



New York State Children's Alliance **LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

ONE-DAY / VIRTUAL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020

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WELCOMING:

Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, CSEC & Victim Advocates, Child Protective/Child Welfare Personnel, Probation Officers, Medical Providers, Mental Health Professionals, School Personnel, Community Outreach & Education Staff, and Others Working with Children

Conference Cost: \$75 per person



REGISTER BY: September 30th

[CLICK HERE](#)

QUESTIONS: email jbolton@nyschildrensalliance.org

Virtual Conference Schedule

8:30-10:00AM	Welcome, Announcements & Keynote: Françoise Mathieu 15-minute break
10:15-11:30AM	Workshop Choices: 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D
11:30-12:30PM	LUNCH BREAK
12:30-1:45PM	Workshop Choices: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D 15-minute break
2:00-3:15PM	Workshop Choices: 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D 15-minute break
3:30-4:30PM	Closing Presentation: Françoise Mathieu

Closing remarks and drawing for registered Child Advocacy Centers

KEYNOTE - Françoise Mathieu: 8:45am - 10:00am



M. Ed., RP,
CCC-Compassion
Fatigue Specialist

The Edge of Compassion - Staying Well While Working in High Stress, Trauma-Exposed Environments

Description:

What is the sweet spot between caring too much and not caring at all?

How can we maintain this fine balance at work, home and in our communities? Repeated exposure to traumatic images and chronically difficult stories can strain our sense of empathy for others: We can become hardened and desensitized to suffering – or conversely, we can feel easily swallowed up by pain and suffering. This erosion can be further magnified by limited resources, chronic exposure and “red tape.” Professionals working in high-stress and trauma-exposed environments can learn how to shield themselves and their teams while remaining able to experience compassion for those who turn to them for support and resources. This “sweet spot” has been described by some experts as “exquisite empathy”: caring just the right amount. This keynote explores the tools required to develop exquisite empathy and the ability to rapidly return to a healthy baseline while working in challenging, high volume and trauma-exposed work environments.



WORKSHOP SESSION I: 10:15-11:30am

1A

How to Survive Cross Examination for Forensic Interviewers: it's not what you say, it's how you say it

PRESENTER: Lawrence Braunstein

Partner in the law firm of Braunstein & Zuckerman, Esqs. in White Plains, NY, and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Hofstra University Law School

Successful child sexual abuse prosecutions depend in large part on the quality of the forensic interview of the child, and the testimony of the forensic interviewer. This presentation will focus on the various protocols used during the interview process, disclosure as a process or event, forensic linguistics, videotaping of forensic interviews, and how to best present your testimony in the courtroom both on direct examination and cross examination. The goal of the program is to "re-educate" forensic interviewers to understand and consider how what they do in the forensic interview room/CAC will "play out" in the courtroom.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: Law Enforcement, CPS, District Attorney, Forensic Interviewers

1B

This is Not the End: Post-Trial Advocacy

PRESENTER: Jane Straub

Victim Assistance Specialist for Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, a program of Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center.

This is not the end. Once the court makes the decision of Guilty or Not Guilty, the journey of healing for the victim continues. Regardless of the ruling of the court, the victim may experience a wide range of emotions from relief to guilt from calm to fear. Each step in the criminal justice system for the victim may seem exhausting, re-victimizing and never ending. This training will take advocates through the justice system and provide examples of support for victims throughout the process. Victim rights, compensation, impact statements, notification, appeals and parole will be discussed as it relates to the impact on the victim. **SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:** Victim Advocates

1C

CASE STUDY: Presented by the MDT of the Child Advocacy Center of Northern New York

Take an inside look at a challenging child abuse case. Participants will hear from MDT members as to their role and certain challenges they encountered, and how the team worked towards a positive outcome for the child. **SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:** All MDT Members

1D

Clinical Interviewing Strategies for Children & Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Related Developmental Disabilities

PRESENTERS: Gina Cosgrove, Psy.D. & Kelly Brock, MS-Chelsea Place

The presenters will cover the impact of specific developmental disabilities on a child/teen's ability to communicate stressors and/or traumatic events to clinicians. The clinical features of Autism Spectrum Disorders and Social-Emotional Disabilities will be reviewed in the context of how these features can impact clinical effectiveness. Specific strategies that reflect best practices in the field will also be reviewed within the session. **SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:** Mental Health

LUNCH BREAK: 11:30 - 12:30PM



WORKSHOP SESSION 2: 12:30-1:45pm

2A

Enhancing Student Safety During a Pandemic

PRESENTER: Jane Straub

Victim Assistance Specialist for Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, a program of Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center.

