**Schedule At-A-Glance**

**Monday, April 22**
- 3 - 7 pm Registration Open

**Tuesday, April 23**
- 7 am Registration Open / Breakfast on your own
- 8 am - 4:30 pm Pre-Conference Institute: Trauma Informed Care
- 8 am - 5 pm Exhibitor Area Open
- 12 pm Lunch on Your Own
- 1 - 5:30 pm Pre-Conference Institute: Lifting our Advocacy Megaphone
- 5:30 - 7 pm President’s Welcome Reception & Poster Presentation Session

**Wednesday, April 24**
- 7 am - 5 pm Registration Open
- 7:30 am - 5 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 7:30 - 8:30 am Light Breakfast and Coffee Service
- 7:45 - 8:15 am First Time Attendee Welcome Breakfast
- 8:30 am - 12 pm Keynote Presentations
- 12 - 12:30 pm Lunch Service (Located on the floor of your issues lunch room)
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Issues Lunches
- 1:45 - 3:15 pm Workshop Session A
- 3:30 - 5 pm Workshop Session B

**Thursday, April 25**
- 7 am - 5 pm Registration Open
- 7:30 am - 1 pm Exhibit Hall Open
- 8:30 - 11 am Keynote Presentations
- 11:15 am - 12:45 pm Workshop Session C
- 1 - 2:30 pm Awards Luncheon
- 2:45 - 4:15 pm Workshop Session D
- 4:30 - 5 pm Membership Meeting
- 5:30 - 7:30 pm Social Event

**Friday, April 26**
- 7 - 10:30 am Registration Open
- 7:30 - 8:30 am Committee Meetings
- 8:30 - 11 am Plenary Presentation
PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 ♦ 8 am - 4:30 pm

Trauma-Informed Care: The Impact of Trauma on Brain Development and What to Do About it

Dr. Bruce Perry from The ChildTrauma Academy and Dr. Stuart Ablon from Think:Kids at Massachusetts General Hospital will come together to make complicated neurodevelopmental concepts accessible and provide a practical evidence-based process for trauma-informed intervention that all adults can follow in any setting. Specifically, Dr. Perry and Dr. Ablon will integrate The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) and Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS). Participants will learn an overview of both of these approaches and practical examples of strategies for their integrated implementation. The conference will build on several years of collaboration between Dr. Perry and Dr. Ablon to combine the models in practical clinical application. The conference is intended both for those new to NMT and/or CPS or those skilled in their application.

Presenters: Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D. is the Senior Fellow of The ChildTrauma Academy, a not-for-profit organization based in Houston (www.ChildTrauma.org) and adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Northwestern University School of Medicine in Chicago. Dr. Perry is the author, with Maia Szalavitz, of The Boy Who Was Raised As A Dog, a bestselling book based on his work with maltreated children and Born For Love: Why Empathy is Essential and Endangered. Over the last thirty years, Dr. Perry has been an active teacher, clinician and researcher in children’s mental health and the neurosciences, holding a variety of academic positions. Dr. Perry is the author of over 500 journal articles, book chapters and scientific proceedings and is the recipient of numerous professional awards and honors.

J. Stuart Ablon, Ph.D. is Director of Think:Kids in the Department of Psychiatry at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) where he specializes in the treatment of explosive, inflexible, easily frustrated children and adolescents and their families. He is also Associate Clinical Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Ablon is co-author of Treating Explosive Kids: The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach and author of numerous articles, chapters and scientific papers on the process and outcome of psychosocial interventions. Dr. Ablon trains parents, educators, and clinicians and consults to schools and treatment programs throughout the world in the Collaborative Problem Solving approach. Dr. Ablon was recently ranked #5 on the list of the world’s top rated keynote speakers in the academic arena.
Together the Voice: Lifting our Advocacy Megaphone

As service providers to youth and families with complex needs, we intercede and advocate for their individual health, safety, and long-term success by providing high-quality programs that result in sustainable positive outcomes. Beyond the boundaries of our individual programs and services, it's vital that we advocate broadly to ensure our continuums of care are both flexible and accessible and support innovation and best practice.

Do you want to be more intentional and effective in your advocacy efforts?

Would you like to leverage your expertise to inform and shape public policy, but aren’t sure what your next step should be?

At this highly interactive pre-conference workshop, we will build your understanding of public policy and advocacy, why it matters, and what it takes to have an impact. Advance reading and background materials will ensure opportunities to learn and grow, whether you are brand new to advocacy or a veteran at shaping public policy. We’ll present clear connections between policy and research, provide resources to support your advocacy efforts, and develop individual and collective strategies to become more influential. In addition to big picture discussions, we will drill down to on-the-ground efforts and you will leave with concrete advocacy plans, including action steps and strategies to move the needle in partnership with youth, families, and other partner stakeholders in our individual communities, states, and countries.

Presenters: Lisette Burton, J.D., Vice President, National Advocacy & Public Policy, Boys Town and ACRC Public Policy Chair; Lisa Holmes, Ph.D., Director, Rees Centre, University of Oxford, UK; Brittany Pope, M.S., Director of Applied Clinical Sciences and Research, OhioGuidestone & ACRC Public Policy Co-Chair; Wendy Wang, Vice President of Public Policy and Strategy, Hathaway-Sycamores. Moderator: Christopher Bellonci, M.D., DFAACAP, Vice President of Policy and Practice, Chief Medical Officer, Judge Baker Children’s Center

Research Consultation Mini-Sessions

New This Year! ACRC’s Research Committee is offering an exciting addition to our conference agenda. Attendees can register for a 30-minute, personalized consultation session to discuss issues related to using data to inform and improve practice. Our research committee members understand the complexities of the work you do and can help clarify how to use data to monitor and improve quality driven decisions within your practice. The consultation will also focus on the implementation process for reporting results to agency leaders and effective ways to share those results with staff.

Various times available throughout the conference but are limited! Register early to take advantage of this generous offer.

