

The Power of Community



## 16TH NATIONAL CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL CONFERENCE

May 10-12, 2017 | Anchorage, Alaska

### **Citizen participation in child protection COMMON GOALS, MANY PATHS**

[WWW.CANTASD.ORG/CRPCONFERENCE](http://WWW.CANTASD.ORG/CRPCONFERENCE)

**Cuddy Hall  
University of Alaska Anchorage**

**Hosted by**



16<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CRP CONFERENCE  
**AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE**

### Wednesday May 10, 2017

- 9:00 AM Registration and Welcome Reception (light breakfast)
- 11:00 AM Conference Welcome
- Noon Luncheon and Panel Presentation
- 1:30 PM Plenary Session
- 2:45 PM Concurrent Break-out Sessions
- 3:45 PM World Café–Facilitated Conversations
- 5:00 PM Adjourn, and Dinner on your own

### Thursday May 11, 2017

- 7:30 AM Breakfast Reception
- 8:30 AM Welcome by Alaska CRP
- 9:00 AM Conference Keynote Speech, Debra Schilling Wolfe
- 10:00 AM Concurrent Break-out Sessions
- 11:00 AM Plenary Session
- Noon Luncheon and Panel Discussion
- 1:30 PM Plenary Session
- 2:45 PM Concurrent Break-out Sessions
- 3:45 PM World Café–Facilitated Conversations
- 6:00 PM Dinner and Cultural Event

### Friday May 12, 2017

- 7:30 AM Breakfast Reception
- 8:30 AM Welcome by National CRP Advisory Board
- 9:00 AM Plenary Session
- 10:30 AM CRP State Action Planning
- 11:30 AM Closing

**May 10-12, 2017**

Federal law requires all states to establish Citizen Review Panels (CRPs), to help protect children from abuse and neglect. CRPs take public comments on and review policies of agencies responsible for protecting children and recommend policy changes. In 2002, coordinators and volunteers from panels in fifteen states met in Lexington, Kentucky, to discuss the common challenges of carrying out this large, complex mandate. That initial gathering evolved into the National CRP Conference, and this year marks the sixteenth annual conference.

Every year, the National CRP Advisory Panel invites local CRPs to host the conference. So far, the conference has been held in 11 locations in 10 different states, and attended by CRP members, CRP coordinators, and child-protection professionals from more than 25 states. It is the annual preeminent event for CRPs across the nation, and serves as a forum for discussions of best practices and innovative ideas on structuring and enhancing public participation in protecting children.

### **CONFERENCE TRADITIONS**

**Silent Auction:** Please bring a representative artifact or item of interest from your home state or region for a silent auction. Bids are placed on these items during the conference and winners are announced towards the end of the conference. Funds raised through silent auction will be used towards registration scholarships for eligible attendees in future years.

**World Café - facilitated conversations:** These are designed to encourage discussions among panels from across the country on the mechanics of managing a CRP and performing its tasks. Experienced CRP members or coordinators from different states typically lead the conversations. Topics are preassigned, and participants are free to move between conversations.

**Cultural Event:** Alaska is home to many diverse cultures, languages, and customs, each with thousands of years of history and traditions. We are proud of our heritage and take every opportunity to celebrate its richness. Join us for an evening of cultural experience at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Sponsored by Chugach Alaska Corporation.



May 10-12, 2017



**Debra Schilling Wolfe** is the founding executive director of the Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research at the University of Pennsylvania. She oversees a multidisciplinary team of nationally recognized child-welfare experts, who work to improve child-protection policy and practice, as well as carrying out research, advocacy, and education. They also provide consultation, training, and technical help to both the public and non-profit sectors. Ms. Wolfe's work has contributed to legislative reform and establishment of innovative child-welfare programs and agencies. She has brought together experts across disciplines to address some of the most vexing problems in the child-welfare system.

In career spanning over 30 years, Ms. Wolfe has served as a child welfare caseworker and supervisor in Massachusetts, held numerous leadership roles, and directed child-welfare programs and initiatives across the country—including the NY Foundling Hospital's Crisis Nursery, Boston City Hospital's Child Sexual Abuse Team, and Catholic Social Services in Michigan. She was instrumental in developing the nationally recognized Family Builders model of community response to child abuse and neglect.

She was appointed to the recently established Pennsylvania Child Welfare Council, charged with statewide strategic planning, and she chairs the citizens advisory council for the Office of Children and Youth in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, as well as the county's Child Fatality Review Committee.

