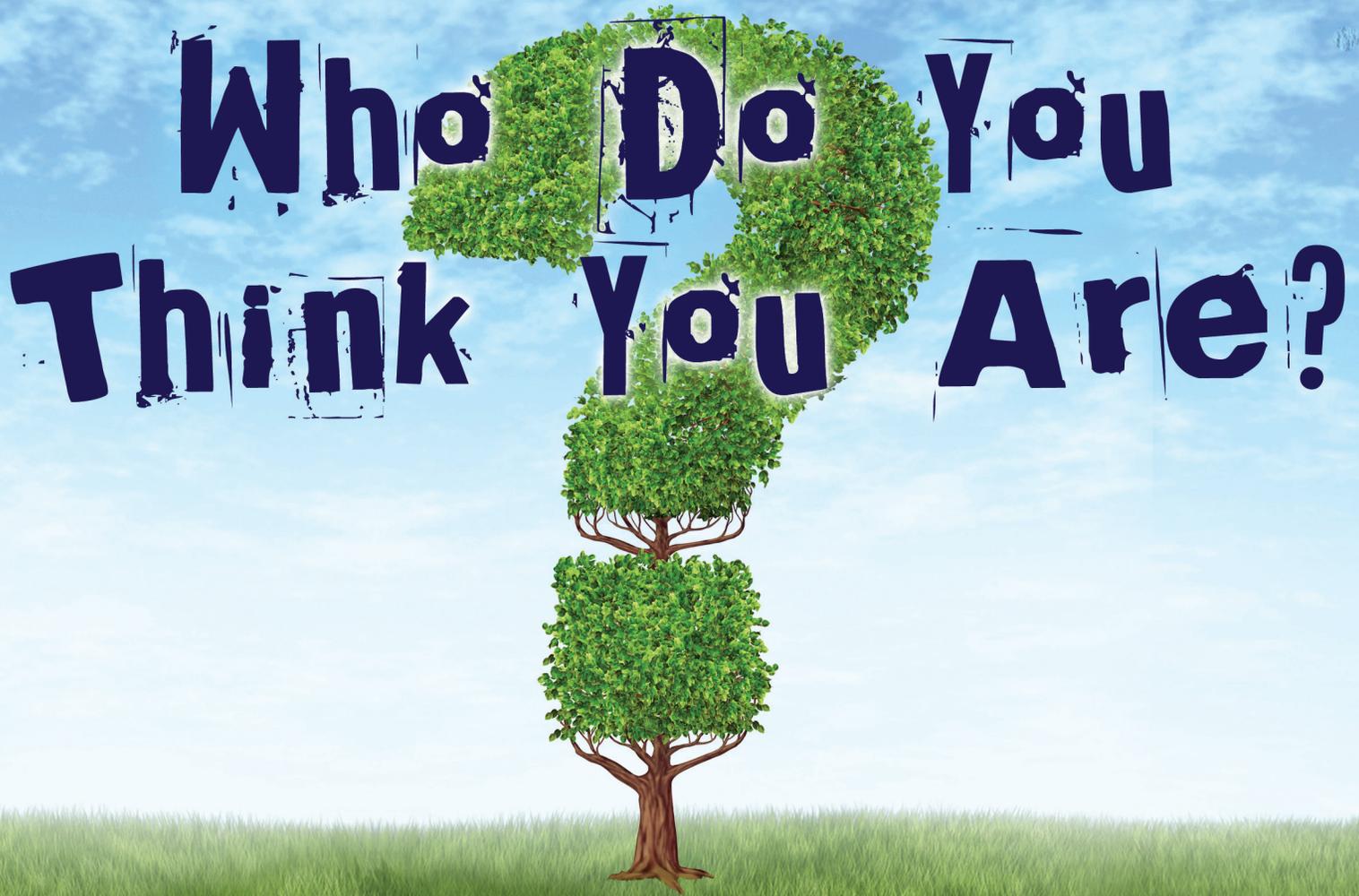


28th Annual New York State Foster Care and Adoption Conference



Exploring the Impact of Foster Care, Adoption and Kinship Care on Identity

Thursday, May 11, through Saturday, May 13
Location: Albany Marriott

FEATURING KEYNOTES: Jelani Freeman, Esq;
Kim E. Stevens, MEd; Ruth G. McRoy, MSW, PhD;
Susan Harris O'Connor, MSW; Andrew Solomon, PhD,
Author of *Far From the Tree*

About the Conference

Who Do You Think You Are?, the Coalition's 28th Annual New York State Foster Care and Adoption Conference, will focus on the intersection of family, identity and culture as central to adoption, foster care and kinship care.

