

THE 43RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS
SERVING
PROMISING YOUTH



Igniting Your Light and the Hope Within

May 9 & 10, 2024
Snowbird, Utah

A Poem About You and Hope

Today, here you are.
Do you remember how you arrived
at this moment – this bridge,
perpetual and in between
everything before and tomorrow?
This moment,
liminal,
whispering
from the land of dreams.

Once a spark, a thought
led you on your way,
and you landed in your work,
perhaps your calling –
where you needed to be,
where you were needed.
Your gift, your destiny.

Always remember that spark,
that gift within,
fire and force,
endless and just enough,
gift and good fortune
enough to save the world,
or at least this bend of a broken corner,
your work and joy,
that child,
those children who land,
eye to eye,
soul to soul,
in your world.

The cover art, originally published in
Untold Stories Utah 2021, was created
by a student at Mill Creek Youth Center
in one of Emily Holmes's art classes.

Put away doubt and darkness,
the gloom of yesterday,
all that you couldn't control,
that persistent troll under the bridge,
laughing
out of a hollow heart,
howling out
the lanterns in the night.
Put that all away and dream.

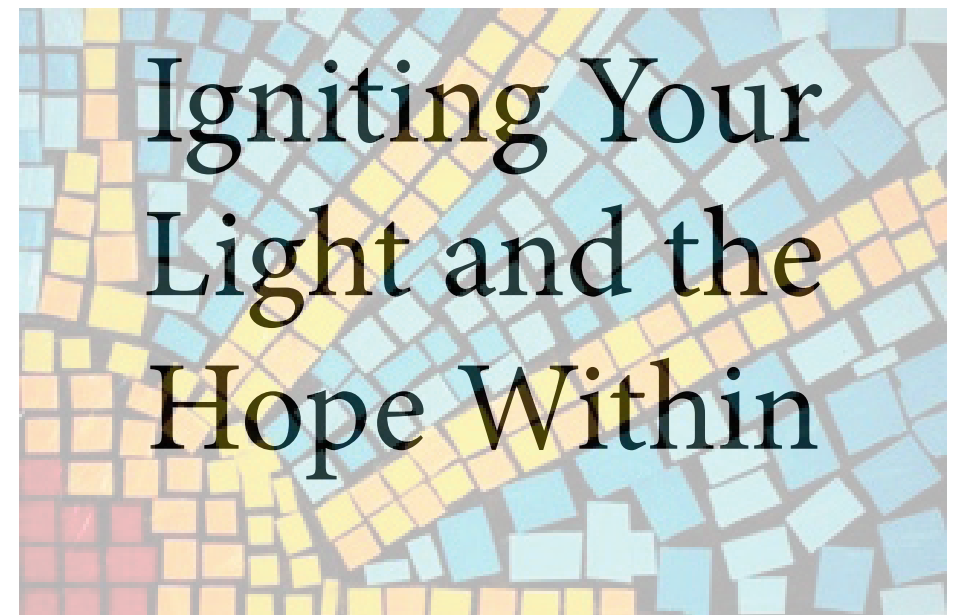
Dream a new dream,
remember an old one,
spark that fire within and hope,
choose hope.
Don't wait for hope to land randomly
in your heart
like a fickle bird.
Dream and decide.


Live hope. Teach hope.
Hope away the darkness,
the tedious trolls,
the raised eyebrows,
the cynical sighs.
Be still and listen as goodness whispers
persistently, endlessly –
your light, your heart,
your hope – always enough.

Bonnie Shaw
April 2024

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IS IT GOOD FOR ALL KIDS?


Every child deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential.



Voices for Utah Children advocates for, and works to advance, polices and practices that are good for all of Utah's children.

We know that big policy wins for kids don't just happen by accident - we must use data, research and proven policy to identify and make upfront investments in our children that will address their needs. These must be proactive, not reactive, with a goal of developing sustainable long term solutions.

[Check out our latest work and resources!](#)




Latest Blogs

Stay informed with different policy areas impacting kids. Check out our latest blogs on our website utahchildren.org.



Utah Kids Count Data Book

Each year we publish state & county data on education, health, and economic well-being of Utah's children and families. Access the data today!



Legislative Update

Check out how kids fared during this year's legislative session, along with important policies we have supported and opposed during the session.

utahchildren.org | 801.364.1182 | voices@utahchildren.org

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY MAY 9, 2024

- 8:00 - 9:00 AM Registration at Cliff Lodge, Entry Level
- 9:00 - 10:30 AM **OPENING SESSION**, Ballrooms
Clinton Lacey, President & CEO
Credible Messenger Mentoring Movement (CM3)
- 10:30 - 11:00 Break and Exhibits
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Breakout Sessions
- 12:30 - 1:30 PM **LUNCHEON**, Golden Cliff, Eagles Nest, Magpie, Superior and Superior Lobby
- 1:30 - 3:00 PM Breakout Sessions
- 3:00 - 3:30 PM Break & Exhibits
- 3:30 - 5:00 PM Breakout Sessions
- 5:30 - 7:30 PM **CONFERENCE NETWORKING SOCIAL**
Featuring HERC Dance Group
Ballrooms

FRIDAY MAY 10, 2024

- 9:00 - 10:30 AM Breakout Sessions
- 10:30 - 11:00 AM Break & Exhibits
- 11:00 AM -12:30 PM **LUNCHEON**, Golden Cliff, Eagles Nest, Magpie, Superior, Superior Lobby,
- 1:30 - 3:00 PM **PLENARY SESSION**, Ballrooms
Do The Write Thing Awards
Promising Youth Award Presentation
John Nolter, Founder,
A Peace of My Mind

Jared "The Dreamer"
Author, Inspirational Speaker and CEO

NAME TAGS MUST BE WORN TO BE ADMITTED TO THE SESSIONS AND LUNCHEONS

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS AND SILENCE YOUR PHONE

THANK YOU!

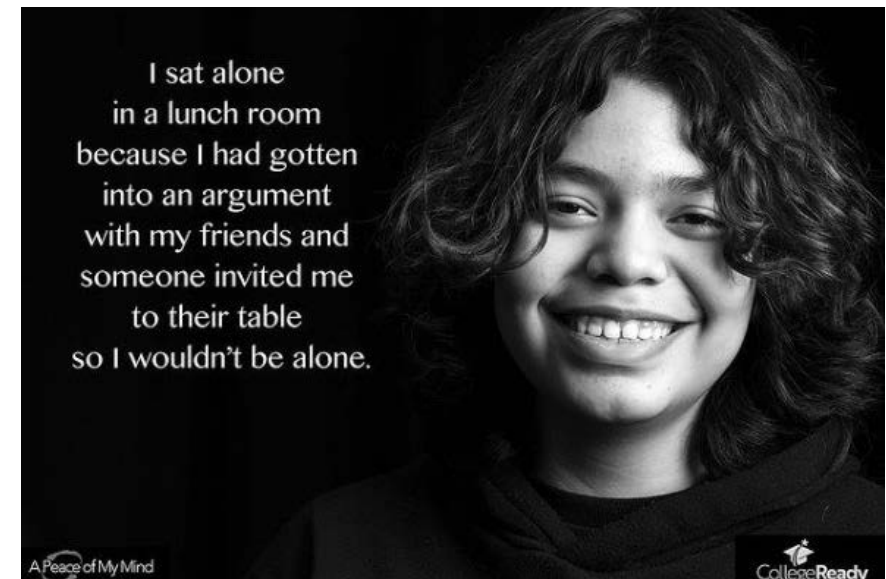
“In a world that asks us to focus on the things that can separate us, A Peace of My Mind invites us to explore the common humanity that connects us.”

– John Noltner, founder, A Peace of My Mind

A Peace of My Mind is a media arts project led by John Noltner that uses storytelling and art to help communities explore mission, vision and values.

As a reflection of our conference theme this year, **“Igniting Your Light and The Hope Within”** we are asking the question **“What gives you hope in your work with youth?”**

Sign up to be a part of the Project by going to **Little Pine** where you’ll just write your response in 25 words or less. John will take your picture and combine your image and words. John will share responses and thoughts about his experiences during the closing session of the conference.





Join us on our official event app!

We're using *Whova* as our official event app. Join our event app to access:

- ➔ Event announcements
- ➔ Personalized agenda, session details
- ➔ Speaker & attendee profiles
- ➔ Networking, meet-ups, messages
- ➔ Event documents
- ➔ Faster check-in

How to join:

1. Scan the QR code and download Whova from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Sign in or create an account with the email you registered with.

Having trouble joining? Search for our event and enter the invitation code: a32g0warzc



TIME	BALLROOM 1	BALLROOM 2	BALLROOM 3	PRIMROSE A	PRIMROSE B	WASATCH
9:00 - 10:30		Introduction to APOMM - John Nolter OPENING KEYNOTE: CLINTON LACEY Love as Public Policy - Building a New Paradigm for Youth Development				
BREAK & EXHIBITS						
10:30 - 11:00						
11:00 - 12:30	From Service to Empowerment - Effective Approaches to Building Community Capacity	Creating Inclusive Schools Amid a Divisive Environment	Helping Parents Deal with Anxious Behaviors	Safe Crisis Management for Staff Supporting Individuals with Autism	Mindful Self-Compassion - How to Motivate Yourself with Compassion Rather than Criticism!	Using VR Headsets with YIC/Incarcerated Youth for Education
LUNCHEON						
12:30 - 1:30						
1:30 - 3:00	Happy Kids Don't Punch You in the Face: Reducing Aggression and Improving Relationships with Children	Creating Inclusive Schools Amid a Divisive Environment (Repeat)	Understanding Reintegration Plans: What do they do and how to implement them?	Shared Results of Shared Risk/Protective Factors Work	Pornography Use Among Youth	Tiered Behavior Supports and Problem Solving
BREAK & EXHIBITS						
3:00 - 3:30						
3:30 - 5:00			Cultivating Leadership: Youth Growth Through Art, Community and System Navigation	How to Win the Battle: Reducing Substance Use Disorder and Overdose	Trauma 101: The Basics- Taking the BS (Blame & Shame) Out of Trauma	Supporting LGBTQI2S+ Youth
SOCIAL						
5:30 - 7:00						

TIME	BALLROOM 1	BALLROOM 2	BALLROOM 3	PRIMROSE A	PRIMROSE B	WASATCH
9:00 - 10:30	From Darkness to Advocacy: One Survivor's Journey to Empower Vulnerable Children	Licensing Updates, Ethical Considerations, and Conundrums for Behavioral Health Professionals	Problem Behavior or Trauma Response? Understanding the Interplay Between Criminogenic Risk and Trauma	Healthy, Unhealthy and Problematic Sexuality in Youth	From Screen Time to Cyber Trauma: The Effects of Social Media on Teens	"To See Things in a Different Light" Stories and Laughter from an Affrilachian Storyteller
BREAK & EXHIBITS						
10:30 - 11:00						
11:00 - 12:30	PREA: Advocating for Youth Survivors of Sexual Assault	Let's Talk Mental Health and Suicide	Cultivating a Coaching Culture	No More Pretend-Supports	Putting Youth to Work: Building Careers, Not Jobs	"To See Things in a Different Light" Stories and Laughter from an Affrilachian Storyteller (Repeat)
LUNCHEON						
12:30 - 1:30						
1:30 - 3:15	Closing Plenary: Do The Right Thing Promising Youth Award John Noltner, Founder, A Peace of My Mind Jared "The Dreamer"					

THURSDAY MAY 9, 2024

9:00 - 10:30 AM BALLROOMS Opening Session

Conducting: Gini Highfield, Retired, Utah Juvenile Court Conference Co-Chair

Introduction of A Peace of My Mind Project *John Noltner, Founder, A Peace of My Mind*

Keynote Address

Love as Public Policy - Building a New Paradigm for Youth Development

Clinton Lacey, Credible Messenger Mentoring Movement (CM3)
Introduced by *Brett Peterson, Director, Utah Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services*

This keynote address will explore ways in which Love can be translated into culture, policy, programs, and the experience of youth & families being impacted by justice and other relevant systems.