Visit www.togetherthevoice.org for conference updates and to register.
Quality Standards for Child and Adolescent Residential Care: Empowering Improvement and Outcomes
Quality standards for child and adolescent residential treatment are identified. Quality standards bring focus to that which is vital to best serve youth in care. Quality standards empower providers to improve services and ensure better outcomes for youth.

Presenter: Jonathan Huefner, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Boys Town

An Exploration of the Role of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on Youth
Despite literature suggesting child maltreatment may hamper a therapeutic bond with the clinician, results from a sample of 130 youth in residential indicate that a positive relationship exists and youth with higher ACEs scores displayed higher levels of engagement in treatment. Explore the research with us.

Presenter: Camela Hughes, Ph.D., Program Assessment and Effectiveness Research Specialist, LaSalle School

The Effectiveness of DBT with Adolescent Males in a Residential Facility
Hear findings from a study which hypothesized that DBT informed treatment would improve outcomes for adolescent males with emotional dysregulation and complex trauma. Details include adaptations of the model to fit this population, milieu intervention, training, family work, and measurement of treatment efficacy.

Presenters: Rachel Schein, Psy.D., HSP, Coordinator of Diagnostic Services and Clinical Training; Ashley Warhol, Psy.D., HSP, Director of Clinical Services and Internship Training & Bernadette Conneely, MSc., Campus Administrator; Devereux
An Evaluation of a Residentially-Based Intensive Services Milieu With a “Novel Experiences” Component
A provider of children’s mental and behavioral health services implemented an evaluation of treatment outcomes. Baseline data from the POQ are presented along with a description of programming, including its “novel experiences” component. Implications of the initial findings are discussed.

Presenters: Keri Kirby, Project Coordinator; Lisa Vassiliadis, Associate Director of Residentially-Based Services & Scott Collier, Research & Evaluation; Edgewood Center for Children and Families

Farm to School Opportunities and Education
Homegrown Farms, located at Genesee Lake School, offers many positive benefits to students through year-round educational, recreational, vocational, and therapeutic opportunities. Students receive meaningful experiences through the onsite hydro/aquaponics systems, horticulture, animal care, and the production of organic crops.

Presenter: Erika Boettcher, Vocational Services Coordinator, Genesee Lake School

Restraint Reduction and Elimination through Trauma-Informed Care
The presentation will be about reducing/eliminating restraint for individuals served, through trauma-informed care. The presenter will review topics from a systems perspective that focus on several important factors. Caregivers are provided with the tools that they need to successfully support the individuals served.

Presenter: Corey Meurer, BCC Director of Operations, Justice Resource Institute

Navigating Residential Reform: A Research Study of Southern California Providers
In a research study on residential care reform in CA, providers participated in an assessment identifying level of readiness. This poster will include overall readiness assessment results and identify barriers/resources needed. Findings may benefit other states preparing for residential reform.

Presenters: Janine Quintero, AVP of Evaluation and Research; Nick Ryan, AVP of Clinical Training & Amanda Gentz, Research Analyst; Hathaway-Sycamores

Innovative Strategies for Combating Compassion Fatigue (Burnout and Secondary Traumatic Stress) in Residential Staff
Compassion fatigue can be a serious problem among residential staff. At Pressley Ridge, the Professional Quality of Life Scale is completed quarterly. Presenters will discuss data trends and strategies being used to promote self-care and alleviate compassion fatigue among staff.

Presenters: April Wall-Parker, MS, Research Coordinator & Michael Valenti, Ph.D., Senior Research Coordinator; Pressley Ridge

Collaborative Problem Solving: The Secrets of Sustaining an Evidence-Based Practice
Best practices for implementing evidence-based approaches include evaluating your organization for readiness, providing ongoing training and coaching, assigning an implementation team, and monitoring outcomes. This poster includes advice on how to do this with CPS or any other evidence-based practice.

Presenters: Alisha R. Pollastri, Ph.D., Director of Research and Evaluation & J. Stuart Ablon, Ph.D., Director; Think:Kids at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

ARC Events and Activities in Residential
ARC is a flexible framework that allows service providers to partner with individuals and families to enhance the quality of three main domains: attachment; self-regulation; and competency. Our poster will highlight creative and innovative programing and special events to support sustainability.

Presenters: Dana Wyss, Ph.D., LMFT, ATR, Director of Training; Simone Smith, LMFT, Director of Treatment Services & Rodney Hall, BA, Program Manager; Star View Adolescent Center
What Aspects of Psychosocial Development Predict Education Success for Youth in Therapeutic Residential Care?
Youth in Therapeutic Residential Care often face challenges with delayed learning due to their life experiences. This study investigates what aspects of psychosocial development, as measured by the MPD, are associated with education success (as measured by the Woodcock Johnson and school performance).

Presenters: Nicole Hauser, MSW, LCSW, Executive Director; Stacey Scholl, Clinical Director; Cathedral Home for Children & Ken Coll, Ph.D., Professor, University of Nevada, Reno

Care from Inside the Trenches: Establishing Peer Support Services
This session will discuss how organizations can assist staff in high-stress, residential work environments through a peer support program. Discover principles of a successful program, how to recruit employees and how to incorporate within an EAP.
Presenter: Raquelle Solon, Business Solutions Engineer, FEI Behavioral Health

Making Space for Sensory Needs: Encouraging Self-Regulation Awareness and Skills with the Use of Sensory Based Interventions
The Green Chimneys sensory room has helped numerous students avoid high risk situations. Staff and students “check in” and “check out” of the sensory room using a feelings thermometer outlining various emotions and levels of arousal. Data from the “check in/out” forms will be shared.

Presenters: Katelyn Haig, RTC Program Development Coordinator; Marissa Foto, RTC Social Worker; Sharon Gilchrest, Director of Childcare & Christina Henriquez, Transition Coordinator, Green Chimneys

Brief Trauma Symptom Screening for Youth in Residential Care
The poster presents reliability and validity results of a free and brief trauma symptom screen for youth that can be used to inform the need for further trauma assessment. The relationships between trauma symptoms and types of abuse, psychopathology, and gender are also discussed.
Presenter: Patrick Tyler, Ph.D., LIMHP, LPC, Translational Research Center, Boys Town

Nature-based interventions in Residential settings
The ubiquitous concern regarding over-dependence on electronics has driven researchers to explore counter-balancing strategies for achieving mental health among youth through nature-based therapeutic interventions. This presentation will focus on evidence from the Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare industry and its application in residential programs.