### **Keynote speaker sponsored by**



May 10-12, 2017

## Citizen Participation in Child Protection: Common Goals, Many Paths

Key note and plenaries address some of the challenges and opportunities in organizing and running a CRP. Breakout sessions are organized into four tracks – structure, process, accountability, and child welfare topics. All plenaries are held in Cuddy Hall. All breakout sessions are held in Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

TRACK	TOPIC AREA	ROOM
A	STRUCTURE OF A CRP	BMH 117
B	PROCESS OF A CRP	BMH 228
C	ACCOUNTABILITY OF A CRP	BMH 235
D	CHILD WELFARE TOPICS	BMH 239

### Wednesday May 10

#### Reception and Breakfast

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Cuddy Hall

Prayer services provided by



May 10-12, 2017

### Welcome and Conference Opening

11:00 AM Cuddy Hall

*Prayer*

*Chancellor Tom Case, University of Alaska Anchorage*

*Dr. Ralph Townsend, Director, Institute of Social and Economic Research, UAA*

*Dr. Blake Jones, Coordinator, National CRP Network,*

*Elaine Stedt, Director Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, Children's Bureau*

*Julie Fliss, Child Welfare Program Specialist, Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, Children's Bureau*

*Dr. Diwakar Vadapalli, Chair, 16th National CRP Conference*

### Luncheon & Panel Discussion: *Why do we need a CRP? Perspectives from the Government* - Facilitated by Charles Wohlforth

Noon Cuddy Hall

*Executive Branch: Director Christy Lawton, Alaska Office of Children Services*

*Legislative Branch: Sen. John Coghill, Alaska Senate*

*Judicial Branch: Judge Vanessa White, Alaska Superior Court*

### Plenary: *Common ground between citizen review and an ombudsman's review: potential for collaboration*

1:30 PM Cuddy Hall

*Linda Lord-Jenkins, Ombudsman, State of Alaska*

### Break: 2:30PM

#### Breakout Sessions

2:45 PM Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

A-1 BMH 117 **The power of community awareness: Events and ideas to engage others in CRP work** –*Maria Turner & Lisa Hunt*

B-1 BMH 228 **Organization at a human services agency with the assistance of the local Citizen Review Panel** – *Melissa Blom & Larry Creamer*

C-1 BMH 235 **Kinship - the answer to the placement crisis in child welfare** –*Amy René*

D-1 BMH 239 **Bikers Against Child Abuse** – *Lionheart*

May 10-12, 2017

**World Café – Facilitated Conversations**

3:45 PM Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

A-2 BMH 117 **Work Plan**

B-2 BMH 228 **Recommendations**

C-2 BMH 235 **CPS Responses**

D-2 BMH 239 **So what? Who else pays attention?**

**Adjourn**

5:00 PM Dinner on your own

**Thursday May 11**

**Breakfast and Networking**

7:30 AM Cuddy Hall

**Greetings and Introduction by Alaska CRP**

8:30 AM Cuddy Hall

**Conference Key Note**

9:00 AM Cuddy Hall

*Debra Schilling Wolfe, MED, Executive Director, Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research, University of Pennsylvania*

**Breakout Sessions**

10:15 AM Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

A-3 BMH 117 **Member perceptions of CRP efficacy: Does structure matter?**  
–Dr. Justin Miller & Dr. Blake Jones

B-3 BMH 228 **Illinois efforts to create unit-based MDTs to investigate child abuse** – Char Rivette, Billie Larkin, & Stephen Budde

C-3 BMH 235 **CRPs as agents of policy change** – Melissa Carter

D-3 BMH 239 **Developmental and behavioral implications of FASD** – Donnie K. Winokur

**Break: 11:00 AM**

May 10-12, 2017

**Plenary: Who reaches out first? Important constituencies for a CRP –**

Facilitated by Kathleen McCoy

11:15 AM Cuddy Hall

*Paul Cornils, Director, Alaska Youth and Family Network*

*Amanda Metivier, Executive Director, Facing Foster Care in Alaska*

*Aileen McInnis, Director, Alaska Center for Resource Families*

**Luncheon Presentation: Value of volunteer time and how to manage it?**

12:15 PM Cuddy Hall

*Laurie Wolf, President and CEO, The Foraker Group*

**Plenary: Transforming Child Welfare Outcomes for Alaska Native Children –The Collaborative Development of a Strategic Plan**

1:45 PM Cuddy Hall

*Casey Groat, Statewide ICWA Coordinator, Alaska Office of Children Services*

*Mary Johnson, Child Protection Program Manager, Tanana Chiefs Conference*

*Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Alaska Federation of Natives*

**Break: 2:30 PM**

**Breakout Sessions**

2:45 PM Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

A-4 BMH 117 **Ohio CRP Redesign** – Sarah Parmenter, Katie Maguire-Jack, Linda Helm, & Leslie McGee