These issues are transformative. Generally acknowledged is the significant impact on children at the center. While this cannot be minimized, there is an evolving understanding of how adoption, foster care and kinship care impact the identity and the understanding of family and culture for all involved.

This year's conference will explore these issues and their impact on all who are, knowingly or not, part of adoption, foster care and kinship care: adoptive parents, foster parents, relative caregivers, siblings, extended family, professionals, educators, service providers and, most especially, the children.

The conference will offer participants an opportunity to become current on law and policy, learn new skills and strategies to work with families and children, network with other parents and professionals and provide parents and professionals alike with tools and resources to explore possibilities for change. Nationally known keynote speakers and experts in child welfare will share their expertise and vision for the future in 30 different workshop presentations.

Accommodations

The conference will be held at the Albany Marriott Hotel. Conference attendees receive a special discounted room rate of \$116 plus applicable taxes (reservation code AFC). The hotel must receive reservations no later than April 25. Reservations made after this date will be subject to availability.

Albany Marriott
189 Wolf Road • Albany, NY 12205
518-458-8444 • 800-443-8952

Useful Information

- This brochure and presenter bios are available online at www.affcny.org.
- The conference will feature a large adoption and foster care bookstore plus sales of select Coalition items. Credit cards and checks are welcome.
- Children cannot attend workshops and plenary sessions.
- Continuing education credits (CECs) are available for \$25. See registration information on page 7 for details.
- Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits for Social Workers are available for \$60.

Richard Heyl de Ortiz, Executive Director
108 Main Street, Suite 5, New Paltz, NY 12561
646-688-4321 • fax: 888-482-9112
info@affcny.org • www.affcny.org

Featured Speakers

Jelani Freeman, Esq., grew up in a series of inner-city neighborhoods in Rochester. At age 8, he entered the foster care system in Washington DC, after being abandoned by his mother. He had never met his incarcerated father and saw little of his three siblings. He experienced life as a child in foster care, but he continued to rise through the challenges. After high school, Freeman attended the University at Buffalo, earned a master's degree in history from American University and graduated from Howard University School of Law. He has spent his career working in government, starting with a Senate internship for Hillary Clinton in 2003. Freeman is known for his moving speech at the 2016 Democratic National Convention. Currently, he is an appellate attorney for the Department of Veterans Affairs and an advocate for kids at risk, serving with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Washington, and is on the boards of the Barker Adoption Foundation, the Center for Adoption Support and Education (CASE), DC Child Fatality Review Committee and the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI).

Ruth G. McRoy, MSW, PhD, became the first holder of the Donahue and DiFelice Endowed Professorship at Boston College Graduate School of Social Work in September 2009. Prior to joining the Boston College faculty, McRoy was a member of the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work faculty for 25 years and held the Ruby Lee Piester Centennial Professorship. McRoy has published over 100 articles and 12 books. Her latest book was released in early 2016: *Transracial and Intercountry Adoptions: Cultural Guidance for Professionals*.

Susan Harris O'Connor, MSW, is a national solo performance artist of her book *The Harris Narratives: An Introspective Study of a Transracial Adoptee*. Since 1996, her narratives have been featured over 100 times at venues such as the Harvard Medical School Conference Series, Smith College Summer Lecture Series, Yale Law School, the NAACP and Starbucks. She is published by the Yale Journal of Law and Feminism, the An-Ya Project and the British Journal of Adoption and Fostering, where her racial identity theory for transracially adopted persons is featured. In 2014, she received the Outstanding Practitioner in Adoption Award from St. John's University.

Andrew Solomon, PhD, is a writer and lecturer on politics, culture and psychology; a Professor of Clinical Psychology at Columbia University Medical Center and President of PEN American Center. His best-selling book, *Far from the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity*, tells the stories of families raising exceptional children who not only learn to deal with their challenges but also find profound meaning in doing so. *Far from the Tree* has received multiple awards and was chosen as one of the New York Times 10 Best Books of 2012. Solomon lives with his husband, John Habich Solomon, and son, George Solomon, in New York and London.

Kim E. Stevens, MEd, is a program director at the North American Council on Adoptable Children. Stevens oversees advocacy efforts on federal and state policy agenda, capacity building for caregiver support/advocacy organizations and manages communications and messaging. With 26 years of experience, Stevens has provided training and consultation on child welfare issues, foster care, adoption, youth permanency, trauma and recovery, and race and identity issues both nationally and internationally.

