

28th Annual Prevent Child Abuse Illinois Statewide Conference

October 13-14, 2022

Reimagining
Resilience:



EMBRACING CHANGE & PROTECTING CHILDREN

Register Today!

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Learn More!

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2022 Conference Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, October 13th

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

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

Tonier Cain
"Healing Neen"

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Break

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

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m. Break

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

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Break

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

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break

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

Friday, October 14th

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

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

Dr. Ira Chasnoff
*"Psychosocial Issues and Treatment Implications
for Pregnant Women Using Drugs and Alcohol"*

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

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

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Basket Auction &
Closing Plenary Speaker

Gaelin Elmore
"Courage to Overreact"

Featured Plenary Sessions

Tonier Cain

CEO and Founder of
Tonier Cares International,
Film Producer, & Author
Healing Neen

Thursday, October 13, 9:00 a.m.



Tonier Cain is an advocate and educator, speaking all over the world on trauma, addiction, incarceration, homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health. In this dynamic presentation, Tonier will share her personal journey of resilience through trauma and healing and underscore the importance of creating a trauma-informed culture in our communities and in our daily work serving children and families.



Dr. Ira J. Chasnoff

President, NTI Upstream
*Psychosocial Issues and Treatment
Implications for Pregnant Women
Using Drugs and Alcohol*

Friday, October 14, 8:30 a.m.

Substance use and misuse by pregnant and parenting women continues to be a major factor in child abuse and neglect. This session will explore the biological and psychosocial factors that impact the development of a nurturing relationship between a woman with a history of substance misuse during pregnancy and her child and how this places the child at significant risk. This session will explore these factors and provide an overview of intervention strategies that can promote a positive and protective relationship between mother and child.

Gaelin Elmore

Motivational Speaker, Facilitator,
& Child Welfare Advocate
Courage to Overreact

Friday, October 14, 11:30 a.m.



We learn early in life that "for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction," but when you're a child going through the foster care system, who decides what's equal and opposite? Through Gaelin's story, become inspired to have the courage to overreact on behalf of those you serve. Walk away knowing how a small gesture of kindness or love could be all it takes to change the worldview of someone who has experienced unrelenting adversity.

Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track

Thursday, October 13, 2022

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

A-1 "The Impact of COVID on Children/Adolescents/Families and Essential Workers"

Lisa Betz, LCSW, LCPC Deputy Director, Child and Adolescent Services

This session will focus on the impact of COVID on the mental wellbeing of children, adolescents, and their families. It will examine the survival responses individuals rely on while exploring ways to increase individual protective factors. Special attention will be given to the impact of COVID on essential workers and ways to reduce vicarious trauma.

A-2 "Human Trafficking and Technology: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities"

Sara Sefried Central Illinois Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator, Illinois State Police

Research shows that technology plays a role in every aspect of child sex trafficking. The Internet is being used for recruitment and grooming, the advertising and sale of children, and the sharing of child pornography. This session will help you understand the role of technology in child sex trafficking, as well as prevention efforts that can help keep children safe.

A-3 "Community Collaboration for the Prevention of Sexually Problematic Behaviors by Youth"

Melissa Box, LCSW, LSOE, LSOTP Clinical Director, ABC Counseling & Family Services

Research increasingly points to cross-sector community collaboration as having the greatest potential for effective public health prevention efforts in reducing violence, specifically violence toward children. This presentation will address emerging research in the prevention of child sexual abuse and youth sexual behavior problems, and describe key recommendations for a comprehensive prevention program grounded in multiple levels of the ecological model nested in communities.

++ A-4 "Infant and Toddler Sleep, Breastfeeding, and Sleep Training Methods"

Glendean Burton, MPH, BSN, RN, CLC MCH Nurse Consultant, Illinois MIECHV

Information will be provided on current American Academy of Pediatrics and the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine recommendations for a safe sleep environment. Information regarding safe sleep and breastfeeding will be presented, as well as the latest reports on the impact of COVID-19 on sleep in adults and children. A brief overview of four commercial sleep training methods will also be discussed.

A-5 "Interrupting Intergenerational Cycles of Trauma"

Alisha Foster, LCSW Arrowleaf

An individual's personal trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) not only impacts themselves but also impacts future generations. This workshop will focus on developing a deeper understanding of ACEs and trauma and its impact on parental emotional regulation and possible disruption of the parent-child relationship. This workshop will also identify safeguards and interventions for building individual resiliency.

