



“Trauma Informed: What Does it Mean, Why it is Important for Children; Next Steps for Connecticut.”

Friday January 29, 2016, 10-12:30pm, Legislative Office Building, Rm 2D, Hartford

FORUM AGENDA

- A. Welcome—Ann Smith, co-chair, Children’s Wellbeing Connecticut (formerly, KTP Children’s Committee) and Executive Director, African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities (AFCAMP). 10:00-10:05am
- B. Opening Remarks—Rep. Diana Urban, co-chair of the CT General Assembly Committee on Children; *sponsors of the forum*. 10:05-10:15am
- C. Introduction of forum facilitator Karen Snyder, Rosie D. case Court Monitor, MA (Susan Kelley; NAMI CT Child/Adolescent Policy Manager and staff to CCW). 10:15am
- D. Comments by Karen Snyder and introduction of presenter Justice Resource Institute (JRI); 10:15-10:20am;

Presentation. 10:20-11:20pm.

- *Sean Rose*, M.Ed.; Executive Director, JRI
- *Stacey Forrest*, M.Ed.; Director, Susan Wayne Center of Excellence, JRI

Topics to be covered: What is (and is not) trauma; Who can experience trauma; What can trauma do to development; How does it impact the brain and body; How should trauma be treated; What does trauma informed care look like?

- E. Introduction of Roundtable Panelists (Karen Snyder);

Roundtable Discussion. 11:20-12:15PM

- *Senator Dante Bartolomeo*
- *Representative Diana Urban*
- *Jason Lang*, Ph.D.; Child Health and Development Institute
- *Cecilia Singh*, Lic. Child Psychologist; Yale Medical School (Consultant to Stamford public schools)
- *Kristina Stevens*, LCSW; Administrator, Clinical and Community Consultation and Support Division, Department of Children and Families
- *Christine Montgomery*, Vice President of Clinical and Community Based Services; Clifford Beers Clinic

- *Tasha Hunt*, Deputy Director, Juvenile Probations Services, Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division
- *Peter Tolisano*, Psy. D.; Department of Developmental Services
- *Hector Glynn*, MSW; Village For Families and Children

F. Question and Answer with the audience (Karen Snyder). 12:15-12:30PM

G. Closing Remarks (Susan Kelley) 12:30PM

Special thanks to our sponsor, the General Assembly's *Committee on Children*; Children's Wellbeing CT participants the *Village for Families and Children*, and *Empowering Children and Families*, for their assistance and guidance in putting on the forum; and to the *Office of the Child Advocate* for their support.



Children's Wellbeing Connecticut (interim name)--a new independent children's mental health advocacy and policy coalition--is currently undergoing strategic planning to maximize its effectiveness and impact on the many reform efforts that are changing the landscape of our state's mental health systems. The coalition advocates statewide for smart children's mental health policies across child serving systems such as juvenile justice, education, child welfare, and housing. Participant members include a broad spectrum of children's mental health stakeholders, including child advocacy organizations and advocates, parents and families, young adults, mental health clinicians, school and youth services representatives, legal services organizations, providers, researchers, and academicians. *For additional information, including participation in the coalition, please contact Susan Kelley, skelley@namict.org.*

Forum Materials

Copies of JRI's presentation are available at the Forum and will also be available online following the event at <http://www.namict.org> and <http://www.ct.gov/oca>

Copies of CHDI's September 2015 IMPACT Report, "*Advancing Trauma-Informed Systems for Children* are available at the Forum, and can also be obtained online at <http://www.chdi.org/>

Bios of Forum Participants

State senator Dante Bartolomeo is Co-Chair of both the legislature's Committee on Children and the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, and is a member of the Appropriations and Education committees. During her first session in the General Assembly, Senator Bartolomeo championed Public Act 13-178, which mandates training on trauma-informed interventions and practices for mental health care providers. Senator Bartolomeo has gone on to craft and pass other trauma-related legislation such Public Act 15-232, An Act Concerning Trauma-Informed Practice Training for Teachers, Administrators and Pupil Personnel.

State Representative Diana Urban was first elected to the General Assembly in 2000 and is currently serving her 7th term. She is Co-Chair of the Committee on Children as well as the Results Based Accountability Sub-Committee of the Appropriations Committee. Representative Urban is committed to protecting Connecticut's most vulnerable children, recognizing the role they will play in the future. She has been the legislative champion for addressing the "circle of violence" that recognizes that animal abuse too often is a harbinger of domestic abuse and criminal activity. Representative Urban's legislative agenda reflects these values and she works closely with constituents and advocacy groups to craft legislation to impact these issues.

