

Children's Justice Initiative**2015 Right From the Beginning: Child Safety, Permanency, and Wellbeing**

September 28-29, 2015
Doubletree Minneapolis Bloomington South
Grand Ballroom – 2nd Floor

Monday, September 28

- 7:30 – 8:30** **Registration, Networking, and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 – 8:35** **Welcome and Overview of Conference Day 1**
Hon. Larry Collins, District Court Judge, Waseca County
- 8:35 – 9:00** **Opening Remarks: Co-Chairs, CJI Statewide Advisory Committee**
Hon. Lorie S. Gildea, Chief Justice, Minnesota Supreme Court,
Lucinda Jesson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services
- 9:00 – 10:00** **Minnesota's Child Protection System: Where Are We Now? Where Do We Want to Be? How Do We Get There?**
Bryan Samuels, Director, Chapin Hall Center for Children, and former Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- 10:00 – 10:30** **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:30** **Minnesota's Child Protection System (continued)**
- 11:30 – 12:30** **Making the Switch to Electronic CHIPS: Segregation of Confidential Information and Other Critical Changes**
The Judicial Branch is transitioning from paper to electronic court files. Effective July 2015, all court rules were amended to aid in that transition. This session provides an overview of the practices required for all filers to segregate confidential documents and information in CHIPS cases.
 - *Hon. John McBride, District Court Judge, Washington County; Chair, Juvenile Protection Rules Committee*
 - *Hon. Janet Cain, District Court Judge, Carver County, Juvenile Protection Rules Committee*
- 12:30 – 1:45** **Lunch (Garden Court – 1st floor)**

Breakout Session 1➤ **Topic 1: Permanency Requirements: Key Findings**

Location: Grand Ball Room - Main

Discussion of findings required at all phases of a CHIPS proceeding from EPC through permanency

- *Hon. John Rodenberg, Associate Judge, Minnesota Court of Appeals*
- *Hon. Kathleen Mottl, District Court Judge, Wright County*
- *Hon. Korey Wahwassuck, District Court Judge, Crow Wing County*
- *Joanna Woolman, Director, Parent Rep. Clinic, William Mitchell College of Law*
- *Michelle Zehnder Fischer, Nicollet County Attorney's Office*

➤ **Topic 2: Developing a Clearer Picture: Understanding Parenting Capacity Assessments, Psychological Evaluations, and Trauma Assessments**

Location: Grand Ballroom - East

What are the key components of these evaluations and assessments? When should they be ordered? Are there standardized tests? What is difference between screening and assessment and diagnostic? How are they used in developing case plans and court reports? What do judges want to know regarding the results of evaluations and assessments?

- *Saprina Matheny, Human Development Center - Duluth*
- *Hon. Sally Tarnowski, District Court Judge, St. Louis County - Duluth*

➤ **Topic 3: Owning My Case: Transition Planning for Older Youth**

Location: Veranda 1-4

Overview of the legal requirements for developing Independent Living Plans for older youth; best practices for assisting youth to transition out of foster care; judicial practices for engaging youth who appear in court; recommendations of foster youth

- *Nicholas Vogel, Hennepin County Human Services*
- *Allison Krehbiel, District Court Judge, Nicollet County*
- *Amanda Kissell Bradley, Foster Youth*
- *Tatiana Cloud, Foster Youth*
- *Malcolm Leal, Foster Youth*

➤ **Topic 4: Safety Planning Across the Continuum**

Location: Bloomington

Use of safety planning to prevent out-of-home placement, safety planning in foster care, safety planning upon reunification (trial home visits and protection supervision), and safety planning to prevent foster care re-entry

- *Dan Koziolk, Child and Family Manager, Carver County Community Social Services*
- *Jill Demars, Carver County Community Social Services*
- *Hon. Janet Cain, District Court Judge, Carver County*

➤ **Topic 5: Prenatal Exposure: The Physical, Legal, and Case-Planning Implications**

Location: Edina

Overview of short- and long-term impact of prenatal exposure to alcohol and other drugs; creative solutions for assisting pregnant mothers in Native American communities

- *Don Moore, Chemical Dependency Division, Minnesota Dept. of Human Services*
- *Shirley Cain, American Indian Disparities Consultant, Minnesota Dept. of Human Services*
- *Donna LaChapelle, Elder in Residence, MN Women's Indian Resource Center*
- *Linda Eagle Speaker, Elder in Residence, MN Women's Indian Resource Center*
- *Oaichidawke Council*

3:15 -3:30

Break

3:30 – 4:45

Breakout Session 2

- **Topic 6: Permanency Requirements: Key Findings** *(Repeat of Topic 1)*
Location: Grand Ballroom - Main

- **Topic 7: Developing a Clearer Picture: Understanding Parenting Capacity Assessments, Psychological Evaluations, and Trauma Assessments**
(Repeat of Topic 2)
Location: Grand Ballroom - East

- **Topic 8: Owning My Case: Transition Planning for Older Youth** *(Repeat of Topic 3)*
Location: Veranda 1-4

- **Topic 9: Safety Planning Across the Continuum** *(Repeat of Topic 4)*
Location: Bloomington

- **Topic 10: Prenatal Exposure: The Physical, Legal, and Case-Planning Implications** *(Repeat of Topic 5)*
Location: Edina

4:45

Adjourn

Tuesday, September 29

7:30 – 8:30

Registration, Networking, and Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:35

Welcome and Overview of Conference Day 2

Hon. Krista Martin, District Court Judge, Pine County

8:30 – 9:45

American Indian Children: Minnesota's Next Steps

Dr. Dolores Subia BigFoot, Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center on Child Abuse and Neglect; Director, Indian Country Child Trauma Center, National Child Traumatic Stress Network

9:45 – 10:15

Break

10:15 – 11:30

American Indian Children: Minnesota's Next Steps (continued)

11:30 – 12:45

Lunch (*Garden Court – 1st floor*)

12:45 – 2:00

Breakout Session 3

➤ **Topic 11: Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA)**

Location: Bloomington

Overview of updates to the MIFPA and the new Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Guidelines; practices to ensure compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act

- *Shirley Cain, American Indian Disparities Consultant, Minnesota Dept. of Human Services*
- *Lori Whittier, Hennepin County Attorney's Office*
- *Barbara Cole, Senior Deputy Solicitor General, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe*
- *Jessica Ryan, Tribal Attorney, BlueDog, Paulson & Small*

➤ **Topic 12: Foster Care Licensing Requirements: Why Can't the Kids be Placed with Grandma?**

Location: Grand Ballroom - East

Overview of foster care licensing requirements, including provisions under Northstar Care for Children and the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)

- *Mary Larson, Minnesota Department of Human Services*
- *Deborah Beske Brown, Minnesota Department of Human Services*
- *Mical Peterson, Minnesota Department of Human Services*

➤ **Topic 13: Working with Undocumented Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)**

Location: Veranda 1 - 4

Purpose and eligibility requirements of SIJS; required findings; consequences for failure to achieve SIJS status; resources and tools

- *Rebecca Sholtz, Immigration Law Project, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid*
- *Susan Schmidt, MSW, LGSW, Adjunct Social Work Instructor, St. Catherine University*

➤ **Topic 14: Planning for Success (part 1): Key Components in Developing an Effective Out-Of-Home Placement Plan** (*see topic 20 for part 2*)

Location: Grand Ballroom - Main

Legal requirements for out-of-home placement plans; practices for identifying and engaging custodial and noncustodial parents, children, tribes, and foster parents

- *Stacy Hennen, Director, Grant County Social Services*
- *Polly Krause, Hennepin County Public Defender's Office*
- *Larene Broome, Parent Mentor*
- *Dana Ahlness, Manager, Ramsey County Guardian Ad Litem Program*
- *Janine LePage, Crow Wing County Attorney's Office*
- *Hon. Christine Long, District Court Judge, Rice County*
- *Anne Tyler Gueinzus, Managing Attorney, Children's Law Center of Minnesota*

➤ **Topic 15: Sexually Exploited Youth (part 1): Risk Factors and Preventative Efforts** (see topic 21 for part 2)

Location: Edina

Overview of risk factors that can lead to sexual exploitation of children and youth; identification of preventative measures

- Ashley Zurn, *American Indian Navigator, White Earth Reservation*
- Beth Holger Ambrose, *West Metro Regional Navigator, The Link*
- Jennifer Fox, *West Central Regional Navigator, Heartland Girls Ranch*
- Lauren Ryan, *Safe Harbor/No Wrong Door Director, Minnesota Dept. of Health*
- Hon. Robyn Millenacker, *District Court Judge, Ramsey County*
- Hon. Margaret Daly, *District Court Judge, Hennepin County*
- Irene Opsahl, *Supervising Attorney, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid*

➤ **Topic 16: Engaging Fathers in CHIPS Proceedings**

Location: Veranda 5-8

Overview of requirements for identifying and engaging custodial and noncustodial fathers in CHIPS proceedings; rights of noncustodial fathers

- Melissa Jacobsen, *Meeker County Attorney's Office*
- Patricia Zenner, *Parents' Attorney, Zenner Law Office*

2:00 – 2:30

Break

2:30 – 3:45

Breakout Session 4

➤ **Topic 17: Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA)** (Repeat of Topic 11)

Location: Bloomington

➤ **Topic 18: Foster Care Licensing Requirements: Why Can't the Kids be Placed with Grandma?** (Repeat of Topic 12)

Location: Grand Ballroom - East

➤ **Topic 19: Working with Undocumented Children: Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)** (Repeat of Topic 13)

Location: Veranda 1 - 4

➤ **Topic 20: Planning for Success (part 2): Key Components for Court Review and Monitoring of Progress on Out-of-Home Placement Plans** (see topic 14 for part 1)

Location: Grand Ballroom - Main

Overview of legal requirements for approving and reviewing progress on out-of-home placement plans

- Janine LePage, *Crow Wing County Attorney's Office*
- Hon. Christine Long, *District Court Judge, Rice County*
- Anne Tyler Gueinzus, *Managing Attorney, Children's Law Center of Minnesota*
- Stacy Hennen, *Director, Grant County Social Services*
- Polly Krause, *Hennepin County Public Defender's Office*
- Larene Broome, *Parent Mentor*

➤ **Topic 21: Sexually Exploited Youth (part 2): Legal Requirements and Court Involvement** (see topic 15 for part 1)

Location: Edina

Overview of Safe Harbor requirements; effective case planning practices; judicial and court involvement

- *Lauren Ryan, Statewide Safe Harbor/No Wrong Door Director, Minnesota Dept. of Health*
- *Hon. Robyn Millenacker, District Court Judge, Ramsey County*
- *Hon. Margaret Daly, District Court Judge, Hennepin County*
- *Irene Opsahl, Supervising Attorney, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid*
- *Ashley Zurn, American Indian Navigator, White Earth Reservation*
- *Beth Holger Ambrose, West Metro Regional Navigator, The Link*
- *Jennifer Fox, West Central Regional Navigator, Heartland Girls Ranch*

➤ **Topic 22: Engaging Fathers in CHIPS Proceedings** (Repeat of Topic 16)

Location: Veranda 5 - 8

Overview of requirements for identifying and engaging custodial and noncustodial fathers in CHIPS proceedings; rights of noncustodial fathers

- *Melissa Jacobsen, Meeker County Attorney's Office*
- *Patricia Zenner, Parents' Attorney, Zenner Law Office*

3:45 – 4:00

Break

4:00 – 5:00

Youth Panel: Through the Eyes of the Children

Location: Grand Ballroom

- *Facilitator: Hon. Krista Martin, District Court Judge, Pine County*
- *Foster Care Youth*

5:00

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Funding for this Conference is provided under the 2014 State Court Improvement Program Grants (Training Grant and Data Grant), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Appropriation No. 75-4-1512, in accordance with Section 438 of the Social Security Act