




NYSOCA
NEW YORK STATE CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE

YOUR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING EXPERIENCE

New York State Children's Alliance
2023 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



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

OCT. 3RD - OCT. 4TH 2023 • SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

AT-A-GLANCE

DAY ONE: OCT. 3RD

8:00-8:30
Breakfast &
Registration

8:30-8:45
Welcome

8:45-9:45
Keynote

9:45-10:00
Break/Move to Rooms

10:00-11:15
Session 1

11:15-11:30
Break/Move to Rooms

11:30-12:45
Session 2

12:45-1:45
LUNCH

1:45-3:00
Session 3

3:00-3:15
Break/Move to Rooms

3:15-4:30
Session 4

DAY TWO: OCT. 4TH

8:00-8:30
Breakfast

8:30-8:45
Welcome & Awards

8:45-9:45
Plenary

9:45-10:00
Break/Move to Rooms

10:00-11:15
Session 1

11:15-11:30
Break

11:30-12:30
Closing & Raffles

REGISTRATION

The purpose of the Conference is to develop and enhance professional skills in prevention, recognition, assessment, and treatment of all forms of maltreatment.

COST: \$140 per person

REGISTER BY: September 25th / [REGISTER HERE](#) or Scan Code

QUESTIONS? lcleary@nyschildrensalliance.org



CONFERENCE KEYNOTE: 8:45am-9:45am

Conversations with Ken

Ken Nwadike, Jr. has done many things in his life. He founded the Hollywood Half-Marathon to help the homeless after overcoming homelessness himself as a student athlete. He created successful businesses in the midst of a world crashing pandemic. As The Free Hugs Guy, he risked his life on the frontlines of protests across the nation, de-escalating violence in the midst of intense anger. Despite all these seemingly large accomplishments, sometimes the most powerful thing Ken does, is done softly.

Ken is a master of difficult conversations, of bridging divides, and helping the many parts of an organization or team feel connected. As one participant remarked after a conversation with Ken, "Now I know how to talk with my uncle this Thanksgiving!" This is the quiet work of building relationships. Relationships that change hearts and minds. The relationships we all really want. The relationships that remind us that we belong. *In Conversations with Ken*, Ken is a leader's leader, and he leads with kindness, respect and hope.



DAY ONE:

**TUESDAY
OCT. 3**

WORKSHOP SESSION 1: 10:00am-11:15am

1A Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)

PRESENTED BY: Christopher Streno, Vestal Police

1B Speaking with Families of Color About Abuse

PRESENTED BY: Kristina Coleman, Vice President of Child Advocacy and Mental Health Programs, Safe Horizon

1C False Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse, and Issues of Recantation

PRESENTED BY: Lawrence Braunstein, Braunstein & Zuckerman, Esqs.

1D "Take it Down" and Other NCMEC Tools to Prevent Further Victimization

PRESENTED BY: Debar Ortiz-Pardi, Outreach Program Manager, NCMEC

WORKSHOP SESSION 2: 11:30am-12:45pm

2A Criminal Asphyxiation: Beyond the Obvious Child Abuse and Homicide

PRESENTED BY: Andrea Zaferes, Team LGS

2B Building Caregiver Resilience Using the Strengthening Families Protective Framework

PRESENTED BY: Michele Mullen, Training Specialist, Northeast Regional CAC

2C Panel Discussion: Understanding RTLA & YPSB and How They Intersect with CACs

PRESENTED BY: Panel of Youth Serving Professionals and our Partners at OCFS

2D Introduction to EMDR and Trauma Healing in Therapy

PRESENTED BY: Vicki Braunstein, LCSW and Megan Heeder-Megan, LMHC, Saratoga Center for the Family

WORKSHOP SESSION 3: 1:45pm-3:00pm

3A Conducting An Effective Narrative Practice

PRESENTED BY: Kathy Colgan, Forensic Interviewer

3B Prosecutor Case Study: An overview of People v. Erica Bell and Michael Stagles and People v. Anthony Love and Andrea Lipton

PRESENTED BY: Sara VanStrydonck, Assistant District Attorney, Monroe County District Attorney's Office

3C An Introduction to Fund Development

PRESENTED BY: Lori Avery, Chief Development Officer, Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center

3D Preparing for NCA Accreditation: What to Know to Create a Rockstar Application

PRESENTED BY: Alyssa Todd, Accreditation Coordinator, National Children's Alliance (NCA)

WORKSHOP SESSION 4: 3:15pm-4:30pm

4A Non-Verbal: What it Means and Why a Forensic Interview is Still Possible

PRESENTED BY: Dermot Whalen, Modell Consulting Group

4B Child Advocacy Center Case Study

PRESENTED BY: TBD

4C Working with Homeland Security to Combat Human Trafficking

PRESENTED BY: Daria Egan, HSI and Renee Young, HSI

4D Trauma-Informed Supervision: A Practical Approach for CACs

PRESENTED BY: Shelley Hitzel, Executive Director, Child Advocacy Center of Niagara

DAY TWO:
WEDNESDAY
OCT. 4

PLENARY: 8:45am-9:45am

Navigating Difficult Conversations

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Anthony Orsini, Intensive Care Physician

WORKSHOP SESSION 1: 10:00am-11:15pm

1A Compassionate Communication Skills for Child Abuse Professionals

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Anthony Orsini, Intensive Care Physician & Anthony DiVincenzo, Training Specialist, Northeast Regional CAC

1B The Medical Exam: The Process and Why It Is Important to the Child

PRESENTED BY: Nancy Harris, Acting Medical Manager, Regional CAC Program

1C Rapid Assessment: A Multidisciplinary Response to Serious Injury and Fatality Cases

PRESENTED BY: Shelley Hitzel, Executive Director, Child Advocacy Center of Niagara

1D Developing a Communications Plan for Your CAC

PRESENTED BY: Myia Hill, Communications Manager, Northeast Regional CAC & Michele Mullen, Training Specialist, Northeast Regional CAC

CLOSING PRESENTATION/Raffles: 11:30am-12:30pm

"NO EXCUSE: Incorporating Balance Into Your Life"

PRESENTED BY: Jay Rifenburg, President, Rifenburg Training and Development

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

Saratoga Social Hour: Embassy Suites, Tuesday, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Award Presentations: Wednesday, 8:30am-8:45am

Raffle Prizes: Wednesday, following the Closing Presentation, 11:30am-12:30pm

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE: available for all attendees

CONFERENCE CEUs: available for Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, and Psychology

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: 2 options

1) The Inn at Saratoga 231 Broadway. It is directly across from the Holiday Inn. Request the government rate. For reservations click [HERE](#).

2) Hotel Saratoga 3291 South Broadway. Rooms start at \$119. (Government rate in October is \$121.) It's 2.4 miles south of the Holiday Inn. For reservations click [HERE](#).

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:

COST: \$140 per person

REGISTER for the Leadership Conference by Mon., Sept. 25th. Click [HERE](#).



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