

PENNSYLVANIA PERMANENCY CONFERENCE



1992 – 2022

*Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network
Independent Living Services*

June 22-24, 2022 • 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 22

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

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Workshop Session 1

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 23

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

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

OR

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Workshop Session 2

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Workshop Session 3

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 4

3:45 – 5:15 p.m.
Workshop Session 5

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

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Family Fun Night

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

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

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Workshop Session 6

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 30th Annual Pennsylvania Permanency Conference 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 "2022 Permanency Conference" to receive the flat rate of \$159/night (plus applicable taxes). This discounted rate only applies to the Kalahari's Double Queen Sofa 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 20, 2022.** 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. **The last day to register is May 27, 2022. 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 22	11:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Thursday, June 23	8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Friday, June 24	8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Cancellations received after May 20, 2022, will be assessed a \$25 processing fee. No refunds will be given after registration closes on May 27, 2022.

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



Dana Winters, Ph.D.

Dana Winters, Ph.D., is the Rita McGinley Executive Director of the Fred Rogers Institute at Saint Vincent College. Her extensive field research from interviewing prisoners to shadowing crossing guards, from observing Head Start teachers and developing coaches in early childhood systems has informed the co-development of the Simple Interactions approach to support children, families, and their helpers. Dr. Winters describes and affirms the essential and relational practices of professionals across early education and intervention, out of school time learning, healthcare, family engagement, and more. She is an experienced applied researcher who has served as co-principal investigator and program evaluator for consecutive NSF-funded early childhood research and intervention projects in the areas of early literacy, social emotional development, and early mathematical learning. She leads numerous foundation and government project grants to improve early childhood systems and family engagement practices. Dr. Winters serves as a UNESCO Faculty Fellow in Children and Youth Studies, collaborating with faculty around the world in the advancement of empathy development and adult-child relationships across developmental settings. She received her Ph.D. in administrative and policy studies from the University of Pittsburgh.



Conference Opening

Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 1:15 p.m.

Understanding and Promoting Everyday Human Interactions

Serving children and families requires us to understand and address a complex system of challenges and opportunities. It is sometimes difficult to imagine how a single, small, and ordinary moment fits within these complex challenges and rising demands for outcomes, yet such moments are the most essential building blocks of a healthy community. Finding meaningful ways to talk about such moments can be encouraging, enriching, and empowering at every level of a system in service of children, youth, and families. Each simple interaction lays the groundwork for lasting developmental relationships. At the foundation of all healthy human development is the power of human connection – and we will explore the power we have to build connections and contribute to the positive development of those around us.



Special Conference Features & Events



Recognition Banquet

Meg Snead,
Acting Secretary of Human Services



Meg Snead was nominated to serve as the next Secretary of the Department of Human Services (DHS). Most recently, she served as Gov. Wolf’s Secretary of Policy and Planning overseeing the administration’s development and implementation of policy priorities, including the COVID-19 pandemic response, ensuring access to health care, and breaking barriers to critical human services. Prior to joining the governor’s office, Meg was an executive policy specialist at the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services,

focusing on Medicaid, mental health, and substance use policy. Meg comes to the position with a background in affordable housing, homelessness, and health care policy, having spent 10 years working in the nonprofit industry in the Denver, Colorado area. Meg has a bachelor’s in government from the University of South Carolina and a master’s in political science from the University of Colorado.

Recognition awards will be given during the banquet on Wednesday, June 22, at 5:30 p.m. for:

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



Special Conference Features & Events



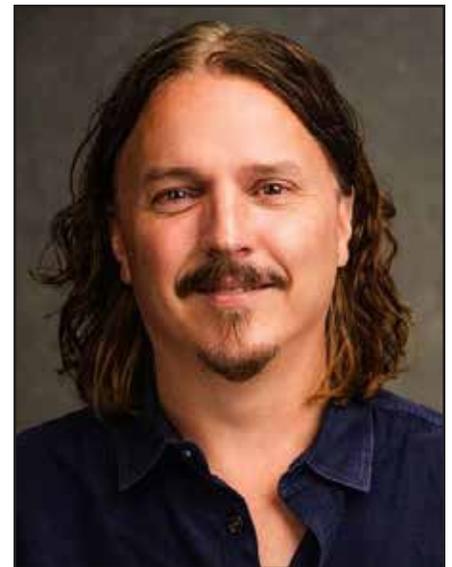
Family Fun Night

On Thursday, June 23, 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.** 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

