ABA Center on Children & the Law – Spring 2019
National Conferences

April 9 – 12, 2019
Tysons Corner, VA

visit www.ambar.org/cal2019 to register
Description

Join us for the ABA Center on Children and the Law Spring 2019 National Conferences designed to train, engage, and provide opportunities for networking and dialogue among child law professionals who practice in a variety of areas.

National Conference on Access to Justice for Children and Families, April 9-10

The conference will provide training and networking opportunities for child law professionals who advocate for children, parents, agencies, and kin in child welfare proceedings. The conference also includes participation from judges, Court Improvement Program Directors, court administrators, and attorneys who handle cases that intersect with child welfare such as in immigration, education, housing and family law. This year, the conference will include a track on implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act in practice.

National Conference on Parent Representation, April 11-12

Hosted by the Center on Children and the Law and the National Alliance for Parent Representation, this event is designed for attorneys who represent parents, judges, CIP Directors and court administrators, parents, social workers, and other child welfare system professionals who focus on parent advocacy. The workshops, facilitated small group discussions, and plenary sessions on relevant topics will move the parent representation practice forward and improve outcomes for children and families.

Register Today!
For the best value, register before February 28

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The ABA reserves the right to correct all typographical errors. Fees do not include travel or lodging.

Earn up to 11.25 hours for 60 minute states and 13.50 hours for 50 minute states. 3.0 hrs ethics in 60 minute states and 3.60 in 50 minute states.

Not an ABA Member?
Join Now!
www.ambar.org/join
Faculty

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

- **Susan Abrams**
  Children’s Law Center of California
  Monterey Park, CA

- **Danny Alicea**
  Center for Family Representation
  New York, NY

- **Tina Amberboy**
  Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission
  Austin, TX

- **Carl Ayers**
  Virginia Department of Social Services
  Richmond, VA

- **Stephanie Barclay**
  Brigham Young University Law School
  Provo, UT

- **Prudence Beidler Carr**
  ABA Center on Children and the Law
  Washington, DC

- **Darneshia Bell**
  ZERO TO THREE
  Washington, DC

- **Ana Beltran**
  Generations United
  Washington, DC

- **W. Warren Binford**
  Willamette University College of Law
  Salem, OR

- **Morgen Black-Smith**
  Support Center for Child Advocates
  Philadelphia, PA

- **Julie Breslow**
  Superior Court for the District of Columbia
  Washington, DC

- **Carol Casey**
  Cook County Public Guardian
  Chicago, IL

- **Ashley Chase**
  Colorado Office of the Child's Representative
  Denver, CO

- **Ronnie Cheung**
  Children’s Law Center of California
  Buena Park, CA

- **Lily Colby**
  California CASA
  Oakland, CA

- **Cristina Cooper**
  ABA Center on Children and the Law
  Washington, DC

- **Virginia Corrigan**
  Youth Law Center
  San Francisco, CA

- **Kathleen Creamer**
  Community Legal Services of Philadelphia
  Philadelphia, PA

- **Alicia Davis**
  National Center for State Courts
  Denver, CO

- **Tim Decker**
  Social Innovation Partners
  Bowie, MD

- **Bill Delisio**
  Colorado State Court Administrator’s Office
  Denver, CO

- **Marguerite Downing**
  Los Angeles Superior Court
  Monterey Park, CA

- **Mike Dsida**
  Children and Family Law Division, Committee for Public Counsel Services
  Boston, MA

- **Gregory Engle**
  KidsVoice
  Pittsburgh, PA

- **Betsy Fordyce**
  Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center
  Denver, CO

- **Sheri Freemont**
  Casey Family Programs ICWA
  Denver, CO

- **Cristina F. Freitas**
  Freitas & Freitas, LLP
  Lowell, MA

- **Debbie F. Freitas**
  Freitas & Freitas, LLP
  Lowell, MA

- **Lee Gelernt**
  ACLU Immigrants’ Rights Project
  New York NY

- **Jenifer Goldman Fraser**
  Zero to Three
  Washington, DC

- **Ernestine S. Gray**
  Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
  New Orleans, LA

- **Allison Green**
  Missouri Children’s Division
  Jefferson City, MO

- **Jami Hagemeier**
  Williams & Hagemeier, PLC
  Des Moines, IA

- **Mark Hardin**
  Portland, OR

- **Leslie Heimov**
  Children’s Law Center of California
  Monterey Park, CA

- **Connie Hickman Tanner**
  National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
  Reno, NV

- **Carlyn Hicks**
  Mission First Legal Aid Office
  Jackson, MS

- **Eliza Hirst**
  Delaware Office of the Child Advocate
  Wilmington, DE

- **Cathy Hollenberg Serrette**
  Circuit Court for Prince George’s County, Maryland
  Upper Marlboro, MD

- **Karen Howze**
  National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
  Reno, NV

- **Susan Hurtado**
  Still She Rises
  Tulsa, OK

- **Nyelah Inniss**
  Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative
  Baltimore, MD

- **Nicole Johnson**
  ABA Center on Children and the Law
  Washington, DC

- **Aisha Jones**
  Cook County Public Guardian
  Chicago, IL

*Faculty subject to change without notice.*
Ariella Stafanson  
California CASA  
Sacramento, CA

Jeffrey Sterbenc  
Cook County Public Guardian  
Chicago, IL

Elizabeth Thornton  
Family Justice Initiative  
Washington, DC

Robert M. Tudisco  
Barger & Gaines  
Tarrytown, NY

Mary Van Cleve  
Columbia Legal Services  
Seattle, WA

Nandilay Walker  
Cook County Public Guardian  
Chicago, IL

Ewen Nancy Wang  
Stanford University  
Palo Alto, CA

Tom Welshonce  
KidsVoice  
Pittsburgh, PA
ABA NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN & THE LAW:
Access to Justice for Children and Families

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Welcome  
Prudence Beidler Carr, JD, Director of the ABA Center on Children and the Law

Introductory Remarks  
Dr. Jerry Milner, DSW, Associate Commissions at the Children's Bureau and Acting Commissioner for the Administration on Children, Youth and Families.

9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.  
Opening Plenary  
Transforming Child Welfare by Bridging Systems and Sectors  
Sherry Lachman, JD, Founder and Executive Director Foster America

Innovation often arises at the intersection of systems and sectors. This session will focus on how we can leverage this recipe for innovation to transform public systems for children and families. During this session, we will reflect on existing examples of game-changing child welfare innovations that follow this recipe. We will also discuss strategies for strengthening the capacity of public systems to create new innovations and scale existing ones.

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Workshop Session A

1. Religious and Sexual Orientation Exclusions in Foster Care  
Micah Schwartzman, JD, University of Virginia School of Law  
Stephanie Barclay, JD, Brigham Young University Law School

In 2018, several high-profile lawsuits and pieces of state and federal legislation addressed religious and sexual orientation exclusions in the child welfare system that affect public and private agencies, foster parents, children, and families. This session will provide an opportunity to hear from two different viewpoints about the arguments and implications underlying this national debate.

2. Changing the System: Strategies for Front-Line Lawyers  
Ira Lustbader, JD, Children's Rights, Inc.  
Gabriella McDonald, JD, Texas Appleseed  
Tom Welshonce, JD, KidsVoice

Changing the systems that affect our clients can feel daunting to individual practitioners. This session will explore how practitioners can effectuate system-change through individual cases, local partnerships, and larger strategies.

