



The purpose of the 2024 Together for Children conference is to provide information and skills that support a multidisciplinary approach to improve prevention, treatment, investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect. Topics presented will address emerging issues, research questions and public policy changes in child welfare and child protection. As a reminder, the materials presented at the Together for Children Conference are for continuing education purposes only. The content and material shared during this event reflect an approach, view, experience, statement or opinion of the presenters or authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Children's Wisconsin or Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin (PCAW). Moreover, the presence of any speaker, author, vendor or participant in the conference does not constitute an endorsement of their organization, views or services. Lastly, the information shared during the event does not create any patient-physician relationship and should not be used as a substitute for professional diagnosis.

2024 Together for Children

April 8 - 10, 2024

The Wilderness Resort

Wisconsin Dells, WI

Monday, April 8: Seminar Day

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Full day seminars focus on one main topic

Tuesday, April 9: Conference Day 1

9 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Welcome & Keynote

11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Breakout sessions

Wednesday, April 10: Conference Day 2

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Keynote Presentation

10:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Conference Fees

Registration Deadline: March 25, 2024

Early Bird Registration: General Registration:

Register by March 8, 2024

Register after March 8, 2024

- 1 Day: \$150.00
- 2 Days: \$249.00
- 3 Days: \$320.00

- 1 Day: \$175.00
- 2 Days: \$299.00
- 3 Days: \$370.00

The registration fee includes light continental breakfast and lunch for each day.

Who should attend?

- Child advocacy center personnel
- Child protective services
- Sexual assault and domestic violence personnel
- Judicial officers, attorneys & guardians ad litem
- Law enforcement officials
- Medical and health professionals, including SANE Nurses and nurse practitioners
- School personnel
- Social workers, therapists, and psychologists
- Foster care workers and parents
- Anyone interested in child abuse & neglect issues and prevention

Conference Attendance

Conference attendees may attend up to:

- 1 full day seminar
- 2 keynote sessions
- 6 breakout sessions



Discounts

Group and Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)

Group and MDT discounts are available when four or more attendees are from the same organization OR multidisciplinary team. (MDT **must** include at least two different disciplines; i.e. social work, legal, law enforcement, medical, etc.). Email [PCAW](#) for more information by March 4, 2024.

Student

Full-time students will receive a reduced fee when they register as a student. Students must email a copy of their current semester schedule to [PCAW](#).

Lodging

The Wilderness Resort, Glacier Canyon Lodge

45 Hillman Road | Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

A block of rooms has been reserved with the following rates:

- \$90 for a single (1 occupant)
- \$119 for a double queen couch glacier canyon lodge room (2-4 occupants)
- \$159 for a 2 bedroom deluxe glacier canyon lodge room (up to 4 occupants)

Contact the hotel directly to book a room before the block expires on Friday, March 15, 2024.

Call 1-800-867-9453 and indicate that you are with Leader #990521 to receive the group discount and to be placed in the group block.

If your group is tax exempt, please remember to bring your tax exemption certificate for check in.

Scholarships

Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)

The Department of Justice, CJA program is providing scholarships for MDT team members to attend the conference. Applications are available on the PCAW website.

Application Deadline: February 26, 2024

General

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, there are a limited number of general scholarships available. Applications are available on the PCAW website.

Application Deadline: February 29, 2024

Email PCAW with questions regarding scholarships.

Cancellation Policy & Refunds

In the event that a registration must be changed, substitutions from the same agency are permitted at no charge. Refund requests must be sent via email to SLeathrum@childrenswi.org by March 29, 2024.

The requests received by this date will be refunded the conference fees less a \$50 administrative fee.

Refund requests received after March 29, 2024 will not be granted.

No refunds will be given in the event inclement weather forces cancellation of all or part of the conference. No-shows will be responsible for the full registration fee.

Sundara Spa

Conference attendees will receive a 15% discount at [Sundara Spa](#) during their stay. Please mention your affiliation with the Together for Children Conference when booking your spa appointment.





Continuing Education

Additional information regarding continuing education hours will be updated as the accreditation organizations approve the conference hours.

Special Accommodations

Children's Hospital and Health System fully intends to comply with the legal requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If any participant is in need of accommodation, please email sleathrum@childrenswi.org.

