

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT



Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect are pleased to announce the 2011 statewide conference.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

**OPENING DOORS:
Partnerships for Prevention and Healing**

Friday, October 21, 2011
Hilton Hotel, 3 Tower Center Boulevard, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Opening Doors: Partnerships for Prevention and Healing will focus on building professional knowledge and collaborative partnerships to improve the effectiveness of our state's child maltreatment protection and prevention efforts. The theme encompasses our desire to encourage working relationships among volunteers and professionals in prevention, protective services, health, law enforcement and juvenile justice to create children and family focused systems.

The conference will provide a forum to discuss and learn about current trends in serving children, adolescents and at-risk families in a changing society. This is a unique opportunity for practitioners to network and understand the roles of the various disciplines in child maltreatment prevention and protection systems.

Department of Children and Families and the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect are committed to featuring experts in the field to address current issues and trends in child maltreatment protection and prevention.



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PROGRAM AGENDA



OPENING DOORS:
Partnerships for Prevention and Healing

- Morning Schedule -

- 8:00am - 8:45am Registration
- 8:45am - 9:00am Welcoming Remarks
- 9:00am - 9:30am Keynote Address
T. Wells-Huggins
RN/Founder/CEO, Renewed Minds CDC, Inc.
- 9:30am - 9:45am Break
- 9:45am - 11:45am Workshop Session
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- Afternoon Schedule -

- 12:00pm - 12:45pm Seated Luncheon
- 12:45pm - 1:45pm Keynote Address
Judge Glenda A. Hatchett
Judge Glenda Hatchett Worldwide
- 1:45pm - 2:00pm Break
- 2:00pm - 4:00pm Workshop Session
- 4:00pm Conclusion
-

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

OPENING DOORS: Partnerships for Prevention and Healing

JUDGE GLENDA A. HATCHETT



Judge Hatchett knows the difference between achieving success and making a difference. A visionary who knows how to get results, she is renowned in the legal community for her groundbreaking courtroom style. Best known for her revolutionary “interventions,” she is widely respected for her work with today’s youth, which not only sets her apart from other judges, but also establishes her as a leader in the justice system nationwide.

Judge Hatchett is also the author of the national bestseller, *Say What You Mean and Mean What You Say* (Harper Collins, 2003), based on her extensive professional experiences as a jurist and her own personal experience as a mother of two boys. The Judge also serves as national spokesperson for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), a non-profit volunteer organization that trains volunteers to represent abused and neglected children and help them navigate the court system. Visit <http://www.glendahatchett.com/> for more information.

TRACEY WELLS-HUGGINS, RN, FOUNDER/CEO, RENEWED MINDS CDC, INC.



Having overcome tremendous odds (teen parenting, welfare, homelessness and an abusive relationship), Tracey Wells-Huggins went on to obtain a Licensed Practical Nursing Diploma in 1995, advancing to Registered Nurse in 2003. With over 15 years experience, she has been blessed to do what she encourages others to do: ‘Give back!’ in the form of being a Clinical Adjunct Instructor, Critical Care Registered Nurse at Cooper University Medical Center, Charge Nurse for the State of New Jersey and Site Coordinator for the Gateway Family Success Center in Bridgeton, NJ. She is on a mission to help at risk youth and young adults to realize their natural -born ‘inner resolve to be a success.’ Since the incorporation of Renewed Minds CDC, Inc. in November 2008, she has provided programs, seminars and motivational speaking engagements to hundreds of youth and young adults across the country. Visit <http://www.renewedmindscdcinc.com/> for more information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

This conference is approved for 5.5 **Continuing Education Hours** by the Rutgers School of Social Work for NJ and PA Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Licensed Professional Counselors.

The Rutgers School of Social Work is a National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) Approved Continuing Education Provider and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for workshops that meet NBCC requirements. The Rutgers School of Social Work is solely responsible for all aspects of the workshops. **NBCC provider number 6389**

Application has also been submitted for Continuing Legal Education. *Approval pending.*

NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

MORNING WORKSHOPS

OPENING DOORS: Partnerships for Prevention and Healing



9:45am to 11:45am

Choice of one (1) morning workshop.

001 Children of Compulsive Gamblers

Fran Gizzi, LCSW, CCGC, Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc.

This workshop will examine the effect of problem and compulsive gambling on children of the gamblers. It will stress the importance of including gambling in any assessment of the individual or the family. The workshop will detail how parental gambling problems make the child susceptible to gambling and other risk-taking behaviors.

002 Child Sexual Abuse: Understanding the Importance of a Medical Evaluation and Interpreting Consultative Reports

Martin A. Finkel, DO, FAAP, CARES Institute at UMDNJ-SOM

The medical evaluation of children suspected of experiencing sexual abuse is critical to substantiation of concerns. All professionals involved in investigation and protection of children should understand the indications for and value of the medical examination. Participant will learn this critically important information, the essentials of how a defensible opinion is formulated and how to interpret a medical report.

003 Co-Parenting with an Abuser

Monica Schiffman, MSW, LCSW and Janet Lee, MSW, LCSW

This interactive workshop will provide strategies that empower survivors to effectively co-parent their children with the abuser post-separation. The information provided will assist in preventing possible abuse of the children both from the survivors own actions as well as from potential abuse from the perpetrator. The workshop will provide insights and techniques that will help non-offending parents take an active role in enhancing the healing of their children as well as re-establishing their parental role.

004 Cultural Reciprocity: Partnering with Immigrant Families to Improve Culturally Competent Practice

Diana Autin, JD and Mercedes Rosa, Statewide Parent Advocacy Network of NJ

New Jersey is increasingly a state of immigrants, with immigrant children representing our fastest growing child population. This workshop will provide participants with tools to use "culturally reciprocal" practices and build positive relationships with immigrant families across prevention, child behavioral health, and child protection that strengthen families and enhance positive child development.

005 Cyber Empowerment: A New Look at Our Students' Cyber World

Jeanette Collins and Cheryl Mojita, New Jersey Child Assault Prevention

This workshop will provide a comprehensive look at a number of facets of the cyber world of today's youth. In addition, the New Jersey Law as it applies to this topic as well as empowerment strategies for students, parents and staff will be covered. There will be various related activities.

MORNING WORKSHOPS

OPENING DOORS: Partnerships for Prevention and Healing



006 Ethical Responsibilities of Lawyers and Mental Health Professionals

Working with Children in Child Welfare Cases

Joseph F. Suozzo, Esq., Law Guardian & Susan Cohen Esquilin, Ph.D., ABPP-Clinical

Understanding and applying the ethical standards governing lawyers and mental health professionals working directly with children in child welfare cases is critical to understanding legal proceedings in those cases. But those standards present inherent difficulties when working with children, who lack the capacity of adults. This workshop will examine the professional ethics governing lawyers and mental health professionals in child welfare cases and explore answers to some thorny questions which arise for practitioners as well as for DYFS workers and other professionals working with children in the child welfare system.

007 Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Social, Economic, and Psychological Challenges and Opportunities

Karen Zurlo, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, School of Social Work

Approximately 4.5 million American children are being raised by their grandparents, who face unique challenges and opportunities as parents later in life. Using the strengths perspective, this workshop builds professional knowledge regarding the multiple issues involved in grandparenting minor children. The child welfare professional will learn how to support the unique family structure and address the social, economic, and psychological challenges of the household.

008 It's Not About the Tool: The DYFS Mental Health Screening Program

Dr. Mary Beirne, Chief Child Adolescent Psychiatrist, NJDCF

Debra Lancaster, Director, Office of Child Health Services, NJDCF

Mary Weglarz, ACRN, APN, Assistant Director, UMDNJ/DYFS Child Health Program

How can NJ's child welfare system ensure that children with mental health needs are identified early and monitored on an ongoing basis? Early awareness and timely treatment is critical to case planning and achieving better outcomes. Doing this well is not about using the right screening tool, but is about creating a culture in which the entire system keeps a pulse on mental health as part of the day-to-day work with individual children and families. This workshop will provide an overview of the DYFS Mental Health Screening Program which focuses on trauma as a way of understanding the unique vulnerability of children involved with the child welfare system to mental health challenges.