Presenters: Brett Talbot, Ph.D., Senior Director of Research and Quality, Ascent Behavioral Healthcare & Derek Daley, SUDC, Co-founder, Legacy Residential Treatment Center

Association-Level National Outcomes Research: How NATSAP Overcame the Odds
For the last ten years the National Association of Therapeutic Schools and Programs has sponsored a national study designed to measure the outcomes of private-pay residential treatment. This presentation outlines the study’s structure, procedures, and results.

Presenters: Mike Petree, MA, Petree Consulting Inc., Research Systems Specialist & Brett Talbot, Ph.D., Senior Director of Research and Quality, Ascent Behavioral Healthcare

Innovative Impact: Improving Permanency in Massachusetts
We'll highlight the challenges and successes learned from an innovative pilot program in partnership with Massachusetts’ state child welfare system, DCF, in improving permanency outcomes for youth in Residential Treatment Centers, including early outcomes and data evaluation.
Presenter: Caryn Willa Lister, MSW, LICSW, Clinical Manager, Plummer Youth Promise
Dr. Jaiya John’s hopeful, inspired keynote message celebrates the intrinsic power and possibility in residential care providers and their relationship with children and families. Drawing from his work with over half a million children, adults, and professionals, and his book *Your Caring Heart*, Jaiya focuses on wellness and mutual care as the heart of servitude. Audience members will feel deeply, remember their true calling, and experience the revitalization of their giftedness for serving lives. Jaiya’s rehumanizing storytelling overflows with love and compassion, and will energize the healing, revealing, and new ways of seeing we all require for creating cultures of wellness in our communities.

Jaiya’s book titles include: *Your Caring Heart: Renewal for Helping Professionals and Systems; Daughter Drink This Water* (inspiration); *Calm: Inspiration for a Possible Life; Sincerity of Sunlight* (inspiration); *Fresh Peace* (inspiration); *Legendary: A Tribute to Those Who Honorably Serve Devalued Children; Beautiful: A Poetic Celebration of Displaced Children; Reflection Pond: Nurturing Wholeness in Displaced Children; Clear Moon Tribe* (novel); *The Day Jumoke Found His Name* (children); *Father to Son: Ode to Black Boys* (spoken word); *Habanero Love: A Poem of Sacred Passion; Lyric of Silence: A Poetic Telling of the Human Soul Journey; and Black Baby White Hands: A View from the Crib* (memoir).

Jaiya personifies relational, so please find him during our morning and lunch breaks in the lobby. He looks forward to meeting you, signing books, taking photos and relating.
Are We There Yet? An Exploration of a Human Rights Framework in Our Relationships with Children and Young People

Since the 1980s the advances in neuroscience have increased our ability to understand the effects of trauma on children and young people. While neuroscience has much to offer to this understanding, Munro and Musholt (2014) draw our attention to the concern that this is done so in isolation from the social sciences.

In the same time span as advances in neuroscience and its presence informing the trauma field, the attention to children’s human rights is expanding internationally with the establishment of more than 200 human rights institutions in over 70 countries.

A predominant feature of the human rights agenda for children and young people is a recognition of their evolving autonomy and a need for them to fully participate in all areas of decision making that affect them.

This presentation will therefore explore the application of a human rights framework in programs that work with children and young people who have experienced trauma. It will invite participants to discuss the human rights framework presented, reflect on their practice and develop practice principles for working in partnerships with children and young people in their care.

Presenter: Mary Jo McVeigh, CEO of Cara House and CaraCare Child protection and trauma expert and human rights advocate
Mary Jo McVeigh is the founder and CEO of Cara House and CaraCare. Mary Jo is acknowledged in her field as an expert in child protection, trauma therapy, clinical supervision, management training, leadership coaching, facilitation, and professional self-care with over 25 years working with both the public and private sectors. Cara House and CaraCare support vulnerable children, young people and their families through trauma-specific counseling and human rights practices.

Mary Jo completed her Honours degree in social science in 1983 and worked in her community of North Belfast before returning to university and completing a Master’s Degree in Social Work in 1986. Mary Jo is currently undertaking a Ph.D. in Social Work at Sydney University.

Mary Jo is a trained trauma therapist and an accredited mental health social worker with a passion for inspiring people to optimize their full potential. She is particularly skilled at working with professionals to bring about growth, notably in the areas of leadership, effectiveness, and communication. Mary Jo draws on her vast knowledge and experience in trauma and protection to lift and inspire her audiences.

As a passionate writer, Mary Jo has authored Without Question, The Language of the Mindful Leader and Audacious Love. She has also published three innovative resources for working therapeutically with children and young people. The most beloved one, Wrapped in Angels, has received praise nationally and internationally. Mary Joy enjoys writing as a relaxation tool which inspires her to write poetry, books and journal articles.
The VOICE of Experience
Our youth and family advocates bring the voice of lived experience to the ACRC boardroom, how can we live these values in our individual programs and support the voices in your communities?

Managing the Dynamics of Difference
Cultural proficiency is more than a buzz word, it’s an active move toward valuing and adapting to the elements that make people unique. Join the conversation to learn more!

Motivated to STAY
Workforce retention is a challenge faced by so many programs, so what is our role in motivating staff to stay? What short and long term strategies can we implement to support, and ultimately retain, our team?

Families First…Really
The buzz words of Families First can be reflected in our advances in true family engagement. Discuss innovative ways to engage families in the short and long term successes of young people in our programs.

When Crisis comes Knocking
Sometimes despite our best efforts to keep children and staff safe, bad things happen. How can we best prepare ourselves and our organizations should we need to handle crises from within?

Meditation on Accreditation
Much thought and consideration goes into the accreditation process, including choosing the best accrediting body for your organization. Hear the successes and challenges from those who have recently been through this process.