10:30 - 11:00 AM ~ Break & Exhibits

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ~ Breakout Sessions

Ballroom 1

From Service to Empowerment - Effective Approaches to Building Community Capacity

Clinton Lacey, Credible Messenger Mentoring Movement (CM3)

Learning Objectives:

- Enhanced understanding of the fundamental components of service and empowerment paradigms and how they differ.
- Enhanced understanding of key approaches to achieving culture, policy & programmatic shifts.
- Usable takeaway tools for implementing youth/family/ community-centered practices.

Facilitator: Ansley Dille, Utah Juvenile Court



Thursday, May 9



Thursday, May 9



Thursday, May 9



Ballroom 2

Creating Inclusive Schools Amid a Divisive Environment

Celeste Malone, Associate Professor of School Psychology, Howard University, School of Education

Positive school climate, or the quality and character of school life, is associated with student success. However, ample evidence indicates that students with socially marginalized identities are more likely to experience negative school climate due to microaggressions and identity-based bullying, restricted access to educational opportunities, and differential treatment from school staff. As educators, we help students cope to survive these invalidating school environments, but our goal should be to create environments that allow all students to thrive. This requires educators to embrace healing-centered approaches that affirm students' identities, empower them to be agents in restoring their own well-being, and correct unjust practices that marginalize some students.

Learning Objectives:

- Consider how microaggressions, discriminatory school policies and practices, and educational gag orders impact students' mental health, perceptions of school climate, and other school outcomes
- Describe school-based interventions to promote culturally inclusive and affirming school environments
- Apply social justice principles to empower students and educators, and to engage in collective advocacy

Facilitator: Fulvia Franco, Jordan School District

Ballroom 3

Helping Parents Deal with Anxious Behaviors

Gabrielle Ernest, LCSW, SSW and Adrienne Durrant, SSW, LCSW ~ Canyons School District & Trails to Wellness Counseling Center

This session will assist practitioners in creating more awareness for parents on their roles in supporting their children with anxiety and helping them feel more empowered with tools, knowledge, and skill sets. Attendees will also learn about how they can help bridge the gap between the child, therapist, and parent to create more practice and consistency with tools that help children manage anxiety.

We cover 6 topics for clinicians to present to parents; Relationship Building, Psychoeducation, Relaxation, Cognitive Restructuring,

Exposure, Supportive Parenting for Anxious Childhood Emotions Learning Objectives:

- To have an overview knowledge of how to work with parents who have children with anxiety
- To provide clinicians with a linear process of teaching parents about their children's anxiety
- To have tools and strategies clinicians can use with parents

Facilitator: BJ Weller, Canyons School District

Primrose A

Safe Crisis Management for Staff Supporting Individuals with Autism

Michelle Stagmer, Associate Trainer ~ JKM Training, Inc.

Supporting individuals with Autism can feel like you are chasing your tails sometimes. Understanding their strengths and weaknesses is an important part of supporting them with prevention and de-escalation. In this training, we will focus on understanding some common behaviors across individuals with autism, understanding the use of behavior to meet needs, and how to prevent and respond to behaviors of concern. This training will include some interactive opportunities to support understanding of concepts and will include walking through a quick and easy way to develop some strategies and planning for an individual with autism.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will become familiar with the impact ASD has on the individuals within our care.
- Participants will understand how ASD directly impacts individuals behaviors.
- Participants will learn how to safely and effectively respond to potentially dangerous behaviors of individuals with ASD.

Facilitator Debbie Rocha, Salt Lake School District

Primrose B

Mindful Self-Compassion – How to Motivate Yourself with Compassion Rather than Criticism!

Deb Ashton, Mindful Integrated Therapist ~ Mindful Integrated Therapy

This session is an introduction to the concept, skills, experiential practice and science of Mindful Self-Compassion and how to apply it in our personal and professional lives. Research indicates that



self-compassion is strongly associated with psychological well-being (Neff, 2009) and higher levels of self-compassion are linked to increased feelings of happiness, optimism and curiosity. Self-compassion promotes handling difficult emotions with ease, decreased anxiety, depression, and fear of failure.

Learning Objectives:

- Define what self-compassion is and isn't;
- Understand the science of self-compassion and research-based outcomes;
- Trauma-sensitive mindfulness strategies;
- Learn and practice the three components of self-compassion;
- Self-compassion to manage caregiver fatigue;
- Self-compassion in daily life

Facilitator Mary Gully, Board Member, Salt Lake County Youth Services

Wasatch

Using VR Headsets with YIC/Incarcerated Youth for Education

Stephen Solen, Principal ~ Pleasant Creek School

Virtual Reality has been taking us by storm the last few years. Although VR is mostly related to gaming, the software is a great way to incorporate education to students while keeping them entertained. VR applications can be used in Art, PE, Science, and History. Over the past three years, Pleasant Creek School has been using VR technology on and off in the classroom setting, but we have always run into barriers.

Although not perfect, Pleasant Creek School has been able to help students utilize VR in the classroom effectively, while still learning and having fun. These headsets can be utilized by all facilities for learning, fun, and even a great workout. Attendees will learn about how to overcome these barriers, and strategies for classroom use.

Learning Objectives:

- Using VR applications (including games) in the Classroom
- Overcoming Obstacles of Oculus Headsets
- Career Training using VR

Facilitator Trevor Olsen, San Juan School District

12:30 - 1:30 PM ~ Luncheon

Golden Cliff, Eagles Nest, Magpie, Superior & Superior Lobby

3:30 - 3:30 PM ~ Breakout Sessions

Ballroom 1

Happy Kids Don't Punch You in the Face: Reducing Aggression and Improving Relationships with Children

Ben Springer, School Psychologist/Consultant/Trainer ~ Totem PD/ Optimistic Teaming, Wasatch County School District

Join Dr. Ben Springer for his humorous and insightful take on reducing aggressive outbursts and improving relationships with children. Attendees will learn ready-to-use strategies and resources across the following areas:

- Applications of Positive Psychology,
- Applications of Applied Behavioral Analysis, and
- Gain access to a Comprehensive Professional Learning Platform for Professionals Working with Children Exhibiting Aggressive Behavior.

Facilitator: Abby Gottsegen, Jordan School District

Ballroom 2

Creating Inclusive Schools Amid a Divisive Environment (Repeat)

Celeste Malone, Associate Professor of School Psychology, Howard University, School of Education

Positive school climate, or the quality and character of school life, is associated with student success. However, ample evidence indicates that students with socially marginalized identities are more likely to experience negative school climate due to microaggressions and identity-based bullying, restricted access to educational opportunities, and differential treatment from school staff. As educators, we help students cope to survive these invalidating school environments, but our goal should be to create environments that allow all students to thrive. This requires educators to embrace healing-centered approaches that affirm students' identities, empower them to be agents in restoring their own well-being, and correct unjust practices that marginalize some students.

Learning Objectives:



- Consider how microaggressions, discriminatory school policies and practices, and educational gag orders impact students' mental health, perceptions of school climate, and other school outcomes
- Describe school-based interventions to promote culturally inclusive and affirming school environments
- Apply social justice principles to empower students and educators, and to engage in collective advocacy

Facilitator: Fulvia Franco, Jordan School District

Ballroom 3 Understanding Reintegration Plans: What do They do and How to Implement Them?

*Pam Vickrey, Utah Juvenile Defense Attorneys ~ Moderator
Panel:*

*Blake Murdoch, Deputy Juvenile Court Administrator
David Sollami, Education Specialist/State Coordinator Title 1PD
Wayne Arner, Director, Utah Youth Village
Rachel Edwards, JJYS Community Program Director*

Description: This presentation will focus on the latest legislative changes impacting education, specifically related to school suspension, expulsion, and the development of reintegration plans. Attendees will gain insight into the laws governing these areas and how they are evolving. We will discuss the importance of a collaborative approach between schools and legal systems to ensure that students receive the support they need to succeed academically while upholding accountability measures. Join us to learn about the emerging trends and best practices in this critical field and how they can positively impact the educational experience for all students.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand recent legislative changes regarding school suspension, expulsion and reintegration plans.
- Understand the requirements and process for implementing reintegration plans.
- Balancing and understanding complex legal cases in a school setting

Facilitator: Ansley Dille, Utah Juvenile Court

Primrose A Shared Results of Shared Risk/Protective Factors Work *Rob Timmerman, Substance Use Prevention Administrator, DHHS SUD Prevention Program*

This presentation will include science on the impact of risk/protective factors negative outcome behaviors, and how targeting them and working together at a community level can reduce/prevent those behaviors. Examples will be given of how community coalitions in Utah pull in partners from various sectors and utilize local data to identify risk/protective factors, develop a strategic plan, and see marked reductions in problem behaviors like substance use, violence, delinquency, and mental illness.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify researched Risk and Protective Factors and associated Outcome Behaviors.
- Identify Evidence-Based Programs, Practices and Policies for shared outcomes.
- Understand the concept of Shared Risk and Protective Factor Work through community-based coalitions.

Facilitator: Alyn Mitchell, San Juan Behavioral Health

Primrose B Pornography Use Among Youth

Brian J. Willoughby, Ph.D., Professor and Research Fellow ~ School of Family Life at Brigham Young University and The Wheatley Institute

This session will overview the latest information on pornography use among youth. The session will overview the latest research on pornography usage, both individually and within romantic relationships, and talk about the common outcomes associated with pornography across the usage spectrum. A specific focus will be given to pornography use among religious populations and how upcoming advancements in artificial intelligence will change how youth engage with sexualized media.

