



## **Rick Barinbaum**

Rick Barinbaum, LMSW, is a clinical social worker, educator, and practitioner. He teaches at the University of Michigan School of Social Work, co-teaches at the Child Advocacy Law Clinic (CALC) and Human Trafficking Lab at the University of Michigan Law School, and consults across a wide array of clinics at the law school. Rick also provides local and national consulting on interdisciplinary approaches for families in dependency cases, team building, and resilience. Rick's experience spans residential treatment, preventive services, interdisciplinary legal advocacy, and integrated health.

## **Bridgette Carr**

Bridgette Carr is a clinical law professor at the University of Michigan Law School. She has dedicated her career to advocating for the rights of human trafficking victims and advancing comprehensive domestic and international anti-trafficking policies. Her work focuses on driving paradigm shifts in the way human trafficking victimization is perceived and addressed, and helping reintegrate victims by developing legal solutions that address the complex issues of coercion and victimization around compelled service and its aftermath.

## **Shari Freemont**

Shari Freemont is the Managing Director of Casey Family Programs. Born and raised in Portland, Oregon, Sheri Freemont attended the University of Portland, and then Arizona State College of Law. She is now the Managing Director of Judicial and National Engagements, Casey Family Programs, a national foundation aiming to reduce the need for foster care. Prior to her current role, she practiced criminal and child welfare in State and Tribal courts. With Casey Family Programs, she works with a strong team of experts and many national partners in the legal field to improve child welfare systems specifically related to the impacts judges and lawyers can have for children and families. Sheri focuses on assisting the legal field better apply the human skills we often are not taught in law school, including trauma understanding and bias awareness, all rooted in the science and natural human capacities for compassion. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Counsel for Children.

## **Dr. Jim Henry**

Dr. Jim Henry is a professor and was the director for Western Michigan University Children's Trauma Assessment Center for 23 years that provided comprehensive neurodevelopmental trauma assessments to 6,000 children. He is now the director of Western Michigan University's SAMHSA NCTSN grant providing family assessments and Trust Based Relational Intervention. His history includes 17 years in child protective services. Dr. Henry has published numerous research articles. He has presented to over 150,000 participants nationwide on trauma, trauma assessment, resiliency, secondary trauma, and building trauma informed systems. He has been the recipient of several awards for his leadership, commitment, and services to children and families who have experienced trauma.

## **Vivek Sankaran**

Vivek Sankaran is a clinical professor of law at the University of Michigan Law School, advocates for the rights of children and parents involved in child welfare proceedings. His work focuses on improving outcomes for children in foster care by empowering their parents and strengthening decision-making processes in juvenile courts. Sankaran directs both the Child Advocacy Law Clinic and the Child Welfare Appellate Clinic, through which law students represent children and parents in trial and appellate proceedings. After graduating from Michigan Law in 2001, Sankaran received a Skadden Fellowship to represent children at The Children's Law Center in Washington, DC, where he remained until 2005, when he joined the Law School faculty. In 2009, Sankaran founded the Detroit Center for Family Advocacy, the first organization in the country to provide multidisciplinary legal assistance to families to prevent the unnecessary entry of children into foster care. In 2011, he was named Michigan's Parent Attorney of the Year. Most recently, Sankaran co-edited both the first national book for family defense lawyers and the third edition of Child Welfare Law and Practice, a widely recognized resource used by child welfare lawyers across the country.

## **Shrounda Selivanoff**

Shrounda Selivanoff is the Social Service Manager at the Washington State Office of Public Defense Parent Representation Program. She was previously involved with the system. Shrounda has extensive work experience as the Director of Public Policy Children's Home Society of Washington, King County Parents for Parents Program and other programs such as the Perinatal Treatment Services and the University of Washington Fetal Alcohol Drug Unit Parent-Child Assistance Program. Shrounda is the recipient of the 2023 Shine Your Light Award, 2021 Casey Excellence for Child Award and the 2021 Unsung Hero Award from the Department of Children, Youth, and Families Strengthening Families in partnership with Seattle Child. She is also a member of the Washington State Parent Ally Committee, a founding member of the Birth Parent National Network, an Executive Board member of the Family Treatment Court of King County, the Co-Chair of the Department of Children, Youth and Families Oversight Board, Co-Chair of the Racial, Equity, and Impact Citizen Review Panel, and a national consultant serving multiple jurisdictions across the United States. She provides a parent with lived experience perspective on the state, local, and national platforms, all in pursuit of justice and family preservation.