Who Do You Think You Are?

Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, May 11, 2017

2:00 pm	Parent Leadership Gathering
5:30 pm	Coalition Advisory Committee Meeting
7:00 pm	Coalition Annual Meeting
8:00 pm	The Good Adoptee Production

Friday, May 12, 2017

9:00 am	Registration/Exhibits
9:45 am	Opening Session and Welcome Opening Remarks: Richard Heyl de Ortiz
10:45 am	Workshop Period 1
12:15 pm	Lunch Keynote: Ruth McRoy, Kim Stevens and Susan Harris O'Connor <i>My Mind's Blueprint Inclusive of an Oppressed Identity Construct: Reflections and Introspection of a Transracial Adoptee</i>
1:50 pm	Workshop Period 2
3:05 pm	Beverage Break
3:30 pm	Workshop Period 3
5:15 pm	Yoga
6:00 pm	Conference Reception
8:00 pm	"A Fireside Chat" with Andrew Solomon Author: <i>Far from the Tree: How Our Differences Unite Us</i>

Saturday, May 13, 2017

7:45 am	Breakfast Keynote: Jelani Freeman <i>Adopting a Better Approach for Youth in Foster Care</i>
9:05 am	Workshop Period 4
10:40 am	Workshop Period 5
12:15 pm	Workshop Period 6
1:45 pm	<i>This Is Us</i> Wrap Party Includes box lunch

Thursday, May 11

Pre-Conference Events

2:00 pm - Parent Leadership Gathering

The power of our Coalition is in our parents and families. Join Coalition Executive Director Richard Heyl de Ortiz and others for an open discussion about legislative and public education priorities for the year ahead and how parents, families and parent group leaders throughout the state can work together to create change; educate the public about foster care, adoption and kinship care; and improve services for families.

Open to all foster, adoptive and kinship parents. Refreshments provided.

5:15 pm - Advisory Committee Meeting

Members of the Coalition Advisory Committee from around the state hold an in-person meeting.

7:00 pm - Annual Meeting

Meet Coalition staff and board members. Hear reports from the executive director and the president. Time for informal questions, answers and discussion will follow reports and the election of Advisory Committee members.

8:00 pm - *The Good Adoptee*

Can you imagine not knowing your own identity? *The Good Adoptee* is award-winning playwright Suzanne Bachner's true story of her intrepid and relentless search for her birth parents in the face of New York State's sealed records. Suzanne must overcome both external and internal challenges: an officious social worker, her loyalty to her beloved Mom and Dad, the temptation to become her own identity thief and an outrageous Jersey reality show genealogist. Once she opens Pandora's box, can she find a way to integrate her dual identities and remain the Good Adoptee? www.TheGoodAdoptee.com



Friday, May 12, 2017

Workshop Period 1 10:45 am – 12:00 pm

1. Treading Water is Harder Than It Seems (Social Work CEUs Part 1)

Whenever we hear about an adoption story gone wrong, the blame is usually placed on inadequate training. But learning about something is not the same as doing it. Treading water for three minutes in warm swimming pool is not the same as struggling to keep your head above water amidst ocean waves awaiting rescue. This course will discuss the need for a different kind of pre and post-adoption support that allows new adoptive parents to feel more of the reality before it hits them in the head. Attendees will understand and learn how to deliver the truth to new families so that it inspires, and hurts a little, and helps families be better prepared for what's coming after the legal papers are signed. *Lisa D. Maynard, LMSW*

This is a two-part workshop with 3 CEU credits available for social workers. You MUST attend session one and six to receive CEUs. Additional fee applies. See page 2.

2. Presenting Options to Kin/Relative Caregivers, Part 1

The child welfare system has increasingly come to value role kinship caregivers' role in helping children to achieve the goals of safety, permanency and well-being. Caring for one's family members can be challenging, and the type of placement selected by relatives at the onset can have a significant impact on the level of support they will receive during placement, and on their permanency options if reunification is not possible in a timely manner. Kin caregivers need to understand these options in order to reach informed decisions about the best choice for their kin and their family. Through the use of information and case scenarios, participants will gain a better understanding of these options This is a two-part workshop. Part 2 builds upon Part 1; please plan to attend both. *Heather Dominguez*

3. Shifting Our Mindset to Parent Therapeutically

In this workshop you will gain a solid understanding of how to shift your thinking and expectations in ways that help your child heal and your family thrive. We'll discuss the nature of therapeutic parenting, how/why it differs from typical parenting, the impact of trauma, how to care for yourself while caring for your family and where to look for help. *Stephanie Garde and Sheilah Davidson*

4. Understanding the New Social Society of Today's Youth: Social Media, Internet, Texting, Apps and More

A fun and interactive workshop designed to educate professionals, supportive staff and parents on the various ways that youth are communicating and socializing. Attendees will be given a variety of tools to educate them on the basic language and trends of social media, apps, texting and the Internet. Attendees will also learn how to effectively approach and connect with their youth regarding technology and how to create a positive and safe communication environment. *LaTasha C. Watts*

5. Post-Adoption and Guardianship Support and the Transition of the Family's Identity

When a child is incorporated into a family, any issues or difficulties that erupt cannot be attributed just to the child; rather, the whole family has to undergo change and reshape their roles as a new

family to meet all their needs. The new Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Program for Everyone (AGAPE) is a vital post-adoption/guardianship support program for the healing of the family as a whole, whether through foster care or kinship, international or infant adoption. *Pat O'Brien and Tomasine Oliphant.*

Lunch Keynote 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

My Mind's Blueprint Inclusive of an Oppressed Identity Construct: Reflections and Introspection of a Transracial Adoptee

With Ruth McRoy, Kim Stevens
and Susan Harris O'Connor

Transracial adoption of black and multi-racial children continues to occur in the United States and throughout the world in increasing numbers. Professionals are expected to have competencies in a host of areas, including family preservation, best placement practices and pre- and post-adoption services for all parties involved. In this keynote, Susan explores her identity construct as it developed into adulthood, while weaving an autobiographical narrative. Susan adds to the discussion by bringing the audience participants inside the healing journey of her complicated identity being a former foster child and triracial transracial adoptee. With the knowledge of a world-class scholar, Ruth shares research findings, historical and contemporary practice and policy issues in transracial adoptions. She educates on adoption issues, the development of racial identity in transracial adoptions and strategies for meeting the needs of children and families. Kim engages the audience in exploring their own beliefs and values related to race, identity, family membership and privilege. As an adoptive mother of transracially adopted children, she adds another perspective to our understanding of the issues and approaches to supporting healthy identity formation.

Workshop Period 2 1:50 pm – 3:05 pm

6. Stressed Families and Family Systems (Social Work CEUs Part 2)

This workshop will explore the variety of situations that lead to stress in families, along with the accompanying stress physiology and dynamics that play out between family members and professionals. A primary focus will be on learning techniques of preventing escalation and recovering from escalation, and avoiding chronic tension. The family systems portion will continue this discussion and add elements of how families structure themselves to cope with stress, but many times, inadvertently, intensify rather than resolve the problems at hand. *John Sobraske, MA, Clinical Psychology, LMHC, LMFT.*

This is a two-part workshop with 3 CEU credits available for social workers. You MUST attend session one and six to receive CEUs. Additional fee applies.

7. Presenting Options to Kin/Relative Caregivers, Part 2

The child welfare system has increasingly come to value role kinship caregivers' role in helping children to achieve the goals of safety, permanency and well-being. Caring for one's family members can be challenging, and the type of placement selected by relatives at the onset can have a significant impact on the level of support they will receive during placement, and on their

permanency options if reunification is not possible in a timely manner. Kin caregivers need to understand these options in order to reach informed decisions about the best choice for their kin and their family. Through the use of information and case scenarios, participants will gain a better understanding of these options.
Heather Dominguez

8. Openness in Adoption

Research tells us that 95% of all adoptions in the country have some degree of openness. Gain an understanding of the history surrounding openness in adoption and review the facts and existing research. Reconceptualize openness within family relationship terms, explore strengths and challenges in building relationships between first/birth and adoptive families, and develop skills to live openness in adoption in a healthy and fulfilling way.
April Dinwoodie and Kim Paglino

9. Writing Your Way to Self

It's often a challenge for adoptees to write their story if they don't even know the details of how they were created, who created them, and where they were for the first hours, days, weeks, months or even years of their lives. A practical and easy way to support identity formation is to get an adoptee to put who she or he is on paper. This process can be life-changing—writing your story becomes a way to come home to yourself and thrive.
Anne Heffron

10. Discovering Beliefs and Values

Who is allowed to decide on identity? Or race? Or culture? How do we keep it adoptee-centric or child-driven? Our beliefs and values are so much a part of who we are that we barely give them any thought or introspection, yet they are the basis of our critical decisions and choices made. Before we can make strides on critical issues in child welfare, build bridges of understanding between youth and families, or mediate differences between family members, we need an understanding of the beliefs and values that motivate the stakeholders.
Melanie Woodley

Workshop Period 3 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

11. The Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard: Promoting Healthy Identity for Children in Foster Care

Connection to community and the ability to participate in the rites of childhood help build a strong, healthy identity. The Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard, a key part of 2014 federal legislation, promotes “normalcy” for children in care and empowers foster parents to make those small but key decisions that can mean the world to a child. We will discuss in practical terms what this legislation means for foster parents and children. All questions welcome.
Richard Heyl de Ortiz

12. Openness in Adoptions from Foster Care: Implications for Children and Families

Although the practice of openness in adoptions has significantly increased over the last three decades, there is still a need for more research on outcomes of openness in adoptions from foster care. This session will provide an overview of existing research and present findings from a recent nationwide study of families who adopted older children from the child welfare system and have post-finalization contact with birth families. Findings from the study will be useful for researchers, frontline staff and supervisors, program administrators and allied professionals as they seek to incorporate more research-based evidence into their service delivery for children and families, and for program and policy development.
Ruth McRoy

13. Kinship Navigator Service Model in New York State

Kinship caregivers often experience hardships that can impact the well-being of their families and affect the safety, well-being and potential permanency of children in their care. The New York State Kinship Navigator provides support for families, including legal assistance and access to financial assistance and local services and supports. The workshop will focus on the unique challenges and issues that confront kinship children and on caregivers and how local resources can support them.
Gerard Wallace

14. Three Shifts Parents Must Make to Help Their Children Integrate Their Selves and Form Their Identities

With three simple shifts, you'll be able to develop a new mindset to guide you in parenting your child toward a life of wholeness and integration of their biology and biography. You'll have a new framework that enables you to evolve from an either/or mindset in favor of a both/and heartset. Last, you'll find out why openness in adoption is available to all adoptive families, even those who don't have information on or contact with the birth family.
Lori Holden

15. Adoption and Addiction

Identity is a theme adoptees struggle with all their lives. Active addiction is a way of trying to find oneself, and healing is possible. Zara will discuss her journey with addiction and recovery and connecting them to adoption, including statistics and the tools that can help adoptees maintain sobriety throughout their lives.
Zara Phillips

Evening Schedule

5:15 pm – Yoga with Lisa Maynard For all skill levels. Mats provided.

6:00 pm – Conference Reception Finger food, casual conversation and author's book signing on the patio.

8:00 pm – “A Fireside Chat” with Andrew Solomon Far from the Tree: How Our Differences Unite Us

Being exceptional is at the core of the human condition; difference is what unites us. Solomon will talk about families coping with deafness, dwarfism, Down syndrome, autism, schizophrenia or multiple severe disabilities; with children who are prodigies, who are conceived in rape, who become criminals, who are transgender. While each of these characteristics is potentially isolating, the experience of difference within families is universal, and Solomon documents triumphs of love over prejudice. He frames his conversation by examining his experience as the gay son of straight parents, and explaining how it felt to become a father himself.

All parenting turns on a crucial question: To what extent should parents accept their children for who they are, and to what extent should they help them become their best selves? Drawing on 10 years of research and interviews with more than three hundred families, Solomon mines the eloquence of ordinary people facing extreme challenges.

He explores how people who love one another must struggle to accept one another—a theme in every family's life.

Workshop Period 4 9:05 am – 10:20 am

16. Conditional Surrenders and “Open Adoptions”

What terms should be included in the surrender of a child in foster care? What about the enforceability of terms? New York State Law incorporates enforceability standards that affect conditional surrenders and open adoptions. Requirements will be discussed in detail, along with other considerations associated with conditional surrenders. Participants will learn the specifics about the role of foster parents in instances involving conditional surrenders, including considerations such as whether foster parents need legal counsel and how the conditions stipulated may be enforced after adoption. *Margaret Burt*

17. Racial Identity at the Intersection of Artist, Academic and Advocate

During this session, Susan, a former foster child and a Jewish, tri-racial transracial adoptee will begin the session performing her groundbreaking racial identity autobiographical narrative, followed by Ruth sharing her research findings as well as educating on the development of racial identity in transracial adoption. Kim will engage the audience in exploring their own beliefs and values related to race, identity, family membership and privilege. *Ruth McCoy, Kim Stevens and Susan Harris O'Connor*

18. Q-TIP (Quit Taking It Personally)

Created for parents, prospective parents and child welfare professionals, this workshop focuses on giving participants key skills and tools for rationalizing the behaviors of the youth and teaches them to quit taking them personally. *Desiree Moore and You Gotta Believe*

19. It's Not about You: Understanding Adoptee Search, Reunion and Open Adoption

An adoptee's desire for information has nothing to do with parenting or personality, but with an innate drive. Sometimes fear and misplaced judgment will cause others to think more about themselves, missing the opportunity to support and connect with an adoptee who needs this information. Join us to discuss and explore the depth of what adoptee search, reunion and open adoption are really about—and why it is so important psychologically—even if it is not about you. *Brooke Randolph*

20. Foster Child Is Not a Defining Title

Less than 2%: Those are the odds Michael had to overcome in addition to life experiences with homelessness, poverty, child abuse, foster care placement and parental drug and alcohol addiction as well as near-alcoholism himself. This workshop will share Michael's story of overcoming adversity and help others see past the “foster child” label that seeks to define others. *Michael Olivieri and Anitra Olivieri*

Workshop Period 5 10:40 am – 11:55 am

21. The TPR Has Been Filed – Now What?

What can we expect after a legal termination of parental rights (TPR)? A discussion of the six legal grounds for termination of parental rights, including how the court proceedings work, potential suspended judgments and appeals. It will also include an overview of the rights of foster parents and relatives. *Margaret Burt*

22. Race, Class and Culture

While there is an abundance of research and commentary about the importance of healthy identity formation and the development of children and young people, there is generally a lack of research and conversation about the importance of the healthy identities of parents. How can we help children or young people with healthy identity development surrounding differences of race, class and culture without digging into and understanding the healthy identity of the adults who play a significant role in their lives? *April Dinwoodie*

23. Defining Motherhood When You're Not Parenting: A Birth Mother in an Open Adoption

The idea of openness is one that many in the world of adoption have embraced – it gives the adoptee the space to know his or her whole identity. There is also a real impact on birth parents to experience openness—it requires confronting our parenthood while simultaneously watching someone else parent our child. This workshop will look at the specifics of ideal open adoption experiences, important moments that defined relationships and the impact these relationships can have on birth parents. *Annie Jacobs*

24. Life Books Help Children and Youth Know Who They Are

Children and youth need to know their histories. When they have holes in their life experiences, they lose a part of themselves. Life Books help fill the potential holes so that the children and youth know about their lives when they were young. This helps with their self-concepts and with questions about their identities so they have a better understanding of who they are. The workshop will define what a Life Book is, how to start one, what goes into one, what materials can be used and what resources are available. Participants will leave having worked on a Life Book page with possible materials to use with a foster or adoptive child. *Barb Benedict*

25. How I Discovered Who I Really Am: Searching for Roots

This workshop will take the audience through the adoptee's journeys, beginning with struggles faced during different adoption placements. Subsequent search and reunification through different methods of adoptee search will be explored, including original birth certificate access (or lack thereof), DNA testing, social media and pure tenacity. Attendees will learn about the quest for personal identity, the importance of family ties—both biological and created—and how we choose to identify family members. *Tom Andriola and Rebecca Tillou*

Workshop Period 6 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm

26. Advocacy at Permanency Hearings

Youth over the age of 14 now have a right to be present for all or part of his or her permanency hearing, and the new legislation will require DSS to notice all children over 10 in the same manner as everyone else. It is not just the job of caseworkers to be advocates, as foster parents are also entitled to notice and the opportunity to be heard. What can you do differently to make permanency hearings more than just a drive-by to comply with the law? How can you effectively advocate for the children in your care?
Margaret Burt

27. How Working in Child Welfare and Adoption Changed Me

Those of us who work in the field of adoption and foster care often find that we must grow along with the families and children that we serve. This workshop will look into the minds and hearts of those in the field. We'll examine the earlier expectations of the field, what has altered perceptions and the natural evolution of ever-changing viewpoints in an ever-changing field.
Zachary Fried and Kathleen Crissey

28. Foster Care and Adoption and Their Impact on Learning, Identity and Self-Image in Multiracial Families

With so many children being raised in families outside of their racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, it is critical to address their needs for positive self-image and connectedness. Designed for social workers, youth and parents, this workshop offers insights on white privilege and racism, implicit biases in the school and community, the impact on children of being parented by member(s) of the dominant race and strategies for assessing and preparing families for raising a multiracial family.
Kim Stevens