B-4 BMH 228 **From review to action plan: How Delaware has improved the state's child protection system through the review of individual cases** – Rosalie Morales, Tania Culley, & Linda Shannon

C-4 BMH 235 **Effective implementation of CRP: Building the panel, structuring the process, and creating accountability** – Nissa Knutson & Sarah Amundson

D-4 BMH 239 **Cultural competency and reducing disproportionality** – Yvonne Fortier

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May 10-12, 2017

### World Café – Facilitated Conversations

3:45 PM Beatrice McDonald Hall (BMH)

A-5 BMH 117 Evaluate

B-5 BMH 228 Outreach

C-5 BMH 235 Advocacy

D-5 BMH 239 Structure and Enterprise

### Dinner and Cultural Entertainment

6:00 PM Alaska Native Heritage Center (Transportation provided)

## Friday May 12

### Breakfast and Networking

7:30 AM Cuddy Hall

### Greetings and Introduction by National CRP Advisory Board

8:30 AM Cuddy Hall

### Plenary: *Confrontation or Collaboration: How do we build the CRP-CPS relationship?* – Facilitated by Anne Hillman

9:00 AM Cuddy Hall

Travis Erickson, Division Operations Manager, Alaska Office of Children Services

Dr. Diwakar Vadapalli, Chair, Alaska Citizen Review Panel

### Break: 10:00 AM

### CRP State Action Planning for 2017/2018

10:15 AM Cuddy Hall

Dr. Blake Jones, Coordinator, National CRP Network

### Adjourn 11:30AM

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**Action 4 Child Protection**

May 10-12, 2017

**Aileen McInnis, Ed.M.**, is the director of the Alaska Center for Resource Families (ACRF). She oversees the curriculum and delivery of training to a large network of foster parents in Alaska. ACRF also provides support in recruitment and licensing of foster parents in the state. She is also a member of the Resource Family Advisory Board that assists Alaska's child protection agency on challenges facing foster families. Ms. McInnes has worked in the areas of child abuse prevention, parent education, foster parent training, and adoption support for over twenty years.

**Amanda Metivier** is a founding member, and the Executive Director of Facing Foster Care in Alaska (FFCA), an advocacy organization for older foster youth and alumni. She has dedicated her career and personal life to child welfare reform in Alaska. Ms. Metivier is an alumna of Alaska's foster care system and has been a foster parent to teens and young adults for more than a decade. She is also the Youth Education Coordinator at the Child Welfare Academy, a training institution for Alaska's CPS workforce. Amanda holds a Bachelor's and Master's in Social Work from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

**Casey Groat** is a Social Service Program Coordinator with Alaska's Office of Children's Services, and is the office's Statewide ICWA Coordinator. She held various positions within the agency for the last twelve years. Casey grew up in Naknek, AK and received her Bachelor's Degree in Human Services with a minor in American Cultural Studies from Western Washington University. Casey is also a daughter, sister, auntie, wife, and proud mom.

**Christy Lawton** is the Director of Alaska's Office of Children's Services (OCS), and has been with OCS for the past seventeen years in many roles. She spearheaded a landmark Title IV-E Maintenance Agreement between OCS and an Alaska Native tribal organization in 2013. She received the 2015 Betsy Rosenbaum Award from the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators for her leadership. Ms. Lawton received her MSW from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 1997. She is a proud mother of two young children who inspire her in her work every day.

**Diwakar Vadapalli, Ph.D.**, is an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at the Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage. He has been the Chair of the Alaska CRP since 2013, and a member of the National CRP Advisory Panel since 2015. His areas of research are child protection services, citizen participation in child protection, and non-profit management.

**John Coghill** is a Republican member of the Alaska Senate. A third-generation Alaskan, US Air Force veteran, and a man of faith, Sen. Coghill served in jail ministries, worked as a biblical family counselor, and taught adult classes to strengthen families. As a legislator for nearly two decades, he has a long list of

May 10-12, 2017

*accomplishments, and held various positions of influence in both the Alaska House of Representatives and Alaska Senate, including majority leader in both chambers. He sponsored House Bill 53 in 2005, the law that authorizes the Alaska CRP under state statute. Sen. Coghill has been an ardent supporter and follower of Alaska CRP's work.*

**Laurie Wolf, MNPL, CFRE**, is the President and CEO of The Foraker Group, and has been in non-profit section for close to 30 years. Ms. Wolf has been instrumental in creating many of Foraker's services and philosophy. Her work focuses on supporting creative collaborations, providing board and leadership development, and creating a positive culture of philanthropy within organizations. She has served on a variety of boards and worked as a volunteer in arts, environmental and human services organizations. Widely recognized for her outstanding work, Ms. Wolf was named one of Alaska's Top 40 Under 40 in 2005 by the Alaska Journal of Commerce, was recognized as Outstanding Professional in Philanthropy in 2006 by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Alaska chapter, and was inducted into the ATHENA Society in 2016. She has a Master's in Not-for-Profit Leadership and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive.