3. Building a Legal Education Advocacy Community  
Kristin Kelly, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law  
Kathleen McNaught, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law  
Emily Peeler, JD, MSW, ABA Center on Children and the Law

This session is designed for attorneys with extensive experience advocating for the educational needs of students in foster care and those who are just starting to think about how to incorporate better educational advocacy into your day-to-day representation of children and families. This interactive session will be an opportunity for participants to share legal strategies, identify ongoing challenges and trends, and outline a framework for formalizing a national network to support ongoing collaboration.

4. Family First Track: A Courtroom Advocate’s Guide to the Family First Galaxy  
Allison Green, JD, Missouri Children's Division  
Stefanie Sprow, Children's Defense Fund

Through this session attendees will understand Family First as a robust opportunity for courtroom advocacy, legal innovation, and healthy system transformation. Participants will return to their home jurisdiction with increased confidence and urgency to leverage the language and the spirit of the law in their daily case practice.

Agenda subject to change without notice.
5. Discussion Group: **Expertise and Wellness: Cultivating and Sustaining the Experienced Children’s Law Office**

**Ambassador**

Carol Casey, JD, Cook County Public Guardian  
Alpa Jayanti Patel, JD, Cook County Public Guardian

Sustaining a cohort of dedicated and professional attorneys in today’s children’s law office requires a dual commitment. It means not only cultivating subject matter expertise in a variety of fields that intersect with child welfare, but also creating a space for staff to manage the impact of secondary trauma. This session will provide children’s law office leaders with an opportunity to exchange ideas about how to develop and maintain a strong and committed team of staff attorneys.

| 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | **Lunch on Your Own or Participation in**  
| | **Ticketed Event: Short Screening of Movie “Foster”**  
| **Consulate** | |  

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | **Workshop Session B**  
| |  

1. **Impact of Parental Incarceration on Children**

**Consulate**

Honorable Cathy Hollenberg Serrette, Circuit Court for Prince George’s County, Maryland  
Alfreda Robinson-Dawkins, Bon Secours Community Works/ National Women’s Prison Project  
Thadidius Smith-Boyd

Consideration of the well-being of the child is largely absent in criminal law and policies. More than five million children have had a parent who lived with them go to jail. Panelists will discuss from both a professional and personal perspective the psychological trauma children face and suggest what can be done to help, including the use of child impact statements at sentencing.

2. **A New Day: How to Make the Most of Federal Title IV-E Funding for Child and Parent Counsel in Your Jurisdiction**

**Salon III**

Mark Hardin, JD, formerly ABA Center on Children and the Law  
Michelle Jungers, JD, Iowa Legal Aid  
Mimi Laver, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law

For the first time, the federal Child Welfare Policy Manual now allows states to claim federal matching funds through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to help pay the costs of attorneys representing children and their parents in child welfare proceedings. This session will provide guidance for attorneys, courts and legal organizations interested in working with their child welfare agencies to leverage this significant new resource to improve outcomes for children and families.

3. **Client Engagement Skills and the Larger Legal Context in ICWA Cases and Beyond**

**Colonnade**

Sheri Freemont, Casey Family Programs ICWA  
Christina McClurg Riehl, JD, California Department of Justice  
Sheldon Spotted Elk, Casey Family Programs ICWA

Practitioners will learn how to use cultural humility and patience to develop rapport and mutual respect with clients. This workshop will offer discussion and exercises to fulfill a practitioner’s ethical duties, while also discussing current challenges to ICWA in federal court across the country. Presenters will highlight the opportunities ICWA provides to ensure that a child’s interests are best served by the child welfare system through advocacy that involves mutual respect.

4. **Family First Track: Is “Least Restrictive” the Best We Can Do? Securing the “Most Connected” Placement for Children**

**Plaza**

Virginia Corrigan, JD, Youth Law Center  
Brent Pattison, JD, Children’s Rights Clinic, Drake University School of Law  
Jennifer Pokempner, JD, Juvenile Law Center

Though the law requires children separated from their families to be placed in the least restrictive setting, this does not happen for far too many children and youth. Attendees will discuss practical resources and current research to reframe our message to advocate for the “most connected” placement for child clients.

5. **Discussion Group: Why Robust Kinship Care Policy is Needed to Address Race Equity in Foster Care**

**Ambassador**

Ana Beltran, JD, Generations United  
Mary Van Cleve, JD, Columbia Legal Services

Family law has traditionally provided a “private foster care” system inaccessible to those in poverty, whose children end up in foster care. As more children are placed with relatives -- as a prevention strategy or a permanent plan -- new legal strategies and programs to support relative caregivers are needed. Come discuss kincare reform efforts.
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  Networking Break

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Workshop Session C

1. Ethical Issues in Child Welfare Cases
   Jennifer Renne, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law

   This session will explore the challenging ethical issues that play out in unique ways for attorneys representing children, parents, and child welfare agencies. We will cover topics such as confidentiality, representing clients with diminished capacity, interactions with represented and unrepresented parties, conflicts of interest, and who makes decisions when your client is a government agency. Through a series of hypothetical case scenarios, we will examine how the Model Rules of Professional Conduct apply, as we engage in active debate on handling the difficult issues that arise day-to-day. The session will help attorneys develop an increased awareness of how ethical issues can shape representation, resulting in better decision-making and advocacy in the face of ethical dilemmas.

2. Cultural Identity in Foster Care
   Lily Colby, JD, California CASA
   Crys O’Grady, JD, Museum of Tolerance
   Ariella Stafanson, California CASA

   The workshop will highlight the preliminary findings of the first foster youth cultural identity and access survey and its impact on social wellbeing. The audience will walk away with knowledge about research, laws, and best practices regarding the importance of cultural identity for children in foster care.

3. Special Education Advocacy in Juvenile Correctional Facilities
   Honorable Marguerite Downing, Los Angeles Superior Court
   Diane Smith Howard, JD, National Disability Rights Network
   Kathleen McNaught, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law
   Marlies Spanjaard, JD, The EdLaw Project
   Robert M. Tudisco, JD, Barger & Gaines

   Using the Blueprint for Change framework as a guide, this session will discuss broad goals for how to achieve education stability and success for youth in the juvenile justice system, with a particular focus on youth with disabilities who are entitled to receive special education and related services. Our expert panel will provide an overview of the IDEA requirements for these students and discuss state and education agency responsibilities. The session will also address common educational barriers encountered, and relevant case law in this area, as well as direct advocacy tips. Topics addressed include FAPE, IEPs, LRE, Child Find and Evaluations, Discipline, Due Process, and Reentry to School and Community.

4. Family First Track: Prevention Services – What This Could Mean for the Field in the Longer Term & the Lawyer’s Role
   Honorable Ernestine S. Gray, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
   Carlyn Hicks, JD, MBA, CWLS, Mission First Legal Aid Office, Mississippi College School of Law
   Jerald A. Sharum, JD, Arkansas Department of Human Services and American Association of Health and Human Services Attorneys

   The prevention services component of the Family First Act introduces complex questions for attorneys regarding safety decision-making, due process, reasonable efforts, and judicial review. This session will examine those questions more closely and look at the role of counsel for children, parents, and agencies in ensuring that prevention services are implemented in a way that is compatible with the child welfare legal system.

   Kathleen Creamer, JD, Community Legal Services of Philadelphia
   Leslie Heimov, JD, CWLS, Children’s Law Center of California
   Elizabeth Thornton, JD, FJI Attorney Consultant

   The goal of the Family Justice Initiative (FJI) is to ensure every parent and every child has high-quality legal representation when child welfare courts make life-changing decisions about their families. This discussion will focus on what constitutes high-quality representation and strategies for working with an interdisciplinary team to improve outcomes for clients. Participants will discuss how data can be used to support investment and tools for collecting data. Discussion additionally will address accessing federal dollars to support high-quality representation.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Conference Reception

Agenda subject to change without notice.
**Workshop Session C**

3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**3. Special Education Advocacy in Juvenile Correctional Facilities**

- Jennifer Renne, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law
- Lily Colby, JD, California CASA
- Nyeelah Inniss, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative

This session will focus on relevant laws and best practices regarding the educational needs of children in foster care through the lens of juvenile correctional facilities. Participants will work to improve educational services for children in correctional facilities.

**4. Family First Track: Prevention Services – What This Could Mean for the Field in the Longer Term & the Lawyer’s Role**

- Prudence Beidler Carr, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law (moderator)
- Bill Delisio, MSLA, Colorado State Court Administrator's Office Oregon Office of Legislative Policy and Research
- Carl Ayers, MSW, Virginia Department of Social Services

This workshop will focus on specific ways to address the educational needs of children in foster care through courtroom advocacy, informed decision making, and detailed court orders. The session will also address ways to reduce reliance on congregate care placements by improving educational services for children in community schools.


- Tim Decker, Social Innovation Partners
- Allison Green, JD, Missouri Children's Division

A revolution of new thinking, common purpose, and collaboration bridged the gap between agency and attorney disciplines in Missouri. A powerful truth was discovered: if social workers and attorneys are courageous enough to lead a movement together, lives will change for the better and the promise of these honorable professions will be realized.
10:15 p.m. - 11:45 p.m. **Workshop Session E**

### 1. The Collective Power of Youth: Changing Systems through Foster-Youth Led Organizing

**Attaché**

**Betsy Fordyce, JD, Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center**

This session will focus on the importance of youth organizing as an effective model for system change. An initiative of the Rocky Mountain Children’s Law Center and partner of Foster Youth in Action, project Foster Power is a group of current and former foster youth, ages 15 to 25+, working together to improve the Colorado child welfare system. Using this group as an example, this session will examine how legal advocacy organizations can support young people’s collective advocacy at the grassroots level. This session will also explore opportunities and challenges for legal advocates in supporting similar work, as well as highlight initial strategies for building youth voice and empowering youth to take action.

### 2. Best Practices and Effective Advocacy to Overcome Implicit Biases Against Transgender Youth

**Colonnade**

**Ronnie Cheung, JD, Children's Law Center of California**
**Jamie Julian, MSW, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles**
**Raumak Rahmani, JD, Children's Law Center of California**

This session will consider how implicit biases negatively affect transgender youth and assess the significance of timely access to appropriate medical and mental health services. We will also address common terms that transgender youth may use, basic medical management practices for transgender youth, and best practices to support these youth.

### 3. Improving Permanency Outcomes for Children and Families Impacted by Trauma and Serious Adversity: Lessons Learned from Infant-Toddler Court Teams

**Consulate**

**Darneshia Bell, ZERO TO THREE**
**Jennifer Goldman Fraser, PhD, MPH, ZERO TO THREE**
**Jami Hagemeier, JD, Williams & Hagemeier, PLC**
**Tiffany Kell, JD, ZERO TO THREE**

This workshop addresses effective advocacy for families in the child welfare system in the context of significant parent trauma histories and risk and children’s urgent developmental needs for stable, nurturing care. Presenters will share research findings from infant-toddler court team sites and strategies for engaging parents and advancing child well-being. The workshop will increase participants’ understanding of how to work effectively with parents affected by trauma and struggling with difficulties associated with serious adversity, including substance use disorders. Participants will learn about practices for engaging parents that help build family protective factors and capacities and permanency planning that is both developmentally-informed and family-centered.

### 4. Conducting Trauma-Informed Interviews of Children

**Salon III**

**W. Warren Binford, JD, Willamette University College of Law**
**Ewen Nancy Wang, MD, Stanford University**
**Alan Shapiro, MD, FAAP, Terra Firma**

Children involved in child welfare or immigration proceedings are not only likely to be in the midst of an ongoing traumatic experience but also to have been previously exposed to traumatic events and adverse experiences. As clients, these children are experiencing intense psychological distress that may manifest during interviews or discussions focused specifically on their separation, removal, or immigration experiences. This session is intended to prepare lawyers to conduct interviews that maximize the utility of the information obtained and minimize the risk of unintended negative consequences. It will provide participants with resources and training on best practices for interviewing trauma-exposed children.

### 5. Family First Track: A Tool for the Legal Community In and Out of the Courtroom

**Plaza**

**Cristina Cooper, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law**
**Alicia Davis, JD, National Center for State Courts**
**Beth Kurtz, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law**

The legal community has a critical role to play ensuring key provisions of the Family First Act are implemented successfully, ranging from residential treatment placements with parents, to extended reunification services, and Chafee older youth service expansions. This session will provide attorneys and members of the legal community, including judges, court administrators, and CASAs with specific guidance for using the new legislation as a tool to advance children and families’ interests and their states’ larger child welfare system goals.

Agenda subject to change without notice.
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Conference Lunch and Award Presentation**

**Presentation of the Mark Hardin Award for Child Welfare Legal Scholarship and Systems Change**

William “Bill” Grimm, Attorney and Senior Director of Strategic Advocacy and Child Welfare at the National Center for Youth Law

12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. **Lunch Plenary**

**Still She Rises**

Aisha McWeay, JD, Chief Executive Officer, Still She Rises (recently featured in the New Yorker Magazine article titled “America's Other Family Separation Crisis”)

Susan Hurtado, Social Work Advocacy Practice Supervisor, Still She Rises

Still She Rises is a public defender project in Oklahoma focused on addressing staggering rates of female incarceration and the carry-over effects on children and families. Ms. McWeay and Ms. Hurtado will share the details of what they and their team have learned in their effort to both address the root causes of female incarceration (including fines and fees policies) and combat its many consequences, such as growing strains on the child welfare system, substance use, and supports for kin caregivers.

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Workshop Session F**


Prudence Beidler Carr, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law

Lee Gelernt, JD, ACLU Immigrants’ Rights Project

Randi Mandelbaum, JD, Rutgers Law School Child Advocacy Clinic

Jennie Kneedler, JD, ABA Commission on Immigration and ProBAR

In 2018, an Executive Branch policy of separating children and parents from each other at the Border introduced new language and questions into the national child welfare dialogue. This session will examine connections between family separation at the Border and child welfare law. Attendees will come away with information about clear lines of distinction but also details about how the two areas of law connect and why current federal challenges are helping to establish important precedent on such topics as children and parents’ right to family, procedural and substantive due process protections in child welfare, and harm incurred from the trauma of separation.

**2. Social Media Ethics and You: What Child Welfare Professionals Need to Know**

Anne Marie Lancour, JD, MAT, ABA Center on Children and the Law

Nico Johnson, JD, MSW, ABA Center on Children and the Law

This interactive session will discuss the impact of social media on clients in child welfare cases. Topics will include: applicable Rules of Professional Conduct, using social media platforms as an attorney, reviewing court and administrative rulings, and evidentiary implications of social media. Bring your smartphones as we discuss privacy settings!

**3. Crossover Youth: Marshalling the Data Into Practice**

Cristina F. Freitas, JD, Freitas & Freitas, LLP

Debbie F. Freitas, JD, Freitas & Freitas, LLP

Alexandra G. Roark, JD, Committee for Public Counsel Services, Children and Family Law Division

Youth crossing over from the child welfare system into the juvenile justice system, and vice versa, is a paramount issue confronting our clients. Fueling this crisis is youth placement in congregate care. Learn to challenge reliance on these group home placements by collecting and marshalling data.

**4. Family First Track: Family First Act: New Opportunities for Kinship Families**

Ana Beltran, JD, Generations United

Heidi Redlich Epstein, JD, MSW, ABA Center on Children and the Law

This session will explore the kinship provisions of the Family First Act; kinship navigator programs, foster home licensing, prevention services, and engagement of family for children in congregate care. As kinship advocates or legal stakeholders who want to ensure the best possible outcomes for children, we will collectively explore the benefits of this new law for the kinship triad (parents, kinship caregiver, and children) as well as potential challenges with implementation.

Agenda subject to change without notice.
Tina Amberboy, JD, Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission
Eva Klain, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law
Dylan Spencer Moench, JD, Supreme Court of Texas Children's Commission

This Discussion Group will provide information about two recent legal representation studies in Texas and California. The 2018 Texas Legal Representation Study captured perspectives from parents, youth in care, foster parents, attorneys, mediators, and judges about the strengths, barriers, and efficacy of the state's court-appointment system. The California study is assessing the impact of changes in funding allocations on the quality of legal representation for children and parents in child welfare cases. The discussion will focus on lessons learned from the design and implementation of the studies to the data and system reform recommendations facing large, diverse, and under-resourced systems.

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Workshop Session G

1. Spotlight on Immigration: Resources and Strategies for Quality Representation of Immigrant Clients Involved in Child Welfare
Danny Alicea, JD, Center for Family Representation
Honorable Julie Breslow, Superior Court for the District of Columbia
Cristina Ritchie Cooper, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law
Felicity Northcott, PhD, International Social Services

Of the 70 million children under age 18 in the United States, 26% (18.2 million) live with at least one immigrant parent. Given these numbers, it is not surprising that child welfare agencies and juvenile courts are becoming increasingly involved with immigrant families – particularly as recent enforcement efforts have created growing pressures for families and communities. This session will explore how cases involving immigrant children, parents, or kin may proceed through the child welfare system. Speakers will highlight particular challenges and resources available to support effective attorney, caseworker, and judicial engagement to ensure timely progress to permanency for children.

2. Immune to Your Consultations: Guiding Older Clients as They Transition Out of Care
Aisha Jones, JD, Cook County Public Guardian
Jeffrey Sterbenc, JD, Cook County Public Guardian
Nandilay Walker, Cook County Public Guardian

This workshop will teach attorneys how to empower and advocate for youth in care as they transition to adulthood. Participants will learn concrete strategies to advocate effectively for older clients, particularly those who have spent time in congregate care or previously diagnosed with a mental or emotional disorder.

3. Family First Track: From the Greenbook to Family First: Building Bridges at the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Child Welfare
Honorable Karen Howze (ret.), National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Connie Hickman Tanner, JD, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Achieving safety and well-being for families experiencing domestic violence continues to be a challenge, and professionals have called for elements of child welfare practice that the Greenbook (NCJFCJ 1999) did not fully explore, including the implicit bias and systemic racism impacting families of color, the need for total family engagement (including fathers), and the need for fuller understanding of protective factors in these cases. The Family First Act presents courts and communities an opportunity to do community-based prevention work to take up these important issues.
4. Discussion Group: **Creative Advocacy — Removing Barriers to Housing and Employment**

Gregory Engle, JD, KidsVoice
Kristen Ornato, JD, KidsVoice
Rebecca Shafer, JD, KidsVoice

A session to address removing barriers to employment and housing led by the KidsVoice staff who specialize in expungement, credit issues, ID theft, driver’s license issues, and helping clients with the magistrate level infractions mentioned above that can result in fines and criminal records. This would include providing take away materials such as practical steps attorneys can take to address these issues along with outlines of how to discuss these issues with clients, caseworkers, and service providers about why the process of expunging a record or conducting a credit check and addressing red flag issues can make such a difference in a child’s eligibility for housing, employment, and student loans for post-secondary job training and education.
Description of Event

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The ABA reserves the right to correct all typographical errors. Fees do not include travel or lodging.
practice forward and improve outcomes for children and families. Discus ses, and plenary sessions on relevant topics will move the parent representation profession, who focus on parent advocacy. The workshops, facilitated small group Directors and court administrators, parents, social workers, and other child welfare system. Representation, this event is designed for attorneys who represent parents, judges, CIP National Conference on Parent Representation, April 11-12 Hosted by the Center on Children and the Law and the National Alliance for Parent Access to Justice for Children and Families. This year, the conference will include a conference also includes participation from judges, Court Improvement Program Directors, and attorneys who handle cases that intersect with child welfare such court administrators, and attorneys who handle cases that intersect with child welfare such. The conference will provide training and networking opportunities for child law professionals who practice in a variety of areas. This year, the conference will include a conference also includes participation from judges, Court Improvement Program Directors, and attorneys who handle cases that intersect with child welfare such. The conference will provide training and networking opportunities for child law professionals who practice in a variety of areas.

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Hon. Peggy Walker
Chief Judge
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Lisa Washington
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Bronx, NY

Amelia Watson
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Olympia, WA

Richard Wexler
National Coalition for Child Protection Reform
Alexandria, VA

Ruth Anne White
National Center for Housing and Child Welfare
College Park, MD

Heather Zenone
Washington, DC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Registration and Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Salon I &amp; II</td>
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<td>9:15 a.m. –</td>
<td>Jessica Bryar Memorial Plenary Address</td>
<td>Salon I &amp; II</td>
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<td>9:45 a.m. –</td>
<td>Something Odd Happened Last Year: It was a Great One for Family Defenders</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Making the Case for Optimism: Poor Families, State Regulation, and Cultural Transformation</td>
<td>Salon I &amp; II</td>
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<td>10:45 a.m. –</td>
<td>The Rise and Resistance of Parents</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Session A</td>
<td>Salon III</td>
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<td>1. Changing the Narrative: Telling the Real Story of Families Caught Up in the Child Welfare System</td>
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<td>Dinah Ortiz-Adames, Bronx Defenders</td>
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<td>Vivek Sankaran, JD, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, University of Michigan Law School</td>
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<td>Richard Wexler, National Coalition for Child Protection Reform</td>
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<td>Changing a system that does so much harm to families requires winning in the court of public opinion. This session will demonstrate ways to win over media gatekeepers -- and work around them when necessary -- to change damaging stereotypes about children and families.</td>
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<td>2. Trauma and Parental Engagement, Even When a Practitioner Does Not Have Support</td>
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<td>Ron Ayler, MSW, Community Legal Services, Inc.</td>
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<td>Brett Ballew, JD, Washington State Office of Public Defense</td>
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<td>Heather Cantamessa, Washington State Office of Public Defense</td>
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<td>Alex Dutton, JD, Community Legal Services, Inc.</td>
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<td>Not all practitioners have access to parent supports or social workers to assist them in getting their parent clients engaged in their case plans. This workshop will give practitioners in this situation specific tools they can use to connect and support their parent clients even when resources and time are scarce. Because an understanding of trauma is crucial to getting parents engaged, we will use Bruce Perry’s neurosequential model to explore the impact of trauma on brain functioning and decision-making and how that effects a practitioner’s ability to engage with clients.</td>
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<td>3. Successful Outcomes for Clients with Concurrent Family Court and Criminal Court Proceedings: The Unified Team Approach</td>
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<td>Piyali Basak, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services</td>
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<td>Jeff Blank, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services</td>
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<td>Jessica Nitsche, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services</td>
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<td>The Integrated Defense Practice at BDS provides representation to parents who have concurrent criminal and family court cases. This workshop will provide information on common issues that arise in the two matters and offer recommendations on how to coordinate defenses and ensure the best outcomes for our clients and their families.</td>
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4. State Central Registers
Carolyn A. Kubitschek, JD, Lansner & Kubitschek
David J. Lansner, JD, Lansner & Kubitschek
Melissa L. Staas, JD, LAF

This workshop will explain the nature of state central registers of suspected child abuse and neglect, including the statutory basis, the restrictions for employment and other activities for individuals listed in such registers, Constitutional due process considerations, and representation of individuals seeking to be removed from such registers.

5. Game of Thrones: Influencing, Challenging, and Toppling Your Judges to Give Your Clients a Fighting Chance
Andrew Cohen, JD, Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services Children and Family Law Division
David Meyers, JD, Dependency Legal Services of Northern California

Has a judge ever told you - before trial – that you should settle because you were going to lose? Has a judge ever taken over questioning your client and done more damage than the CPS attorney? Has a judge ever treated you – or your client – so badly at trial that you knew that your client couldn’t get a fair trial? Did it make you feel powerless? Let’s take up arms together. We’ll address: influencing judges through aggressive defensive lawyering; understanding bias and the limits of judicial power; recognizing when judges’ behavior crosses the line; and standing up to judicial bullying. We’ll also talk about making – and surviving – motions to recuse. We can win the Game of Thrones if we fight wisely.

6. SKILLS: Cross Examining Child Witnesses in Sex Abuse Cases
Sophia Bernhardt, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services
Juliana Chereji, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services

This workshop focuses on challenging child witnesses in sex abuse cases. Participants will engage in a discussion regarding the dynamics of cross-examining children, workshop a case example, and practice short cross-examinations. The workshop will also include a discussion of social science research on child suggestibility.

7. DISCUSSION: Parent Advocates as Leaders and Managers
Brejea Colthirst, East Bay Family Defenders
Arielle Reisman, MSW, East Bay Family Defenders
Rita Rodriguez, JD, East Bay Family Defenders

A key strength of interdisciplinary representation is pairing attorneys with parent advocates who have lived experience in the system. These interdisciplinary models are nearly always designed and managed by attorneys or social workers. We will explore how parent advocates can design interdisciplinary programs and be part of a management team.

12:30 p.m. - Lunch on your own
1:45 p.m. - Session B
3:15 p.m.

1. Family Poverty Is Not Neglect: Exploring the Persistent Mislabeling and the Steps Family Defenders Can Take to End It
Darice Good, JD, Good Law Firm
Jeyanthi Rajaraman, JD, Legal Services of New Jersey
Diane Redleaf, JD, Family Defense Consulting
Ruth White, MSW, National Center for Housing and Child Welfare

The child welfare system targets families in poverty, treating their lack of resources as neglect and often worsening family poverty. The panel will discuss national and state policies, case law, litigation and legislative developments to address this endemic child welfare system issue and punitive practice applied to poor families.

2. Think Different: Persuading Trial and Appellate Judges Using the Psychology of Advertising
Andrew Cohen, JD, Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services Children and Family Law Division
Ruchi Kapoor, JD, Office of Respondent Parents Counsel

Do you want judges to read what you’ve written, remember it, be persuaded by it, and yearn to give you the relief you want? We need to “think different,” as Apple says. We need to learn from advertising psychology how people read and process information, what persuades them, and what makes them buy. Because we want judges to buy what we're selling about our parent clients and the outcomes that justice and fairness demand. You'll come away from this session armed with new ways of thinking about – and writing – motions and briefs.
3. In Search of a Silver Bullet: Child Welfare’s Embrace of Predictive Analytics

Christopher Church, JD, University of South Carolina School of Law, CHAMPS Clinic
Amanda Fairchild, PhD, University of South Carolina Dept. of Psychology

Predictive analytics has shaken up a number of fields, including child welfare. Although it can help professionals make decisions more accurately, objectively, and quickly, there is concern it may result in discriminatory & unethical practices. This session will examine programmatic & ethical considerations for this new science in child welfare.

4. Special Considerations for Representing Noncitizen Parents in Child Welfare Proceedings

Danny Alicea, JD, Center for Family Representation, Inc
Teresa Garcia, JD, Center for Family Representation, Inc

This session will focus on the unique challenges and consequences that non-citizens face stemming from a child welfare case. This includes ICE detection, triggering a deportation ground, eligibility for discretionary immigration benefits, child visitation, production to family court if held, and maintaining eligibility for release on immigration bond.

5. Ensuring Reasonable Efforts for Parents with Substance Use Disorders

Honorable Len Edwards (Ret.) Center for Families, Children & The Courts
Sid Gardner, MPA, MA, Center for Children and Family Futures

The connections needed between child welfare caseloads and treatment for substance use disorders have led to a wider awareness of reasonable efforts, as it applies to improved safety and permanency outcomes for children and families. Presenters will discuss approaches that attorneys can use to apply reasonable efforts in legal decisions.

6. SKILLS: Effective Advocacy and Trial Preparation in Cases Requiring Expert Testimony

Rachel Brewer, JD, Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc.
Elyzabeth Melendez, SW, Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc.

This workshop focuses on a multidisciplinary approach to preparing cases that require expert testimony for trial, from both a parent’s social worker/investigator and attorney perspective. Best practices will be explored, with a focus on trial preparation beginning from the day the petition is filed through the adjudication hearing.

7. DISCUSSION: #SAY HER NAME: The intersection of law enforcement, the criminal justice system, and dependency courts, and how parent attorneys can help flip the script

Marci Comeau, JD, King County Department of Public Defense

Charleena Lyles was a pregnant mother of four children navigating the CPS and criminal justice systems when she was killed by law enforcement. Her case serves as a vivid reminder that many clients are walking the tightrope of interconnecting dependency and criminal cases and must deal with law enforcement as a result of it.

3:15 p.m. – Break
3:30 p.m. – Session C

1. Supporting Those on the Front Line: Strategies for Trauma-Informed Supervision and Management in a Family Defense Practice

Kathleen Creamer, JD, Community Legal Services, Inc.
Maggie Potter, MSW, MSSP, Community Legal Services, Inc.

Supervisors and managers can help support family defense staff who experience vicarious trauma and burn-out by using a trauma-informed approach. Participants will learn key strategies for fostering a supportive and responsive practice. Come share ideas, learn new approaches, and leave with techniques for improved supervision and management.
2. The Indian Child Welfare Act at 40: Legal Updates and Strategies for Practice  
Sheri Freemont, JD, Casey Family Programs  
Ron Walters, JD, ICWA Law Center
Panelists will discuss practice tips for parent attorneys, supported by ICWA gold standard principles to best serve children and families. This session will help practitioners better understand how the ICWA applies as well as some basic principles of cultural humility that can be applied to all families within the child welfare systems. Panelists will also discuss current challenges to ICWA in federal courts across the country and highlight the opportunities for advocacy.

3. Family First Prevention Services Act: The Vision, the Pitfalls and the Way Forward  
Mimi Laver, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law  
Richard M. Pittman, JD, Louisiana Public Defender Board  
Stefanie Sprow, Children’s Defense Fund  
Ruth Anne White, MSW, National Center for Housing and Child Welfare
The Family First Prevention Services Act is hailed as a pro-family shift in child welfare funding, and the beginning of a larger pro-family paradigm shift in federal policy. Is it? This workshop will discuss the strengths and shortcomings in the law, cautions about its implementation, and how advocates can guard against unintended consequences.

4. Creating Individualized Visitation Plans for Children in Foster Care  
Jacob D’Annunzio, JD, Washington State Office of Public Defense  
Natalie Netzel, JD, MSE, Mitchell Hamline School of Law  
Mallory Stoll, JD, Blahnik, Prchal & Stoll, PLLC
This workshop will provide valuable information about children’s changing developmental needs and how those needs should be incorporated into an age-appropriate visitation plan. Specific, sample visitation plans will be discussed. There will also be a discussion of ways to utilize relatives and community resources as a part of visitation plans.

5. When Parent Counsel Seized the Legislative Narrative  
Senator Alan Clark, Arkansas State Senator  
Diana Rugh Johnson, Diana Rugh Johnson PC, Atlanta, GA  
Glen Hoggard, JD, Arkansas Parent Counsel Program Attorney  
Jerald Sharum, JD, Arkansas Department of Human Services  
Hon. Peggy Walker, JD, Georgia
In the last few years, Georgia and Arkansas parent counsel achieved unprecedented legislative changes. This session will describe how and why those changes occurred. This session will educate practitioners from all states as to how to accomplish legislative success.

6. SKILLS: Objections and Offers of Proof in Child Protection Cases: Best Practices for Best Results  
Richard Cozzola, JD, LAF
The presentation starts with an overview of best practices in objections and offers of proof focusing on unique issues in child protection: e.g. foundation, hearsay, expert opinion. It will then include guided discussion with demonstration and practice on how to adapt these best practices to a variety of jurisdictions and practice.

7. DISCUSSION: Advising and Empowering Parents to Be Their Own Best Advocates Prior to Court Involvement  
Sara E. Gilloon, JD, Family Defense Center  
Elizabeth Larin, JD, Community Legal Services, Inc.  
Bryan Liberona, JD, Family Defense Center
This discussion will focus on leveraging limited resources to assist as many clients as possible; self-help materials and templates to empower clients through self-representation, and the associated challenges, lessons learned, and rewards of providing these limited scope services.
1. To the Halls of Congress and The Statehouses: Bringing the Family Defense Movement into the Legislative and Rulemaking Arenas

Kathleen Creamer, JD, Community Legal Services, Inc.
Diane L. Redleaf, JD, Family Defense Consulting
Heather Zenone, JD, Washington, DC

Change in the child welfare system requires that family defenders include legislative and policy advocacy in their toolboxes. A new bipartisan legislative/policy change agenda developed since 2016 will be highlighted, with presentation by an experienced Congressional staffer (and lawyer) on how family advocates can support legislative success.


Katrina Carter, MS, Iowa Department of Corrections
David Flower, JD, Dependency Advocacy Center of San Jose, CA
Jami J. Hagemeier, JD, Drake Legal Clinic-Incarcerated Parent Representation Project
Tracy Ortega, JD, East Bay Family Defenders
Kristin Walker, Iowa Department of Human Services

Panelists from California and Iowa will discuss barriers to representing incarcerated parents in child welfare proceedings, community solutions and partnering strategies they are using to address those barriers and advocate for incarcerated parents, how collaboration can eliminate barriers, and how these strategies can support families and promote reunification.


Krista Ellis, ABA Center on Children and the Law Intern
Shrounda Selivanoff, Washington State Office of Public Defense
Amelia Watson, JD, Washington State Office of Public Defense

This presentation will discuss the impact of bias on participants in the child welfare system. While focusing on racial and poverty bias, the training will discuss the importance of recognizing bias, welcoming diversity, and overcoming individual predispositions. This training was adapted from nationally recognized research.

4. Sex Trafficking and Minor Mothers

Tiffani Cortez, JD, Children’s Law Center of California
Rosezetta Upshaw, JD, Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc.

This substantive workshop will define the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), outline best practices when representing CSEC youth as parents, minors, or both, and provide stirring accounts of pimps and thriving sex markets from attorneys on the frontline of the global CSEC crisis.

5. Foster Parents and Reunification: Resource, Roadblock or Both?

Dusti Standridge, JD, Arkansas Parent Counsel Program and Foster Parent

Foster parents can play a vital role in a child welfare case and can have a direct impact - both positive or negative - on reunification efforts. This presentation alerts those in the field of some of the benefits and concerns of the foster parent’s effect on reunification and termination, as well as the care of the child.


Richard Cozzola, JD, LAF
Jessica Horan-Block, JD, Bronx Defenders
Melissa L. Staas, JD, LAF

Defending clients against a child abuse pediatrician’s “diagnosis” of abuse requires exposing the weaknesses in that opinion and presentation of affirmative medical testimony supporting non-abuse explanations. This workshop will provide an overview of the medical, legal, and trial practice tools for developing direct and cross examinations of medical experts.
### Session D: Foster Parents and Reunification: Resource, Training, and Support

**1. Beyond Due Process: Parent Rights After a Child’s Removal**
Emily Peeler, JD, MSW, ABA Center on Children and the Law
Hope Newton, Center for Family Representation, Inc.

Parents retain certain rights after removal, sometimes called “residual rights,” including topics such as education or medical decision making and religious affiliation. The presentation will examine residual rights in 51 states identifying trends, gaps, and unique rights. Hear from multi-disciplinary partners helping parents exercise these rights, with a specific focus on education rights.

**2. Bringing the Data to Life: Data as a Tool for Parent Representation**
Cristina F. Freitas, JD, Freitas & Freitas, LLP
Debbie F. Freitas, JD, Freitas & Freitas, LLP
Michael Heard, MSW, Washington State Office of Public Defense
Alexandra G. Roark, JD, Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services Children and Family Law Division

Successfully representing parents inside and outside of the courtroom is a constantly evolving skill. This session will focus on reviewing national scientific and social science resources to enhance your arguments, motions, and advocacy. We will touch on many important aspects which are critical to successful parent representation, including the harm of removal, racial and ethnic disparities, limiting the onerous demands placed on parents, and visitation. Join us as we move from reviewing the data to putting it into your everyday practice.

**3. LGBT Parents in Child Welfare Proceedings**
Nancy Polikoff, JD, American University Washington College of Law
Emily Haan, JD, National Center for Lesbian Rights

Lesbian/bisexual mothers are at documented higher risk of losing their children to the state. This workshop addresses: discrimination, especially by faith-based agencies; inappropriate removal of a gender-variant child; failure to apply state parentage law to a parent’s same-sex partner/former partner; and narrow definitions of kin.

**4. Pregnancy, Substance Use & The Child Welfare System**
David Cohen, JD, Drexel University School of Law
Amber Khan, JD, National Advocates for Pregnant Women
Mishka Terplan, MD, MPH, Virginia Commonwealth University

This workshop will explore how drug policies are used to expand child welfare investigations and “child abuse” to include pregnancy and any substance use. It will include medical expertise on prenatal substance exposure and tips for utilizing experts and constitutional arguments for parent defense in such cases and appellate proceedings.

**5. Planning for Successful Reunification/Re-Entry Prevention**
Malena Arnaud, MSW, Center for Family Representation, Inc
Virginia Christ, LMSW, Center for Family Representation, Inc
Michele Cortese, JD, Center for Family Representation, Inc

Reunification is a “win” but also challenging. CFR will share lessons learned and materials from our Re-Entry Prevention Project.

**6. SKILLS: Why TPR? How Family Defense Lawyers Can Get Courts To Address This Fundamental Question**
Emma Brown-Bernstein, JD, Public Defender Atlanta Judicial Circuit
Christopher Church, JD, University of South Carolina School of Law, CHAMPS Clinic
Vivek Sankaran, JD, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, University of Michigan Law School

When it comes to Termination of Parental Rights, there are a variety of motivations that are not child or family specific, identified as the “5Ps.” This workshop will explore these five motivations and how to incorporate these motivations into courtroom advocacy and challenging and changing child welfare policy.
### 7. DISCUSSION: Family Justice Initiative: A National Approach to High Quality Representation for Parents and Children

**Boardroom**

**Leslie Heimov, JD, Children’s Law Center of California**  
**Sue Jacobs, JD, Center for Family Representation**  
**Mimi Laver, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law**

The FJI seeks to ensure that every parent and child has access to high-quality legal representation when courts make decisions about their families. This discussion will focus on what constitutes “high-quality” and strategies for working with an interdisciplinary team. Participants will learn about FJI demonstration sites, how parents’ and children’s attorneys can be allies supporting investment in high-quality legal representation and accessing federal dollars to support attorneys for children and parents.

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch Plenary</td>
<td>Salon I &amp; II</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. DISCUSSION: Family Justice Initiative: A National Approach to High Quality Representation for Parents and Children</td>
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<td>Mimi Laver, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law</td>
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*This workshop focuses on how harm reduction principles can be incorporated into child welfare practice, and how defense attorneys and social workers can effectively advocate for evidence-based practices (including non-abstinence based approaches and medically assisted treatment) for clients with substance use disorder.*

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### 8. Toto, We’re Not in Kansas Anymore: Storming, Forming, and Creating Change for Parents in Colorado

**Colonnade**

**Alberiy Abreu, MSW, Children’s Aid Society - Family Wellness Program**  
**Tricia Stephens, LCSW-R, Ph.D. Hunter College - Silberman School of Social Work**  
**Lisa Washington, JD, Bronx Defenders**

This workshop describes how fathers who accept a plea deal after a DV charge receive treatment. Findings from a qualitative study of 14 fathers participating in a trauma-informed “batterers’ group” are followed by a detailed discussion of the group elements that prepare fathers for rebuilding healthier relationships with their children.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Session F</td>
<td>Plaza</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. A Trauma-Informed Group for Fathers with Dual Criminal Court and Family Court Involvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albery Abreu, MSW, Children’s Aid Society - Family Wellness Program</td>
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<td>Lisa Washington, JD, Bronx Defenders</td>
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*Participants will explore concrete steps they can take and strategies they can implement to increase this issues’ visibility and to advocate for meaningful and lasting reforms to the child welfare system. We will provide participants with concrete actions we can take in the context of our work that can be applied in communities using trauma-informed practices.*

---

### 3. Mandated Reporting from Hospital Staff: A Family Defense Perspective

**Plaza**

**Clara Presler, JD, Bronx Defenders**  
**Jey Rajaraman, JD, Legal Services of New Jersey**

Mandated reporting laws encourage speedy reporting of suspected child maltreatment, inhibiting medical professionals from investigating in order to determine whether a suspicion is reasonable. Reports from hospitals are interpreted in the court system as if they represented a medical diagnosis of child abuse.

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<td>7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>3. Mandated Reporting from Hospital Staff: A Family Defense Perspective</td>
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<td>Clara Presler, JD, Bronx Defenders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jey Rajaraman, JD, Legal Services of New Jersey</td>
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*In this session participants will learn about the intersection of harm reduction and family law.*
5. Mamas of Color and Mental Health: The Harm of State Intervention via the Child Protection System
Morgan Hill, LMSW, Bronx Defenders
Fallon Speaker, JD, Bronx Defenders

This workshop will explore the ways in which the child protection system, when used as a tool of intervention in early stages of maternal bonding and parenting, can serve as a patriarchal tool of government oppression, surveillance, intervention, and control over women of color and their families.

6. SKILLS: Motivational Interviewing: Tools for Client Counseling in Challenging Contexts
Payal Dalal, LMSW, Center for Family Representation, Inc
Corinne Lundstrum, JD, Center for Family Representation, Inc

This session introduces participants to counseling techniques called “Motivational Interviewing”. It is uniquely suited to challenging counseling situations including: clients not following legal advice, clients disclosing that they have violated court orders, and clients and counsel disagreeing about how to proceed.

Erin Miles Cloud, JD, National Family Defense Project
Joyce McMillan, JMac4Families
Lisa Sangoi, National Family Defense Project

This discussion group will explore the importance of social justice movement building to achieving meaningful and lasting reforms to the child welfare system. We will provide participants with concrete steps they can take and strategies they can implement to increase this issue’s visibility and build alliances with different movements.

2:45 p.m. - Break
3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Session G

Sarah Cook, JD, Dependency Advocacy Center of San Jose, CA
AnnaLisa Chung, JD, Dependency Advocacy Center of San Jose, CA
Jermaine Hardy, Santa Clara Adult Probation
Antoinette Manuel, MSW, Dependency Advocacy Center of San Jose, CA
Victoria Ruiz, Dependency Advocacy Center of San Jose, CA

Probation and Dependency Advocacy Center created a unique partnership to break the cycle of multiple system involvement for undeserved families. DAC’s Corridor Program provides parents on probation with an attorney-led interdisciplinary team to assist them with open dependency cases and, where possible, prevent entry into the child welfare system.

Mark Hardin, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law (ret.)
Mimi Laver, JD, ABA Center on Children and the Law
Joanne Moore, JD, Washington State Office of Public Defense

On December 19, 2018 the Children’s Bureau changed the Child Welfare Policy Manual to allow states to access federal resources for the costs of parent and child representation. During this session lawyers from Iowa and Washington will discuss how these new resources will be used to improve legal services for parents before a petition is filed and post-removal. What will this mean in your state?