Educated, Empowered, & Elevated
Does this describe your direct care staff? Let’s discuss strategies to provide cutting edge training, empowering staff to success, and elevating direct care staff to become the professional rock stars we need working with young people.

Making it Last
Dive into our role as providers toward promoting and securing permanency for children and families. How can we look beyond daily treatment to their future stability?

ACEs in Action
Our emerging knowledge about adverse childhood experience is transforming the field, so let’s keep moving the ball forward by putting what we know into what we do. How are you using ACEs in your treatment planning?

Data EmPOWERment
Discussion will focus on using data for program development and research. Effective use of data empowers organizations to effectively achieve their mission and strategic goals, and improve the outcomes of the youth they serve.

Diamonds in the Rough
Developing a strengths based approach in our programming is indeed finding those gems inside every child served. How can we focus our efforts on embracing and developing the positive attributes we’ve uncovered?
How is Brain Function Related to Emotional and Behavioral Problems?
This presentation introduces neurobehavioral research that is exploring the relationship between brain function and emotional and behavior problems in youth. It is part theoretical and provides initial findings from experimental research that is oriented for staff and clinicians. Presenters: Patrick Tyler, Ph.D., LIMHP, LPC, Research Clinician for the Center for Neurobehavioral Research; James Blair, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Neurobehavioral Research, Boys Town

Respectful Alliances: Positive Peer Culture (PPC)
Trauma, resilience, and neuroscience research indicate that positive youth cultures require staff teams who address needs for attachment, achievement, autonomy, and altruism. This workshop highlights principles of Positive Peer Culture which is listed by the CEBC as an evidence-based practice. Presenter: Larry K. Brendtro, Ph.D., Reclaiming Youth at Risk

More Than a Deep Breath: How Increasing Our Own Self-Regulation Skills Can Magnify the impact of Trauma-informed Care
This presentation provides an introduction to EQ2, a “bottom-up” approach that aims to empower staff with a broad range of self- and co-regulation skills to work effectively in an emotion coaching role with trauma-impacted youth. Explore how the EQ2 approach helps agencies build more trauma-informed environments. Presenter: Bethany Casarjian, Ph.D., Clinical Director, Lionheart Program

Restraint and Seclusion: A Provider’s Journey
In 2004 our behavioral healthcare organization serving individuals with complex disabilities launched an initiative to minimize the use of restraints and seclusions. In 2017 they were reduced by 98% - without compromising client or employee safety – and worker’s compensation costs declined dramatically. Presenters: Kim Sanders, COO, Grafton; President, Ukeru Systems & Scott Zeiter, COO, Grafton

Getting to the Bull’s-Eye: Pre-Post Family Functioning Changes of Adolescents in Residential Treatment
In light of criticism regarding residential treatment and the negative impact it has on family functioning, one agency explored residential youth perceptions of family functioning (via FACES-III Assessment). We investigated best practices enhanced connection and built resilience. The results of this will be discussed. Presenters: Kenneth M. Coll, Ph.D., LCPC, MAC, Professor of Counseling, University of Nevada, Reno College of Education; Stacey Scholl, MAE, LPC, Clinical Director & Nicole Hauser, MS, LCSW, Executive Director, Cathedral Home for Children

“Relationships matter: the currency for systemic change is trust, and trust comes through forming healthy working relationships. People, not programs, change people.”
- Bruce D. Perry
The Implementation of Trauma Informed Therapeutic Residential Care in a 160-year-old Scottish Residential Service
This workshop will look at how social enterprise and diversification has transformed one of Scotland’s oldest childcare charities (1840’s) and lead to the implementation of trauma-informed therapeutic residential care. We’ll contrast the Scottish and USA contexts to promote cross fertilization of ideas. There’ll even be a bit of Scottish cuisine!
Presenters: Jim Crawford, Executive Director & Dan Johnson, Clinical Director; Kibble Education and Care Centre

Vicarious Resilience
Finding and keeping great staff is a constant challenge. With vicarious trauma, burnout and low pay, why are some of us still here? A study of senior youth workers reveals what has kept them in their critical roles for decades.
Presenter: Leslie Chaplin, Ph.D., LICSW, Director of Operations, Northwood Children’s Services

Talking Sex: Taboo Says Who
Talking about sex isn’t always easy—especially when it’s with youth. Knowing the facts will support you in feeling confident about having an open dialogue, but what about the learning environment? Learn tips for creating a learner-focused environment for youth and participate in sexual health experiential activities
Presenters: Maddison Glenn, BA, Trainer and Consultant & Chelsea Hewitt, MA, Trainer and Consultant; The University of Oklahoma, National Resource Center for Youth Services

Gender Diversity: Promoting Inclusion and Best Practices for Transgender Youth in Residential Care
This workshop provides an overview of best practice guidelines for working with transgender/gender diverse youth in care while exploring barriers that residential agencies face with licensors and other state mandates. Attention will be paid to assessing and improving agency policies and procedures to infuse trans-affirming practices.
Presenter: Ashley Warhol, Psy.D., Director of Clinical Services, Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health – MA & RI

All You Gotta Keep is Strong: Expressive Therapy, Community & Resiliency
Opportunities for self-expression within the safety of a supportive community are among the most powerful avenues to healing from ACEs. We’ll focus on the clinical implications of music performance, community, traditions and rituals within a trauma treatment model and the use of an annual “Coffeehouse” tradition to promote resiliency and competency
Presenters: Shanna Meyer, LMHC, MT-BC, Program Director & Heidi Crampton, MA, MT-BC, Residential Clinician & Expressive Therapies Coordinator; Pelham Academy (JRI)

The Collaboration Journey: Partnering for Long Term Success
Collaborative partners Annie E Casey Foundation, Casey Family Programs and Plummer Youth Promise are engaged in a strategic effort with the State of Louisiana to increase system capacity in strengthening and building family relationships, advancing permanency progress and increasing permanent family outcomes for older youth currently receiving residential intervention.
Presenters: This workshop will be co-facilitated by the collaborating leaders and detail the primary strategies and approaches being used.
Understanding Clinical Staff Turnover and Strategies for Increasing Staff Retention by Developing a Resilient Workforce

Staff turnover is a problem that negatively impacts youth, staff morale, and agency resources. This presentation will provide information that will help to understand the factors that contribute to clinical staff turnover and potential interventions to maintain this valuable workforce.