Conference Agenda

Monday, April 8: Seminar Sessions

<p>8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Registration and light continental breakfast</p>
<p>9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Seminar Sessions</u> <i>Attend the same seminar for both the morning and afternoon sessions.</i></p> <p>Forensic Interviewing in Wisconsin <i>Lynn Cook; Elizabeth Ghilardi</i></p> <p>This seminar is intended to develop a better understanding of the importance of collaborative multidisciplinary team approaches to investigating child physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and exposure to violence. The process of gathering accurate information from children is critical to the success of investigations and prosecutions when there is a concern for child maltreatment. Collaborative investigations minimize error, result in reduced trauma to families, lead to more efficient and less stressful investigations, and improve outcomes in the criminal justice system. After gaining a working knowledge of the resources and training available in Wisconsin, we will discuss the development of the Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines and the basic phases of a forensic interview. This overview will include training around the new national standards introduced in 2023 by the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, and also research that has informed our practice over the last several years. MDT members will learn more about assessing barriers related to gathering information from children and tools and resources to support families and colleagues in overcoming those barriers and challenges.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendees will receive an overview of statewide support provided by the Children's Justice Act and Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin.



2. Participants will learn about the Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines and how to support forensic interviewing as an observer or member of the multi-disciplinary team.
3. Learners will receive an update on the APSAC Guidelines introduced in 2023 and research updates in the field of forensic interviewing.
4. Participants will learn about assessing common barriers that present when gathering investigative information from children and will receive guidance on addressing common challenges.

Empowering Communities: Innovative Strategies for Preventing and Responding to Child Neglect

Luke Waldo; Gabriel McGaughey, MSSW; Meghan Christian; Marc Seidl; Julie Ahnen; Dr. Colleen Janczewski; Christine Mochel; Julie Woodbury; Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin; Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board

Child neglect represents a multifaceted issue, entangled with various systemic and community challenges that lead to children separated from their families into foster care. Factors like poverty, prevailing mental models, and family conditions contribute that have resulted in neglect becoming the most common reason children are in foster care in Wisconsin, accounting for about 70% of all removals. In this seminar day, the Institute for Child and Family Well-Being will explore the multifaceted challenges that overload families and increase the risk of neglect through didactic and interactive activities. Participants will gain insights into the latest data on poverty and neglect, learn from and collaborate with colleagues, and understand how to shift perceptions and strategies.

Objectives:

1. Deepen Understanding of Neglect: Dive into the prevalence and intersectionality of poverty and neglect and the impact on parental executive functioning. Learn about current data trends and the latest research on the topic.
2. Develop Strategies and Responses: Learn about mental models and discover ways to improve collaborative community response to neglect.
3. Empowerment and Action: Discover inspiring success stories from around the state, connect with local partners, and acquire actionable tools and strategies for changing how we respond to overloaded families.

**12:15 p.m. -
1:15 p.m.**

Lunch

**1:15 p.m. -
4:30 p.m.**

Seminar Sessions

Attend the same seminar for both the morning and afternoon sessions.



Tuesday, April 9: Conference Day 1

<p>8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Registration and light continental breakfast</p>
<p>9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Welcome and opening comments <i>Karen Timberlake, Senior Vice President & President, Child Well Being Children's Wisconsin</i></p>
<p>9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p><u>Keynote</u> Helping the Helpers: Combating Burnout and Fostering Resilience in Multidisciplinary Teams <i>Rachel N. Murdock, MS, LPC, LCPC</i></p> <p>Multidisciplinary teams who assist with child abuse investigations have extremely important and demanding positions. The well-being of these professionals directly impacts the quality of care they provide to their communities. This presentation is dedicated to empowering these "helpers" by equipping them with practical strategies to combat burnout and nurture resilience. Participants will learn how to recognize the early warning signs and differentiate burnout from regular stress, explore techniques for fostering resiliency, and discover how organizations can play a pivotal role in combating burnout and promoting resilience.</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting Self-Care Practices: This objective focuses on equipping multidisciplinary team members with self-care strategies that encompass physical, emotional, and psychological well-being. Participants will examine coping skills, healthy lifestyle choices, and techniques for managing stress. Participants will learn how to recognize and prioritize their own needs, fostering a culture of self-awareness and self-compassion. 2. Cultivating Professional Resilience: This objective aims to enhance the psychological resilience of multidisciplinary team members by enabling them to effectively navigate the inherent challenges of their professions. The presentation will address techniques for adapting to adversity, managing high caseloads, and developing effective strategies in juggling demands they face. 3. Preventing and Addressing Burnout: This objective focuses on identifying, preventing, and addressing burnout within multidisciplinary team members. Participants will explore the signs and symptoms of burnout, its underlying causes, and methods for establishing healthy boundaries. Participants will learn practical tools to manage work-related stress, avoid emotional exhaustion, and create sustainable work environments. Strategies for fostering open communication, seeking peer support, and utilizing organizational resources to combat burnout will also be discussed.