**Linda Lord-Jenkins** is the Alaska State Ombudsman, and has been with the office since 1989. She was appointed in 2002 by the state legislature, and is serving her third consecutive 5-year term. Ms. Lord-Jenkins is Alaska's longest serving ombudsman investigator with 77 formal investigations and more than 3,700 informal reviews to her credit. She had earlier worked as a reporter and editor for newspapers in Alaska and Florida. Her office is statutorily authorized to investigate whether an agency act was unlawful, unreasonable, unfair, arbitrary, erroneous, or inefficient, and may seek an appropriate remedy. Approximately a third of all complaints received by Alaska's Ombudsman's Office are CPS-related complaints.

**Mary Johnson** is the Child Protection Program Manager at Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC), an Alaska Native regional non-profit service organization in interior Alaska. She held several positions of responsibility within TCC for over twelve years. She is also one of five Tribal co-chairs of the Tribal State Collaboration Group (TSCG). TSCG is a unique community engagement forum to build relationships between Alaska's CPS agency and numerous Alaska Native tribes and tribal organizations, and resolve challenges in providing CPS services. Ms. Johnson's father is from Scammon Bay and mother is from western Montana. She was born and raised in Sitka and is a member of Sitka Tribe of Alaska. She has a Master's in Community Psychology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

**Nicole Borromeo, JD**, is the Executive Vice President and General Counsel at the Alaska Federation of Natives. Prior to joining AFN, she had a long career as a practicing attorney with experience in Alaska and Hawaii. Ms. Borromeo is a strong advocate for compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act, and was instrumental in the passage of HB 200: Adoption of a Child in State Custody during Alaska's last legislative session. She holds a Bachelor's from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Washington School of Law.

**Paul Cornils** is the Executive Director of Alaska Youth and Family Network (AYFN). And has two decades of professional experience in family and youth peer support, education, advocacy and behavioral health. His 17 years of personal experience as a treatment foster parent and adoptive parent, as well as his lived experience with recovery from mental illness and substance use gave him an intimate knowledge of Alaska's family and child-serving systems. He is a member of many workgroups, committees, and boards focused on improving care for youth and families across Alaska and nationally through the peer-delivered services. AYFN employs family and youth support providers who share their lived experiences as users and caregivers (peers) within Alaska's behavioral health and other family-serving systems

**Travis Erickson** is the Division Operations Manager with Alaska's Office of Children's Services (OCS), and has served the agency in a variety of roles since 1995. Currently, he is responsible for day-to-day management and continuity of child protection services provided through the agency's 25 field offices across the state. In addition to his vast experience working for the agency, Mr. Erickson brings deep insights to his work as a former foster youth and a former foster parent in Alaska. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling and an MBA, and taught at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He was instrumental in cultivating a constructive and collaborative relationship between OCS and CRP.

**Vanessa White** is a superior court judge, and was appointed to the Palmer court in November, 2006. She has served as a Deputy Presiding Judge since 2009. Previously, Judge White's law practice focused on family law with a concentration on child custody issues. She has nearly three decades of experience working as an advocate for parents, as a private guardian ad litem, and as a judge working with families in domestic relations, delinquency and Child in Need of Aid (CINA) cases. Judge White is leading the development of a therapeutic court for CINA families.

**Amy René, LCSW**, is the Vice-President of Community Programs at Hillside, Inc., a non-profit community and mental health services organization in Atlanta, GA. She is a veteran social worker, and previously served at Georgia's Division of Family and Children Services as a case manager, supervisor, administrator and state office consultant. She is the co-chair of the Child Protective Services Advisory Council, a CRP.

**Billie Larkin** is the Chapter Director of Illinois' 39 accredited Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) and has championed legislation to strengthen the roles and responsibilities of CACs. She served on the statewide subcommittee on improving the MDT response to child abuse investigations, and is leading the development of pilot projects to implement its recommendations. Ms. Larkin has been a site and grant reviewer for the National Children's Alliance. She serves on two designated CRPs in Illinois.

**Blake L. Jones, Ph.D., LCSW**, is a Lecturer in the College of Social Work at University of Kentucky. He was a past coordinator of Kentucky's Citizen Review Panels, and currently serves as the coordinator for the National CRP Network. He is widely recognized as an expert on CRPs and authored several peer-reviewed articles on CRPs. He provides technical assistance to state CPS agencies and federal Children's Bureau on CRPs. Dr. Jones also has a private practice and works with older youth and adults, and assists law enforcement officers and their families. Dr. Jones received his MSW and Ph.D. from the UK College of Social Work.

