

26th ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA
PERMANENCY CONFERENCE



June 13 – 15, 2018 • Kalahari Resorts & Conventions
Pocono Manor, PA

REGISTRATION MATERIALS ENCLOSED

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services,
Office of Children, Youth and Families, Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network,
and Independent Living Services



Conference at a Glance



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

11:30 a.m.
Conference Registration Begins

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Child / Teen Care Registration

1:00 p.m.
Child / Teen Care Begins

1:15 – 2:45 p.m.
Conference Opening
Welcome and Keynote Address
SWAN Advisory Committee Award

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Networking Sessions

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Break / Networking Time

4:15 – 5:30 p.m.
Pre-Banquet Reception for Honorees
(By invitation only)

5:30 p.m.
Recognition Banquet

8:00 p.m.
Child / Teen Care Ends

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

8:00 a.m.
Conference Registration Begins

8:30 a.m.
Child / Teen Care Begins

9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Institute Session 1

OR

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Workshop Session 1

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Workshop Session 2

12:15 – 2:00 p.m.
Lunch (On Your Own)

2:00 – 5:15 p.m.
Institute Session 2

OR

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Workshop Session 3

3:45 – 5:15 p.m.
Workshop Session 4

5:30 p.m.
Child / Teen Care Ends

6:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Family Fun Night

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

8:00 a.m.
Conference Registration Begins
Child / Teen Care Begins

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Workshop Session 5

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Hotel Checkout Break

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Conference Closing and Keynote Address

12:00 p.m.
Adjourn

12:30 p.m.
Child / Teen Care Ends



General Information



Purpose

The 26th Annual Pennsylvania Permanency Conference, *Together We Can*, focuses on ways families and professionals from all aspects of the child welfare system can support one another and work together to achieve permanent connections for all children and youth.

The conference serves as a forum to train participants who will prepare children and families for their journey through the child welfare system towards permanency. The conference is designed to educate and support current and prospective foster and adoptive families, kinship care providers, permanent legal custodians, attorneys, child welfare professionals and others with a vested interest in permanency for children. The conference is a focal point for networking and sharing information to increase the knowledge base on the issues for children and youth in special needs adoptions and permanency.

Audience

The conference is designed for current and prospective foster and adoptive families as well as families providing other permanency options such as kinship care or permanent legal custodianship, attorneys, mental health professionals, independent living professionals, public and private agency professionals and the children on behalf of whom they work.

Session Descriptions

Each conference session is described in this brochure. The session categories and target audiences for the workshops and institutes are listed below.

Session Categories:

- Foundational
- Traditional
- Innovative

Target Audiences are:

- Families
- Advocates
- Permanency Professionals
- Child Welfare Workers
- Legal Professionals
- Independent Living Professionals

Continuing Education Credits, Continuing Legal Education Credits and Certificates of Training

Approval is pending for continuing education credits for social workers through the University of Pittsburgh and continuing legal education credits through the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board. Certificates of training will be available.

Hotel Information

Accommodations

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions is located at 250 Kalahari Blvd., Pocono Manor, PA 18349. Hotel reservations must be made directly by calling 877-525-2427.

Special rates have been arranged for conference participants. Mention the code "2018 Permanency Conference" to receive the flat rate of \$159/night (plus applicable taxes). This discounted rate only applies to the Kalahari's "Desert Room". This room comfortably sleeps four and includes up to four waterpark admission wristbands.

Additional occupants (up to two per room) will be charged \$25/person/night (plus applicable taxes).

This cost includes a waterpark admission wristband.

Check-in time at the Kalahari is at 4:00 p.m.; check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

Accessibility

The Kalahari is a large resort, so attendees should be prepared for a lot of walking (including long hallways). Hotel areas and attractions are handicapped accessible. Scooters can be rented in advance by contacting the Kalahari.

Registration Information

Conference Registration

To register for the conference, please complete the registration form included in this brochure or register online at www.diakon-swan.org. **The last day for Early Bird Registration is May 18, 2018.** Any registrations postmarked after that date will receive the regular registration rate. Preregistered attendees will receive a name badge, banquet and Family Fun Night dinner tickets, a program and other materials at the registration area. Confirmation emails will be sent to those who register by May 18, 2018. **The last day to register is May 30, 2018. Walk-in registration is accepted on-site dependent on availability and is not guaranteed. Payment is due at time of walk-in registration.**

Conference registration will be held:

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, June 13 | 11:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. |
| Thursday, June 14 | 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. |
| Friday, June 15 | 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. |

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Cancellations received after May 18, 2018, will be assessed a \$25 processing fee. No refunds will be given after registration closes on May 30, 2018.

Any session may be cancelled or rescheduled because of unforeseen circumstances. Schedule changes and cancellations will be posted at the registration area and noted in the program distributed at the conference.

