

Celebrate Kids! Conference



September 21 - 23, 2022



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
OHIO





Agenda

Wednesday, September 21

10 am - 5 pm | Registration

1:45 pm - 5 pm | Workshops

Thursday, September 22

7 am - 5 pm | Registration

7 am - 8:15 am | Breakfast

8:15 am - 10 am | Plenary session

10:15 am - 11:45 am | Workshops

11:45 am - 1:15 pm | Lunch

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm | Workshops

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm | Snack break

3:15 pm - 4:45 pm | Workshops

Friday, September 23

7 am - 11 am | Registration

7 am - 8:15 am | Breakfast

8:15 am - 10 am | Plenary session

10:15 am - 11:45 am | Workshops

12:15 pm - 1 pm | Lunch

1 pm - 2 pm | Awards ceremony

Continuing education



RULE 48

- Up to 12 hours provided
- Certificates available from local program directors post-conference
(if you are not with a local CASA program, please see Ohio CASA staff for certificate information)

CLE

- Up to 12 hours provided
- Confirm credits with SCO after 6 weeks

CPE*

- Up to 12 hours provided
- Certificates emailed within 6 weeks
- *Applications pending

*****All CLE and CPE are FREE for all attendees this year!*****

TO OBTAIN CREDITS

1. Pick up a credit certification request form at the CASA Shop.
2. Track the workshops you attend using the Credit Certification Request form.
(Any exceptions will be noted)
3. Sign in to each workshop you attend. Provide your license number. Check box to indicate you are seeking credit.
4. Return your Credit Certification Request form to CASA Shop

Awards

Please visit the following links to nominate an individual to be recognized at our awards luncheon:

- Rising Star Volunteer Award: bit.ly/2022RisingStarCASA
- Pro Star Volunteer Award: bit.ly/2022ProStarCASA
- Mary Ellen Social Work Award: bit.ly/2022MaryEllenCASA
- Attorney Advocate of the Year Award: bit.ly/2022AttorneyCASA



Workshop descriptions

Wednesday, September 21 • 1:45 - 5:00 pm

W01 Growing Resilience

Sarah Buffie, MSW, LSW, Founding Director and Principal Trainer, Soul Bird Consulting

In this session participants will grow in their understanding of nourishing their own resilience. Together we will engage in activities that integrate the mind and the body. The experiential nature of the session will invite introspection as well as connection with others as a way to foster nourishment and well-being.

W02 Street Smart Ohio

Capt. Shawn Bain (Ret.) & Sgt. Michael N. Powell (Ret.), Ohio HIDTA

The goal of Street Smart Ohio is to provide current and up-to-date narcotics information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, concealment techniques, and physiological effects of drugs. The target audience includes parents, teachers, coaches, counselors, social workers, and anyone who may come in contact with a drug abuser. Two former undercover detectives with over 60 years of combined narcotics experience conduct the training. The presenters have lectured on the topic of street drugs throughout the United States and have trained hundreds of thousands of people on this important topic.

W03 The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Vulnerable Populations

Tanikka C. Price, Attorney at Law, Doctor of Education, Price Legal Services, LLC

This session will explore the concept of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and understand how ones lived environment plays a role shaping and creating ones identity. Also explored will be the role of racism, sexism and



historical inequities in contributing to ACEs. Participants will also learn to recognize triggers and trauma responses in the youth and families they serve - the behavioral responses that occur in individuals with high ACEs and what keeps them from being compliant with court mandates and/or recommendations.

W04 Cultural Competency & Family Violence

Caitlin Tully, TRCC I, Training Supervisor, & Julie Sespico, TRCC I, Training Coordinator, The Center for Family Safety and Healing

Family violence affects people regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexual and gender identity, religious affiliation, age, immigration status, and ability. Additionally, victims of family violence may experience abuse in culturally specific ways, so it is important to consider the intersectional identities of victims and their children when providing services. This workshop will explore best practices and resources to support families experiencing violence across different communities.