**Char Rivette, MSW, LCSW**, is the Executive Director of Chicago Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), and was instrumental in significantly expanding the CAC's services since 2009. She facilitates the Multidisciplinary Leadership Team at the CAC. Ms. Rivette also chairs the Illinois Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force, and led the effort to complete a comprehensive statewide 3-year needs assessment. Her 25 years of professional experience in addressing child abuse and mental health issues include leadership positions at various social service agencies, private foundations, and non-profit organizations.

**Donnie Kanter Winokur** is an internationally known educator, speaker, and author on developmental disabilities, particularly fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and service dogs. She currently focuses on the common ground between the justice system and FAS. She works with Georgia's Children's Justice Act Task Force, one of three CRPs in the state. Ms. Winokur's initial expertise was from parenting her adopted son who experiences FAS and mental illness. She is widely published, and her work is featured in major national publications such as Reader's Digest and the New York Times Magazine. Donnie's memoir, which includes a mention of the CRPs, will be published in August 2017.

**Justin 'Jay' Miller, Ph.D.**, is an Assistant Professor in the College of Social Work at the University of Kentucky. His research and academic interests focus on child welfare, particularly youth in out-of-home care and citizen involvement in child welfare systems. A proud foster care alum, Dr. Miller has been in leadership roles in a wide array of professional and community organizations including the Jefferson County (KY) Citizen Review Panel. Dr. Miller's work is recognized nationally and internationally.

**Katie Maguire-Jack, Ph.D.**, is an Assistant Professor at the Ohio State University College of Social Work. Her research focuses on child maltreatment prevention and neighborhood support for positive parenting practices. She formerly worked for the State of Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, providing oversight for the State child welfare budget; and the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund, evaluating program and policy related to child maltreatment prevention.

**Larry Creamer** is the Co-Chair of the Outagamie County Citizen Review Panel in Wisconsin. He has served Valley Baptist Church in Appleton, Wisconsin as Senior Pastor since 2000. Pastor Creamer helped develop the Death Review Team for Outagamie County, Wisconsin, and currently serves on it. He was also instrumental in leading the Citizen Review Panel to develop the Neighbors Offering a Helping Hand (N.O.A.H.H.) project which provides resources donated by the community to CPS clients.

**Leslie McGee** is a Program Administrator with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in the Bureau of Protection, Child/Adult, and is responsible for supervising the development and implementation of state level policy and programs for child and adult protective services. She has three decades of experience in child protective services and has been in various professional roles..

**Linda Helm, Ph.D.**, is the Program Manager for the University Partnership Child Welfare Training program at the Ohio State University's (OSU) College of Social Work, and is involved in the redesign of Ohio's Citizen Review Panels. Dr. Helm practiced social work in the areas of mental health, sexual abuse, and family therapy and currently teaches in the social work program at OSU. Her research interests are in the evaluation of child maltreatment services and the impact of social work supervision on practitioner quality of practice.

**Linda Shannon, MSW**, is a program manager for Intake and Investigation at Delaware's Division of Family Services. She served in diverse roles for over forty-two years in child welfare. She is widely recognized for her work, and is a recipient of several awards including the Social Worker of the Year in 2005 from the Delaware Chapter of the NASW. She was a Policy Fellow for the Domestic Policy Council in the White House. She earned her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Lionheart** is the founding President of the Great Rivers Chapter of the Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA), a national non-profit charity organization run by volunteer bikers taking on the mission of child abuse prevention. Lionheart is a Child Primary in the organization, the primary contact person for children who need protection from their abusers.

**Lisa Hunt** is a School Social Worker in the Appleton Area School District (AASD) and is involved with Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program to support students (3K-12th grade) and their families experiencing homelessness. She is member and treasurer of the Outagamie County Citizen Review panel in Wisconsin. Ms. Hunt is also an active volunteer with local schools and her church.

**Maria Turner** is an independent consultant, and a member and secretary of the Outagamie County Citizen Review Panel in Wisconsin. For the past 11 years, Ms. Turner has been involved with a variety of nonprofit agencies including as the first Executive Director for CASA of the Fox Cities, Executive Director for Center for Childhood Safety, member of the Brown County Child Death Review Team, and as the Communication & Development Coordinator of Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs.

**Melissa Blom, MSW**, is the Manager of Children Youth and Families Division at Outagamie County Department of Health & Human Services, and has over 28 years of experience working in public child welfare. She served as the county's Child Death Review Coordinator for 5 years and currently organizing the Department's Critical Incident Response Team. Ms. Blom, has trained social workers in child welfare both at the University level and through the Child Welfare Training system.

