



15th Annual Conference

Together We Can!

Making a Difference for Children Who Have Been Abused or Neglected

November 7-9, 2017

Lafayette, Louisiana



Host Organizations:

- Louisiana Supreme Court—Court Improvement Program
- Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services—Children's Justice Act
- LouisianaChildren.org
- National Association of Social Workers—Louisiana Chapter
- Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy
 - Southeastern Louisiana University—University Alliance
 - Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services
 - Pelican Center for Children and Families
- Louisiana Foster and Adoptive Parents Association



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**For more information on the
15th Annual Together We Can Conference:**

www.latwc.org or call 985-624-3514



Together We Can!

Conference Basics:

What is Together We Can? Who Attends Together We Can?

This is an annual multi-disciplinary conference that focuses on the children who have experienced abuse or neglect. These children may be in foster care, residential care, kinship care or have been reunited with their birth family. The Together We Can (TWC) conference will offer in-depth learning opportunities which address policy and practice concerns. We provide educational sessions for professionals featuring both national and local experts. The TWC conference is geared toward social workers, attorneys, judges, court staff, CASA volunteers and staff, foster parents, children's advocacy centers, law enforcement, educators, faith-based leaders and child welfare stakeholders—all working to make a difference in the lives of Louisiana's abused and neglected children. An awards evening will be held on Wednesday to honor those who have demonstrated commitment above and beyond on behalf of children.

Schedule Overview:

Tuesday, November 7	Wednesday, November 8	Thursday, November 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 9 am—5 pm Registration Desk open ◆ 12 pm Welcome, Luncheon and Opening Plenary Session 1 ◆ 1:45 pm 100 Series Breakout Sessions ◆ 1:45 pm Institutes (3 hours) ◆ 3:30 pm 200 Series Breakout Sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 7:30 am—5pm Registration Desk open ◆ 8:30 am Plenary Session 2 ◆ 10:15 am 300 Series Breakout Sessions ◆ Luncheon and Plenary Session 3 ◆ 1:45 pm 400 Series Breakout Sessions ◆ 3:30 pm 500 Series Breakout Sessions ◆ 6:30—9 pm Annual Awards Night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 7:30 am—2pm Registration Desk open ◆ 8:30 am Plenary Session 4 ◆ 10:15 am 600 Series Breakout Sessions ◆ 12—2 pm Luncheon and Closing Plenary 5

We are happy to share this listing of the conference sessions and activities that are planned for the 15th annual event in Lafayette. We will have 5 plenary sessions and over 50 breakouts available. The conference will be held at the Cajundome. The conference is sponsored by a coalition of organizations that work to shape public policy, research and practice in child maltreatment and child welfare. We are welcoming many nationally recognized speakers this year to our faculty! We hope that you will join us to learn from them.

Many area hotels have provided us with discounted room blocks. Please make your reservations early as room blocks fill and expire before the conference. A listing of hotel options will be posted on the conference website: www.latwc.org.

Annual Awards

In 2007, the legal and social work fields lost two people who were incredibly strong advocates for children. We have chosen to honor Catherine Lafleur and Linda Christmas with awards within their areas of service each year. Both embodied the love, the passion and determination needed to be a very special advocate for children. We hope you will consider nominating someone special for the 2017 awards. The form and guidelines for nominations are on the conference website. Deadline for nominations: October 1, 2017.

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

You are invited to join the conference as a sponsor and/or exhibitor for our 15th anniversary event. There are a variety of options available and the earlier you confirm your participation, the earlier you will have your information listed and active. We are pleased to announce that we will have a conference app this year and exhibitors/sponsors will be featured on the app, along with your contact information. Go to the conference website to download the exhibitor/sponsor brochure.

Conference Location: [Lafayette Cajundome, located at 444 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette, Louisiana.](#)

Registration

Conference registration is online. Everyone must pre-register! www.latwc.org NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION!

During the registration process you will pre-select your workshops. We will print out your individualized schedule for you and include it in your check-in packet. Your registration includes materials, up to three luncheons, the evening reception and break refreshments.

Registration will close on October 25, 2017. Early bird rates expire on October 1st.



Together We Can!

This is a condensed version of the conference schedule—please go to the registration website for full descriptions and speaker bio information.

