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Building Strong Families Together!

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RECENT TRAININGS AND SPEAKING EVENTS

Virtual Trainings and Panels

December 2020-Mission West Virginia -Foster Parent Virtual Training

Trainer: Bridging The Gap: Birth and Foster Families Working Together

November 2020 New Mexico CYFD Train the Trainers -Virtual Training

Trainer: Icebreaker Meetings: A Tool for Building Relationships Between Birth Families and Foster Families

November 2020- 4th Annual Virginia Adoption Conference- Virtual Panel

Moderator: Youth/Young Adult Panel "Engage Youth: Listen and Learn"

November 2020- Barker's 2020 Virtual Annual Adoption & Foster Care Conference

Moderator: Search and Reunion Stories: How Birth and Adoptive Families Can Support Important Connections

September 2020- National Kinship Care Month Webinar Series- Virtual Training

Workshop Presenter: The Importance of Self-Care When Serving as a Kinship Caregiver

September 2020- Maryland Independent Living Coordinator-Virtual Training

Trainer: Strategic Sharing- Telling Your Story Effectively

July 2020 Georgia Division of Family and Children Services YAB-Virtual Facilitation

Facilitator: Youth Advisory Board Focus Group

June 2020-Mission West Virginia -Virtual Training

Trainer: Bridging The Gap: Birth and Foster Families Working Together

June 2020- National Foster Parent Association- Virtual Panel

Panelist: Family to Family Discussion- Bridging The Gap

<https://www.nfpai.org/courses/family-panel>

June 2020- National Foster Parent Association- Coffee With Caregivers- Virtual Webinar

Presenter: National Reunification Month-Celebrating Reunification

<https://www.nfpaonline.org/Coffee> Episode #9

February and April 2020 New Mexico CYFD Placement Summit -Virtual Training

Trainer: Bridging The Gap: Birth and Foster Families Working Together

Keynotes

February 2020 CYFD Placement Summit, Albuquerque, NM

Keynote Speaker: Engaging Foster Parents to Support Bio-Families

November 2019- 5th Annual Post Adoption Conference: Connect, Expect, Reflect: Bringing Adoptive Families Together, Catawba County, NC

Keynote Speaker: Self Care: Put on Your Oxygen Mask

October 2019- Loudoun County Youth Forum, Loudoun County, VA

Keynote Speaker: Building Resiliency

October 2019- MD Resource Parent Conference -Baltimore, Maryland

Keynote Speaker: Effective Teaming: Bridging the Gap to Help Youth in Foster Care

July 2019- New Mexico Independent Living Youth Conference- Taos, NM

Keynote Speaker: "One Team, One Fight, and Victory for All": Effectively Making Changes in Foster Care

May 2019- Wake County 2019 Foster, Kinship & Adoptive Parent Forum Raliegh, NC

Keynote Speaker: Self-Care While Caring for Others

November 2018- Adoption Day Celebration- Richmond, VA

Keynote Speaker: Celebrating Adoptions

August 2018- New Mexico Independent Living Youth Conference- Taos, NM

Keynote Speaker: Reaching Your Rainbow After the Storm

June 2018- Loudoun County DFS-Fatherhood Initiative Loudoun County, VA

Keynote Speaker: The Importance of Engaging Fathers

May 2018- Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families 23rd Annual Conference Groton, Connecticut

Keynote Speaker: If We Only Knew..... The life of a youth in foster care

March 2018 – Barker's 24th Annual Adoption & Foster Care Conference, Rockville, MD

Keynote Speaker: Adoption: Navigating the Challenges and Growing Stronger

March 2018- 2018 Peninsula Post Adoption Services Conference, Newport News, VA
Keynote Speaker: "Family Doesn't Only Happen Genetically"

Families Working Together

November 2020 New Mexico CYFD Train the Trainers -Virtual Training

Trainer: Icebreaker Meetings: A Tool for Building Relationships Between Birth Families and Foster Families

June 2020-Mission West Virginia -Virtual Training

Trainer: Bridging The Gap: Birth and Foster Families Working Together

June 2020- National Foster Parent Association- Virtual Panel

Panelist: Family to Family Discussion- Bridging The Gap

<https://www.nfpati.org/courses/family-panel>

February 2020- New Mexico CYFD Placement Summit -Virtual Training

Trainer: Bridging The Gap: Birth and Foster Families Working Together

October 2019- MD Resource Parent Conference -Baltimore, Maryland

Panel: Effective Teaming

April- October 2018- Staff Training, Sandoval County, Hobbs, Albuquerque, Espanola, NM

Trainer: "It's All Relatives": The Importance of Family Connections

May 2018 Shenandoah Valley Department of Social Services Verona, VA

Trainer: Bridging the Gap: Families Working Together

September 2017- New Mexico Annual Foster Parent Conference, Santa Fe, NM

Workshop Presenter: "It's All Relatives": The Importance of Family Connections

August 2017- Train the Trainers, Albuquerque, NM

Trainer: The Importance of Relationships for Youth in Foster Care "It's All Relatives": The Importance of Family Connections

April 2017 Children's Aid Society- Clearfield, PA

Trainer: Bridging the Gap: Families Working Together

Adoption

November 2020- 4th Annual Virginia Adoption Conference- Virtual Panel

Moderator: Youth/Young Adult Panel "Engage Youth: Listen and Learn"

November 2020- Barker's 2020 Virtual Annual Adoption & Foster Care Conference

Moderator: Search and Reunion Stories: How Birth and Adoptive Families Can Support Important Connections

November 2019- C.A.S.E. Strengthening Your Family Webinars Series/3rd Annual Virginia Adoption Conference, Charlottesville VA

Webinar/Workshop Presenter: Unpacking The "No" of Adoption

November 2019- 5th Annual Post Adoption Conference: Connect, Expect, Reflect: Bringing Adoptive Families Together, Catawba County, NC

Workshop Presenter: Why We Search: An Adoptee's Journey

March 2019- The Barker Foundation 25th Annual FC & Adoption Conference Rockville, MD

Workshop Presenter: Navigating the Complexity of Birth Family Relationships

November 2017- Virginia DSS Adoption Conference, Richmond, VA

Workshop Presenter: Why We Search: An Adoptee's Journey

May 2017 Wendy's Wonderful Kids Summit- Columbus, Ohio

Workshop Presenter: Unpacking The "No" of Adoption

March 2017- The Barker Foundation 23rd Annual Foster Care and Adoption Conference Rockville, MD

Workshop Presenter: I Chose Whom I Call Family: The Importance of Birth Family Connections

Recruitment

October- December 2019- Diversity in CASA Recruitment-Multiple site Maryland

Presenter: Targeted Recruitment -Recruiting in the Minority Community

May 2019- GA Statewide Adoption Match Meeting: Partnering for Permanency, Atlanta, GA

Workshop Presenter: Engaging Approaches to Child-Specific Recruitment

February 2019- Georgia DFCS- CPA Partnership Meeting – Macon, GA

Trainer: Recruitment and Retention Planning

November 2018- 2018 Georgia DFCS- Resource Development Retreat- Buford, GA

Trainer: Targeted Recruitment- Recruiting in the African American Community

Kinship Care

September 2020- National Kinship Care Month Webinar Series: Virtual Training

Workshop Presenter: The Importance of Self-Care When Serving as a Kinship Caregiver

September 2019- Georgia Kinship Summit 2019: Stone Mountain, GA
Workshop Presenter: Self-Care Matters: Putting on Your Oxygen Mask

Siblings Connections

April- October 2018- Staff Training, Sandoval County, Hobbs, Albuquerque, Espanola, NM
Trainer: "My Brother's Keeper": The Importance of Sibling Connections

January 2018- Children's Law Institute, Albuquerque, NM
Featured Presenter: "My Brother's Keeper": The Importance of Sibling Connections

September 2017- New Mexico Annual Foster Parent Conference, Santa Fe NM
Workshop Presenter: "My Brother's Keeper": The Importance of Sibling Connections

August 2017- Train the Trainers, Albuquerque, NM
Trainer: The Importance of Relationships for Youth in Foster Care

May 2017 AEA Conference, La Vegas, NV
Trainer: Exploring Life in Limbo- Siblings and Birth Family Connections

Permanency

December 2019- "Teens R 4 Me" Conference: Beyond the Moment, Stone Mountain, GA
Workshop Presenter: The Importance of Connections

May 2018- Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families 23rd Annual Conference, Groton, Connecticut
Facilitator: Life in Limbo- A Role Play About Life in Foster Care

May 2018- Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families 23rd Annual Conference Groton, Connecticut
Presenter: Unpacking the "No" Of Permanency for Older Youth in Foster

January 2018- Children's Law Institute, Albuquerque, NM
Featured Presenter: Unpacking the "No" Of Permanency for Older Youth in Foster Care

May 2017 Adoption Exchange Association Conference, La Vegas, NV
Facilitator: Life in Limbo- A Role Play About Life in Foster Care

Family Engagement

January 2020 Georgia/RYSE Chafee Strategic Planning

Trainer: Developing Effective Partnerships

April 2016 - 8th Annual Community Commitment for Change Conference Family Engagement and Empowerment, Winchester, VA

Trainer: Partnering with The Family

February 2016- Albemarle County DSS, Charlottesville, VA

Trainer: Partnering with Families: Effectively Engaging Relatives

Father Engagement

June 2018 Loudoun County DFS-Fatherhood Initiative Loudoun County, VA

Panel Moderator: The Importance of Engaging Fathers

February 2017 Newport News Department of Human Services, Newport News, VA

Trainer: Effective Father Engagement

September 2016 – Albemarle County DSS, Charlottesville, VA

Trainer: Effective Father Engagement

Youth and Alumni Engagement

July 2020 Georgia Division of Family and Children Services YAB-Virtual Facilitation

Facilitator: Youth Advisory Board Focus Group

September 2020- Maryland Independent Living Coordinator-Virtual Training

Trainer: Strategic Sharing- Telling Your Story Effectively

November 2019-Youth Voices: Engaging Children and Youth in Achieving Permanency, 3rd Annual Virginia Adoption Conference, Charlottesville VA

Panel Organizer: Young Adult Adoption Panel

July 2019 Maryland Department of Human Services State YAB-Columbia, MD

Facilitator: Youth Advisory Board Focus Group

July 2019- New Mexico Independent Living Youth Conference- Taos, NM

Workshop Presenter: Strategic Sharing: Telling Your Story to Effectively Advocate for Change

June 2019- FCN Foundation- Global Ambassador Convening- Windsor MD

Workshop Presenter: Effective Collaborations and Partnerships Development

May 2019- 8th Annual CSA Conference "Resiliency: Achieving the Possible,"- Roanoke, VA

Panel Moderator: Youth Voice: Building Resiliency through Advocacy

May 2019- Elizabeth City State University- Social Work Program Elizabeth City, NC
Workshop Presenter: Advocacy Matters: A Focus on Child Welfare

August 2018 New Mexico, Independent Living Youth Conference- Taos, NM
Workshop Presenter: Strategic Sharing: Telling Your Story to Effectively Advocate for Change

April 2018 – Virginia Beach Department of Social Services, Virginia Beach, VA
Workshop Presenter: Youth Advocacy and Youth Advisory Board- Youth Workshop

March 2018 – Portsmouth Social Services, Portsmouth, VA
Workshop Presenter: Youth Advocacy and Youth Advisory Board- Using Your Voice

Trauma

November 2017- Adore Foster Parent Training- Arlington, VA
Trainer: Overview of ARC Reflection – Helping foster and adoptive parents work with children who have experienced trauma

October 2017-AEC Austin Convening- Austin, Texas
Panelist: Promising New Practices in Trauma-Informed Foster Parent Training

April 2017 CSA 6th Annual Conference- Roanoke, VA
Panel Moderator: ARC Reflections: A Trauma-Informed Training for Foster Parents

July 2016 – The ACEs and Community Resilience Summit, Richmond, VA
Keynote: Practice approaches to permanency and building resilience for youth in foster care

March-May 2016- Fairfax County DFS Foster Parent Training- Fairfax County, VA
Trainer: ARC Reflections: A Trauma-Informed Training for Foster Parents

I. Consulting

- **Currently Capacity Building Center for States -Currently**
 - MD-Resource Parent Recruitment and Retention
 - MD-Strengthening the Youth Advisory Board
 - NM Improving Sibling Connections and Engaging Relatives
 - Racial Equity Workgroup
 - MO- Developing a Parent Advisory Board- 2019
- **Currently- Virginia Department of Social Services-Currently**
 - Youth Advisory Board
 - Reunification Month
 - Normalcy
 - Youth Exit Survey

- **Currently- Consultant Georgia Division of Family & Children Services**
 - Youth Advisory Board
 - Virtual Youth Event Series
- **Currently- Plummer Youth Promise**
 - Expedited Permanency Meetings
- **Currently The Annie E. Casey Foundation**
 - 2018 Extended services for older youth in foster care
 - 2018 Teen Connect Training
 - 2017 Kentucky Kinship Care Practices
- **2018-2019 Wake County Human Services- Wake County, NC**
 - Foster Parents Peer to Peer Support Groups
- **2017-2020- AdoptUSKids**
 - Child Specific Recruitment
- **2015-2016- CFSR Reviewer, JBS International, Inc.**
- **2012-2014 Consultant, National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections**
 - Unpacking The "No" Older Youth Permanency Training

II. Curriculum Development

- Icebreaker Meetings: A Tool for Building Relationships Between Birth Families and Foster Families
- Sibling and Relative Connections
- Normalcy for Youth in Foster Care
- Placement Stability for Youth in Foster Care
- Unpacking the No of Older Youth Permanency
- Bridging the Gap: Families Working Together

III. National Projects

- Reunification Month Planning Committee
- Foster Care Month Planning Committee