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

B-1 "Good Grief?"

Julia Marynus, R.N., B.A., LNC Maternal Child Health Consultant, Stephenson County Health Department

This workshop begins with a review of The Stages of Grief then moves into an interactive discussion on what constitutes a loss with a focus on loss of autonomy and other identifiers during the COVID pandemic. We will reflect on coping skills used by families and support workers and explore how that might affect families and workers long term.

B-2 "Roots of Compassion"

Brittney Hale Program Assistant, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois & Co-Founder, Creating Compassionate Communities
Mary Beth Long Kindness Champion & Co-founder, Creating Compassionate Communities

Participants will explore the difference between sympathy, empathy, and compassion; identify the intersection of empathy, self compassion, and self-care; learn the importance of implementing and sustaining self-compassion; and see how self-compassion impacts one personally and professionally.

B-3 "Systemic Resilience Among LGBTQIA+ Youth, Families and Communities"

Gary Pate, LCSW Senior Trainer, YouthCare

This workshop will explore resilience from the unique perspective of LGBTQIA+ youth, their relationships with caregivers, and the communities in which they live. Specific attention will be given to the relationship between resilience and resistance. Unlike their heterosexual and cisgender peers, youth in this community have to navigate discrimination, marginalization and oppression. Family rejection and acceptance of LGBTQIA+ youth will be addressed, as well as identifying community resources.

++ B-4 "Trauma-informed Parent Engagement: Promoting Resilience Through Caregiving"

Worsham El Trauma Therapist & Consultant, CEO, Lotus Trauma Care, LLC

Professionals working with teens and children need to be able to recognize and respond to the challenges experienced by parents and families for the successful promotion of resiliency, motivation, and change. This interactive presentation will enhance professionals' trauma-informed care and parent engagement skills.

B-5 "Interrupting Intergenerational Cycles of Trauma" (REPEAT SESSION)

Alisha Foster, LCSW Arrowleaf

An individual's personal trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) not only impacts themselves but also impacts future generations. This workshop will focus on developing a deeper understanding of ACEs and trauma and its impact on parental emotional regulation and possible disruption of the parent-child relationship. This workshop will also identify safeguards and interventions for building individual resiliency.



Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track

Thursday, October 13, 2022

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

C-1 “Shaming the Blaming Game”

Alexandra “Ale” Levi Forensic Interview Specialist, Homeland Security Investigations

It’s time to stop shaming and blaming victims for what happened to them and start placing the blame where it belongs. This presentation will help investigators, prosecutors and forensic interviewers understand how slight changes in how we phrase things can make a huge difference in the victim’s statement and cooperation in the investigatory and prosecutorial process. Through lecture, video and examples, this presenter will provide trauma-informed approaches to working with victims.

C-2 “Parenting Again: The Journey Known as Grandparenting”

Nancy J. Phillips Coordinator, Illinois Family Resource Center

Substance-use issues create the need for a non-parent family member to assume responsibility for caring for children, with grandparents typically filling the role. Whether short term or long term, this dynamic can cause stress for grandparents as they navigate grief, concern for loved ones, and more. Participants will explore emotional and financial support services that are available, discover ways for taking care of health and wellness, and learn how to create a fun and rewarding “grandfamily” environment.

C-3 “Using Evidence-Based Practices to Improve Children’s Social-Emotional and Behavioral Well-Being”

Mary Ratliff Program Director, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Fernanda Gonzalez Research Analyst, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Stephanie Nguyen Research Assistant, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Presenters will describe how evidence-based practices can be used to improve the social-emotional and behavioral well-being of young children exposed to violence. Different screening and assessment tools used by the Illinois Safe From the Start program, an evidence-based intervention for young child victims and their caregivers, to measure client outcomes will be highlighted. Presenters will also compare different treatment modalities that have been linked to improved child well-being.

C-4 “Collaboration Across Systems to Combat Sex Trafficking”

Victoria Davis Jones, MA, MSW Statewide Human Trafficking Prevention Program Manager, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Dr. Kisha Roberts Tabb Special Population Program Manager, Cook County Juvenile Probation

This workshop will demonstrate how systems (child welfare, juvenile court, law enforcement, Children’s Advocacy Centers and families) can and should work together to address a youth’s involvement in sex trafficking.

++ C-5 “The NEAR@Home Experience”

Elaine Duensing, M.A., L.P.C. Senior Program Advisor, NEAR@Home Facilitator, Start Early

Maria Aguilar Supervisor, Family Focus Aurora Healthy Families Program

Melissa Vargas Family Support Specialist, Family Focus Aurora Healthy Families Program

Carolina Ortega Family Support Specialist and Group Coordinator, Family Focus Aurora Healthy Families Program

The most powerful people for reducing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) scores in the next generation are parents. But parents must know about ACEs and their effects to realize this potential. Home visitors are uniquely positioned to talk with parents about ACEs because home visiting is relationship based, occurs within each family’s comfort zone, and starts early in the parenting experience. Join us for a panel discussion on the NEAR@Home Program, a resource for home visitors to respectfully and effectively address ACEs with families.

All conference events are being planned for in-person at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre in Springfield, Illinois. We will follow all CDC and State of Illinois guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. If circumstances or guidelines change, the conference may be moved to an online virtual format. Participants will be notified via email of any changes if they occur.



Workshop Schedule

Key: ++ Home Visiting Track

Friday, October 14, 2022

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

D-1 “Multidisciplinary Approach to Evaluation of Child Abuse”

Det. Jennifer Hillgoth, BACJ Detective, Aurora Police Department

Dr. Melissa Manrique, MD Deputy Director, Child and Adolescent Services

This presentation will provide a case-based approach, demonstrating a collaboration of disciplines as they identify injuries, discuss the medical findings and evaluation, and review critical components of police investigations concerning child abuse.

++ D-2 “WOMBSS - Wrapping (Integrating) low-risk Obstetric services for Moms and Babies in St. Clair and Surrounding counties”

Deja Finley, Pharm.D. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy

Wrapping (Integrating) low-risk Obstetric services for Moms and Babies in St. Clair and Surrounding counties, is a Quality Improvement initiative created to reform the standard prenatal course, by incorporating and implementing a level of additional support, already backed by current state legislation, (Title IX. Maternal and Infant Mortality; Article 175; House Bill 158). This workshop will help others identify and implement best practices for moms and babies.

D-3 “Roots of Compassion” (REPEAT SESSION)

Brittney Hale Program Assistant, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois & Co-Founder, Creating Compassionate Communities

Mary Beth Long Kindness Champion & Co-founder, Creating Compassionate Communities

Participants will explore the difference between sympathy, empathy, and compassion; identify the intersection of empathy, self compassion, and self-care; learn the importance of implementing and sustaining self-compassion; and see how self-compassion impacts one personally and professionally.

++ D-4 “Drug Use in Pregnancy: The Newborn Infant”

Ira J Chasnoff, MD. President, NTI Upstream

Over one million children in this country per year are delivered to women who have used alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or illicit drugs during pregnancy. This program will explore factors that impact the newborn from both a medical and a neurobehavioral perspective. Special attention will be paid to the effects of marijuana use during pregnancy on neonatal outcome.

++ D-5 “A Doula’s Role in the Black Maternal and Infant Health Crisis”

Charity S. Bean Full Spectrum Doula, Black Maternal and Infant Health Advocate, Student RN

Kyra Betts Full Spectrum Doula, Black Maternal and Infant Health Advocate, Lactation Counselor, Childbirth Educator

This workshop will explain who doulas are; how they contribute to creating better birth outcomes by educating, supporting, advocating, and empowering birthing families; and why doulas are not the solution to the current maternal health crisis, but a huge factor that can help change outcomes. To truly defeat the current crisis, we must start within the maternal health system and break down systemic racism that has led us here.

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 \$209 if prepaid registration is received by **September 20, 2022**. After September 20, the conference registration fee is \$239. Space is limited, so early registration is advised.



Refunds

Requests for refunds made in writing prior to **September 20, 2022** will be subject to a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be given after **September 20, 2022**. 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/2022ILPCA>. 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 Springfield, Illinois at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre, 700 E. Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701. Special room rates are available for the conference until **September 20, 2022**. Ask for the Prevent Child Abuse Illinois room block. Book hotel rooms online [here](#). Code: **PCA 2022**

Parking

The Wyndham Springfield City Centre has a parking ramp available. The current parking rate is \$15 per day, but this may be subject to change.



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!

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Illinois Department of Human Services
Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development
GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs
The Exchange Club of Naperville
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