009 Keeping Fathers Engaged

Carl Shaw, Prevent Child Abuse NJ

This workshop will address the important role of fathers in the social and academic development of children. In a society increasingly accepting of single parent households, this highlights some of the irreplaceable dynamics a father-figure brings to the parental partnership. Participants will explore the importance of fatherly presence in the lives of children and strategies to keep fathers engaged in the development of their children.

010 LGBTQI Youth in Foster Care

Jeyanthi Rajaraman, Esq, Monica Gural, Esq, Marissa DeFazio, Esq, Legal Services of NJ

Interested in learning about the needs of and problems facing LGBTQI youth in New Jersey's foster care system? Wondering how advocates and the courts can do more to understand and work with a community that comprises a disproportionate part of the foster care population? Three Legal Services attorneys present on issues affecting LGBTQI youth and how to successfully navigate the court/social services systems on their behalf.

MORNING WORKSHOPS

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011 Over-Nourishment: The New Abuse?

Patty Mojta, MSW, Prevent Child Abuse NJ

John Worobey, Ph.D., Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Childhood obesity has become a national health crisis that has caught the attention of state child protective service systems. This workshop will discuss the controversy surrounding childhood obesity as an issue of abuse and neglect, and will focus primarily on strategies for prevention. Innovative approaches to preventing childhood obesity in New Jersey will be discussed.

012 Parenting for Prevention

Lynne Gonski, Hunterdon Behavioral Health

"The problem with you is - you never listen! What's wrong with you, anyway?" Help parents work with their kids in a respectful, cooperative way. This workshop will help participants learn a new way to work with parents - avoiding the pitfalls of punishment, the ways that control can backfire, how to respond to the sarcasm and silence of adolescence, and the value of negotiating over dictating. The goal of this workshop is to help stop the emotional abuse of kids before it begins, by helping families establish a foundation of mutual respect.

013 Skin Findings in Child Physical Abuse

Leena S. Dev, MD, Child Abuse Research and Education Services, NJ CARES, UMDNJ - School of Osteopathic Medicine

All workers in the field of child abuse need to understand skin findings that children may present with such as bruises and burns. This workshop will cover medical findings in child abuse including bruises and burns and medical mimics of abusive findings. Medical information as well as case presentations will be provided to assist the physician, social worker, DYFS worker and law enforcement in their child protection work.

014 The Strengthening Families Approach to Build Protective Factors with Families

Sharon D. Budka, MSW, Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships

Individual and environmental risk factors can place children and families at risk of child abuse and neglect. The Strengthening Families approach in building protective factors with families can help families and communities reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect. This workshop presentation discusses the "levers of change" that can create incentives, capacity and significant momentum to encourage local programs and service systems to use the Protective Factors Framework.

015 Working with Non-Offending Parents of Sexually Abused Children

Lynne Einhorn, LCSW, Sylvie Snyder, LCSW, and Kim Stalow, LCSW, Dorothy B. Hersh Child Protection Center

Given the high rates of child sexual abuse in our society, many parents are faced with the crisis of discovering that their child has been sexually abused. This workshop will examine the difficult and complex issues faced by non-offending parents. We will discuss ways to assist parents in facilitating their child's recovery, as well as reduce the risk of future abuse.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

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2:00pm to 4:00pm

Choice of one (1) afternoon workshop.

016 Advocating for Children of Incarcerated Parents

Maureen Braun Scalera, LCSW, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, School of Social Work, Institute for Families

Children of incarcerated parents are often overlooked for visitation with their parents. While there are many challenges to overcome to facilitate regular visitation, there are also research findings which demonstrate positive outcomes. The workshop will ask participants to brainstorm ways to enhance ways that DYFS, non-profit agencies and other systems can work together to develop and implement a plan for enhancing visitation between children and their incarcerated parents.

017 Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Programs for Children with Special Needs

Latesha M. Jenkins, MS, LSW, Jenkins Outreach 4 Yourth, Inc. (JOY)

Children with special needs are at a higher risk of child abuse victimization and incident underreporting than their peers. This presentation will provide practitioners with the knowledge and skills necessary to adequately identify, develop, and/or implement prevention programs for this population. The obstacles in teaching about and identifying child abuse and neglect amongst children with special needs will also be addressed.

018 Cradle to the Prison Pipeline

Nadia Cayce-Gibson, Bruce Jennings and John Cruz, NJ Alliance of Family Support Organizations

“Cradle to the Prison Pipeline” shocked America’s child serving systems by holding them accountable for contributing to the incarceration of Hispanic/Latino and African American men. As a context for discussion, consider your role with youth color. Do you contribute to this phenomenon? Explore strategies for challenging New Jersey’s “Cradle to the Prison Pipeline.”

019 Designing and Implementing Programs To Support Youth Transitioning Out Of Care

Svetlana Shpiegel and Ronald Quincy, Rutgers, the State University of NJ, School of Social Work

Youth “aging-out” of the foster care system are among the most vulnerable groups in the United States. Although various programs exist to support such youth, the effectiveness of these programs varies tremendously. This workshop will bring current research and practice together to provide guidelines for designing and implementing effective programs for youth transitioning out of care.

020 Ethical and Culturally-Sensitive Solutions to Ethical Dilemmas in Child Abuse Cases

Caridad Moreno, Ph.D., Aileen Torres, Ph.D., and Kylah Bruno, Ph.D., Metropolitan Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Child maltreatment professionals are constantly faced with challenging situations requiring ethical decision making. This workshop will provide valuable information on how to identify and avoid ethical violations, as well on how to find ethical and culturally sensitive solutions to everyday clinical dilemmas involving culturally diverse child victims and their families.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

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021 Inattentiveness and Hyperactivity in At-Risk Children

Alla Gordina, MD, FAAP, Global Pediatrics and Family Medicine

Lydia Shifrin, LCSW

Tatyana Elleseff, MA, CCC-SLP, UMDNJ, Smart Speech Therapy, LLC

Inattentiveness, hyperactivity, and impulsivity are the most common presenting behavioral problems in at-risk children. The effectiveness of any preventative and/or therapeutic intervention greatly depends on accurate diagnosis of the underlying issue. General pediatrician, social worker, and speech/language pathologist, all specializing in adoption/foster care as well as in educational issues, will discuss the multi-faceted problem in at-risk population – children and their caregivers. Special emphasis will be made on major medical, developmental, educational, and/or mental health causes of hyperactivity and inattentiveness in children and teenagers beyond the ADHD diagnosis, including FASD, PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and other entities.

022 The Intersection of Crisis, Trauma and Treatment

Elizabeth Manley, Caring Partners of Morris/Sussex, Inc.—CMO

The purpose of this workshop is to clearly define how crisis, trauma and treatment intersect, providing an overview of each of these components and the skills necessary to successfully intervene with youth who experience trauma. Crisis is a common occurrence for individuals who work in juvenile justice, medicine, mental health, child protection, prevention, law and domestic violence and ongoing discussion and skill building can lead to more positive outcomes for youth involved in all of these systems. You will learn what constitutes a crisis situation and will work to outline both intervention and prevention strategies. The workshop will explore current treatment trends for youth in the children's system of care.

023 The Intricacies of Sibling Placement in Foster Care

Deborah Wolff, LCSW and David Pellack, Ph.D., LPC, Family Service Foster Homes

Over 75% of siblings in foster care are separated. The effects of dispersing family members, especially siblings, can lead to significant emotional, behavioral, and developmental concerns. Protective service workers, agencies, and treatment providers must consider numerous factors when contemplating sibling placement, reunification, or adoption. This workshop will explore the complexities of sibling placement, clinical treatment, and maintaining sibling connections before, during, and after the foster care process.

024 Little Victims: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

Robbin Loonan, MA, DVS, LPC

This workshop is designed to help social workers, counselors, and other professionals expand their understanding of the impact the exposure to domestic violence has on children physically, emotionally, and developmentally. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of the scope and breadth of the impact spousal abuse has on children, even in cases where the children themselves are not directly the target of abuse. This dynamic workshop uses a variety of methods including children's artwork, video clips, and discussion to help professionals gain more insight regarding the trauma and risks experienced by this vulnerable population.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

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- 025** **Making a Tough Call: The Decision to Report Suspected Child Maltreatment**
Kathryn S. Krase, Ph.D., JD, MSW, Ramapo College of New Jersey
A report to child protective services is essentially a request to help a child and family in a concerning situation. However, mandated reporters often shirk their responsibility to make a report because of doubt and uncertainty. This workshop will provide a framework to guide a reporter's decision to make this "tough call" using research findings and practical advice based on real case examples.
- 026** **New Jersey Prevention Plan: An Overview**
Lisa von Pier, Division Director, Prevention and Community Partnerships, NJDCF
In this overview workshop, participants will gain a working understanding of the New Jersey Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan and learn how key prevention concepts and strategies lay the foundation for their successful work and partnership with children, youth, parents and communities.
- 027** **Strengthening Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in New Jersey**
Rush Russell, Executive Director, Prevent Child Abuse NJ
The session will describe current efforts to prevent child sexual abuse in NJ, review lessons learned from experts across the country about preventing child sexual abuse and describe new efforts in NJ to build state and local support for new strategies to prevent child sexual abuse across the State. The session will solicit ideas and opinions from workshop attendees about ways to strengthen current efforts and discussion will be welcome and encouraged.
- 028** **Talking With Child Victims of Crime**
Susan H. Curcio, Esq., Monclair State University
This workshop will provide practical tips on forensically sound ways to talk with and question children who are suspected victims of child abuse and neglect or other crimes. Participants will learn techniques for obtaining reliable information and will join in crafting age appropriate questions for children.
- 029** **Tech Addiction and Its Impact on Child Maltreatment**
John K. Kriger, Kriger Consulting, Inc.
This session will look at the exploding use of technology and the biopsychosocial impact it is having on parent's ability to oversee and protect their children. Numerous cases of child abuse and neglect caused directly by tech abuse will be discussed with implications for helping professionals. Various platforms will be disclosed which actually allow pedophiles to virtually practice their behavior and increase their potential for harming children. We will cover various stories of abuse and neglect directly caused by tech abuse and addiction. Discover the impact on-line platforms are having on families, individuals and parenting, and the threat to today's children.
- 030** **Why Some Bounce Back and Some Never Do – Resilience in Those Who Experience Childhood Abuse**
Pat Stanislaski, Director, Partnering for Prevention, LLC
The presenter will offer participants the opportunity to discuss why resilience is so important, how it is influenced by factors inside and outside the home, what current scientific research may explain resiliency and what we can do to promote resilience in our children.
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DIRECTIONS

OPENING DOORS:
Partnerships for Prevention and Healing

Hilton East Brunswick and Executive Meeting Center
3 Tower Center Boulevard, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

From The NJ Turnpike North or South

- Take Exit 9 for New Brunswick - after toll, bear right
- Approximately 50 yards after overpass, make first right onto Tower Center Blvd.
- Turn right at stop sign and make left at first traffic light for entrance to hotel

From The Garden State Parkway

- Take Exit 129 for the NJ Turnpike South
- Take Exit 9 For New Brunswick - after toll, bear right
- Approximately 50 yards after overpass, make first right onto Tower Center Blvd.
- Turn right at stop sign and make left at first traffic light for entrance to hotel

From Route 18 Northbound

- Turn right at the first light after the NJ Turnpike entrance for entrance to the hotel

From Route 18 Southbound

- Pass hotel at the intersection of Route 18 and NJ Turnpike
(NOTE: Left turns are not allowed at the traffic light)
- At 2nd traffic light (Eggers St.) make a right for U- turn
- Turn onto Route 18 North and make left at first traffic light for entrance to hotel

From Route 287

- Take Exit 9 for River Road, and follow signs for Highland Park
- At 5th traffic light, make a right onto Route 18 South - follow approximately 5 miles
- Pass hotel at the intersection of Route 18 and the NJ Turnpike
(NOTE: Left turns are not allowed at the traffic light)
- At 1st traffic light after hotel (Eggers St.) make a right for U- turn
- Turn onto Route 18 North and make left at first traffic light for entrance to hotel



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