Karen Snyder has been serving as the Federal Court Monitor for the MA Federal Judge in Springfield for the Rosie D Medicaid Lawsuit remedy since 2007. The remedy requires a statewide transformation of the behavioral health system and services for MassHealth youth that have been determined to have a serious emotional disturbance and their families. From 2000-2007, she served as the Director of Program Operations for the Department of Children and Families in Connecticut, including Child Welfare, Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice. During this time the Behavioral Health Partnership was conceived, developed and implemented. Previously, for seven years she was the Director of Program Operations for the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), including administrative, contracted and DMHAS operated services.

Sean Rose is the Executive Director of the Justice Resource Institute's Connecticut Division, as well as a member of the training faculty at the Trauma Center in Brookline, MA. Sean has more than 18 years of experience in education, treatment, and mental health with families, children and adolescents. He has held various leadership roles in the public and non-profit sectors, and has successfully partnered with state and local government as well as providers to create, assess, and implement trauma informed practices on a variety of levels.

Stacey Forrest is the Director of The Susan Wayne Center of Excellence and the Susan Wayne Center Clinical Day School, in Thompson, CT. In her ten years at JRI, Stacey has assisted with several major programmatic change initiatives, with a special focus on transitioning programs to more trauma-informed practices. As an adjunct training faculty for The Trauma Center at JRI, Stacey provides training to residential programs seeking to adopt trauma-informed treatment models.

Dr. Jason Lang is Director of Dissemination and Implementation at the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) and an Assistant Clinical Professor in Psychiatry at UCONN Health and at the Child Study Center in the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Lang's work focuses on trauma-informed care, implementation science, and dissemination of evidence-based practices, utilizing a collaborative partnership between state agencies, providers, model developers, and other stakeholders to create sustainable system improvements. He has led CHDI's statewide initiatives to promote trauma-informed care across Connecticut's child-serving systems and to disseminate evidence-based practices for children's behavioral health.

Dr. Cecilia Singh is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Clinical Professor in the Yale Child Study Center School of Medicine. She is the Coordinator of IICAPS Training within In-Home Clinical Services. She serves as lead clinical consultant to the Stamford Public Schools through a partnership with Child Health and Development Institute of CT, Inc. (CHDI). Dr. Singh co-authored Stamford Public School's mental health audit in 2014 and is currently assisting the district in implementing recommendations. She has been in the mental health field for over 20 years and has extensive clinical, teaching and supervisory experience. Her current research interests include understanding clinical engagement challenges of the underserved, multi-risk populations and culturally responsive clinical care.

Kristina Stevens currently serves as the DCF Child and Family Administrator for the Clinical and Community Consultation and Support Division, charged with a diverse body of work including, Community Based Clinical and Support Services, Intimate Partner Violence and Substance Use, Supportive Housing, Early Childhood, Child Welfare Initiatives, DCF's role in the Behavioral Health Partnership, transition work from DCF to DMHAS and DDS and the Centralized Medication Consent Unit. After starting her professional career at The Institute of Living, Ms. Stevens began working as a social worker for the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in 1995, holding various positions and developing a passion for supporting the achievement of positive permanent outcomes for children and youth in care. In 2005, Kristina joined Casey Family Services/The Annie E. Casey Foundation, providing agency-based and national consultation and training on program development, child welfare and permanency related issues and later serving as Division Director for one of the eight agency Divisions, and returned to DCF in 2013.

Christine Montgomery, LCSW, is Vice President of Clinical and Community Based Services at the Clifford Beers Clinic in New Haven. She has worked at Clifford Beers for nearly 21 years and has been deeply involved in the Clinic's development of crisis services and community based services. As part of her role, Christine is involved in multiple projects that are aimed at educating clinical and non-clinical community providers about complex trauma and toxic stress, and promoting trauma informed practices to increase resilience. In addition, Christine supervises the staff at the Sandy Hook school in Newtown and has been involved in the crisis and recovery response since December 2014.

Tasha Hunt is Deputy Director of Juvenile Probation Services in the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch and manages the staff and operations of the twelve Juvenile Probation offices across Connecticut. Ms. Hunt has been actively involved in the agency's system reform efforts for the last 19 years at a variety of levels. In her current position, she is at the forefront of the integration of evidence-based practices in field offices, and the agency's current efforts to improve outcomes for juveniles. Additionally, she is also leading an effort to identify the prevalence and service needs of juveniles referred to the Juvenile Court for domestic and family violence. Ms. Hunt serves on committees addressing disproportionate minority contact, interstate compact-related matters, and education and safety of court-involved/confined juveniles.

Hector Glynn, MSW, is Vice President of Programs and serves as a key member of the executive leadership team for The Village for Families & Children. He provides oversight for several program areas including outpatient programs and services, including psychology and psychiatry; in-home therapeutic programs; early childhood learning/school readiness program; home visitation and other parenting support programs; Community Schools, school-based family resource centers, and community-based family centers; family financial empowerment programs; and teen pregnancy prevention programs, including the Village's father initiative.