3. The New Jane Crow vs. The New Jim Crow
Michelle L. Burrell, JD, Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem
Porsha-ShaOn Venable, JD, Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem

This workshop will suggest to participants concrete actions we can take in the context of our advocacy for parents to challenge the disproportionate impact of child protective intervention and foster care placement on families of color, immigrant families, parents with disabilities and families living in poverty.
4. Lawyering from the Inside Out: Using Reflective Practice to Engage Clients and Promote Communication

Jamie Bahm, MS, Center on Children Families and the Law at University of Nebraska Lincoln
Jennie Cole-Mossman, Center on Children Families and the Law at University of Nebraska Lincoln
Tana Fye, JD, Fye Law Office

Reflective practice helps attorneys examine their past experiences, thoughts, and emotions about their work. It helps reduce vicarious trauma, stress and burnout. Not only does it promote well being for the attorney, but also assists them in having more engaging relationships with their clients and helps communication with difficult clients.

5. Developing Strategic Appeals Aimed at Creating New Case Law

Chris Gottlieb, JD, NYU School of Law Family Defense Clinic
Amy Mulzer, JD, Brooklyn Defender Services/ NYU School of Law Family Defense Clinic
Vivek Sankaran, JD, University of Michigan Law School Child Advocacy Law Clinic & Child Welfare Appellate Clinic

We will explore ways parent defense attorneys can use strategically selected appeals to address recurring issues and move the law forward. Presenters will use examples from our own work, including challenges to the application of the ICPC to parents and to TPR statutes that create irrebuttable presumptions or that discriminate against fathers.

6. SKILLS: You Can Call Me Mom: Special Issues in Privately-filed TPRs and Step-Parent Adoptions

Trisha Fritz, JD, Wisconsin State Public Defender
Ryan Reid, JD, Wisconsin State Public Defender
Elisabeth Stockbridge, JD, Wisconsin State Public Defender

Special issues arise when a parent files for TPR against another parent. We will explore how attorneys can counsel clients, customize discovery demands, negotiate non-TPR resolutions, and approach best interest arguments. This workshop will walk through these issues and allow time for attorneys to share successful strategies.

7. DISCUSSION: Strategies for Improving Child Welfare Response to Families Experiencing Domestic Violence

Sara Block, JD, The Family Defense Center
Rachel Ruttenberg, JD, The Family Defense Center

Discuss your jurisdiction’s challenges with child welfare interventions into the lives of families experiencing domestic violence. Learn and share best practices and strategies for improving child welfare practice, including litigation, legislative reform, and cross-sector collaborations.

4:35 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Closing Plenary

A Bright Future for Family Defense: Leveraging New Federal Opportunities

David Kelly, JD, Special Assistant to the Associate Commissioner at the U.S. Children’s Bureau

As a key voice in the federal government for high quality legal representation, Mr. Kelly will share his insights about making the most of the new Child Welfare Policy Manual change and close the conference with marching orders for advocates across the country.
Step 1: Registration Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>2019 Early Bird Rate</th>
<th>2019 Regular Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Member One Conference</td>
<td>$399</td>
<td>$460</td>
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<td>Both Conferences</td>
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<td>Preconference Only</td>
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<td>One Conference + PreConf Only</td>
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<td>$520</td>
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<td>Student One Conference</td>
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<td>Both Conferences</td>
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The ABA reserves the right to correct all typographical errors. Fees do not include travel or lodging.

Step 2: Course Materials

Electronic course materials will be provided via download at least 48 hours prior to the start of the Institute.

Step 3: Your Total Due Amount

Registration Rate (from Step 1)  

1 $ _________________

Total $ _________________
**Step 5: Your Information**

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The ABA and many of its entities provide content through email. We do not share email addresses with anyone outside the ABA.

**Step 6: Payment Information**

- ABA Credit Card from Bank of America
- Visa®/MasterCard
- Check Payable to American Bar Association
- American Express

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**Step 7: 4 Easy Ways to Register**

- Complete and mail this form:
  - The American Bar Association
  - Event Registration Unit
  - 321 N Clark St, Fl 16
  - Chicago, IL 60654-7598
- Call (800) 285-2221
- Fax this form to (312) 988-5850

Agenda subject to change without notice.
MCLE
The ABA will seek 23.9 hours of CLE general credit and 3 hours ethics credit in 60-minute states, and 28.7 hours of CLE general credit including 3.6 ethics credits in 50 minute states for this program. Credit hours are estimated and are subject to each state’s approval and credit rounding rules. Please visit the program website at www.ambar.org/cal2019 for program CLE details or visit www.americanbar.org/mcle for general information on CLE at the ABA.

Attendees with Special Needs
Please specify your special needs at www.ambar.org/cal2019 or contact staff designee Donna Williams, Meetings Manager, at donna.williams@americanbar.org; 312.988.6210.

I will need the following accommodations: Interpreters:  □ ASL Transliterators □ Oral □ Tactile □ Trilingual □ Deaf □ Other (please specify): ____________________________________________________________________________

□ Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) (realtime speech to text translation displayed on computer or large screen)

□ Captioned videos □ Notetaker □ Reader

Assistive Listening Devices: □ Hearing/Induction Loops □ FM Systems □ Infrared Systems □ Other (please specify):

□ Headphones/Earbuds to Connect to Assistive Listening System

Materials in Alternative Formats: □ Large Print (specify font size: ________)

□ Braille □ Audio □ Digital Files □ Flash Drive/CD

□ Orientation by staff to the facility/meeting site Special Diet: □ Vegetarian □ Vegan □ Gluten-free □ Dairy-free □ Nut-free □ Pre-cut Meal □ Other (please specify):

□ Accessible Transportation: Event Date(s) ________________________________ Time(s) ________________________________ Location(s) ________________________________

ADA Accessible Guestroom: □ Roll-in shower □ Shower/ tub chair □ Visual alarms (fire and other emergency alarms, door knocks, phone calls) □ Audible alarms/ alarms □ Scent free □ Wheelchair/Mobility Device Accessible □ Other (please specify):

□ A personal care attendant will be accompanying me.

□ A service animal will be accompanying me.

□ I will be using a mobility device at the conference.

□ Additional needs (please specify):

Scholarships
Financial scholarship applications are available for this conference. To request an application or receive additional information, please go to this link: www.americanbar.org/groups/cle/scholarship.

Attire
Business casual attire is appropriate for all activities.

Cancellations
Cancellations received five business days or more before the program will receive a full refund, less a $50 cancellation fee. No refunds will be provided for cancellations after that date; however, substitute registrants are welcome at any time. To cancel your registration or substitute another individual, please call the ABA at (800) 285-2221 or fax your request to (312) 989-5850. Registrants who do not cancel within the allotted time period and who do not attend the program will receive a copy of the program course materials after program completion.

In-Person Registration
If you plan to register in person, please call the ABA at least 24 hours in advance to confirm that the program is being held as scheduled and that space is available. Cash payments will not be accepted.

Program Confirmation
Written confirmation of your registration will be sent to you upon receipt. If you do not receive the confirmation notice prior to the program, please call the ABA at (800) 285-2221 at least 24 hours in advance to confirm that your registration was received and that the program is being held as scheduled.

Hotel Information
Ritz Carlton Tysons Corner
1700 Tysons Blvd
McLean, VA 22102
Group Rate: $229/night

Hotel Deadline: February 13, 2019
Reservations can be made by calling the Ritz Carlton Tyson’s Corner directly at 703-506-4300 or 877.231.7916 or online at http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/reservations/phone. Refer to the ABA Children and the Law Spring Conferences to get the group rate.

Overflow Hotel:
The Ritz Carlton Tysons Corner is being held as scheduled and that space is available. If you plan to register in person, please call the ABA at (312) 988-6285.

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