

Catalyzing Conversation: Moving our Shared Vision Forward

From the early planning stages of this cross-national event, the common threads of quality, innovation, best practice, and the voice of lived experience emerged. These qualities support the mission and vision of ACRC and are evident in the presentations you will engage with this week. Please join us for this roundtable discussion where we encourage you to share your impressions and takeaways from our time together. This conversation will act as not only the wrap up of this event but the springboard to those on the path ahead.

Presenter:



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Lisette Burton, J.D.

Lisette Burton is the Chief Policy and Practice Advisor for the international Association of Children's Residential Centers (ACRC). ACRC envisions children and families thriving at home and in their communities with uncompromised access to high-quality behavioral and mental health services when needed. In addition to leading ACRC's advocacy efforts, Lisette builds coalitions and strategic partnerships and she utilizes her experience and skills to provide expert-level guidance, policy analysis, practice support, facilitation, strategic planning, and consultation services to ACRC's membership and non-member systems, agencies, and associations.

Previously, Lisette was the Vice President of National Advocacy and Public Policy for the national nonprofit Boys Town, where she advocated for effective federal and state policies related to child welfare, juvenile justice, education, and health. Lisette's foundational experiences are in direct care, and she joined Boys Town in 2007 as a Family Teacher caring for girls in foster care and boys committed to the juvenile justice system in a family-style, community-based, therapeutic residential program. Prior to Boys Town, Lisette worked in North Carolina as a program director at a therapeutic residential wilderness program and later as a community organizer focused on quality early childhood education and parental involvement in schools.

Lisette serves on several national policy committees, coalitions, and working groups and she is a mayoral appointee to the Washington, DC Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. Lisette regularly facilitates conversations and shares policy and practice insight and expertise with local, state, and national audiences.

Lisette received her B.S. in Science from the Eberly College of Science at Penn State University. She earned her J.D. at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law, where she was a Leadership Scholar and Schweitzer Fellow, a pro bono law clerk representing children with special needs, a student attorney at the National Association of the Deaf, and a legislative intern with the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.