Plenary session • Thursday, September 22 • 8:15 am - 10:00 am

Understanding the Impact of Child Welfare and Justice Involvement on Children and Family Health and Wellbeing

Samantha J. Boch, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center & Sarah J. Beal, PhD, Associate Professor and Scientific Director, The CHECK Center, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Any type of involvement in the child welfare or justice systems frequently exacerbates existing social inequities and is more common for individuals experiencing poverty, systemic racism, and mental health problems. Numerous consequences throughout incarceration (upon arrest, during incarceration, and upon re-entry) or with child welfare involvement (investigation, child removal, reunification) exist for remaining household members, especially for children. The health profiles of these understudied groups are alarming and persistent. Processes for improving identification and assistance for youth and their families affected by child welfare and justice involvement will be discussed.

Thursday, September 22 • 10:15 am - 11:45 am



T01 Child Sex Abuse Myth Busters

Lisa DeGeeter, JD CA RASS, Director of Systems Advocacy and Policy Counsel at Ohio Domestic Violence Network

This presentation will address economic, evidentiary, disclosure, perpetrator based, victim-based misperceptions about child sexual abuse. Participants will gain a better understanding of how children disclose and how to support children through investigations and prosecutions, and how to gain knowledge and increase their own comfort when dealing with these complex cases.

Registration

Hotel booking and conference registration links can be accessed at

www.ohiocasa.org/celebratekidsconference

Registration dates and fees:

- \$150 until September 5th, \$200 after September 5th
- Registration closed September 15th - 20th
- On-site registration (\$200) open September 21st - 23rd



T02 Guardian ad Litem in Human Trafficking Cases

Michelle Mumaw, Esq., Staff Attorney, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Franklin County

This workshop provides an overview of common issues in cases in which a child may have been trafficked. It will describe different contexts in which a child's victimization intersects the juvenile justice system and will identify barriers within the system. It will describe strategies used by CASA volunteers in Franklin County to advocate for improved outcomes and to effectively connect with children who may have been trafficked.

T03 Trauma-Responsive Communication

Sarah Buffie, MSW, LSW, Founding Director and Principal Trainer, Soul Bird Consulting

This session will focus on deepening relational resilience: the result of feeling predictability physically, emotionally, and psychologically safe in relationships with others. Over the course of our time together we will explore how deep listening is a trauma responsive tool as well as a key for successful organizational and community development. When we experience trauma we are left with a sense of feeling unsafe, unseen and unheard. Together we will engage in a practice space that allows us to build the skills necessary to support self and others to feel safe, seen and heard.

T04 Dependency, Neglect and Abuse Law and Procedure: Understanding the Secret Language of Lawyers
Magistrate Allyson J. Blake, Attorney, Credentialed Advocate, Wayne County Court of Common Pleas,
Domestic Relations

This presentation will provide a breakdown of the law and procedures in Dependency, Neglect and Abuse cases. Participants will learn techniques for translating Legalese into English so people can fully understand. Participants will also learn about the timing of hearings, motions and required filings.

T05 Anyone Can Slay a Dragon: Doing it All Over Again
Kim Kiehl, Consultant, Kiehl Partnership Group LLC

There is a cost to caring. Working with kids and their families with histories of trauma is not easy work. You start to hear the commonality, which makes it feel exhausting to listen to the “same story” over and over. On top of it, the COVID-19 pandemic and recent social unrest has significantly disrupted the norms, expectations, and activities of daily life, and resulted in the potential for widespread community and individual trauma. These threats can feel unpredictable and uncontrollable—the signature of traumatic events—disrupt a sense of control, connection and meaning. This workshop will highlight the importance of self-care and identify practices that participants can adopt to manage their own self care.