<p>10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>Cultivating Resilience: The Importance of Cultural Competency for First Responders and Mental Health <i>Rachel N. Murdock, MS, LPC, LCPC</i></p> <p>This breakout session is designed to address the unique mental health challenges faced by first responders. As public servants, first responders often encounter high-stress situations that can take a toll on their mental health, but often suffer in silence due to a variety of factors. This session aims to provide valuable insights into recognizing, understanding, and addressing the mental health needs of first responders, while emphasizing the critical role that cultural competency plays in selecting a mental health provider. We will explore the impact of first responder culture on mental health perceptions and coping mechanisms, helping participants develop a nuanced understanding of the various factors that influence mental health within the first responder community.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unique Stressors Faced by First Responders: Examine the specific challenges that first responders encounter in their line of duty and the cumulative impact on their mental health. 2. Building Resilience: Explore strategies and tools for enhancing mental and emotional resilience, empowering first responders to navigate the demands of their roles more effectively. 3. Cultural Competency in Mental Health: Delve into the significance of cultural competence in providing mental health support, recognizing that a one-size-fits-all approach is insufficient with this population. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p> <hr/> <p>Reducing Sudden Unexpected Infant Deaths using a Collaborative Approach <i>Karen Nash, MBA; Joanna O'Donnell, GC-C</i></p> <p>In this session, participants will learn what a child death review (CDR) team is and how local teams work collaboratively to prevent sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUIDs) by identifying risk factors and circumstances that led to the incident. Learn how organizations are working together to prevent SUIDs and how safe sleep education can help reduce the incidence.</p>



Objectives:

1. Learn how local child death review teams work with diverse partners to create targeted and actionable prevention recommendations.
2. Understand how conversations with families can help reduce sleep-related deaths.

Beginner

The Young Woman's Initiative

Pastor Mahnie Williams, BA, MS; Kara Nowak, MSW; Julie Keller

Young Women's Initiative: Starting Point

Starting Point is a partnership between the Women's Fund, B.A.B.E.S. Child Abuse Prevention Program and Fox Valley Technical College. It uses the Two-Generation approach, which provides opportunities for vulnerable children and parents together. In addition to single moms, the program expanded to include young women who were not parents in 2018. The innovative program strengthens women and families through empowerment workshops for young, low-income women and offers quality early childhood education for those with children.

**11:00 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.**

Objective:

1. Participants will learn about a unique approach to supporting women, using a two-generation approach, focused on helping women (most of whom are "parenting students") to improve both educational and employment opportunities.

Appropriate for all attendees

Pediatric Strangulation

Sara Haberlein, BA, MSN, APNP; Matthew Torbenson, JD

Pediatric strangulation is a serious and potentially life-threatening form of physical abuse. This session will cover what happens in the body during a strangulation event as well as symptoms and other medical findings that can occur. A review of literature will be presented on recommended protocols in response to pediatric strangulation.