**Melissa D. Carter** is a Clinical Professor of Law at Emory Law School and Executive Director of the Barton Child Law and Policy Center. She administers the Center, directs the public policy and legislative advocacy clinics, and teaches a child welfare law and policy course. She is a frequent writer and presenter on child welfare topics and has authored numerous state legislative proposals, including recent comprehensive reforms of the state's juvenile code. Dr. Carter is the co-chair of Atlanta's Children's Justice Act Task Force and serves on several state-appointed policy bodies.

**Nissa Knutson** is a Children's Services Supervisor for Family Assessment in Washington County, MN. Previously, she worked in the non-profit sector. Her primary practice was in concurrent planning, on-going case management, and Kinship work. Ms. Knutson works closely with the Washington County Citizen Review Panel. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of WI-La Crosse.

**Rosalie Morales, MS**, is a Family Services Program Support Supervisor at the Office of the Child Advocate for the State of Delaware and is the Administrator of Delaware's Child Protection Accountability Commission (CPAC) with broad functions to evaluate the child protection system. She also serves as the Director of CPAC's Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Panel, with responsibility to review and investigate child abuse and neglect death cases and near-death cases. In addition, Ms. Morales develops and provides training to the child protection system, and also teaches at Wilmington University.

**Sarah Amundson, LICSW**, is the Division Manager for Children's Services in Washington County, MN, and oversees the work of the County's Citizen Review Panel. She has worked with the Division for over 15 years in various capacities in the areas of child protection and adult mental health. Ms. Amundson has a Bachelor of Social Work degree from the College of St. Scholastica and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota.

**Sarah Ann Parmenter, MSW, LSW**, is a Program Manager at the Ohio State University (OSU), and is currently managing an interdisciplinary team to create three new citizen review panels in Ohio. She is also a crisis clinician at Netcare Access in Columbus, OH. Previously, Ms. Parmenter worked as an intake caseworker with Franklin County Children Services in Columbus, OH.

**Stephen Budde, PhD**, is the Executive Vice President of the Juvenile Protective Association (JPA), and teaches clinical research at the University of Chicago. He has conducted and participated in multiple nationally prominent evaluations at JPA. Dr. Budde was the project lead on the creation of the document to improve the MDT response to child abuse investigations in Illinois, presented to the Illinois General Assembly. He has broad range of research interests focusing on CPS services and their management.

**Tania Culley, Esq.**, is Delaware's first Child Advocate, appointed in February, 2000, and the Executive Director of the Child Protection Accountability Commission (CPAC). CPAC is Delaware's designated Citizen Review Panel. Ms. Culley has degrees from the University of Delaware and Widener University School of Law, and is a Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist through the National Association of Counsel for Children.

**Yvonne Fortier, LPC, LISAC**, is Vice President of Diversity for Terros Health. Previously she worked for Native American Connections, as Director of Clinical Services for 11 years. Ms. Fortier is a clinical leader, cultural trainer, teacher, author and mentor/advisor to college/university students. Her community service work, locally, regionally and nationally, has ranged from clinical care standards and practices, to health equity, inclusion and collective impact.



**A-1: The power of community awareness: Events and ideas to engage others in CRP work** – Maria Turner and Lisa Hunt

*CRPs have a lot on their plate. One of their primary functions is to raise public awareness about the child welfare and protection work. How does a group of volunteers with potentially limited experience with public relations and event management do that? The Outagamie County CRP in Wisconsin made strides by innovative volunteer recruitment, introducing a “brand ambassador” for their CRP, and held community events that have proven to be successful in garnering participation and raising awareness.*

**B-1: Organization at a human services agency with the assistance of the local Citizen Review Panel** – Melissa Blom and Pastor Larry Creamer

*Addressing the complex needs of families, especially families who have frequent encounters with the child protective system, cannot be done quickly or in isolation. The Outagamie County (Appleton, Wisconsin) Department of Health and Human Services worked in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, American Public Human Services (APHSA), Casey Family Programs, and the Citizen Review Panel of Outagamie County to strengthen and improve services to families who have complex and chronic needs. Managing the project was a significant challenge for an overwhelmed CPS system. Collaborating with other partners was essential for improved management, but more importantly, opened many doors and possibilities.*

**C-1: Kinship - The answer to the placement crisis in child welfare** – Amy René,

*Child Protective Services Advisory Council, one of Georgia's three CRPs is a critical partner in the multiple efforts to develop and expand the continuum of kinship placement options and services in Georgia. By systematically examining relevant child protection policies and procedures, the panel helped identify resources and options for kinship care. Complementing this, the panel partnered with the state chapter of Family Focused Treatment Association (FFTA) on removing barriers and developing opportunities to promote Kinship Therapeutic Foster Care in Georgia.*