T06 Permanency Playbook for CASAs: What to Know About Adoption
Melinda Haggerty, Esq., SVP - General Counsel & Quinn Dybdahl, Esq., Staff Attorney - Programs, Dave
Thomas Foundation for Adoption

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, through its signature program Wendy's Wonderful Kids® (WWK), is a national expert in finding permanent homes for the hardest to place youth. In this session, we will examine CASA's role in finding permanency for youth in foster care. Participants will learn how to effectively engage youth in conversations about their future (which we call "unpacking the no"). Finally, we will discuss how CASA Volunteers can partner with WWK recruiters to achieve long-lasting outcomes for youth in foster care.

T07 Medical Marijuana Control Program
Jesse L. Wimberly, Regional Agent in Charge, State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy/Medical Marijuana Control
Program

House Bill 523 took effect in early September 2016, legalizing medical marijuana in Ohio. This presentation shares the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy's responsibilities regarding the Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program and provides an overview of the board's duties, which include the regulation, inspection and criminal investigations of medical marijuana dispensaries and patients. Attendees will receive detailed information of the procedure for patient registration and the laws and rules pertaining to the Medical Marijuana Control Program. The State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy is a law enforcement agency charged with enforcing state law on drug offenses, pure food and drugs, controlled substances and the medical marijuana program.

T08 What CASA Volunteers Should Expect from Judges

Judge Amy H. Lewis, Greene County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division

During this workshop participants will learn what can be included/excluded from CASA reports used by the Court during hearings and when making decisions. The Court process will be explained, legal terminology and the "why" behind judicial decisions will be addressed. Participants will be given the opportunity to engage in real life scenarios and discussions to work together to find answers to commonly expressed CASA concerns and questions.

T09 Ethics & Professionalism

John D. Everett, Prosecutor, City of Kettering

Ethics and Professionalism are very important in your role as a guardian ad litem. Ethics and professionalism are a joint effort of all participants in juvenile justice. This training will look at specific issues within your role as a guardian ad litem. We address those ethical issues and give ideas for how to deal with the issue. This training will focus on concepts of confidentiality, conflicts of interest and what to do when you observe others within the juvenile justice system commit an ethical violation.

Thursday, September 22 • 1:30 pm - 3 pm



T10 Teens and Technology: Dating in a Digital World

Caitlin Tully, TRCC I, Training Supervisor & Chelsey Getz, LISW, TRCC II, Training Coordinator, The Center for Family Safety & Healing

Technology plays an important role in teen dating relationships. In this session, participants will learn about popular social media apps and websites frequented by teens as well as how these resources can be used for power and control in relationships. One in four dating teens is abused or harassed through technology by a dating partner. Participants will be provided with resources to set age-appropriate boundaries for technology use as well as to empower teens to use technology as a tool for prevention.

T11 Serving Clients with Cultural Humility & An Equity Lens

Siobhan Boyd-Nelson, JD, Deputy Director, Equality Ohio

To best serve families, CASA Staff and Volunteers require an understanding of issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This presentation will explore cultural humility & LGBTQ+ identity, developing and applying a race equity lens, and the intersections of inequality. The presentation will also include helpful resources and provide time for questions and discussion.



Workshop monitors

When registering, be sure to select the box to indicate if you are willing to serve as a workshop monitor.

In addition to meeting like-minded people and getting the best seat in your workshop, you will be acknowledged in the 2022 Celebrate Kids! Conference Program. Monitors will only be assigned to requested workshops, and will be notified by email of selection.

Duties include: Introducing workshop presenters, circulating and returning sign-in sheets, and maintaining workshop focus.

T12 Chaos and Courage: Understanding the Responsibilities of a Foster Caregiver

Beth Cardina, LSW, CASA/GAL Program Director, CASA/GAL Program of Summit County

As members of the child welfare team, it is important for CASA volunteers and Guardians ad Litem to understand the expectations of a foster caregiver and to be respectful of their time and commitments. This workshop will address the requirements to become a foster caregiver as well as the responsibilities of their role. This workshop will also provide an opportunity for participants to gain empathy for foster caregivers as they provide care for the children we serve.

T13 A Judge's Expectations

Judge Anthony Capizzi, Administrative Judge, Montgomery County Juvenile Court

Join the discussion and gain a better understanding of the factors that judicial officers consider most important to decision making. While every courtroom is different, and each judicial officer will have personal preferences, there are core competencies that help CASA Volunteers improve courtroom presentations and avoid common mistakes in reports and requests. Enhance your courtroom and report skills in just one session!

T14 Engaging Boys and Men to Prevent Violence

Glenn A. Harris, Assistant Director of Prevention, Ohio Domestic Violence Network

The purpose of the workshop is to enhance the quality of life by establishing healthier definition of masculinity and healthier norms surrounding gender-based violence. Each participant will be encouraged to use their new knowledge and skills to influence others and to promote healthy relationships and healthy sexuality.

T15 Please Advise: What I Say vs. What I Mean

Tammy Matias, Executive Director & Melanie Kempton, Assistant Coordinator, CASA Program of Delaware and Union Counties

Sarah Harvan, Training Coordinator, Summit County CASA

This workshop will provide opportunities for interactive discussion among participants to address challenges with cultivating positive relationships, communication issues, and how to break down those barriers. Practical tools will be provided to learn how to answer tough questions and discover new strategies on building positive relationships with CASA volunteers, community providers, and multiple systems. A panel will provide various perspectives from professionals in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

T16 Optima 201

Kalei Edenfeld, Database Administrator, Ohio CASA & Interim Director, CASA for Clermont Kids

This workshop is geared toward CASA Directors and staff and their Optima needs. Throughout this workshop, attendees will receive tutorials on the more advanced components of Optima and leave with a better understanding of the importance of collecting good data. Some topics discussed include: running reports, organizing case details, and keeping volunteer files up-to-date.

T17 Veteran Volunteer Panel

John Collins, Claire Herbert, Megan Trierweiler (CASA of Franklin County) Pam Moody (Pickaway and Hocking County CASA) Cathy Ortega-Contreras, Michaela Grandey (Delaware and Union County CASA)

This workshop is designed for the newer CASA volunteer and will feature seven long-time volunteers from various county programs. These volunteers will share advice about common situations faced as a CASA volunteer and how to handle difficult situations. Other topics to be discussed include tips for engaging youth and their families and helpful hints for interacting with courts, agencies, and service providers.

T18 Diligent Search: Utilizing Connect Our Kids Software

Jessica Stern, COO, Jelani Freeman, Strategic Advisor, Yubi Ventura, Product Manager & Trainer, Connect Our Kids

This workshop focuses on the Connect Our Kids tools used nationally by professionals to find families, build connections, and create community for children in foster care. We will explore creative ways of diligent search, logging outreach, and leveraging Connect Our Kids technology for better outcomes for those impacted by child welfare.



T19 Pregnant/Parenting People with Substance Use Disorder and the Barriers They Face

Ms. China Darrington, CDCA, OPRS-S, Thrive Peer Recovery Services

Pregant/Parenting people with substance use disorders often come to the attention of systems because of impairment in functioning and parenting, neglect or illegal activities. Once triggered, children and family services are often involved. This training is to develop a better understading of the common barriers that pregnant/parenting people with substance use disorders face, and how we can best support them and their family for better outcomes.

T20 Bullying Awareness

Catherine C. Swope, LPCC-S, Exectutive Director, Advocates for Families

Youth today have a lot to deal with that adults in their life often do not realize. This workshop will address one of those areas, bullying. What is bullying and why do some children bully? We will discuss what bullying looks like, the roles of bullied, bystander and bully, and how to help those three and the adults in their lives.

T21 Legal Update

John D. Everett, Prosecutor, City of Kettering

So you have completed preservice training. You have active cases and attend court hearings. But, the law has not stood still after your initial training. This training will give an update on the changes in the laws of the State of Ohio for the last couple of years. While the focus will be changes in the laws that directly impact your role as a guardian ad litem, the training will also touch on any changes to the law that will indirectly impact your role.