Objectives:

1. Understand the scope of the problem.
2. Gain knowledge on symptoms and medical findings.

Intermediate





<p>12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>A Systems Approach for Improving Collaborative Advocacy Among Child Welfare, Domestic Violence, and Child Support Programs <i>Marianne Rosen; Stacey Cicero</i></p> <p>This workshop will illuminate unintended barriers victims of domestic violence face as they attempt to access systems offering safety and economic security. Participants will learn about the factors that affect family access to safety and economic security, including policy and practice barriers. Finally, audience members will learn about steps the Department of Children and Families is taking to eliminate these barriers, such as the creation of Lived Experience groups, of the Division of Family and Economic Security’s Domestic Violence Task Force, efforts to provide housing and other supports to obtain and maintain housing, collaborating with child welfare systems, and the Department’s “Safe Access for Victims’ Economic Security” demonstration project. DCF will also provide an overview of the collaboration efforts being elevated to support families who are experiencing domestic violence and CPS involvement.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants will have an increased understanding of the barriers impacting a family’s ability to access safety and economic security programs. <p>Intermediate</p> <hr/> <p>Drug Endangered Children: Best Practices for the Medical Evaluation and Testing <i>Hillary Petska, MD, MPH; Jennifer Yates, RN, MSN, FNP-BC</i></p> <p>Partnering with medical providers with special training in child maltreatment can improve the multidisciplinary response to drug endangered children. Participants will be provided with information on best practices for the medical evaluation and drug testing of drug endangered children.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand medical concerns for children living in drug endangered environments. 2. Identify best practices for medical evaluations and testing of these children. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>



	<p>Understanding Crime Victims' Rights and the Collaborative SART and CART Response <i>Ian Henderson; Rebecca L. Sommers, JD</i></p> <p>Additional Information to Follow.</p> <hr style="border-top: 1px dotted #000;"/> <p>1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Overview of Forensic Interviewing in Wisconsin <i>Lynn Cook, Elizabeth Champion</i></p> <p>Across the county, we are facing a crisis in funding for victim services that will significantly impact resources available for child abuse investigations in Wisconsin. This presentation will discuss the resources that are being developed by the Children's Justice Act Program in collaboration with Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin. We will share information about the Statewide Task Force on Children in Need, goals established by the Task Force, and projects in line with these goals.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendees will learn about the Children's Justice Act Program and collaboration with Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin. 2. Participants will become aware of training and resources that are available to members of the multi-disciplinary team to assist in child abuse investigations. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>
<p>3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Break</p>



Breakout Sessions

Negotiating Child Custody with an Abusive Partner: Domestic Violence Survivors' Experience in Family Court

Erin Schubert, PhD

Hear preliminary results from a research study examining domestic violence survivors' experience in family court when negotiating custody & placement of minor child(ren) shared with an abusive partner. This study includes participants who had a child custody & placement case in Milwaukee County in 2021/2022. You will hear about the decisions the courts make in terms of custody & placements, safety considerations that are included in court orders, and how adult survivors and their children are doing now, after the court order for custody & placement has been established. Discuss the implications of what we are learning from survivors who have family court experience for our work and public policy.

Objectives:

1. Learn some brief history and other statewide & national research on domestic violence survivors' experiences in family court.
2. Hear preliminary results from the Milwaukee Family Court Study being conducted with parents who have experienced a family court case in Milwaukee County in 2021 & 2022.
3. Discuss opportunities for positive change in the family court system for domestic violence survivors and their children and how to best support these families.

**3:15 p.m. -
4:45 p.m.**

Appropriate for all attendees

Childhood Begins at Home: If we change the beginning of the story, we change the whole story. How Home Visiting is making a difference.

Terri Enters, MS

This session will focus on learning and then understanding how evidence-based home visiting is key for prevention work in WI. Come discover what is happening with evidence-based home visiting in WI and how you can connect with those programs. Come celebrate success for families!

Objectives:

1. Participants will understand what evidence-based home visiting is and the power of prevention work.
2. Participants will understand how to connect families to the FFHV program.

Appropriate for all attendees



Drug-Endangered Children: A Multidisciplinary Team Collaborative Response

Samantha Wagner, JD; Lauren Krukowski, APSW, MSW; Kristie Sickel, MSW, CSW; Jennifer Yates, APNP, FNP-BC; Zach Jakel

This presentation will focus on the MDT approach to investigating child maltreatment in a drug endangered environment. The presentation will begin with an overview of the Brown County DEC Protocol. The panel will then discuss each discipline and their role in a joint investigation in 2020. Attendees will be able to learn how child protection workers and law enforcement work together at the time of initial contact and how investigations continue with both medical evaluations and forensic interviews. Child Protection and Legal will continue the conversation around safety planning and case management continuing to where the children are today.

Objectives:

1. Understand different risks that children in drug endangered environments may experience.
2. Describe best practice and how to collaborate effectively as an MDT when responding to cases involving children exposed to drugs in their environment, ensuring their overall health and safety.

**3:15 p.m. -
4:45 p.m.**

Appropriate for all attendees

SFTCC - Working to Decrease Family Separations for Reason of Neglect

Leah Cerwin, MSW, LCSW; Luke Waldo, M.S.Ed.

Child neglect is a social justice issue. Neglect, the most common reason for children being separated from their families, (68.5% in 2021, and disproportionately affecting families of color,) is often defined as the “failure of a caregiver to provide essentials like emotional support, safe housing, food, and healthcare.” At the root of many these family challenges are systemic inequities and barriers, often tied to systemic racism, that fail to provide families the opportunity to be resilient.

The SFTCCC community worked over the past year to build a shared understanding and identify priority issues within neglect prevention, which resulted in our four critical pathways. While learning will be ongoing, and new participants will always be welcomed, SFTCCC is building towards identifying, advocating for, and implementing specific policy and system solutions. Our next step is focusing on understanding the current state within the four critical pathways. This means exploring current trends, identifying innovative practices and policies within and outside of the SFTCCC community, and challenging assumptions about the current context and a potential future state.



<p>3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn about the SFTCCC's core principals in becoming a field catalyst in our community, developing critical pathways to unite community organizations in reducing family separations due to neglect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn from and elevate insights from other maltreatment prevention efforts. • Center equity to confront racial disparities and disproportionality in our systems. • Elevate voices of people with lived experience in each phase of the initiative. • Adapt our approach based on what we learn and the input from our community. • Apply the best available evidence from research and practice. • Collaborate on solutions and program design and implementation efforts focused on maltreatment prevention efforts. • Connect regional and national groups and individuals focused on reforming maltreatment prevention efforts. 2. Explore the Critical Pathways and local networks/initiatives that may lead to reducing family separations for reasons of neglect. <p>Intermediate</p>
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Wednesday, April 10: Conference Day 2

<p>8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.</p>	<p>Registration and light continental breakfast</p>
<p>8:50 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Day 2 Welcome and Keynote Introduction <i>Bridget Clementi, Vice President, Community Health Children's Wisconsin</i></p>
<p>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><u>Keynote</u> Preventing Child Maltreatment Through Policy <i>Bart Klika, PhD, MSW</i></p> <p>All children and families deserve to live a purposeful and happy life with hope for the future. Social policies have the potential to create the conditions and contexts for children and families to thrive. In this presentation, Dr. Klika will discuss ways in which policies are being implemented as a strategy for child abuse and neglect prevention. In particular, the presentation will focus on concrete and economic support policies (e.g., childcare subsidies, paid family leave), child sexual abuse prevention policies, and state policies banning corporal punishment in public schools.</p>



<p>9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Objective: 1. Participants will be able to describe 2 policy strategies that have been shown to prevent child abuse and neglect.</p>
<p>10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.</p>	<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>You Can Do It; We Can Help! Promoting Positive Messages to Families through Public Awareness <i>Rebecca Mather, MS; Lamia Kosovic, PhD</i></p> <p>Media portrayals of families often put parents in a negative light. The Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board has created public awareness campaigns designed to promote a positive view of parents and families, while bolstering family strength building. Find out how four campaigns, “Five for Families”, “Embrace the Power of Dads”, “Room to Grow” and “Catch Your Kids Doing Good” provide positive messages for families in unique ways. Learn how you can use these campaign materials to enhance your own work.</p> <p>Objectives: 1. Participants will become aware of the importance of positive social messaging about families. 2. Participants will learn about four public awareness campaigns that provide this type of messaging. 3. Participants will learn how they can use these campaign materials to support their own work.</p> <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p> <hr/> <p>Plays Well with Others: Strengthening Collaboration between Home Visiting and Child Welfare <i>Johanna Barkei, MSW, APSW; Renée Spielbauer, MSW, APSW</i></p> <p>The Family First Prevention and Services Act and its emphasis on evidence-based practice has created an urgency for home visitation programs and child protective services to understand each other’s roles and work more effectively together. However, questions remain: Can a preventative and statutory entity work together? Who will be responsible for what? What if the sides don't agree because of their different focuses? Can we play well with others?</p>



This workshop will explore the historic challenges that home visitors and CPS professionals have faced as they seek to serve families in the community and identify opportunities to improve collaboration between programs. Come with an open mind and plan to leave with a plan of action on how to serve your families more effectively.

Objectives:

1. Explore the historic challenges that Home Visitors and CPS professionals have faced as they seek to serve families in the community.
2. Identify opportunities to improve the collaboration between programs and how needs of families can be better met through this collaboration.

Appropriate for all attendees

Legal Update

Rebecca L. Sommers, JD; Sarah Burgundy, JD

Assistant Attorneys General Sarah Burgundy and Rebecca Sommers will guide attendees through recent cases and legislative changes relevant to child maltreatment investigation and prosecution.

Objectives:

1. Attendees will understand the impact of recent cases on child maltreatment prosecutions.
2. Attendees will be aware of recent legislation and pending legislation that may impact child maltreatment prosecutions.

Appropriate for all attendees

Facilitating the Development of Healthy Cultural Identity for BIPOC Adoptees

Antionette Davis, MSW, APSW

In a 2019 article titled “The Future of Adoption: Beyond Safety to Wellbeing,” Dr. Ellen E. Pinderhughes, (Tufts University) suggests that there are “critical tasks” adoptive parents of racial diverse children must address which includes cultural socialization and preparing for bias. This workshop will explore the challenges faced by Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) adoptees which consists of managing race-based trauma, implicit biases, and microaggressions. This workshop will provide insight, strategies, and helpful tips to adoptive parents of BIPOC children.

**10:15 a.m. -
11:45 a.m.**



<p>10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.</p>	<p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This workshop will share the importance of cultural identity for every child, especially BIPOC children and intentionally for BIPOC children living separate from their birth family. 2. This workshop will identify the adoptive parents' role in the cultural identity development of BIPOC children in their family. 3. Identify intentional strategies that extended family, birth family or BIPOC communities can provide in the cultural identity development of BIPOC children. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>
<p>11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>12:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>Putting Families First: Transformation in Child Welfare by Engaging Lived Experience <i>Bregetta Wilson, MS; Angi Krueger</i></p> <p>Join us to learn how Wisconsin is Putting Families First and investing in Lived Experience! Since 2018, Wisconsin has been working toward transforming the child welfare system to dramatically reduce the number of children in out-of-home care and advancing Lived Experience strategies that will contribute to more awareness, different perspectives and collaborations that can support keeping children with their families. This session will cover the progress made towards this goal, preview ongoing and future efforts, and discuss the essential role lived experience collaboration plays in transforming the child welfare system so children and families in Wisconsin can thrive.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants will understand and be better prepared for practice and policy changes as well as understand how they can support improved outcomes for children and families. 2. Participants will learn strategies on how to incorporate Lived Experience voice within programs and policies Participants will also learn about publications created in collaboration with Lived Experience Experts for families in the child welfare system. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>



Upholding Sexual Abuse Prevention: Understanding, Recognizing, and Responding to Misinformation about Grooming

Laura Staats, MSW; Angie Rehling, MSW; Alanna Harris, MS

The systematic process that an individual uses to gain trust and prepare a child and their community for sexual abuse has long been referred to as “grooming” by those in the field of sexual violence prevention. Identifying these behaviors and intervening before sexual abuse occurs is critical to the safety and well-being of children in our community. Misinformed and harmful attacks on the LGBTQ community using the term “grooming” both hinder efforts to prevent sexual violence and increase discrimination and harm to LGBTQ people. In this session, attendees will gain understanding of grooming in relation to child sexual abuse, learn how to recognize accurate information, misinformation, and intentional harm, and identify ways they can advocate for sexual violence prevention including being a partner to the LGBTQ community.

Objectives:

1. Understand how an individual uses the process of grooming to draw close to a child and their community to increase the opportunity for sexual abuse and decrease the chance of disclosure.
2. Recognize when misinformation or intentional harm towards LGBTQ people is perpetuating myths about grooming and child sexual abuse.
3. Advocate for sexual violence prevention that supports and partners with LGBTQ people.

**12:45 p.m. -
2:15 p.m.**

Appropriate for all attendees

Social Connectedness of Youth in Wisconsin

Amy Marsman, Karen Katz

The importance of youth being in positive relationships and socially connected cannot be overstated. The Wisconsin Office of Children’s Mental Health is leading a collaborative effort to increase the social connectedness of youth in Wisconsin. In this session, we will explore the five categories where youth form social connections: family, cultural identity/community, supportive adults, peers, and school/early education.

Objectives:

1. Attendees will learn about the pervasiveness of loneliness and isolation and interpret state-level data.
2. Attendees will develop strategies that help youths form connections.
3. Attendees will consider actions that individuals, communities, organizations, and systems could take to improve the social connectedness of youth in Wisconsin.

Appropriate for all attendees



<p>12:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Who Ya Gonna Call? Medical Exam Triage for Investigators <i>Janna Hoppe, DNP, CPNP-PC; Suzy Pfitzinger, MS</i></p> <p>Learn to decipher the complicated world of medical opinions on the topic of child abuse and develop a plan about who to turn to when there are concerns of child abuse. Medical evaluations in situations of suspected child maltreatment are benefited by a multidisciplinary approach. Familiarize yourself with the Medical Decision Making brochure created for MDTs across Wisconsin and gain a deeper understanding about best practices when it comes to medical care for various forms of child maltreatment you may be investigating.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn the difference in medical and other services at the ED and the CAC. 2. Help determine which site the child is best served when child maltreatment is a concern. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>
<p>2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>How to Empower and Amplify Parent Leaders <i>Andrea Turtenwald</i></p> <p>Parents are the leaders of their family, and they have the potential to be leaders in their community and the systems they navigate. As staff who work with families, we can be the bridge for parents to build leadership skills and utilize their lived expertise to influence decision-makers! Join this session to learn best practices from Wisconsin parent advocates and national research on lived experience leadership so you can elevate the skills of the parents you serve.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the core competencies of parent leaders. 2. Recognize their role in supporting the leadership development of caregivers. 3. Explore practical strategies and resources to facilitate leadership skill-building in families they serve. <p>Appropriate for all attendees</p>



Understanding and Assessing Child Maltreatment Statements from Children

Lynn Cook, Elizabeth Ghilardi

As systems-based professionals who encounter concerns of child maltreatment within our various roles, we play a critical role in the lives of children and families. The decisions made on these cases can be extremely complex and stressful. In order to understand what children are trying to tell us, we need to have a foundational understanding about how they develop memories and what factors influences the amount and quality of the information they will be able to provide about their experiences. Informed by nearly 40 years of research and practice, this presentation will discuss the basics of memory formation in children. It will outline the child, event, and interview related factors that influence children's statements. We will cover ways that children's statements can be contaminated, but also preserved. Having as much information as possible about what children know and what their statements mean in the greater context of their experiences ultimately reduces erroneous outcomes for children and provides piece of mind for those of us tasked with making decisions around child safety, placement, and offender consequences.

Objectives:

1. Participants will learn about the different factors that impact the quantity and quality of information children are able to provide about witnesses and experienced events.
2. Participants will gain an understanding about the ways that children's statements can be both contaminated and preserved during an investigative process.

**2:30 p.m. -
4:00 p.m.**

Appropriate for all attendees

CSAM Investigations in an Ever Changing Digital World

Jesse Crowe

This session will cover the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force, MDT investigations and how AI is going to effect these types of investigations.

Objectives:

1. Learn what the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force is and how it works.
2. Learn about how the Wisconsin ICAC Task Force uses a MDT to investigate online sexual exploitation.
3. Learn about how artificial intelligence is a very broad issue in not only CSAM cases, but other criminal investigations.

Beginner



**2:30 p.m. -
4:00 p.m.**

Are We Speaking the Same Language: Effective Communication

Ann-Marie St John, MS

Is your audience hearing the message you are sending? Learn to effectively communicate and overcome the barriers that lead to misunderstandings and frustration.

Objectives:

1. Increase effective use of communication and language skills.
2. Increase transfer of knowledge.
3. Increase skills in avoiding conflict.

Appropriate for all attendees