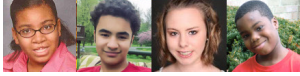
Conference Questions

If you have questions about registration, child care, accessibility, directions or other logistical considerations, please contact:

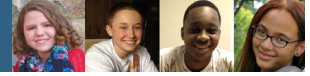
Conferencing

Toll Free: 888-793-2512

Email: conferencing@diakon-swan.org

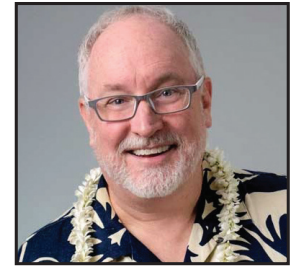


Conference Opening



Kevin Wanzer

As a humorist, motivational comedian, and keynote speaker, reaching audiences in refreshing ways is all Kevin Wanzer has ever known. At 8-year-old Kevin's lemonade stand, passersby were treated to two types of refreshment—a cold cup of lemonade and hilarious, dead-on stand-up renditions of Steve Martin comedy routines. Decades later, the lemonade is long gone, as are the Martin routines. The refreshment, however, is still to be had. Early in his career, Kevin served on the staff of and appeared on *Late Night with David Letterman*. As a result of working with First Lady Nancy Reagan, President Ronald Reagan appointed Kevin to serve as a delegate to the White House Conference for a Drug Free America, on behalf of which he spoke at the United Nations. To this day, Kevin is still one of the youngest presidential appointees in American history.



Since 1983, Kevin has spoken in front of well over 3,000 audiences all over the world. He has been noted nationally as one of the most effective and entertaining speakers for corporations, organizations, schools, colleges and to audiences of adults who work with and empower the lives of youth. His program encourages audiences to discover their hidden passions, embrace diversity and celebrate the laughter in us all.

Kevin is a member of the National Speaker's Association (NSA), where he earned the designation of Certified Speaking Professional (CSP). This earned designation is awarded by the NSA and the International Federation of Professional Speakers to recognize demonstrated commitment to the speaking profession through proven speaking experience. Fewer than ten percent of the thousands of speaking professionals worldwide hold this designation.

Kevin is the author of *Choose to Love*. He is also a contributing author to *Go M.A.D.: Make a Difference* (2003), *Teen Power: A Treasury of Solid Gold Advice for Today's Teens* (1990); *Teen Empower: Solid Gold Advice for Those Who Teach, Lead and Guide Today's Teens* (1997); *Lead Now – Or Step Aside!* (2000) and *PreTeen Power* (1997).

Kevin is a former foster parent, and now a proud adoptive parent of a child from the foster care system.

Conference Opening

Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 1:15 p.m.

Choose to ACT with ALOHA: Cultivating a Community of OHANA

Since he began his speaking career as a high school sophomore in 1983, Kevin has grown to be one of America's most sought-after speakers for young people and adults who impact young lives. In this hilarious, yet touching keynote address, Kevin recalls and reinforces essential life and love lessons. His outrageous program ce-lei-brates the difference we make with each other by choosing to ACT, choosing to love, choosing ohana and choosing laughter. Kevin reminds us that success in life ultimately comes down to finding joy in everyday situations and the importance of who and what we choose to love. Experience why Kevin Wanzer is one of the most dynamic, memorable and unique speakers on celebrating passion, diversity and building connections with young people for audiences today.

Special Conference Features & Events

Recognition Banquet

Teresa Miller served as Pennsylvania's Insurance Commissioner beginning in January 2015 until August 2017, when Governor Wolf asked her to lead Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services (DHS) as Secretary. During her time at the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, Miller prioritized increasing the department's consumer protection, outreach, and education efforts, including creating videos, guides, and a shopping tool to help consumers shopping on the individual market. Miller added a consumer liaison to the department staff in order to interact directly with consumers and get their perspective on department initiatives and market issues. Prior to coming to Pennsylvania, Miller served as acting director of the State Exchanges Group, the Oversight Group, and the Insurance Programs Group at the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, a part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services. Here she helped roll out regulations and guidance related to the private market reforms of the Affordable Care Act, and helped develop and implement policies and rules governing state-based exchanges. Miller also previously served as the administrator of the Oregon Insurance Division, helping implement the early stages of the ACA at the state level and making significant changes to Oregon's health insurance rate review



process. Miller received her J.D. from Willamette University College of Law, and her B.A., magna cum laude, from Pacific Lutheran University.

Recognition awards will be given during the banquet on Wednesday, June 13, at 5:30 p.m. for:

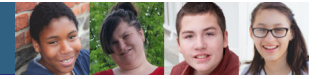
- Permanency Professional
- Permanency Teamwork
- Independent Living Professional
- Permanent Family
- Permanency Advocate
- Philanthropy
- Youth Advocate

Family Fun Night

On Thursday, June 14, starting at 6:00 p.m., share food and information with other families who support permanency for children! A buffet-style dinner will be served until 7:30 p.m., but stay longer to mingle and network before you explore the Kalahari's many delightful forms of entertainment. **Participants with hotel reservations at the Kalahari receive access to the indoor waterpark. Please refer to page 14 for additional Family Entertainment Center information.** Use the registration form to confirm your participation in the Family Fun Night and to purchase extra meal tickets for guests, friends or children who are not registered for the conference or child/teen care.



Conference Closing



Darrell "Coach D" Andrews

Professionally, Darrell "Coach D" Andrews, CSP, America's Passion Coach, is a nationally acclaimed motivational speaker, trainer, life/career coach and author of the books, *The Parent As Coach - Developing a Family Dream Team*, *The Purpose Living Teen - A Teen's Guide To Living Your Dreams*, *Believing The HYPE - Keys To Motivating Students of Color* and

several others. He is currently writing his eighth book entitled "*Winning the Heart of At-Risk Youth*," which will be published by The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. He was also a blogger for McGraw Hill School Education Division. His story of education success, *5 Garbage Bags and a Dream*, was one of the top stories in the *New York Times* best-selling book, *Chicken Soup For The African-American Soul*.

