Georgia Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect: from Prevention to Intervention

September 13, 2018
Atlanta Marriott

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta
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<tr>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration Opens</td>
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<td>8:30–9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Opening Plenary</td>
<td>Ballroom</td>
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<td>Julia Neighbors, JD – Prevent Child Abuse Georgia</td>
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<td>Angie Boy, DrPH – Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children</td>
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<td>Plenary Speaker- Shanta Dube, PhD - Georgia State University Associate Professor</td>
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<td>9:15–10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Session A</td>
<td>Peachtree</td>
<td>US vs. Solomon Mustafa: The Real Faces of Human Trafficking</td>
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<td>Dogwood</td>
<td>Abuse or Mimic</td>
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<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>Preventing ACEs in Georgia: Data and Programs</td>
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<td>Centennial A&amp;B</td>
<td>Recognizing and Addressing Exposure to Domestic Violence as an ACE</td>
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<td>Centennial C&amp;D</td>
<td>The Impact of Nutrition on Child Well-Being: Addressing Food Insecurity in Georgia</td>
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<td>10:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.</td>
<td>Morning Session B</td>
<td>Peachtree</td>
<td>Spare the Rod: Guide and Teach the Child (repeated in Session C)</td>
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<td>Dogwood</td>
<td>Hymens and the Virgin Myth</td>
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<td>Drive to Five: Exploring Fatherhood in Early Child Development Stages</td>
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<td>Youth Suicide Prevention &amp; Awareness in Georgia</td>
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<td>Talking About Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention to Increase Public Commitment</td>
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<td>Keynote</td>
<td>Balancing ACEs with Hope (Health Outcomes of Positive Experiences)</td>
<td>Robert Sege, PhD, MD</td>
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<td>1:45–3 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Session C</td>
<td>Peachtree</td>
<td>Plan of Safe Care and Maternal Substance Use</td>
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<td>Putting Promotion of Positive Experiences into Practice</td>
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<td>Spare the Rod: Guide and Teach the Child</td>
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<td>Centennial A&amp;B</td>
<td>SB 401: Complying with Georgia’s Mandate to Provide Sexual Abuse Education in K-9</td>
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<td>Centennial C&amp;D</td>
<td>Child Fatality Review: Maximizing Prevention Impact</td>
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<td>3:15–4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Session D</td>
<td>Peachtree</td>
<td>Helping Children Heal through Trauma-Focused Integrated Play Therapy</td>
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<td>Teens, Sex, and Georgia Law</td>
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<td>Georgia KIDS COUNT Data Tools and Outreach Training</td>
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<td>Centennial A&amp;B</td>
<td>Signals One: Social-Emotional and Mental Health Development in Early Childhood</td>
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**Peachtree Room**

**“US vs. Solomon Mustafa: The Real Faces of Human Trafficking”**

*US v. Solomon Mustafa: The Real Faces of Human Trafficking* is a case presentation showing the stories behind the victims of a Gorilla Pimp. The audience will understand the cycle of recruitment, exploitation, and recovery. Attendees will learn the barriers in the prosecution of traffickers.

**Nathan Whiteman** is a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He entered duty in May 2004 and has been working crimes against children for 14 years. SA Whiteman is the MATCH Task Force Coordinator, the FBI Atlanta Crimes Against Children Coordinator, a Team Leader for the FBI Child Abduction Rapid Deployment Team for the Eastern United States, and a FBI Crisis Negotiator. Prior to the Bureau, SA Whiteman was a high school and middle school teacher in Pennsylvania.

**Dogwood Room**

**“Abuse or Mimic”**

Be prepared to participate in discussions about common myths and medical conditions that can be mistaken for abusive injuries. Participants do not need to be from a medical field to benefit from this session. This workshop will outline inflicted injuries, recognizing abuse from mimickers, and the importance of medical providers who are familiar with child abuse.

**Stephen Messner, MD,** earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in 2001. He completed his pediatric residency at the University of Florida and stayed on as faculty in the general pediatrics division, seeing patients for general pediatric issues and for concerns of abuse and neglect. In 2007, Dr. Messner joined the Child Protection Team at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. He was appointed Medical Director in 2016. Dr. Messner is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the GA AAP section on child abuse.