T22 This is Us: Family experience of systemic racism in the Ohio Child Welfare System

Dot Erickson-Anderson, MRE, LSW, Coordinator, Ohio Family Care Association

This interactive workshop will provide the opportunity for participants to explore their role in relationship to the families involved in the child welfare system from the lens of the family experience with systemic racism within the system. We will look at the issues of respect, differences, discrimination and the feelings associated with them through the sharing of stories and research done with Ohio's families affected by child welfare involvement.

T23 Meet the Youth and Family Ombudsman!

Jenny Stotts, MS, LSW, Ohio's Youth Ombudsman, & Jennifer Sherrif, Ohio's Family Ombudsman, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

In response to overwhelming feedback and tireless advocacy efforts from stakeholders and constituents, Ohio lawmakers passed House Bill 4. Signed into law by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine in early 2022, the Youth and Family Ombudsmen Office opened on May 31, 2022. The Youth and Family Ombudsmen receive and review complaints from adults and youth regarding experiences within the child welfare system across Ohio. Join this session to learn more about the Youth and Family Ombudsmen office.

T24 Ruff-Ruff: Taking The Bite Out of Juvenile Court Proceedings

Geoff Auerbach, MSSA, Summit County CASA Social Worker GAL & Beth Cardina, LSW, Summit County CASA Program Director, Summit County Juvenile Court

This session will provide an introduction to the newest member of the Summit County CASA/GAL Team: Tater Tot. Tater Tot is a trained Border Collie who serves as the "Chief Cuddle Officer" to CASA volunteers, CASA youth, Juvenile Court personnel and outside visitors to the building. Participants will learn the benefits and challenges to hosting a canine companion and will have the opportunity to observe Tater Tot in action!

T25 Lobbying v. Educating

Rick Dove, Director, Board of Professional Conduct, Supreme Court of Ohio
Judge Anthony Capizzi, Administrative Judge, Montgomery County Juvenile Court

This session will explore the ethics of lobbying and the difference between lobbying and educating. A portion of the presentation will address the Code of Judicial Conduct, the activity of judges, and what staff should and should not do on behalf of the court. Participants will also learn practical advice about talking with legislators, testifying before committees, and local funding authorities.

T26 Bias, Communication, and CASA

Morgan Bommer-Guinn, Director of Volunteer Management, CASA of Franklin County & Andi Atwood, Communications Director, Ohio CASA

Presenters will explore various types of bias (systemic, LGBTQ+, racial, etc) and review examples of how it shows up in our every day work. We will work through how to identify various biases and practice how we can better advocate for children and families we serve with a refreshed awareness.

T27 A Judicial Perspective- Abuse, Neglect, Dependency and the Court

Judge Elizabeth Gill, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations Division and Juvenile Branch

This workshop is intended to introduce CASA Volunteers to the courtroom and judicial perspective in handling abuse, neglect, and dependency matters. It will be an interactive session aimed at assessing volunteers to develop competency in attitudes, skills, and presentation to most effectively provide a voice for a child or children in the court system.

Plenary session • Friday, September 23 • 8:15 am - 10:00 am

Suicide Prevention for Adults working with At-risk Youth

Dr. John Ackerman, PhD, and Dr. Amberle Prater, PhD, LPCC-S, Center for Suicide Prevention & Research, Big Lots Behavioral Health Services, Nationwide Children's Hospital

One in 5 children in the US live with a mental health concern and youth suicide is the second leading cause of death in Ohio among 10–19-year-olds. Youth suicide rates have steadily increased for nearly two decades and the pandemic has created additional stressors for youth and their families. Children in the juvenile justice or foster and adoption care systems are at even higher risk due to the likelihood of adverse childhood experiences. When care providers and trusted adults know how to respond to suicide risk, lives are saved. In this session, attendees will learn important information to identify the risk factors and warning signs of youth suicide as well as practice effective and supportive ways to respond to suspected suicide risk.