Learning Objectives:

- Review of the prevalence of pornography use by adolescents.
- Implications of pornography use by adolescents.
- Clarifying the complex issues of Internet Pornography Use (IPU) and Moral Incongruence

Facilitator: Dave Fowers, NOJOS

Wasatch

Tiered Behavior Supports and Problem Solving

Ashley Lower, Behavior Specialist ~ Utah State Board of Education ~ Behavior Support Team

Tanya Semerad, Autism/Significant Cognitive Disabilities Specialist ~ Utah State Board of Education

This session will introduce participants to the problem-solving process for behavior instruction and support outlined in the Utah State Board of Education Least Restrictive Behavioral Interventions (LRBI) Technical Assistance Manual 2023 Edition. By the end of this presentation participants will be able to:

- Understand Tiered Behavior Supports
- Identify the personnel involved in a multidisciplinary team supporting student behavior needs
- Articulate the problem-solving process for behavior instruction and support
- Apply the problem-solving process for behavior instruction and support to a given scenario

Facilitator: Cuong Nguyen, Utah State Board of Education

1:30 - 3:30 PM ~ Break & Exhibits

3:30 - 5:00 PM ~ Breakout Sessions

Ballroom 3

Cultivating Leadership: Youth Growth Through Art, Community, and System Navigation

Nubia Peña, JD, Senior Advisor on Equity and Opportunity, Director MCA

Claudia Loayza, Planning Policy and Engagement Coordinator

Lydia Bigcraft, Youth & Project Specialist

Miguel Trujillo, LCSW, PHD, Associate Director of Community Engaged

Scholarship and Evaluation

Utah Office of Multicultural Affairs and Youth Panelists

The Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs' (MCA) mission is to promote a welcoming climate that builds pathways to opportunity and community connection across the state. We have served Utah for over 10 years and have strived to embody the concept of "meeting people where they are", which is both a mindset and a process. It means innovating beyond the concept "it's the way it's

always been done", and instead striving to co-create solutions with communities that consider the barriers to access, opportunities, and pathways to thriving. Our collaborative work with the Utah Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services and other youth justice organizations, has led us to support our youth affected by adverse social factors, who have limited access to leadership programming that encourages pathways for successful reintegration in the community. Through the power of community, motivated mentors, and trauma-informed art engagement through murals and creative writing workshops, we have determined to bring love, healing, and empowerment back into spaces where it is lacking. Join us for a panel of activated community partners in this work as well as youth themselves who have benefitted and been key contributors.

Facilitator: Pat Moore, Juvenile Justice and Youth Services

Primrose A

How to Win the Battle: Reducing Substance Use Disorder and Overdose

Logan Reid, Utah Regional Prevention Director, Southwest Behavioral Health Center

Right now, we're losing the battle. Communities are increasing treatment services, introducing needle exchange programs, distributing naloxone all over the state, and increasing access to care. But addiction continues to rise, the number of folks needing treatment continues to grow, and overdoses are still rampant. To turn the tide, a local-level focus targeting things that put people at risk for using drugs, and increasing protective factors that shield people from drug use is needed. This presentation will show the science behind PRIMARY prevention services targeted at universal populations, and how local communities, agencies, and even individuals can use this science to start winning the battle, and prevention substance use disorder and overdose, and improve recovery.

Learning Objectives;

- Demonstrate how treatment and harm reduction are not reducing substance use disorders and overdose.
- Demonstrate how prevention can reduce substance disorders and overdose.
- Present data and research on risk/protective factors

Facilitator: Alyn Mitchell, San Juan Behavioral Health



Thursday, May 9



Thursday, May 9



Thursday, May 9



Primrose B

Trama 101: The Basics - Taking the BS (Blame and Shame) Out of Trauma

Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson, Interim Executive Director
Rachel Garrett, Associate Program Director
Trauma Informed Utah

Life is full of adversity! The challenges increase when adversity becomes a source of trauma, particularly in youth. In this session we will explore how trauma impacts the brain, the body and behaviors. Participants will gain practical skills for interacting with youth (in whatever context this occurs) in ways that recognize these impacts and inform our responses. Participants will be challenged to identify the impact of this work on personal wellbeing and how to make this rich and rewording work sustainable over time.

Learning Objectives:

- A better understanding of the basic definition of trauma and the impacts on the body and the brain, both in youth and adults.
- With this information be better able to recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma so we can respond more effectively in practical ways with everyday interactions and interventions.
- How to support ourselves in these interactions to we can be most effective in our interactions with youth (or really anyone)

Facilitator: Martin Munoz, Voices For Utah Children

Wasatch

Supporting LGBTQIA2S+ Youth

Holly Bell, Policy Advisor, IncludEd United
Amanda Darrow, Executive Director, IncludEd United

This workshop will explore ways for mental health providers, educators, and community members to create supportive environments for LGBTQIA2S+ youth through safe messaging and increased connectedness to individuals, families, communities, and social institutions. We will discuss both positive and negative mental health outcomes for LGBTQIA2S+ youth and provide updates on the current state of policies that impact them.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify strategies for mental health providers, educators, and community members to create safe and supportive environments for LGBTQIA2S+ youth through inclusive

messaging and fostering connections with individuals, families, communities, and social institutions.

- Analyze the potential positive and negative mental health effects experienced by LGBTQIA2S+ youth within their environments, exploring how support systems and inclusive practices can mitigate risks and promote well-being.
- Examine recent policy developments affecting LGBTQIA2S+ youth and discuss their implications on mental health outcomes, equipping participants with updated knowledge of the policies.

Facilitator: Cuong Nguyen, Utah State Board of Education

5:30 - 7:30 PM ~ SOCIAL featuring a performance from the HERC Youth Crew



Friday May 10, 2024

Ballroom 1

From Darkness to Advocacy: One Survivor's Journey to Empower Vulnerable Children

Celesete Edmunds, Executive Director, The Christmas Box International

Celeste deeply understands the challenges faced by the children we serve. This understanding comes from her own experience. Growing up, her biological parents struggled with addiction, leading to a turbulent environment filled with police calls, fights, and various forms of abuse. At seven, she was removed from her home and placed into the child welfare system. Moving became the norm from then on, and by the time she turned sixteen, she had lived in over 30 different cities.

While her childhood was undoubtedly difficult, she also recognizes it as a crucial period of growth. Along the way, she encountered caring individuals who did their best to protect and nurture her. During this time, she became Richard Paul Evans assistant when he



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10





Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



wrote the New York Times Best-selling book, *The Christmas Box*, and later founded The Christmas Box International. Her passion lies in making a difference in the lives of youth and improving the child welfare system to spare others from the experiences she endured.

Learning Objectives:

- Attendees walk away feeling gratitude for what they do
- Gain a committed sense of hope that their contribution makes a positive impact in the lives of the children they serve
- Examine meaningful ideas around what changes can be made today to make long-term impacts on our child welfare system.

Facilitator: Sharon Hall, Granite School District

Ballroom 2

Licensing Updates, Ethical Considerations, and Conundrums for Behavioral Health Professionals*

Jana Johansen, Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

Licensure updates related to 2024 legislation including SB26, common ethical complaints reported to the Division, and the role of investigators and Boards in determining outcomes for unprofessional conduct.

NASW Ethics Credit Course*

Facilitator: Fulvia Franco, Jordan School District

Ballroom 3

Problem Behavior or Trauma Response? Understanding the Interplay Between Criminogenic Risk and Trauma

Jodi Petersen, Petersen Research Consultants

In the evolving landscape of justice-involved youth services, integrating trauma-informed care while addressing present criminogenic risk factors can often feel like quite a quagmire. How do we ensure accountability and promote behavioral change in youth without inflicting or exacerbating trauma? In supporting any youth, we know it is crucial to scaffold their emotional and behavioral regulation while supporting their autonomy and freedom of choice. Simultaneously, we must acknowledge the realities of their court obligations and what underlying risk factors or life circumstances have contributed to their justice system involvement. Treatment and service agencies must take a



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



balanced approach that honors both the youth’s developmental needs and the organization’s mission, contractual, or community responsibilities to address criminogenic risk. This workshop will provide a foundational understanding of trauma and criminogenic risk, setting the stage for a deeper examination of how trauma influences responsiveness to intervention. The session will introduce attendees to psychological and educational frameworks to reframe opportunities for scaffolding strengths-based behavior change, all within the context of the neuroscience of trauma and best practices in understanding and addressing criminogenic risk.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to define trauma and criminogenic risk, as well as identify some of the behavioral manifestations of both.
- Participants will integrate an understanding of trauma and risk to determine the best emotional regulation and behavioral management strategies for youth with challenging behaviors.
- Participants will practice reacting to opportunities for empathy-driven, supportive behavioral management that also better achieves court-desired outcomes.

Facilitator: Ansley Dille, Utah Juvenile Court

Primrose A

Healthy, Unhealthy and Problematic Sexuality in Youth

DeLynn Lamb, LCSW, Private Practice

What is “normal” for sexual thoughts and behaviors for children and adolescents? How does one even define “normal?” Has the current technological advances improved or hampered the development of healthy sexuality? And in what ways? This session will examine some of the history of healthy and unhealthy sexual development with individual, family and cultural perspectives. It will also provide information and guidance toward understanding and working with these very important life issues.

Learning Objectives:

- This presentation is designed to outline the normal and healthy developmental trajectory for youth.
- It will also identify developmental sexual competencies that must be achieved to be a healthy sexual being.
- It will then contrast this with what can go wrong.

Facilitator: Dave Fowers, NOJOS



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



“People are like stained glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.”
Elizabeth Kubler-Ross

Primrose B
From Screen Time to Cyber Trauma: The Effects of Social Media on Teens
Dr. Christy Kane, Chief Executive Officer, DrChristykane.com

Join Dr. Christy Kane on a journey to uncover the effects of excessive electronics use on adolescent mental health. Discover the link between screen time, addiction, and adverse psychological outcomes in today's youth. Delve into the psychological and emotional consequences of cyberbullying, cyberstalking, and exposure to graphic content on teen mental health. Discover actionable strategies for educators, parents, and mental health professionals to mitigate the impact of cyber trauma and support teens in navigating online spaces safely.

- Learning Objectives:
- Examine the impact of electronics addiction on adolescent brain chemistry and emotional stability.
 - Identify signs of cyber trauma in adolescents and understand its implications for mental health.
 - Learn practical techniques for promoting healthy digital habits and fostering resilience in teens.

Facilitator: Debbie Rocha, Salt Lake School District

Wasatch
“To See Things in a Different Light” Stories and Laughter from an Afrilachian Storyteller
Lynette Ford, Ohio Teaching Artists Roster/National Association of Black Storytellers

A storytelling session



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Through the folktales, fables and family narratives Lyn Ford heard as a child, she found ways to relate to others and “make hard times less heavy.”* Lyn shares from her stories and experiences as a child of Black Appalachia, a fourth-generation storyteller, an Ohio teaching artist who works with all ages, a writer and poet, a certified laughter wellness teacher, and a great-grandma. Come listen and play!
 *Quotations from Valerie Tarico, psychologist and founder of Wisdom Commons.org

- When this session has ended, participants will be able to:
- Perceive ways that diverse stories shared in the oral tradition connect the literacy and empathy of the spoken word to the book format of story-sharing.
 - Recognize the importance of creative narrative play as a groundbreaking tool for communication and community building.
 - Nurture and encourage comfort zones for sharing from personal memory, personal research and personal history.