**D-1: CRP's collaboration with Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA) – Lionheart**

*The Great Rivers chapter of the Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA) partnered with the Polk and St. Croix County CRPs in Wisconsin to pursue child abuse prevention, complementing the efforts of the local and state child protective service agencies. This innovative partnership between statutory agencies (CPS and CRP) on the one hand, and a volunteer non-profit charity organization (BACA) on the other increased available volunteer support and inspired communities to do more.*

**A-3: Member perceptions of CRP efficacy: Does structure matter?** – Dr. Justin 'Jay' Miller and Dr. Blake Jones

*Despite the federal mandates for CRPs, the millions of dollars of resources allotted to these panels, and the potential these panels have in improving child welfare systems, little research has examined CRP structures. Divergent planning and implementation processes between states and a lack of evaluation models have indubitably contributed to this dearth in the literature. This exploratory study utilized a national sample of CRP members (N = 200) to examine the impact of membership composition, meeting structure, leadership, decision making processes, and external supports/relationships had on perceived CRP efficacy.*

**B-3: Illinois efforts to create unit-based MDTs to investigate child abuse** – Char Rivette, Billie Larkin, and Stephen Budde,

*High rates of repeat maltreatment of children prompted the Illinois legislature (through Illinois Public Act 099-023) to request the Illinois Children's Justice Task Force, an Illinois CRP, to explore for solutions. In response, the CRP conducted a three-year statewide needs assessment on child abuse and neglect involving 554 participants from diverse disciplines prioritized areas for system improvement, and submitted an extensive report, "The Urgent Need in Illinois for Unit-Based Multidisciplinary Teams to Investigate Child Abuse", with recommendations in implementing a multidisciplinary team approach for the investigation of reports of abuse or neglect of children. This presentation will review the process, the recommendations, creation of statewide pilots, and the progress to date of implementation.*

**C-3: CRPs as agents of policy change** – Prof. Melissa Carter

*CRPs are well-positioned to use their role as external stakeholders to assist the child welfare organization to transform itself, acting as catalysts for change. To be effective in this way, CRP members must be knowledgeable about the cycle of public policy development and skilled at engaging with policy-making processes, at the local, state, and federal levels. Such knowledge and facility allows the CRPs to support a clear vision for improvement, persist in efforts to create meaningful and lasting change, ask tough questions, and lead by example, all through a public participation model. This workshop will introduce participants to the multi-stage cycle of the public policy process, and its disciplined approach to issue development, selection and execution of advocacy strategy, implementation, and evaluation and monitoring. Through discussion and examples, participants will consider the role of CRPs as actors operating outside of government with the potential to institute and sustain reforms that benefit children and families through the formation of strong, collaborative relationships built on trust with the child protection agency.*

**D-3: Developmental and behavioral implications of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: What you should know** – Donnie Kanter Winokur

*Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) affected children may be more vulnerable to victimization than children in the general population. Histories of child abuse and neglect, separation from biological parents or placement instability accompanied by cognitive impairment and mental illness contribute to a “perfect storm” if left without appropriate child welfare supports in place. While the brain damage of FASD is invisible, the impact on the child welfare system is not. CRPs offer several opportunities to address risk factors that contribute to children living with this developmental disability and their staggering involvement with the law. Best practices for building child advocacy within CRPs and their communities can improve outcomes. Collaboration among stakeholders that address the goals of CRPs can mitigate this public health crisis. This workshop promotes a basic understanding of FASD that illustrate the challenges of children who experience FASD, whether diagnosed or misdiagnosed.*

**A-5: Ohio CRP redesign** – Sarah Ann Parmenter, Katie Maguire-Jack, Linda Helm, and Leslie McGee

*In 2015, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services contracted with the Ohio State University (OSU) to develop three Citizen Review Panels in the state. Through research of various models across the country and individual interviews with stakeholders in seven states, the OSU team identified three CRPs, each covering a specific region of the state, and with distinct themes of focus in their work. In addition, we also created training curriculum, recruited CRP members, and designed data sharing protocols. The new panels became operational in March 2016. This presentation includes information about the process undertaken in Ohio and lessons learned.*

**B-5: From review to action plan: How Delaware has improved the state's child protection system through the review of individual cases** – Rosalie Morales, Tania Culley, and Linda Shannon

*Delaware's Child Protection Accountability Commission (CPAC, also serves as the state's CRP) made significant strides in translating its recommendations into actions. Delaware's Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Panel retrospectively reviews cases of child abuse and neglect that resulted in a fatality or a near fatality of the child, and identifies systemic challenges and strengths within the State's child protection system, as well as all agencies and entities (including law enforcement, medical, legal and others) that impact each case. A neutral facilitator then helps the CPAC (CRP), and the state's Child Death Review Commission (CDRC) review all findings and develop recommendations*

*for systems improvement, and an action plan for the CPAC's (CRP's) policy level work for the following year. CPAC's (CRP's) members include high-level leaders of several state agencies with responsibility for child protection, and thus the action plan is owned by each agency through its representative's commitment to the CPAC (CRP). Over the last several years, Delaware's Citizen Review Panel has made a positive impact on its child protection system, well beyond the child protection agency alone, and has developed significant partnerships and credibility across systems to improve outcomes for Delaware's children.*

**C-5: Effective implementation of CRP: Building the panel, structuring the process, and creating accountability** – Nissa Knutson and Sarah Amundson

*In Washington County, MN the philosophy of CRP process is one of collaboration and acceptance. Many factors contribute to this culture, such as - panel diversity, agency-specific training, participation of CRP members in agency's internal workgroups, filling in agency's appeal forms, CRP members following agency's grant dollars, strategies to recruit, engage, and retain CRP membership. Washington County CRP is a strong component of the county's child protection system. While the opportunities and constraints for CRPs may vary across states, these common features can be implemented. This presentation will include ideas and suggestions to adopt to your context.*

**D-5: Cultural competency and reducing disproportionality** – Yvonne Fortier

*An inclusive Citizens Review Panel helps us better understand factors, such as unconscious bias and stigma, which may influence determinations made about child well-being cases. This workshop is an overview of culture, diversity and inclusion, and seeks to engage participants in a cultural collaboration through discussion, activities and self-reflection. The rising diversity of families touched by CPS agencies has compelled human service groups and organizations to seek ways to equip their leadership, workforces, volunteers and advocates, with greater knowledge about cultural sensitivity and inclusion. Cultural competency training, increased self-awareness, and culture/diversity immersion activities are all ways to further individual and group practice of inclusion. A greater awareness of the intersection of culture and the Citizen Review Panels can build collaborative relations, improve communications and change perceptions. Participants have an opportunity to recognize the value of diversity, and open practice of inclusion in their own Panels.*

**A-2: Work Plan** – CRPs are work groups, tasked with a broad set of responsibilities. How does your CRP prioritize its tasks, set timelines, and identify expected results before it begins its work? Do you have a formal work plan? Who participates in preparing it?

**B-2: Recommendations** – CRPs are required to submit an annual report with recommendations for change in the CPS' policies, procedures, and practices. How does your CRP identify recommendations? What policy or data analysis informs your recommendations? Do you assess the feasibility of implementing your recommendations?

**C-2: CPS Responses** – CPS agencies are required to respond to CRP recommendations in writing within six months. Does your CRP have a mechanism to consider CPS responses, or follow up on them at a later time? Do you see the recommendations-response as part of a larger and longer dialogue or an annual cycle?

**D-2: So what? Who else pays attention?** – As they say, it takes a village. CRP-CPS communications cannot be effective if they occur in a vacuum. Who else is paying attention? Does your CRP communicate with appropriate legislative and judicial branches? Are professionals in field aware of your recommendations? How about the public at large?

**A-5: Evaluate** – Federal law mandates the CRPs to “evaluate the extent to which State and local child protection system agencies are effectively discharging their child protection responsibilities in accordance with” their CAPTA plan, child protection standards, and any other criteria. How are panels from various states evaluating their CPS systems?

**B-5: Outreach** – Federal law mandates CRPs to “provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current [CPS] procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its [review] obligations.” How are panels from various states providing for public outreach and comment?

**C-5: Advocacy** – Although statute does not specify, congressional record is clear that CRPs have an advocacy role. Does your CRP advocate? What does it advocate for? How does advocacy fit into the overall scheme of your CRP's activities?

**D-5: Structure and Enterprise** – To fulfill the federal mandate and have meaningful impact on the State and local CPS systems, any CRP should have some basic organizational components. Such components include a committed, available, and qualified group of volunteers; functional set of policies; and staff support. Does your panel have those components in place? How do you manage to do that?

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Alaska Citizen Review Panel is proud to welcome you to Anchorage. For fifteen years, Alaska's CRP has been an active, visible, and productive panel supported by a very engaged child protective services agency, and numerous community partners across the state. Authorized through both federal and state statutes, the panel is widely recognized for its autonomous and strong voice. As intended by Congress, Alaska CRP strives to provide diverse opportunities for citizens through review, outreach, and advocacy activities.

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