Presenter: Kristi Edmonds, LPC, Clinical Director, Third Way Center, Doctoral Candidate, Walden University

Transformation of Behavioral Management to Healing Environments in the Treatment Milieu

Firsthand scenarios will be utilized to develop understandings of behaviors that appear as symptoms but are serving as a survival mechanism. Neurobiology and ACES will be presented. Develop an understanding of regulation as skill development, and the impact that dysregulation may have in the milieu.

Design and Implementation of the Families First Act: Lessons learned from California's Continuum of Care Reforms

California’s foster care community has undertaken assertive Foster Care reform efforts. Providers have been asked to provide intensive behavioral services in ways that assure long term success. This coalition will provide an overview of California’s shared journey toward more family centered, community based, and collaborative services.

Presenters: Debra Manners, LCSW, President and CEO, Hathaway- Sycamores Child and Family Services; Robert Byrd, Psy.D., Mental Health Clinical District Chief, County of Los Angeles-Department of Mental Health; Richard Knecht, M.S. Principal, Integrated Human Services Group, LLC

Primium non nocere: Deprescribing of Psychotropic Medications in Residential Care

This engaging workshop will offer clinical presentations and research data that shows medication reduction can be safely, effectively and deliberately conducted in the setting of therapeutic residential care. Specific strategies will operationalize ACRC’s eleventh position paper, ‘Redefining Residential: Towards Rational Use of Psychotropic Medication’.

Presenters: Christopher Bellonci, M.D., DFAACAP, Vice President of Policy and Practice, Chief Medical Officer, Judge Baker Children’s Center; Jonathan Huefner, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Boys Town & Ian McCracken, B.Med., FRANZCP, Certified Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Allambi Care

Innovative Data Utilization Strategies for Residential Programs

Successful residential programs utilize performance data to improve services for youth, but many programs struggle to integrate performance data into operations. In this session, presenters share examples of exercises used to increase buy-in for using data in daily program decision-making.

Presenters: Michael Valenti, Ph.D., Senior Research Coordinator & April Wall-Parker, M.S., Research Coordinator; Pressley Ridge
ACEs Scores Reveal Both Trauma and Resilience in Therapeutic Residential Care

In Therapeutic Residential Care, adversity and resilience are powerful themes in the work with young people. The Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE’s) scores reveal levels of trauma exposure in childhood but unexpected were the revelations of resilience in ACE’s scores.

Presenters: David A. Crenshaw, Ph.D. ABPP & Courtney E. Rovere, LMSW, Director of Community based Services; Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie

Scoring Tool for Assessing Residential Treatment (START) – The Development, Measurement and Implementation of Critical Success Factors to Strengthen Residential Treatment for Children, Youth and Families

We’ll present the early quality improvement impacts in Ontario of our innovative standardized assessment tool (START). The START was developed based on critical success factors identified in Kinark’s 2016 position paper to strengthen residential treatment.

Presenters: Larry Shaw, Director of Operational Support, Program Services; Laurel L. Johnson, Ph.D., C.Psych., Clinical Director - Community Mental Health, Chief of Psychology & Alex Elkader, Ph.D., Director, Research and Outcome Measurement, Kinark Child and Family Services

Sticks and Stones: Is Your Language Engaging Families Receiving Residential Care?

This interactive presentation demonstrates how the shift to family centered language matters deeply, impacts greatly and changes the trajectory for families, providers, and overall treatment planning. Learn the positive implications of family-driven language and embrace how language ultimately supports youth returning home as quickly as possible.

Presenters: Kristi Glenn, Co-Founder & Dahyana Schlosser, Co-Founder; Pinnacle Partnerships

Residential and Wraparound Integration

This workshop will explore the full integration of wraparound into an intensive residential treatment program, including but not limited to integration of the wraparound principles, staff, and overall culture. The results have been overwhelmingly positive with 80% of youth transitioning to a community setting.

Presenter: David Baker Ed.D., CEO, Sacramento Children’s Home

Shining a Light: Youth in Residential Treatment with History of Sexual Exploitation

Providers of residential treatment (RT) increasingly are aware of youths’ histories of sexual exploitation (CSEC). This presentation shares findings from a survey of ACRC membership about perceived incidence of CSEC in RT youth, and explores treatment modalities currently provided.

Presenters: Elizabeth Schnur, Ph.D., CEO, ESS Consulting; Jenny Muirhead, M.A, CEO, Data Synthesis, LLC; Camela M. Hughes, Ph.D., Program Assessment & Effectiveness Research Specialist, LaSalle School; John Huefner, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Boys Town

Your Night is FREE!

Check out historic hot spots such as Jackson Square, stop into amazing restaurants or just walk around to take in all the culture this vibrant city has to offer.... You’ve earned it!
Change is a constant in life, and nothing gives us immunity from it. In this talk, Charles explores some of the obstacles faced as a child and into adulthood while highlighting the critical elements of success in overcoming them. Given that resilience isn’t a binary, on/off or have-it-or-not resource, the talk will also provide practical principles that we all can use to grow our own resilience and thrive beyond what happened to us.

Presenter: Charles Hunt is a Resilience Expert, Educator, and motivational speaker. Adept at leveraging transparency to inspire and get results, this former HR and Supply Chain leader left the corporate world to fulfill his vision of building unbreakable spirits and cultivating resiliency for those who, like him, have The Audacity to Succeed. He helps students, young professionals, business and thought leaders build resilience while harnessing our most important resource in resilience...our minds. Charles’ TEDx Talk “What Trauma Taught Me About Resilience” has attracted international acclaim. Armed with undergraduate and graduate business degrees, and experience from the life-issued “School of Hard Knocks”, Charles is uniquely gifted and equipped to inspire, motivate, teach, and explain how clients can execute their own “From...To...” story.
In addition to known risks such as exposure to poverty, peer victimization, and homelessness due to family rejection, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth have poorer outcomes in our various systems of care. These risks can be due to negative attitudes about the youth’s stated or affirmed sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or they can even arise due to external perceptions of youth. This places youth who do not conform to societal expectation at risk irrespective of their sexual orientation or gender identity. On top of this, they are at risk for re-victimization and varying degrees of LGBTQ acceptance, competence, and support among case workers and therapists, foster parents, residential treatment centers, schools, and other entities responsible for their care. Many professionals lack the appropriate knowledge or skills and may even harbor negative bias towards these youth. This keynote will look at the state of knowledge about LGBTQ youth and their needs and challenges, international attempts at defining best practices and standards of care, and state level efforts to improve system of care outcomes for LGBTQ youth. Perspectives drawn from LGBTQ advocacy, provider leadership, foster families, and governmental leadership will be examined and synthesized. Opportunities for improvement will be discussed, with an emphasis both on how such improvement can better the lives and outcomes of LGBTQ youth, and how they can improve the experiences of all youth and families.

Presenter: Dr. Mira Krishnan is a board-certified neuropsychologist and consultant. She is a Board Advisor to the Association of Children’s Residential Centers and serves in a leadership role in the Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, the American Psychological Association Division offering field leadership in LGBTQ issues. She has consulted to and presented at schools and providers nationwide on embracing LGBTQ youth and employees, and she was a co-author of ACRC’s 2015 position paper on serving LGBTQ youth.

Mira will be joined by local advocates as we learn about the challenges and successes in Louisiana and New Orleans.

Stay in touch with exciting announcements about our time together in New Orleans by liking us on Facebook and following us on Instagram: @togetherthevoice #togetherthevoice #ACRC #ACRCinNewOrleans
Who’s Helping the Helpers: Maintaining a Trauma Informed and Supportive Environment for Staff
We’ll discuss a staff survey about expectations staff arrived with and how they compared with reality, their ability to self-care, and how the agency can reduce burnout. Hear about the disconnect between perception of working in residential and reality, and the kinds of barriers we may run into when trying to make programmatic change.
Presenters: Dina McManus, LCSW-R, Director of Clinical Services & Camela Hughes, Ph.D., Program Assessment & Effectiveness Research Specialist; LaSalle School

The Other 23 Hours at 50: Looking Backward to See Ahead
The Other 23 Hours: Child Care Work with Emotionally Disturbed Children in a Therapeutic Milieu celebrates 50 years in print. We offer reflections of the book’s significance over time, including implications for future practice development and research. Hear from two of the original authors and three seasoned veterans who bring diverse research and practice experiences.

“It’s Just Weed, it’s a Plant!”: Treating Teens in Residential Treatment with Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorders
The presentation will explore treatment for adolescents in a residential setting with substance use and co-occurring disorders. It will include topics related to the impact and development of substance use, using evidence-based treatment, and translating success back to the community.
Presenters: Angela C. Leek, MA, LPC & Courtney Pennington, MS, LPC; OhioGuidestone

Accreditation Demystified
This workshop will provide an overview of the site visit experience with CARF, the Council on Accreditation and The Joint Commission. The session will demystify the site visit and help organizations gain understanding of how best to prepare.
Presenters: Darrell Woodliff, Associate Director of Volunteer Engagement, Council on Accreditation; Leslie Ellis-Lang, Managing Director of Child and Youth Services, CARF International, Yvonne Rockwood, MBA, MHA, CPHQ, Associate Director, The Joint Commission
Moderator: Jennifer Flowers, Founder & CEO, Accreditation Guru, Inc.

The Florida Group Care Quality Standards Assessment: Updates From a Statewide Initiative to Promote Quality Residential Care
This workshop will focus on the Florida Quality Standards Initiative, summarizing results from the implementation and statewide pilots and efforts to identify outcome measures to be used as part of the validation of the Florida Group Care Quality Standards Assessment.
Presenters: Shamra Boel-Studt, Ph.D., MSW, Assistant Professor, Florida State University College of Social Work & Jonathan Huefner, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Boys Town

REGISTER NOW: Early bird rate ends March 29, 2019
Mind, Body and Trauma: Evaluating Physical Interventions With Children In Residential Care
The presentation evaluates the methodology and effectiveness of implementing massage and yoga as forms of physical therapy with children with a history of complex trauma in a therapeutic residential care environment.
Presenters: Ryan Dempsey, Regional Manager & Hugo Madrid, Managing Director, Impact Youth Services

Narrowing the Divide Between Us and Them: Examining the Role of Race and Privilege in the Care and Treatment of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth and Their Families.
This workshop is a thought provoking exploration on the meaning of race and privilege in the care and treatment of commercially sexually exploited youth and their families. Through activities and discussion this workshop aims to raise awareness of personal privilege and the importance to examine it in the support of the families and clients we serve.
Presenters: Dana Wyss, Ph.D., LMFT, ATR, Director of Training, Star View Adolescent Center & Nicole Klasey, Psy.D., Consultant

Helping Young Adults with Mental Health and Cognitive Challenges Navigate Emerging Adulthood
Through a youth driven lens, participants will learn about the psychological testing and support track as part of a developmental housing model for transitional age youth; highlighting the developmental factors in scaffolding interventions to assist youth in gaining mastery of independent living skills.
Presenters: Anna K. Guerin, Psy.D., Clinical Program Manager, Transitional Youth Services; Raquel Montes, MSW, Stepping Stones Program Supervisor & Josh Lepore, Psy.D., Director of Clinical Services; Casa Pacifica Center for Children and Families

Breaking the Binary: A Comprehensive Approach to Treatment for Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Youth
Explore a myriad of areas where treatment programs can improve services offered in support of transgender and gender non-conforming youth. Learners will hear about various approaches to improving quality of care/access and treatment for LGBTQ youth and how to create an LGBTQ positive environment in a program.
Presenters: Charity Chaffee, MsED, LMHC, Clinical Director, You, Inc. & Allyson Montana, BA, Program Director, The Home for Little Wanderers

1 - 2:30 pm ACRC Annual Awards Luncheon
ACRC invites you to attend our annual awards luncheon, where we will honor excellence and commitment in residential treatment leadership, direct care work, youth advocacy and community service. This inspiring event is hailed as the highlight of the week time and time again.

Visit www.togetherthevoice.org for conference updates and to register.
Take the Guesswork Out of a TIC Wellness Training for Staff
Learn how to integrate wellness into staff meetings by using the Trauma Informed Care Wellness Guide. Teach staff to recognize the widespread impact of trauma, integrate knowledge of trauma in treatment and promote healing. Find new and innovative methods to support staff wellness and help employees build trauma informed care into their daily routine.
Presenters: Stacey Roth, LCSW, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; Andrew Catalano, MSRS, Research and Evaluation Coordinator; Hillsides

Let’s Not Throw the Baby Out With the Bath Water
Understanding the impact of personal histories of staff, family dynamics of residents and the genesis of the program itself greatly enhances the training and supervision of residential treatment staff at all levels. Explore why this information is essential, obstacles to gathering it and some remedies.
Presenter: Frederic Krell, Ph.D., Clinical and Forensic Psychologist, Psychological Consulting Services

Implementation Stages of an Evidence-Based Model
Many agencies are looking to making a transition to a culture changing and evidence-based treatment model. While each agency’s journey is unique and personal, this workshop looks at three common phases through the eyes of three agencies who are currently in each of those phases.
Presenters: William Martin, Executive Director, Waterford Country School; Martha Holden, Senior Extension Associate, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research & the Director of the Residential Child Care Project, Cornell University; Kate Myers, Chief Treatment Officer, Brandon School and Residential Treatment Center & Matt Dillworth, Vice President of Training and Operations, Thompson

Effective Clinical Supervision in Adolescent Therapeutic Residential Care: An Outcome Study
Sound clinical supervision in therapeutic residential care agencies (TRCs) is needed to increase the overall effectiveness of clinical work. This presentation describes the results of an outcome study that evaluated a research-based clinical supervision approach.
Presenters: Kenneth M. Coll, Ph.D., MAC, LCPC-P, Professor, Counseling and Educational Psychology, University of Nevada, Reno; Stacey Sholl, M.S., LPC, Clinical Director; Nicole Hauser, MSW, LCSW, Executive Director, Cathedral Home for Children

The Long and Winding Road of Organizational Transformation
Implementing trauma-informed practice is a journey not a destination, requiring cultural evolution throughout the organization. Learn of one agency’s challenges and successes using science and evidence to inform organizational and clinical transformation at the leadership, administrative, and direct service levels.
Presenters: Alex Afuonye, MA, Senior Director of Residential Programs, Wayfinder Family Services; Robert E. Lieberman, M.A., LPC, President, Lieberman Group, Inc.
Autism and Sexuality
Among all the issues related to Autism Spectrum Disorders, one subject is consistently overlooked: sexuality. Addressing it may be awkward, but ignoring it is neither helpful nor possible. Attendees will learn critical tips for teaching and intervening with sexual education.
Presenter: Jared Stewart, M.Ed., Program Director, ScenicView Academy

Applications of Trauma-Informed Care to Deaf Culture
In comparison to other cultures, the deaf community experiences significantly higher rates of both trauma and language deprivation. This interactive presentation focuses on trauma-informed modalities that have been adapted at Walden School, a deaf residential program, to meet both the needs and strengths of this population, outlining specific applications that not only provide best care but also target linguistic accessibility and cultural competence.
Presenters: Kasey Pendexter, LMFT, LMHC, Director of Clinical Services & Dru Balsley, LMHC, Senior Clinician; Walden School - The Learning Center for the Deaf

The Importance of Relational Interaction Within Residential Treatment and the Impact This Approach Has on Restraints
This presentation explores the importance of relational interaction within residential treatment, and the impact this shift has on successful evening programming. The move from behavioral modification to a relational approach creates an opportunity for youth care workers and students to build well balanced relationships while also reducing the number of restraints.
Presenters: Cole Sewall, CYC-P, Residential Director & Ashley Osmialowksi, CYC-P, BA, Residential Manager; Cherry Gulch

Families First Prevention Services Act: Deep Dive
Now that the dust is settling after the passing of FFPSA, let’s discuss the details of the prevention opportunities and the qualifications for residential interventions, including QRTPs. Hear how individual states are responding to the bill and what the short and long-term impact looks like in the field of child welfare.
Presenter: Lisette Burton, J.D., Vice President, National Advocacy & Public Policy, Boys Town and ACRC Public Policy Chair

4:30-5 pm  ∗ ACRC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Please join us for ACRC’s Annual Membership Meeting. You will hear committee updates, ballot results, and our plans for 2019 and beyond. Everyone is welcome, and this is a great opportunity for members and non-members alike to learn more about YOUR ACRC.

Visit www.togetherthevoice.org for conference updates and to register.
Let us feed your SOUL at the Voodoo Garden

Thursday, April 25 • 5:30-7:30pm • $25/person

Experience true New Orleans soul at the hidden Voodoo Garden, located 2 blocks from our hotel at the groovy House of Blues. Leave the stresses of life behind for one evening while enjoying local music and delicious bites under warm southern skies.
Dr. Brené Brown reminds us that change most often comes from ordinary acts of courage, and not monumental events. Margaret Mead is quoted as saying to never believe a small group of dedicated people cannot change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has. Once we understand Trauma Informed Care, once we get excited about the ways in which it changes the lens through which we understand so many youth’s behaviors with whom we work, once we are “all in”, we then often pause and think, “but what am I actually supposed to be doing each day, this seems so big!”. This plenary will focus us on the why behind our work each day and illustrate concrete skills that promote resilience and thriving in youth. Via the work of Dr. Brené Brown, we’ll discuss the vulnerability and courage we must call upon as we walk into our residential arenas each day and bravely change the way in which we and our systems engage with youth, families and each other as we Rise Strong!

**Ordinary Acts of Courage Create Resilience in Youth and Communities**

**Presenter:** Dr. Allison Jackson, CEO, *Integration Solutions, Inc.*

Allison Jackson, Ph.D., is Chief Executive Officer of Integration Solutions, Inc., where she provides trauma and resilience-informed care consultation to healthcare and service organizations who serve ‘at-promise’ children, families, and adults impacted by emotional trauma. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Certified Sex Offender Practitioner in the State of Virginia, a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in the District of Columbia, and a Certified Leadership Development Facilitator for Dr. Brené Brown’s Daring Way™ curriculums.

Dr. Jackson has worked with Behavioral Health, Education, Child Welfare, and Criminal Justice systems for over 20 years and has provided outpatient therapeutic services for military service families. In 2018, she spent time in Guatemala where she taught more than 160 parents and professionals how to enhance their trauma-informed practices to meet the needs of youth they serve. Her TEDx-RVA Talk, “A Call to Connection: Making Childhood Trauma Personal” has received over 100,000 views worldwide.

She is a single mother of three and dedicated to creating resilience in her own life, her children’s lives and in the lives of all children globally. Dr. Jackson received her Doctorate, Master’s, and Bachelor’s degrees in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Jackson grew up in Richmond Virginia and through her lived experience and expertise has been elevated to the international spotlight as a sought-after speaker, presenter, and expert in trauma-informed care.”
How does a small association do BIG things?

YOU!

Join a committee. Be the Voice.

Program • Research • Membership • Public Policy
Youth & Family Voice

Committees meet in person at 7:30 am, Friday morning.

acrc

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NOT A MEMBER OF ACRC YET?
What A Great Time To Change That!

All new agency members will receive one complimentary conference registration for our 2019 annual conference, along with these amazing member benefits throughout the year:

✦ Complimentary webinars for all agency member staff.
  * NASW CEUs will be offered for most webinars and they are complimentary for our members
✦ Subscription to ACRC’s professional Journal, *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*
✦ Discounted conference attendance for all agency members
✦ Ability to serve on ACRC’s many committees, including public policy, program, and research
✦ Complimentary job postings on our website
✦ Connection with over 150 fellow agencies through discussion groups, email blasts, regional meetings and much more

For more information, contact Sara O’Neil, Membership Services Coordinator at soneil@togetherthevoice.org or 414-359-6548.
Sponsoring
☐ $10,000 **The Big Easy** includes 10 MAIN conference registrations, optional exhibit booth, and full page ad
☐ $7,500 **Crescent City** includes 7 conference registrations, optional exhibit booth, and full page ad
☐ $5,000 **French Quarter** includes 5 conference registrations and a half page ad
☐ $3,000 **Mighty Mississippi** includes 3 conference registrations and recognition at the event
☐ $1,500 **Jackson Square** includes 1 conference registration and recognition at the event

**Exhibit Booth** (Includes one 6-foot table and participation in Exhibitor Bingo)
☐ $1,000 for non-profit, 501c3 organizations. Includes 1 main conference registration.
☐ $1,250 for all other exhibitors. Includes 1 main conference registration.
☐ $250 fee for a second exhibitor’s food expenses. Does not include conference registration.
☐ $800 Literature Inclusion in Registration Packet

* Exhibitors are limited to one booth. Any cancellations made within 60 days of the conference will result in a $200 charge.

**Additional Final Program Advertising** (Not included with exhibit booth)
☐ $800 Full-Page Ad ☐ $500 Half-Page Ad

**Supporting ACRC is supporting the field, supporting young people, supporting the Voice.**
REGISTRATION FEES

ACRC MEMBERS (E $615, R $715)
$615  Main conference (also includes Welcome Reception, Issues Lunch & Awards Luncheon)
$225 Add Pre-Conference with Stuart Ablon & Bruce Perry
$65 Add Pre-Conference Raising our Advocacy Megaphone
$325 I want to attend ONLY the one day Pre-Conference with Stuart Ablon & Bruce Perry

NON-MEMBERS (E $765, R $865)
$765  Main conference (also includes Welcome Reception, Issues Lunch & Awards Luncheon)
$275 Add Pre-Conference with Stuart Ablon & Bruce Perry
$85 Add Pre-Conference Raising our Advocacy Megaphone
$375 I want to attend ONLY the one day Pre-Conference with Stuart Ablon & Bruce Perry

SOCIAL EVENT  House of Blues Voodoo Garden
Conference Attendees $25 (NOT REFUNDABLE)
Additional Guest $25 (NOT REFUNDABLE)

PRESIDENT’S WELCOME  (Included in conference registration)
Additional Guest: $35

AWARDS LUNCHEON  (Included in conference registration)
Additional Guest: $45

CEUS OFFERED $40
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
NY Certificate
Attendance Certificate

Registrations received after the early bird cut-off of March 29, 2019 will incur the $100 fee increase, indicated after the “R.” Please register early!

If you have trouble registering online, please contact us at 414-359-6548 or aprange@togetherthevoice.org

All cancellation requests must be submitted in writing and are subject to a $50 processing fee. For cancellations received after April 8, 2019 fees will not be refunded.
Astor Crowne Plaza
New Orleans
French Quarter
739 Canal Street @ Bourbon Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

The Astor Crowne Plaza is located on Bourbon and Canal, allowing you to access all parts of this great city! Spend time in the French Quarter exploring some of the many attractions by walking, jumping on the streetcar or by taking a carriage ride. Be sure to grab a beignet, visit historic Jackson Square and spend time listening to the many live performances this city has to offer.

ACRC conference attendees are offered a room rate of $149/night and our reservation cut-off date is April 1, 2019. Our room block has sold out quickly in the past several years. Please plan ahead! Rooms can be reserved at: 1-800-972-2791 or online at book.passkey.com/e/49685770 please refer to ACRC Annual Conference – April 2019 when booking by phone.

Visit togetherthevoice.org/annualmeeting/2019 for info all of your 2019 conference needs.

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Providing a powerful voice for residential interventions through relationships, leadership, advocacy, and the promotion of innovative treatment and best practices.