reception+++

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Conference Registration Open
8:30 am - 5:00pm Expo & Vendor Displays Open Located in Pacific Ballroom
8:45 am - 10:15 am Concurrent Educational Sessions IV
10:15 am Coffee Break
10:30 am-Noon Concurrent Educational Sessions V
Noon-1:45 pm Pre-Purchased Luncheon w/General Fireside Chat Session Following+
2:00 pm-3:30 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions VI
5:00 pm

Men2Men & Women2Women Real Talk Sessions++++

Thursday, February 27, 2020

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Conference Registration Open
8:30 am - 5:00pm Expo & Vendor Displays Open Located in Pacific Ballroom
8:45 am - 10:15 am Concurrent Educational Sessions VII
10:15 am Coffee Break
10:30 am-Noon Concurrent Educational Sessions VIII
Noon-1:45 pm Pre-Purchased Luncheon w/General Fireside Chat Session Following+
2:00 pm-3:30 pm Concurrent Educational Sessions IX

Drs. Ramon & Yolanda Nieves Family Affair Red Tie/Red Dress Gala++

5:00 pm -6:00 pm Network & Reception Live Jazz
6:00 pm -6:45 pm Opening Remarks - Dinner
6:45 pm - 8:00 pm Speaker and Honorees
8:00 pm - 11:00 pm Entertainment - Dance - Networking

+ Before the Fireside Chat Lunch Tickets are optional starting at \$15.00 per plated lunch

++ Closing Gala for conference attendees is \$30.00 per person

CONFERENCE ONLINE REGISTRATION: <http://fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html>

Next Level 2020 Conference : www.fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

ADVANCED PRACTITIONER CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

Pre-Conference Institute, Monday, February 24th
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Session Location: Bel Air Room First Level The Advanced Practitioner Credential program is an integrated approach to build skills, knowledge, and abilities through evolved-based and evidence-based interventions. Individuals will go through a comprehensive 15-hour program with a practicum for the final credential. In 1998, faculty at various universities came together, "How can we create a program that helps the diverse professionals working with fathers? What will help practitioners experience a credential to go beyond parent-education based curriculums?" Over the years, we have developed what has supported thousands of individuals. The Advanced Practitioner Credential was intentional, developed to meet the standards of the Council on Social Work Education selected competencies to support the skills, knowledge, and abilities of attendees of diverse backgrounds, education, and experiences.

You do not need an advanced degree to take this credential. All modules are instructed to meet the attendees where they are as professionals. We have introduced our program to parents, family service staff, educators, Head Start teachers, fatherhood practitioners, and so many more. An amazing outcome is centered on how each person ends the training inspired to improve their personal lives, as well as professional skills. The Advanced Fatherhood Practitioner Credential was designed to teach at all levels, from a beginning front-line worker to seasoned practitioners. The program is an integrated approach to build skills, knowledge, abilities through evolved-based and evidence-based interventions.

The 11-Module program is fun, challenging, thoughtful and gives a lot of ah-ha moments to increase the skills and co-create a comprehensive integrative father engagement model of services. Each module builds off the previous and introduces FFCA's unique integration of techniques for you to create a dynamic approach using some of the following blendings of interventions: DiSC Personality, Emotional Quotient (EQ), Positive Psychology Techniques, such as Dream Writing, Applying Mindfulness Engaging Fathers, Motivational Interviewing (MI) and elements of Cognitive Behavioral Interventions and Schematic Interventions at a level regardless of the practitioner's experience. We use some dynamic take-home activities for father engagement using Focus Mapping, Audio Flashcards, Time Lapse Photos, MI, and Goal Setting. We broaden the awareness of how to work with triggers, adversity, and trauma. The program was designed to understand the importance of how to work with fathers, mothers and diverse populations using Cultural Grounding techniques where we invite you to learn more <http://fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/advanced-practitioner-program.html>. The Advanced Practitioner Credential program is approved for 15-hours of CEUs for those who need this as an added value.

Dr. Narviar C. Barker Browne, Ph.D., LMSW
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. James C. Rodriguez, MSW
Phoenix, Arizona

Next Level 2020 Conference : www.fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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WIN WIN PARENTING PROGRAM CREDENTIAL COURSE

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH
1:15 P.M. - 4:30 P.M**



Session Location: Bel Air Room First Level Our Australian Fathers & Families Coalition Affiliate, Dr. Rosina McAlpine, comes from the end of the globe to bring one of the finest programs for those working with children and parents. The Win Win Parenting program provides practitioners, teachers, early childhood educators, and parents evidence-based practical skills for supporting fathers, mothers, families, and children to develop the skills needed for life success.

Part 1 of the program explores the foundational skills and overviews the holistic 12-month program. Participants will learn how to apply the Win Win 3-step process: Stop. Empathize. Educate.™ (S.E.E. Approach) to support parents to manage family challenges effectively and educators to manage disruptive classroom behaviors. This program is based on an approach grounded in empathy and life skills education rather than the ineffective reward, discipline, and punishment models. The S.E.E. approach resources parents, teachers and early childhood educators with the knowledge and skills to support children aged 18 months to 18+ years to develop essential life skills like healthy self-esteem, resilience, and emotional intelligence, which enable families to overcome challenges, to thrive and to help children succeed in life.

Part 2 of the comprehensive program is online and delivered over 12 months. Each month, participants will have access to online resources on a new topic area: 1. Technology guidelines, harms, and benefits; 2. Nurturing emotional regulation: Toddler to a teenager; 3. Bully-proofing children; 4. They are nurturing healthy self-esteem and resilience; 5. Teaching children to be proactive problem-solvers; 6. Practical communication approaches for parents, teachers and early childhood educators; 7. Happy, healthy children: Nurturing good eating, exercise, and sleep habits; 8. Managing work and family: The importance of self-care; 9. Overcoming sibling rivalry and peer conflict; 10. Supporting children after major events; 11. Thriving as a family: Toddler to a teenager. 12. Understanding and nurturing children's brain development from birth to the late 20s.

For more information see www.winwinparenting.com/ffca-program

Dr. Rosina McAlpine BCom, MCom (Hons), MhEd, PhD
New South Wales, Australia



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FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS TOGETHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020
8:30 A.M. TO NOON - CONTINUING 1:45 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

FAST  Families & Schools
TOGETHER.



Session Location: Bel Air Room First Level In this interactive session, participants will explore theoretical foundations and values that support family empowerment strategies. Through interactive group discussion and hands-on activities, participants will gain tools and strategies to promote family empowerment and engagement. FAST will introduce portions of our full-certification program with the following modules:

- VALUES DISCUSSION
- FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Participants will engage in conversations with their peers about the values of Families and Schools Together, exploring their own beliefs about family empowerment and discussing how differently held values can affect this work.

Small group discussion: Challenges of engaging and empowering fathers: Participants will brainstorm a list of challenges they face in engaging fathers in their communities and convene in small groups to discuss these challenges.

Theoretical foundations of FAST participants will learn more about the theoretical foundations that support the FAST program, as well as family engagement/empowerment work in general, and will engage in interactive activities, including role-plays, simulations, and immersive discussions. Theories explored include Family Stress Theory, Family Systems Theory, Social-Ecological Theory of Child Development, and Social Capital.

Putting it all together FAST in action: Participants will engage in sample activities from the FAST program and will reflect on how the activities relate to the theories discussed earlier and how these activities can be used as tools in their work.

Small group discussion: Strategies for engaging fathers: Participants will return to their small groups to brainstorm solutions to the challenges to engagement discussed earlier with the knowledge and tools gained in this session.

Toni Rivera, Dr. Robyn Sperling, M.Ed., with Molly McGowan
Madison, Wisconsin



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NURTURING FATHERS CURRICULUM CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020
8:30 A.M. TO NOON - CONTINUING 1:45 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.



Session Location: Bel Air Room First Level The Nurturing Father's Program is recognized by SAMHSA National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices as a proven effective curriculum that teaches nurturing attitudes and skills to men. What the research says: The overwhelming conclusion from a large amount of available research and evidence is that children and families greatly benefit from the presence and participation of a Nurturing Father.

The Nurturing Father's Program improved in their understanding of the developmental capabilities of children, improved inability to demonstrate empathy towards the needs of children, enhanced in the reported use of alternate strategies to corporal punishment, increased understanding and acceptance of the needs of self and children, and increased in the value placed on children feeling empowered, as relayed through the Parental Attitudes and Behavior of Participants in the NFP Curriculum instructor's certifying program.

The Nurturing Father's Program, Daire A.P., Greenidge, W.L., & Johnson, N.M. In a separate research study, these outcomes for African American, Hispanic, and Caucasian fathers. What the NFP graduates say: "...a fantastic journey/education into learning healthy fathering". "...the most valuable tool for me and my family's success and unity". "Forget all the books, audio, and what your family and relatives have said and taken this course." "This program changed my life." Add to your conference experience, enroll in this evidence-based fatherhood curriculum with the founder, author, and champion for healthier parenting.

Mark Perlman, MA
Sarasota, Florida



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NIGHT ON THE STARS HOLLYWOOD

Monday, February 24, 2020
4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

TOUR



NEXT LEVEL 2020 OPENING DAY

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25
REGISTRATION 7:30 A.M.
OPENING GENERAL TALK SESSION 9:00 A.M.
VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.**



OPENING GENERAL SESSION

8:30 AM to 10:15 AM INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM ENTRY DOOR B

Welcome & Remarks:

Dr. Jeffery M. Leving, LTD, the Law Offices of Jeffery M. Leving

Dr. James C. Rodríguez, MSW, President & CEO, Fathers and Families Coalition of America

Sandra Gasca Gonzalez, Vice President, Center for Systems Innovation the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Barbara Coloroso, Best-Selling Author, International Anti-Bullying Expert

Dr. Jessica Pearson, Ph.D., Founder, and Director of the Center for Policy Research

Dr. Wade F. Horn, Ph.D., Managing Director at Deloitte Consulting, Former Assistant Secretary of Administration for Children and Families

CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

10:30 PM - 12:00 PM Continues 1:15 PM-4:00 PM

Session Location: Bel Air Room First Level

Win Win Parenting Program Credential Course

Dr. Rosina McAlpine BCom, MCom (Hons), MhEd, Ph.D.

Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia

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FEBRUARY
24-27, 2020

HILTON LOS ANGELES AIRPORT
5711 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90045A

HOSTED BY:



MORNING WORKSHOPS
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Session Location: Century A&B Second Level **ACES, Immigration, and Families**

Families applying for their immigration status have traumatic experiences that do not affect most legal US residents. This workshop presents the basics of an immigration evaluation, focusing on the importance of evaluating the impact of trauma on mental health. Findings from our study regarding ACES in immigration applicants will be presented. Symptoms and diagnoses due to immigration trauma will be discussed. Societal implications and concerns regarding what it means to know immigrant ACE scores will be explored. Practical, legal, and ethical considerations will be shared regarding trauma in immigration evaluations with families.

Dr. Rocío Hernández, Ph.D., MFT, LPCC with Dr. Sandeep Kaur Sandhu, MD
Berkeley, California

Session Location: Century C&D Second Level **Home Run Dads: An Evidence-based at-home Certification Course**

Learn how to teach and facilitate the evidenced-based Home Run Dads program, where dads learn and practice parenting skills that equip them to build and maintain strong relationships with their children. This program has been included in the Army Chief of Chaplain's Strong Bonds Initiative since 2010 and has been taught throughout all branches of the military and nationally by fatherhood and community initiatives. Learn to engage fathers in activities like developing a game plan for parenting goals, understanding the unique qualities of each of their children as they fill out "stat sheets" for each child, constructing a family motto and making a family-team pennant, and learning how to discuss crucial topics with their children like friendships, dating, and sexual boundaries. Attendees receive a 10% discount on the at-home Instructor Certification Course."

Dr. John Van Epp, PhD
San Clemente, California

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level **Identifying, Analyzing and Addressing Barriers to Paternal Involvement**

Contemporary definitions of involved fathering requires both financial provision and participation in caregiving behaviors. Unfortunately, many fathers face significant barriers in their attempts to maintain active roles in their children's lives. In some cases, fathers' involvement is truncated by maternal gatekeeping. In other cases, the emotional strain resulting from previously dissolved romantic relationships or challenging relationships with their fathers serve as barriers. In response, the 4 Your Child fatherhood program provides responsible parenting and relationship education services to fathers at risk for disengagement to improve the quantity and quality of their involvement with their children. In this workshop, attendees introduced to programmatic content focused on assisting fathers in working through conflict and preserving or improving their relationships.

Dr. Armon Perry, Ph.D., MSW. with Dr. Cheri Langley Ph.D., MPH, CHES
Louisville, Kentucky

Next Level 2020 Conference : www.fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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HOSTED BY:



Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level

It's Not Drama; It's Trauma

This workshop is an interactive exploration of the impact of trauma on lifelong development. Participants will learn how behaviors or quirks we dismiss as being “dramatic” may be a result of injury, how progress is affected by trauma, and learn ways to implement trauma-informed principles to build resiliency in those we engage with who may have experienced significant trauma.

**Theresa Reed, M.Ed.,
Pasadena, California**

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Paternal Perinatal Mood Disorders: Paying Attention to New Dads

“Why do fathers play a critical and unique role in a child and family’s development?” Fathers active in childcare promote a child’s social-emotional and cognitive development and lower the risk of developing emotional disturbance. Paternal involvement can also mitigate the effects of maternal stress beginning even in pregnancy. However, fathers are vulnerable to the immense pressure and stress that comes with being a new parent. Expected to be more involved in the direct care of their children than ever, fathers receive little support from the institutions that nurture developing families. Furthermore, they suffer from rates of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMAD) comparable to those of mothers. The presenters will outline: 1) what is a paternal PMAD; 2) The complex etiology of this disorder and how it affects fathers, children, and families; 3) Relationship to maternal, perinatal mood disorders; and 4) Why it is necessary for practitioners working with families to recognize the symptomology and provide referrals? Furthermore, the presenters will elaborate on the relationship this disorder has on the culturally specific way we raise boys and mental health’s proclivity to misdiagnose depression in men. Lastly, the presenters will use a home visiting program with fathers to elaborate on ways we can help fathers during this time.

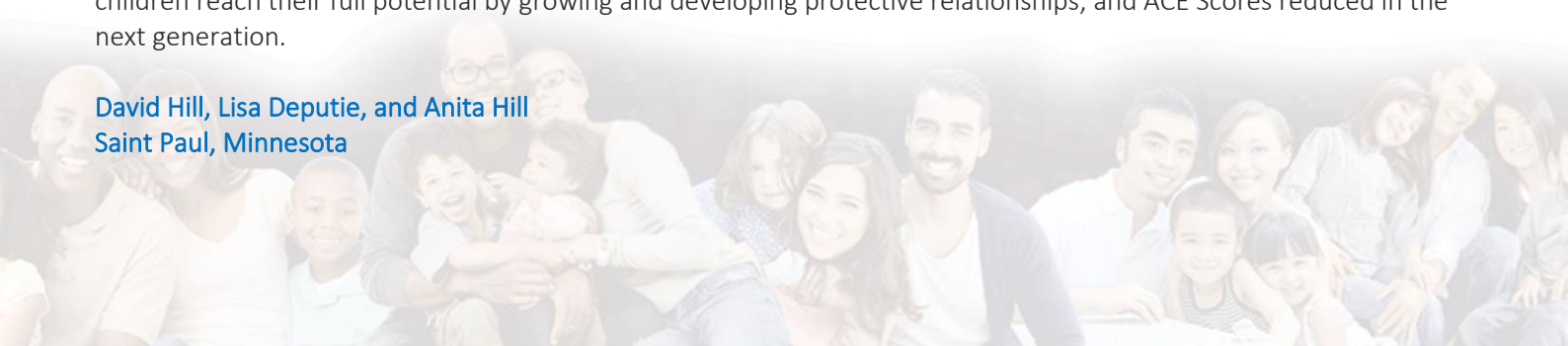
**Gabrielle Kaufman, LPC with Kevin Gruenberg, PsyD
Los Angeles, California**

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Learning and Applying ACEs in Your Practice- Part 1

"We teach Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Interface Building Self-Healing Communities Theory of Change," is an opportunity for dialogue to a cross-section of residents and professionals to build a common language and shared understanding about how experience affects wellbeing. We reach a tipping point in communities where it is usual for people to 1. Have an opportunity for a change moment: feel seen, understood, and accepted. 2. Develop compassion for self, make meaning from experiences, and build on core gifts. 3. Know the most powerful determinant of health: ACE. 4. Make decisions and take actions to build adults' capacities to protect and respond to any child's needs. So that children reach their full potential by growing and developing protective relationships, and ACE Scores reduced in the next generation.

**David Hill, Lisa Deputie, and Anita Hill
Saint Paul, Minnesota**



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HOSTED BY:



Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

The Bully, The Bullied, and The Not-So-Innocent Bystanders

How can we decrease bullying? It takes much more than slogans, posters, and anti-bullying programs to break the cycle of violence and to create more profoundly caring communities. Brave-hearted kids willing to step up and step in to stop these attacks can't do it alone; we all need to pitch in to make a difference. In this session, we will discuss verbal, physical, relational, and cyberbullying violence and its effect on the bully, the bullied the not-so-innocent bystanders, and the entire school community. Participants will receive tips, tools, strategies, and handouts to bring back to their educational communities to help enact positive change.

**Barbara Coloroso
Greeley, Colorado**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**Lunch on Your Own
AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS
1:15 PM – 2:45 PM**

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

Parent Engagement in Early Childhood: Creating Welcoming Environments for Fathers

This workshop, focused on family engagement strategies, will help early childhood practitioners create a more welcoming environment for fathers of all racial, cultural, socioeconomic, and linguistic backgrounds, building on principles of equity and cultural competence. Instructors have developed this session to support early childhood directors and staff. The workshop will engage participants in an interactive session focused on developing skills in working with fathers and ensuring a family-friendly environment with a focus on engaging fathers in an early childhood setting. Through interactive group discussion and hands-on activities, participants will gain tools and strategies to support family engagement.