He is the developer of *H.Y.P.E.* (Helping Youth Pursue Excellence), a top-rated youth program under the Workforce Investment Act grant. Coach D's program had

one of the highest youth development success rates of all contracted programs nationally. Ninety percent of his youth had significant barriers to success, many of which were in independent living. He now shares innovative strategies for helping youth, parents, schools and school districts and organizations develop systems of life, academic and career success. He has been a featured speaker and workshop facilitator at countless events throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean.

Coach D has received his Certified Speaking Professional designation from the National Speakers Association and the Global Speakers Federation. Fewer than ten percent of speakers worldwide have received this special accreditation.

Coach D has been happily married for 23 years and is the proud father of four amazing children: Darrell Jr, Sophia, Alexander and Abigail. As an adoptive father Coach D believes that it is not only the child who is blessed by adoption, it is also the parents, saying, "Our lives were changed for the better by adopting our little Abbey."

Conference Closing • Friday, June 15, 2018, 10:30 a.m. *Their Future Is In Your Hands!*

This high-energy event will inspire conference attendees to believe in the potential they possess to positively impact every youth they serve. Darrell "Coach D" Andrews, an internationally acclaimed speaker, strategist and author, will share innovative yet motivational insights into personal and youth empowerment. Event participants will learn the power of personal and organizational perception, youth connectedness and personalization, student dreams and having a vision for the future.

Attendees will walk away from this event motivated yet positioned with strategies designed to create cultures of success. Coach D has spoken for and consulted over 2500 organizations worldwide. His strategies will hit home with all stakeholders attending the event.

Teen Keynote Presentation

A Student With A Dream Is A Student With A Future! *(Teen Program Only)*

A student with a dream is a student with a future! This high energy speech conducted by Darrell "Coach D" Andrews will help youth conference attendees understand the power of dreams, education and good choices to future success. Coach D, born and raised in poverty in Syracuse, New York, realized at an early age that a future dream, coupled with an education, was going to be the ticket to breaking through his situation. He envisioned a life in which he could achieve a positive future beyond the limitations set before him. He is now an internationally acclaimed speaker, education consultant and author.



Networking Sessions • Wednesday, June 13, 2018 • 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WE HEARD YOU! You asked for more networking opportunities, so this year we are trying something different. Rather than the traditional Wednesday afternoon breakout sessions, we will be offering the following six networking sessions. These sessions are designed to bring together similar groups of people from across the state to get to know each other and discuss hot topics relevant to the group. The groups will be facilitated by subject matter experts. Please pay close attention to the target audience when choosing your session!

W-NW1 The Gathering

Audience - Families (current and prospective), Adoptive, Foster, Kinship and PLC Families

Adoptive, foster, kinship and PLC families can benefit from strong support networks. Building new connections with other families in similar situations can be a large part of that support. This session is designed as a gathering of these resource families. Through this session, families will have the opportunity to get to know other adoptive/foster families at the beginning of the conference and hopefully develop deeper relationships throughout the conference and beyond. During the session, there will be discussion of relevant issues affecting families offering permanency to children and youth.

W-NW2 Strengthening Youth

Audience - Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Affiliate Agencies working with older youth

This session is designed to address issues facing our older youth, as well as those who work to serve them. This networking session will offer the opportunity for those who work with older youth to come together to get to know each other and discuss important topics in the field.

W-NW3 Achieving Permanency Through Child Specific Recruitment

Audience - Affiliate CSR Workers, OCMI Recruiters, Child Welfare Workers, Independent Living Professionals

Do you work in Child Specific Recruitment? Are you looking to meet with others who also work with this important unit of service? This session is designed to bring workers together to discuss thoughts and ideas about how to get children to permanency in the most expedient, efficient and successful manner.

W-NW4 Examining the Legal Perspective

Audience - Legal Professionals, LSI staff, Workers with a high interest in legal issues

This session is designed to bring together those attendees who have an interest in discussing the legal aspects of our work. Participants will look at some current issues in child welfare law from a legal perspective. The attendees will be asked to discuss ideas and strategies around these topics.

W-NW5 Worker to Worker

Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Affiliate Agencies, Independent Living Professionals

This meeting is designed to bring workers together to examine issues around current practices in the field of permanency. Participants in this session will get the opportunity to meet with other workers from across the state. They will be encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge around different aspects of their daily work.

W-NW6 Veteran's Networking

Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Affiliate Agencies, Independent Living Professionals with 10+ years experience

This meeting is designed to bring veteran workers together to examine issues around current practices in the field of permanency. Participants in this session will get the opportunity to meet with other workers from across the state. They will be encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge around different aspects of their daily work.

Workshop Session 1 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

TH-WK1 Assessing Permanency Practices in Pennsylvania**

Category - Foundational **Audience** - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Legal Professionals, Advocates

This workshop will discuss the findings from in-depth case reviews conducted across the state and using that information to strengthen our work in helping children and youth achieve permanency.

Natalie Perrin, Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families and **Jeanne Edwards**, University of Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center

TH-WK2 PA Permanency Families and SWAN Post-Permanency Services – A Winning Team

Category - Foundational **Audience** - All

As families navigate the lifelong path of permanency, it's nice to know that there is someone to champion you and the unique needs of your children. If you are a permanency family, come join us to learn how SWAN's free Post-permanency services can support your journey.

Lea Moyer and **Denise Sheffield**, Diakon/Family Design Resources

** Suggested for supervisors

Workshop Session 1 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (continued)

- TH-WK3 Introducing SWAN Connect (Formerly PA Seamless System)**
Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates
 This workshop will educate the audience about SWAN Connect, formerly known as the PA Seamless System. Attendees will learn about the SWAN Helpline and Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange and how they work together to assist families with searches for information on Pennsylvania's waiting children.
Robert Brockman, *Diakon/Family Design Resources* and **Tonya Hottenstein**, *Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit*
- TH-WK4 Speaking Out: Empowering Youth Voices***
Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals
 The thought of public speaking can fill even professionals with dread and anxiety, so how must a youth feel when they are asked to present themselves? This workshop will address methods for effective, successful youth presentations.
Nic Landon and **Kortney McConnell**, *Family Pathways*
- TH-WK5 Building Worker and Agency Capacity Through College and Provider Collaboration****
Category - Innovative Audience - All
 An innovative collaboration between Youth Advocate Programs and Lebanon Valley College assisted LVC in offering a meaningful learning experience to its students and YAP in offering system-involved youth access to additional role models and unique experiences. This three-year, sustainable partnership has resulted in improved understanding by LVC students of the youth-serving systems and youths' complex needs as well as a consistent, meaningful experience for system-involved youth.
Sharon Arnold, *Lebanon Valley College* and **Bob Swanson**, *Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.*

Workshop Session 2 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- TH-WK6 Navigating the Mental Health System**
Category - Foundational Audience - All
 This workshop will provide guidance, resources and knowledge of the mental health system in Pennsylvania. Participants will learn what types of mental health services and treatments are available, how to obtain the services, and questions to ask treatment providers, as well as understand resiliency and recovery.
Caren Rosser-Morris and **Crystal Doyle**, *Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services* and **Beth-Ann McConnell**, *Pennsylvania System of Care*
- TH-WK7 Shared Parent Training**
Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates
 This training will explain the importance of a positive first meeting between the resource parents and biological parents. A shared parenting meeting establishes realistic expectations for both families. The training will guide professionals through facilitating a shared parenting meeting. Tools to help direct the positive course of the meeting will be shared.
Amy Hooks, **Kendra Manning**, **Gina Fertig** and **Debra Jazwinski**, *Mercer County Children and Youth Services*
- TH-WK8 Foster Youth Panel**
Category - Innovative Audience - All
 This is a panel that will consist of current and past foster children. Hear the voices of foster youth and their stories while in care—their reality, successes and downfalls of aging out in the foster care system. **Lorine** and **Brittany Ogurkis**, *Brandon's Forever Home* and **Panel**
- TH-WK9 Child Development: Applying Science to Child Welfare Practice**
Category - Foundational Audience - All
 This training will provide an overview of the major stages of childhood and adolescent development, discuss the impact of trauma on children's developing brains and bodies, and identify best practices for child welfare workers and caregivers at each stage to promote resilience and healthy development.
Allie Dolan and **Meghan Johnson**, *Support Center for Child Advocates*
- TH-WK10 It's Underneath!**
Category - Traditional Audience - Families
 This workshop will discuss viewing the world through a child's eyes and alternative options workers may employ to help a child/youth express how they are feeling.
Lee Anne Rauch, *Lycoming County Children and Youth Services*

* Back by popular demand
 ** Suggested for supervisors

Institute 1 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

TH-IN1 **How the Exception Becomes the Rule**

Category - Innovative **Audience** - All

The journey to becoming an advocate is not one that youth or adults embark on lightly. There is often a moment in one's life, especially for youth, that serves as a catalyst for action. This panel will feature a discussion with child welfare alumni about their catalytic moments in becoming advocates and will provide tools for parents and professionals looking to encourage young people to use their stories for change. The panelists, all members of FCAA Pennsylvania Chapter, are here to share their lived experiences and give you the tools to empower youth to not just survive, but thrive!

Constance Krebs Iannetta and **Alex Knapp**, *Foster Care Alumni of America* and **Panel**

TH-IN2 **Ordinary Magic: Building Resilient Children and Youth***

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Families, Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates

Edith Grotberg, a senior researcher with the International Resilience Project, says "With resilience, children can triumph over trauma; without it, trauma (adversity) triumphs." This workshop will look at the importance of resiliency in relationship to trauma. It will explore the definition of trauma and the efforts and actions of parents, professionals and caregivers to enhance resiliency in children.

Pam Wagner, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

TH-IN3 **Achieving and Sustaining Permanency Using an Adolescent Development Framework**

Category - Innovative **Audience** - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Legal Professionals, Advocates

All youth deserve permanency, yet the child welfare community faces many challenges to achieving and sustaining permanency for older youth. In this institute, research findings on extended foster care in Pennsylvania are used and strategies for achieving and sustaining permanency that are informed by adolescent development and the voices of youth are shared.

Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.

Jenny Pokempner and **Dominique Mikell**, *Juvenile Law Center* and **Ilene Dubin**, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

TH-IN4 **Collaboration and Trust: Preserving Positive and Healthy Connections Through Post Adoption Contact**

Category - Innovative **Audience** - All

Post-adoption contact may take many forms—formal, written, unwritten, trust agreements or handshake agreements. They all have the same important goal: maintain a healthy and positive bond between two families for the benefit of the children involved. Discover how adoptive families and birth families can work together to collaborate and build a trusting relationship for children and for themselves to nurture and grow positive connections.

Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.

Michael Wahlen and **Melissa Eller**, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

TH-IN5 **Tangible Ways to Love a Child***

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals

Stories and humor are interwoven by an experienced parent who will provide a series of tangible, hands-on techniques and tools used for enhancing family relationships, especially between parents and older children new to the family. This discussion will be family-focused, but also beneficial for professionals.

Judith Damiano, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

TH-IN6 **What About Dad? A Legal Approach to Paternity and Fatherhood Engagement**

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Legal Professionals, Advocates

Fathers play an important role in a child's life, yet their role in a dependency case is often misunderstood. This training will address the importance of establishing paternity, the legal principles that guide us, and why fatherhood engagement is essential.

Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.

Lauren Peters and **Deb Thomas**, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

Workshop Session 3 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

TH-WK11 **Family is Family: Understanding Birth Parents****

Category - Innovative **Audience** - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates

When we think of having a trauma-informed child welfare system, most focus on how trauma has affected our youth in care. But what about their birth parents? This workshop will focus on understanding birth parents of youth in foster care from a trauma-informed perspective and will explore this perspective to lead to greater permanency outcomes.

Nico'Lee Biddle and **Cody Webb**, *Three Rivers Adoption Council*

* Back by popular demand

** Suggested for supervisors

Workshop Session 3 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (continued)

| | |
|----------------|--|
| TH-WK12 | <p>Support, Education and Advocacy: Working with LGBTQ Persons <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates</i> LGBTQ children face challenges that can result in poorer academic, social and emotional outcomes. This workshop provides education on issues related to LGBTQ persons, their families, friends and allies in addition to discussing support during the “coming out” process. Mitchell Hortert, PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Pittsburgh</p> |
| TH-WK13 | <p>Family and Child Recruiters: Partnering for Permanency <i>Category - Innovative Audience - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers</i> This workshop shares guidelines created by a group in the central region which address communication-based barriers to permanency. The intention is to increase permanency outcomes by fostering a deeper understanding of what recruiters seek for children and what families are seeking. Katie Juliana and Michelle Brode, Diakon Adoption and Foster Care</p> |
| TH-WK14 | <p>Maintaining A Child’s Cultural Identity <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates</i> This session will help families and workers understand the importance of maintaining a child’s cultural identity as well as nurturing positive self-esteem in a culturally diverse home. Ashley Kelley, The Bair Foundation</p> |
| TH-WK15 | <p>Professional Preservation: Supporting Yourself, Supporting Your Staff** <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This presentation highlights common staff responses to trauma exposure at work, including vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout, and identifies self-care strategies and leadership practices that help improve practice and support workers. Allie Dolan and Meghan Johnson, Support Center for Child Advocates</p> |
| TH-WK16 | <p>Growing Up Adopted – My Story <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Adopted as an infant, Jessica is now almost 30 years old, and she has a story to tell. Her story includes reconnecting with her birth family as a teen, living in a multi-racial family, adjusting to new kids “coming home” and more. Both families and professionals will benefit from hearing Jessica’s story. Jessica Damiano, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center</p> |
| TH-WK17 | <p>Evolution of Understanding Autism: Experience, Data and Research <i>Category - Foundational Audience - All</i> This session will challenge attendees to examine what they know about autism in an effort to shift shared conceptualization of the diagnosis and to determine most appropriate supports. Stacy Nonnemacher, Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs/Bureau of Autism Services</p> |

Workshop Session 4 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| TH-WK18 | <p>Understanding Adoption Assistance <i>Category - Foundational Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers</i> It can be difficult to obtain information about adoption assistance for children with special needs in Pennsylvania. This course provides essential information concerning adoption assistance, including what it is, who is eligible, how to negotiate rates and much more. Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval. Alicia Tyler and TaWonda Jones-Williams, Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families</p> |
| TH-WK19 | <p>How to Develop and Sustain a Mentoring Program** <i>Category - Innovative Audience - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates</i> Tabor Children’s Services Mentoring Programs firmly believes that, at the very least, all youth deserve one person who wants to be a part of their lives and believes in them. Tabor’s mentoring specialists will provide a general overview on building a successful mentoring program based on your county’s needs. Rosaleen Holohan, Dawn Robin Miller and Nykea Alvarez-Macey, Tabor Children’s Services, Inc.</p> |

* Back by popular demand
 ** Suggested for supervisors

Workshop Session 4 • Thursday, June 14, 2017 • 3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. (continued)

- TH-WK20 Social Media Awareness for Individuals Working with Youth**
Category - Traditional Audience - All
 Since today's teens are connected to each other and the world by means of digital technology, social media awareness is an important tool for individuals involved with youth. This workshop provides information about the risks involved with social media use.
Devin Petrusky, Northumberland County Juvenile Court Services
- TH-WK21 Opioids and Other Drugs: Their Impact on the Family System**
Category - Foundational Audience - All
 The use and abuse of and addiction to opioids is a national epidemic. Learn from family members who experienced the crisis in their own family and home. Learn to identify the signs of use, abuse, addiction, recovery and relapse.
June Fisher, Dynamic Training Solutions, Stephanie Snyder and Michael Achuff
- TH-WK22 Twisted Sisters – A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the White Picket Fence**
Category - Innovative Audience - All
 Three parents share their experiences and their children's life stories as they grew up with a variety of diagnoses. Learn how to look at the funny side of things as you travel throughout life.
Karan Steele, Beacon Health Options, Dianna Brocius and Crystal Karenchak, Pennsylvania System of Care Partnership
- TH-WK23 Criminal Law 101: The Intersection with Dependency****
Category - Traditional Audience - All
 This session will explore the interplay of criminal law and Pennsylvania's Juvenile Act, Child Protective Services Law, and the Adoption Act, and expound upon basic terminology and core concepts to aid participants in their understanding, application and practice.
Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.
Alyssa Holstay, Diakon/Family Design Resources
- TH-WK24 Scholarships – The Forgotten Option for Post Secondary Funding**
Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Legal Professionals, Advocates
 Money to help students and families afford education is everywhere in the form of scholarships. This session will review the types, where to find them and tips to apply.
Linda Pacewicz and Marla Kane, Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

Institute 2 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

- TH-IN7 Seven Principles for Trauma Processing in the Family System**
Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers
 Foster and adoptive parents may become "in-house therapists" when parenting emotionally volatile children and assisting in processing traumatic pasts. These seven principles are the foundation and framework for healing parent-child interactions.
Jeff Merkert and Faye Hall, Jewish Family Service
- TH-IN8 Hot Topics in Child Welfare Law, 2018***
Category - Traditional Audience - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Legal Professionals, Advocates
 Current issues in child welfare law are discussed with experienced attorneys who handle child welfare and termination of parental rights cases using the perspectives of children, parents and agencies. The focus is legal hot topics, including recent court decisions and legislative changes.
Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.
Ilene Dubin, Diakon/Family Design Resources, Marisa McClellan, Dauphin County Children and Youth, Kathleen Creamer, Community Legal Services and Jennifer Gelet, Defender Association of Philadelphia
- TH-IN9 Independent Living Youth and Housing: What are the Options?**
Category - Innovative Audience - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Legal Professionals, Advocates
 This workshop is a discussion about housing options for IL youth using the IL Bulletin. Participants will learn about ways that counties have implemented housing options and are meeting the needs of the youth served.
Kim Hess, Cristin Wormuth and Lindsey Glezen, Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services, Leasia Ayers-Caswell, Adams County Children and Youth Services, Meghan O'Hare, University of Pittsburgh, The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center, Pam Meterko, Pentz Run, Nichole Laiuvara and Amanda Harden, Valley Youth House, and Panel

* Back by popular demand
 ** Suggested for supervisors

Institute 2 • Thursday, June 14, 2018 • 2:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. (continued)

TH-IN10 **Adult Grief/Child Grief: It's Just Not the Same**

Category - Foundational **Audience** - Families

Children placed in foster care grieve when they lose their parents, siblings and possessions. It is critical that foster parents understand that children grieve differently from adults. This workshop will discuss the differences in grieving between adults and children, as well as how grief may manifest in a child in the foster care system. Ways to help children grieve will be discussed so that they, and you, are able to move forward in your relationship.

Colleen Slebodnik and **Annette Gross**, *Wesley Family Services*

Workshop Session 5 • Friday, June 15, 2018 • 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

F-WK1 **Answering the Hard Questions**

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers

This workshop discusses developmentally appropriate ways to talk about difficult issues with children, including drugs and alcohol, physical and sexual abuse and parental jail time, among many others.

Sheila Milnes and **Jennifer Stewart**, *Three Rivers Adoption Council*

F-WK2 **Understanding The Impact of Domestic Violence on Families**

Category - Foundational **Audience** - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates

By deepening our understanding of domestic violence, we gain insight into children's experiences and the impact on families. This interactive workshop explores the physical and emotional impact of domestic violence on children as well as how to mitigate these effects.

Dr. Mario Cruz, *Philadelphia FIGHT Health Centers* and **Patricia Cruz**, *Haven Foster Care*

F-WK3 **The Courage to Be Vulnerable: A Self Care Workshop Utilizing Yoga, Mindfulness and Breath for the Helping Professional**

Category - Innovative **Audience** - All

To care for ourselves we must first be willing to recognize that we are in need. This workshop will help participants understand the importance of vulnerability in the beginnings of their self-care routine. Participants will understand how trauma and stress manifest in the body and be given tools to combat stress and trauma using yoga, mindfulness and breathing techniques. Participants will also learn how Secondary Traumatic Stress mimics and looks very similar to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Shenise Nicole Henderson, *Lifeline Trauma Informed Services, LLC*

F-WK4 **Tackling Child Prep with Toddlers**

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers

This session is a hands-on learning experience on creating Child Prep activities that are therapeutic and age appropriate and can be made with cost-efficient and easily available supplies (for children ages 1-3).

Erika Gilmore, *Wesley Family Services* and **Samantha Poteste**, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

F-WK5 **What Parent Attorneys and GALs want Resource Parents to Know***

Category - Traditional **Audience** - Families

Resource families often feel removed from the child welfare legal process and the legal advocates within the process. This workshop, consisting of a former parent attorney and former GAL, will address common issues and concerns from resource parents and answer questions from the audience.

Continuing Legal Education credits are pending approval.

