

Every Day Counts...
In the Life of a Child in
Foster Care



Annual CRB Conference
May 19-20, 2017



Salem Convention Center
200 Commercial St SE, Salem, Oregon



2017 Every Day Counts... Annual Conference

Friday, May 19, 2017

Willamette Ballroom – Second Floor

11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Welcome and Announcements
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	What Scientists Are Telling Us About the Effects of Abuse and Neglect on the Development of a Child's Brain & Why CRB Volunteers Should Be Listening
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Shining a Light on Child Safety in Foster Care
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Conducting an Issue-Focused Review – A Mock Review
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Social Hour
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	CRB Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Saturday, May 20, 2017

First Floor

7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet – Registration			
8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Announcements <i>Santiam 1,2,3</i>			
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Bias in Decision Making <i>Santiam 1,2,3</i>			
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Break & Hotel Checkout			
	<i>Santiam 4</i>	<i>Santiam 5</i>	<i>Santiam 6</i>	<i>Boardroom</i>
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Map to Independence: Determining the Adequacy of a Comprehensive Transition Plan	Successfully Navigating the Dependency System and Determining Parent Progress Along the Way	Trauma Proofing the Review	Concurrent Planning
12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch Child Welfare Update <i>Santiam 1,2,3</i>			
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Heroin and Opiate Addiction - The Impact on Children and Parents in the Child Welfare System	Reviewing Reasonable Efforts for Children of Incarcerated Parents	Keeping Kids Safe in Foster Care	A Look at Child Safety in Substitute Care Through a Native American Lens

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Shannon Peake, Center for Translational Neuroscience

Shannon Peake, Ph.D., earned his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon in 2015. He is a research associate with the Stress Neurobiology and Prevention (SNAP) Laboratory and the Prevention Science Institute at the University of Oregon. His research uses neuroimaging methods to examine the combined influence of social factors and early adversity on behavior in children and adolescents. Shannon is also interested in the influence of social factors on cognitive skills and brain development.

Michael Livingston, CRB Volunteer Board Member

Michael Livingston retired in 2013 from his position as juvenile law staff counsel for the Oregon Judicial Department. Before that, he served as Marion County juvenile court referee and *pro tem* Circuit Court Judge, and as assistant attorney general for the Oregon Department of Justice. He now serves on the Marion County Citizen Review Board and Statewide Advisory Committee.



The Honorable Pamela Abernethy, Senior Judge, Oregon Judicial Department

Pamela Abernethy previously worked for the Oregon Judicial Department as the Judge in Residence for the Juvenile Court Improvement Program. She also worked as a private mediator and litigation consultant. Prior to that she served as a Marion County Circuit Court Judge for 18 years, in private practice with Harrang, Long, Gary Rudnick P.C and in a variety of positions for the Oregon Department of Justice, including Special Counsel to the Attorney General and as the founding Attorney-in-Charge of the Special Litigation Unit. She is a Zero to Three, Leaders for the 21st Century Fellow, Class of 2008.

Brittany Hope, Foster Youth Advocate, Oregon Foster Youth Connection

Brittany Hope is a Foster Youth Advocate with the Oregon Foster Youth Connection (OFYC) and has been involved with advocacy work for foster children and child welfare for over two years. She plans to continue her career in advocacy work through college and eventually take a position in the upper administration of DHS or go into politics and policy making at a state or national level.



Lisa McMahon, Program Director, Oregon Foster Youth Connection

Lisa McMahon is the Program Director of Oregon Foster Youth Connection (OFYC). Since being appointed to this role a little over two years ago, she has been able to assist youth in making substantial changes to Oregon's foster care system; a system they themselves have experienced. The youth Lisa works with have done this by using their knowledge of the system to bring forth legislation, inform rules and policy, and educate those who work directly with youth in care.

Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding, Sacramento State

Rita Cameron Wedding, Ph.D., is the Chair of the department of Women's Studies at Sacramento State University. Dr. Cameron Wedding's work on gender, diversity and social justice is international in scope. She has taught at the United Nations University for Peace, the United Nations University International Leadership Institute Conference on the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict in Amman Jordan, the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, the National Conference of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Third National Judicial Leadership Summit on the Protection of Children.





CRB Core Competencies

The Citizen Review Board Training Committee identified five core competencies for CRB volunteers and staff. The core competencies outline what the CRB volunteers and staff need to know and be able to do in order to achieve the vision of the Citizen Review Board. The five core competencies are (1) The Law; (2) The Review Process; (3) Policy and Systems Advocacy; (4) Cultural Competency; and (5) Safety, Health and Well Being. Many of the workshops at the conference address more than one of the core competencies.

(1) **The Law** competency requires CRB volunteers and staff to have knowledge and understanding of the history of the law and fundamental concepts contained in the law, as well the ability to apply the law properly in every case reviewed. Sessions addressing this competency include: **Reviewing Reasonable Efforts for Children of Incarcerated Parents; Map to Independence: Determining the Adequacy of a Comprehensive Transition Plan**

(2) **The Review Process** competency involves recognizing that effective and efficient reviews contribute to services being in place for children and families, achieving timely permanency for children, and highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the child welfare system. Sessions that address this competency: **Conducting an Issue-Focused Review; Trauma Proofing the Review; Concurrent Planning; Reviewing Reasonable Efforts for Children of Incarcerated Parents; Heroin and Opiate Addiction - The Impact on Children and Parents in the Child Welfare System; Successfully Navigating the Dependency System and Determining Parent Progress Along the Way**

(3) The **Policy and Systems Advocacy** competency recognizes that the CRB has a dual mandate to review the cases of children in substitute care and to advocate for changes to the systems affecting them and their families. Citizen participation, leadership and advocacy play an important role in driving public policy through the legislative process. Sessions related to this competency are: **Shining a Light on Child Safety in Foster Care; Successfully Navigating the Dependency System and Determining Parent Progress Along the Way; Keeping Kids Safe in Foster Care**

(4) The **Cultural Competency** recognizes that in order to be successful, the CRB must be able to show that we reflect, respect and respond to the diverse populations we serve, and that CRB volunteers and staff should continually strive to be culturally responsive. Sessions that address this competency: **A Look at Child Safety in Substitute Care Through a Native American Lens; Bias in Decision Making**

(5) The **Safety, Health and Well Being** competency involves an acknowledgement that a child's health, safety and well being are crucial to achieving permanency. Safety, health and well being are achieved when a child lives in a stable home free from maltreatment, with caregivers to whom the child is attached, and with caregivers who are competent in nurturing the child's physical, social-emotional and educational development. Sessions that address this competency include: **Conducting an Issue-Focused Review; Shining a Light on Child Safety in Foster Care; Keeping Kids Safe in Foster Care; Map to Independence: Determining the Adequacy of a Comprehensive Transition Plan; Heroin and Opiate Addiction - The Impact on Children and Parents in the Child Welfare System**

Friday Program

12:30 p.m. Welcome (Willamette Ballroom)

The Honorable Cheryl Pellegrini, Juvenile Court Judge, Marion County Circuit Court
Leola McKenzie, Director of Juvenile & Family Court Programs Division

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. What Scientists Are Telling Us About the Effects of Abuse and Neglect on the Development of a Child's Brain & Why CRB Volunteers Should Be Listening (Willamette Ballroom)

Dr. Shannon Peake, University of Oregon
Michael Livingston, Marion County CRB Volunteer Board Member

The architecture of the human brain begins in utero and continues building into adulthood, but, the most important development occurs during childhood. Abuse and chronic neglect create "toxic stress," which prevents healthy brain development. This "toxic stress" effect continues, even after a child is removed from abusive, or neglectful, parents and, unless affirmatively addressed, will continue to redirect the architecture of the brain into adulthood, depleting cognitive resources, impairing the capacity for self-regulation and burdening health and well-being. In this session, Dr. Fisher will explain the phenomenon and consequences of "toxic stress," and we will learn how to apply that understanding in making our findings, particularly in Finding 3A, "Has DHS ensured that appropriate services are in place to safeguard the child's safety, health and well-being?"

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Shining a Light on Child Safety in Foster Care (Willamette Ballroom)

The Honorable Pamela Abernethy, Senior Judge

The "Child Safety in Substitute Care Independent Review Report" conducted by Public Knowledge (also referred to as the PK Report) found that underlying issues with placement and how DHS responds to abuse of children in foster care "is the less tangible but even more critical reality that the culture of DHS and Oregon's substitute care system needs to change." In order to do our part, CRBs must approach case reviews with increased scrutiny. Through case reviews, the CRB "shines a light" on the safety, permanency, and well-being of children in substitute care.

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Conducting an Issue-Focused Review - A Mock Review (Willamette Ballroom)

Case materials will be sent prior to the conference which will be used during this session and mock review. Participants will be shown effective preparation techniques and strategies for reviews and will then participate in an interactive mock review to practice making issue-focused findings on some of the most important and difficult CRB findings. By the end, participants will have direct experience in conducting an issue-focused review.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Social Hour (Willamette Foyer)

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. CRB Volunteer Board Member Recognition Dinner (Willamette Ballroom)

◆ **Words of Welcome and Appreciation** - *Justice David V. Brewer, Oregon Supreme Court*

◆ **Celebrity Interviews**

Moderator - *Leola McKenzie, Director of Juvenile & Family Court Programs Division*
Brittany Hope, Foster Youth Advocate, Oregon Foster Youth Connection
Lisa McMahon, Program Director, Oregon Foster Youth Connection



Saturday Program

7:30 a.m. **Breakfast Buffet** (First Floor Foyer)

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **Welcome & Announcements** (Santiam 1,2,3)

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Bias in Decision Making** (Santiam 1,2,3)

Dr. Rita Cameron Wedding, Professor of Ethnic Studies, Coordinator of Women's Studies, Sacramento State

Much of the bias that occurs in public systems is unintentional. Even people who believe they treat everyone the same can discriminate in subtle but consequential ways. Bias reflected in language, attitudes and actions however slight can affect the application and interpretation of policies, procedures and the law in ways that can contribute to racial disparities. This presentation will discuss how stereotyping, implicit bias and colorblindness can influence decision-making resulting in disproportionality in Child Welfare. By discussing the impact of implicit bias on decision-making, practitioners learn how to have dialogues about race and racism that make them more effective in their decision-making and offer the possibility of improving outcomes for all children.

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Workshops

◆ **Map to Independence: Determining the Adequacy of a Comprehensive Transition Plan** (Santiam 4)

Laurie Judd, CRB Field Manager

David Smith, CRB Field Manager & Trainer

Sarah Owens, Marion County CRB Volunteer Board Member

Michael Livingston, Marion County CRB Volunteer Board Member

Historically, the transition from foster care to adulthood and independence has been approached from a one-size-fits-all perspective; however, this approach often does not meet the needs of most youth. DHS has redesigned the Independent Living Program and transition planning around a framework that is intentional, individualized, and focuses on youth engagement and assessment. Come learn about the new process for youth 14 and older to plan their successful transition to adulthood and factors CRBs need to consider in reviewing the adequacy of transition plans.

◆ **Successfully Navigating the Dependency System and Determining Parent Progress Along the Way** (Santiam 5)

Walt Gullett, CRB Field Manager

Kent Bailey, Baker County CRB Volunteer Board Member

The primary DHS permanency goal in nearly every case is reunification with a parent. This two-part workshop features a panel of parents who have successfully reunited with their children, followed by an interactive session in which CRB volunteers discuss the components of parental progress in Finding 6. The Panel segment is composed of parents that engaged in services, demonstrated safe parenting, ameliorated the adjudicated conditions, and reunited with their children. The Interactive segment examines the nuts and bolts of Finding 6. Utilizing scenarios and discussion, volunteers will expand their ability to make an informed decision whether sufficient progress has or has not been made in a case.



Saturday Program

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Workshops Continued

◆ **Trauma Proofing the Review** (Santiam 6)

John Nichols, CRB Field Manager

Jeri Mustain, Coos County CRB Volunteer Board Member

A trauma-informed review means that we must have an understanding of the human trauma response, adverse childhood experiences, and how trauma is a part of every parent's and children's experience. The workshop will include a fast-paced presentation of the trauma response and interactive discussions in order to develop techniques to avoid contributing to a party's stress reactions and still make the appropriate findings and recommendations.

◆ **Concurrent Planning** (Boardroom)

Jason Wright, Permanency Consultant, Department of Human Services

Sandy Berger, CRB Field Manager

Jennifer Buckingham, CRB Field Manager

Bill Wagner, Deschutes County CRB Volunteer Board Member

Honoring a child's sense of time, the CRB helps ensure DHS is developing a concurrent ("backup") plan that best meets the child's needs for safety, permanency and well-being. Jason Wright, Permanency Consultant, DHS, will provide an overview of concurrent planning and best practices and expectations for case workers. The presentation will be followed by a group activity related to the conference case synopsis and Finding 7, "Has DHS made sufficient efforts in developing the concurrent plan?"

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch (Santiam 1,2,3)

Child Welfare Update and Remarks

Lena Alhusseini, Director of Child Welfare, Department of Human Services

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Workshops

◆ **Heroin and Opiate Addiction - The Impact on Children and Parents in the Child Welfare System** (Santiam 4)

Teri Morgan, Clinical Supervisor, Marion County Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services

Robin de Alicante, CRB Field Manager

Steven Lindeman, CRB Field Manager

Tracy Powell, Polk County CRB Volunteer Board Member

This session will provide information regarding the treatment and prognosis for parents addicted to heroin or other opiates; as well as what to expect medically and developmentally in children who may have been exposed to these substances in utero. The session will end with a practical application of the information to the scenario provided for the CRB Conference.



Saturday Program

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Workshops Continued

◆ **Reviewing Reasonable Efforts for Children of Incarcerated Parents** (Santiam 5)

Megan Hassen, Juvenile Law & Policy Counsel, JFCPD

Molly Johnson, CRB Field Manager

Michael Livingston, Marion County CRB Volunteer Board Member

Recent appellate cases have clarified what reunification efforts should look like in child welfare cases when a parent is incarcerated. Participants in this session will learn about these cases and be able to answer questions like: What are DHS' policies and procedures for working with incarcerated parents? When should the agency offer services to incarcerated parents? What services are available to incarcerated parents and their children? How do you engage incarcerated parents in the review?

◆ **Keeping Kids Safe in Foster Care** (Santiam 6)

Molly Miller, Child Safety Consultant, Department of Human Service

Nathan Rix, Executive Projects Director, Department of Human Services

Rebecca Regello, CRB Field Manager

Sam Tazumal, CRB Field Manager

How does DHS respond to reports of abuse and neglect when allegations relate to a child already placed in a family foster care placement? How does DHS' response differ if the report is about a child placed in a residential/BRS/proctor placement? CRB volunteers will learn what DHS responses should be when these situations occur and appropriate inquiries to make during CRB Reviews when discussing the safety of children in foster care. The State implementation plan to create a safer foster care system will be discussed.

◆ **A Look at Child Safety in Substitute Care Through a Native American Lens** (Boardroom)

Shary Mason, Model Court & Training Analyst, JFCPD

Diana Ewing, Crook-Jefferson County CRB Volunteer Board Member

This workshop will focus on the intersection of safety and the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Come explore how active efforts, cultural competency, culturally appropriate placements and intergenerational trauma affect safety. The recently published Bureau of Indian Affairs Regulations and the revised DHS administrative rules give additional clarity to implementation of the ICWA.

Camp to Belong Raffle



For the last seven years, the CRB has supported Camp to Belong, a nonprofit organization that reunites siblings separated by foster care. In total, we have provided scholarships for 24 children to attend camp! This summer, Camp to Belong will hold two camps for siblings. CRB will once again have a basket raffle at the conference to support this program. If you or your board are interested in contributing a basket or other item for the raffle, please bring your donation to the conference, or arrange to have your field manager bring your donation to the conference for you. All donations are tax deductible.

Baskets and other raffle items will be on display throughout the conference in the registration area. Raffle tickets will be available at the registration desk, and drawings will be held throughout the conference. www.camptobelongoregon.org





2017 Every Day Counts Annual Training Conference



Thank you!

Thank you to the CRB Advisory Committee! Your input was integral in the development of the conference theme and workshops.

Advisory Committee Members:

- ◆ Kent Bailey, Baker County
- ◆ Amy Brewer, Lane County
- ◆ Kathy Cooney, Washington County
- ◆ Jennifer Doerner, Douglas County
- ◆ Diana Ewing, Crook County
- ◆ Diane Flansburg, Lincoln County
- ◆ Michael Livingston, Marion County
- ◆ Carol Messinger, Union County
- ◆ Jeri Mustain, Coos County
- ◆ Sarah Owens, Marion County
- ◆ Tracy Powell, Polk County
- ◆ Linda Powers, Hood River County
- ◆ Bev Schenler, Lane County
- ◆ Melinda Stephens-Bukey, Jackson County
- ◆ Joy Stevens, Harney County
- ◆ Bill Wagner, Deschutes County

Thank you, Mock Review Actors! We appreciate your time, effort, and input!

Mock Review Actors:

- ◆ Pete McDowell, Polk County
- ◆ Jeri Mustain, Coos County
- ◆ Jessica Payne, Yamhill County
- ◆ Tracy Powell, Polk County
- ◆ Sandy Berger, Field Manager
- ◆ Jennifer Buckingham, Field Manager
- ◆ Robin de Alicante, Field Manager
- ◆ Molly Johnson, Field Manager
- ◆ Laurie Judd, Field Manager
- ◆ Steven Lindeman, Field Manager
- ◆ John Nichols, Field Manager
- ◆ Rebecca Regello, Field Manager
- ◆ David Smith, Field Manager