**Dr. Robyn Sperling, M.Ed. with Molly McGowan
Madison, Wisconsin**

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Fathers Behind Bars: Hearing the Voices of Incarcerated Fathers on Parental Practices

The session will provide participants with the needs of incarcerated fathers. The process of researching with an all-male facility in southwest Louisiana provides essential findings to develop both confined and reentry programs, recommendations, and suggestions for future research.

**Phaetra Raney, LCSW, Ph.D.
Richmond, Texas**

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level

Mind Matters: Overcoming Adversity and Building Resilience

When bad things happen to you as a child, it can impact you for the rest of your life — the brain changes with abuse, neglect, or living with household dysfunction. The good news is that the brain is plastic, and the body wants to heal. Based on research on neuroscience, Mind Matters practices can reverse this trend. Learn six critical skills research-based concepts for trauma recovery. Experience a fun way to motivate fathers in learning self-soothing/emotional regulation skills.

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HOSTED BY:



Carolyn Curtis, Ph.D., LMFT
Carmichael, California

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level

The Balance Between Healthy Boundaries, Emotional Intelligence, and Attachment Bond

Offer insight into determining one's attachment bond style to effectively set healthy boundaries and increase emotional intelligence to navigate personal and professional relationships successfully.

Dr. Shamara L. McFarland, JD, MAFP
Los Angeles, California

Session Location: Century C&D Second Level

Community Safety Training for Mental Health Providers and Case Managers

Healthcare providers are inadequately trained and equipped to assess, treat, and manage clients who struggle with mental illness and are limited to come into a facility for services. Community Safety Training for Mental Health Providers and Case Managers identify safety best practices to ensure the protection of field base providers, residential facilities, clinics, and private practices. The objectives are 1. Understand how diagnosis, SUD behaviors, and certain criminal behaviors impact safety; 2. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of cultural competencies in the community to ensure protection and appropriate treatment, and 3. Case Managers will gain practical skills in managing individuals with mental illness in the community, all the while being safe (certificate of completion provided).

Wendy Thelese Talley, LCSW, Doctoral Candidate
Los Angeles, California

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Learning and Applying ACEs in Your Practice- Part 2

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David Hill, Lisa Deputie, and Anita Hill
Saint Paul, Minnesota

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM Break

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS CONTINUED

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

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Session Location: Century A&B Second Level

Developing Results Driven Collaborative Partnerships

Examining best practices for developing effective collaborative partnerships. Topics include how to develop Clarity of Vision that attract committed team members and investment dollars. Actual examples will be shared how an organization can form effective boards and strategic partnerships that fuel more growth. The Nehemiah ProjectLA will be one featured organization discussed. How to avoid partnership pitfalls that undermine effective collaboration. Developing an abundant mentality versus a scarcity mentality. Finally, we will discuss what a organization vision document looks like.

Ed Smith, MBA

Cerritos, California

Session Location: Century C Second Level

Healthy Masculinity - It's More than Diet

"How can I be a healthier man? What is the right balance? What is toxic masculinity versus healthy masculinity? How can we increase healthy families and communities?" This presentation will examine how masculinity generally formed in most males and the implications for both toxic and robust masculinity. We will ask the question - "How can I be a healthy man?" Examples and humor help us explore the expression of masculinity and assist the participants with a better understanding of what it is like to be a male today. How can we examine ways to be healthier and support our families, organizations, communities, and each other? We will identify how traditional male gender socialization develops, understand the difference between toxic and healthy masculinity, introduce skills to communicate with and assist males across the spectrum, and strategies to mitigate and impact a reduction in family and community violence.

Russell W. Strand, CFP-A, Senior Special Agent (Retired) with Myra Strand, MA

Flagstaff, Arizona

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

Changing the Narrative of Foster Youth through The Power of Storytelling

Traditional therapy is beneficial and has been impactful in helping foster youth overcome trauma, but it's not the only solution. Good films are eye-openers for all of us. Everyone can attest to watching a movie that touched, changed, created awareness, or invoked discussions of some sort. Kids in the Spotlight is using storytelling and filmmaking to help foster youth overcome trauma by telling their stories, their way. Changing the narrative, as well as the outcome of foster youth, and how industry professional filmmakers and celebrities are giving back to assure that foster youth are heard, seen, understood, validated, and celebrated.

Tige Charity

Burbank, California

Session Location: Carmel Second Floor

"They Have Names" Documentary Screening

There are some 15,000 children in Arizona's foster care system, but who are they? "They Have Names" follows five people and their families over the course of over a year as they navigate Arizona's child welfare system. This is not a story about government officials and official statements. It's a documentary about the real lives of real people: children, parents, grandparents and foster parents in group homes, foster homes, courtrooms and prison cells. Why

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do kids end up in the system? How are their cases managed? What happens when the kids grow up? These five individuals pose tough questions, and find the answers aren't always satisfying.

David Wallace with Mary Jo Pitzl
Phoenix, Arizona

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Wrestling with Dads: What We Have Learned on the Floor and in Interviews

Research confirms that fathers play a critical and unique role in a child's development. Fathers active in childcare promote a child's social-emotional and cognitive development and lower the risk of developing emotional disturbance. Paternal involvement can also mitigate the effects of maternal stress beginning even in pregnancy. Though important, fathers are also vulnerable; they suffer from rates of perinatal depression compared to those of mothers. The last two decades have seen dramatic growth in programs supporting at-risk families with young children. These programs aspire to promote maternal health and optimal child development while also reducing neglect and abuse. Most of these approaches focus on mothers. Even the programs that welcome dads are not necessarily grounded in the advantages of the benefits fathers can bring to the family. To explore policies and practices oriented towards inclusive programs, the presenters will discuss two funded projects: 1) A home visitation with dads program and; 2) A series of focus groups to learn directly from fathers about what they need to be more involved and the barriers to participation they experienced. The presentation will include discussion on our findings and experiences, an opportunity for participants to reflect on their programs, and sharing knowledge to plan for increasing father engagement.

Kevin Gruenberg, PsyD with Richard Cohen, Ph.D., Ed.M.,
Los Angeles, California

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Learning and Applying ACEs in Your Practice- Part 3

"We teach Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Interface Building Self-Healing Communities Theory of Change," is an opportunity for dialogue to a cross-section of residents and professionals to build a common language and shared understanding about how experience affects wellbeing. We reach a tipping point in communities where it is usual for people to 1. Have an opportunity for a change moment: feel seen, understood, and accepted. 2. Develop compassion for self, make meaning from experiences, and build on core gifts. 3. Know the most powerful determinant of health: ACE. 4. Make decisions and take actions to build adults' capacities to protect and respond to any child's needs. So that: Children reach their full potential by growing and developing protective relationships, & ACE Scores reduced in the next generation.

David Hill, Lisa Deputie, and Anita Hill
Saint Paul, Minnesota



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OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION BARNES AND NOBLES MEET THE AUTHORS

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**



INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM ENTRY DOOR B

- Barnes & Nobles Meet the Authors – New York Times Best Selling & International Authors
- Lite Reception Dinner Service
- National Premiere “They Have Names”
- Live Entertainment & Networking



The Opening Night Reception “A Night Under the Stars” brings the blending of wonderful authors throughout the United States and a few international with New York Times Best Selling authors. The Next Level Team will introduce these exceptional individuals who will introduce books for children, couples, relationships, inspirational, and books to challenge you in both professional and personal journey of life. **Come for a special viewing of “They Have Names”**

WE WILL OFFER A FANTASTIC LIVE JAZZ NETWORKING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL!



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CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS 8:45 AM to Noon and 1:45 PM to 4:00 PM

Session Location: Bel Air Room First Floor
Families and Schools Together Certification Program
Speakers: Toni Rivera-Joachin, Dr. Robyn Sperling, Molly McGowan
Madison, Wisconsin

SPECIAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES 8:45 AM - 10:15 AM

SPECIAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES

Session Location: Carmel Room Second Floor

Overcoming the Adversity of Foster-Care

Roundtable Part 1: How to Engage Fathers in Foster-Care and Juvenile Justice Systems Effectively

Hosted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Fathers & Families Coalition of America. Join in this special featured workshop for parents and professionals. This workshop will go into the depths of impacts fathers have on children in the child-welfare system with featured stories of two little girls who were raised in a total of over 30 foster-care homes. These little girls developed into powerful professionals driven by a purpose of championing the needs of others. Presenters will share their experience of overcoming the abuse in early childhood that manifested into advocating for the wellbeing of children. Participants will experience the realities of a father longing for his daughter, not knowing where she was placed in foster care, and the other sharing the abuse of her father placing her into foster care. The power of gratitude, passion and purpose will be a central element of this session moderated with a leader in the child-welfare system and founder of a foster care and adoption family service agency to navigate the skills needed for practitioners to consider improving the outcomes for children as these three presenters bring a breadth of expertise of overcoming adversity of the foster care system.

LaTasha C. Watts
Shaker Heights, Ohio

Carlotta Taylor, M.Sc.
Clinton, Mississippi

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Baltimore, Maryland

WORKSHOPS 8:45 AM to 10:15 AM

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

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How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk/Jerkette: Overview of Instructor Certification Program

Learn about the evidence-based and internationally used curriculum, How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk(ette). Help individuals develop skills for effectively building a relationship with the Relationship Attachment Model (RAM) by knowing how to pace good trust, mutual dependence, commitment, and sexual intimacy. There are five areas to get to know that, throughout research, can be predictive of someone's character and relationship potential. Those who attend can purchase the Instructor Certification with over a million users in the different versions: more than 100K youth taught in High Schools; the adult versions are taught by fatherhood organizations, in community initiatives, social agencies, re-entry programs, and in all branches of the military; and the Christian version instructed in churches and single organizations (translation available in Spanish and Chinese).

Dr. John Van Epp, Ph.D.
San Clemente, California

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level Supporting Children to be Bully Proof

Around 1 in 3 children experience bullying, and it's estimated that over 60% of children who are bullied don't report it to a teacher, parent or caretaker. Would you recognize the signs? Join this workshop to learn how to support children to protect children from bullying or to overcome a situation where they're being bullied. Topics explored include What bullying is and what it isn't; The prevalence of bullying and its many harms; Why children who are being bullied often don't tell an adult; Practical approaches to help children overcome bullying and develop the life skills that empower children to become "bully-proof". The workshop is relevant for educators, parents and health professionals.

Dr. Rosina McAlpine BCom, MCom (Hons), MhEd, PhD
New Wales, Australia

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level How to Keep Your "Love Tank" Full

This dynamic and interactive workshop explores and demonstrates the origin of feelings. It illustrates the awesome power that "Self-Talk" has in determining attitudes/emotions and subsequent behaviors. Loving self is the key to loving others!

Dr. Charles Woodard, Psy.D.
Boynton Beach, Florida

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level Building on Success: From Reunification to Fatherhood Advocacy

How did two fathers navigate in the City and County of the San Francisco Child Protection system? How did these two fathers reunify with their daughters? Learn how the voices of children and fathers shifted the San Francisco Fatherhood Initiative as an exemplary model where representatives from the Department of Child Support Services, Department of Public Health and the Human Services Agency collaborate with Community-Based Organizations monthly to enhance father engagement and expand fatherhood services in the community.

Eli Parson
San Francisco, California

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10:15 AM - 10:30 AM

Coffee Break

CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Session Location: Bel Air Room First Floor

Families and Schools Together Certification Program Part 2

Speakers: Toni Rivera-Joachin, Dr. Robyn Sperling, Molly McGowan

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

SPECIAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES

Session Location: Carmel Room Second Floor

Roundtable Part 2: How to Engage Fathers in Foster-Care and Juvenile Justice Systems Effectively

Hosted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Fathers & Families Coalition of America

Promoting Well-Being for Young Families: A Co-Parenting Approach

This workshop will highlight a co-parenting strategy for improving well-being outcomes for expectant and parenting youth in foster care, their children and families. New York City Administration for Children Services (NYC ACS) will present on their implementation efforts, findings, lessons learned and implications for systems working to create opportunities for these young families to succeed and thrive.

James Milan, Sabine Chery and Lisa Mishraky, LMSW

New York City, New York

WORKSHOPS

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

Implementing Interprofessional Collaboration Strategies to Facilitate and Sustain Father Engagement

2018 Federal policy strongly encourages all human service agencies to work together across multiple agencies and systems to jointly create and maintain an environment that prioritizes father engagement as a critical factor in strengthening families. However, a lack of shared vision, inadequate communication, differences in agency motivation, and other coordination failures threaten the futures of thousands of children and families. We know that fathers play an essential role in the lives of their children and in strengthening families. This presentation will help professionals gain knowledge about the importance of interprofessional collaboration skills to facilitate positive father engagement and improve child and family outcomes.

Dr. Latrice Rollins, Ph.D., MSW with Dr. Tasha Alston, Ph.D., MSW

Atlanta, Georgia

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Hearts of Fathers and Their Children

This is a workshop designed to discuss the issues around family violence, the effects on families, communities, and children. It also addresses The Moore Wright Model to help a family heal from domestic violence and abandonment issues and help bring the hearts of fathers back to their children and their children to love their fathers.

Next Level 2020 Conference : www.fathersandfamiliescoalition.org/conferences.html

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HOSTED BY:



Tanikka Watford
Tumwater, Washington

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Modeling Forgiveness and Achieving Redemption in the #MeToo Era

Is Listening Part of Healing? The acts of apologizing and seeking forgiveness are potent actions that provide an opportunity for growth and redemption. These acts are not innate and must be learned and mastered through practice. For many men, the notion of apologizing to his young child is difficult to conceptualize and even harder to put into practice. This session will offer a chance to discuss this issue, as well as appropriate strategies to break this cycle.

Tom Valand, MBA, MSW
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level

Fathering for the 21st Century

Fathers & Families Coalition of America is honored to announce an Up-State New York Affiliate that uses intergenerational approaches working with diverse fathers. Community Fathers, Inc. uses the life-expertise of the past working with the future generation with a single vision of being the best dad daily. Learn how this grassroots agency has made an impact in New York. This workshop by Community Fathers teaches how to work with fathers who are not only suffering from trauma but are still living in a state of "Pain." You will learn new approaches in successfully making a difference in the lives of men, women, children, families and our community. We center on a paradigm shift of communicating and demonstrating nurturing with fathers in the 21st century from a strategic programmatic application.

Walter Simpkins with DC Dunkel
Schenectady, New York

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level

Transformational Mentoring Conversations with Teens

This workshop will teach attendees critical principles for engaging teenagers into meaningful and transformative conversations. The presenter will share, from 17 years of experience, in conducting mentoring programs for teenagers, the lessons he has learned, and examples of youth being significantly impacted and positively changed through transformative conversations. Attendees will receive an app they can use on their cell phones that will give them everything they need for starting and engaging their youth in meaningful and transformative conversations. They will learn how to use this app and will have an opportunity to give it a "test run" in the workshop.

Michael Freeman
Compton, California

**LUNCH & FIRESIDE CHAT – ENTRY DOOR B INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
12:00 PM to 12:30 LUNCH**

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12:30 PM to 1:45 PM FIRESIDE CHAT GENERAL SESSION

Strategies and tools to Begin the Healing Process for Fathers who Experience Foster Care and Juvenile Detention

Meetups, healing circles, barbershop talks are all strategies and tools used to engage fathers. Equally important to the fatherhood engagement strategies are principles and competencies that facilitate self and family healing. This roundtable discussion will feature stories of overcoming the adversity and trauma of being involved in child welfare or juvenile justice systems.

FIRESIDE CHAT PRESENTERS

- Dr. Obie Clayton, Jr. The Edmund Asa Ware Distinguished Professor, Chair of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia
- Leslie Repogle, MBA, LPC, Executive Director of The Agape Adoption Agency of Arizona, Inc., Phoenix, Arizona
- Dr. Tammi Fleming, Senior Associate at Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland
- Carlotta Taylor, MLS, CEO and Founder of Somebody Step In, Inc., Clinton, Mississippi
- Tosha Smith Mills, CEO of The Talent Connexion, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Latasha C. Watts, President and CEO, The Purple Project, Shaker Heights, Ohio
- Young Parents in Foster-Care – **The Annie E. Casey Foundation**

MODERATOR

Eldon Baber, Executive Director of The Raise Foundation the Child Abuse Prevention Council for Orange County, California

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

SPECIAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES

Session Location: Carmel Room Second Floor

Roundtable Part 3: How to Engage Fathers in Foster-Care and Juvenile Justice Systems Effectively

Hosted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Fathers & Families Coalition of America

Traditional Healing Methods

Our cultures and traditions have curative properties that can help us expand on our healing journey from generational and historic trauma. The workshop will explore intergenerationally what our fathers taught us and what their fathers taught them so that we may identify the medicines we carry for the next Generation

Ramon Vasquez and Arthur Argomaniz

San Antonio, Texas

CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Session Location: Bel Air Room First Floor

Families and Schools Together Certification Program Part 3

Speakers: Toni Rivera-Joachin, Dr. Robyn Sperling, Molly McGowan

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WORKSHOPS 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level You Make A Difference!

Think you don't matter? You're wrong! 25-time contributing author, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, book series presents an inspirational/motivational presentation about the difference we parents make by instilling acceptance, worth and hope in the lives of their children. "Courage is the discovery that you may not win and trying when you know you could lose."

Tom Krause
Nixa, Missouri

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level Supporting Children to be Bully Proof

Low-safety neighborhoods and low-performing schools continue to divert young, low-income, African American men and their families from a normative education experience and path, despite individual and family use of kin and peer network navigation strategies. According to our recent study, African American families utilized kin network strategies such as messaging and modeling success, and mobilization for safety (Fitzgerald, Miles, and Ledbetter, 2019). Some families must use these strategies while their sons transition through school, but struggle with maintaining child safety, school partnerships, and community connections at the same time. This workshop will discuss strategies that families can use to keep their child safe and the path toward earning their high-school diplomas at a rate and timeline that is equitable with their peers from other racial, ethnic and socio-economic groups.