Jim Donovan

Jim Donovan M.Ed. is a professional musician, Assistant Professor and the Director of the Center for Fine Arts at Saint Francis University and TEDx speaker. His mission is to share the healing power of music through education and performance. He specializes in placing music and wellness programs in organizations who focus on people with mental health challenges, those with disabilities and people recovering from addiction. Donovan performs with his band Sun King Warriors and was a founding member of the 3-time platinum band Rusted Root. There he co-wrote the song "Send Me on My Way" featured in the movie Ice Age. The song also became the first song on Mars where it "woke up" NASA's Mars Rover. His TEDx talk, How to trick your brain into falling asleep has been viewed over 5 million times.



Conference Closing

Friday, June 24, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Music and Mindfulness Self-Care Strategies for Everyone

We are excited to offer as the closing keynote, Dr. Jim Donovan, M.Ed. He will be presenting an interactive session filled with music and practical strategies that can be used every day to elicit calm focus and mindfulness. As families and child welfare professionals we deal with stress and deadlines every day. When we add to this all the global issues that surrounds us, we can quickly become overwhelmed. The active use of music based self-care is scientifically proven to improve mood, relieve stress, increase mental focus.

In addition, the art of connecting to others is critical in our work. Without positive connection we would not be able to assist our children and families to achieve their goals. This session will introduce us to some techniques that will open us up to making stronger connections to those around us. This will not only serve us in our work but also in our personal lives, since connection is essential in building good relationships. Musical experience is not required! Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy this lively session and enhance their human skills to serve others!

Teen Keynote Presentation

How to Trick Your Brain Into Falling Asleep

(Teen Program Only)

Join multi-platinum recording artist and viral TEDx speaker Jim Donovan as he shows you how to use the elements of music—rhythm and sound—to help you stress less and enjoy life more. You'll discover easy exercises you can use every day to fall asleep more easily, calm anxiety and boost mood.

Workshop Session 1 • Wednesday, June 22, 2022 • 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

W-WK1	<p>What Can You Do? <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Children who have achieved permanency through Pennsylvania's child welfare system face many challenges as they navigate the road to adulthood. Join us for a panel discussion with young adults sharing what helped them succeed on that journey. Lea Moyer, SWAN Prime Contractor</p>
W-WK2	<p>Finding Your Marigold in a Walnut Tree World <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This session will be an uplifting and encouraging workshop where participants can learn to identify people who are positive (marigolds) or toxic (walnut trees) and how interactions with them impact growth. Marigolds: learn how to find them, be them, and grow them! Rachel Paashaus, SWAN Prime Contractor and Robin Ewer, Southern Lehigh School District</p>
W-WK3	<p>Prudent Parent Party Planning <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Help plan the ultimate party... prudent parent style! We have celebration wish lists and unlimited (but pretend) money. There's only one catch: all plans must be made using the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard (RPP). Don't worry, we will learn about RPP as we go. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Rachel Thiessen Esq., SWAN Prime Contractor</p>
W-WK4	<p>Preparing Families for Permanency through Teaming and Tough Conversations <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This session will discuss how to use the SWAN Child Profile and family team conferencing as tools to engage resource families and their supports around their child's strengths and needs, as well as to plan for common post-permanency issues. Ryan Uber, Bonnie Petrosky and Tracey Nichol, Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families</p>
W-WK5	<p>Understanding Adoption Assistance <i>Category - Foundational Audience - Families, Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> This course will explain and clarify the most recent legal, policy and procedural requirements for adoption assistance eligibility under the Title IV-E and state adoption assistance programs. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Megan Benson, Melissa Erazo and Cindy (Van) Phan, Office of Children, Youth and Families</p>
W-WK6	<p>Leading with Kindness and Strength <i>Category - Innovative Audience - Supervisors, Legal Professionals, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> Learn from two experienced directors in the field of adoption and foster care how to empower your staff in today's world. You will walk away with some great, specific leadership techniques to help you lead your team with strength and kindness. Kelly Weidner and Sarah Magarity, Haven Adoptions and Foster Care</p>

Workshop Session 2 • Thursday, June 23, 2022 • 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

TH-WK1	<p>Listen, Learn, Lead, and Love: Advancing Equity <i>Category - Innovative Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Supervisors, Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> Challenging times present opportunities for reflection and change in personal and professional practices that increase our understanding and knowledge about equity and answer the most asked question: “How can I help?” In this workshop, participants will focus on four components that will illuminate strategies that support communities of color. Shileste Morris, Center for Schools and Communities</p>
TH-WK2	<p>Keys to Recruitment for Older Youth <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> Do you ever wonder what it takes to find permanency for older youth? Imagine being able to provide youth with stability, love, and acceptance. Learn the fundamental principles of Child-Specific Recruitment, which can help find permanency for even the most challenging cases. Karen Knodel and Marian Kolcun, Diakon Adoption and Foster Care, Russ McCurdy, The Children’s Institute and Tracy Buyaki, Family Pathways</p>
TH-WK3	<p>It’s Underneath <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families</i> Using hands-on materials, this workshop will give parents and foster parents ways to better understand the needs of a child in their home. The ideas will help families understand their child’s feelings and how they perceive their role in the family. LeeAnne Rauch, Retired, Lycoming County CYS</p>
TH-WK4	<p>Engaging and Empowering A Youth’s Voice in the Courtroom <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Legal Professionals, Advocates</i> Have you ever felt that the voice of the child or youth in your care is not the loudest in the courtroom? In this workshop, you will learn how to harness your power as a caregiver or advocate to engage and educate the court about the everyday needs of the children in your care. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Jennifer Spata, Esq. and Craig Bluestein, Esq., Law Offices of Craig B. Bluestein, P.C</p>

Workshop Session 3 • Thursday, June 23, 2022 • 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

TH-WK5	<p>Increasing Access to SSI Disability Benefits <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Youth in foster care may be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits, a vital source of income and health insurance. This session will cover SSI eligibility with a focus on trauma and trauma-informed methods to increase access to SSI for youth preparing to leave foster care. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Claire Grandison, Esq. and Bridget Biddle, Community Legal Services</p>
TH-WK6	<p>The Role of Caregivers in Supporting Education Stability and Success <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> This session will discuss caregivers’ role in supporting the educational needs of students in their care. The session will cover topics such as school stability; special education; how to communicate and advocate at school for a child; how to support the educational needs of a child at home and how to work collaboratively with child welfare agency staff and other supportive adults working to meet the educational needs of students. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Emily Peeler, Esq., Kathleen McNaught, Esq. and Heidi Epstein, Esq., American Bar Association</p>
TH-WK7	<p>Cultural Competence with the Culture of Poverty <i>Category - Foundational Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> This presentation will examine the concept of cultural competence in the field of child welfare and the impact of poverty on the lives of children and families, concluding with practical ways to increase cultural competence with this population. Rachel Armstead, Beaver County Children and Youth</p>
TH-WK8	<p>Adult Adoptee Perspective: Exploring the Transracial Adoption Experience <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> This interactive panel discussion will help participants understand transracial adoption from the perspectives of adult adoptees. The discussion will highlight the panelists’ experiences from childhood through adulthood and elevate conversations so audience members learn intersecting nuances related to diversity, adversity and more. Alixandra Moyer, Phoenix Contact, Stephanie Oyler, AdopteeLIT, LLC, Isaac Etter, Identity, and Amanda Woolston, Center for Grief and Trauma Therapy</p>

TH-IN1	<p>Social Media Awareness <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Online privacy awareness is vital knowledge to have when working with youth. This workshop will discuss the importance of data privacy and provide prevention methods to help individuals engaged in risky online behaviors. Devin Petrusky, Northumberland County Juvenile Court Services</p>
TH-IN2	<p>Post Adoption Contact: Breaking Barriers - Neiko's Family <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Supervisors, Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> This session will explore real-life issues and decisions that families consider when making Post-Adoption Contact Agreements (PACAs) in Pennsylvania. The session will feature a discussion with birth and adoptive parents who navigated post-adoption contact for their son. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Michael Wahlen, Esq., SWAN Prime Contractor, Emily and Bruce Thornton and Breanne Jefferson</p>
TH-IN3	<p>Intersectionality: A Rationale for Cultural Humility <i>Category - Foundational Audience - All</i> Participants will be challenged to engage others through a lens of Cultural Humility as they learn how intersectionality and the Cage of Oppression impact each individual's experience and access to social capital. Heather Britton, SWAN Prime Contractor, Tinesha English, APM/Pradera Corporation</p>
TH-IN4	<p>Building the Bridge to Positive , 1st Family, Resource Family and Agency Collaboration <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> Building a safe, collaborative bridge connecting resource caregivers and first families is critical to achieving positive outcomes for children and families. This session draws on the first-hand experiences of a resource parent to discuss how to effectively collaborate with a child's first family. June Fisher, Dynamic Training Solutions and Adrienne Cavanaugh, Resource Parent</p>
TH-IN5	<p>Reactive Attachment Disorder: An Overview <i>Category - Foundational Audience - All</i> This workshop describes healthy attachment, the effects of unhealthy attachment, and the symptoms, risk factors and current treatments for children diagnosed with Reactive Attachment Disorder and related disorders. Attachment parenting principles will be practiced through a case vignette. Elizabeth Coyle, University of Pittsburgh, the Child Welfare Resource Center</p>
TH-IN6	<p>Journey to Finding Permanency <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This interactive, youth-led workshop will give you insight into how the Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board has tackled pressing issues affecting older youth in care and how you can support them on the journey to find permanency! Shayla Jones and Norma Cutting, University of Pittsburgh, the Child Welfare Resource Center and Amah Dunor, SWAN Prime Contractor</p>

Workshop Session 4 • Thursday, June 23, 2022 • 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

TH-WK9	<p>Financial Aid Tips, Line-by-Line Review of FAFSA Application and Financial Aid Available from the Federal Government and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> This session will provide tips about applying for financial aid, a line-by-line overview of completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a review of the financial aid programs offered by the federal government and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Michael Burke, <i>Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency</i></p>
TH-WK10	<p>Helping Youth Build a Self Regarding Adoptive Identity <i>Category - Foundational Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> This workshop will help both professionals and caregivers understand the importance of helping adopted and foster children/youth in build a self-regarding adoptive identity and cultivate a positive experience of adoptive identity growth as they navigate and experience childhood and emerging adulthood. Stephanie Oyler, <i>AdopteeLIT, LLC</i> and Amanda Woolston, <i>Center for Grief and Trauma Therapy</i></p>
TH-WK11	<p>Wheel of Services <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> It's time to play Wheel of Services! Join us as SWAN Helpline and SWAN Post-permanency workers discuss services available to Pennsylvania's Post-permanency families. Lea Moyer, <i>SWAN Prime Contractor</i> and Jan Scherer, <i>SWAN Helpline</i></p>
TH-WK12	<p>Social Media Addiction <i>Category - Foundational Audience - All</i> Social media addiction is a growing problem as we become a digital-based world and education on this topic is important for everyone engaging in activity online. This workshop will discuss the causes of technology addiction as well as the importance of data privacy. Devin Petrusky, <i>Northumberland County Juvenile Court Services</i></p>

Workshop Session 5 • Thursday, June 23, 2022 • 3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

TH-WK13	<p>Prepared Renters Education Program (PREP) for Child Welfare <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Families, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals</i> Considering housing as a basic need for your clients/transitional age youth is imperative. Self-Determination Housing of Pennsylvania's Train the Trainer Prepared Renter Education Program (PREP) is a curriculum that provides information and helpful materials about finding, obtaining and maintaining housing. This workshop will provide resources to help inform and prepare your clients/transitional age youth as they balance their individual needs with the housing process. Barbara Huggins and Heather Slaughter, <i>Inglis, Self-determination Housing of PA</i></p>
TH-WK14	<p>Quality Visitation Means Engaging Parents Too! <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This workshop will provide resources and feature a parent's testimony to promote the necessity of engaging and teaming with parents when developing quality visitation plans while receiving placement services. Felicia Matriccino and Eliza White, <i>University of Pittsburgh, the Child Welfare Resource Center</i></p>
TH-WK15	<p>Reacting Vs. Responding and Why it Matters <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Supervisors, Families, Legal Professionals, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> What's the difference between reacting and responding, and why does it matter? This workshop is designed to help resource families, child welfare professionals, youth and anyone in between answer that question and develop deeper interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence. Joshua Sykes, <i>Cen Clear</i></p>
TH-WK16	<p>The Relationship Between Violence and Media <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> Examining the relationship between media and violence is important as technology advances. We tend to not realize how much media influences the way we think or act. This session will look at the relationship between violence and its portrayal across various media platforms. Devin Petrusky, <i>Northumberland County Juvenile Court Services</i></p>

