



May FY 23 Issue 3

Letter from our President: Lynda Thompson

Greetings everyone! I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank you' for all that you do for our children in care. May is the time when we celebrate National Foster Care Month. It takes a community working together to provide care for the children in our foster care system. We recognize the hard work and dedication that is needed from our advocates, volunteers, foster parents, kinship caregivers and others who work tirelessly to provide support and loving homes for children while they await reunification or their forever home.

Thank you again for all you do!

2023 Summer Education Conference REGISTER NOW TO JOIN IS IN ORLANDO!



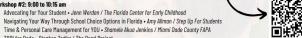
FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023

Workshop #1: 3:00 to 4:30 pm

- Trauma to Choice: Shifting Your Mindset from WHY to WHAT! David Kinigson / Speak Up For Kids and GAL, Palm Beach County
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: Implications on Development, Behavior and Learning Tamra Cojo / The Florida Center for Early Childhood
- Kont Your Average Parent Alisha Hinton / Lisha Lau and Lynda Phanord-Davenport Transitioning from Foster Care to Young Adulthood Selena Garrison / Florida Youth Experiences Study
- Multi-Disciplinary Team Staffing and Placement Transitions Courtney Smith, Valerie Proctor and Vanessa Snoddy / Florida DCF
 Promoting Healing and Understanding in Adoption and Foster Care, Seven Core Issues for Permanency Graham Perkovich / Sunshine Health
- Just Keep Swimming Barb Clark / North American Council on Adoptable Children
- Medical Foster Care Joni Hollis / Children's Medical Services Medical Foster Care Program
- SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

Workshop #2: 9:00 to 10:15 am

Advocating for Your Student • Jenn Werden / The Florida Center for Early Childhood



Register Now

- TBRI for Dads Stephen Zedler / The Peorl Project
- Power of Connection: Creating Authentic Relationships with Parents Olivia Quinn-Harris and Ann Lindsey-Mowery / Embrace Families
- Dependency Courtroom Process and Testimony Jonathan Growick / Children's Legal Service, Florida DCF Dealing with Problematic/Dangerous Behaviors to Keep Everyone Safe Kristal Pollack and Tamra Cajo / The Florida Center for Early Childhood
- Effectively Utilizing the Benefits, Services and Supports of Independent Living Margie Dotson & Yulanda Baldwin / Communities Connected for Kids

Workshop #3: 10:30 to 11:45 am

- Dependency Courtroom Process and Testimony Jonathan Growick / Children's Legal Service, Florida DCF
- Regulation Rescue How to Stay Calm When Your Kids Are Not Terri DeMarco and Jeanee Byrd / The Pearl Project
- Life Atter Foster Care Flourishing Amanda Cruce Florida FAPA CROWNed: Cultivating Resilience, Optimism, Wellness and Normalcy through Hair Care Gloria Fobbs / Centene Corporation/Sunshine Health
- Trauma & Developmental Disabilities Dr. Kristin Hoffman and Chelsea Hernandez / All Star Children's Foundation
- Multi-Disciplinary Team Staffing and Placement Transitions Courtney Smith, Valerie Proctor and Vanesso Snoddy / Florida DCF
 How TBRI and ABA Can Help Caregivers Understand Behavior Dillon Anderson and Jeromy Whyte / Family Initiative
- The Big 3: Lying, Stealing & Raging Barb Clark / North American Council on Adoptable Children

- Workshop #4: 2:30 to 4:00 pm
 A Conversation with Caregivers: Needs and Supports for Caregivers of Transitioning out of Foster Care Hyunji Lee and Amanda Cruce
- Building Relationships between Foster Parents and Bio Parents Bianca Illa and Jennifer Perez / Foster Parents. Citrus FRC
- How To Operate A FAPA With Little Or No Money Shamele Akua Jenkins / Miami Dada County FAPA Equipping Caregivers to Navigate Investigations & Referrals: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly! Jamie Averett / Youth Law Center and Coleen LaCosta
- TBRI for Teens Jeanee Byrd / The Pearl Project
- Reunification 101: A Guide for Foster Parents Christy Fisher and Shelly Rose / Embrace Families-Strong Foundation
- Medical Foster Care Joni Hollis / Children's Medical Services Medical Foster Care Program



27TH ANNUAL ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE / JUNE 9-11, 2023

F.A.S FLORIDA'S FOSTER ALLEGATION SUPPORT TEAM

Support is available to foster, adoptive, and relative caregivers.

1-800-FAST-119 FAST@FloridaFAPA.org

POINTERS FOR **DEALING WITH AN** ALLEGATION



- BE A PARTNER AND INSIST ON HAVING FULL INPUT INTO THE INVESTIGATIONS.
- REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM DCF OR THE CBC IN **EXPLAINING TO CHILDREN WHAT IS HAPPENING** AND WHY.

MAINTAIN YOUR SENSE OF PROFESSIONALISM WHEN COOPERATING WITH THE INVESTIGATION.

NEXGEN JOIN US DURING 2023 FLORIDA FAPA SUMMER



OUR FLORIDA FAPA BOARD

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CBC Advisor: Laurallyn Seger DCF Advisor: Teanna Houston QPI Advisor: Jamie Averett Webmaster: Charles Parker Past President: Amanda Cruce

Legislative Update

The 2023 state legislative session ended on Friday, May 5th. The state has once again funded the \$200/child per month childcare stipend for kids under 5. We know this program has been implemented differently across the state, and we continue to share feedback with legislative staff to make the program better. If you are not receiving a stipend and believe you should be, or only started receiving it recently, please email our lobbyist, Sara Clements, at sclements@mwcllc.com with your county, circuit, and CBC so that we can share that. Look out for a full report

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE!





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