Annette Miles, Ph.D., E.Ds., MA. with Dr. Megan Fitzgerald
Washington District of Columbia

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level Awakening Boomer Men to Build a Bridge to Millennial Dads-To-Be

Millennial men today are the first generation in American history where more are fatherless than fathers. Learn the mentoring program that is supporting fatherless boys who have grown up to make fatherless sons turn it around. The answer involves awakening and activating Boomer men to answer the call to be Dad-Coaches to the millions of millennial men raised without a dad. In this interactive workshop, we'll look at the dismal stats, identify gaps, role play, and identify ways where older dads can pass the baton to both young and to-be dads. Participants will learn how to replicate the Boomer Coach Mentor Model.

Arthur Hobba
Westlake Village, California

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level Developing School Readiness with Parents

This workshop explores how we can give our children the very best start in their formative years by allowing them to develop the dispositions they require to excel, both at school and throughout their lives. In preparation for an unknown world of tomorrow, this workshop looks at the more profound gifts we can offer our children, such as self-motivation, courage, and imagination. It then looks to explore methods used to embrace children's natural

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developmental instincts to create lifelong learners, avoiding the current trends of disaffected and disruptive children, bored and switched off from education when it has barely begun.

Kathryn Peckham, M.Ed., Doctoral Candidate
Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level

Fathering in the Shadows: The Many Ways Child Protective Services Undermines Black and Brown Fathers

While the criminal justice system leads to disproportionate arrests and mass incarceration of black men, the Child Protective System often removes black fathers from their children's lives. Both systems threaten black communities and lead to the separation of black families, sometimes temporarily and at other times permanently. Both methods are deeply rooted in implicit bias against black men. This presentation will challenge the "interventions" employed by CPS and offer different strategies to support and advocate for men with CPS involvement, that we believe are more culturally competent and healthy for families. Participants will learn how to implement a cutting-edge project, Early Defense, which provides rights-based advocacy for people involved with CPS from the moment they enter a person's life and observations on the typical experience of a Black/Latino man in the Bronx with allegations of intimate partner violence and case studies of early and effective rights-based advocacy. Critical analysis of the child protective paradigm, which requires separation, is rooted in cookie-cutter services and is inconsistent with restorative and transformative justice approaches to intimate partner violence and does not account for historical oppression and punishment aided by carceral feminism.

Jean Padilla with Edwin Taveras,MSW
Bronx, New York

Session Location: Century C&D Second Level

Building Capacity to Strengthen Families for Fathers Returning Home from Prison

What are the impacts and issues related to fathers who are returning home from prison? The presenters will present lessons learned from black fathers who participated in their study, Parenting Perspectives of Black Fathers Post Incarceration. The workshop will include dialogue about best practices to help fathers transition back into the family and strategies to build capacity to strengthen the father-child relationship.

Dr. Katrina Akande, Dr. Kenya Y. (McKinley) Cistrunk with Synithia Flowers
Auburn, Alabama

Session Location: Century A&B Second Level

How to Create a Positive Fatherhood Mindset

Like most worthwhile endeavors, our success as fathers depends mainly on how we think about ourselves. In my experience, both as a professional and as a father, I have learned that, unfortunately, it is much easier to focus on our negative attributes than to build on the positive ones. In this presentation, I will discuss the psychology of our habits as negative thinkers and how to change our negative thoughts into positive mindsets that will lead to more uplifting and fulfilling experiences as fathers.

Taylor Greenhalgh
St. George, Utah

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OPEN TO ALL ATTENDEES, GUESTS, AND SPEAKERS – DINNER INCLUDED

These two powerful sessions are open to all attendees, speakers, and guests. Everyone has gone through adversity in their lives. A sweet taste or fragrance is coming together; it is an opportunity for you to see the profound value of not just going through adversity but; the increase of the purpose of your life; and ultimately reinforce the strengths growing into a more significant and stronger today and future.

The vision of **Men2Men** and **Women2Women** will be a fresh opportunity for in-depth conversations of the needs to become transcendent as men, women, mothers, fathers, grandparents, professionals, sons, daughters, and mentors. We will ask ourselves some critical questions of our passion, purpose, and dreams, both fulfilled or buried. Listen to the individual speakers that start the guided and fluid discussions of the countless experiences pain that led to the walk into the opportunity to grow deeper in personal destiny. There is a deeper level, and the Next Level 2020 will challenge us with each other to create time to connect and learn together to transcend from one season of life to the next continuously.

Before the closing of these simultaneous sessions, the walls between the rooms will open. During this time, all will come together listening to the observations and needs from the **Women2Women**, followed by the **Men2Men**. The core groups will create quarterly sessions post-the-Next Level 2020 for ongoing networking.



Facilitators: Sylvia Rodríguez, AMFT, Pomona, California & Sheila Smith, Porter Ranch, California
Guest Speakers: Dr. Carolyn Rich Curtis, LMFT, Carmichael, California
Carlotta Taylor, M.SL., Clinton, Mississippi
LaTasha C. Watts, Shakers Field, Ohio
Chandra López Brooks, San Jose, California
Tosha Smith Mills, New Orleans, Louisiana



Facilitator: Bishop Henry Hearn, M.Sc. Engr., Lancaster, California
Guest Speakers: Dr. Anthony McFarland, Alta Dena, California
Delvyn Crawford, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Stephen Browning, M.Ed., Tempe, Arizona
Mark Perlman, MA, Sarasota, Florida

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Next Level Day Three

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 - REGISTRATION 7:30 A.M.

LUNCH 12:00 P.M.

FIRESIDE GENERAL SESSION 12:30 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.

DO NOT FORGET YOUR GALA TICKETS!

CREDENTIAL & CURRICULUM PROGRAMS 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM CONTINUES 1:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Session Location: Bel Air First Floor
Nurturing Fathers Curriculum Certification Program
Speaker: Mark Perlman, MA
Sarasota, Florida

WORKSHOPS 8:45 am - 10:15 am

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level
Fatherhood Voices in Maternal Child Health Reform

Fathers are often left out of the prenatal and perinatal process of becoming a father. How we support their transition into fatherhood and take advantage of the "magic moment" of birth to engage and support fathers that may not be living with their baby is critical to attachment and bonding. We will present data from fathers around what they wanted and some ideas of what we might road test around innovations in this arena.

Anne Stone MA, MPA
Olympia, Washington

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level
Trauma-Informed Parenting Program

This workshop will give attendees samples from the "Whose Bad @\$ \$ Kids Are Those?" online course. Fathers, practitioners, and educators can learn from one of the nation's leading pediatricians. Understanding growth and development can go a long way toward success in parenting. Attendees will learn about the multi-generational effects of trauma, effective parenting strategies, and moving beyond your roadblocks to achieving success.

Doctor Jarrett Patton, M.D.
Reading Pennsylvania

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level
Understanding the New Social Society of Today's Youth: Text, Apps & More

This is a fun and interactive workshop designed to educate professionals, supportive staff, and parents on the various ways that youth are communicating and socializing. Attendees will be given a variety of tools that will teach them the primary language and trends of social media, apps, texting, and the internet. Attendees will also gain knowledge on

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how to effectively approach and connect with their youth as it pertains to technology, as well as to create a positive and safe communication environment.

LaTasha C. Watts
Shaker Heights, Ohio

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level
The Impacts of Incarceration on Families

When one family member is incarcerated the whole family is serving time. In this workshop we will discuss generational curses, how to support these families and how to two mothers healed from the pain of their children being behind bars. When one family member is incarcerated, the entire family experiences the loss and concurrently sentenced. This session will share the skills necessary to work with children and family members of the incarcerated family member. Parent attendees and practitioners will be introduced to effective strategies to navigate a criminal justice system as a parent of children being behind bars will give attendees tools to advocate for the incarcerated and families of the incarcerated.

Chandra López Brooks
San Jose, California

Tosha Smith Mills
New Orleans, Louisiana

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level
Creating Compassionate Care for Differently Abled Children and their Families

Because of the importance to maintain empathic environments and effective care for differently-abled children and their families, practitioners must be knowledgeable of the skills needed to improve academic, social and emotional outcomes by integrating therapeutic interventions and appropriate services for children facing illness and disability. This presentation will discuss and define disability and chronic illness and the adverse effects it can have on children and their caregivers. It will also explain the importance of creating compassionate and creative models of care for this population, and finally give examples of evidence-based strategies that have been proven to be effective when working with this population.

Dr. Ronica Arnold Branson with Dr. Stephanie Davidson Herndon
Jackson, Mississippi

Session Location: Century A&B Second Level
Spark MORE Joy: Engage, Connect & THRIVE!

The purpose of our existence is to have joy. Joy often found in the most solid healthiest relationships. Int'l Bestselling Author, Crissy Butts shares an interactive moving presentation on the priority of building family relationships. Take home tools to include The Sunshine Strategy, The 21 Day Happiness Challenge, and how to create an active Family Power Hour to help families laugh more, talk more, play more, and love more. Be the first to preview her TedTalk coming in 2020.

Crissy Butts
Tomball, Texas

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10:15 AM to 10:30

Coffee Break

WORKSHOPS

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

Building Kingdom Fathers

This session will focus on how to use the Kingdom Man modeling in mirroring to sons and daughters. As the Scottish knight and military man, William Wallace said, "Every man dies. Not every man truly lives." This session will introduce skills that have proven success in working with men/fathers in an interfaith setting to define passion, purpose, and legacy through modeling/mentoring. Together, we will discuss the significant influence of fathers on their children's lives and how practitioners can work with fathers to increase the trajectory of healthier outcomes for children, as well as strengthen families.

Dr. Anthony McFarland

Altadena, California

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Winning the Big Game ~ Relationship Training for Men

This workshop will find an answer to help men stop the cycle of sexual misconduct. Whether it's sexual harassment, sexual abuse, or infidelity, men will receive the tools to eradicate these negative, destructive behaviors toward women effectively. Training will include the steps and solid foundation needed to have strong, healthy relationships with women in the workplace, home, in love, and beyond. Key areas include 1.) Recognize and identify sexual misconduct. 2.) Why men cheat-male sexual behavior issues 3.) How to avoid engaging in sexual misconduct and learn critical thinking for making the right decisions. 4.) Effective Communication and 5) "Winning the Big Game" in sustaining a loving, faithful relationship with your wife, girlfriend or dating partner. This is an interactive workshop for all attendees.

Kevin Toney

Porter Ranch, California

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Practices of Family Engagement with an Intentional Focus on Fathers

Developing ways to support a parent's ability to advocate for their child can be a challenge. The challenge intensifies when there is an intentional effort to increase a father's ability to advocate for the child. 2NOT1's solution was established through partnerships, practical parenting training and appropriate ways to promote for your child. The learning objectives are: To introduce 2NOT1's approach to engage fathers in an adult education program effectively; to present three fundamental components to effective adult education, and to discuss how a two-generational model is ideal for the overall success of the entire family. 2NOT1 will give information on their High Road program. The High Road program is a comprehensive program to increase a parent's capacity to advocate for their children. Some of the successes of the program include a peer parenting component, intentional efforts to engage fathers, and a focus on educating children and providing services for families.

Dr. Shawn Gardner with Dr. Georgia Turner

Louisville, Kentucky

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level

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Legal Financial Obligations: A Comparative Case Study of the Issues of Child Support among Convicted African American Fathers

African Americans represent nearly 33% of the prison population in 2019. Many minority individuals incarcerated are African American fathers. Research shows that upon release, many African American fathers not only deal with issues related to finding sustainable employment but may also encounter issues related to child support. In a comparative case study, the results will be presented highlighting issues related to child support faced by two convicted African American fathers returning home from prison. The problems related to child support played a pivotal role in the fathers' ability to reintegrate and reestablish a relationship with their children successfully. Further, suggested policies and initiatives targeting this growing issue will be explored.

Dr. Douglas Bates
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level Shaping Generations through Today's Parents

This workshop brings an evaluation of the "Stronger Parents Brighter Futures" Program for adolescent mothers and fathers in Virginia. More than 7,000 teenage females, ages 15-19, become pregnant in Virginia each year, resulting in more than 5,000 live births. The Stronger Parents Brighter Futures Program improves the immediate and long-term educational and health outcomes of pregnant and parenting teens and young adults in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We will provide program data illustrating our successes supporting our program participants, children, and their families. An essential influence of program participation was also observed in improving psychological wellbeing, resilience, and financial wellness, as well as reducing depression and aggression. The Stronger Parents Brighter Futures Program succeeded in positively impacting the lives of hundreds of teen and young adult parents, their children, and family members by driving progress in family stability and child wellbeing across Virginia. The Stronger Parents Brighter Futures Program served over 1,100 participants, as well as their family members, from July 2017 through June 2019.

Dr. LeRoy Thompson, Richelle Burney, LCSW, CSAC with Anthony Mingo
Fairfax, Virginia

Session Location: Century C&D Second Level Holistic Empowerment: Giving Urban Youth Options

Empowerment means training and giving a person the power to succeed. In this workshop, we want to look at how the current and future generations of young people will need to have options to achieve. We will look at the systemic issues that are plaguing our communities. We will also look at proven solutions to how our young people can use their talents, gifts, and purpose to overcome these issues through a holistic empowerment program.

Cedric Nelms
Los Angeles, California



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24-27, 2020**

**HILTON LOS ANGELES AIRPORT
5711 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90045A**

NEXT LEVEL
21ST ANNUAL FAMILIES AND FATHERS CONFERENCE
A NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE
A Visionary Experience For Educators, Practitioners, and Agencies
Who Maximize The Dreams of Children and Families

HOSTED BY:



LUNCH & FIRESIDE CHAT

**12:00 PM to 12:30
12:30 PM to 1:45 PM**

**LUNCH INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
FIRESIDE CHAT GENERAL SESSION**

FIRESIDE CHAT PRESENTERS

- **Carlis V. Williams**, serves as the Southeast Regional Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families
- **Dr. Warren Farrell**, an International & New York Times Best Selling Author-Expert on The Boy Crisis
- **Dr. Jarret Patton (MD)** is a pediatric physician who has served thousands of children in eastern Pennsylvania.
- **Dr. John Van Epp, PhD.**, is the President of Love Thinks, Clinician and Professor of Marriage & Family Studies.
- **Anne Stone, MA., MPA.**, Washington State Interagency Fatherhood Council from the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services/Economic Services Administration.

MODERATOR

Dr. Claudia Sosa-Valderrama is the Director for the Long Beach Unified School District Head Start, Early Head Start, and State Preschool.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Session Location: La Jolla A Second Level

Helping Agencies Develop Successful Proposals and Programs that Maximize Program Impact: Why Evaluation Matters

What is evaluation? Why is it important? What are the elements of a successful assessment? When funding agencies indicate they are interested in rigorous evaluation designs, what do they mean? How can such an evaluation design help in securing grant funding? Why are accurate evaluation designs valuable in documenting the effects of your program? How can I tell if a given evaluation team is right for our program? The interactive strategies of how to effectively integrate an evaluation design with executable outcomes in program proposals. In summary, if an application is valid, but the results are not published, presented, or shared, how will anyone know it happen? This workshop aims to support successful evaluation strategies and share how these can make the difference between an awarded proposal and one that was unsuccessful.

Aida E. Hernandez, MA, LPC with Dr. Michael Young
Dover, New Jersey

Session Location: La Jolla B Second Level

Listening to be Heard: Trauma-Informed Communications

This workshop focuses on teaching all parenting or co-parenting individuals how to listen, hear and respect each other for the benefit of the child from a trauma-informed perspective. Communication is key to any relationship and the link is key to all correspondence and all healing. We all know this, but do we know how to communicate with or relate to individuals with whom there may be a strained or less-than-ideal relationship? Regulating ourselves, showing empathy, maintaining our integrity, not taking it personally, responding in a trauma-informed manner, and most

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importantly putting the needs of a child first is crucial. Built upon strength-based and trauma-informed principles and the understanding that all behavior is communication, you will leave this workshop with real-life strategies, tips, stories and resources for more impactful and meaningful connections geared towards improving life, health, and wellbeing of children and families.

Colleen Mathias
Abbeville, Alabama

Session Location: Los Angeles B Second Level
Engaging Fathers in Education

How effective are school-based father engagement programs? This session will provide tips on how to exponentially increase the engagement of fathers and father figures in student achievement within your school district. We will share the lessons we learned about what motivates men to show up to your family engagement programs on campus from our Independent School District in Arlington, Texas with a capacity of replication in all unified school districts.

Eric Phillips, M.Ed.
Arlington, Texas

Session Location: Los Angeles A Second Level
Essential to Developing Fathering Skills Involvement with Latinos/Hispanics

Sharing the experience of working and collaboration with Latinos/Hispanic fathers in support of their relationships with children and family. Coaching fathers/males in developing and setting meaningful goals and potential growth for healthy children and families. To educate and equip men with the skill sets needed to navigate being fathers, husbands, and community leaders effectively. Encouragement Fathers/Men to become strong fathers and responsible men. Workshops are designated to strengthen positive paternal involvement leads to improved school performance, positive self-esteem, better sibling relationships, and improved mental health outcomes for children and families.

Luis A. Ramos
Lansing, Michigan

Session Location: Century C&D Second Level
The Impacts of Faith in a Proven Mentoring Program

What are the most effective ways to use interfaith practices in the home, in our daily lives, and in marriage? This workshop will discuss the impact interfaith practices will have on family life. The discussion will address the advantages of including ecumenical in a fatherhood engagement model as its foundation. The method will guide discussion about ways to address family issues.

Phyllis P. McNeal, LMSW with Elisa Lane and Beverly Broadus-Green
Eastvale, California

Session Location: Century A&B Second Level
Parental Alienation - What it is, how to tackle it, and to overcome it effectively.

Thirty-five years ago, the concept of Parental Alienation Syndrome was introduced to the world by a child psychiatrist and author Dr. Richard Gardener, drawing on many years of clinical experiences. The use of the word 'syndrome' caused considerable controversy and continues to do so today. Still, Parental Alienation has become irrevocably established in the vocabulary of family practitioners, doctors, psychologists, and lawyers. The effects on a child, even if done with the best of intentions, can be devastating and cause deep-rooted psychological impacts, hindering

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development and success at school, lack of confidence, together with difficulties in sustaining relationships for life. This workshop will look at how to identify such issues before they become entrenched, how to work with parents in ensuring that they don't go down this all too familiar path, and how to help children overcome conflict. Parents who, consciously or subconsciously work to turn their children against each other, are all too often people that suffered often are prevented from knowing one of their parents in their childhood, and the effects can last for generations.

Alex Borchardt

Plymouth, United Kingdom, Representing England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales

Session Location: Los Angeles C Second Level

Fathering Mental Health Tool Kit

Mental health for men is an emerging area of interest that is beginning to be recognized in research and clinical practice. Men with mental illnesses are less likely to have received mental health treatment. Because of this, they suffer more negative outcomes such as drug and alcohol abuse, incarceration, poor job performance, and family discord. Men are part of the parenting dynamic, and similar to mothers, the risk for mental health problems increases once he becomes a father. Their mental health can affect their children's emotional development. The purpose of this presentation is to present the available literature on the mental health of fathers and its effect on a child's emotional health. Specifically, we will talk about depression and anxiety in fathers and looking at screening tools that may be helpful in the recognition of these disorders and how we can help.

Catherine Baker, PMHNP

Oceanside, California

Session Location: Marina Room Second Floor

Fatherhood and Family Wellness: Causes and Solutions For Addressing Father Absence

Low income African American and minority fathers, who in most cases were not raised in the company of a significant father figure, are facing deficits in areas involving their duties as parents, providers and role-models. However, when one delves closer into the institutional biases that allows for such a problem to perpetuate; it is clear there are serious ramifications for the target population in question. In an effort to address the matter, this presentation was developed for social workers, clinicians, advocates, and other key stakeholders who work with families to become more aware of not only the issues that fathers face, but also how to provide support, guidance and advocacy for them and their families. Learn strategies about how to effectively work with low-income and minority fathers.

Keston Jones, MHS, CASAC with Scott Leach, Robert Antioco, and Ganiella Garcia

New York City, New York

DRS. RAMON & YOLANDA NIEVES FAMILY AFFAIR
RED-TIE RED DRESS GALA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020
5:30 P.M. RECEPTION 6:00 P.M. DINNER SERVICE - AWARDS - ENTERTAINMENT
FATHERS & FAMILIES

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GUEST SPEAKER AND 2020 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP HONOREE

Honorable Lynn Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families



Assistant Secretary Lynn Johnson has confirmed joining Fathers & Families Coalition of America's 21st Annual Conference, February 24-27, 2020. We will honor her at our closing gala, the Drs. Ramon & Yolanda Nieves Family Affair Gala, Thursday night with the Honorable John S. Martinez National Leadership Award. Hon. Lynn Johnson is the Assistant Secretary for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is a division of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Senate confirmed her on August 28, 2018. Under her leadership are numerous programs impacting the lives of millions of children and families. These programs include assistance with welfare, child support enforcement, adoption assistance, foster care, childcare, and child abuse, Head Start, and many more.

Before joining the Trump administration, Mrs. Johnson served as the executive director of Jefferson County Human Services in Colorado, overseeing the county's Head Start program, as well as programs on the workforce, career and family services, child welfare, justice services, and community assistance. Before this position, Mrs. Johnson ran her consulting firm, which dealt with mental health, high-risk youth, developmental disabilities, child welfare, and early childhood education. She was the chief of staff to Colorado Lt. Gov. Jane E. Norton in 2003, and from 1999 to 2002 was a policy advisor to Colorado Governor Bill Owens. Before joining the Owens administration, Mrs. Johnson served as a senior specialist with the U.S. Courts as a probation and parole officer. She was responsible for the direct supervision of offenders with mental health problems and offenders convicted of sex offenses.

Mrs. Johnson has a bachelor's degree in rehabilitation from the University of Northern Colorado and a master's degree in social work from Arizona State University. She is a graduate of the Federal Judicial Center National Leadership Development Program and Harvard Executive Education for State and Local Governments. Mrs. Johnson has been happily married for 32 years and is the mother of three adult children.



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Sandra Gasca-Gonzalez is the Vice President of the Annie



E. Casey Foundation's Center for Systems Innovation, which entails overseeing national and state reform efforts in three key areas: Child welfare, young people transitioning into adulthood, and juvenile justice. Before assuming

this role in 2018, Sandra served as the Director of the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, which aims to equip young people leaving foster care with the relationships, resources, and opportunities needed to achieve wellbeing and success as they transition into adulthood. As the Director of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Jim Casey Initiative, Sandra led national, state and local efforts to improve policies and practices to ensure young people can transition from foster care to adulthood successfully. She is known for her fearlessness in tackling deep-rooted challenges and her willingness to go into diverse communities to increase engagement in a way that benefits children and families.

Sandra became Director of the Jim Casey Initiative in April 2015, after serving as Executive Vice President of Practice and Leadership Integration for KVC Health Systems, where she led nationally recognized initiatives to transform child welfare systems with clinical best practices, change management skills and results-based measurement. Before that, she was on assignment from KVC to one of the most embattled public child welfare systems in the U.S. – the Washington, D.C., Child and Family Services Agency – where she helped implement best practices and championed a culture shift. This work led to remarkable outcomes for D.C. children and families, including sharp reductions in the length of time children spent in foster care and dramatic increases in the number of children being placed with families. Additionally, Sandra has served as president of KVC Nebraska and worked for Youthville (now EmberHope),

where she led the implementation of child welfare privatization for the South-Central area of Kansas.

Sandra is a published author in the area of human trafficking of young people in foster care and translating adolescent brain science into child welfare practice. As an alumna of the Annie E. Casey Foundation Fellowship program, Sandra also is a graduate of the National Hispanic Leadership Institute, a recipient of an Executive Leadership Certificate from Harvard University, and has been recognized by business journals in two states as a "40 Under 40" leader. She earned a master's degree in Psychology from Emporia State University and a bachelor's degree from Southwestern College.

Dr. Wade F. Horn, Ph.D. is a Managing Director at



Deloitte Consulting where he is Lead Client Service Partner (LCSP) for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Health and Human Services Market Leader focused on state government. As LCSP for Deloitte's CMS account, Dr. Horn is responsible for driving service excellence and managing risk, developing the account leaders and team and delivering strong financial performance.

Prior to coming to Deloitte, Dr. Horn served from 2001 to 2007 as the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services where he oversaw over 60 Federal programs with a total annual budget of \$47 billion aimed at improving the wellbeing of children and helping families achieve self-sufficiency, including welfare, child welfare, child support, childcare, and adoption.

Dr. Horn also has served as Commissioner for Children, Youth and Families, and Chief of the Children's Bureau within HHS, and as a member of the National Commission on Children, the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, the National

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Commission on Childhood Disability, the President's Commission on Special Education, the U.S. Advisory Board on Welfare Indicators, the U.S. Advisory Board on Kinship Care, and the U.S. Advisory Committee on Head Start Research and Evaluation. Dr. Horn is also a co-founder and first President of National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) whose mission is to improve the wellbeing of children by increasing the number of children growing up with involved, committed and responsible fathers, and has been an adjunct faculty at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute and an affiliated scholar with the Hudson Institute.

Dr. Horn also has extensive experience in the provision of direct services, including Director of Outpatient Psychological Services at Children's Hospital National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and co-director of Michigan State University's Psychological Clinic.

Dr. Horn has written numerous articles relevant to children and family issues, including a weekly newspaper column entitled *Fatherly Advice*, and is the co-author of several books including *The Better Homes and Gardens New Father Book* (Meredith Books, 1998) and *The Better Homes and Gardens New Teen Book* (Meredith Books, 1999). He is also the lead editor of *The Fatherhood Movement: A Call to Action* (Lexington Books, 1998).

Dr. Horn received his Ph.D. in Clinical Child Psychology from Southern Illinois University in 1981. He lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife of 40 years and is the proud father of two adult daughters.

Dr. Warren Farrell is the only man in the US ever elected three times to the Board of Directors of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in New York City.



Dr. Warren Farrell has been chosen by the Financial Times as one of the world's top 100 thought leaders. His most recent book, *Why Men Earn More: The Startling Truth Behind the Pay Gap—and What Women Can Do About It*,

has been the subject of widespread praise, from features on ABC's 20/20 to The New York Times and U.S. News and World Report.

Dr. Farrell's books are published in over 50 countries, and in 13 languages. They include two award-winning international best-sellers, *Why Men Are The Way They Are* plus *The Myth of Male Power*. *The Boys Crisis* is the newest best-selling publication by Dr. Farrell.

Dr. Farrell has run his own business for more than 35 years. He has taught in the School of Medicine at the University of California in San Diego, as well as at Georgetown University, Rutgers, Brooklyn College, American University, and the California School of Professional Psychology. He has taught in political science, psychology, sociology, women's studies, and public administration. In 2003 his campaign for Governor of California was a special feature of CNN.

He has done keynotes, expert witness testimony or corporate training for Toyota, IBM, AT&T, Bell Atlantic, Revlon, Ogilvy-Mather, Texaco, NASA and the U.S. Air Force. He has spoken worldwide to associations of corporate executives (YPO, TEC, the Australian Institute of Management); associations of professionals (e.g., the American Management Association, and the Financial Planning Association), and think tanks (CATO, the Renaissance Weekends).

Warren has appeared more than 20 times on CNN (e.g., Larry King Live), and repeatedly on Oprah, the Today Show and Good Morning America.

He has also been interviewed by Barbara Walters, Peter Jennings and John Stossel, and been the subject of two special features on ABC's 20/20. In 2003 his campaign for Governor of California was a special feature of CNN.

Warren has been featured repeatedly in The New York Times, Forbes, and The Wall Street Journal, as well as in Business Week and Boardroom publications. He is often quoted or featured in Time, Newsweek, and U.S. News and World Report, and been the subject of features in

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both People and Parade. He has written for publications ranging from the World Book Encyclopedia, journals of sociology and psychology.

Warren is in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the World but is most comfortable at home. He lives with his wife and two daughters (teenagers!) in Mill Valley, California.

Carlis V. Williams serves as the Southeast Regional Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families (ACF) based in Atlanta, Georgia. She was the former Chairperson of the Atlanta Federal Executive Board. The Southeast Region consists of eight states:

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Before assuming her present position, Ms. Williams served as the Executive Assistant to the Governor for Health and Human Services in the State of Indiana. She was the Governor's chief policy advisor in these areas and had responsibility for five major agencies: Family and Social Services Administration, the State Department of Health, the Governor's Council on Disabilities, the Governor's Council on Protection and Advocacy and the Governor's Council on Sports and Fitness. Under her leadership, Indiana registered over 120,000 children during the first year of their Children's Health Insurance Program, Hoosier Healthwise. She has served as Deputy Director for the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family and Children, and was responsible for programs related to family resources: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Food Stamps, Medicaid, JOBS, Housing and Community Services, and lead responsibility for the design and implementation of welfare reform in the state.

She received numerous awards including the prestigious Governor of Indiana Council of the Sagamores of the Wabash Award for service to the citizens of Indiana; Georgia State University's National Center on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren award for untiring efforts in support of grandparent-headed families; Spelman College Innovation Award for the professional development of Head Start and Child Care Teachers in Region IV; National Partnership for Community Leadership Judge David Gray Ross Award for Strengthening Families and Father Involvement in the Public Sector; and the Mayor of the City of Atlanta Georgia Award for Commitment to the Children & Youth of the City.

Ms. Williams is a graduate of Ball State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology and Master of Art Degrees in Social Psychology and Counseling and Guidance. She is a mother and grandmother and loves reading, music and the theater. If asked her philosophy of life, she will say, "Giving is better than receiving...if we all give, everyone wins!"

Barbara Coloroso, M.Ed. is an international best-selling author and for the past 44 years an internationally recognized speaker and consultant on parenting, teaching, school discipline, positive school climate, bullying, grieving, nonviolent conflict resolution, and restorative justice. She has appeared on *Oprah*, *CBS*, *NBC*, *ABC*, *CNN* and *NPR* and has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Time*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Newsweek*, and other national and international publications.



Her uniquely effective parenting and teaching strategies were developed through her years of training in sociology, special education and philosophy, as well as field-tested through her experiences as a classroom teacher, laboratory school instructor, university instructor, seminar leader, volunteer in Rwanda and mother of three grown children.

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She is the author of four international bestsellers: *Kids Are Worth It! Giving Your Child the Gift of Inner Discipline*; *Parenting Through Crisis—Helping Kids in Times of Loss, Grief and Change*; *The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander—From Pre-School to High School*, *How Parents and Teachers Can Help Break the Cycle of Violence*; and *Just Because It's Not Wrong Doesn't Make It Right—From Toddlers to Teens, Teaching Kids to Think and Act Ethically*. Barbara's latest book is *Extraordinary Evil: A Brief History of Genocide...and Why it Matters*. She also has two critically acclaimed video programs *Winning at Parenting...without beating your kids* and *Winning at Teaching...without beating your kids* and numerous newspaper and magazine articles, such as *Bully, Bullied, Bystander...and Beyond*, *Help Your Students Choose a New Role in Southern Poverty Law Center Teaching Tolerance Magazine*, April 2011.

Dr. Claudia Sosa-Valderrama is the Director, Head Start Program, Long Beach Unified School District. Under her leadership, LBHS has become one of many Affiliates of Fathers & Families Coalition of America. Dr. Sosa-Valderrama joined the Long Beach Unified School District as the Director



of the Head Start and Early Head Start Program in April 2014. She provides leadership, supervision, and support to the Head Start, Early Head Start, and Educare programs. In her role as Director, she regularly collaborates with other applications and departments to leverage resources and streamline systems towards improving services for children and families. Before joining Long Beach Unified, Claudia was the Assistant Director for the Los Angeles County Office of Education, where she worked for 12 years. In that capacity, she led the Program Design and Effectiveness Unit, responsible for the comprehensive monitoring and professional development support for the county's Head Start and Early Head Start delegate agencies. Claudia and her family immigrated to this country when she was three

years old in search of a better life, where she lived and attended school in El Monte. Dr. Sosa-Valderrama started her career in education as a Social Services Specialist, Education Development Supervisor, and School Psychologist for El Monte City School District. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of La Verne, a Master of Arts in Education with an emphasize on School Psychology, as well as a Doctor of Psychology in Educational Psychology from Alliant International University. Claudia also completed the State of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Administrative Credential Program from the University of California Irvine. Claudia's additional credentials include Administrative Services Credential, a Pupil Personnel Services Credential, and a Child Development Director Permit from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Leslie Reprogle, MBA., LAC. is the CEO of the Agape



Adoption Agency of Arizona, Inc. Leslie served on the Board of Directors for Community Information and Referral from 2000-2003? In 2002, Leslie was named the Outstanding Alumnus for the Black Board of Directors Project. She currently serves on Arizona Governor Doug Ducey's Office of Youth Faith and Family- Council on Child Safety

and Family Empowerment, where she serves as chairperson of the Supports sub-committee for two years and piloted an ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) support group for parents with histories of adversity who are currently parenting children with histories of trauma and abuse.

Leslie graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in Qualitative Economics in 1993. She earned an executive M.B.A from A.S.U. in 1998 and a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Argosy University in 2012. Leslie is a Licensed Association Counselor, a Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TRBI®) Practitioner and a Certified Transformation Coach who is trained in Play

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Therapy (including sand tray therapy), Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Infant-Toddler Mental Health. She enjoys working with people of all ages and she utilizes attachment and trauma-informed interventions to help her clients accomplish their long-term goals for well-being. Leslie's approach to growth and healing is holistic, collaborative and strength-based. Her focus includes work with blended families, including stepfamilies, foster families, and adoptive families. Leslie is a cancer survivor and she and her husband, Doug, have co-parented his biological children from his first marriage and two wonderful little boys who were adopted from foster care.

The Reprogles founded the Agape Adoption Agency of Arizona, Inc. in 2005. Agape is an affiliate of the Fathers & Families Coalition of America, Inc. (FFCA). In 2012, Agape was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award for the community development work it does in concert with FFCA. After operating successful foster care, adoption and parent education programs for several years, in 2015 Agape launched the Agape Family Services (AFS) program arm in response to the need for child and family welfare services which were not specific to adoption. Agape Family Services currently offers case and parent aide services, which include in-home classes and supervised visitation to in-risk families.

Jarrett Patton, MD. FAAP., is a physician who has served



thousands of children in eastern Pennsylvania for over 15 years. Throughout his career as a pediatrician and Medical Director, he remained an advocate for children's health issues. Over time, his

servant leadership style led him to curtail clinical practice to become a change agent in the healthcare system. Dr. Patton served as President of the Medical Staff for an eight-hospital system in eastern

Pennsylvania and worked with other leaders to promote children's health and health equity in a highly matrixed environment. Dr. Patton has advised many regional and national organizations, including The Joint Commission, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Hospital Association. In his best-selling book *Whose Bad @\$\$ Kids Are Those?* Dr. Patton blends his medical expertise, leadership and as a dad to further the needs of other parents.

Anne Stone, MA., MPA., is a long-time child advocate



with a 30-year career in Oregon and Washington in a variety of roles from the community consulting, program developer, funder, lobbyist and state policy perspective. Eight years in adolescent crisis counseling and juvenile court work early in her

career, made the need for effective investments in early childhood poignantly clear. The last 15 years have been spent immersed in social services and health reform efforts focused upon finding families as early as possible who are experiencing high levels of stress, triaging that need, and creating a community response. She has done local and national consulting around a more family-centric pediatric medical home.

Anne is currently staffing the new Washington State Interagency Fatherhood Council with a goal to improve fatherhood inclusion and bringing lived experience to the policy and practice table. Fatherhood is essential to the best outcomes for our children.



Carlotta Taylor is a military Veteran of eight years, an author, and a National John Maxwell Certified Speaker, Trainer, and Coach. She holds an Associate in General Studies, a Bachelor's in Social Services, and a master's degree in Science and Leadership. Carlotta is

the CEO and Founder of Somebody Step In, Inc., a non-

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profit organization coaching and mentoring to foster youth and young adults who have aged out of the foster care system. Carlotta has extensive law enforcement background as a detective in the divisions of child protection, homicide experiences and as a federal police officer for approximately 15 years.

Carlotta has solved several high-profile cases during her tenure with the Jackson Police Department and holds a 100% conviction rate on all city cases carried to trial during her stay. Carlotta holds a certification in shaken baby syndrome/head trauma, a 40-hour certification in interview and interrogations with the FBI and has received several accommodation awards. Carlotta's expertise led to overseeing cases deemed unsolvable. One of the pinnacles of her career in investigations was with the Child Protection Division, where her first assigned case as a detective led to a conviction of a suspect who previously escaped trial.

Growing up, Carlotta was severely beaten, suffered mental, spiritual and physical abuse in the many foster care homes and shelters where she resided. She encourages people worldwide to know that their difficulties in life do not have to define their future. Carlotta offers a platform for others to share their stories of prevailing adversity on her social media talk show, *Carlotta Taylor Gets to the Heart of the Matter*. In her debut best-selling book, *No More Flinching*, Carlotta outlines five critical steps to overcoming adversity. With her strong spirit of discernment, clear vision about the future, wit, and love for others, she's committed to walking in her purpose shining her light brightly for all to see and she encourages others to do the same.

Dr. John Van Epp, Ph.D. is the President and Founder of Love Thinks, LLC is the author of *How to Avoid Falling in Love with a Jerk (or Jerkette)* and *Becoming Better Together: Healthy Relationship Goals for Growing Together When the World is Pulling You Apart*. He has previous



experience as a founding church pastor, an adjunct professor in marriage and family with extensive research in premarital, marital and family relations, and a clinical counselor for 25-years in his private counseling practice. He has developed relationship programs that have been taught by over 10,000 certified instructors to over one million participants in every branch of the military, social agencies, marriage and family coalitions, high schools and universities, and in all 50 states and 11 countries. Dr. Van Epp's relationship courses and his innovative Relationship Attachment Model were awarded the Smart Marriage Impact Award, the National Association of Relationship & Marriage Education Impact Award, and have been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Time Magazine*, *Psychology Today*, *O Magazine*, and *Cosmopolitan* with appearances on the *CBS Early Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Fox News* and *Focus on the Family*.

Tosha Smith Mills is an entrepreneur with over 15 years



of experience as the CEO of The Talent Connexion LLC, a successful talent agency in New Orleans, who has placed talent in an extensive list of Hollywood accredited films, television shows, and commercials. Tosha also has over 18 years of

experience in the legal field. Through this, she has discovered her passion for writing and is fulfilled by sharing her testimonies, empowering those in need and helping others find their life's purpose. Tosha is a newfound best-selling Author of *Momma I Should Have Listened: A Voice of Pain and Power*, a memoir that gives a clear vision of the dynamics that affect the family unit and identifies patterns of generational curses. Tosha has an innate ability to inspire, motivate and instruct. She has been on many major radio stations across the country including "The Breakfast Club" and has recently given a lecture at the John Jay Criminal College in New York City to students studying Criminal Justice and was a panelist at the Morehouse School of Medicine. Tosha had to persevere with the greatest pain that any adult

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could experience turnaround to go through the storms and share the promise of joy by going beyond just holding on. By sharing her experience, she allows others that are in the same situation to feel an instant connection and identify with her feelings of once feeling alone. Tosha is a voice of this generation for change, an advocate for children and comfort to all parents who have lost a child to the Judicial System. Tosha is the mother of four young me; Blake, William III, Christopher, and Trae and is the wife of John and an inspiration to all.

Sandeep Kaur Sandhu, MD is a medical school graduate who has worked for one year in India as a physician. Dr. Sandhu participated in Drug De-Addiction Clinic, Polio Drive (Pulse Polio), Free Ophthalmology Clinic in a rural area in India. In these clinics, she examined patients and managed patient coordination. In June 2019, she graduated with a Master of



Science in Healthcare Delivery Leadership from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York. She is currently researching Adverse Childhood Experiences in US Immigration Applicants in her private practice in the Bay Area as a research assistant. Dr. Sandhu has collected data for a retrospective data analysis of immigration psychological evaluations and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has run preliminary results, presented at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York and is currently pursuing the process of publications. Dr. Sandhu is an Institutional Review Board (IRB) liaison. for the West Contra Costa Unified School District Preschool Activities and used her role as the health officer and health educator to teach children and their families the importance of taking care of themselves, how to practice prevention, and the value of hygienic care to prevent common illness. Dr. Sandhu engages families in their healthcare and addressing healthcare-related concerns brought to her by the parents. She presently lives with

her unconditionally loving and supportive parents in San Pablo, California.

Toni Rivera-Joachin is the Executive Director of Family and Schools Together, Inc. and is one of the many FFCA Affiliate Executive leaders throughout the United States and Internationally. Toni has over 25 years of non-profit management experience and expertise working with underserved populations,



including children and families, and advocating for social justice and self-sufficiency across a variety of non-profit sectors. Specific expertise includes program and community development, grant writing experience, and community partnership/relationship development.

Toni spent 10 years at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, managing the nationally-recognized violence prevention and intervention program, Project Ujima. Additionally, she is a founding member of the National Network of Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs (NNHVIP) started in 2009.

Toni most recently served as the President and Chief Executive Director at Centro Hispano Milwaukee (Council for the Spanish Speaking, Inc.) advocating for the Latino population through dual-language early childhood education including Early Head Start and Head Start programs, elderly housing, adult education, and immigration community services. In this role, she provided vision and oversight of the programs and services offered through Centro Hispano Milwaukee, reaching over 15,000 people annually. Toni obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Community Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and completed her Master of Science degree in Business Management in 2007 from Cardinal Stritch University. She lives in Milwaukee and is married with two beautiful daughters.

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Dr. Rocío E. Hernández, Ph.D., MFT, LPCC is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and Marriage Family Therapist in California and Hawaii. Her consulting and executive coaching business, Reach Your Goal Now, offers destination and corporate retreats, strategic planning, and a culturally humble way to diversity and inclusion in any environment. In her clinical practice, she specializes in psychological evaluations for immigration, childhood development, adolescent sexual assault, family violence prevention, and offers EMDR Therapy to replace haunting memories with a new outlook on life. Dr. Hernandez is a member of the Institutional Review Board for the Kaiser Foundation Research Institute. She teaches Law and Ethics, Health Equity, and other mental health courses across California. She is the co-founder of the Marin Latino Health Policy Partnership and published *Viva Marin: Latino Health Policy, Data, and Action Guide*. Dr. Hernandez is a strong advocate for early childhood education. After serving nine years for the Marin First 5 Commission, she joined the Contra Costa First 5 Commission. Her work includes significant media experience. She served as a Public Information Officer on the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services Emergency Management Team. Her skills as a spokesperson have been relied upon, as well as her community relationships and bilingual ability. Dr. Hernández received her doctorate from UC Davis in Health Care leadership, where she designed an app to reduce test-taking anxiety. She and her husband are currently working on a curriculum to help build relationships between law enforcement and communities. Most importantly, she is the mom of a 20-year-old son who is studying at Seattle University.



Dr. Narviar Barker Browne, MSW, Ph.D., is a Licensed Social Worker and the author of two books, *Child Abuse*, and *Neglect: An Interdisciplinary Method of Treatment*. She has written more than 30 refereed articles dealing with children, families, and minority health. Her professional career consists of educator, administrator, researcher, social advocate, and trainer, i.e., train-the-trainer. In her clinical capacity of over 45 years, she specializes in working with children and families, couples, fathers, and trauma. She has served in the roles of Department Chair of Social Work, Georgia State University; Associate Dean Whitney M. Young, Jr. School of Social Work; Department of Psychiatry Administrative Director, Meharry Medical College; and Academic Professor. Dr. Barker Browne is currently the President/CEO of Narolds, LLC, a research-based company that provides on-site training and capacity building solutions that are customizable, aligned, and differentiated to meet the goals of organizations, academic institutions, small businesses, agencies, and individuals. She has maintained a working relationship with Fathers and Families Coalition of America since 2004 and has served in the capacity of a researcher, lecturer and conference presenter. She has presented papers at major national and international conferences and has received numerous awards and recognition for her service, including the US President's Call to Service Award. She maintains her clinical practice and ongoing research.



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Dr. Rosina McAlpine BCom, MCom (Hons), MEd, Ph.D.



is an author, parent, multi-award-winning educator, researcher, and CEO of Win Win Parenting. Win Win Parenting partners with forward-thinking organizations to help their working parents navigate the work-family interface

successfully. Parents learn practical strategies to manage day-to-day parenting challenges like struggles with technology, emotional outbursts and keeping calm, even in the most volatile situations. Dr. McAlpine appears regularly in the media and her innovative, evidence-based parenting programs support parents working across a variety of corporations, universities and government organizations locally and internationally.

Dr. Armon Perry, Ph.D., MSW is a Professor in the Kent



School of Social Work at the University of Louisville. Dr. Perry serves as Project Director of a \$4.9 million New Pathways for Fathers grant through the US DHHS to deliver

the 4 Your Child project. The program, which includes fatherhood services to non-custodial fathers across several Kentucky counties. For the last five years, Dr. Perry has served as a trainer and consultant to the Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness Healthy Start fatherhood initiative. This program was developed based on the conclusions of a needs assessment that Dr. Perry conducted. Finally, Dr. Perry has served as the PI on a Fatherhood Research and Practice (FRPN) grant examining strategies for recruiting custodial mothers into a co-parenting intervention.

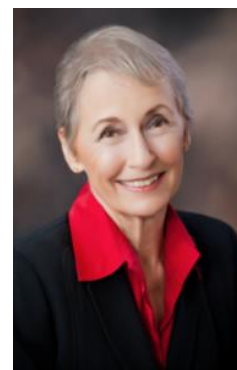
Dr. Cheri Langley, Ph.D., MPH, CHES is a Program



Manager in the Kent School of Social Work. Dr. Langley serves as the Program Manager for the 4 Your Child Project. In the last seven years, Dr. Langley has managed two separate federally funded grant projects totaling \$10 million in the areas of

teenage pregnancy prevention and responsible fatherhood, respectively. In addition to her experience in managing sizeable funded research projects, Dr. Langley also has national and international experience as a certified Community Health Educator working with adolescents and adults from low-income communities.

Dr. Carolyn Rich Curtis, Ph.D. is a Licensed Marriage and



Family Therapist. She is the author of *Mind Matters: Overcoming Adversity and Building Resilience*, a psycho-educational program to overcome trauma. She founded and was the former Executive Director of the Relationship Skills Center. In her clinical practice of 35 years, she specialized in working with couples, alcohol and drug abuse and trauma. She was an Adjunct faculty member in the

Psychology Department of California State University, Sacramento and American River College. Dr. Curtis is a trainer of facilitators in several significant relationship education programs: Bringing Baby Home, Mastering the Mysteries of Love, Relationship Enhancement, PAIRS. She is a Certified Imago Therapist and Certified Clinical Trauma Professional. She presented papers at major national and international conferences, including speaking at the White House.

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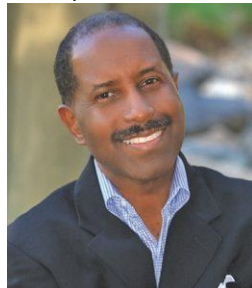
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Bishop Edward A. Smith was born in Los Angeles,



California. He received Jesus Christ as his personal Savior in February 1973. He spent the first 11 years of his Christian life sitting under the teaching ministry of Dr. Frederick K.C. Price, Founder/Pastor of Crenshaw Christian Center, Los Angeles, California. In 1984, he

and his family joined Zoe Christian Fellowship of Los Angeles.

Bishop Ed spent seven years as an instructor for the Zoe Christian Leadership Training Center and served as an Elder and Executive Board member of Zoe Christian Fellowship of Los Angeles, pastored by Bishop Frank L. Stewart. Under the instruction of God and with the blessing of Bishop Stewart, another Zoe church was planted. Pastor Ed started Zoe Christian Fellowship of Cerritos in 1989. In 1995, Bishop Ed and the members of Zoe moved to their present church complex in Whittier, thereby becoming Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier.

Bishop Ed earned a BA in Applied Mathematics and a MBA in Marketing/Finance from UCLA. He is much sought after as a speaker for conferences and seminars in the U.S. and abroad. He was invited to Russia in 1995 to participate in training the staff of the fourth largest bank in Russia. His speaking and ministry engagements have taken him to Japan, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, South Africa and Costa Rica. Pastor Ed led the first South African Government sponsored trip of Black entrepreneurs to South Africa. CNN Headline News spotlighted him for his ministry involvement in South Africa.

Before Bishop Ed entered full-time ministry, he worked in several executive marketing positions with companies such as General Mills, Ford Motor Company, Carnation Company, and AVCO Financial Services. His last corporate position was that as Vice President of

Marketing for Family Savings Bank in Los Angeles, California.

Dr. Kenya Y. (McKinley) Cistrunk is an Assistant Professor



of Social Work at Mississippi State University. For 15 years, she has served families involved in the juvenile justice system and child protective services. She is currently a co-investigator on a joint research study with Auburn University that examines the parenting experiences of Black fathers who have returned home

from prison. Dr. Cistrunk is passionate about building community partnerships that strengthen underserved relationship fathers and their children.

Dr. Charles Woodard has authored the book *Self-Talk:*



Sign of Sanity, Insanity, or the Key to Self-Empowerment. Self-Talk takes a realistic look at how personal and individual feelings are formed. In fact, monitoring and changing one's "self-talk" are the keys to self-control. Many believe

that talking to oneself is a sign of insanity, but in this powerful examination of the common practice, it is rather described as a trait of true sanity and self-empowerment.

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Dr. Kevin Gruenberg, PsyD is an independent consultant



and program developer focused on integrating fathers into programs that engage developing families. He co-developed and is researching a home visitation program for fathers and their young children meant to promote paternal engagement and family wellbeing. He also provides

consultation and training in father engagement and building parent-child relationships throughout Los Angeles. Lastly, as a clinical psychologist, Dr. Gruenberg works with children, families, and adults in private practice.

Dr. Shamara McFarland founded Advocate to Advocate



in 2017 and Mara Enterprise (www.maraenterprise.net). She graduated from Abraham Lincoln University Law School, and she is a member of Delta Theta Phi International Law Fraternity. Shamara holds a master's degree in Forensic Psychology; and bachelor's degrees in psychology and Black Studies. She is a member of the Golden Key

International Honors Society and is certified as a Mediator in Conflict Resolution. Besides, Dr. McFarland is a member of the International Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology. For over 20 years, Dr. McFarland has volunteered or worked in some capacity in the field of mental health and the law. Her mental health training and experiences range from presenting workshops on substance use relating to legal and psychological factors, an advocate for rape survivors, at-risk and crisis intervention counselor, premarital counseling, and managing depression during the holidays. For the past three years, Dr. McFarland has been a volunteer in-prison group mentor (federal prison) for men on the topics of setting healthy boundaries,

managing anger, and developing personal and professional goals. Her legal experience includes 20 years as a public servant in family law.

Dr. Katrina Akande is an Assistant Professor and



Extension Specialist at Auburn University. Currently, she is collaborating with the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) and Head Start agencies to implement fatherhood programs for rural fathers with low incomes. Dr. Akande's

research also includes examining the parenting experiences of Black father after returning home from prison. She received the NFI expansion grant to conduct the 24/7 Dad curriculum in Alabama correctional facilities.

Dr. Annette Miles, Ph.D., Ed.S., MA., Assistant Professor



of Human Development, specializes in the growth and development of children from infancy to third grade. She is a retired educator who has experience working with students in the metropolitan area, especially those with disabilities. She volunteers with teens and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Her area of research focuses on public

policy issues impacting children.

Dr. Latrice Rollins, Ph.D., MSW is an Assistant Professor



at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) in the Department of Community Health and

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Preventive Medicine and Adjunct Faculty for the Simmons School of Social Work. She is also trained in interprofessional education (through the University of Virginia). Dr. Rollins is a Robert Wood Johnson Culture of Health Leader, seeking to build a culture of health and advance social and health equity for African American fathers. She worked for Georgia's Office of Child Support Services and the Georgia Fatherhood Program. Dr. Rollins presents at state and national conferences on father engagement and provides father engagement training for practitioners in various sectors. Dr. Rollins is the editor and one of many authors of the upcoming book, *Engaging African American Fathers: Strategies and Lessons Learned*. She has also developed publicly available policy briefs, newsletters, and white papers on engaging fathers. Dr. Rollins received a Bachelor's in sociology from Spelman College and a master's and a Doctorate in social work from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Tasha Alston, Ph.D., MSW is a social worker and educational psychologist with over 18 years of



experience in the field of social work and educational psychology. Dr. Alston specializes in research and community work that focuses on African American fathers' involvement in education, parent engagement, school, family and community partnerships, strengthening families, qualitative research,

equity and social justice for the betterment of society. Dr. Alston has presented her work at local, regional, and national conferences. Dr. Alston also has extensive experience working as a consultant, conducting workshops, and teaching at the university level in her area of expertise. Dr. Alston completed her doctorate in educational psychology at the University of Georgia. Dr. Alston also earned her master's degree in social work from Clark Atlanta University and her bachelor's degree in social work from Siena College.

Dr. Ronica Arnold Branson is a licensed practitioner,



coach, professor, and author. She has presented at multiple conferences and has published in numerous scholarly journals and texts. Her contributions also include successfully collaborating with colleagues to secure vital funding to help train graduate-level

students on how to work in integrative behavioral healthcare and to prepare practitioners to work more effectively with children with disabilities. Dr. Arnold Branson's specialties include resiliency and happiness training, grief counseling and working with children and families that are affected by disability and impairment.

Dr. Stephanie Davidson-Herndon has over 20 years of experience working with young children, families, and programs providing quality early care and education. Dr. Davidson-Herndon has served in many different roles, including early childhood teacher, elementary teacher, trainer, and instructional coach. Dr. Davidson-Herndon has over 13 years of experience as a university faculty with appointments in the academic disciplines of Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Child Development and Family Studies. She has worked extensively as a mentor to elementary and early childhood teachers for the past 15 years. Dr. Davidson-Herndon has presented her body of scholarly work at national and international conferences, including the conference of the American Educational Research Association, National Association for the Education of Young Children, and the National Black Child Development Institute's Annual Conference. She has published in several education journals and written columns for publications including *Teaching Young Children* and *Dimensions of Early Childhood Education*.

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Presently, Dr. Davidson-Herndon is an Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jackson State University in Jackson, MS (USA). In her faculty role, Dr. Davidson-Herndon supports the advancement of practitioners in their work related to pedagogy, policy, and advocacy. Dr. Davidson-Herndon attends to an active research agenda, which focuses on the assessment of young children, teacher certification, culturally responsive pedagogy, and indices of quality in early childhood settings.

Dr. Anthony McFarland is a professional with more than 20 years of experience in corporate training, relationship counseling, and teaching multitudes to live high impact lives as a direct result of his educational and life journey. His strategies and lessons will give you immediate and lasting results. He is highly respected as one of the most energetic, personable, and dynamic



life coaches, whose work as a pastor, mentor, trainer, speaker, and author motivates, educates and inspires people worldwide to live their best life. Both he and his wife, Dr. Micheline, have the heart to see families experience God's covenant plan for their lives. Their renown mission is to take back the family helping families break generational curses and heal from past hurts and pains experienced in life and sharing a message that restores the family to God's original plan, purpose, and role for men and women. Coach Anthony's academic achievements include attending San Francisco State University, Ministry Training Institute (MTI), University of Southern California's Entrepreneur Business Program, and Harvest/Suffield University where he received his Doctor of Philosophy in Religious Studies. He is a Professional Counselor and Certified Life Coach who aims to see people get the support and results needed in order to fulfill their purpose in life. His organization has launched a new summer program for minority boys called D.E.L.T.A Developing Elite Leaders of Tomorrow Academy.

Dr. Michael Young served over 40 years as a university



faculty member and administrator (including stints as a Research Dean at two major universities) before assuming his current position as CEO of the Center for Evidence-Based Programming. Dr. Young has received numerous honors and awards for his research and evaluation activities from professional organizations,

government agencies, and the universities for which he has served. Two examples include The Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Association for Health Education and The Distinguished Faculty Contributions in Research & Public Service Award from the University of Arkansas Alumni Association. He is a Founding Member and Fellow of the American Academy of Health Behavior and holds Fellow status in several other professional organizations. Dr. Young has also served as PI or as co-PI on numerous project evaluations and has worked with several organizations to help them secure grant funding. Besides, he has published 124 articles in national/international journals and has made 262 presentations at national/international conferences. He is eminently qualified to address issues related to project evaluation.

Dr. Douglas Bates is an Assistant Professor of Social Work with Winston Salem State University. He recently



graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2018 with his Doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision. Before coming to Winston Salem State, Dr. Bates was a social worker for nine years working with several different populations in the non-

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profit sector. These populations included the homeless, working poor, teenage mothers, elderly and mentally ill. His research interest focuses on incarceration and its effect on fathers, children, and families.

Dr. Georgia Turner takes a vision and makes it a reality through passion, dedication, and tremendous



commitment. Dr. Turner has taken her desire to help others and created a career of service and leadership. After several years of leadership in local government, Dr. Turner pursued her career goal of working for

the Department of Housing and Urban Development where she completed the leadership program, managed a housing portfolio and was instrumental in the success of HUD's Fatherhood Initiative. Seizing an opportunity to direct a nonprofit agency, she accepted the position of Executive Director of 2NOT1 Fatherhood & Families, Inc. Under her leadership, 2NOT1 has increased the operating budget by 75%. She has moved services to the center of the community to serve families better and to improve wrap-around services for fathers and families and she galvanized community partnerships to assist fathers with navigating the child welfare, family court, and child support systems.

Dr. Robyn Sperling is Director of Research and



Innovation at Families & Schools Together. Dr. Sperling's role is to lead innovation and development of new programs at Families & Schools Together. She has a Ph.D. in Educational Administration, Leadership, and Policy from NYU and a Master's in Education from Harvard University. Dr. Sperling has eight years of professional

research experience and was previously a high-school teacher, working with teacher training programs to

support new teachers by delivering professional development and coaching support.

Phaetra K. Raney, LCSW, Ph.D. serves as the Chief



Executive Officer and President of Cinco Ranch Behavioral Health in Houston, Texas, an outpatient mental health and

addictions agency, committed to delivering services, education, training, and advocacy to make a difference in the lives of individuals locally and nationally. Phaetra has formed a group of clinicians nationwide to provide services nationwide. The outlet allows for the provision of telemental health services throughout the United States. Phaetra started to serve in the capacity of building healthy communities in 1999 through her work with Head Start. She served as a consultant for Allen Parish Head Start and many other forums as an expert advancing the needs of children and families. She later transitioned to work with a state prison facility where she was the Director of Mental Health. In her capacity and working as the Director of Mental Health, she was responsible for program development and development of prison reentry programs.

Phaetra has the vision to develop healthy families and children through professional development and mentoring programs. This professional development and mentoring programs have trained many clinicians, families, and individuals. She has provided additional training using virtual platforms. She has served in leadership on the Board of Directors for WAR ministries, a nonprofit faith-based organization responsible for mentorship and building healthy individuals and families. This program is designed to strengthen communities and families with a faith-based model.

While serving as the Chief Executive Officer and founder of a Community Agency, Behavioral Health Center, Oakdale, Louisiana, she developed services that provided over \$3 million in funding to help high-risk children. She

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was responsible for the development and implementation of a program designed for at-risk students and their families have a hard time accessing and navigating public and private services. The program was instrumental in providing services and ample resources in the community. Through the community-based support services, the agency provided the services of a school-based coordinator model, bringing community resources into the schools to empower success for the students by removing barriers for at-risk students. The agency filled a pivotal role as the single point of contact working inside the school coordinating and providing wraparound support to students working with school leadership to connect students and families with community resources.

Phaetra now serves as a prison consultant and business consultant. She works with prisons to examine and design effective reentry programs focusing on fatherhood, building healthy communities and strengthening families. Her practice provides higher education institutions, families, and individuals working with incarcerated fathers instructional parenting practices that can assist others in the successful pursuit of fathering behind bars and with a unique opportunity to help children heal. An opportunity to ultimately support children, strengthen families and build healthy communities.

Dr. Megan Fitzgerald, Assistant Professor of Human Development, has extensive professional and research experiences working with ethnically and culturally diverse vulnerable children and families. In the private sector, she has conducted research focusing on federal child welfare initiatives, with specific emphasis on the collaborative development of program fidelity measures, implementation, and



formative and summative evaluation. Dr. Fitzgerald's children and family-intensive research background coupled with her practical collaborative research experience give her a welcome perspective on the significance of young-adult development, mental health, and education in families.

LaTasha C. Watts is an Award-winning child advocate,



entrepreneur, speaker, and the author of *I'm Not Broken Just A Little Twisted*. She was selected by the White House as a change-maker by former first lady Michelle Obama's United States of Women for her dedication to addressing

the needs of young women and for her continuous commitment to create change within the foster care and adoption community. However, her humble beginnings and the path of her childhood would tell a very different story, one that is filled with tragedy and unspeakable abuse. Despite those adversities, she has maintained a determination to make a positive impact on young women and to change the negative outcomes of children who are in the foster care system and beyond. Currently, she has over 18 years of experience in working with youth, families, and professionals in a variety of settings. She prominently holds the positions of Founder and Executive Director of The Purple Project and The Aging Out Foundation, both of which are dedicated to addressing the needs of current and former foster youth. She also holds the position of CEO for Speak Up Speak Loud, a professional consulting, training, and branding firm. LaTasha has received numerous awards, worked on multiple nationwide charity campaigns and has been featured in several magazines and textbooks. She travels nationwide consulting, training and speaking on the following topics: Entrepreneurship, resiliency, foster care, abuse, cancer, mental health, self-care, forgiveness, and community change.

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Dr. LeRoy Thompson is currently serving as the Data Manager and Evaluator of the Stronger Parents, Brighter Futures (SPBF) program under the Virginia Family and Fatherhood Initiative's (VFFI) implementation of their HHS Office of Adolescent Health Pregnancy Assistance Fund grant. As Data Manager, he has developed the process and methodology for recording and



submitting progress against the grant performance measures across the four regions. He has also conducted quality control audits and led continuous improvement efforts to enhance the local staff's ability to integrate the collection and measurement requirements more efficiently. In his role as an evaluator, he ran a rigorous and objective analysis of the quality of SPBF's implementation of the PAF grant. His role in the performance measures process will also enable us to conduct an equally rigorous and objective analysis of SPBF's proficiency in this area as well. He has a depth of experience with human service organizations including in assisted public sector organizations, such as the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, the Florida Office of Drug Control Policy, the Mississippi Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Public Welfare, the Michigan Department of Community Health, and the Riverside County (CA) Department of Social Services. He has worked with several operating divisions within the U.S. departments of Health and Human Services including the Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), Center For Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) and the Agency for Children And Families (ACF). For the NIH's National Institute for Mental Health, he developed and facilitated a strategic plan for the direction of autism research data collection over the next five to seven years. The procedure established funding priorities in the domains of diagnosis, treatment, risk factors, and biology. This

involved the development of a process that was consistent with enabling federal legislation, mandating significant levels of public participation. Dr. Thompson also facilitated the planning sessions involving the country's leading thought leaders in genetics, neuroscience, philanthropy, university research, and open issue advocacy.

Aida E. Hernandez, MA, LPC is a Licensed Professional



Counselor with ten years of experience working in the field of child and adolescent development, counseling, and family health. Infusing her counseling experience with her passion for research, Aida uses her counseling experience to conduct qualitative research and provide ongoing evaluation support specific to prevention,

parenthood, and related programs across the United States. Aida also has experience working with grants in the area of prevention and child and family health at the state and federal levels, adapting interventions and seeking collaborative support to address the diverse needs of various communities in New Jersey. Aida is a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and the New Jersey Counseling Association (NJCA). Ms. Hernandez is currently a private practice in Oakhurst, New Jersey, where she provides counseling to children, adolescents, and families.

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Tom Krause a 25-time contributing author, *Chicken Soup*



for the Soul, book series presents "You Make A Difference." This is an inspirational/motivational presentation about the difference parents make by instilling acceptance, worth, and hope in the lives of their children. Tom has been

presenting nationally for 25 years. He was a teacher/coach in Missouri Public School System for 31 years, retired. Tom has also been published in numerous educational publications.

Dr. Shawn Gardner's purpose in life is to transform the next generation of leaders by helping them see a



different perspective to overcome adversity. His objective is driven by his passion for sharing his story for inspiring, motivating, and transforming lives. His journey includes being the President and Founder of 2NOT1 Fatherhood & Families, Inc. 2NOT1's

mission is to promote the safety and wellbeing of children by implementing strategies to keep fathers involved and families together. The organization is intentional about increasing the capacity of fathers and providing support for young black boys. He has developed a curriculum he uses to coach people searching for a direction to achieve their goals. The curriculum has a conflict management foundation and four guiding principles. He has authored a book detailing his transition from struggling in the inner-city to his steps to believe in himself and overcome adversity.

Walter Simpkins is the Executive Director of a grassroots non-profit organization focusing on fatherhood. Walter



holds a BA degree from the City College of New York. His credentials include a master's degree from State University at Albany. Walter has been honored with several service recognitions awards including The Schenectady Commission of Human Rights Individual

Achievement Award and the New York State Assembly Citation for community contributions. Community Fathers, Inc. is also the 2018 recipient of The Innovative Fathers Program of the Year an international award present by the Fathers and Families Coalition of America.

Tige Charity is the founder of Kids in the Spotlight where



she has witnessed the power of storytelling and filmmaking transform the lives of youth in foster care. Tige uses her expertise and experience for educating, encouraging, and empowering foster

youth to tell their stories. Their way has created a paradigm shift in creating awareness and services for foster youth. In ten years, they have produced over 70 films written by, cast by and starring foster youth as she champions the needs of children in the child welfare system, "Why foster youth, what inspired you and how did you create it." detailed in her life's journey, "Not Your 9-to-5 Girl: A dreamer's journey from the corporate jungle to the joy of social entrepreneurship".

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Gabrielle Kaufman, LPC is the Director of training and technical assistance for the Los Angeles County Perinatal Mental Health Task Force, a dance/movement therapist, and a professional clinical counselor. She works extensively with new families and aids in providing solutions to many parenting concerns.



Russell W. Strand, CFP-A, Senior Special Agent (Retired) is a managing partner and co-founder of Strand² Squared, LLC and founding faculty of Certified FETI. He provides consultation, systems auditing, training, and assistance to agencies and service providers. Russ is widely recognized for his contributions to the field. He was selected to



receive the 2012 End Violence Against Women International Visionary Award in recognition of his impact, vision, and leadership in ending violence against women around the world. He was selected by the Secretary of Defense to serve on the Congressionally-mandated Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault as a member of the Comparative Systems Subcommittee. Russ was inducted into the United States Army Military Police Regimental Hall of Fame. Russ is unconditionally dedicated to continuing his work to build a world that doesn't currently exist - a world in which every victim of abuse and trauma has confidence in reporting their experience and has a genuine voice that is truly heard; a world in which all professionals responding to trauma and abuse are properly educated and feel confident in all they do; and a world in which all forms of criminal violence and abuse is significantly reduced or eliminated altogether.



Myra Strand, MA is a Managing Partner, along with her husband, of

Strand² Squared, LLC where she provides consultation, forensic experiential trauma interviewing, training and assistance to agencies and service providers. Together, they provide education and training to thousands of professionals, both nationally and internationally annually. Myra began working with people who have trauma in 1995. She has experience with youth with complex trauma and serious mental illness, people with developmental disabilities, youth in competing for war zones, county inmates, in the area of death notification and with victims of all crime types. In her previous position as CEO at Victim Witness Services (VWS) for Coconino County, Myra's focus was to drive the sustainable growth of VWS in three areas: Vicarious Trauma Mitigation, Evidence-Informed Practices, and the Expansion of Geographic Reach. She had a central focus on applying trauma-informed response and care. She added new services including counseling, trauma-sensitive yoga, emergency financial assistance to address immediate crisis needs and a K-9. In 2013, when she started, there were nine staff members. When she left in 2018, there were nearly 30 people on VWS payroll. Myra dramatically increased staff salaries and benefits as part of the vicarious trauma mitigation.

Dr. Tammi Fleming PH.D., CHES, is currently a Senior Associate at The Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore, MD. Tammi's work at the foundation is focused on preventing untimely pregnancies in youth and young adults and supporting the developmental needs and networks of supports for young parents. She has an interest in integrating comprehensive



reproductive health and parenting support strategies in public systems and institutions.

Prior to coming to the Foundation, Tammi was the Director of the Plain Talk National Replication Center at Public Health Management Corporation in Philadelphia, PA. Tammi served in a similar capacity at Public/Private

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Ventures. Dr. Fleming's career expands over 25 years from her work as a community organizer in New Orleans, to her work developing and implementing multiple community-based health and social service initiatives. Tammi has received numerous awards for her as a community organizer and public health practitioner. Tammi possesses extensive training and facilitation background.

Dr. Fleming possesses an extensive array of skills including as a trainer and facilitator. Tammi holds a Master of Public Health from Tulane University with a dual concentration in Maternal Child Health and Health Education and Communication. Dr. Fleming earned her doctorate in Public Health from Walden University. Her dissertation research focused on examining the role of Structural Fidelity in the Replication Outcomes of Evidence-based Programs.

Reverend David Hill has worked with youth since his ordination in 1975. He was a religion teacher and youth advocate at Boys Town, Nebraska. He has been a congregational pastor and conflict counselor in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, the American Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Church in America. He designed and directed the Center for the City Drug Abuse Programs in New York City. Rev. Hill became involved in "Adverse Childhood Experiences" ACEs in 2018 after hearing and meeting with Dr. Nadine Burke Harris. This experience filled in questions concerning trauma and its influence on people's lives. Rev. Hill is presenting workshops on ACEs with halfway houses in Minneapolis. Congregations of all denominations and faith groups. He is a certification candidate with "Interface Minnesota" and a Master Presenter. He and his wife are directors of Serving Servants, Inc.



Wendy Thelese Talley, LCSW, Doctoral Candidate is a



Licensed Clinical Social Worker for the last 19 years in Los Angeles, California. Wendy has attended San Diego State University and received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, the University of Southern California where she has received her Masters' in Social Work and will graduate with her Doctorate in Social Work on May 2020. Wendy has taught as an

Adjunct Lecturer for the School of Social Work at USC for four years and has appeared on the hit TV show *Love Addiction* on TV One. She has also spoken to the graduate students of the LMU Psychology Department and the MBA Entrepreneur program at USC. Wendy has spoken at the Black Businesswomen Rock Conference, Run Women Conference in Dallas and Los Angeles, radio appearance on KJLH, and Strictly Business Podcast show as a host, USC Business School Department, and WOW Women of Wellness Conference to name a few. Wendy is the Visionary and CEO has her own consulting firm, Thelese Consulting Group, LLC in El Segundo, California. Currently, Wendy is the corporate trainer and clinical supervisor for postgraduates for SCHARP Behavioral Health. As a Thought Consultant, she can be found speaking, coaching, and mentoring entrepreneurs to develop effective SMART Goals and SMART Time Management skills to achieve the success they so desire. She is the author of *SMART Goal... Time Management Workbook* on Amazon.

Theresa Reed, M.Ed. is a former foster youth who has been the Program Director for Foster/Kinship Care Education and Student Adviser for foster youth at Pasadena City College. She earned her bachelor's degree in Economics with a specialization in Social Behavioral Science, a Master's in Education (Adult



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Education and Training) and is currently in the Educational Leadership Doctoral program specializing in adult learners. Training and educating foster youth, foster parents and those working with them has been her passion. With her certifications in Trauma-Informed Care and Mental Health First Aid, she provides professional development to group homes, K-12 school districts, colleges and presents workshops for several conferences while promoting her soon-to-be-released book titled, *It's Not Drama; It's Trauma*.

Arthur Hobba is the Founder of Core300 (a non-profit organization), is a dad to five grown sons, three grandkids, has 20 years of athletic (4-12-year-old) coaching, 10 years of executive coaching, 14 years lead pastor-teacher, expert on Millennial Men and Servant Leadership, author of two



men's books and a 3-year Core 300 Curricula for developing men in healthy values-based masculinity and as fathers, husbands and servant leaders. He is the current Founder-President of Core 300 International. Art's business experience includes 15 years in sales and nine years as a senior executive for two public tech companies and Grant Thornton (5th largest global accounting firm). In 2000, he founded a management consulting organization Transcend, focused on leadership, talent, and cultural transformation for mid-market businesses up to the Fortune 50. In 2014, he published *Stage 6 Leadership*, a values-based curriculum for commercial and non-profit organizations seeking excellence in leadership practices and multiplication. Art is a visionary, educator-teacher, and catalyst. As the author of five books including the *Core 300 Men's Discipleship Trilogy*, his unique blend of Bible Scholarship and expertise in men, his work has awakened, equipped and transformed tens of thousands of men and Christian leaders worldwide. His 40-year career uniquely spans the two worlds of business and pastoral leadership. Raised in Long Island, New York, Art's family moved to Los Angeles in 1965. He planted New Life Church in

Monroe, Louisiana and later lead a church in Thousand Oaks for nine years. In this, his focus remained on developing men to their potential in Christ—as husbands, dads, and leaders. After a 14-year hiatus, Art returned to ministry—both by God's prompting and necessity. The moral failure of the Senior Pastor of a large church he attended caused a crisis that reignited his passion for Christian men to get “out of the stands and into the arena.” In 2009, he wrote *Called to War, The Story of Gideon, who represents every man: alone, hiding, and disqualified*. The book was soon followed by a 3-year men's discipleship curriculum *The Warrior, The Priest, and The King*.

Crissy Butts, Happiness Coach and Team-Building



Educator helps leaders improve safety in the workplace by improving morale and elevating individual happiness of team members. Her philosophy is that happy employees make safer employees. Her 21 Day Happiness Challenge

features The Sunshine Strategy, which sparks a simple way to assess & improve positive living. As a writer for International Focus Magazine, she has had articles featured on Global Happiness. Crissy developed The Workplace Power Hour to help teams Engage, Connect and Thrive! She is the Author of *You Choose Your Path* and *50 Ways to Strengthen Family in 50 Days*. Crissy is a sister to 7, the mother of 5, grandmother of 15, and has been married 29 years. She enjoys traveling with her husband, who is a pilot, to fun destinations, playing with her grandchildren and artifact hunting.

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Michael Freeman grew up in Compton, California. In



1978, Michael joined World Impact (an urban missions' organization). He served with World Impact for 23 years. Between 1988 and 1997, he served as Director of World Impact's branch in Chester, an urban community in the Philadelphia area. He and the

World Impact Chester staff established Frederick Douglas Christian School - an elementary school for low-income, underserved children. After returning to Los Angeles in 1997, Michael worked with the Watts branch of World Impact, developing partnerships with churches to train them in serving urban residents through The Nehemiah Team Project. In 2002, he resigned from World Impact and became the co-founder and Executive Director of Elevate Your G.A.M.E., which conducts mentoring programs at urban high schools. Michael is also the author of a book entitled, *Seven Days in the Hood*. He and his wife, Glynette, have raised two children, Isaiah and Eboni.

Kathryn Peckham, M.Ed., Doctoral Candidate is an Early



Childhood Consultant in the United Kingdom, with an interest in children's access to rich and meaningful experiences throughout their early years. Kathryn is a passionate advocate for children everywhere. Delivering training, seminars and short courses, she works with families and settings to

identify and celebrate the impact of effective childhood experiences as preparation for all of life's learning. An active campaigner for children, she consults on projects, conducts research for government bodies and contributes to papers launched in parliament. A highly acclaimed author and researcher, she guides practitioners, teachers, and parents in enhancing

children's experiences through her consultancy and conferencing all over the world. Kathryn also teaches a master's degree and is currently gaining her Ph.D.

Tom Valand, MBA, MSW is the Program Coordinator for

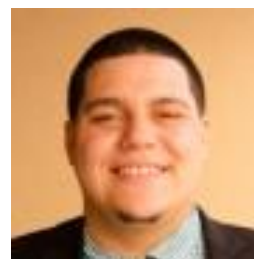


the Fatherhood Program of Routt County, Colorado, and the father of two young children. In his work with the Fatherhood Program, he provides evidence-based classes and workshops and works with men one-on-one as they navigate through their adventures in parenting.

He has presented to audiences

of multiple regional conferences including the Rocky Mountain Early Childhood and Parent Possible Conferences. Prior to his tenure with the Fatherhood Program, Tom spent four years with Colorado's Department of Public Health and Environment where he conducted population-based work in the realms of violence and injury prevention, as well as marijuana education. Forgiveness and redemption are topics of frequent discussion for the presenter, particularly during the parenting classes he provides to inmates of the local county jail. He has witnessed first-hand the benefits of those who have received the forgiveness of others and, most importantly, themselves.

Jean Padilla earned his bachelor's degree in Sociology



with a concentration in Criminology and a Minor in Black Studies from the State University of New York at New Paltz. While in New Paltz, Jean received the Margaret Wade Lewis award for his dedication to save and rebuild the Black Studies Department.

Since joining Bronx Defenders three years ago, Jean has been a passionate advocate for parents affected by the child protective system, specifically marginalized parents with a focus on fathers. As a young Latinx man, Jean understands the many obstacles men of color

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experience in a variety of contexts and has dedicated his career to effectuating a change in the way this demographic is perceived. Jean has worked tirelessly to assure the parents he represents are both seen and heard and continues to make strides so that all parents are treated with dignity and respect during the most traumatizing times in their life.

Eli Parson is currently the Intake Coordinator for The Homeless Prenatal Program's Child Welfare Continuum of services, including the San Francisco Family Treatment Court. Eli was the first graduate of that Court in 2008. In 2010, Eli participated in a media project with a group of fathers from various



counties in California who had all successfully reunified with their kids through the Child Welfare system. The resulting 2-minute videos were compiled and used nationally to train Child Welfare staff about father engagement. Eli's work in the field expanded with his role as a consultant and panelist for this same training. In 2011, he was hired by The Homeless Prenatal Program and created the role of the first Peer Advocate of the SF Family Treatment Court. For the past eight years, Eli has been honored to serve fathers and families in San Francisco as a Peer Advocate, Case Manager and Co-Facilitator of the Fatherhood Support group at HPP, and through his role as Co-Chair of the SF Fatherhood Initiative. Eli has provided training on Fatherhood Engagement through San Francisco Family Support Network, Bay Area Academy and at Children's Institute Inc.'s Fatherhood Solutions Conference. A single father, Eli's 11-year-old daughter, lives with him in her native city of San Francisco.

Synithia Flowers is a Human Science Regional Extension



Agent and a State Program Team Coordinator in the area of Family and Child Development for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES). Within her 17-year career, she has conducted multiple programs impacting the strength of families across Alabama, including specialized

efforts with fathers who are impacted by incarceration and homelessness. Currently, Synithia is collaborating on a research project by interviewing black fathers who are returning home from prison and residing in re-entry facilities. She is also a collaborator on the National Fatherhood Initiative expansion grant to provide fatherhood programming to underrepresented fathers in Alabama.

Molly McGowan serves as the Program Director at Families & Schools Together. Molly is responsible for working with schools, community-based organizations, trainers, and others to facilitate the implementation of FAST Programs. She manages key relationships, coordinates communication among



partners, and provides technical consultation, with the aim of ensuring high-quality FAST implementation for all children and families. Molly has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

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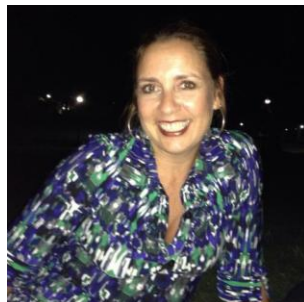
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Colleen Mathias is the Director of Operations in



Human Services for MAXIMUS, Inc. Colleen has devoted her career to serving the needs of vulnerable populations. She currently serves as Operations Director overseeing Benefits, Eligibility and Assessment

Services to secure Social Security Insurance/Social Security Disability Insurance, (SSI/SSDI) benefits for youth in foster care and adults receiving state and federal aid. She is a foster care expert with over 25 years of experience in the development and administration of human service programs including Title IV-E, Disabilities, Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, and Mental Health & Child Welfare Program Development & Advocacy. Colleen recently created, managed and served as the Master Trainer for an Evidence and Trauma-Informed Therapeutic Foster Care Clinical Model for youth, foster parents and caseworkers designed to serve the unique needs of youth placed in foster care, support and educate foster parents and provide staff with evidence-based tools and best practices to best aid youth in foster care. She created business processes, guidelines, and training for front line caseworkers and therapists. One element of the Trauma-Informed Clinical Model included extensive education and training on the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Trauma-Version Assessment. The CANS was administered to over 4,000 youth in foster care throughout 13 states at set intervals to inform and shape the treatment plan and the therapeutic interventions utilized by the child's team comprised of the therapist/caseworker and foster parent/s. As Master Trainer, Colleen trained and developed 500+ social workers, therapists, and counselors, as well as 30+ Certified Trainers in the Therapeutic Clinical Model resulting in improved trauma-informed services to over 4,000 foster care youth.

Kevin Toney, 2x Grammy-nominated, award-winning



pianist, composer, author, and speaker gained international fame as a founding member of legendary "The Blackbyrds." His acclaimed book *The Virtuous Man ~ Breaking the Men's Code* is the answer to help men stop the cycle of giving in to sexual temptation, sexual misconduct, and infidelity, providing the practical and spiritual tools they need to achieve

this. He shares how God brought him out of infidelity to saving his marriage of than 25+ years and in the process broke the "Code." Kevin and his wife are celebrating 40 years of marriage this year! Kevin's book, *Super Glue Your Love Relationship* is a powerful resource to help married and unmarried committed couples attain and sustain love in a relationship. It reveals how faith, trust, and love form the Super Glue ingredients to bond and grow your relationship so that nothing can separate it. Kevin is an in-demand speaker across the country with a focus on "Helping Families Stay Together Through Faithfulness in Relationships." As a speaker, Kevin has shared his powerful message and music at *Hour of Power, Praise the Lord (TBN)*, Fathers and Families Coalition of America, Women N Power International Ministries, Phi Beta Sigma National, and Regional Conferences, Saddleback Church, USC Youth Leadership Conference and more. He is Men's Ministry Leader at Lynwood United Methodist Church in Lynwood, California.

Kevin's awards and achievements include 2 Grammy nominations, 4 RIAA Gold Record awards, Hall of Fame Inductee to California Jazz and Blues Museum, an NAACP Image Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant, and is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

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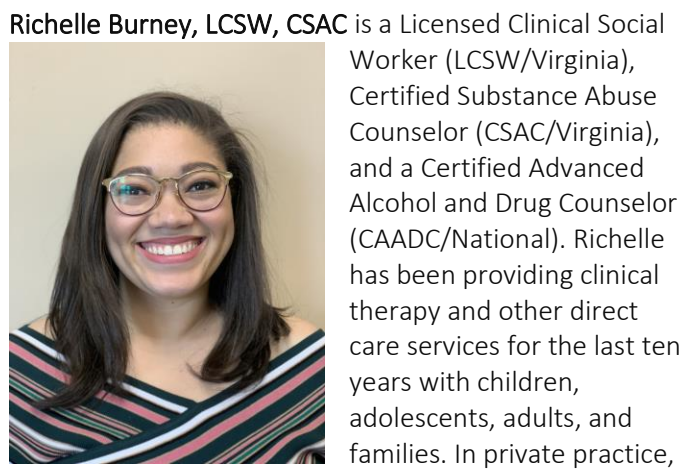
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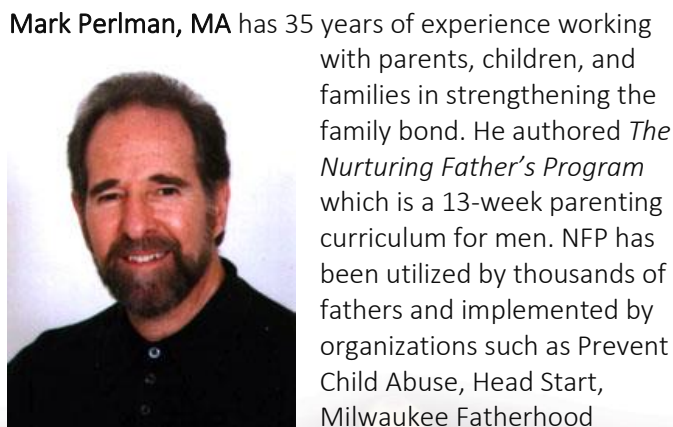
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Richelle Burney, LCSW, CSAC is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW/Virginia), Certified Substance Abuse Counselor (CSAC/Virginia), and a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC/National). Richelle has been providing clinical therapy and other direct care services for the last ten years with children, adolescents, adults, and families. In private practice, Richelle assists clients with a wide range of needs, including effective parenting, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, substance abuse, as well as mood and conduct disorders. She has also served as a clinical supervisor for mental health and substance abuse counselors. Richelle has several years of experience with program development, consulting in addition to developing effective professional development training. Richelle is a native of Hampton Road, Virginia and has obtained both her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and master's in social work from Norfolk State University.

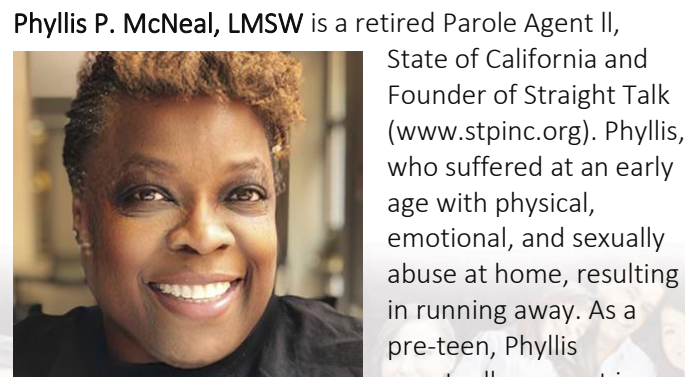


Mark Perlman, MA has 35 years of experience working with parents, children, and families in strengthening the family bond. He authored *The Nurturing Father's Program* which is a 13-week parenting curriculum for men. NFP has been utilized by thousands of fathers and implemented by organizations such as Prevent Child Abuse, Head Start, Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative, North Carolina Department of Corrections, State of Michigan. Mark also authored the Marriage and Parenting Program (MA&PA) that helps couples' parents successfully as a team. He is the past Executive Director of the Family Counseling Center, The Child Protection

Center and Fathers United Network (FUN) of Sarasota, Florida. He has served on the Florida Commission on Responsible Fatherhood, Commission on Marriage and Family Support, and currently on the Governor's Child Abuse Prevention and Permanency Council. Mark is the proud married father of two grown sons.



Cedric Nelms was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. Pastor Cedric has been in the ministry for 22 years and has been working in different areas of ministry, from youth ministry, men's ministry, teaching, community development, social justice, and civic engagement. He is the Lead Pastor of the Chosen Generation Fellowship Church, in Long Beach. He is also the author of *Get Me Through; and, The Makeover of My Life*. In addition to that, he is the Los Angeles City Director for World Impact, where he is actively working on being a bridge-builder between Los Angeles and the Faith-Based community. Pastor Cedric has been married to Karen, for 20 years. They have five beautiful children, Erika, Jonathan, and a set of triplets, Isaiah, Khalid, and Courtney. He loves to spend time with his family, reading, watching sports, traveling, hanging out with his family, writing, and just having a good time!



Phyllis P. McNeal, LMSW is a retired Parole Agent II, State of California and Founder of Straight Talk (www.stpinc.org). Phyllis, who suffered at an early age with physical, emotional, and sexually abuse at home, resulting in running away. As a pre-teen, Phyllis eventually was put in a caring foster group home and mentored by a dedicated

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Social Worker and loving Foster Mother (Ms. McNeal) who helped guided Phyllis to graduate with honors from High School, earned a 3.0 GPA in College and received a Masters of Social Work Specialization Mental Health. Phyllis went on to work for 30 years in the criminal justice system as a Parole Officer. While employed, Phyllis began the Straight Talk Program in 1990, which was aimed at preventing youth and adults from entering the criminal system. Straight Talk Program (STP) is a non-profit social justice and community engagement program whose mission is to empower individuals, embrace their strength to achieve full potential through education in life skills, prevention of from negative actions and intervention techniques on how to make better choices, while replicating Straight Talk Programming in social justice and community engagement models nationwide we will reduce the impact youth and adults are challenged with that lead to involvement in criminal activities.

Phyllis created this successful mentoring model on a straightforward principle: Straight Talk philosophy is that the consequences of negative choices can result in alternative life consequences such as imprisonment. The message is simple: If you break the law, you will eventually be caught, and the effects are costly to you, your family, the community, and society. Since the early '90s, Straight Talk Programming has been serving Southern California communities through the mobile speaker bureau program at elementary, middle and senior high schools. Mobile speaking bureau presents at colleges, churches, and community events. The speaker bureau involves numerous media interviews, workshops, seminars, symposiums, and conferences. Straight Talk demographic impacts: children (8-18) years old, youth or college students (18-24) years old and adults (24-80) years old; all races and ethnicity; personal lifestyle, individuality and family members; typically, at-risk individuals, have been incarcerated, or have not ever been detained or not involved in any criminal activities.

Eric Phillips, Family Engagement Specialist, oversees the



parent engagement activities of all 77 campuses across Arlington ISD to enhance the academic performance of

students. His 20 years in corporate management enhances the guidance and training offered to the 70 district staff members serving as Family Engagement Liaisons and Representatives stationed at local campuses within the district. He has served at-risk students and families over a decade in education as a school administrator and in ministry.

Anita Hill became interested in ACEs in 2018 after the



influential message delivered by Dr. Nadine Burke-Harris. The ACEs' impact is extremely important to me. I have discovered that my on score had the potential to change if I only knew where to turn. Through training,

I am now a Master ACE presenter. I have trained through the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute. I am a master presenter for ACEs through Minnesota Communities Caring for Children (MCCC). Currently I am a pre-school teacher with additional training in both child and community psychology. My goals for the future are to assist others in reversing childhood trauma. Individually, we can identify the areas in our lives we can change. For these reasons, I have partnered with my husband to reverse ACEs.

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Anthony J. Mingo, Sr. ("Mingo") serves as Project Director of the Virginia Family and Fatherhood Initiative and its "Stronger Parents Brighter Futures" Program operated under the Virginia Department of Health's Richmond City Health District. In 2012, he joined the VDH-RCHD with many years of experience serving the broader community of the



Commonwealth of Virginia and Metropolitan Washington, DC in family stabilization efforts by supporting and empowering parents through education.

Currently as Project Director, Mingo facilitates the program's strategic mission by implementing a collective impact strategy throughout Virginia collaborating with local county and city governments, faith-based organizations and community-based non-profit partners to help establish a state-wide framework to educate, empower, and economically stabilize parents and their families.

Mingo previously spent over 20 years working in various program management capacities serving many Army, Navy and Department of Defense strategic programs. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Real-Life Program (reallifeprogram.org) who's mission is to assist individuals who have been impacted by incarceration and substance addiction. Additionally, he serves on the Advisory Board for the Fairfax County Virginia Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program with Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Services. As part of his formal education, he attended Morehouse College, School of Business in Atlanta, Ga., where he was a member of the class of 1982; Maryland University, Baltimore Campus Graduate School: Certificates of Specialized Training in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM); International Critical Incident Stress Foundation.

Keston Jones is the fatherhood program director for SCO Family of services. He is also the founder and executive

director of the Foundation for the Advancement and Rehabilitation of the Marginalized (The FARM), a nonprofit that works to encourage, educate and assist in the improvement of our most natural resources: Family. He brings years of experience working in the field of father involvement and mentoring. His recent venture Visionaries, Offering, Information with Clarity, Expertise and Substance (V.O.I.C.E.S.) is a YouTube channel (@VOICES Keston Jones) that facilitates the opportunity for thought leaders, advocates, educators, and ordinary people to share their amazing stories in their own words. Keston holds a Master's Degree in Human Services from Lincoln University, where he graduated with honors. He is a credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC). Keston is ABD at Yeshiva University, where he is pursuing his PHD in Social Welfare, as well as an adjunct professor in the social work program.

Alex Borchardt is the former Chief Executive of British charity Families Need Fathers (fnf.org.uk), which is made up of over forty support groups in towns and cities around England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Alex is Chairman of the Plymouth branch and works as a Parental Alienation practitioner, helping separated parents in resolving difficulties that all too often can result in them being shut out of their children's lives. He also works as a lay advocate in preparing mothers and fathers going to Court, and often attending with them in cases when they choose to represent themselves instead of using a solicitor or barrister.

David Wallace is a senior producer for documentary video and photographer with The Arizona Republic/azcentral.com, where he has worked since 2006. He has documented issues ranging from the U.S./ Mexico border to the environment to child welfare. He was one of the first on the ground following the Yarnell Hill Fire that killed 19 wild land firefighters in Arizona. He covered Pope Francis' inaugural visit to Mexico, disappearing glaciers in Peru, uranium contamination on the Navajo Nation, two Super Bowls and rafted 226 miles of the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon to document the river's unnatural ecosystem, directing a

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documentary short, "An Unnatural Wonder". David was part of the reporting team that won a 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting on the U.S./ Mexico border. David's interests include hiking, running and canyoneering. In 2001, he thru-hiked the entirety of the 2,650-mile Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada. David lives in Phoenix with his wife and their three children.

Mary Jo Pitzl covers child-welfare issues at The Arizona Republic/ azcentral.com. Her focus is bringing a spotlight on how the system works – or doesn't – told through the stories of the people who have been involved with the state Department of Child Safety in all manner of ways. At The Republic, her reporting assignments have ranged over a broad swath of topics, from education to transportation to the environment. She spent nearly 10 years at the state Capitol bureau and lived to tell about it. She also helps run a journalism contest that features the best work in 14 Western states, and in the process, raises money for First Amendment causes. Mary Jo is a native of Omaha, Nebraska and a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she earned degrees in journalism and French. She also earned a diploma in international development at the Flinders University of South Australia. She is a proud resident of Phoenix.

Taylor Greenhalgh is an experienced speech-language pathologist working with families of children with special healthcare needs. During that time, I served as the president of the Fatherhood committee, focusing on activities and education to increase paternal involvement in child development. I also am a father of a child with a complex medical history and special healthcare needs.

Luis Alberto Ramos is a bilingual (Spanish/English) speaking, male, born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. Luis is the fourth child of five and at age 11, his parents migrated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United State of America in pursued of a better opportunities and education for their children. Luis graduated in 1974

from Germantown High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During High School (1972-1976) Luis was a member of the Civil Air Patrol an Auxiliary of the United State Air Force. In 1975-1977, he enrolled in the "Ebenezer Bible Theology Institute", where he received Minister License. Luis, since minor had the ambition to serve his country as well as people. In pursued of that dream, he joined the United States Marine Corps in 1978, serving his country for 10 years. During this time, he found the girl of his dream and married Jennie Pomales-Ramos, and they had four children and now three grandchildren. While serving in the military, Luis held the following job titles; Intelligence Specialist, Interrogator Translator and Counter Terrorism Instructor. Luis has traveled to 31 countries in the world with the U.S.M.C. In 1988, Luis was called to continue to serve his country by ministering to the spiritual needs of humanity. Luis and his family founded two churches in North Carolina and one mission in Florida. At present he is the senior Pastor of the Pentecostal Church of God, International Movement, in Adrian, Michigan (for 24 years). Luis is presently an employee of Telamon Corporation Michigan Migrant Head Start Program as the Family Services Specialist, for the last 20 years. He is also conducting Male—Fatherhood involvement training to Migrant Head Start Families and Regional Head Start. Luis is also the President & CEO of the Latinos/Hispanics Men of Honor and Values Inc. a non-profit organization that work with father's and male role models to enhance children and family's unity and healthy development.

Lisa Mishraky, LMSW, is a Senior Associate working to advance the Center of the Study of Social Policy's public system reform efforts, focusing on the use of data and research to inform policy, decision making and best practices. She is part of a team responsible for monitoring and providing technical assistance to child welfare systems operating under federal consent decrees to improve practice for children and families. Ms. Mishraky also leads projects to promote well-being outcomes for adolescents,



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expectant and parenting young in foster care, their children and families, with a focus on promoting the protective and promotive factors that children, families and communities need to thrive. She is a graduate of Columbia University and has extensive experience working within the child welfare and homelessness fields.

Michael White received his J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law. While in law school, Michael interned at the Center for Children's Advocacy where he advocated on behalf of children and families in the child welfare system. Previously, Michael was a law clerk at the U.S. Department of Justice and at the Law Offices of Oakley & Chizinski, LLC, where he worked on issues pertaining to juvenile rights, parents' right, child custody, and other family matters. Michael received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Connecticut.

Ramon D. Vasquez, Male Outreach Specialist, San



Antonio Fatherhood Campaign an initiative of the American Indians In Texas At the Spanish Colonial Mission. Ramon is a member of the Auteca Paguame Tribe of the Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation. He has dedicated the past 9 years to the promotion of and engagement in cultural

preservation practices as a part of his professional work in the San Antonio community.

Sabine Chery, Assistant Commissioner for NYC



Administration for Children's Services, has worked with the ACS for over 20 years. She began her career in Direct Care Adoption in 1996 as a Child Welfare Specialist. Ms. Chery is responsible for advancing foster/residential care policy and practice, and the development of

programs and services to help prepare young people in care and those transitioning out of care to become

successful adults. She has worked with our provider agencies to enhance ACS and Provider communication and collaboration. Sabine is responsible in working closely and effectively with Senior Management Team to provide operational oversight for the following areas: Intensive Preventive Aftercare Service-Child Welfare (IPAS-CW); APPLA Monitoring Unit; Supervision Until 21, Missing Children's Outreach Unit, Teen Specialist Unit, Youth Engagement, Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy, Older Youth Conferencing and the Youth Justice Unit, which provides services to young people involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Sabine earned her Bachelor's degree from Hunter College in Sociology and minor in English; her Master's in Social Work from Yeshiva University and has three Post Masters certificates from Hunter College School of Social Work in Administration, Advanced Clinical Social Work and Seminar in Field Placement. Ms. Chery completed the Leadership Institute program in 2017. Ms. Chery also has a certificate in Project Management and Lean Six Sigma White Belt as of 2018 and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt as of 2019.

Arthur Argomaniz has worked for the Center for the



Study of Social Policy for 6 years supporting several projects including child welfare monitoring work in Humboldt County, California, the national Parent Leader Network and the First 5 LA Best Start initiative in Los Angeles County. Arthur is also a community organizer with the IPR

Healing Artz Space (on IG @IPR.Artz) in South Central LA and is a circle keeper for a culturally rooted rites of passage program for middle schoolers in Pico Rivera, Joven Noble. Arthur is a proud Chicano raised and living in the San Gabriel Valley (Tongva Territory) located in Eastern LA County, his parents are from Lincoln Heights in Northeast Los Angeles and his grandparents roots lay in Zacatecas, Sinaloa, New Mexico and what was formerly Austria Hungary. He is partner to his lovely wife Christine; they have 3 beautiful children. Previously, Arthur served as a youth advocate and case manager for

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**FEBRUARY
24-27, 2020**

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a South LA based YouthBuild program, helped run summer camps for South LA youth and worked for the Institute for Community Peace coordinating regional gun violence prevention conferences. He is a graduate of the USC (University of South Central) and holds a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in Chicano Studies. He was a member of MEChA and co-founded a student group, Campus and Community United, to serve as the counterpart to the UNIDAD campaign, fighting against the gentrification of the surrounding community. Arthur aspires of going back to USC for a master's in public policy or social work.

James Milan is a passionate advocate for fathers in the child welfare system as well as for fathers whose children currently are in the Child Welfare System. James spent 17 years in foster care until he aged out of the foster care system. James Milan is currently employed with NYC Administration for



Children's Services(NYC ACS). Prior to coming to Administration for Children Services James worked with young fathers as a Program Aide at Claremont Neighborhood Center in the Bronx for five years. His current work with NYC ACS includes working with the Young Parent's Speakers Bureau and The Youth Leadership Council. Mr. Milan has worked as a consultant in providing support to young father's both in and out of foster care. He has been featured in webinars and articles written by the Center for the Study of Social Policy. Mr. Milan also participates in panel discussions and conferences for Annie E. Casey and Jim Casey Opportunities. James currently Co- Chair's ACS Youth Leadership Council where he works tirelessly as a Youth Engagement Specialist advocating for system change. James is also an ambassador for iFoster and ConnectMe which are apps to help support youth in storing important documents, discussing permanency and searching for resources. James is currently attending Borough of Manhattan Community College in NY where he will receive his degree in Human Services in 2021.

OUR TEAM READY TO SUPPORT YOU!

Mrs. Mendoza-Tarazon oversees all event registrations, accounts receivables, purchase order requests, and quality oversight of attendee registrations. Alfie has served as the Enrollment and Credentialing Manager - Assistant to President & Chief Executive Officer since 2013.



Ms. Phillipa M. Johnson serves as the Community Initiatives Senior Fellow for Fathers & Families Coalition of America as an advisor to the President and Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Johnson oversees the national conference volunteers, registration area and event evaluations. Ms. Johnson comes to Fathers & Families Coalition of America with over 30-years of experience in early childhood and as the senior leader most recently as Executive Director, University of Southern California, School for Early Childhood Education. Prior to that professional contribution, Ms. Johnson served as the Deputy Director at Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science Head Start Program



Ms. Angela Adley, M.Sc. CCC-SLP has leadership over the 2020 Next Level Exhibitor and Meet the Authors, and Barnes and Nobles Book Sales. Angela is an exceptional talent added to FFCA in 2019. Angela Adley is a speech-language



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pathologist providing in-home based therapy services in the Los Angeles area. Angela is also a Fatherless Daughter Advocate and a published author of the children's book titled Growing Up without My Daddy.

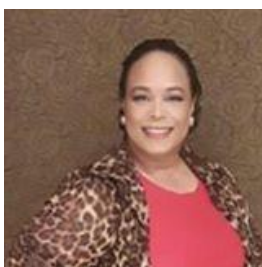


Mr. Delvyn Crawford oversees the onsite social media and videography contributions to the Next Level 2020 Conference. Delvyn is a tremendous Fatherhood Practitioner as well as a talented author who will assist with the Meet the Authors, Men2Men, Gala and more.

Ms. Rosiee Shaw joined Fathers & Families Coalition of America in 2018 as our Social Media Manager. Stay connected to FFCA and share our program.



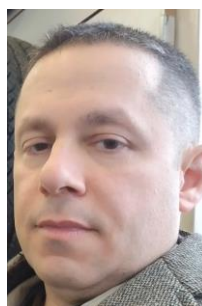
Mrs. Shelia Hadassah Smith oversees the Next Level's Wednesday, February 26th evening session Women2Women. Sheila supports the closing of Dr. Ramon & Dr. Yolanda Family Affair Red Tie & Red Dress Gala awards for Couples of Excellence.



Bishop Henry Hearns oversees the Wednesday, February 26th Men2Men Evening Session. Henry supports the closing of Dr. Ramon & Dr. Yolanda Family Affair Red Tie & Red Dress Gala awards for Fathers of the Year.



Mr. David J. Rosas III joined Fathers & Families Coalition of America in 2016, as part of a special award from The Mission Continues as a retired veteran of the United States Air Force. Mr. Rosas serves as the East Regional Social Impact Specialist for Fathers & Families Coalition of America in our Bronx, New York Office. David developed the online registration to help attendees' first experience at the 2020 Next Level Conference.



Dr. James C. Rodríguez, MSW serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Fathers & Families Coalition of America, Inc, a national and international agency committed to delivering services, education, training, and advocacy to make a difference in the fatherhood field headquarter in California. James cultivated the vision to form a group of service providers in Arizona to improve the lives of children and families, serving over 5000 young parents annually for a decade. In 1996, James was the catalyst and author of the first statewide Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF) Young Fathers Program in Arizona and one of eight trailblazing the use of TANF funds to serve fathers in the nation. Over a decade of establishing a vision of models to serve low-income mothers, families, young fathers, reentry adults,



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youth in juvenile justice, health, behavioral health, early childhood, and the first Hispanic Serving Institutes Assisting Communities - Housing and Urban Development grant in Arizona, as well as, developing awards from the Office of Refugee and Resettlement, Center for Disease Control and foundations led to over \$30 million of funding to serve individuals in Arizona and national awards. The vision to expand the capacity of organizations led to over 50 Affiliates in the U.S., Jamaica, Australia, Puerto Rico, Africa, Bermuda, United Kingdom, China, Bolivia, and over fifty affiliates throughout the United States.

His vision to champion healthy families through increased professional development led to supportive curricula with a proven foundation of twenty years hosting the Families and Fathers Annual Conference The continuous professional development extensions of FFCA have formed well over 75 regional conferences in rural communities, tribal nations, inner-city and the first Caribbean fatherhood and families' conference in Puerto Rico and Jamaica as well as into Africa and Australia. These professional development conferences have trained over 30,000 attendees from over 500 U.S. cities and 90 nations with a global increase of 10000 additional using virtual platforms.

James has served as Principal Investigator for national awarded grants for the U.S. Office of Refugees and Relocation USDHHS for the Somali Association of Arizona, Center for Disease Control – Capacity Building Programs, South Region, National Hispanic HIV/AIDS prevention, as Senior Researcher/Consultant for the Oregon Center for Applied Science: National Institute of Mental Health Hispanic/Latino and/or African American national community for the Parent Depression Research project. James served as a Senior Researcher for Arizona State University's Hispanic Family Research project.

A wartime and peacetime military veteran Dr. Rodriguez has served as a Professor at Mesa Community College, Central Arizona College, Arizona State University, and the University of Southern California, developing programs to enrich families and children.

He is a recipient of several awards for his professional service, including The Presidential Lifetime Call to Service Recipient – Office of the President of the United States of America – Hon. President Barack Obama - the Corporation for National and Community Service by the Points of Light Institute, Congressional Certificate of Honor – U.S. House of Representatives 18th Congressional District of Texas, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Proclamation of Leadership U.S. House of Representatives 35th Congressional District of California, Maxine Waters, Congressional Certificate of Recognition. A Points of Light Recipient for working with youth in gangs while serving active duty in the Armed Forces. 100 Black Men of America's Phoenix Chapter for developing programs and mentoring young men/boys with several other militaries, local and other national recognitions.

He is blessed with a beautiful family to include his children Antonio, Amber, and Jazmín, along with his daughter-in-law Cassandra and grandson Ariston and granddaughter Adalena Rayla Rodríguez.

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Thank you Fathers and Families Coalition of America (FFCA) for helping to strengthen families and communities so that all children in L.A. County enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and life.



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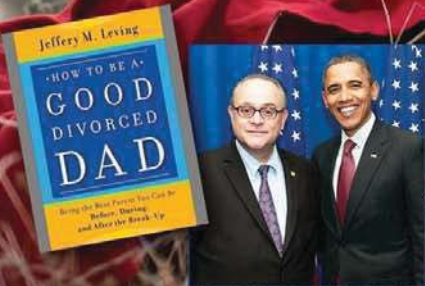


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