29. Float Like a Butterfly, Sting Like a Parent

Foster and adoptive care must often change the identity of parenting styles to support the emotional safety and healthy identity of adoptees. This interactive, humorous, honest workshop will teach parents to help children by proper role modeling and use of non-corporal punishment and help families understand the importance of overall child development and discipline.
Jonathan Bush

30. Fostering Positive Cultural and Ethnic Identity for Transracially Adopted Children

This workshop will explore ethnic and cultural identity development for transracially and/or transculturally adopted children. This workshop will provide attendees the opportunity to actively participate in the exploration of identity development and to contribute to the development of strategies to support a child's positive formation of an integrated personal, racial and ethnic identity.
Renee Hettich

This Is Us Wrap Party 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

Does media attention to the issues of adoption change society's perception of adoption? NBC's breakout hit this year has an adoption theme right through the center, and many in the adoption community are applauding what the show gets right. Our final event will look at some key moments in the show and use them as jumping-off points for further discussion with our own panel of "characters."

Boxed lunches will be handed out before the panel.

Showcase your Services and Products at the Conference!

Become a sponsor and/or an exhibitor.

Promote your organization or business in our conference program and/or on signage at the conference.

Send your materials for our resources table.

Contact Claudia at: 646-688-4321, ext 111
claudia@affcn.org or affcn.org/conference for details.



Disclaimer While every effort has been made to provide accurate and complete information, the Office of Children and Family Services, the State of New York and the Coalition assume no responsibility for any errors or omissions in the information provided herein and make no representations or warranties about the suitability of the information contained here for any purpose. All information and documents are provided "as is," without a warranty of any kind.

Registration Information

Register at www.affcn.org or submit a separate registration form, including workshop selections, for each attendee. You may make copies of the registration form.

Registration fees include all instructional materials, refreshment breaks, two meals, Saturday boxed lunch, reception and any other scheduled conference activities for the two-day conference.

Continuing Education Credits: Thanks to partnerships, the Coalition offers two forms of continuing education credit.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Social Workers: Three state-approved continuing education credits will be available for Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSWs) and Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs). Three state-approved continuing education credits will be available for LMSW and LCSWs who attend both Treading Water Is Harder Than It Seems and Stressed Families and Family Systems workshops offered on Friday, May 12. Attendees wishing to earn these LMSW/LCSW credits should indicate so on their registration form and pay an additional fee of \$60.

Continuing Education Credit (CEU) A certificate granting one continuing education credit (ten contact hours equal one CEU) will be awarded by Tompkins Cortland Community College (TCCC) to anyone attending the full two-day conference. Those attending the conference who wish to earn the TCCC credit should indicate so on his or her registration form and must pay an additional fee of \$25.

A Coalition certificate of attendance is available upon request after the conference.

Cancelation Policy: A \$50 administrative fee will be charged for all cancelations. The balance of the registration fee will be refunded if written cancelation is received by Friday, April 28. Refunds will be issued after the conference. Any registration may be transferred to another person with advance notice to the Coalition. No-shows will be billed. Agencies are responsible for paying purchase orders for any no-shows.

Coalition members are individuals who have made a contribution of \$40 or more in 2017, parent groups or organizations who have purchased a membership or renewed their membership in 2017 or those who join the Coalition or renew when registering for the conference. Important: parent groups and agencies that are 2017 members are entitled to send three representatives at the Coalition member price. All other representatives from the same parent group or agency must either join as individuals or pay the nonmember rate. Do not use the member rate unless you are certain you are a fully paid 2017 Coalition member. To verify membership status, contact the Coalition at 646-688-4321 or at info@affcn.org.

Please calculate registration fees carefully. Any overpayment will be considered a donation to the Coalition.

Do not fax or mail any registrations after Friday, May 5. Registrations can only be accepted at the door after this date.

THANK YOU!