Tuesday, November 7th:

Tuesday Opening Plenary 12pm—1:30pm

- ◆ **Welcome** - Together We Can steering committee members
- ◆ **Juvenile Sex Trafficking: Opening Eyes to Dangers in Cyberspace** - presented by Sharon Cooper, M.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Developmental and Forensic Pediatrics.

Tuesday Breakout Sessions 100 Series 1:45pm—3:15pm

- ◆ 101 **QPI Town Hall**—Discussions with key leaders involved in implementation of the Quality Parenting Initiatives statewide.
- ◆ 102 **Adolescent Behavior and Brain Development**—Corie Hebert, Ph.D., Southeastern Louisiana University
- ◆ 103 **Sex Trafficking Worst Case Scenario: Child Torture**—Sharon Cooper, M.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- ◆ 104 **Humanitarian Immigration Relief for Children and Survivors**—Ramona Fernandez, JD, Loyola University and Hiroko Kusuda, JD, Loyola University
- ◆ 105 **Serving Our Youth 101: An Essential Guide to Working with Teens**—Leanna McCrea, DCFS and Former Foster Youth and Erin Luquette, DCFS
- ◆ 106 **Building Communities of Hope for Transitioning Foster Youth**—Southwest Louisiana Foster Care Coalition
- ◆ 107 **The Louisiana Child Welfare Trauma Project: An Update**—Devi Miron Murphy, Ph.D., Tulane University
- ◆ 108 **An Overview of DCFS Work with Substance Exposed Newborns**—Mona Michelli, MSW, LCSW-BACS, DCFS

Tuesday Institutes 1:45pm—5pm

- ◆ **INS 1 Mock Court: Key Case Points**—Thailand Porter Green, JD, Pelican Center for Children and Families and S. Mark Harris, JD, Pelican Center for Children and Families
- ◆ **INS 2 Providing Culturally Affirming Care: Foster Parents and Other Child Welfare Professionals**—Edward Turner, RN, MA, Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy

Tuesday Breakout Sessions 200 Series 3:30pm-5pm

- ◆ 201 **What's New with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)? SO MUCH!**—Margaret Burt, JD, Judge Anne Simon, JD (retired), and Karen Matthews, LCSW, Chitimacha Tribe
- ◆ 202 **Motivational Interviewing and Child Welfare: Facilitating Change**—Angela Wood, Ph.D., LCSW, Southeastern Louisiana University
- ◆ 203 **Don't Abandon the Ship: Transitioning Your Youth Out of Foster Care**—LaTasha Watts, The Purple Project
- ◆ 204 **Pulse of Louisiana: Juvenile Sex Trafficking Update**—Laurie McGehee, Caddo Parish Juvenile Probation Department
- ◆ 205 **Team Up for Families - A Road Map Workshop**—Maryann D. Mason, LCSW, Amerigroup
- ◆ 206 **If You Know Your Case, Testimony is a Breeze for CASAs**—Maria Cortes, CASA Jefferson and Ramona Graham, CASA Jefferson
- ◆ 207 **Perspectives on Juvenile Sex Trafficking**—Diane Amos, New Orleans Dream Center-FreeNola Project
- ◆ 208 **Darkness to Light - Stewards of Children New Supplemental Training Modules**—Rob Carlisle, LPC-S, LMFT, Child Advocacy Services

Wednesday, November 8th:

Wednesday Plenary 2 8:30am-10am

- ◆ **Welcome** - Together We Can steering committee members
- ◆ **Cultural Compassion: Addressing Implicit Bias** - presented by Stephanie Ledesma, JD, MA, CWLS, University of Texas

Wednesday Breakout Sessions 300 Series 10:15am—11:45am

- ◆ 301 **Making Sense of Federal Requirements for Older Youth in Care**—Margaret Burt, JD
- ◆ 302 **What You Need to Know About Special Education Processes for Foster Children with Disabilities**—Laura S. Nata, Families Helping Families Jefferson
- ◆ 303 **Motivational Interviewing and Child Welfare: Facilitating Change**—Angela Wood, Ph.D., LCSW, Southeastern Louisiana University



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- ◆ 304 **Helping the Bullied**—Edward Turner, RN, MA, Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy
- ◆ 305 **The Opioid and Heroin Explosion: Medication Assisted Treatment**—Mia Kacmarcik, LCSW, Therapy Center NOLA
- ◆ 306 **Encouraging Fatherhood Engagement**—Anthony Gabriel, GABRteach and Nzinga Hill, JD, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
- ◆ 307 **QPI Basics: What are the Roles and Responsibilities of Key Partners?**—Barbara Calais, LA Foster & Adoptive Parents Association, Elizabeth Dreen, DCFS, Terrilynn Bowe, DCFS, and Teri Hrabovsky, One Heart NOLA
- ◆ 308 **Best Practices for Effective Court Reports**—Otha “Curtis” Nelson, East Baton Rouge District Attorney’s Office; Leslie Lacy, JD; Ricketta Cotton Monroe, Capitol Area CASA Association; Hannah Gettys, DCFS, and Laura Slocum, JD, DCFS-BGC
- ◆ 309 **The Critical Importance of Self-Care for Child Welfare Professionals and Volunteers**—Michelle Many, LCSW, LSU Health Sciences Center
- ◆ 310 **Unaccompanied Immigrant Children: Their Goals and Our Roles**—Bethany Linville, Jewish Family Services of GNO; Lorie Davidson, JD, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants; and Libby Sittley, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Wednesday Luncheon and Plenary 3 12:00pm—1:30pm

- ◆ **Welcome** - Together We Can steering committee members
- ◆ **Trust Based Relationships—Brain Development and Implications for Practice** - presented by Kristyn Carver, Ph.D., LPC-S, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Wednesday Breakout Sessions 400 Series 1:45pm-3:15pm

- ◆ 401 **Understanding the New Social Society of Today’s Youth: Text, Apps, Social Media & More**—LaTasha Watts, The Purple Project
- ◆ 402 **What You Need to Know About Special Education Processes for Foster Children with Disabilities (REPEATED)**—Laura S. Nata, Families Helping Families Jefferson
- ◆ 403 **Children Exposed to Violence: Promoting Child Safety in the Context of Domestic Abuse**—Mariah Wineski, MA, Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- ◆ 404 **Professionalism for Attorneys**—Stephanie Ledesma, JD, MA, CWLS, University of Texas
- ◆ 405 **Legal Ethics for Attorneys: Of the Cases We See!**—Margaret Burt, JD and Franchesca Hamilton Acker, JD, Acadiana Legal Services Corporation
- ◆ 406 **Is It Easier to Build Strong Children Than to Repair Broken Men?**—Anthony Gabriel, Garbteach
- ◆ 407 **QPI Basics: What are the Roles and Responsibilities of Key Partners? (REPEATED)**—Barbara Calais, LA Foster & Adoptive Parents Association, Elizabeth Dreen, DCFS, Terrilynn Bowe, DCFS, and Teri Hrabovsky, One Heart NOLA
- ◆ 408 **Advocacy Works: Impacting Policy for Transitioning Youth**—Dylan Waguespack, Louisiana Budget Project
- ◆ 409 **Early Child Development Milestones**—Karen Burstein, Ph.D., University of Lafayette, Picard Center
- ◆ 410 **Social Work Ethics**—Corie Hebert, Ph.D., Southeastern Louisiana University (3 Hours—do not select a 500 session)

Wednesday Breakout Sessions 500 Series 3:30pm-5:00pm

- ◆ 501 **Where’s My Manual? How to Build a Healthy Relationship with Your Foster Youth**—LaTasha Watts, The Purple Project
- ◆ 502 **Working with LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care**—Gerald Mallon, DSW, National Center for Child Welfare Excellence, Hunter College
- ◆ 503 **How to Give Effective Courtroom Testimony**—Judge Ernestine Gray, JD, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court
- ◆ 504 **Professionalism for Attorneys (REPEATED)**—Stephanie Ledesma, JD, MA, CWLS, University of Texas
- ◆ 505 **Implementing Trust Based Relationship Intervention (TBRI)**—Kristyn Carver, Ph.D., LPC-S, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
- ◆ 506 **Deer in Headlights: Clinical Intervention for Victims of Juvenile Sex Trafficking**—Shobana Powell, LMSW, Caddo Parish Juvenile Court
- ◆ 507 **Protecting Civil Rights of Parents with Disabilities**—Richard Pittman, JD, Louisiana Public Defender Board
- ◆ 508 **Safety Decision Making—Laws and Best Practices**—Kim McCain, LMSW, DCFS and S. Mark Harris, JD, Pelican Center for Children and Families
- ◆ 509 **Unaccompanied Immigrant Children: Their Goals and Our Roles (REPEATED)**—Bethany Linville, Jewish Family Services of GNO; Lorie Davidson, JD, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants; and Libby Sittley, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

Wednesday Awards Night

- ◆ Our annual awards night is held at Vermillionville in Lafayette, Louisiana. We will enjoy food, music and entertainment as well as recognize those who have gone above and beyond for children.



Together We Can!

Thursday, November 9th:

Thursday Plenary 4 8:30am-10am

- ◆ **Welcome** - Together We Can steering committee members
- ◆ **Opening Doors: LGBTQ and Foster Youth** - presented by Gerald Mallon, DSW, National Center for Child Welfare Excellence, Hunter College

Thursday Breakout Sessions 600 Series 10:15am—11:45am

- ◆ 601 **Dealing with Issues of Polypharmacy with Children in Foster Care**—Martin Drell, Ph.D., LSU Health Sciences Center and Charmaine Jarvis Magee, LCSW, DCFS
- ◆ 602 **Introducing ALICE—The Financial Struggles of Families in Louisiana**—Sarah Hamilton Berthelot, Louisiana Association of United Ways
- ◆ 603 **QPI Basics: What are the Roles and Responsibilities of Key Partners? (REPEATED)**—Barbara Calais, LA Foster & Adoptive Parents Association, Elizabeth Dreen, DCFS, Terrilynn Bowe, DCFS, and Teri Hrabovsky, One Heart NOLA
- ◆ 604 **Disasters and Emergencies: A Systemic Approach for Displaced Children**—Sergeant Stacey Pearson, Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Clearinghouse for Missing and Exploited Children
- ◆ 605 **Suspected and Reported—What Happens When I Call DCFS?**—Fertaeshia Broussard, DCFS
- ◆ 606 **Understanding Girls Curriculum: Who, What & Where?**—Corie Hebert, Ph.D., Southeastern Louisiana University
- ◆ 607 **Child In Need of Care (CINC) 101**—Thailund Porter Green, JD, Pelican Center for Children and Families
- ◆ 608 **Autism Spectrum Disorder: DSM 5 Diagnosis and What We Need to Know about Interacting with Youth “On the Spectrum”**—Lisa Donze Jacob, LCSW, Mercy Family Center
- ◆ 609 **Communication Skills and Interviewing Victims with Disabilities**—Lt. Dina Theriot, St. Martin Sheriff’s Office and Sharon Delvisco, MSW, Team Dynamics
- ◆ 610 **Managing the Opioid Epidemic in Louisiana**—Janice Petersen, Ph.D. Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health

Thursday Closing Luncheon and Plenary 5 12:00pm—2pm

- ◆ **Welcome** - Together We Can steering committee members
- ◆ **Can Parenting a Foster Child Ever REALLY Be “Normal, Reasonable, and Prudent?”** - presented by Margaret Burt, JD

REGISTER EARLY! Breakout sessions often fill quickly. There is NO ONSITE REGISTRATION! PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Conference Accommodations: Refer to the conference website for a listing of all the hotel room blocks available with discounted rooms.

CLE and CEU Credits

CLE and CEU (NASW-LA) credit applications will be filed for approval. Participants who attend all conference sessions can earn continuing education credits. There will be opportunities for credits in both legal and social work ethics and legal professionalism. Forms for legal professionals will be available onsite. CEU certificates reflecting hours earned are emailed after the conference. CLE credits are filed electronically after the event.

REGISTRATION RATES

REGISTRATION WEBSITE: www.latwc.org

EARLY BIRD RATE

Register By September 30th, 11pm

- Tuesday through Thursday (Nov. 7-9) \$225
- Tuesday and Wednesday (Nov. 7-8) \$195
- Wednesday and Thursday (Nov. 8-9) \$195
- Tuesday Only (Nov. 7) \$105
- Wednesday Only (Nov. 8) \$125
- Thursday Only (Nov. 9) \$105

REGULAR RATE

Register October 1 to October 20th, 11pm

- Tuesday through Thursday (Nov. 7-9) \$275
- Tuesday and Wednesday (Nov. 7-8) \$250
- Wednesday and Thursday (Nov. 8-9) \$250
- Tuesday Only (Nov. 7) \$115
- Wednesday Only (Nov. 8) \$150
- Thursday Only (Nov. 9) \$115



Last Minute Rates Available 10/21/17 to 10/31/17. Call us!

QUESTIONS? Call Team Dynamics at 985-624-3514 or send an email to susan@teamdynamicsweb.com.