**DeKalb Room**

**“Preventing ACEs in Georgia: Data and Programs”**  
[View Presentation Slides]

Prevention and Community Support is the section within the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services that is tasked with managing federal and state funding streams supporting programs and initiatives to prevent child maltreatment. The PCS staff will provide a general introduction to the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study, the science behind the ACEs data, a brief summary of Georgia ACEs and what can be done to prevent ACEs in Georgia’s children.

**Deborah Chosewood, MS,** is the Deputy Section Director of the Prevention and Community Support (PCS) Section of Georgia DFCS. PCS is the state entity that administers federal and state funding streams geared toward child abuse and neglect prevention. Deborah has worked in the early childhood and prevention field for more than 15 years. She is a member of the PCA GA Advisory Board and has a five-year old granddaughter that lights up her life!

**Laura Griggs, LMSW,** is a Program Specialist with the PCS Section of Georgia DFCS. In her current role, Laura enjoys being a part of Georgia prevention-focused groups, such as the Better Brains for Babies Advisory Committee and the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Coalition. Laura is a Licensed Master of Social Work who is passionate about preventing child abuse and neglect and believes all children deserve the best start in life. She also enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, and reading biographies (in that order).
Centennial Rooms A & B

“Recognizing and Addressing Exposure to Domestic Violence as an ACE”

This workshop will highlight the prevalence of childhood domestic violence and research from the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study that documents the contribution of Domestic Violence exposure to long term social, behavioral, and health outcomes. The workshop will include an overview of programs and trainings specifically designed to address domestic violence. Perspectives from clinicians will provide participants with a full understanding about this hidden problem, where we are now, and what potential solutions are available.

Shanta R. Dube, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology at Georgia State University, School of Public Health. She is on the Advisory Board for the Georgia chapter of the Childhood Domestic Violence Association, a non-profit dedicated to addressing and preventing domestic violence through educational programs.

Linda Olson, PsyD, has spent 18 years as a childhood domestic violence (CDV) victim advocate, and is dedicated to working with those suffering from trauma. She also specializes in PTSD, grief, and loss. Linda earned a MSW and a Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from the University of Iowa and a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Georgia School of Professional Psychology, Argosy University, Atlanta. She works with children and adults to help them develop tools to gain hope, achieve their dreams and escape the cycle of abuse.

Varada Divgi, MD, is a pediatric consultant from Mumbai, India and trained at the University of Florida as a pediatric pulmonologist, pioneering that subspecialty in the state of Georgia. After close to 40 years of practice, she is now a “PHYSICIAN CHAMPION” in Transformational Healing. She is currently a life coach with her own programs “Fill That CUP”, to raise awareness about diet for our minds and “RECLAIM YOURSELF” a holistic healing for self-discovery.

Centennial Rooms C & D

“The Impact of Nutrition on Child Well-Being: Addressing Food Insecurity in Georgia”

View Workshop Slides

This presentation will explain the programmatic and policy work CHOA’s Strong4Life is piloting to understand and impact food insecurity rates in Georgia. Included in the ACEs screening is a marker for food insecurity and Strong4Life’s goal with this pilot program is to understand the long term implications as it relates to child development and long term health predictors. It is apparent that without access to adequate healthy food, Georgia families cannot be successful in creating a healthy lifestyle and decreasing long term health risks. Given the prevalence of food insecurity as it relates to healthy child well-being this presentation will increase awareness of resources for those identified food insecure families.

Stephanie Walsh, MD, works for Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta’s (CHOA) Strong4Life program, which is designed to improve the health and well-being of Georgia’s children. Their focus is on reducing the prevalence of childhood obesity through prevention and treatment initiatives for kids and the people who influence their lives. Strong4Life aims to leverage CHOA’s clinical and nutrition expertise to impact kids and families through programs and community partnerships designed to deliver consistent messages and support that bring about sustainable lifestyle change.
Workshops

**Morning Session B**  10:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Peachtree**

*Spare the Rod: Guide and Teach the Child*  Repeats in Session C

View Presentation Slides

The workshop will describe the neural pathways effected when a child experiences chronic toxic stress as well as the childhood behaviors that often manifest as a result of that chronic stress. We will discuss effective behavior management strategies that can be used with traumatized children.