New York State Office of Children and Family Services through a training and administrative services agreement with SUNY Buffalo State/Institute for Community Health Promotion/Center for Development of Human Services

CDHS application codes

Job Type Codes

1. Administrator
2. Supervisor/Manager
3. Clerical/Support Staff
4. Consultant
5. Caseworker/Case Mgr/Social Work
6. Direct Child Care Worker
7. Eligibility Worker
8. Foster/Adoptive Parent
9. Investigator
10. Volunteer Worker
11. Health Care Worker
12. Teacher Vocational Specialist
13. Professional (Policy, Prog Dev)
14. Recreation Specialist

Functional Area Codes

1. Administrative
2. DJJOY
3. Adoption
4. Child Protective Services
5. Day Care
6. Domestic Violence Prev
7. Foster Care
8. Residential Child Care
9. Blind & Visually Handicap
10. Prev/Family Support Srvc
11. Indian Affairs Services
12. Adult Services
13. Services/Other
14. Legal Affairs/Counsel
15. Energy Programs
16. Food Stamps
17. Temporary Assistance
18. Child Support Enforce
19. Disability Determinations
20. Transitional Services
21. Homeless Services
22. Fraud & Abuse
23. Medicaid Skills
24. Medicaid Eligibility
25. Managed Care
26. Dept of Health/Other
27. Welfare to Work
28. Dept of Labor/Other
29. F-30 Non Admin/Local



Who Do You Think You Are?

Register online before Friday, May 5, 2017 at www.affcny.org

or send form to 108 Main Street, Suite 5, New Paltz, NY 12561
 Fax: 888-482-9112 info@affcny.org

**Register by April 22, to avoid late fee
 After May 5, you must register at the door**

Name _____ Job Title _____

Parent Group or Agency Affiliation _____

Agency Address, City, State, Zip Code and Phone Number _____

Mailing Address, if different (i.e. F/A Parent home address) _____

Daytime Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Enter all codes (refer to code listing on page 5): **Job Type Code** _____ **Functional Area Code** _____

Event Registration	Member	Nonmember	Amount Due
2-Day Conference (Friday & Saturday)	\$150	\$205	\$
Friday Only	\$125	\$180	\$
Saturday Only	\$125	\$180	\$
Individual Membership - Add \$40			\$
Parent Group Membership (includes member discounts for 3 registrants) - Add \$60			\$
Agency Membership (includes member discounts for 3 registrants) - Add \$100			\$
Pre-Conference Parent Leadership Gathering - Add \$10			\$
College Continuing Education Credits - Add \$25			\$
Social Work Continuing Education Units - Add \$60			\$
Late Registration Fee (After 4/15) - Add \$50			\$
Total Amount Enclosed			\$

Method of Payment

- Check** - Payable to AFFCNY or Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York
- Visa** **MasterCard** **American Express** **Discover**
- Card# _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____
 Name on Card _____ Signature _____
- Purchase Order/Voucher - Payable in 30 days** - Payment contact, email, and phone: _____

Circle the number of the workshop you plan to attend in each period

Friday Workshops			Saturday Workshops		
Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6
1	6	11	16	21	26
2	7	12	17	22	27
3	8	13	18	23	28
4	9	14	19	24	29
5	10	15	20	25	30

Accommodations: Marriott Hotel, 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY • 518-458-8443, 800-443-8952. Contact the hotel directly to make your reservation at the conference rate of \$115 plus applicable taxes. Reservations must be received prior to 4/21 to guarantee availability at the special rate. Use reservation code: AFC

Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York

About the Coalition

The Coalition provides support, information and advocacy for foster, adoptive and kinship families and related professionals. Incorporated in 1975, the Coalition is the state's foster and adoptive family association. We have a strong history of working collaboratively with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS), local social service districts, child welfare agencies and other advocacy groups to ensure that families are best able to support and parent the children in their homes.

Programs of the Coalition include:

AGAPE, or Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Program for Everyone, a new post-adoption and post-guardianship support program funded by the Regional Permanency Resource Centers initiative of OCFS

Foster and Kinship Care Support, a new initiative funded by the Redlich Horwitz Foundation that provides dedicated support and education for foster and kinship families as well as the nurturing and development of parent support groups and parent mentors

HelpLine, a free, statewide helpline for foster parents, adoptive parents, relative caregivers and professionals Education and Training Academy, which includes our Educational Support Series, this conference and award-winning videos

Online Statewide Services Directory and Website, containing over 400 pages of information and resources for families and professionals

Advocacy and Outreach to leaders and the general public, designed to promote issues of importance to families and to educate about foster care, adoption and kinship care

Our Mission

The Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition unites foster, adoptive and kinship care families, giving them a voice and providing them support, information and advocacy. By fostering communication and collaboration between families, agencies and concerned citizens, we seek to ensure the stability, well-being and permanency of all children touched by the child welfare system.

Our Vision

That no foster, adoptive or kinship care family in New York State will feel alone or unsupported and that all such families will have the tools, support and community they need to nurture their children and be role models for others. More information about the Coalition and our programs can be found at www.affcny.org.