"Safe at Home" unfortunately does not describe the circumstances for all children and youth. As we work to navigate this new world of Covid-19, we find that our children may be at heightened risk not of illness, but of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Physical isolation puts limits on with whom our children and youth are connecting to in-person, while opening up their connections to the world on-line. This training will cover the risks to children and adolescents who may be confined at home with someone who abuses them. We will cover strategies to connect with youth as well as providing preventative measures for adults who may be feeling extreme stress and frustration.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: All MDT Members

2B

Intersection of Mental Health Providers and a Multidisciplinary Team: A Complex Domain

PRESENTERS: Christine D. Fazio, LMHC, CCTP & Aisha M. Mabarak, LMHC, CCTP, Safe Horizon CAC

What is the Mental health providers' role in the MDT? How do you share information? This workshop will provide information on how to advocate for clients as mental health clinicians. Included will be how to prepare victims for testimony, understanding the impact of the court process on a victim's recovery and the Mental health providers' role in court testimony.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: Mental Health

2C

Navigating Through a Pandemic: Bringing the Team Back Together

PRESENTER: Anthony DeVincenzo, Training Specialist, Northeast Regional CAC

We all know that multidisciplinary teams as a model works. We also know that multidisciplinary teams take work to operate effectively. Simply saying we are a team does not make it so...and adding a pandemic to the mix? Forget about it! Many leaders were faced with a variety of situations that required a timely response, while others within our organizations were cast into leadership roles. During this interactive workshop participants will explore what we learned from this crisis, how to bring the team back "together," and how these lessons will help us come out the other side better leaders and better organizations. **SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:** CAC Leaders, MDT Facilitators & Supervisors

2D

CASE STUDY: Presented by the Cortland County Child Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team

Disclosure of an alleged young child victim led to an investigation with the bio-dad as the suspect, who denied the allegations and a lie detector test showed inconclusive results. The results are miscommunicated to the MDT and no charges are pressed. Five years later, the same child victim is engaging in inappropriate relationships with older men and the mother finds sexual texts from the bio-dad leading to a new investigation. Learn how the MDT worked this case.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: All MDT Members

15-MINUTE BREAK



WORKSHOP SESSION 3: 2:00-3:15pm

3A

Of Eggplants & Umbrellas: The Legal and Investigative Implications of Emojis

PRESENTER: Robert Peters, *Senior Attorney, Zero Abuse Project*

This workshop, presented by a former prosecutor, discusses investigative uses of emojis, particularly in the context of child exploitation and undercover operations, and the legal context of this growing medium, including current case law and implications for practice. The presentation reviews perpetrator themes and online grooming strategies, with illustrations and chat samples from recent cases.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: Law Enforcement, CPS, District Attorney, Forensic Interviewers

3B

What Bird Are You?

PRESENTER: Jennifer Henry, *Market Trainer and Trainer of the DISC Program*

Find out what behavioral style you are through the DISC model. The DISC behavioral style model first developed by William Moulton Marston in the 1920's. DISC is an acronym that denotes Dominance, Influence, Steadiness, and Conscientiousness – the four basic behavioral traits of healthy people. In this training, the four traits will be characterized as “the birds”. Why use birds? Birds create colorful metaphors which will quickly reveal themselves as being both illuminating and memorable representations of the four styles.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: CAC Leadership

3C

Cultural Humility & Responsiveness

PRESENTER: Rikki Nawotka

Domestic Violence Program Coordinator, International Institute of Buffalo

Having staff & agencies be prepared to respond to a diversity of client's who may walk through the door at any given time is crucial. This training will help equip staff by providing an overview of the diversity of foreign-born individuals that reside in NY State, as well as tools to work effectively with the foreign-born population. The session will also focus on tips to working effectively with an interpreter as well as explore the lens of abuse through culture.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: All MDT Members

3D

Take Care of Yourself: Building Resilience and Compassion Satisfaction

PRESENTER: Tracey Reichert Schimpff

Director of Clinical Services, Marriage and Family Therapy-Syracuse University

Vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue are real work hazards. This workshop will help you recognize your own resilience and compassion satisfaction. You will identify ways you can replenish yourself and feel rejuvenated.

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE: All MDT Members

15-MINUTE BREAK

CLOSING WORKSHOP: 3:30-4:30pm



Beyond Kale and Pedicures: best practice strategies to address burnout, compassion fatigue and secondary trauma

PRESENTER: Françoise Mathieu

All of us know what we are supposed to do in order to remain healthy and well while doing high stress, trauma-exposed work. But why is it that many strategies don't seem to stick? This session will explore key strategies that have been found effective to reduce work-related stress and empathic strain and reduce extraneous trauma exposure. We will present the Balance Map and important tools to create an individualized action and intervention plan, beyond the basics of wellness.



Closing Remarks and Raffle Drawing

On behalf of the New York State Children's Alliance, we'd like to thank the tremendous work of the Child Advocacy Centers in New York who have continued to provide services to children and families during these unprecedented times. Multidisciplinary team members have gone above and beyond during the pandemic to put children on a path to healing, while working in unusual circumstances. NYSCA celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, and in our continued effort to support NYS Child Advocacy Centers, we are pleased to still bring our Leadership Conference to you virtually this year. **Join us in our 10th year celebration!**

CONFERENCE CERTIFICATES

AVAILABLE FOR ALL ATTENDEES:

All those attending the conference will receive a certificate of attendance based on workshops attended after completing a conference evaluation. Certificates of completion will meet ongoing education hours for NCA Standards.

JOIN US IN 2021

SAVE THE DATE for the 2021 NYSCA Leadership Conference:

Tuesday, October 5th and Wednesday, October 6th, 2021 at the Holiday Inn in beautiful Saratoga Springs, NY. We look forward to another amazing conference with all of you.