**Lisa Spector, MD**, is a pediatrician board-certified in both Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics as well as Child Abuse Pediatrics. She develops and supports programs devoted to improving the medical, mental and behavioral health of maltreated and traumatized children. She has lectured nationally on issues related to positive parenting, human trafficking, trauma and brain development, and child sexual abuse. Dr. Spector was a co-contributor to the AAP’s Addressing Trauma and Toxic Stress: A Toolbox for Primary Care Pediatrician. She is currently a Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at the University of Central Florida.

**Dogwood Room**

*Hymens and the Virgin Myth*

This presentation will cover the mythology and misconceptions of virginity from a historical perspective ranging from ancient Greece to modern America. We will also explain the normal female genital anatomy and how the misunderstanding of the female body works, affects victims of sexual abuse.

**Verena Brown, MD**, is a board certified Child Abuse Pediatrician with 9 years of experience in the field and has completed a Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship at The Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters in Norfolk, Virginia. Dr. Brown currently serves as the Associate Fellowship Director for the Emory University School of Medicine Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship, and she is also in charge of the curriculum for the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship ECHO. She is published in the field of Child Abuse Pediatrics, and is currently researching adverse childhood experiences in non-perpetrating parents of abused children. Clinically, Dr. Brown consults on children who have been victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect, both in the inpatient and outpatient setting.

**DeKalb**

*Drive to Five: Exploring Fatherhood in Early Child Development Stages*

View Presentation Slides

Fathers play an important role in their child’s development. Research suggests that fathers contribute uniquely to a child’s language and literacy development. Although less research exists on African American fathers and their children, recent research indicates that young children whose fathers are highly involved have higher social and pre-academic outcomes. This session demonstrates how supporting fathers, particularly by encouraging them to engage in home literacy practices, like shared book reading, has a direct impact on children’s future language and literacy.

**Kenneth Braswell** has spent over 28 years in the service of family and community. A husband and father of five, he continues to see the world through the eyes of his own children. In 2004, he created Fathers Incorporated (FI) and has served as Executive Director since its inception. Through national and international missions, FI has provided capacity building services for thousands of organizations to help ensure that fathers contribute to the healthy well-being of their children.
Centennial Rooms A & B

“Youth Suicide Prevention & Awareness in Georgia”
View PSA for Adults and Youth. View Workshop Slides.

This is an introduction to youth suicide in Georgia that gives state specific data, statewide prevention efforts, warning signs, elevated risk factors, and resources to help recognize and respond to at-risk youth. The audience will also have the opportunity to engage with a panel of experts and professionals working to prevent youth suicide.

Shevon Jones, MSW, has been in the social work field for over 8 years working with youth and families. Shevon worked for DeKalb County Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) as a case manager and supervisor before coming to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). Currently, Shevon is the Prevention Specialist for the state of Georgia with the Child Fatality Review Unit.

Alexander E. Crosby, MD, MPH, works as a medical epidemiologist in the Division of Violence Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He completed medical training in Family Medicine and General Preventive Medicine and public health and epidemiology training in the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service. His work focuses on prevention of suicidal behavior, child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, interpersonal violence among adolescents, and assault injuries among minorities.

Erin Harlow-Parker, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, has worked in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry for 30 years. She has been a member of the psychiatry consult team at CHOA for 11 years. Her passions include suicide prevention, treating patients with eating disorders, reducing mental health stigma and improving therapeutic communication skills of non-behavioral healthcare providers. In addition to her direct patient care responsibilities, she is actively involved in many state behavioral health initiatives to improve the behavioral health needs of youth in Georgia.

Cheryl Benefield, MS, is the Program Manager for Safe and Drug-Free Schools at the Georgia Department of Education. Her career includes teaching, administration, and family engagement at the local and state level. In addition to committee appointments including the National School Safety Alliance Collaboration Group, Georgia Child Welfare Training Collaborative Advisory Council, and Georgia Statewide Opioid Task Force, Cheryl chairs the Georgia Department of Education's Suicide Prevention Task Force and serves as President of NAMI Georgia.

Centennial Rooms C & D

“Talking About Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention to Increase Public Commitment”
Presentation Handout

This workshop will briefly discuss research showing that talking about child abuse and neglect prevention evokes thinking of “fixing bad parents.” Research suggests that increasing the public’s awareness of societal factors undermining healthy child development may increase their commitment to preventing it. Effectively framing messages about prevention will increase the public’s commitment to assuring safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments using the strategies in the CDC’s Child Abuse and Neglect Technical Package.

Katie A. Ports, PhD, is a Behavioral Scientist at the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Much of her current work examines risk and protective factors for child maltreatment, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE), and toxic stress in order to identify and improve evidence-based prevention strategies that address health outcomes and inequities across the lifespan and generations. Dr. Ports is CDC’s subject matter expert on the ACE Study and child abuse and neglect.

Joanne Klevens, MD, PhD, MPH, is an epidemiologist with the Division of Violence Prevention at the CDC. She conducts or collaborates in research evaluating: Coordinated Community Responses to partner violence; preventive interventions for partner violence and youth violence among Latinos; interventions to prevent abusive head trauma; screening for intimate partner violence in primary care; policies affecting the social determinants of child maltreatment; Early Head Start’s and California’s paid family leave policy’s impact on abusive head trauma.
Margy Lohman

Margy is the founder of the Pickens County Council on Child Abuse, Inc. (now PCA Pickens) and has devoted the last 24 years of her life to ensuring that families and children in the community have every opportunity to thrive. The journey started when Margy saw a need for families to have access to information and resources to succeed and along this journey she has made a profound impact in her community. There are few obstacles that Margy has encountered that she couldn’t overcome in order to help children and families. She is a role model for families, showing them that with persistence and hard work, anything is possible. Through endless hours of dedication, Margy has created a community support system that has helped countless families address and overcome complex challenges. She has single-handedly raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to continue the mission of PCA Pickens and has engaged local and state businesses, organizations and individuals to impact Pickens County. Margy can rally the troops when there is a need, and is rarely told no (and if they do say no she somehow still leaves with a check). Margy has fostered an excellent working relationship with many organizations in Pickens County and has worked in partnership with the Community of Hope to make sure families’ needs are met.

“I have never met anyone with a bigger heart who is more dedicated to helping at-risk children and families than Margy Lohman our friend, our mentor, our partner in prevention.”

Sandra Alexander

Sandra Alexander has been working in the field of child abuse prevention in Georgia for decades. She started her career in child protective services and soon found a passion for child abuse prevention. That passion has led to a long, influential career as a recognized state and national leader, strategic thinker, and innovator in child abuse prevention. As the former Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, Sandra worked for more than 20 years as a non-profit leader before moving to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she currently works as a subject matter expert in the field of child maltreatment. In this role she was part of the team that developed the CDC’s Essentials for Childhood framework, a seminal guide that outlines how we as a nation can shift the focus of child maltreatment to prevent it at it’s roots, and co-leads the Essentials for Childhood Initiative. She has long been the champion for our nation’s and especially Georgia’s families and children, and greatly deserves this award.

We thank Sandra for her depth of knowledge, passion, and ability to enlighten others on the importance of primary prevention.
Robert Sege PhD, MD, speaks passionately about the new and positive model for raising healthy children and preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) including violence, bullying, abuse, and neglect. He explains that the key to preventing violence is to promote resilience, which is developed through strong relationships with family and community.

This positive approach applies to all families. Dr. Sege and his wife, Dr. Karen Victor, have raised three children. Through their own experience, coupled with their conversations with the thousands of families they care for, they have come to realize that parents who find joy in parenting raise resilient children.

Dr. Sege speaks nationally and internationally about joyful parenting, weaving personal experience, recent studies of children and their parents, and lessons he has learned from his patients in his presentations.

Dr. Robert Sege, is a Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine, where he directs a new Center for Community-engaged Medicine. Dr. Sege is nationally known for his research on effective health systems approaches that directly address the social determinants of health. He is a Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Social Policy in Washington and serves on the boards of the Massachusetts Children’s Trust and Prevent Child Abuse America. He has served on the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect, and on its Committee on Injury, Violence, and Poisoning Prevention. He is a graduate of Yale College, and received his PhD in Biology from MIT and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He led the development of the Connected Kids: Safe, Strong, Secure program for the American Academy of Pediatrics. He is a former member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Injury Violence and Poison Prevention and is the author of the November 2012 AAP policy statement “Firearm-Related Injuries Affecting the Pediatric Population.” He was the recipient of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ 2008 Fellow Achievement Award for his work on youth violence prevention.
**Peachtree Room**

**“Plan of Safe Care and Maternal Substance Use”**

This workshop will review the Division of Family and Children Services’ policy regarding services to substance exposed infants and their families and discuss best practices for treatment of maternal substance use disorders.

*Wrayanne Glaze Parker* is the Women’s Program Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and manages the agency’s contract with the Division of Family and Children Services.

*Shelby Zimmer* works in the Safety Services Unit at DFCS and oversees the state’s compliance with the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act requirements for services to substance exposed infants and their families.

**Dogwood Room**

**“Putting Promotion of Positive Experiences into Practice”**

This workshop will allow deeper discussion of the themes of the keynote address. Dr. Sege will begin with a discussion of lessons learned from DULCE, a new program that supports parents of infants through their engagement with healthcare. The workshop will explore (1) practical suggestions for parents based on the concept of HOPE, (2) using the HOPE approach in practice - what changes in programs would help promote positive childhood experiences? Group time will be used to focus on specific interventions in Georgia.

*Robert Sege, PhD, MD,* is a practicing pediatrician, a professor of pediatrics at Boston University, and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. (See Keynote for full Bio)

**Centennial Rooms A & B**

**“SB 401 and Beyond: Complying with Georgia’s Mandate to Provide Sexual Abuse Education in K-9”**

This workshop will cover new language in Georgia law; information and resources from the Dept. of Education; and an overview of programs currently being used in schools. Presenters will also cover [Georgia’s Sexual Abuse & Exploitation Prevention Education Technical Assistance Resource Guide (TARG)](https://www.gachse.org/resource/sexual-abuse-exploitation-prevention) which identifies best practices, resources, age-appropriate teaching suggestions, and analysis of programs. We will also discuss challenges, barriers, successes and pilot programs, as well as how child abuse prevention advocates can support local schools’ implementation.

*Carol Neal Rossi* has 25+ years experience as a communications director, program manager and marketing professional. As President of Issues Consulting she provides consulting services to for-profit and nonprofit organizations. She is currently a Regional Prevention Coordinator for the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy (GCCA) where she partners with local agencies to promote child sexual abuse prevention training throughout Atlanta’s 7-county region. GCCA’s prevention team develops and oversees community coalitions, support facilitators, promote, coordinate and facilitate training to lead organizations and build activities toward a set of specific training goals.

*Tiffany Sawyer* is the Director of Prevention Services at the GCCA where she oversees the statewide abuse prevention initiative that has trained over 100,000 adults since 2006. Previously, she worked as an Associate Director at Darkness to Light, a national non-profit for the prevention of child sexual abuse. At Darkness to Light, she assisted in creating the Stewards of Children training curriculum and helping to launch the program on a national and international level.
“Child Fatality Review: Maximizing Prevention Impact”

The child fatality review process offers communities an opportunity to make recommendations for preventing future similar deaths. Several case examples of child deaths will be presented and participants will suggest how these individual deaths might have been prevented as well as discuss broader recommendations for prevention based on common characteristics in particular types of deaths. Prevention strategies in CDC’s Technical Package for Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect will be reviewed as possibilities for increasing prevention impact.

Sandra Alexander, MEd, has over 45 years experience developing, leading and evaluating child maltreatment prevention strategies and training stakeholders in both public and private sectors. For the past 14 years she has provided subject matter expertise in the Division of Violence Prevention at CDC, ten years in the position of Expert Consultant and more recently as a contractor. She is a former Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia.

Angie Boy, DrPH, is the Program Manager for prevention and education at the Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing the implementation of multiple projects related to child abuse and neglect including child sex trafficking, prevention of child sexual abuse, and mandated reporting of child abuse and neglect. Prior to coming to Children’s Healthcare, Angie worked for the GA Coalition Against Domestic Violence as the Project Connect Coordinator, overseeing Georgia’s participation in a national initiative focusing on domestic violence and women's health.

“Aft e rno on S e s s i o n D 3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.”

Peachtree

“Helping Children Heal through Trauma-Focused Integrated Play Therapy”

For more information visit the Association for Play Therapy or GSU’s Play Therapy Training Institute.

Trauma-Focused Integrated Play Therapy is a relationship-based treatment modality which allows children to self-direct, experience control and mastery, and access their own healing mechanisms (Gil, 2017). Explore the impact of traumatic events on children and their caregivers and how Trauma-Focused Integrated Play Therapy can be an effective approach in a child’s healing process. Participants will be guided through actual case studies that include the artwork of children who experienced trauma and who were participating in play therapy. Through these case examples, the presenters will demonstrate the use of Trauma-Focused Integrated Play Therapy in the healing of children who experienced trauma.

Tiffany McNary, PhD, LPC, NCC, CPCS, RPT-S is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Counseling and Psychological Services at Georgia State University and has been teaching and supervising students at GSU since 2009. Dr. McNary has dedicated her entire professional career to counseling children and families impacted by trauma. She has 18 years of clinical experience serving clients in the non-profit, hospital and private practice settings. She has an expertise in working with traumatized and chronically ill children through incorporating the Expressive Arts and Play Therapy into her counseling sessions.

Galina Tobin, MEd, APC, NCC is a second year doctoral student at Georgia State University pursuing a PhD in Counselor Education and Practice. She has worked in a variety of non-profit, community and school settings serving children and families impacted by trauma.
**Workshops**

**Afternoon Session D  3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**Dogwood Room**

**“Teens, Sex, and Georgia Law”**

This workshop will clarify the current laws related to teens and sexual activity from sexting to physical contact and is appropriate for medical professionals, educators, law enforcement, child welfare workers and prosecutors.

**Rachelle Carnesale, JD**, has served in the public sector for her entire career, focusing on issues in child abuse in multiple jurisdictions since graduating from Emory Law School in 1992. A career prosecutor, Rachelle is currently the Chief Assistant District Attorney in Cherokee County; but has served as the Director of the Georgia Child Death Investigation Program, the Interim Director of the Office of the Child Advocate and the Director of Georgia DFCS.

**DeKalb**

**“Georgia KIDS COUNT Data Tools and Outreach Training”**

[View Presentation Slides]

In this workshop, attendees will learn how Georgia KIDS COUNT selects indicators, what tools are available to them, and how each tool can be used for different audiences and purposes. They will enjoy a full tour of the Georgia Family Connection Partnership (GaFCP) and KIDS COUNT suite of tools and resources, as well as learning about what other resources are available to them at the state and local levels.

**Elizabeth Turner, JD**, joined GaFCP in 2012 as the Research and Outreach Manager and assists both GaFCP and the statewide network of local Family Connection Collaboratives by providing policy research, strategy, outreach, and communications support. Elizabeth previously served as associate counsel and sustainability program director for the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG). A native of Cartersville, Georgia, Elizabeth earned a B.A. in Psychology and English Literature from Mercer University and a J.D. from the Florida State University.

**Rebecca Rice, MPH**, joined GaFCP in 2012 as the Georgia KIDS COUNT manager, and leads the organization’s data and civic health work. Rebecca previously worked with Georgia Forward, supporting programs, research, publications, and events. A native of Snellville, Georgia, Rebecca earned a B.A. in English from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Public Health degree from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

**Centennial Rooms A & B**

**“Signals One: Social-Emotional and Mental Health Development in Early Childhood”**

[View Presentation Slides]

In response to requests from educators throughout the state, the Georgia Department of Education partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Georgia chapter and the Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Language and Literacy to develop Signals One, social emotional and mental health training for educators and providers working with children ages zero to 12. This session will provide an overview of Signals One, review other mental health trainings available to districts, and outline current requirements for mental health training in Georgia schools.

**Cheryl Benefield, MS**, is the Program Manager for Safe and Drug-Free Schools at the Georgia Department of Education. Her career includes teaching, administration, and family engagement at the local and state level. In addition to committee appointments including the National School Safety Alliance Collaboration Group, Georgia Child Welfare Training Collaborative Advisory Council, and Georgia Statewide Opioid Task Force, Cheryl chairs the Georgia Department of Education's Suicide Prevention Task Force and serves as President of NAMI Georgia.
**Exhibitors**

**Fulton County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**
Since 1995 Fulton County Court Appointed Special Advocates (FCCASA) Inc., has been a 501©(3) that provides training for community members to become child advocate volunteers to follow abused and neglected children as they navigate the child welfare process in foster care.
[fultoncountycasa.org](http://fultoncountycasa.org) or email recruiter@fultoncountycasa.org

**The Georgia Center for Child Advocacy**
The Georgia Center for Child Advocacy is a private, non-profit child advocacy center with a vision for safe communities where every child feels safe. The center's mission is to champion the needs of sexually and severely physically abused children through prevention, intervention, therapy, and collaboration. [georgiacenterforchildadvocacy.org](http://georgiacenterforchildadvocacy.org)

**Georgia Chapter of Childhood Domestic Violence Association**
The Georgia Chapter is the first formal regional satellite of the Association, located in Atlanta, GA. The Chapter was founded in 2016 to serve the needs of anyone in Georgia who grew up living with domestic violence or anyone who cares about someone who did. Its purpose is to increase awareness, connect those in need with experts, and share information. [www.GeorgiaCDV.org](http://www.GeorgiaCDV.org)

**Bikers Against Child Abuse B.A.C.A.**
B.A.C.A. exists with the intent to create a safer environment for abused children. We exist as a body of bikers to empower children to not feel afraid of the world in which they live. We stand ready to lend support to our wounded friends by involving them with an established, united organization. [bacaworld.org](http://bacaworld.org)

**Great Heights Foster Care**
Great Heights is a Georgia Child Placement Agency (CPA) licensed to approve and work with both foster and adoptive parents, currently accepting and working with individuals interested in fostering, providing respite, and/or fostering-to-adopt. Great Heights coordinates with DFCS to accept placements for foster children with a variety of needs, and commits to working in close partnership for each case so that the best placement match is made and that all involved are set up for success. As a 501(c)(3) Great Heights is also actively involved in community outreach and awareness efforts. All of these efforts are made with the ultimate goal of sending foster children out to soar to great heights. [www.greatheightsfostercare.org](http://www.greatheightsfostercare.org)

**Odyssey Family Counseling Center**
Odyssey Family Counseling Center is a non-profit, community based counseling center serving individuals throughout the metro Atlanta area. Every person has a unique history and special needs. At Odyssey, we offer quality, evidenced-based mental health treatment and services, which acknowledge the importance of family and community in healing and recovery. Our services include: Adult Behavioral Health Counseling, Marital/Couples Counseling, Child and Adolescent Services, Play/Art Therapy, Adult Substance Abuse Counseling, Psychiatric Services, Nursing Services, Adolescent Substance Abuse Therapy, Anger Management, and School Based Counseling Services. [www.odysseycounseling.org](http://www.odysseycounseling.org)

**Child Occupant Safety Project, GA Department of Public Health (DPH)**
The Child Occupant Safety Project is housed in the Division of Health Protection, Injury Prevention Program, at DPH. They provide child safety seats and education on proper installation and use primarily through the Mini Grant Program. The Mini Grant Program works with local community partners to provide best practice education and services to help parents and caregivers transport children safely. [https://dph.georgia.gov/child-occupant-safety-project-overview](https://dph.georgia.gov/child-occupant-safety-project-overview)
**EXHIBITORS**

**Department of Family & Children Services - CPS Intake Communication Center**
The CPS Intake Communications Center (CICC) receives and assesses allegations of child abuse and neglect in Georgia through the 1-855-GACHILD hotline and online. They want to help answer questions from mandated reporters or other concerned individuals regarding reporting procedures and practices.

[www.dfcs.georgia.gov](http://www.dfcs.georgia.gov)

**Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc.**
At the Attachment & Trauma Network, it is our mission to promote healing of traumatized children and their families through support, education and advocacy. We are the national organization promoting trauma-informed caregiving and education.

[www.attachtrauma.org](http://www.attachtrauma.org)

**Georgia Bureau of Investigation/ Child Fatality Review (CFR)**
The main purpose of Georgia’s CFR program is to prevent deaths. The mission of CFR is to serve Georgia’s children by promoting more accurate identification and reporting of child fatalities, evaluating the prevalence and circumstances of both child abuse cases and child fatality investigations, and monitoring the implementation and impact of the statewide child injury prevention plan.

[www.gbi.ga.gov/cfr](http://www.gbi.ga.gov/cfr)

**Child Welfare Training Collaborative**
CWTC offers training and CEUs to community partners at no cost. Bringing everyone to the same table creates an opportunity for community partners to have a shared understanding of issues facing children and families and also strengthens the collaborations to promote better outcomes for Georgia’s children. CWTC is a partnership between the GA. Division of Family and Children Services and GA. State University School of Social Work Professional Excellence Program.

[http://cwtc.gsu.edu](http://cwtc.gsu.edu)

**Revved Up Kids**
Revved Up Kids is an Atlanta based nonprofit organization providing sexual abuse, violence and trafficking prevention training programs for children, teens, parents and youth serving organizations. Our single session training programs are available to groups throughout metro-Atlanta and its surrounding counties in North Georgia.

[www.revvedupkids.org](http://www.revvedupkids.org)

**Children’s Health Care of Atlanta, Project ECHO**
Patients and healthcare providers have access to the expertise of our pediatric specialists through telemedicine. It is an easy-to-use service that offers patients and providers remote consultations, evaluations and training using live video. Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a unique case-based learning model, utilized to disseminate knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best practice care to broad geographic areas. The program facilitates virtual clinics, linking specialists with care providers in local communities through videoconferencing. Participants become part of a learning community where they receive mentoring and feedback from specialists as they manage complex patient cases.

[www.choa.org/telemedicine](http://www.choa.org/telemedicine) & [www.choa.org/projectecho](http://www.choa.org/projectecho)

You can see all exhibitor and presentation information online:
[http://abuse.publichealth.gsu.edu/upcoming-events/annual-conference/](http://abuse.publichealth.gsu.edu/upcoming-events/annual-conference/)
Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Georgia is housed at Georgia State University’s School of Public Health in the Mark Chaffin Center for Healthy Development. PCA Georgia’s mission is to work towards the healthy development of children statewide recognizing that child development is a building block for community development and economic development. The 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline is one method PCA Georgia uses to connect caregivers and professionals with resources that support families throughout Georgia. Callers can speak with trained individuals who care and want to help. Think of it as your community’s resource guide. The 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline database can now be accessed online by going to www.PCAGeorgiaHelpline.org. Type in your address to find what’s close by or search resources by category. It takes parents, caregivers, and supportive RESOURCES to help children and families thrive.

Julia Neighbors
Director
Jneighbors@gsu.edu
404-413-1419

Naeshia McDowell
Training & Helpline Coordinator
Nmcdowell2@gsu.edu
404-413-2379

Jyll Walsh
Comm. & Outreach Coordinator
Jwalsh10@gsu.edu
404-413-1296

www.PCAGeorgia.org for the latest information on PCA Georgia

“Like” us on Facebook!
@PreventGeorgia

“Follow” us on Twitter!
@PCAGeorgia

Prevent Child Abuse Georgia

The Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, a service of Children’s at Scottish Rite and Children’s at Hughes Spalding hospitals, promotes the safety and well-being of children through advocacy in the community and the identification, behavioral health assessment and counseling, and prevention of child abuse. The Center for Safe and Healthy Children is a child advocacy center that provides comprehensive medical and forensic evaluations, behavioral health assessments and counseling, and professional trainings in a safe, child-friendly environment by a team of professionals who have extensive pediatric experience. For more information on our services visit www.choa.org/cpc

Angie Boy
Program Manager
Angela.Boy@choa.org
404-785-7429

Kara Klein
Program Coordinator
Kara.Klein@choa.org
404-785-7694

Kacey Baine
Program Coordinator
Kacey.baine@choa.org
404-785-3389

www.choa.org/cpc

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Talk to trained professionals who care and want to help connect you with supportive programs in your neighborhood.

The 1-800-CHILDREN Helpline is for:

- Parents and Grandparents
- Relatives or Other Caregivers
- Professionals Working with Families
- Faith Communities
- Victims of Crime
- Survivors of Abuse

The Helpline Includes Resources for:

- Caregiver Support
- Counseling and Support Groups
- Afterschool and Child Programs
- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse
- Housing and Basic Needs

Help connect families with resources using the 1-800-CHILDREN online resource map to find programs in your neighborhood.

www.PCAGGeorgiaHelpline.org