Facilitator: Miriam Gutierrez, Latino Behavioral Health

10:30 - 11:00 AM ~ Break & Exhibits

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Breakout Sessions

Ballroom 1
PREA: Advocating for Youth Survivors of Sexual Assault
Saane Siale, PREA Coordinator, PIK2AR & RRC

This session will cover the history of the 2003 federal mandate Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and what it looks like here in Utah; Utah is one of two states who are not federally compliant with national PREA standards. This session will also discuss PREA briefly in the prison and jail system and how it supports JJYS/ incarcerated youth survivors of sexual assault. We will also address what advocacy looks like for youth who are victims/survivors of sexual assault.

- Learning Objectives;
- Understand PREA history from a Utah lens.
 - Learn how to support and advocate for youth survivors of



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



- sexual assault.
- Learn how to support and advocate for secondary survivors of sexual assault.

Facilitator: Alyssa Dairsow, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Ballroom 2

Let's Talk Mental Health and Suicide*

Carol Ruddell, Administrator, Office of Substance Use & Mental Health

Come learn about mental health and how to prevent suicide. What are the real facts about suicide in Utah. Learn what can put people at risk, and the warning signs, and what say and do can protect them. Learn how to talk about it in a way that builds hope and resilience. Utah's many crisis and suicide prevention resources will be shared.

Learning Objectives:

- Attendees will identify three risk and three protective factors to improve mental health and reduce suicide risk.
- Attendees will identify warning signs of poor mental wellness or suicide risk.
- Attendees will name five resources which can be shared with youth and their families.

*NASW Suicide Credit Course**

Facilitator Kim Kettle, Division of Family Health, DHHS

Ballroom 3

Cultivating a Coaching Culture

Tiffany Rupe, Juvenile Justice Education Program Coordinator, Utah State Court's Judicial Institute

Ever feel like receiving feedback hits harder than a dodgeball in gym class? Or maybe you've dished out advice only to watch it bounce off like a rubber ball? If you've ever been on either side of the feedback fence, this session is for you; it's time to turn critiques into cheers!

In our rapidly evolving world, the potential to make an even greater impact on the lives we touch is limitless. However, it's easy to fall into the mindset that we already know enough, limiting our ability to unlock this potential. The key to our success lies in cultivating a culture of continuous learning and coaching.



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Friday, May 10



Whether you're a seasoned leader or an emerging talent, this informative session will equip you with the tools to ignite your light and excitement to be a part of a continuous learning environment. The ability to enhance culture resides within every individual. Implementing some simple strategies can help you foster an environment where growth is celebrated, challenges are embraced, and success becomes the norm.

By the end of the session participants will be able to:

- Understand the importance of having a growth mindset
- Appreciate the value of having a coaching culture
- Identify and implement strategies to create a continuous learning environment.

Don't miss this opportunity to supercharge your arsenal of leadership strategies and inspire greatness in yourself and your team.

Facilitator: Ansley Dille, Utah Juvenile Court

Primrose A

No More Pretend Supports

Aspen Florence, Solutions Within Consulting, USBE, Weber State University

Providing real support that builds skill in our clients is essential to providing opportunities for their best lives. Often, the support provided is more about managing current life circumstances than it is about building skills that will change the trajectory. This facilitation will talk about the essential tenants for planning, implementing, and evaluating interventions or supports we are using. This will help us to better understand how to use our time in meaningful ways to see sustainable progress. Participants will leave with an evaluation and planning document to map the supports and interventions they are using.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will understand the difference between accommodation, support, and intervention.
- Participants will identify strengths and weaknesses in current accommodations, supports, and interventions.
- Participants will leave with an action plan to engage in steps around strengthening their intervention system.

Facilitator: BJ Weller, Canyons School District

☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10

Primrose B

Putting Youth to Work: Building Careers, Not Jobs

Justin Seely, Statewide Employment Coordinator, JJYS

Over the last two decades, Utah’s juvenile justice system has engaged in critical reforms to improve outcomes for youth. As these reforms have decreased the number of youth who are placed in the care of the juvenile justice system, the state has continued to invest in services to support those youth who are still coming into contact with the system to reduce recidivism and improve positive youth outcomes. Through discussions with staff and youth, improving employment outcomes emerged as a key priority area. In 2020, with support from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Second Chance Act Youth Reentry program, the Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Services launched a job placement and employability program.

Utah supports youth and young adults transitioning to the community through an innovative strategic approach centered around an employability team. The team works to connect and build relationships with employers, supporting the youth with job applications, soft skills development, navigating barriers, and providing hard skills and training.

This session will detail why Utah identified employment and transition as key focus areas, lessons learned from implementation, and examples of positive outcomes. The discussion will highlight how strong partnerships between the juvenile justice system, education, and employment partners can have a positive impact on youth. The conversation will also include how employment partners and policymakers can support this work and become involved in their local area.

Learning Objectives:

- Employers will better understand the support youth and young adults transitioning out of the juvenile justice system need to succeed in the workplace and how they can get connected and support these services.
- Policymakers will take away key lessons about how to reduce barriers for youth transitioning back to the community and seeking employment.

Facilitator: Elise Harward, Department of Workforce Services, Vocational Rehabilitation

Wasatch

“To See Things in a Different Light” Stories and Laughter from an Affrilachian Storyteller (Repeat)

Lynette Ford, Ohio Teaching Artists Roster/National Association of Black Storytellers

A storytelling session
Through the folktales, fables and family narratives Lyn Ford heard as a child, she found ways to relate to others and “make hard times less heavy.”* Lyn shares from her stories and experiences as a child of Black Appalachia, a fourth-generation storyteller, an Ohio teaching artist who works with all ages, a writer and poet, a certified laughter wellness teacher and a great-grandma. Come listen and play!

*Quotations from Valerie Tarico, psychologist and founder of WisdomCommons.org

When this session has ended, participants will be able to:

- Perceive ways that diverse stories shared in the oral tradition connect the literacy and empathy of the spoken word to the book format of story-sharing.
- Recognize the importance of creative narrative play as a groundbreaking tool for communication and community building.
- Nurture and encourage comfort zones for sharing from personal memory, personal research and personal history.

Facilitator: Miriam Gutierrez, Latino Behavioral Health

12:30 - 1:30 PM ~ Luncheon

Golden Cliff, Eagles Nest, Magpie, Superior & Superior Lobby

☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10
☀ Friday, May 10

1:30 - 3:15 PM
Closing Plenary Session
Ballrooms

Conducting: Ansley Dille, Utah Juvenile Court

“Do the Write Thing” Presentation
Cuong Nguyen, Utah State Board of Education

Presentation of Promising Youth Awards

A Peace of My Mind Presentation
John Nolter, Founder, A Peace of My Mind

Keynote: Jared “The Dreamer”

**“For there is always light.
If only we’re brave enough to see it.
If only we’re brave enough to be it...”**

Amanda Gorman
“The Hill We Climb”

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

CLINTON LACEY

*President and CEO
of the Credible Messenger
Mentoring Movement
(CM3)*



Clinton Lacey is the president and CEO of the Credible Messenger Mentoring Movement (CM3), a newly launched organization focusing on supporting Credible Messenger Mentors - community-rooted natural leaders who have successfully navigated their own prior involvement in the justice system, who share similar life experiences with current justice-involved young people, and are poised to have transformative impact on an individual, family, community and systemic level - and maximizing their impact around the nation.

Prior to the recent launch of CM3, Lacey served as Director of the District of Columbia Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), Washington DC’s cabinet-level juvenile justice agency, where he was appointed by Washington, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser in 2015.

Before joining DYRS, Clinton was appointed to the New York City Department of Probation as the Deputy Commissioner for adult operations in 2011. In this capacity, he was responsible for the oversight of a division that supervised approximately 24,000 clients on probation and led a series of innovative initiatives, including the Neighborhood Opportunity Networks (NeONs) and Arches Transformative Mentoring (the first iteration of Credible Messenger Mentoring).

Other positions held by Lacey over his 30-year career include project manager with the W. Haywood Burns Institute, addressing racial, ethnic, and gender disparities in several jurisdictions around the nation (2005-2010); director of the Youth Justice Program at Vera Institute of Justice, where he led an initiative to build



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers





Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers



collaborative relationships between community-based youth advocates and system based juvenile justice officials from various jurisdictions around the nation (2004-2005); and associate executive director of Friends of Island Academy, where he developed services for 16 to 24-year-olds at Riker’s Island in New York City (1992 – 2004).

Clinton is an experienced trainer, facilitator, writer, and keynote speaker on such issues as racial disparity, comprehensive re-entry services, gang/power group intervention strategies, and overall youth development. In addition, he has studied justice systems and provided trainings around the nation, as well as in Puerto Rico, Brazil, Barbados, Norway, and Finland.

He has a B.A. in Latin American and Caribbean History from Herbert H. Lehman College (City University of New York) and is a graduate of the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at Columbia University. Clinton is married, the father of two sons and a daughter and has one granddaughter.

clacey@crediblemessenger3.org

JARED “THE DREAMER”

*CEO, Author, and
Inspirational Speaker*



Jared R. Green, widely known as Jared The Dreamer, is a multifaceted individual whose life is dedicated to creating positive change. Hailing from the vibrant city of New Orleans, Louisiana, Jared is not just an Author and Inspirational Speaker but also the visionary CEO of DreamBooks Publishing. Additionally, he serves as the Founder and Executive Director of the impactful non-profit

organization, “Sunny With A Chance Of LOVE,” where he ensures that the forecast is always Sunny with a 100% Chance of LOVE.

From an early age, Jared has been driven by a passion for making a meaningful impact within his community. His journey has taken him across the country, where he has captivated audiences in diverse locations, including Miami, FL., Hot Springs, AK., Pine Bluff, AK., Waco, TX., and Lake Charles, LA. Whether addressing thousands of people or engaging in intimate settings, Jared consistently delivers a powerful message of purpose and hope.

In a notable highlight, Jared The Dreamer was invited to a Black History Month celebration at Vice President Kamala Harris’ D.C. residence in February 2023, an event that honored Emerging Black Leaders from across the nation.

Jared’s commitment to uplifting underserved youth is evident in his philanthropic endeavors. He generously donated over 2,000 copies of his first book, “There’s A Creature In My Belly!” in 2018. This altruistic act led to his selection by the Obama Foundation as one of 20 young men nationwide to meet President Barack Obama in Oakland, California, as part of the “My Brother’s Keeper” initiative in 2019. In 2021 and 2022, The Dreamer raised an impressive \$27,000, providing 13,000 families with copies of his children’s book, “Madam Mayor.”

Jared’s impact extends beyond his literary and philanthropic pursuits, earning him well-deserved recognition. He has received proclamations in both 2018 and 2021 from the New Orleans and Baton Rouge City Councils. His contributions have been acknowledged by various news outlets, magazine publications, and organizations nationwide, solidifying his position as a true catalyst for positive change.

dreambookspublishingllc@gmail.com



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speakers



John Noltner
Founder
A Peace of My Mind



With images and words as his medium, John Noltner has been telling stories for twenty years for national magazines, Fortune 500 companies, and non-profit organizations. His work has appeared in National Geographic Traveler, Forbes Magazine, Midwest Living, and the New York Daily News, among other publications.

Throughout his career, John has managed logistics for editorial and commercial clients, both nationally and internationally, having worked on three continents. He carefully arranges details and builds relationships with his clients and subjects, using humor, understanding, and compassion to craft compelling and insightful stories.

A Peace of My Mind is John's flagship effort, allowing him to use storytelling as a vehicle for bridging social, political, and cultural differences. Since 2009, he has been asking people the simple (or not so simple) question, "What does peace mean to you?" The project combines photographs of diverse subjects and their personal stories exploring the meaning of peace. He has included the voices of Holocaust survivors, homeless individuals, political refugees and others.

Ela Gandhi, granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi, wrote the forward to his first book based on the art project, and says this: "John Noltner takes us on a unique journey filled with revelations of courage and commitment, resilience and hope. It is a beautiful journey that speaks to our innermost being. It touches us in a way that allows us to see the world from a different perspective. Perhaps it will inspire us to become peacemakers." A Peace of My Mind has been presented at the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, the Peace and Justice Studies Association, the Sojourners Summit for Change, the

Dayton International Peace Museum and has received both regional and national awards.

John is a member of the American Society of Media Photographers, the Peace and Justice Studies Association, and the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers. A Peace of My Mind represents John's belief that art and storytelling have the power to transform our hearts as well as our communities.

john@apeaceofmymind.net

***"Hope is being able to see
 that there is light despite all
 of the darkness."***

Desmond Tutu

Presenters

Wayne Arner

Mr. Arner currently works for the Utah Youth Village as the Director of Families First Program. Mr. Arner has worked for the Utah Youth Village for the past 25 years. Concurrently, he has worked with youth with problematic sexual behavior for over 28 years. Mr. Arner has presented locally and nationally on in-home treatment, Families First implementation, evidence-based treatment for juveniles, as well as sex-specific treatment and assessment for youth and adolescent. As a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor who, in his private practice, specializes in the assessment and treatment of adolescent's who have engaged in sexually abusive behavior as well as trauma specific interventions. Mr. Arner is the current NOJOS Co- Chair for outpatient services (Levels 1-3) and a past Chairperson for the NOJOS organization. Mr. Arner is also a clinical member of The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA), a member of the National Adolescent Perpetrator Network (NAPN), a credentialed clinical provider for The Utah Network on Juveniles Offending Sexually (NOJOS), and is certified as a Trauma and Loss Specialist through The National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children. Additionally, Mr. Arner also works as a member of the Utah Alliance for the Promotion for Healthy Sexual Development with specific efforts in the workgroups developing a screening tool and decision tree for clinicians to use for the assessment of juveniles with concerning sexualized behavior.

warner@youthvillage.org

Deb Ashton

Deb Ashton is an educator and Licensed Clinical Social Worker who is in private practice and integrates evidence-based treatment strategies that are holistic and solution-focused to assist each client in meeting their goals. The empowerment model collaboratively develops acceptance and change strategies based on the client's goals to take value-driven, effective action to cultivate a fulfilling quality of life.

dashton9161@gmail.com



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Holly Bell

Holly Bell (she/they) is a passionate advocate for supporting the well-being and belonging of LGBTQIA2S+ youth. Her number one priority is ensuring each Utah student has access to high-quality education in a safe and inclusive environment. She has provided statewide training for educators for over a decade. She received the Human Rights Award for her advocacy from the Utah School Counselor Association (USCA) in 2015 and served as the USCA President from 2018-2019. She currently serves on the Executive Committee and Youth and Young Adult and LGBTQ+ workgroups for the Utah Suicide Prevention Coalition. She has volunteered as a facilitator for a youth support group at the Utah Pride Center. She also volunteers as the policy advisor for IncludEd United.

Professionally, she is the Student and Family Rights Specialist for the Utah State Board of Education. She has served in this role for six years. She was a school counselor for eight years and the Jordan School District secondary school counselor specialist for two years before moving into her position at the Utah State Board of Education. Now, she assists schools and districts in Utah in meeting the federal and state regulations that protect the constitutional and civil rights of students and families.

In her "free time," she is working on her doctorate at the University of Utah. Her research is focused on the experiences of gender and sexually diverse educators in Utah schools. She is also raising her son to be a responsible adult, mothering her daughters, who are mostly responsible adults, and spending time with her partner, who puts up with all of the above.

hollybellsworld@gmail.com

Lydia Bigcraft

Lydia Bigcraft is a believer in the potential of youth to be leaders in their communities, and is driven by a passion for creating evidence-based programming to support their growth and development. Graduating from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and Criminology, Lydia brings a comprehensive understanding of the intersection between social systems and individual experiences.

Currently serving as the Youth & Project Specialist at the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs, Lydia leverages her expertise to design initiatives that empower youth from all backgrounds. Through her work, Lydia strives to foster welcoming communities where every young person has the opportunity to thrive in Utah.

lbigcraft@utah.gov

Amanda Darrow

Amanda Darrow (she/her) is the Executive Director of IncludEd United, a nonprofit that is creating inclusive, equitable, and accepting environments in which all people are treated equally with respect, embracing their race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, and/or disability through professional learning and education. Amanda has worked in both elementary and higher education. Her research on, "The Effects of Heteronormative Classroom Environment on LGBTQ+ Students," has created Amanda's mission to ensure all students have an opportunity to see themselves in the classroom. Before creating IncludEd United Amanda was a co-CEO at the Utah Pride Center. She now works with many individuals, organizations, schools, and companies throughout the state and beyond to unite diverse cultures, languages, traditions, values, needs, and lived experiences through professional learning, workshops, inclusion training, and social media. Amanda was awarded Westminster College's 2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Unsung Hero Alumni Award for her work and dedication to LGBTQIA2S+ inclusion in the community and was recently inducted into the Utah Nonprofit Association's Hall of Fame.

amandadarrow@includedunited.org

Adrienne Durrant

Adrienne received her bachelor's in psychology with a minor in Family & Human Development from Utah State University. She received a Master of Social Work from the University of Utah with an emphasis on mental health. Adrienne is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and holds a School Social Work license through the Utah State Board of Education. She works as a therapist at Trails to Wellness Counseling Center and as a School Social Worker in the Canyons School District. As a School Social Worker, she is trained in the MTSS and PBIS framework and trained in crisis management. Adrienne loves working closely with students and families to help support the social and emotional well-being of my students. She also loves working as a private practice clinician working with all ages.

adrienne.durrant@canyonsdistrict.org

Celeste Edmunds



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





As a child who grew up in the child welfare system, Celeste understands what the children are going through who stay at one of our emergency shelters. As executive director of The Christmas Box International, Celeste is passionate about making a difference in the lives of youth in the child welfare system so that they may not have to go through the same experiences that she did. Her objectives are clear: to protect and provide resources for children removed from their homes and to fight for better options for foster youth exiting the system. The Christmas Box International celebrates 27 years of protecting more than 140,000 youth and works to keep more than 1,000 siblings from being separated.
celeste@thechristmasbox.org

Rachel Edwards

Rachel Edwards is the Community Program Director for Juvenile Justice and Youth Services. She has been employed with the division for 28 years. She has been in many positions throughout her career that include, Detention, Secure Care, Case Management, Quality Assurance and Assistant Program Director. She has also participated in different committees. Rachel enjoys working with her staff and providers to find resources and services for the youth who come into custody.
redwards@utah.gov

Gabrielle Ernest

Gabrielle received a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies as well as a Bachelor of Science in International Studies in 2013 followed by a Master of Social Work in 2015 all from the University of Utah. In her career as a social worker, she has worked with children and adults in a variety of settings including The Department of Child and Family Services, Huntsman Cancer Hospital, and The Child and Family Well-Being Center, Trails to Wellness Counseling and Canyons School District. Gabrielle is trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Dialectal Behavior Therapy, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Solution Focused Therapy, Mindfulness, and Motivational Interviewing. As a school social worker she is trained in PBIS, MTSS, Crisis Intervention, and school counseling. Gabrielle enjoys working with elementary aged children and supporting students in the schools. Children spend the majority of their days at school and she feels fortunate to be able to work with children and parents each day to support the mental well-being of the community. Gabrielle believes it is important to provide children with social and emotional skills that

will help support them not only at school, but through out their lives.
gabrielle.ernest@canyonsdistrict.org

Aspen Florence

Aspen Florence has been in education for the past 22 years. She has worked in almost every position from a special education paraeducator to the Director of Student Advocacy. She is passionate about the production and sustainability of quality education through building efficacy and maintaining dignity for all stakeholders. She currently works as an Attendance Specialist for the Utah State Board of Education as well as consults throughout Utah on MTSS for behavior and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) with Solutions Through Consulting. She holds a B.A. in Psychology, a special education teaching license, an M.Ed in Curriculum Design and Instruction, an M.Ed in Organizational Leadership, and is an Ed.D candidate for Leadership and Policy. She is also a mom of four kids that she is beyond proud of.
aspen.florence@gmail.com

Lynette Ford

Lynette (Lyn) Ford is an Ohio teaching artist and an internationally recognized storyteller who has shared Affrilachian folktales, spooky tales and personal stories in programs and workshops across the United States, in Ireland and Australia and around the Zoomiverse. Lyn is also an award-winning published author and poet, and a mentor to young authors in the Thurber House Summer Writing Programs. Lyn is the recipient of two National Storytelling Network Oracle Awards, the 2023 National Association of Black Storytellers Black Appalachian Storytellers Fellowship Grant, and the NABS Zora Neale Hurston Award for the preservation and perpetuation of folklore and storytelling traditions.
friedtales2@gmail.com

Rachel Garrett

Rachel Garrett, MS, completed her Graduate Degree in the Science of Psychology with a specialization in Child and Adolescent Development in 2022. Her thesis centered on the most relevant research and studies regarding trauma-informed systems and the impact of trauma on human brains and behaviors. Rachel has spent the last decade of her life working closely with adolescents in the state of Utah. Rachel is the founder and executive director of Common Thread, a non-profit organization creating community





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



and resources for teens, ages 12 and up, impacted by foster care and other similar lived experiences. She is a licensed foster parent, Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), and a former high school educator and coach.

rachel@tiutah.org

Hip Hop Education & Resource Center (HERC)

Joshua Perkins, Director

The HERC is a facility dedicated to Hip Hop arts, created in an effort to provide high quality Hip Hop arts education to the community. The HERC is owned and operated by 1520 ARTS and serves as its headquarters. Named after the father of Hip Hop (DJ KOOL HERC), The HERC is dedicated to all the pioneers and icons that helped create one of the most unique subcultures on the planet.

<https://slcherc.com/>

Jana Johansen

Jana Johansen is currently a Bureau Manager for the Utah Department of Commerce, Division of Professional Licensing the state’s umbrella licensing organization. She has served in Utah state government for over 13 years.

In her current position, Jana serves as the Utah state delegate for the Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Clinical Mental Health, and PSYPAC licensure compact commissions to which Utah is a signatory. She facilitates over thirty different license types as well as twelve professional licensing Boards. She is a very organized, logical, and structured person and utilizes these qualities in all that she does. One of the most enjoyable parts of Jana’s duties is writing the Administrative Rule to support legislation.

Jana holds a degree in Behavioral Science with an emphasis in Anthropology. When she is not committing herself fully to the licensees of Utah, Jana can be found on the lake reading a book and pretending to fish with her husband

janajohansen@utah.gov

Christy Kane

Dr. Christy Kane is a culture change enthusiast who delivers engaging presentations based on brain-based research, storytelling, and a thought-provoking delivery. Centered around embracing mental health as a positive aspect of life essential to thriving, Dr. Kane’s ultimate goal is to help people care for their brains and live better lives. With a Doctorate in Psychology and a clinical license (CMHC), she is a successful business owner and

leader and has authored and published three books (Cognitive Resilience Mental Health Manual; Fractured Souls Splintered Memories: Unlocking the Boxes of Trauma; and Shell-cracking: Leaving the Past Behind). Dr. Kane provides professional development training and mental health corporate consulting services to school districts in multiple states. “Organizations hire Christy because her implementable tools help people find hope, take daily steps to live and heal their lives, and make peace with the past.” - UCAP (Utah Coalition Against Pornography)

christy@drchristykane.com

DeLynn Lamb

DeLynn Lamb received a BS in Social Work and Psychology from Southern Utah University in 1987. He subsequently received a Master in Social Work (MSW) from New Mexico Highlands University in 1988. He is currently licensed in the State of Utah and Arizona as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). DeLynn joined the Utah Network on sexual Offending (NOJOS) in 1988. In 1988 while an employee of the community mental health center he was instrumental in starting the first outpatient sexual offender treatment programs in Southern Utah. He also at the same period of time provided treatment for sexual abuse victims. In 1995 he developed and opened a NOJOS level 6 residential program for Southwest Center (Eagle Quest). In 2005 DeLynn was employed by Youth Health Associates as Clinical Director for Southern Utah. DeLynn is currently in private practice. DeLynn was elected co-chair of NOJOS in 1994. He has been instrumental in setting up NOJOS training curriculum and trainings for a decade. DeLynn is also a contributing author for the NOJOS standards and protocol manual, and the primary author of the “Resolution Continuum” a step-by-step guide for the reunification of adolescent sexual offenders and their victims. DeLynn has presented nationally at both National Adolescent Perpetrator Network (NAPN) conferences and the Association for the Assessment and Treatment of Sexual Offenders (ATSA).

delynnlamb@hotmail.com

Claudia Loayza

Claudia Loayza is a dedicated government relations and



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



engagement professional. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Brigham Young University in 2019 where she explored the relationship between urban planning and public health. Her interest in the built environment, policy, and engagement led her to earn a Master's in City and Metropolitan Planning from the University of Utah in 2022, where she received the National American Planning Association Student of the Year award for Utah. In 2021, she was honored as one of Utah Business' 20 in Their 20s, recognizing her work in state government as the Planning Policy & Engagement Coordinator for the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs, a position she still holds today. Her efforts have been focused on establishing an engagement and public participation framework that prioritizes opportunity-driven and community-informed efforts.

As a proud born and raised first-generation Utahn, she has learned the importance of connection across differences, hard work, resilience, and generational healing for more hopeful and thriving futures. She is deeply committed to creating opportunities that uplift and open doors for all communities that call Utah home.
cloayza@utah.gov

Ashley Lower

Ashley Lower is a Behavior Specialist on the Safe and Healthy Schools team at the Utah State Board of Education focusing on general behavior support and school-based mental health support. She has an education specialist degree in school psychology and a bachelor's degree in recreation therapy. She has over 15 years of experience working with children and youth with significant behavior and mental health needs as a recreational therapist and school psychologist. Ashley is passionate about supporting and advocating for the needs of students across the state of Utah.
ashley.lower@schools.utah.gov

Celeste Malone

Dr. Celeste Malone is an associate professor of school psychology at Howard University and immediate past president of the National Association of School Psychologists. Her upbringing in Harlem, NY, has made her passionate about addressing issues of educational equity, and creating schools where marginalized youth feel affirmed and can thrive. A national expert in multicultural school psychology, Dr. Malone's research focuses on culturally responsive practices in school mental health and diversifying the school psychology workforce. She has received

several awards for her ongoing leadership and commitment to social justice including from the American Psychological Association, the Black School Psychologists' Network, the National Association of School Psychologists, and the Maryland School Psychologists' Association. Dr. Malone received her master's degree in school counseling from Johns Hopkins University and her doctorate in school psychology from Temple University, and she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in child clinical and pediatric psychology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Outside of her professional role, Dr. Malone is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and a regional cochair of one of the sorority's leadership development programs.

celeste.malone@howard.edu

Blake Murdoch

Blake Murdoch is the Deputy Juvenile Court Administrator for Utah's Administrative Office of the Courts. Blake started with the Courts in 2007 as a Juvenile Probation Officer. Blake has also worked as a Probation Supervisor and a Probation Chief. Blake is committed to working with Juvenile Probation in their diligent efforts to enhance the lives of youth through evidence-based principles.

blakem@utcourts.gov

Nubia Peña

Senior Advisor - Equity & Opportunity
Office of Gov. Spencer J. Cox

Director

Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs

Ms. Nubia Peña is the Senior Advisor on Equity and Opportunity to Governor Cox and the Director for the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs where their mission is to promote an inclusive climate for Utah's growing diverse community through training, outreach, policy and research efforts, and youth leadership development. Ms. Peña is immensely grateful for the extensive experience acquired during the past 20 years working as a community organizer, partner, and policy advocate for underrepresented populations. She facilitates dialogues amongst local and national leaders on complex topics of inclusion and justice working to create fair and responsive access for historically underserved communities. During the unprecedented pandemic, Ms. Peña was assigned by Governor Gary R. Herbert to oversee the



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Multicultural Advisory Committee of Utah's COVID-19 Response in partnership with Byron Russell and ZeMin Xiao. The Committee of frontline and state agency leaders worked within existing frameworks to amplify efforts to alleviate the growing disparities in food security, housing and social services, economic sustainability, communications, language accessibility, digital equity, and health access. The model has been nationally and locally uplifted as an example of culturally responsive cross-sector collaboration. Ms. Peña received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in May 2016. Ms. Peña was named in Utah Business Magazine's 2020 40 Under 40 award recipients, 2020 Heroes for Utah Philanthropy Day, selected as Sundance Film Festival 2021 Women's Leadership Celebration honorees and awarded the Utah Business Magazine's Living Color recognition for service in driving inclusion in the state. In 2022, she was named the recipient of the Utah Minority Bar Association (UMBA) Jimi Mitsunaga Excellence in the Law Award for significantly contributing to and promoting the provision of legal services to underserved communities, excelling in the practice of law, and contributing to UMBA's mission of inclusive social impact. Most recently, Ms. Peña was named the recipient of YWCA's 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award and she was also selected as a 2023 Presidential Leaders Scholars, a national development experience that hones leadership capabilities through interactions with former U.S. Presidents, key administration officials, world-renowned academics, and business and civic leaders.

npena@utah.gov

Jodi Petersen

Dr. Jodi Petersen is a thought leader in criminal justice and child welfare reform. As the visionary founder and principal researcher at Petersen Research Consultants, she has dedicated her career to leveraging data to amplify organizational impact within criminal justice, child welfare, youth development, education, and workforce development sectors. Her commitment to social justice and equity is evident through her innovative work at the intersection of trauma and criminogenic risk. Dr. Petersen, holding a doctorate degree in Ecological-Community Psychology from Michigan State University, is renowned for her expertise in systems change, adept facilitation, and her comprehensive approach to both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. A nationally and internationally recognized expert, Dr. Petersen is a certified trainer in several criminogenic risk assessment tools tailored for both adult and juvenile populations.

Her extensive experience includes developing and managing community programs and aligning data-driven practices across collaborative county and statewide initiatives.

jodi@petersenresearchconsultants.com

Logan Reid

Logan is a licensed prevention specialist, Director of Prevention at Southwest Behavioral Health Center, and a Regional Prevention Director for the State of Utah. After three years in youth corrections, Logan has spent the past 16 years as a licensed prevention specialist. His degrees are in psychology, sociology and mental health and wellness, and he is an adjunct professor of sociology at Utah Tech University. He loves his job, and he loves his prevention team!

lreid@sbhcutah.org

Carol Ruddell

Carol Ruddell is an Administrator in the Utah Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health. She oversees Suicide Prevention programs for the state and partners with organizations, business and individuals. Carol is the co-lead for Utah's Governor's Challenge to prevent suicides among Veterans, Services Members and their Families (SMVF). Prior to joining the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, Carol directed two federal research studies for improving the education, employment and self-sufficiency of people with disabilities. She was also a teacher for 22 years, working with students who were deaf and blind. Carol is passionate about everyone having the supports they need to live healthy, self-directed lives.

cgruddell@utah.gov

Tiffany Rupe

Tiffany Rupe is the Juvenile Justice Education Program Coordinator for Utah's Administrative Office of the Courts. She is passionate about serving youth and families in the justice system. She believes there is no better calling than to be a part of the lives of the promising youth in our communities. She specializes in juvenile probation education and evidence-based practices (EBP) for reducing recidivism. Tiffany graduated from Weber State University with a Bachelor's in Psychology and a minor in Criminal Justice. She also holds a Judicial Administration Certificate from Michigan State University and is a certified assessor of the University of Cincinnati's



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Correctional Program Checklist. Additionally, Tiffany is a certified trainer in several justice-related trainings including Bridges out of Poverty and Juvenile Mental Health. Between 2000 and 2006, Tiffany started her justice career as a court liaison and Private Probation Officer working with district and justice courts throughout the Wasatch Front. Tiffany started with the State of Utah Juvenile Courts in 2006 and since then has served as a Juvenile Probation Officer, Drug Court Program Coordinator, Probation Supervisor and Case Planning Trainer. She transitioned to the Administrative Office of the Courts in 2017 when she became a Program Coordinator for Evidence-Based Practices. In this position, she provided quality assurance and technical assistance to juvenile probation and their contracted programs. In her current position, Tiffany spends much of her time developing and delivering curriculum for online and in-person training and supporting and coaching other training coordinators. She values the opportunity to be able to be a part of other's ongoing improvement.

tiffanyr@utcourts.gov

Justin Seely

Justin Seely has worked in the juvenile justice field for close to 30 years. In 1997, he graduated from Southern Utah University and later in 2008 he earned his Master's of Social Work degree from the University of Utah. Justin began working with youth from the states of Colorado, Nevada, and Utah in a wilderness setting. In 2001, he began his career with Juvenile Justice Services in Early Intervention Services. He then became a Case Manager for 15 years, serving both urban and rural Utah. Following this role, Justin transitioned to working in a secure setting as a supervisor and Assistant Program Director. Justin helped develop a Behavior Management System that is currently being used by the division. In 2020, he began his work as the Statewide Employment Coordinator with the Second Chance Grant. His work primarily focuses on secure care and custody placed youth, helping prepare them for re-entry into their communities. He assists with providing vocational skills development and connecting the youth with employers that are relevant to their areas of interest and skill level. Justin builds networks with businesses willing to employ the youth we serve, and establishes career opportunities to help stabilize youth and young adults during this transition.

jdseely@utah.gov

Tanya Semerad



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Tanya Semerad is the Autism/Significant Cognitive Disabilities Specialist in the Special Education Department at USBE. She has a Master's Degree in Special Education and has 32 years of experience working with students on the autism spectrum and students with complex support needs. She is on many committees and councils in the community including, the Autism Council of Utah, Utah Autism Initiative, and Utah Registry for Autism and Developmental Disabilities. She has presented at local, state, and national conferences on Alternate Achievement Standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities, strategies for working with students on the autism spectrum, functional communication, executive function skills and deficits, and positive behavior supports.

tanya.semerad@schools.utah.gov

Saane Siale

Saane Siale is a Bay Area, California native. She is the oldest child with one younger brother and two younger sisters. They are proud children of Tongan immigrant parents. She graduated from BYU in 2022 with a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies: Human Development with a triple minor in Civic Engagement, Gerontology, and Nonprofit Management. She is one of 5 organizers for an immigrant community group called "UT with All Immigrants," where they host rallies and events that support immigrants of all statuses. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Social Work at the University of Utah. For her program, she is a therapist for elementary school children, and she currently works full-time as the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Coordinator for the Rape Recovery Center. She is passionate about working with survivors of sexual violence because of her experience being a survivor herself. She loves fighting for the historically marginalized. Outside of work, she loves photography, singing, and traveling.

saane@pik2ar.org

Stephen Solen

Stephen Solen has been involved in education for 15 years, demonstrating leadership skills in various forms. Currently, he is the Principal of Pleasant Creek School, an alternative school for YIC and local students. Steve's philosophy of "Make School Not School" has allowed his teachers to experiment with different teaching concepts and ideas, making it possible to improve student engagement through non-traditional styles of teaching and curriculum design. His idea of education is to take the strengths of each student, and incorporate those strengths into curriculum



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



development. Some of his notable recognitions include North Sanpete School District Teacher of the Year, two-time UHSAA Boys Soccer Coach of the Year, NFHS West Regional Coach of the Year, and USBE YIC Director of the Year.

stephen.solen@nsanpete.org

David Sollami

David Sollami is currently with the Utah State Board of Education as an Education Specialist and Title 1 State Coordinator. With a degree from Brigham Young University, in Psychology and Marriage Family Human Development, he started his career working with Juvenile Justice and Youth Services in Utah. Working in JJYS for over 17 years, David started as an intern and operated some of the largest multi-function facilities in the state. David has completed multiple accredited programs and is certified as a Certified Public Manager (CPM). David is also finding passion working in philanthropy and travels around the country, educating staff and youth on the disease of addiction, as the Executive Director for a nonprofit called The McGee Project. David is a father of three children, coaches High School Baseball, and loves to get outdoors to fish. David’s philosophy in life is “empowering others to help them see and reach their true potential”.

David.Sollami@schools.utah.gov

Ben Springer

Ben Springer is an award-winning and Nationally Certified School Psychologist. Ben is also the author of the popular books, “Happy Kids Don’t Punch You in the Face (2018),” “GPS: Good Parenting Strategies (2021).” Ben is also excited to announce his new book with co-author, Dr. Ben Belnap, “Optimistic Teaming (2024)” from Corwin Press. Ben has worked as a teacher, autism specialist, behavior specialist, school psychologist, and Director of Special Education. Currently, Ben manages Totem PD, a professional learning company for educators and mental health practitioners. Ben completed his Master’s and Doctoral degrees from the University of Utah.

ben.springer@wasatch.edu

Michelle Stagmer

Michelle Stagmer is an Executive Director at the Cornerstone

Agency of Pennsylvania who provide behavioral, communication, and independent home living services to adults with specials needs and mental health. In addition, Michelle has been an Associate Trainer with Safe Crisis Management for the last 5 years. She has a Master Degree in Sociology and Special Education, is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and is clinically certified with the National Association for Dually Diagnosed. Michelle began her career in children’s services as a direct care staff working in multiple services including education, foster care and residential. She continues to enjoy working with teams to help break down barriers and find ways to rebuild relationships among staff and individuals with difficult behavior. She believes that a big part of our job is continuing to step back and remember that every person has a story impacting their now.

mstagmer@jkmtraining.com

Rob Timmerman

Rob Timmerman, Substance Use Prevention Manager, Utah Department of Health and Human Services. Rob is a lifelong Utah resident and a proud graduate of the University of Utah with degrees in Behavioral Science & Health and Sociology with a Criminology Certificate. Rob began his career in Substance Use Disorder Prevention with the Utah Federation for Youth and was the director of a community SUD prevention coalition in South Salt Lake. Rob parlayed his experience mobilizing communities and building coalitions into a position as a Regional Director in Utah’s SUD prevention system, and now leads that system in his position at the state. He has worked with local areas around Utah providing technical assistance and training on prevention science, community mobilization and evidence based strategies. Rob serves on a number of community and statewide committees and councils including the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council (USAAPV+), the Utah Prevention Advisory Committee (as current Chair), Utah Evidence Based Workgroup, Underage Drinking Prevention Workgroup, the South Salt Lake Police Athletics & Activities League (SSLPAL) and is a founding member and advisor to the Utah Prevention Coalitions Association. Rob is a father of three great kids and feels lucky to work in a field that can help them and all kids in Utah grow up safe and healthy. Rob loves spending time in the mountains and has become obsessed with skiing learning only recently as a grey-bearded 40-something.

rtimmerman@utah.gov

Miguel Trujillo, LCSW, PHD

Associate Director of Community Engaged Scholarship & Evaluation



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info





Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Growing up in the Salt Lake Valley, with his grandparents immigrating from Mexico to Corrine City, Utah has always been home to Miguel. Due to the sacrifices of his family, he has had the privilege of attending public schools and later higher education in the state; Miguel has spent his career finding ways to promote access for others to do the same. From volunteering for after school programs, working in and with public schools, to conducting state level research, Miguel understands the various systems that impact a student's education. During his MSW program with the University of Utah, Miguel spent time at UNP as a student, carrying the model of community partnership wherever he went. Community, and the impact of mutual empowerment, helped to inform his practice as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, program coordinator, and later researcher. While completing his PhD program at the University of Denver, he most recently worked with the Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs, helping to accomplish multiple projects and priorities with communities around the state. Miguel practices from the belief that everyone can learn and everyone has something to teach. He looks forward to working alongside the UNP staff, the community, faculty, *and all those who want to see our communities thrive.*

mtrujillo@utah.gov

Pam Vickrey

Pamela Vickrey is the Executive Director of the Utah Juvenile Defender Attorneys. Ms. Vickrey also serves as Vice Chair to the Utah Sentencing Commission; chair of the Juvenile Subcommittee for the Utah Sentencing Commission; a member of the Indigent Defense Commission; and the juvenile defense representative on the Juvenile Justice Implementation Committee under Utah's Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. Ms. Vickrey also served as the past chairwoman of the Utah State Advisory Group and still serves as a member. Ms. Vickrey has been instrumental in numerous sweeping reforms in Utah, including: the creation of Utah's first juvenile mental health court; the development and implementation of Utah's juvenile competency statute; ending indiscriminate shackling of youth; eliminating juvenile life without parole sentences; legislative amendments to Utah's laws regarding the transfer of youth to the adult criminal justice system; automatic appointment of counsel for all children at all juvenile court proceedings. Ms. Vickrey also helped develop and pass an omnibus juvenile justice reform bill that identified and addressed racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system; removed truancy from the court system; diverted low-risk youth from formal court



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



proceedings; limited the imposition of fines and fees, driver's license suspensions, and compensatory service; shifted dollars from costly out-of-home placements for children to community-based services; and restricted the use of detention. As the first certified Juvenile Training Immersion Program trainer in Utah, Pam coordinates and provides specialized training to juvenile defense attorneys in the state and around the country.

pvickrey@ujda.org

Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson

Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson, PhD, CSW received her Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Utah. For the past 25 years, she has directed research studies and program evaluations with state and regional-level government agencies and is currently the principal investigator of several studies sponsored by Utah's DWS and DHHS. She has assisted all levels of agency management, from senior leadership to front line workers, in using data for program and policy development. In addition to her research, she also provide workshops for local and national welfare agency administrators, research bodies and social work groups addressing issues related to welfare policy, trauma-informed approaches, employment issues, poverty and serving diverse low-income populations.

marybeth@tiutah.org

Brian J. Willoughby, Ph.D.

Brian J. Willoughby, Ph.D. is currently a Professor in the School of Family Life at Brigham Young University and a research fellow at The Wheatley Institute. He received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Brigham Young University and then went on to receive a Masters and Doctoral degree in Family Social Science from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Willoughby is considered an international expert in the field of couple and marital relationships, sexuality, and emerging adult development. His research generally focuses on how adolescents, young adults, and adults move toward and form long-term committed relationships. Dr. Willoughby has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on young adult development, couple dynamics, marriage, and sexuality in the leading family science, psychological and sociological journals. He is the author of the recently published book, *The Millennial Marriage*, published by Routledge Press and is also the author of *The Marriage Paradox: Why Emerging Adults*



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Speakers Info



Love Marriage Yet Push it Aside, published by Oxford University Press. Dr. Willoughby is an elected full member of the International Academy of Sex Research. Dr. Willoughby also currently serves as an associate editor for the Journal of Sex Research and serves as an assistant editor for the academic journal Emerging Adulthood. He serves as a consulting editor for the Archives of Sexual Behavior and the Journal of Adult Development. His research has been widely cited in the media, appearing in such outlets as USA Today, MSNBC, the New York Post, Men's Health, the Washington Post, ABC News, Psychology Today, and Prevention Magazine. He has appeared in live broadcasts on such news outlets as HuffPost Live, NPR, and is a regular guest on BYU radio and KSL. Dr. Willoughby has been married for twenty two years to his wife Cassi and together they have four children.

brian.willoughby@byu.edu

2024 Promising Youth Conference Award Recipient

Amanda Webb - 2024 Weber Morgan Health Department Community Health Educator

As a community health educator, Amanda cares deeply about the health and well-being of the students and families that she serves. She collaborates with community agencies to provide a coordinated effort to provide prevention services to her communities. Amanda has a deep caring and passion for her community. She is always looking for ways to bring in agency presentations to increase knowledge and expansion of partnerships within the county. Her partnerships include Morgan School District, Weber Human Services, NUHOPE, United Way, USU Extension Services, Utah State Parks, Morgan County Sheriff Dept., Morgan City, Morgan County Business Chamber, and Morgan Library just to name a few. Her efforts in building a community that truly rallies around one another have been phenomenal and she continues to accomplish her goals to make Morgan a much better place to live, learn, and grow together. Amanda is not one to seek out the spotlight but make no mistake, she is the energy and brainpower behind the scenes putting pieces together to make it all work. She is the glue that holds our community leadership together. Congratulations Amanda Webb!!!

It is with great honor that we Award Amanda Webb with this Year's Promising Youth Award.



Awards Info

Awards Info

Awards Info

2024 Promising Youth Conference Award Recipient

O'Dee Hansen - 2024 North Sanpete School District Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent O'Dee Hansen promotes the philosophy of inter-agency cooperation and coordination. As a Student Services Director, O'Dee worked to coordinate and improve services for North Sanpete area students and families. He has been a member of the Communities that Care Coalitions and helped to increase the number of counseling services in the area including receiving the AWARE grant to promote health and wellness in the communities of which he serves. He clearly demonstrates his commitment and ability to network with various organizations and resources striving to improve the lives of our youth and their families. He has collaborated with other agencies to provide Parent and Family Wellness nights at the schools. He has worked with the local health department and community non-profit agencies to offer teacher and parent training that promotes community and student connection. Superintendent Hansen demonstrates creativity in program development and providing services to our youth by continuing to improve on what has been created and building upon it, always striving for improvement in providing services to youth that can lead to a successful life. Congratulations O'Dee Hansen!!!

It is with great honor that we Award Superintendent O'Dee Hansen with this Year's Promising Youth Award.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS SERVING PROMISING YOUTH PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

For 43 years the Annual Conference of Agencies and Organizations Serving Promising Youth has been committed to a philosophy of interagency networking and cooperation enhanced by high-quality interdisciplinary training opportunities that focus on cutting-edge research, creativity, and compassion for youth living through difficult circumstances. Historically and currently, the Conference Organizing Committee has held a position of advocacy for these values, and, in keeping with these values and this philosophy, the Conference Organizing Committee bestows the Promising Youth Conference Awards to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to serving youth and their ability to network with various agencies, organizationa and resources in the community to creatively enhance services and programs for youth.

1983	Willard Malmstrom	1993	Suecarol Robinson
1984	Judge John Farr Larson		Charles Parsons
1985	Dr. Agnes Park		Stan Fillmore
1986	Claude Dean	1994	Roger Gissemann
1987	Judge Regnal Garff		Terry Carr
1988	Lynne Quarry	1995	Wayne Holland
	Bryon Matsuda		Kay Haws
	Judge Robert Newey	1996	Glen Lambert
	Mary Kellams		Cathy Ortega
1989	Dr. Doug Bates	1997	Greg Giacomazza
	Dr. A.J. Peace		Phil Castle
	Maria Garciaz	1998	Wayne Gurney
	Jerry Walker		John F. McNamara
	Det. Lynn Hooper		Konstantin Markides
1990	Don Anderson	1999	James Jensen
	Carrie Cox		EdWynn Weaver
	Carl Voyle		Susan Dowsett
	Sue Hall	2000	Jim Thorpe
	K.S. Cornaby		Jeanne Tolbert
1991	Steve Allred		Julie Barbero
	Richard Winters	2001	D.J. Wallace
1992	Dave Fowers		Gaby Anderson
	Max Jackson	2002	Jay Maughan
	Richard Smoot		Cecil Loftin
	Ralph Haws		Susan Gall

- 2003 Darin Carver
Santiago (Jim) Sandoval
Ann Benson
Jan Arrington
- 2004 Ronald Tollefson
Ruth Wilson
- 2005 DeLyn Lamb
Greg Hudnall
Pat Berckman
- 2006 James Hawkes
Ann Foster
- 2007 Carol Lear
Sharon Hall
- 2008 Margie Delgado
Chris Nelson
- 2009 Gordon Hold
Beth Murphy
Ann Dale
- 2010 Louie Avila
Linda Campbell
- 2011 Michelle Carter
Kimbal Parker
Shelley Stevens
- 2012 Treva Bell
Jerry Enniss
Bev Klungervik
- 2013 Tami Fullerton
Floyd Wyasket
- 2014 David Brooks
Dr. John DeWitt
Susan Eisenman
- 2015 Terry Ogborn
Reg Garff
- 2016 Dinah Weldon
Franz Bryner
- 2017 Heather Preece
Steven Kaelin
- 2018 Jane Joy
Krystal Jones
- 2019 Pam Vickrey
Blake Daniels
- 2022 Trevor Olsen
Travis Cook
- 2023 Gina Butters

**The Conference Planning
Committee would like to thank the
following agencies and
organizations for contributing to
the success of the conference:**

- Voices for Utah Children*
- Utah Youth Village*
- Compass Academy*
- LifeLine*
- Odyssey House*
- Aspen Grove Behavioral Hospital*
- Youth Private Provider Association*
- Willard Peak, Rite of Passage*
- Summit Counseling Solutions*
- Angie Lucas, author*
- Embark Behavioral Health*
- Huntsman Mental Health Institute*
- Salt Lake Behavioral Health*
- Latino Behavioral Health Services*
- Westridge Academy*

Conference Planning Committee



Committee Info

Gini Highfield
Retired-Utah Juvenile Court

Ansley Dille
Utah Juvenile Court

Miriam Gutierrez
Latino Behavioral Health

Elise Harward
Vocational Rehabilitation



Committee Info

Alyn Mitchell
San Juan Behavioral Health

Fulvia Franco
Jordan School District

Mary Gully
*Board Member Salt Lake
County Youth Services*

Trevor Olsen
San Juan School District



Committee Info

Pam Vickrey
Utah Juvenile Defender Attorneys

Javier Alegre
Latino Behavioral Health

Kim Kettle
*Department of Health and
Human Services*

Dave Fowers
NOJOS

Martin Munoz
Voices for Utah Children



Claudia Loayza
*Utah Division of Multicultural
Affairs*

Sharon Hall
Granite School District

Pat Moore
*Juvenile Justice & Youth
Services*

BJ Weller
Canyons School District

Stacy Gibson
*Division of Child & Family
Services*

Abby Gottsegen
Jordan School District

Alyssa Dairsow
*Commission on Criminal
and Juvenile Justice*

Ruth Wilson
Live For Life

Dan Ontiveros
Intermountain Health

Debbie Rocha
Salt Lake School District

Cuong Nguyen
*Utah State Board of
Education*

Lydia Bigcraft
*Utah Division of Multicultural
Affairs*

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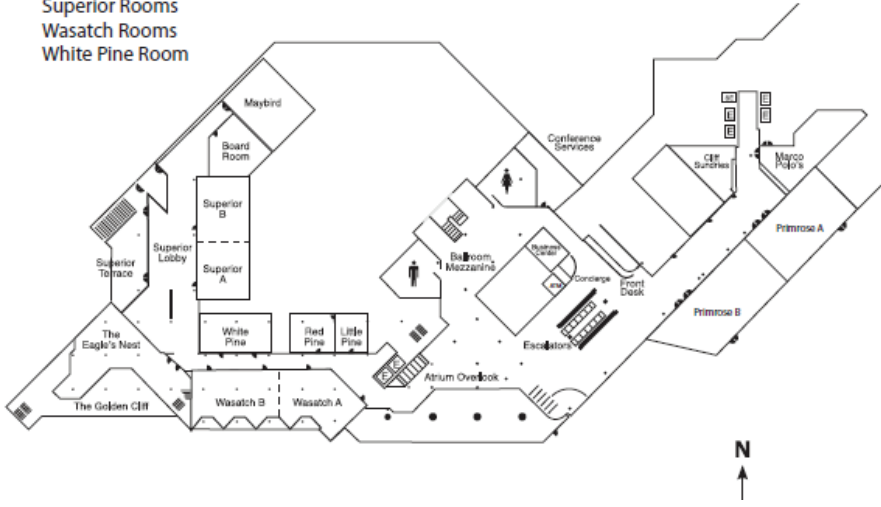
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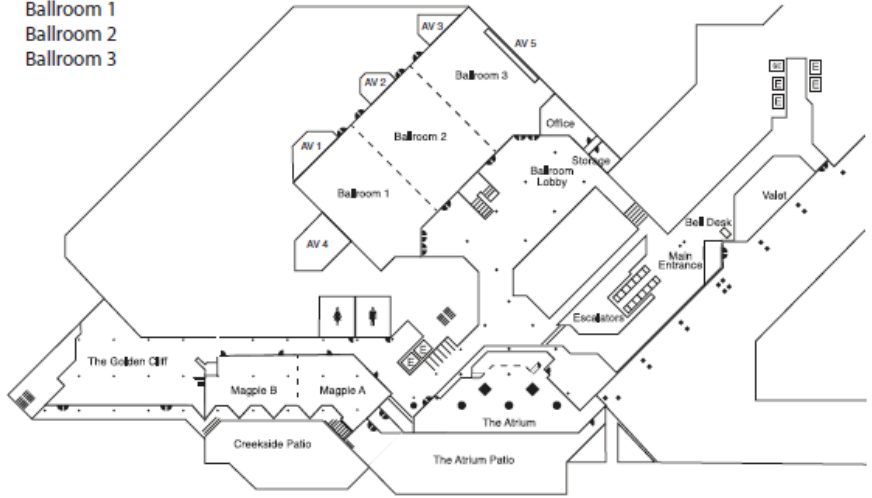
Notes

Cliff Lodge Map

- Level C**
- Primrose Room A
- Primrose Room B
- Rest Rooms
- Superior Rooms
- Wasatch Rooms
- White Pine Room



- Level B**
- Ballroom 1
- Ballroom 2
- Ballroom 3



Igniting Your Light and the Hope Within

May 9 & 10, 2024
Snowbird, Utah



Code to download Whova App with conference information and updates



Promising Youth
CONFERENCE