TH-IN7	<p>Energizing Your Engagement: When an Email Just Isn't Enough <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This interactive session will take participants through activities designed to encourage engagement in entertaining ways. The tools provided can be used in many circumstances, with a variety of people, and with all age groups. Engage in some fun while learning! Colleen Cox and Cassie Kreckel, University of Pittsburgh, the Child Welfare Resource Center</p>
TH-IN8	<p>Reactive Attachment Disorder: Parenting and Therapeutic Interventions <i>Category - Traditional Audience - All</i> This workshop defines and describes the diagnosis of Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD) and related disorders and the behaviors that children with these disorders commonly exhibit. The major emphasis of this workshop focuses on parenting strategies to facilitate attachment, collaboration techniques to work as a team with the professionals providing services and application of the workshop's core principles through case vignettes. Elizabeth Coyle, University of Pittsburgh, the Child Welfare Resource Center</p>
TH-IN9	<p>Parenting Children through Complex Emotions <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Families</i> Anger is challenging for parents and children alike. Unfortunately, caregivers can often misunderstand the anger exhibited by a child who is in placement. This workshop will look at the roots of anger and provide tools to help families find workable solutions. Colleen Slebodnik and Annette Gross, Wesley Family Services</p>
TH-IN10	<p>Hot Topics in Child Welfare Law, 2022 <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Child Welfare Workers, Advocates, Supervisors, Legal Professionals</i> This workshop is a presentation and discussion of recent legal issues, new laws and case law to help social workers and legal professionals achieve timely permanency solutions for children in care. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Sara Steeves, SWAN Prime Contractor, Jennifer Spata, Esq., Law Offices of Craig B. Bluestein, P.C. and Kathleen Creamer, Community Legal Services of Philadelphia</p>
TH-IN11	<p>Developing Resiliency and Supporting Positive Change <i>Category - Traditional Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Supervisors, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals, Advocates</i> This workshop will outline the key components to family resiliency and how to support as well as develop them in your clients. Participants will learn key questions to ask to help move clients through ambivalence and support them through effective change. Carmen Naugle, The Bair Foundation</p>
TH-IN12	<p>U.S. Immigration Law - What you Should Know <i>Category - Foundational Audience - All</i> This session will give a brief history of U.S. immigration law and provide a basic understanding of current immigration laws, proceedings and immigrant rights. Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval. Chris Casazza, Esq., Palladino, Isbell and Casazza, LLC</p>
TH-IN13	<p>Supporting the Village – Trauma Informed Strategies for Helping Children and Their Network Cope with Grief and Loss <i>Category - Innovative Audience - All</i> This session will discuss the impact of grief and loss as it relates to foster care, dive deep into ambiguous and secondary loss and examine how approaching grief and loss through a trauma-informed lens can provide a better understanding of what children and caregivers need to cope with trauma. June Fisher, Dynamic Training Solutions</p>

Workshop Session 6 • Friday, June 24, 2022 • 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

- F-WK1** **Talk About Aggravating: An Overview of Aggravated Circumstances**
Category - Foundational Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Supervisors, Legal Professionals, Advocates
Aggravated circumstances are a legal construct that can help to expedite permanency for a child and child welfare professionals must have an understanding of it. This training will present the grounds for aggravated circumstances, the importance of alleging aggravated circumstances and the aggravated circumstances court process.
Continuing Legal Education Credits are pending approval.
Shawn Sangster, SWAN Prime Contractor
- F-WK2** **Healing within the Adoption Constellation: A Trauma Informed Approach**
Category - Foundational Audience - All
It is important to consider that there is trauma throughout the adoption constellation—adoptive parents, birth family members and adopted children all experience trauma. For this reason, all adoption practices should be trauma-informed. This training will consider the specific areas of trauma throughout the constellation and discuss techniques and best practices to promote healing for everybody involved in an adoption.
Erika Schmitt, Children's Home of Pittsburgh
- F-WK3** **Engaging African American Families During Permanency Services: From a Historical Lens**
Category - Foundational Audience - Child Welfare Workers, Permanency Professionals, Independent Living Professionals
This workshop will review historical trauma in African American families, present equitable engagement skills, and discuss permanency outcomes impacted by cultural humility.
Evette Clarke and Dr. Rosalind Lee, Equity Works Best, LLC
- F-WK4** **Improving School Engagement after a Residential Placement**
Category - Innovative Audience - All
A multi-disciplinary team will present best practices to help Pennsylvania students successfully return to public school following a congregate placement. Participants will learn practical strategies to improve student outcomes by engaging in a collaborative approach to school and community reintegration.
Ciera Ellison and Morgen Black-Smith, Esq., Support Center for Child Advocates and Parris Boyd, Temple University
- F-WK5** **Openness, Inclusivity and Building Bridges**
Category - Foundational Audience - All
As foster or adoptive parents, it is crucial to understand the impact openness, inclusivity, and bridge-building can have on the child's identity and development. This panel will discuss three families' real-life experiences as they navigate open adoptions.
Emily and Bruce Thornton, Kelly and Andrew Hughes, Heather and Danny LeVeck
- F-WK6** **Not Just Another Mindfulness Training!**
Category - Traditional Audience - All
Self-care is a concept we have all heard about, but it is often difficult to remember to practice. This session will help permanency/adoption professionals cultivate mindfulness practices that allow them to avoid burn-out and better serve foster/pre-adoptive children and their families.
Kristie Lindblom, The Children's Institute