Friday, September 23 • 10:15 am - 11:45 pm



F01 Racial and Health Disparities and their Relationship to Social Determinants of Health

Tanikka C. Price, Attorney at Law, Doctor of Education, Price Legal Services, LLC

Tanikka Price uses her education as a lawyer and a health educator to describe the myriad of issues that face many clients including social determinants of health and results of racism and health inequity that plague those living in challenging socio-economic environments. Examining the issues that lie beneath the surface, Price empowers her listeners to empathize with clients and gives them the tools to connect them to much needed resources and services hereby increasing the likelihood of their compliance with court orders and/or recommendations.

F02 The Importance of Sibling Relationships

DeeDee Prezioso, MSW, LSW, Supervisor of foster care. OCWTP trainer, Trumbull County Children Services. Ohio Child Welfare Training Program

Studies have shown that sibling relationships can provide positive support and improved outcomes for children, but often families involved in child welfare find siblings placed in different placements for a variety of reasons. This workshop will help participants better understand the importance of sibling relationships for these children, as well as the barriers to keeping siblings in the child welfare system connected.

F03 Anyone Can Slay a Dragon: Doing it All Over Again
Kim Kiehl, Consultant, Kiehl Partnership Group LLC

Repeat session from T05

F04 CASA Volunteers are Essential
MelissaRoshan (MeRo) Potter CRC/II, Diversity & Inclusion Services Director, Ohio CASA

In this workshop, Ohio CASA's MeRo Potter will share her personal story on how she navigated through the foster care system as a child and teen mother. She details her own personal journey of healing, building resiliency, and transforming her experiences to impactful advocacy today.

F05 Strategies to Support LGBTQ+ Youth
Michelle Wilson, CSRIC®, AIF®, Financial planner and fiduciary, Athens Impact Socially Responsible Investments

This workshop covers topics for people at all stages of learning around LGBTQ+ youth. We begin with general concepts about gender and sexuality. We'll move on to some up to date vocabulary to use when working with LGBTQ+ children and families. We will break up the talk with some interactive exercises where we discuss situations we could encounter, and situations that may be uncomfortable for us. The goal is to find ways to incorporate inclusive habits into our work as CASA Volunteers so everyone can feel safe and comfortable working with us.

F06 Disability, Trauma, and Education: Supporting Kids with Special Education Services and Supports
Jen Newton, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Special Education, OHIO University

This workshop provides an overview of special education law and the details of the Individualized Education Program in Ohio. We will distinguish between the letter of the law guiding special education services and supports versus the spirit/intent of the law. Lastly, we will discuss how to best advocate for students in getting their needs met at school.

F07 CASA Manager... The Next Level
Tonya Buchanan, Executive Director, PARACHUTE: Butler County CASA

This session will be beneficial for CASA staff currently using CASA Manager. We will look at the Data Review Dashboard and learn how to check for data entry errors to ensure accurate reporting for OCASA, NCASA and other funders. We'll provide an overview of CasaConnect and how it can improve record sharing with volunteers and save staff time! Please attend this workshop if you want to take data collection and reporting in Casa Manager to the next level.

F08 What Families Know: Panel of families with lived experience in the child welfare system
Dot Erickson-Anderson, MRE, LSW, Panel Moderator, OFCA Coordinator, Ohio Family Care Association

A panel of family members from the Ohio Family Care Association Leadership Team who are parents, kinship providers, foster caregivers or adoptive parents will share their experiences of relating to CASA volunteers. They will share the complexities of extended families, the battles and fear they face in dealing with the court, and ideas of how CASA volunteers and court personnel can assist in the process.

F09 Get Connected with LSCOEY (Linking Systems of Care for Ohio's Youth)
Lisa DeGeeter, JD CA RASS, Director of Systems Advocacy and Policy Counsel at Ohio Domestic Violence Network

The Linking Systems of Care for Ohio's Youth (LSCOEY) project has been working to better address crimes against children, youth and young adults (ages 0 – 26). This unique collaboration has been developing an array of resources for individuals, families and service providers. The workshop will highlight resources that have been created that could assist a CASA Volunteer in their work, and will include a tour of the project website.

Thank you



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THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO