



PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium

SEPT
13 *Virtual*

The 2023 **PA Child Abuse Prevention Symposium** features nationally acclaimed speakers who are experts in their fields. Presentations include a variety of topics that are relevant to professionals and organizations that provide programs to children. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn, engage, and network with expert speakers from across the country presenting on innovative topics that intersect with family support and child abuse prevention practices.

CBCAP Members
GET 10% OFF!

**REGISTER
ONLINE AT
[PAFSA.ORG](https://pafsa.org)**

The event will be held virtually via Zoom and all participants will have an opportunity to attend each session. All registered participants are eligible for continuing education credits (CEUs), continuing legal education (CLEs) credits, and ACT 48 credits.



Amy
Templeman

Director



Within Our Reach



Director of
Practice Excellence



Social Current

Amy Templeman, a kinship and adoptive parent, is the director of Within Our Reach, and director of practice excellence at Social Current. In these roles, she works to support families and promote equity. Before joining Social Current, Amy served as executive director of the federal Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, leading the effort to produce a report to the president and Congress.

Amy helped to establish the Office of Well Being at the District of Columbia's child welfare agency, where she conducted strategic planning and oversaw programs to address substance use disorders, domestic violence, education, housing, and child care.

She gained research experience while working first at The Urban Institute, contributing to a book and reports on the benefits of kinship care, and later at Johns Hopkins University, managing a community-based, participatory research grant through the CDC resulting in better adolescent mental health.

Session Title:

How Do We Talk About Childhood Adversity and Prevention?

There is a shift underway across child- and family-serving systems to a more preventative approach that offers upstream supports for families. In response to this shift, Social Current and Prevent Child Abuse America commissioned the FrameWorks Institute to update their 2004 guidance on framing child welfare and child adversity. This session is based on that resulting brief entitled "Reframing Childhood Adversity: Promoting Upstream Approaches."

This session will provide guidance on reframing child adversity, including abuse and neglect, as a public, preventable, and solvable issue. It will feature interactive sessions to help the audience put reframing techniques into practice in their own communications as well as a Building Better Childhoods toolkit featuring social media campaigns, template media materials, talking points, and more to help audience members incorporate framing into their own communications practices.



**Shalah
Bottoms**

Technical Assistance
Specialist

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Generations United

As the Technical Assistance Specialist for the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, Shalah is responsible for connecting system leaders to information and resources, collaborating with subject matter experts, and supporting the wide range of technical assistance provided by the Network.

Prior to joining Generations United, Shalah was the Program Director of Family Support Services at Catholic Charities of Louisville where she managed multiple direct service programs, primarily for pregnant and parenting individuals. In this role, she had the opportunity to coordinate a short-term program for grandparents and kin raising children.

Shalah received her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Kentucky. In addition to her professional experience, Shalah is personally connected to this work as a proud member of a kinship family.

Session Title:

Practices and Resources for Serving Kinship Families

There are over 2.5 million children in the U.S. being raised by grandparents, other relatives, and close family friends. Research shows that children who cannot remain with their parents thrive in kinship/grandfamilies, yet more needs to be done nationwide to ensure these families have what they need.

The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network (Network) at Generations United is the first federally funded national technical assistance center on kinship/grandfamilies working across the country to improve services and supports for these families. In this presentation, presenters will elevate recommended practices for serving kinship/grandfamilies, share useful resources, and provide an overview of the Network and how professionals can utilize its array of technical assistance to enhance their work.



Staci Whitney
LMSW

Senior Director

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Modell Consulting
Group, LLC

Staci Whitney, LMSW is the Senior Director for Modell Consulting Group, LLC (MCG). Since 2017, Ms. Whitney has been responsible for teaching and coauthoring trainings on interviewing individuals from vulnerable populations. Specifically, Ms. Whitney led two projects which included contributions from other national experts to develop advanced Forensic Interviewing protocols for interviewing individuals with disabilities (Project FIND) and older adults (SAFE).

Prior to her work with MCG, Ms. Whitney was the Senior Forensic Interviewer at Bivona Child Advocacy Center in Rochester, NY and was responsible for developing Bivona's Forensic Interviewing Program. During that time, Ms. Whitney had extensive training and experience in the field of Forensic Interviewing including interviewing individuals with disabilities who are victims or witnesses of crime. She has developed and delivered numerous trainings to Multidisciplinary Team Members internationally on recognizing and responding to suspicions and reports of abuse, neglect and maltreatment.

Session Title:

Recognizing Abuse and Interviewing "Non-verbal" Children

This workshop is intended for professionals who want to learn more about risks and realities for children who do not speak or who are considered "nonverbal." This workshop will also include how to recognize abuse/neglect for children with disabilities. Through this workshop, participants will have increased understanding of verbal behavior and communication methods; increased knowledge of communication considerations when speaking with a child who does not speak; and learn reliable and legally defensible techniques that can be applied in interviews.



**Dr. Katie
Davis**

Associate Professor

University of Washington

Director

University of Washington
Digital Youth Lab

Dr. Katie Davis is Associate Professor at the University of Washington (UW) and Director of the UW Digital Youth Lab. For nearly 20 years, Katie has been researching and speaking about the impact of digital technologies on young people's learning, development, and well-being.

Katie uses the insights from her research to design positive technology experiences for youth and their families and to provide practical guidance to parents, educators, policymakers, and technology designers. At UW, she mentors undergraduate and graduate students and teaches courses on child development and technology design.

She has published more than 90 academic papers and is the author of three books, all exploring technology's role in young people's lives. In each, Katie aims to make sense of the often-confusing landscape of research and media messages about kids and technology.

Session Title:

Technology's Child: Putting the Research on Kids and Tech to Work for Families

*In this session, Dr. Davis will share insights from her newest book, **Technology's Child: Digital Media's Role in the Ages and Stages of Growing Up**.*

Drawing on her expertise in developmental science and design research, she will describe what happens when child development and technology design interact, and how this interaction is complicated by children's individual characteristics as well as social and cultural contexts. Critically, she'll explain how a self-directed experience of technology – one initiated, sustained, and ended voluntarily – supports learning and development, especially when it takes place within the context of community support, and how an experience that lacks these qualities can have the opposite effect.

MANDATED REPORTER TRAINER SPOTLIGHT

Kimberly Hine

Kimberly Hine has been a trainer for Pa Family Support Alliance since 2013. In that time, she has trained hundreds of professionals and volunteers on how to recognize and report child abuse.

We recently interviewed Kimberly, and this is what she had to say about why she is so passionate about training mandated reporters for PFSA.

Why do you train for PFSA?

There are several reasons which led me to becoming a trainer with PFSA. I have been working in the field of child welfare and child abuse investigations for 25 years, which can lead to burnout.

I discovered many years ago that a key to helping combat burnout for me is to seek out other ways to grow myself professionally and other avenues for sharing my knowledge. Training with PFSA has been that outlet for me. I also love training, and I was drawn to PFSA because of how excellent the curriculum is.

Why do you care about mandated reporters of child abuse?

The reason that I continue to work in this field after all of these years is because I get the privilege of seeing children heal. All of that begins with one person making a report of suspected child abuse. Having our mandated reporters properly trained and prepared to make that report is critical to getting that child involved in the services needed to make sure that their healing happens.



We appreciate the wealth of knowledge Kimberly brings to each training she provides to mandated reporters. She looks forward to meeting you in her trainings!



Follow along!



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UPCOMING PFSA TRAININGS

Families in Recovery New Facilitator Training

This research-based program is a great resource for parents, guardians, and caretakers recovering from substance use disorder. The program aims to teach healthy coping and parenting skills while balancing the needs of recovery.

New facilitators of the Families in Recovery (FiR) program will be fully prepared to implement the program and provide training after attending a two-day comprehensive session consisting of content, education, and application instruction of the curriculum. FiR facilitators come together to share program implementation experience, ideas, and insights following initial training.

All organizations interested in implementing the Families in Recovery program are required to enter an agreement contract with PFSA and participate in the evaluation requirements of the program. FiR contracts include ongoing technical assistance, program development, facilitator calls, and assistance with data collection procedures.

Dates: October 18 & 19, 2023 (*virtual*)

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
(*half-hour lunch break*)

Cost: Email Justin Donofrio, Prevention Services Manager, at jdonofrio@pafsa.org for the paperwork or to ask any questions.

Mandated Reporter Training

PFSA has several options for mandated reporter training for staff and volunteers. Certificates are provided to the participants, and, upon request, we will upload confirmation of your training to the Departments of State or Education for CE fulfillments under Act 31 and/or Act 48. CLEs are also available for attorneys.

LIVE IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL

Cost: Free

How to register: Find and register for a virtual session here: pafsa.org/mandated-reporter-training

INDIVIDUAL ONLINE, ON-DEMAND

Cost: \$30

Take anytime: pafsa.org/on-demand-online-training

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

This is an opportunity for organizations to develop their own quality, cost-efficient, in-house training program for employees on child abuse recognition and reporting.

Dates: October 24 & 25, 2023 (*virtual*)

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
(*half-hour lunch break*)

Cost: \$1,000 per trainer, entering into a three-year contract with PFSA. Email Haven Evans, Director of Programs, at hevans@pafsa.org for the paperwork or to ask any questions.

#ProtectPAKids

Donate online at pafsa.org.