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. For questions about completing the form, please email conferencing@diakon-swan.org. **The last day to register is May 27, 2022. 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 22 (Choose one)

Workshop Session 1 • 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

W-WK1 W-WK2 W-WK3 W-WK4 W-WK5 W-WK6

Thursday, June 23 Morning (Choose two workshops — one from Workshop 2 AND one from Workshop 3 — OR one Institute)

Workshop 2 • 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Workshop 3 • 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

TH-WK1 TH-WK2 TH-WK3 TH-WK4 **AND** TH-WK5 TH-WK6 TH-WK7 TH-WK8

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 23 Afternoon (Choose two workshops — one from Workshop 4 AND one from Workshop 5 — OR one Institute)

Workshop 4 • 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Workshop 5 • 3:45 – 5:15 p.m.

TH-WK9 TH-WK10 TH-WK11 TH-WK12 **AND** TH-WK13 TH-WK14 TH-WK15 TH-WK16

OR

Institute 2 • 2:00 – 5:15 p.m.

TH-IN7 TH-IN8 TH-IN9 TH-IN10 TH-IN11 TH-IN12 TH-IN13

Friday, June 24 (Choose one)

Workshop 6 • 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

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



Registration Options



Please complete one form per person

OPTION 1: ENTIRE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION JUNE 22, 23, 24 (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 20, 2022)

- \$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 20, 2022)

- \$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 22 banquet:

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

Please indicate if you will attend the Family Fun Night Dinner on Thursday, June 23:

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

OPTION 2: A LA CARTE REGISTRATION (SELECT ONE)

Wednesday, June 22 ONLY (Includes: opening keynote general session, afternoon break, one workshop and Recognition Banquet)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 20, 2022)

- \$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 20, 2022)

- \$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 22 banquet:

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

Thursday, June 23 ONLY (Includes: continental breakfast, afternoon break, Family Fun Night dinner and up to four concurrent workshops)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 20, 2022)

- \$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 20, 2022)

- \$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 23:

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

Friday, June 24 ONLY (Includes continental breakfast, one workshop and closing keynote general session)

EARLY BIRD (postmarked on or before May 20, 2022)

- \$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 20, 2022)

- \$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/Voce, 471 JPL Wick Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17111**

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE: \$ _____

TOTAL CHILD CARE/TEEN REGISTRATIONS: \$ _____

ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS/FAMILY FUN NIGHT DINNER TICKETS : \$ _____

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 _____



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 6, 2022.** All child/teen care registrations received before May 6, 2022 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.

*Priority will be given to current and prospective adoptive, foster, kinship care and permanent legal custodianship individuals and families for child/teen care. Individuals and families who are employees of Pennsylvania county children and youth and affiliate agencies may register for child/teen care, but will be placed on a waitlist and notified regarding acceptance into child/teen care.

*Individuals and families who are employees of the prime contract, Child Welfare Resource Center or those who work for the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services are not eligible to register for child/teen care.



Child/Teen Care Registration Form

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

FE: \$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 6, 2022.

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 22, 2022 _____
First Middle Initial Last

Parent/Guardian Attending Conference _____

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

Email _____

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 6, 2022. 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 6, 2022.





pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES