Youth Voice, Relationships, and Residential Culture: Making or Breaking Programs Into Trauma Informed and Restraint Free Environments One Step at a Time This workshop will focus on how to create a group home culture that promotes youth voice, relationship building, and a strong employment culture. We will emphasize how to make cultural shifts with language and documentation, physical environment and spaces, personnel responsibilities and roles, activities and recreation, budgetary considerations, responses to behavioral incidents, training of staff, and development of workforce culture. **Presenters:** Melissa LaRocque, *Director of Operations*, and Renee Touhey-Childress, MSW, LICSW, *Executive Director*, Dover Children's Home

Creating Competent Care Practices in Working with LGBTQ+ Youth We will explore how providers can create affirming and supportive spaces for youth to safely explore their gender identities and sexual orientations, with specific focus toward caring for mental health and medical needs of young people. We'll discuss methods of establishing affirming practices that enhance competency of providers and caregivers. **Presenters:** Rebecca Smith, BA, *Program Director*, and Michelle Berton, MA, LMHC, *Clinical Coordinator*, The Home for Little Wanderers

Workshop Session B
Wednesday, May 17
3:30-5pm

A Theory of Change for Residential Interventions: Enhancing and Evaluating Quality Attendees at the past two ACRC conferences have helped shape a comprehensive Theory of Change for residential interventions. This workshop will review the final product and plans for dissemination. Attendees will discuss how research applications and implementation in program and policy arenas can enhance quality. **Presenters:** Bob Lieberman, MA, LPC, *Founder & CEO*, Lieberman Group, Inc.; Mark Nickell, *Executive Director*, BBI; and Nancy Craig, *Director*, FTNYS

The Impact of Historical Oppression on Modern Day Human Trafficking Given the disproportionate number of youth and young adults of color who are exploited in the commercial sex industry and labor market, it's essential to look back at history. This workshop will highlight the historical oppression of African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and Asian Americans and how this provides the backdrop for current day human trafficking. Without this knowledge, its difficult to provide culturally relevant services to trafficking survivors and their families. **Presenters:** Nicole Klasey, Psy.D., *Consultant*, Klasey Consulting LLC, and Gina Peck-Sobolewski, LMFT, *VP*, Sycamores

Strategies to Create a Diverse Equitable and Inclusive Workforce The presentation provides practical strategies that can be implemented in any organization to engage and educate the workforce in DEI principles necessary to creating a safe and inclusive work environment. These strategies include Employee Videos, Supervisor Practice Guides, Historical Trauma Training, Employee Committees, and a Board Equity Statement. **Presenters:** Andrew Catalano, MSRS, *Human Resources Manager*, Samira Vishra, LCSW, *Director of Professional Development*, and Myles Williams, *Youth Advocate*, Hillsides

How Higher Program Quality Impacts Employee Retention and Youth Elopement Residential Quality Standards are practices that have been shown to positively impact youth outcomes. Higher quality has also been found to be related to lower staff turnover and lower rates of youth elopement. Presentation will use data from 98 residential programs in Florida and discuss practical applications. **Presenters**: Jonathan Huefner, Ph.D., *Research Scientist*, Boys Town; and Savarra Howry, MSW, *Research Assistant*, Institute for Quality Children's Services, College of Social Work, Florida State University

Session B *continued*

How Accreditation Enhances Outcomes, Equity and Service Experience of Children, Youth and Families This panel discussion will focus on how national accreditation helps raise the bar of quality in the areas of positive outcomes, equity and reducing disparity of care for children, youth and families. **Presenters:** Jennifer Flowers, MBA, BA, *Founder and CEO*, Accreditation Guru; Joe Perrow, MBA, BA, *Network Growth Manager*, Social Current; Leslie Ellis-Lang, LMFT, *Managing Director, Child and Youth Services*, CARF International; and Sonja Schierling, *Association Dir of Behavioral Health Care and Human Services*, The Joint Commission

How Financial Empowerment for Youth Closes the Equity Gap The presentation will explore the impact of applied collaborative efforts to increase the financial health of youth who have experienced historical barriers accessing financial opportunities. The Economic Awareness Council (EAC) has been providing statewide financial empowerment for all Illinois youth aging out of care showing promising results extending beyond the program participation. The EAC has shared their experience benefiting Wisconsin youth. **Presenters**: Donelle Hauser, LMSW, *President and CEO*, Lad Lake; Tracy Frizzell, MS, *Executive Director*, Economic Awareness Council; and Constance Alberts, MA, *Director of Bank On Milwaukee*, Urban Economic Development Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

Safety First: Protecting Vulnerable Populations from Sexual Abuse in Residential Settings There is very little research on the prevalence of institutional sexual abuse in the United States, despite growing recognition of the risk. We will review research related to perpetrators, victimology, and environmental factors that can contribute to or reduce the risk of sexual abuse of youth in residential settings. **Presenters:** Yolanda Graham, M.D., *Chief Medical / Clinical Officer* and Kelsey Lawson JD, *Chief Safety and Risk Officer*, Devereux Behavioral Health

Purpose, Power, and Privilege: A Panel of Successful Leaders Discuss How to Succeed in Spite of Marginalization A diverse panel of outstanding leaders in our field discuss the sacrifices and opportunities encountered during their careers. Participants in this session will learn how to navigate discrimination while climbing the ladder of success, how to lead with personal integrity, and how to turn a challenge into a winning move. **Presenter:** Dustin Tibbitts, LMFT, *Division CEO*, Embark Behavioral Health, Panelists TBD

Session B *continued*

The Building Resilience Through Residential Communities Initiative: Trauma Informed Care in Action We will explore the key elements and outcomes of the Building Resilience through Residential Communities initiative, a National Child Traumatic Stress Network dissemination project of innovative trauma-informed approaches for residential treatment, including implementation of Building Communities of Care (BCC; Forrest et al., 2018). **Presenters**: Hilary Hogdon, PhD, *Research Director*, Corey Meurer, BA, BCC, *Director of Operations*, and Lia Martin, PhD, *Association Director of Quality Management*, JRI

Understanding the Underlying Neuroscience of Real Time Healing in Therapeutic Communities The powerful benefits of high-quality therapeutic community settings are well documented. This presentation will explore evolving understandings of neurobiological development and resulting behaviors in the social contexts of treatment settings. Learn how a community impacts our young people's brains and minds and how to harness healing growth in real time. **Presenter:** Pete Myers, Psy.D., *Director of Group and Therapeutic Community Services*, Yellowbrick