

29th Annual Prevent Child Abuse Illinois Statewide Conference

The Power Of Choice:

CHANGING THE FUTURE FOR CHILDREN



October 26-27, 2023
Chicago Marriot Naperville
Naperville, IL

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Learn More!

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Prevent Child Abuse
Illinois™

2023 Conference Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, October 26th

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast & Resource Tables

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Welcome & Plenary Speaker

Charles Hunt
“The Power and Limitations of Resilience”

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Workshop Series A
6 Breakout Sessions

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m. Break

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Annual Friend of Children Award Luncheon

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Break

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Workshop Series B
6 Breakout Sessions

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Workshop Series C
6 Breakout Sessions

Friday, October 27th

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast & Resource Tables

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Plenary Speaker

Jerry Moe
“Through a Child’s Eye: Understanding Addiction and Recovery”

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Workshop Series D
6 Breakout Sessions

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. GFWC Basket Raffle
Closing Plenary Speaker

Tim Clue
“The Power of Engagement and Laughter”

Featured Plenary Sessions

Charles Hunt
Resilience Expert & Founder
of The Audacity Firm
*The Power and Limitations
of Resilience*



Thursday, October 26, 9:00 a.m.

While resilience is essential in overcoming trauma, resilience has its limitations and, once survived, healing is paramount in addressing the imprint left on the mind, brain, and body by trauma. This session will explore ways to build resilience and encourage healing.



Jerry Moe
Senior Clinical Advisor, National
Association for Children of Addiction,
National Director of Children’s
Programs, Emeritus, Hazelden Betty
Ford

*Through a Child’s Eye: Understanding
Addiction and Recovery*
Friday, October 27, 8:30 a.m.

Many children face multiple challenges growing up in families hurt by addiction to drugs and alcohol. This workshop explores how kids are impacted by addiction and how they see it in their families. More importantly, learn specific prevention strategies and key messages which can make a difference in their lives.

Tim Clue
Motivational Speaker
*The Power of Engagement
and Laughter*
Friday, October 27, 11:30 a.m.



Working with children and families can be hard. This presentation celebrates and rewards staff and reminds everyone how stumbling forward, sideways, and backward is a part of the great helping experience. Tim combines his professional stand-up and decades of improv training to make this a one-of-a-kind morale booster with depth. Tim’s presentation demonstrates the art of helping through engagement and laughter.

Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track ◇◇ ACEs Track

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Session A: 10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

A-1 “Sesame Street Parental Addiction Initiative: A New Look”

Jerry Moe, MA, MAC Senior Clinical Advisor, National Association for Children of Addiction, National Director of Children’s Programs, Emeritus, Hazelden Betty Ford

Sesame Street in Communities launched the Parental Addiction Initiative in October 2019. Come and learn about new resources that teachers, counselors, prevention specialists, doctors, nurses, law enforcement, faith leaders, and caring adults can use to help and support children. These proven resources can also guide kids and families through difficult challenges about addiction in their families.

A-2 “Illinois Bias Free Child Removal Pilot Program Overview”

Dagené Z Brown, Director, Office of Racial Equity Practice, Illinois Department of Children & Family Services

Dr. Tamara Fuller, Director, University of Illinois Children & Family Research Center

Removing a child from their family is a traumatic experience for everyone involved, not only for the child, but for the parent(s) and any other family members. Black children in Illinois are significantly overrepresented in the child welfare system relative to their base population. This workshop will provide a high-level overview of disproportionality in the Illinois Child Welfare System and the efforts of DCFS to mitigate the overrepresentation of Black children in care.

A-3 “Combating Child Abuse with Canva”

Stephanie Jewett, Director of Community Education and Training, McLean County Children’s Advocacy Center

Have you ever wondered how you can take your agency’s social media presence or branding to the next level with little to no budget? I’m going to show you how! This workshop will teach you how to use Canva, a graphic design platform that allows you to create professional-looking graphics presentations, and other visual content without any design experience.

◇◇ **A-4 “Addressing Barriers to Nurturing Fathering”**

Jon Eck, Parent Educator & Family Mediator, The Parent Place

Join us for a discussion on addressing barriers to nurturing fathering, from a personal and professional perspective, highlighting the importance of engaging fathers in opportunities to learn and practice emotional competence, empathy, accountability, healthy self-care, and other nurturing parenting practices. This session will also explore the influence of intergenerational cycles of parenting attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors on individual resilience and fathers’ ability to overcome barriers to nurturing parenting.

++ A-5 “Implementing Active Listening Skills to Enhance Safety”

Mark Benson, Therapist, NSE Solutions, LLC

This session will focus on the impact of nonverbal and verbal communication to better enhance safety in the field. This session will include interactive group activities to demonstrate the influence these skills can have.

++ A-6 “The COFI Way of Building Parent Leadership in Early Learning Programs”

“El modelo de COFI de Construyendo el Liderazgo de los Padres en los Programas de Aprendizaje Temprano”

Jesse Rojo, Organizer, Community Organizing and Family Issues

This workshop is an introduction to the Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI) model for organizing and strengthening parent voices to advocate for matters that affect our families. Parents must be an integral part of decision making: they are the experts on their own families. [This is a bilingual workshop.](#)

Session B: 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

B-1 “Clinical Considerations with Youth Who Have Experienced Trafficking”

Courtney Bunn, MSW, LCSW, Human Trafficking Therapist, Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center

This training will focus on the clinical presentation and treatment needs with youth who have experienced trafficking/exploitation. A foundation will be set with an overview of human trafficking including definitions, key elements, and terminology- with special attention to distinctions in child populations and CSEC. This training will equip service providers with a thorough understanding of the critical considerations in child trafficking to be able to offer treatment that is ethical, trauma-informed and survivor-centered.

B-2 “The SAFE Practice Model for DCFS-What is it and When is it Coming?”

Theresa Costello, CEO, Action for Child Protection

The Department of Children and Family Services is adopting the SAFE Practice Model. The SAFE Model provides the framework to make a safety determination utilizing the interplay between the threats of danger and the things that might mitigate the threats of danger. The SAFE model provides structured, interrelated assessment processes with defined practice objectives and standardized decision-making criteria. This results in consistent, sound decision making to meet the needs of children and families. The workshop will overview the model components, philosophy, history and plans for implementation in Illinois. SAFE will replace CERAP.

B-3 “Shattering the Silence: Empowering the Queer Community to Combat Domestic Violence and Support LGBTQ+ Youth”

Tor Crowder (they/them), MA, Community Activist

Domestic violence affects individuals from all walks of life, including the queer community. However, reporting incidents of domestic violence within the queer community often faces additional barriers due to societal stigma and discrimination. This workshop will create a safe space for dialogue and learning. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by queer individuals experiencing domestic violence and the transformative power of breaking the cone of silence.

B Session Information Continued on Next Page

Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track ◇◇ ACEs Track

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Session B: 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

◇◇ B-4 “Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Practices for Parental Substance Use”

Megan Ragan, LSW, Data Coordinator and Sustainability Planner, Stress and Trauma Treatment Center

This comprehensive session focuses on working with parents grappling with substance use disorders, equipping you with essential tools to support families through a trauma-informed lens. Participants will gain a deep understanding of the intersection between trauma and addiction, and learn effective strategies to promote resilience, strengthen parent-child relationships, and create a nurturing environment for healing and reunification.

++ B-5 “Leveraging Parent and Provider Voice in Advocacy”

Kayla Goldfarb, Policy Manager, Start Early

Engaging parent and providers in advocacy is essential for creating positive systems change on local, state, and federal home visiting policy issues. This session will share strategies to meaningfully and equitably elevate family and home visiting provider voices including opportunities for families and home visiting professionals to participate in advocacy activities in Illinois. This session is ideal for home visiting participants and program leaders, including home visitors, supervisors, and program directors.

++ B-6 “Voice and Choice Within the Work of Home Visiting”

Kimberly Hanes, Training and TA Specialist, Baby TALK
Bridget Bosch, T/TA Specialist and Quality, Baby TALK

This breakout session facilitates opportunities for participants to focus on the use of positive experiences and integration of adult learning principles in their program’s work with families. Together, we will reflect on how families’ “voice and choice” is represented in all aspects of home visiting and explore the impact on family well-being.

Session C: 3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

C-1 “Making Infant Safe Sleep a Priority”

Nancy Maruyama, RN, BSN, NCBF, Executive Director, SIDS of Illinois, Inc.

This workshop will provide an overview of teaching Infant Safe Sleep techniques and strategies to increase compliance with parents/caregivers. Topics include the importance of infant safe sleep including statistics and demographics; definitions of current acronyms; health equity vs. health equality; implicit and explicit bias; current safe sleep recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP); and unsafe infant products and resources available.

C-2 “BACA – Empowering Abused Children!”

Whiskey, Agency Liaison, Public Relations, B.A.C.A Fox Valley Chapter, IL

Mac, President, B.A.C.A Fox Valley Chapter, IL

Bikers Against Child Abuse exists with the intent to create a safer environment for abused children. We empower children to not feel afraid of the world in which they live. How do we do that? Join us for this workshop presentation and you will learn!

C-3 “Is this LEGIT? Teaching Teens Media Literacy to Prevent Sexual Harm”

Ryan Spooner, Prevention Director, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

Sam McCarthy, MSW, LSW, Prevention Educator, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

Technology isn’t going anywhere. It’s a major part of young people’s lives—their hobbies, their social interactions and their sexual behaviors. Taking an abstinence-only approach to sex and technology is unrealistic and ineffective at reducing sexual harm. This interactive workshop makes clear the connections between media and sexual harm, equips participants with tools to help teens evaluate content online, and offers harm reduction strategies around sex and technology.

◇◇ C-4 “Trauma & Grief in Early Childhood”

Tracy Patton, MSCD/infancy, Program Manager, Partnering with Parents/Easterseals Chicago

Children grieve and respond to trauma very differently than adults. When we understand what their grief/trauma looks like in behavior, and how to support them, we can minimize the impact of the event(s) and improve the outcomes. This support is critical to a child’s social emotional development and long-term mental health.

++ C-5 “Creating Inclusive Spaces for LGBTQ+ Co-Workers & Families”

Shannon Green, Healthy Families Program Coordinator, Shawnee Health

This workshop will review terminology, issues, policies, and laws related to LGBTQ+ rights and experiences in early childhood and home visiting settings. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, explore ideas, reflect on concerns and fears, and foster optimism for creating inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ co-workers and families in our work. In the second half of the workshop, participants will read and discuss a variety of children’s books featuring LGBTQ+ people, families, and themes.

++ C-6 “Perinatal Mood Disorder Support & Prevention”

Rachel Chruszczyk, Southern Region Prevention Specialist, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

Join our enlightening workshop on perinatal mental health, designed for professionals and parents. This workshop provides comprehensive insights into perinatal mood disorders, their impact on individuals and families, and effective prevention and community care strategies. We will explore the fundamentals, signs, and symptoms of perinatal mood disorders, their connection to child mistreatment, and research-based interventions to promote healthy parent-child relationships. Learn about early identification, screening tools, and the role of professionals and support networks in fostering resilience to promote perinatal mental health and to provide vital support for affected individuals.



Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track ♦♦ ACEs Track

Friday, October 27, 2023

Session D: 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

D-1 “Creating Change in Families Experiencing Domestic Violence”

Robin Greer-Jogun, M.Ed, QMHP, CDVP, Senior Clinical Domestic Violence Specialist, Northern Illinois University/Illinois Department of Children & Family Services

Many survivors of domestic violence are told to obtain an Order of Protection, leave their abuser, and/or force the abuser to move out of their residence. A history of trauma and limited life skills impact the ability of survivors to make these requested changes. This presentation will explore using a combination of trauma informed counseling, client centered approach, and skill building to help survivors make choices leading to positive changes for the future of their children.

D-2 “Engaging for Change: A Collaborative Approach to Family De-Escalation”

Brittany Watson, Engagement Specialist, Crisis Services, Egyptian Public and Mental Health Department

This workshop will explore the benefits of including Engagement Specialists on your care team. Engagement Specialists are uniquely positioned to efficiently de-escalate crisis situations, teach trauma education to individuals and caregivers, and model healthy communication, advocating for all parties. We will also examine a case study with a mental health professional and hear about what engagement specialists mean for her role in the care model.

D-3 “Primary Prevention: Addressing Social Drivers of Health”

Gary Pate, LCSW, Senior Trainer, YouthCare

Imagine a Child Well-Being System focused on prevention wherein 90% of children remain with their biological and/or families of choice. Since much of our well-being is associated with social and economic factors, it is reasonable to focus our efforts on addressing the conditions in the environment that impact our ability to live, laugh, love, learn, and labor. Examples of primary prevention will be discussed, and participants will have the opportunity to create a mock program.

♦♦ D-4 “Addressing Secondary Trauma: Prioritizing Our Well Being”

Kristin Kaufman, MS, Director of Programs, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

This training session will introduce attendees to the importance of being aware of how secondary trauma impacts both their professional and personal lives. Attendees will develop a deeper understanding of secondary trauma and other related conditions. This training will look at the responsibility of the individual, as well as the organizational responsibility of prioritizing well being. This training will provide attendees with various activities that can be utilized as an individual, as well as activities that can be done at the organizational level.

++ D-5 “How Birth Doula Play a Vital Role in the Future of Children and their Families”

Chastity Mays, MS.Ed., CD(DONA), Certified Birth Doula, Hathor Doula Services

This workshop will discuss how birth doula are an integral part of a family’s birth journey and how this can lead to the deterrence of child abuse and neglect. The discussion will begin by describing the types of services a doula provides for families and lead into how these efforts help to strengthen families and will give examples of how birth doula reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect for families. The best time to start protecting children and their families is during pregnancy.

++ D-6 “Partnering with Parents in Home Visiting: Putting Words into Practice”

Karen Williams, Technical Assistance and Training Specialist, Start Early

Jess Jobe, Senior Technical Assistance and Training Specialist, Start Early

Dara Williamson, Senior Program Manager, Start Early

What does it mean to partner with parents? “Partnering with parents” is a phrase and approach that programs are using to be more inclusive of parents and families in the process of strengthening their parent-child interactions, and thus the relationship between the parent and child. This session will dig into what it means to partner with parents in a strength-based, relationship-focused way that allows the parent to lead and discover what their unique parent-child interactions are that strengthen their parent-child relationship.

Seating in conference workshops will be on a first-come, first-served basis. When room maximums are reached, conference attendees will be asked to select a different workshop for that series. Meeting room temperatures may vary; please dress in layers.

**You don’t want to miss this lineup of amazing speakers, resource tables, networking opportunities, and more!
Register today.**

Who should attend?

Social workers, home visitors, teachers, healthcare providers, administrators, law enforcement, court personnel, mental health professionals, domestic violence specialists, prevention workers, substance abuse counselors, parents, adoptive and foster parents and anyone who works with or cares about children and families.

Fees

The conference registration fee is \$229 if prepaid registration is received by **September 22, 2023**. After September 22, the conference registration fee is \$259. Space is limited, so early registration is advised.

Refunds

Requests for refunds made in writing prior to **September 22, 2023** will be subject to a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be given after **September 22, 2023**. In the event that the conference is moved to a virtual format, a partial refund will be issued if applicable.

DCFS

A limited number of DCFS prepaid conference registrations are available for staff, foster caregivers and adoptive parents. DCFS staff, foster caregivers and adoptive parents who wish to register for the PCA Illinois Conference should go to <https://www.rsvpbook.com/2023ILPCA>

After the conference, DCFS staff should submit any applicable travel expenses on their travel voucher. Please note that the DCFS Training Unit will award only DCFS clock hours for this conference.

Lodging

All conference events will be held in Naperville, Illinois at the Chicago Marriott Naperville, 1801 North Naper Boulevard, Naperville, IL 60563.

Special room rates are available for the conference until **October 4, 2023**. Ask for the Prevent Child Abuse Illinois room block.

Book hotel rooms online [here](#), or call 1 630-505-4900.

Parking

The Chicago Marriott Naperville hotel has complimentary on-site parking available.



CEUs

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Social Workers, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors, and Marriage and Family Therapists will be available for conference participants through Northern Illinois University. Early Intervention, Domestic Violence, and Gateways Registry-Verified Conference credit will also be available for eligible attendees.

All eligible participants will receive a certificate with CEUs awarded for attendance. 9.25 contact hours will be awarded for the entire conference. Thursday is 5.25 contact hours, and Friday is 4 contact hours. There is no charge for CEUs.

To be awarded CEUs for the conference you must complete and submit the conference participation tracking form. Incomplete or illegible forms will not be awarded conference credit. There will be no exceptions. Some continuing education credits require additional information and evaluations from participants. Tracking forms and complete instructions will be available in the conference folder.

THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS!

Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
Illinois Department of Human Services / Division of Early Childhood
Illinois Department of Public Health / Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs

Brightpoint
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Start Early
The Poshard Foundation for Abused Children
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The Power Of Choice:

CHANGING THE FUTURE FOR CHILDREN



29th Annual Prevent Child Abuse Illinois Statewide Conference

October 26-27, 2023

Chicago Marriot Naperville

1801 North Naper Boulevard, Naperville Illinois 60563

Conference Registration Form - Event #19430

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Agency/Company _____

Check appropriate payment:

- Check - Made payable to NIU
- Voucher*
- Purchase Order*
- Credit Card - Select one below.
 - Visa
 - Master Card
 - Discover
 - American Express

Registration Fee: \$229 (by 09/22/23)
 \$259 (after 09/22/23)

*Agency/Organization FEIN# _____
(Required if using Voucher or PO.)

Required for credit card registrations:

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Cardholder's Name as it appears on the card _____ Signature _____

Credit Card Billing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Please note: Credit card charges will appear as NIU Outreach, DeKalb, IL.

Requests for refunds made in writing prior to Sept. 22, 2023 will be subject to a \$50 processing fee. **No refunds will be given after Sept. 22, 2023.**

A limited number of DCFS prepaid PCA Illinois Conference registrations will be available for staff, foster caregivers and adoptive parents. DCFS staff who have supervisory approval to register for the PCA Illinois Conference should follow the instructions on the D-net.

Conference and registration questions can be directed to Tammy Queen at 217-522-1129 or email tqueen@pcaillinois.org

For more information, visit our website www.preventchildabuseillinois.org

Online Registration is available!
Credit Card Only
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Mail this completed form to:
Registration
Outreach Education & Training
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
Or Fax: 815-753-6900