Alyssa Holstay and **Sara Steeves**, *Diakon/Family Design Resources*

F-WK6 **Building Partnerships to Effectively Serve IL Youth**

Category - Innovative **Audience** - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates

This interactive workshop will explore the collaboration between a county child welfare agency, a private IL provider, and the youth being served as they strive to promote permanency and preparedness for independence from a positive youth development framework.

Linda Rolley and **Lauren Poli**, *Valley Youth House*, **Mary McGonigle**, *Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth*, and **Panel**

F-WK7 **Achieving Family Life for Children with Developmental Disabilities****

Category - Innovative **Audience** - All

Members of the Imagine Different Coalition will describe cross-systems efforts to achieve family life for children with developmental disabilities who are growing up in facilities. Presenters will describe what attracts and supports resource families, informed by other states' practices.

Rachel Mann, *Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania* and **Karen Lindell**, *Juvenile Law Center*

* Back by popular demand
** Suggested for supervisors



Conference Registration Form



To register for the conference, please register online at www.diakon-swan.org (preferred) or complete this form. Please note the dates for Early Bird and Regular Registrations. Preregistered persons will receive a name badge, banquet and Family Fun Night dinner tickets, a program and other materials at the registration area. Confirmation emails will be sent to those who register by May 18, 2018. For questions about completing the form, please email conferencing@diakon-swan.org. **The last day to register is May 30, 2018. Walk-in registration is dependent on availability and is not guaranteed. Payment is due at time of walk-in registration.**

****Please type or print clearly. Please complete one form per person.**

| | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| First Name | Middle Initial | Last Name | Professional Title |
| Agency Affiliation | | Department | Email |
| Address (agency participants use company address) | | City | State |
| | | | Zip Code |
| Daytime Phone | | Evening Phone | Cellphone |

Please check all that apply: I am a Child Welfare Worker Advocate Legal Professional Permanency Professional
 Family Independent Living Professional Other _____

Special Needs: We want each participant to have the most enjoyable and accessible experience possible. Please let us know your special need in advance. Specify needs: _____

Specify dietary restrictions: _____

Workshop Session Selection: To help us determine space requirements, please mark your preferred sessions in the appropriate spaces. Any session may be cancelled or rescheduled because of unforeseen circumstances. Schedule changes or cancellations will be posted at the registration area and noted in the final program that will be distributed at the conference.

Wednesday, June 13 (Choose one)

Networking Sessions • 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

- W-NW1 W-NW2 W-NW3 W-NW4 W-NW5 W-NW6

Thursday, June 14 Morning (Choose two workshops — one from Workshop 1 **AND** one from Workshop 2 — **OR** one Institute)

Workshop 1 • 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

- TH-WK1 TH-WK2 TH-WK3 TH-WK4 TH-WK5

Workshop 2 • 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- TH-WK6 TH-WK7 TH-WK8 TH-WK9 TH-WK10

OR

Institute 1 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- TH-IN1 TH-IN2 TH-IN3 TH-IN4 TH-IN5 TH-IN6

Thursday, June 14 Afternoon (Choose two workshops — one from Workshop 3 **AND** one from Workshop 4 — **OR** one Institute)

Workshop 3 • 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

- TH-WK11 TH-WK12 TH-WK13 TH-WK14 TH-WK15 TH-WK16 TH-WK17

AND

Workshop 4 • 3:45 – 5:15 p.m.

- TH-WK18 TH-WK19 TH-WK20 TH-WK21 TH-WK22 TH-WK23 TH-WK24

OR

Institute 2 • 2:00 – 5:15 p.m.

- TH-IN7 TH-IN8 TH-IN9 TH-IN10

Friday, June 15 (Choose one)

Workshop 5 • 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

- F-WK1 F-WK2 F-WK3 F-WK4 F-WK5 F-WK6 F-WK7



Registration Options



Please complete one form per person

OPTION 1: ENTIRE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION JUNE 13, 14, 15 (Includes two continental breakfasts, two afternoon breaks, Recognition Banquet, Family Fun Night dinner, opening and closing keynote general sessions and up to six concurrent workshops)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 18, 2018)

- \$180.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$100.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$75.00 – One parent

REGULAR RATE (postmarked after May 18, 2018)

- \$200.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$120.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$95.00 – One parent

Please indicate if you will attend the Wednesday, June 13 banquet:

- Yes – I will attend
- No – I will not attend

Please indicate if you will attend the Family Fun Night Dinner on Thursday, June 14:

- Yes – I will attend
- No – I will not attend

OPTION 2: A LA CARTE REGISTRATION (SELECT ONE)

Wednesday, June 13 ONLY (Includes: opening keynote general session, afternoon break, one workshop and Recognition Banquet)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 18, 2018)

- \$100.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$45.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$35.00 – One parent

REGULAR RATE (postmarked after May 18, 2018)

- \$120.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$65.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$55.00 – One parent

Please indicate if you will attend the Wednesday, June 13 banquet:

- Yes – I will attend
- No – I will not attend

Thursday, June 14 ONLY (Includes: continental breakfast, afternoon break, Family Fun Night dinner and up to four concurrent workshops)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 18, 2018)

- \$100.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$45.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$35.00 – One parent

REGULAR RATE (postmarked after May 18, 2018)

- \$120.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$65.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$55.00 – One parent

Please indicate if you will attend the Family Fun Night Dinner on Thursday, June 14:

- Yes – I will attend
- No – I will not attend

Friday, June 15 ONLY (Includes continental breakfast, one workshop and closing keynote general session)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 18, 2018)

- \$80.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$25.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$15.00 – One parent

REGULAR RATE (postmarked after May 18, 2018)

- \$100.00 – Agency-affiliated or other professional
- \$45.00 – Parenting couple (two parents from the same family)
- \$25.00 – One parent



Registration Options (continued)



ADD ONS:

CHILD CARE/TEEN CARE (\$50 per child/teen) _____
 (See page 15 for Child/Teen Care Registration Form). Child care/teen program registrations INCLUDE Thursday's Family Fun Night Dinner (in addition to other meals and snacks listed on the Child/Teen Care Registration Form).

ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS (\$20/person) _____
 Extra banquet tickets may be purchased for guests not registered for the conference or child care/teen programs.

ADDITIONAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT DINNER TICKETS (\$20/adult; \$10/child) _____
 Extra Family Fun Night Dinner tickets may be purchased for guests not registered for the conference or child care/teen programs.

Payment Options: Complete **one form per person** and attach check or money order made payable to *Diakon - SWAN, LLC*, or complete credit card information below and mail to **Conferencing, Diakon/FDR, 471 JPL Wick Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111**

| | |
|--|----------|
| TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE: | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL CHILD CARE/TEEN REGISTRATIONS: | \$ _____ |
| ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS/FAMILY FUN NIGHT DINNER TICKETS : | \$ _____ |
| <hr/> | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: | \$ _____ |

Credit Card Information:

MasterCard Visa Discover

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Verification code (3-4 digits on back of card) _____

Cardholder Name _____

Cardholder Address & Phone Number _____

Authorized Signature _____

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

Special pricing is available for individual groups of 10 or more for the Kalahari's Family Entertainment Center, which features fun games and activities for people of all ages such as miniature golf, miniature bowling, an arcade, and much more. Packages including "game card" passes to attractions and arcade tokens at reduced rates must be pre-purchased at least three days before you arrive. If you are interested in taking advantage of this special group offer for your party, contact Elika Almeida, Waterpark Group Sales Manager, at (570) 580-6025 or EAlmeida@KalahariResorts.com, and mention code FFN2018.



Child/Teen Care Program Information



Child Care and Teen Registration

We are pleased to provide on-site child care, as well as activities for older children. Additional forms and payments are required if you are requesting child care. A Child/Teen Care Registration Form (included below) must be completed for EACH child and teen who is participating in the sponsored activities. **Child/teen care is offered on a first-come basis. The deadline for child/teen care registration is May 4, 2018.** All child/teen care registrations received before May 4, 2018 will receive an informational confirmation packet. Permission forms from this packet must be filled out and brought with you to the conference. **Drop-in care is NOT available.** Children and teens must be preregistered to receive care.

Child Care and Teen Activities

Ages infant through 11: Child care is a supervised program that includes special activities. The rate is \$50 per child for the entire conference.

Ages 12 through 17: Teen care is a supervised program that includes a workshop and other special activities. Teens must be no older than 17 at the time of the conference. The rate is \$50 per youth for the entire conference.

Meals: Daily snacks, Wednesday dinner, Thursday breakfast, lunch, Family Fun Night dinner and Friday breakfast will be provided. Parents whose children are unable to eat table food must provide food (e.g., formula, baby food, bottles, special diets, allergies, etc.).

Activities: Activities will be provided for children and teens. Swimming will be available for children ages 8 to 17.

Medications: Parents are responsible for administering medications to children. **Child care staff will not administer medications.**

No walk-ins will be accepted for either group. Children and teens are required to attend all activities while their parents or caregivers are at the conference.



Child/Teen Care Registration Form

Please complete **one form per child/teen**. Photocopy the form for additional children/teens if necessary.

FEE: \$50 per child or teen includes daily snacks, meals and activities for the duration of the conference.

Parents must provide food for children who are unable to eat table food (e.g., formula, baby food, bottles, special diets, allergies, etc.). Child/teen care staff will **NOT** administer medications.

THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER CHILDREN/TEENS IS MAY 4, 2018.

Child care for children ages infant through 11 years **OR** Teen program for children ages 12–17 years

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age as of June 13, 2018 _____
First Middle Initial Last

Parent/Guardian Attending Conference _____

Home Phone _____ Cellphone (in the event of an emergency) _____

Email _____

Dates care is needed: Wednesday, June 13 Thursday, June 14 Friday, June 15

Please describe any accommodations your child will need to fully participate in child care activities:

Please list any dietary restrictions your child may have:

Please disclose any medical conditions (failure to disclose this information could result in removal from the child/teen care program):

Please list anything that would be helpful for the child/teen care staff to know about your child (likes, dislikes, fears, allergies, medications, etc.):

For child/teen care registration to be complete:

- Complete form. **One per child/teen.** To secure a space for your child, all registrations **must** be accompanied by payment.
- Attach payment. **NOTE:** Make check payable to: *Diakon – SWAN, LLC*. Enclose form and payment with your completed conference registration form.

An informational confirmation packet will be forwarded to you if the completed child/teen care registration form(s) and payment are received by May 4, 2018. You will need to complete the forms in the information packet and bring them with you to the conference. No child/teen care registrations will be accepted after May 4, 2018.





pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES