



MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Conference – Healing, Hope & Justice: An Advanced Conversation Workshop Descriptions

### **Plenary Session: The Importance of Vision in Complex Traumatic Situations**

*Presenter: William C. Madsen, Ph.D., Family-Centered Services Project*

This plenary highlights the crucial role that vision plays in engaging caregivers as active participants in order to combine their expertise with ours to build detailed and sustainable plans for safety. It offers a concise framework for developing clear and parsimonious statements of past harm and future worries about danger. Combining these with parents' vision statement helps to use the discrepancy between the two to identify clear safety goals and develop a safety network to implement a concrete safety plan.

### **Workshop Session I: 10:45am-12:15pm**

#### **Physical Examination and Medical Investigation of Child Physical Abuse**

*Presenter: Heather McKeag, MD, FAAP, Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center*

Room: Wayland

This workshop focuses on the process of multidisciplinary team investigations and collaborations by presenting a case study of physical abuse to highlight important aspects of the process. The workshop touches on what information is helpful for the medical provider if gathered from the forensic interview, and is intended for members of multidisciplinary teams.

#### **A Trauma-Informed Approach: An Overview of Trauma-Informed, Evidence-Based Treatments**

*Presenter: Jessica L. Griffin, Psy.D., University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Room: Sudbury

This workshop introduces participants to Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, an evidence-based treatment approach shown to help children, adolescents, and their caregivers overcome trauma-related difficulties. It is designed to reduce negative emotional and behavioral responses following child sexual abuse, domestic violence, traumatic loss, and other traumatic events. The workshop teaches participants to identify the components in Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, evidence-based trauma treatments for children, and to describe characteristics of trauma-informed treatment.

#### **What Can I Expect? Understanding Typical Development from Toddlers through Early Adolescence**

*Presenter: Erin O'Donnell, Psy.D., Lynn Community Health Center.*

Room: Middlesex

Understanding child development is essential to treating all children with dignity and respect. As professionals interested in fostering the safety and welfare of children in Massachusetts, this training provides an opportunity to explore the typical developmental trajectory of children from early childhood through early adolescence. It looks at the parenting challenges faced by multi-stressed families, including cultural differences. Furthermore, it examines the impact of stressors, such as violence or neglect, on normal development and communication. This training will use video and interactive discussion to learn tools and techniques for addressing the challenges inherent in normal childhood development, as well as explore questions related to setting age appropriate expectations of children in your care.

*Morning workshops continued on the next page →*



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**Workshop Descriptions**  
**Morning Workshops continued**

**Child Pornography: Investigative Trends, Production, and Child Enticement Crimes**

*Presenter: Scott Kelley, United States Postal Inspection Service*

Room: Ashland

**\*\*This session repeats in the morning and the afternoon\*\***

This session will use case studies regarding child pornography production and enticement investigations in the State of Massachusetts to provide law enforcement and social services providers an overview of the federal crimes relating to children and their penalties. The workshop will include a discussion of an international and domestic operation which resulted in high profile arrests here in Massachusetts, as well as a synopsis of the tools used to identify offenders and victims through photo analysis.

**Workshop Session II: 2:30pm-4:00pm**

***Doctors are from Mars, Investigators are from Venus***

*Presenter: Rebecca Moles, MD, Yale School of Medicine & Yale Child Abuse Programs*

Room: Wayland

Law enforcement and DCF investigators frequently rely on information from physicians in the determination of crime and protection of children and families. Conversations between physicians and investigators can be complicated by physicians' use of complex medical terminology and investigators' expectations of medical science. This presentation will outline the expectations investigators and physicians have of the other discipline and how those expectations may impact effective communication. Case examples will be presented and attendees will leave with several strategies to employ when working with physicians in child abuse cases.

***Trauma evaluations: From Initial Screening to Completion of Court Ordered Report***

*Jessica L. Griffin, Psy.D., University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Room: Sudbury

This workshop will teach participants to distinguish between trauma screening and trauma evaluation. Participants will be able to identify positive characteristics of a forensically-sound trauma evaluation, and will be able to list assessment instruments that could be utilized in a trauma assessment or evaluation.

**Children's Eyewitness Memory, Suggestibility, and Disclosures of Sexual Abuse**

*Stephanie Block, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Lowell*

Room: Middlesex

In this session participants will learn about the dynamics of disclosure of child sexual abuse. The basic memory framework will be reviewed as it relates to children's autobiographical recall of traumatic events. Characteristics that are associated with delayed disclosure will be discussed. We will also discuss the importance of forensic interviewing, concerns about suggestibility, and factors to consider when talking to children about abuse.

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