This project is supported by Award No. 2016-DC-BX-K003 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs.
## Children and Families Program At-A-Glance

### Sunday - July 9, 2017

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<tr>
<td>7:15am – 8:30am</td>
<td>DSB-3</td>
<td>Discipline Specific Breakout: Judges—Juvenile and Family Drug Courts</td>
<td>Honorable Phillip Britt</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15am – 8:30am</td>
<td>DSB-16</td>
<td>Discipline Specific Breakout: Child Protective Services &amp; Educational Liaisons</td>
<td>Russ Bermejo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherry Blossom Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45am – 11:45am</td>
<td>SB-8</td>
<td>Moving Forward—Research Findings, Reflections, and a Roadmap for the Family Drug Court Movement</td>
<td>Phil Breitenbucher, Shannon Carey</td>
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<td>Chesapeake JKL</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15pm – 2:30pm</td>
<td>TS-5</td>
<td>The Big Seven—Key Practices to Building an Effective Family Drug Court</td>
<td>Phil Breitenbucher</td>
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<td>Chesapeake 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15pm – 2:30pm</td>
<td>TS-6</td>
<td>Transitioning to a Family Centered Approach: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from Three Adult Drug Courts</td>
<td>Jane Pfeifer, Meghan Wheeler</td>
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<td>Chesapeake 10-12</td>
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### Monday - July 10, 2017

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<tr>
<td>9:30am – 10:45am</td>
<td>A–4</td>
<td>A Blueprint Guide for Building or Re-Designing Your Family Drug Court</td>
<td>Jane Pfeifer, Meghan Wheeler</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am – 10:45am</td>
<td>A-7</td>
<td>Building Stronger Families &amp; Brighter Futures—The Unique Adaptations of the Family Drug Court and Family Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts to Better Serve Children, Families, and Communities</td>
<td>Lauren Van Schilfgaarde, Marianna Corona</td>
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<td>Maryland 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am – 10:45am</td>
<td>A-12</td>
<td>Planning for Safe Care: What Your FTC Needs to Know About Opioid Use Disorders and Serving Mothers and Their Infants</td>
<td>Nancy K. Young, Alexis Balkey</td>
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<td>Chesapeake GHI</td>
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<td>11:00am – 12:15pm</td>
<td>B–4</td>
<td>The Power of Partnership—Tompkins County Prevention and Family Recovery Initiative</td>
<td>Theresa Lemus, Honorable John Rowley</td>
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<td>Chesapeake ABC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45pm – 3:00pm</td>
<td>C-4</td>
<td>What Does Quality Treatment Look Like? Identifying Effective SUD Treatment for Families in Child Welfare System</td>
<td>Phil Breitenbucher</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45pm – 3:00pm</td>
<td>VCC-C-3</td>
<td>Connecting VTCs and VJOs Through Collaborative Court Staffing: Improving Service Delivery to Veterans, their Children, and Families Through Family-Centered Approaches</td>
<td>Larisa Owen, Honorable Mary Kreber Varipapa</td>
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<td>Baltimore 3-4</td>
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<td>3:15pm – 4:30pm</td>
<td>D-4</td>
<td>Keeping Families Front and Center Each Step of the Way—How Family Drug Courts are Supporting Recovery and Reunification Using a Milestones Approach</td>
<td>Alexis Balkey, Julie Spielman, Honorable Phillip Britt</td>
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<td>3:15pm – 4:30pm</td>
<td>D-22</td>
<td>Giving Parents a Voice and a Fair Chance—Strategies to Enhance Participant Accountability and Success While Using a Mandatory Approach to Family Drug Court Participation</td>
<td>Honorable Roger Heideman, Honorable Williams S. Owens, Phil Breitenbucher</td>
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<td>National Harbor 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45pm – 6:00pm</td>
<td>E-4</td>
<td>I’ve Been In Your Shoes, Now Let’s Walk Together—Utilizing Parent Mentors to Increase Family Engagement and Resiliency in Family Drug Courts</td>
<td>Tara Doaty, Jocelyn Gainers</td>
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### Tuesday - July 11, 2017

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<tr>
<td>10:15am – 2:45pm</td>
<td>Annual Grantee Gathering</td>
<td>OJJDP 2017 Annual Grantee Gathering—FDC Grantees, SSRP Awardees, Peer Learning Courts, and SAMHSA FDTC Grantees</td>
<td>Kellie Blue, Amy Romero, Phil Breitenbucher</td>
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<td>Annapolis 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>11:00am – 12:15pm</td>
<td>CG-12</td>
<td>Helping Dads Recover—Effective Strategies to Engage Fathers in Family Drug Courts</td>
<td>Dan Griffin, Russ Bermejo</td>
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<td>Maryland A</td>
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**Discipline Specific Breakouts**

**Judges—Juvenile and Family Drug Courts**

Honorable Phillip Britt  
*Drug Court Commissioner*  
35th Judicial District of Missouri  
Dunklin County, MO  

**Session Info:** DSB-3, Chesapeake DEF  
**Date:** Sunday – July 9, 2017  
**Time:** 7:15am – 8:30am

**Abstract:**
Want to know what sessions you should attend? Have questions about the conference agenda? Need to discuss burning issues impacting your program? This year’s discipline-specific sessions are for you!

This year’s conference includes opportunities for disciplines to meet and resolve burning issues and critical questions. Starting on Monday morning at 7:15am, an expert practitioner who shares your role on the team will facilitate the breakout designated for your discipline. The facilitator will review the conference program; identify sessions specifically designed for your role on the team, and lead discussion to address your burning issues.

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**Child Protective Services & Educational Liaisons**

Russ Bermejo  
*Senior Program Associate*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA  

**Session Info:** DSB-16, Cherry Blossom Ballroom  
**Date:** Sunday – July 9, 2017  
**Time:** 7:15am – 8:30am
ABSTRACT:

FDCs emerged in the mid-1990s to address inadequate access to treatment for substance use disorders among parents in child welfare and to improve families' outcomes in child welfare services and dependency courts. As an adaptation of the adult criminal drug court model, FDCs used the adult drug court experience, literature, and research to guide development and implementation of its model. With over 350 FDCs now in operation across the nation, FDC outcomes have shown significantly higher rates of parents’ participation in substance use disorder treatment, longer stays in treatment, higher rates of family reunification, less time for children in foster care, and decreased incidence of repeat maltreatment and return to out-of-home care compared to non-family drug court participants (Marlowe & Carey, 2012). This skills building workshop will include an overview of the movement, including the development of the FDC Key Ingredients, FDC Guidelines, National Strategic Plan, and the federal and private investments which has raised the level of practice and body of knowledge for the field. Practitioners will be challenged to raise their practice and leadership skills to ensure that their programs are part of the greater systems change movement underway.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Highlight the progress of the FDC Movement, from inception, expansion and systems change and the improved recovery, safety, and permanency outcomes it has achieved for children and families
- Highlight lessons learned from key initiatives that raised the level of FDC practice and policy
- Equip and challenge FDC practitioners with the practice and policy skills, leadership, and renewed commitment to achieve lasting systems change
THE BIG SEVEN—KEY PRACTICES TO AN EFFECTIVE FAMILY DEPENDENCY TREATMENT COURT

Phil Breitenbucher  
*Director, Family Drug Court Programs*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA

**SESSION INFO: TS–5, CHESAPEAKE 7-9**  
**Date:** Sunday – July 9, 2017  
**Time:** 1:15pm – 2:30pm

**ABSTRACT:**

With over 350 FDCs now in operation across the nation, FDC outcomes have shown significantly higher rates of parents’ participation in substance use disorder treatment, longer stays in treatment, higher rates of family reunification, less time for children in foster care, and decreased incidence of repeat maltreatment and return to out-of-home care compared to non-family drug court participants (*Marlowe & Carey, 2012*). FDCs are able to achieve these outcomes through several common practices or ingredients. This workshop will explore the Big Seven – system of identifying families; timely access to assessment and treatment services; enhanced case management and recovery support; improved family services and focus on parent-child relationships; increased judicial oversight, contingency management, and collaborative approach and efficient information sharing. This presentation will explore the barriers and challenges that FDC teams have encountered in implementing these ingredients as well as the innovative solutions that were formulated to ensure effective practice. This workshop will be the “nuts and bolts” that hold effective FDCs together. Technical assistance and training resources through the National FDC Training and Technical Assistance Program will also be provided to support implementation.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Gain an overview of the FDC model and national outcomes, and the key common practice ingredients to ensure effective practice
- Learn the challenges, barriers, and solutions that have supported effective implementation of each of the Big Seven
- Find out how to access training and technical assistance resources to equip you and your team – “You can do it, we can help!”
TRANSITIONING TO A FAMILY CENTERED APPROACH: BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM THREE ADULT DRUG COURTS

Jane Pfeifer  
*Senior Program Associate*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA

Meghan Wheeler  
*Senior Consultant*  
National Drug Court Institute  
Arlington, VA

**SESSION INFO: TS-6, CHESAPEAKE 10-12**

**Date:** Sunday – July 9, 2017  
**Time:** 1:15pm – 2:30pm

**ABSTRACT:**
All collaborative courts are family courts if their clients include parents and children. And if substance use disorders impacts all relationships in the family unit, recovery support must extend beyond the parent to a more family-centered approach. This workshop will offer judicial leaders and other drug court professionals working in adult drug courts key strategies for implementing a family-focused approach, with particular focus on enhanced collaboration, communication, shared knowledge, addressing the needs of families and children, funding, sustainability, and outcomes. This presentation will make the case for why adult drug courts should pay greater attention to children and families and why cross-system collaboration and communication are critical for family safety and recovery. This workshop will draw from the findings of recently published study by Children and Family Futures and NADCP- Transitioning to a Family Centered Approach: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from Three Adult Drug Courts. These three adult drug courts from Florida, Michigan, and Montana are in the process of transitioning from a traditional ADC to one that has expanded services to families and children of program participants.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**
- Gain a greater understanding of the impact of substance use on children, and the importance of addressing the needs of children and the parent-child relationship as a critical part of family recovery
- Learn how cross-systems collaboration, communication, and community partnerships are critical in serving the complex needs of children and families in your drug court
- Highlight key lessons, take-aways, and challenges from case studies conducted with three adult drug court programs at different points in transition in serving children and families
**TRACK SESSIONS**

**A BLUEPRINT GUIDE FOR BUILDING OR RE-DESIGNING YOUR FAMILY DRUG COURT**

Jane Pfeifer  
*Senior Program Associate*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA

Meghan Wheeler  
*Senior Consultant*  
National Drug Court Institute  
Arlington, VA

**TRACK:** Families First: Taking Family Dependency Treatment Courts to the Next Level

**SESSION INFO:** A–4, CHESAPEAKE ABC

**Date:** Monday – July 10, 2017  
**Time:** 9:30am – 10:45am

**ABSTRACT:**

Whether your team is in the planning stages of launching a Family Drug Court (FDC) or re-designing or enhancing your existing program, this workshop will walk you through the critical topics and decisions your team will encounter. A critical step in this process is developing a Planning Team to ensure that your FDC is truly a collaborative effort and built to last. The workshop session will provide an overview of the Family Drug Court Planning Guide recently published by the National Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Program, which provides a blueprint for the planning process. Regardless of your role or discipline or where you are in the process of building or re-designing your FDC, this session and the Planning Guide will be a valuable resource in accomplishing your team’s vision and goals.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Highlight key decision and planning points for all Family Drug Courts
- Identify key steps in developing the Planning Team, including membership, planning process
- Learn tips and strategies on how to use the Planning Guide in your jurisdiction
BUILDING STRONGER FAMILIES & BRIGHTER FUTURES—THE UNIQUE ADAPTATIONS OF THE FAMILY
DRUG COURT AND FAMILY TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS TO BETTER SERVE CHILDREN,
FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

Lauren Van Schilfgaarde
Tribal Law Specialist
Tribal Law and Policy Institute
West Hollywood, CA

Marianna Corona
Research Associate
Children and Family Futures
Lake Forest, CA

TRACK: Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts
SESSION INFO: A–7, MARYLAND 1-3
Date: Monday – July 10, 2017
Time: 9:30am – 10:45am

ABSTRACT:
The drug court movement led to numerous adaptations by jurisdictions and communities who wanted to
take a problem-solving approach to better serve individuals and families affected by substance use
disorders and other co-occurring issues. Child welfare and dependency court advocates developed the
Family Drug Court (FDC) model to improve the poor recovery, safety, and permanency outcomes for
families affected by parental substance use. For tribal communities, the development of Family Tribal
Healing to Wellness courts integrated drug court principles with tribal values, laws, and resources. This
workshop will discuss both movements, best practices, and strategies to improve collaboration between
county and tribal communities. Each of the presenters will draw from available research and their own
professional experience and expertise working with a multitude of programs. The presentation will
highlight how tribal child welfare systems differ from State and County systems and how the family-
centered approach of both models uniquely promote family recovery and stability. Attendees who want
to increase their understanding of Tribal communities and learn strategies to better serve tribal families in
their jurisdiction are invited to attend this session.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
- Highlight the achievements and challenges of the Family Drug Court and Tribal Healing to Wellness
  Court movements as adaptations of the drug court model
- Explore the unique role and importance of Tribal justice systems, family and holistic approach to
  recovery, and cultural values imbedded in Healing to Wellness Courts
- Increase knowledge and cultural competency to better serve American Indian families in your
  jurisdiction
Family Treatment Courts (FTC) are uniquely positioned to help families affected by the current opioid epidemic that is sweeping the country. FTCs are based on the principle of collaborative practice, providing a more effective approach to families. The far-reaching scale of the opioid epidemic highlights the need for collaborative practice and policy.

There are many professionals involved in decisions for parenting and pregnant women with opioid use disorders. These include the partners involved in a FTC – child welfare, substance use treatment, and judicial representatives. The mixture of professionals differs for cases involving parenting and pregnant women. Child welfare and judicial systems are generally not involved until the birth of the infant, while primary health (e.g. OB-GYN) and substance use treatment are major service providers during the pregnancy. This mixture of participating systems, relationships among them and timing of interaction with families affects service coordination. Variation within each system further complicates service coordination. Each of these systems are responding to directives from their organizations, or in the absence of directives, using their professional judgments.

A number of communities from across the country have developed collaborative initiatives to change standard practice to provide efficient and effective systems for families affected by opioid use disorders. These approaches share a focus on coordinating the goals and efforts of an array of partners at different points of intervention. Early identification and engagement into services and collaborative service planning, hallmarks of the FTC model, have yielded improved health and safety outcomes for families affected by opioid use disorders. Coupling these hallmarks of FTC practice with the Child Abuse and Prevention Act (CAPTA) required Plan of Safe Care place FTCs at the forefront of successfully addressing the opioid epidemic.

This workshop will discuss strategies to enable FTCs to respond to the opioid crisis for children and families. These strategies include understanding best practices in the treatment of opioid use disorders, expanding the scope of the collaborative to ensure the needs of both children and parents are met, and how to develop and implement the CAPTA Plan of Safe Care to improve outcomes for affected families.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Understand best practices in the treatment of opioid use disorders for parenting and pregnant women and the treatment of infants prenatally exposed to opioids
- Learn strategies to expand the FTC collaborative approach to work with parenting and pregnant women affected by opioid use disorders
- Learn how to develop and implement the CAPTA Plan of Safe Care
**THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP – TOMPKINS COUNTY PREVENTION AND FAMILY RECOVERY INITIATIVE**

**Theresa Lemus**  
*Senior Program Associate*  
*Children and Family Futures*  
*Lake Forest, CA*

**Honorable John Rowley**  
*County Judge*  
*Tompkins County Family Treatment Court*  
*Ithaca, NY*

**TRACK:** Families First: Taking Family Dependency Treatment Courts to the Next Level

**SESSION INFO:** B-4, CHESAPEAKE ABC

**Date:** Monday – July 10, 2017  
**Time:** 11:00am – 12:15pm

**ABSTRACT:**

As a recipient of the Prevention and Family Recovery grant funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Duke Endowment, Tompkins County has strengthened their partnership between the Court and the Department of Social Services, undertaking practice changes and larger systems reform necessary to provide and sustain a family centered approach in their FTC. This presentation will explore Tompkins County’s innovative team strategy in referring all parents to the FTC upon identification of substance use as a factor in their involvement with child welfare.

The demands of a family often prevent parents with a substance use disorder from seeking or completing treatment and other child welfare identified requirements. Tompkins County FTC team seeks to address this problem by working closely with a group of local partners to: 1) reduce time from referral to entry into substance use treatment, 2) refer families to parent-child evidence-based practices; and 3) improve the delivery of trauma informed court services. Judge Rowley and child welfare leadership have developed and sustained a relationship that allows for ongoing discussion of program and system improvement. With the assistance of local data, strong leadership and provision of family centered services, the Tompkins FTC has seen improved rates of reunification and reduced time in out-of-home care for children over the last year.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Participants will understand one county’s innovative approach to serving families involved in child welfare and impacted by substance use
- Participants will better understand strategies Judges can use to help develop a new standard of care for Family Drug Court clients and ensure the services in the community meet the needs of participants
- Participants will be able to identify successes that can come from a strong partnership between the court and child welfare
- Participants will better understand common indicators that courts can monitor to determine the impact of program and policy changes
WHAT DOES QUALITY TREATMENT LOOK LIKE? IDENTIFYING EFFECTIVE SUD TREATMENT FOR FAMILIES IN CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Phil Breitenbucher
Director, Family Drug Court Programs
Children and Family Futures
Lake Forest, CA

TRACK: Families First: Taking Family Dependency Treatment Courts to the Next Level

SESSION INFO: C–4, CHESAPEAKE ABC

Date: Monday – July 10, 2017
Time: 1:45pm – 3:00pm

ABSTRACT:
Families involved in the child welfare system due to parental substance use disorders are some of the most challenging clients to serve given their multiple and complex needs. To engage and retain families in services, the Court, child welfare system, and treatment providers and other stakeholders must work together to achieve safety, recovery, permanency, and well-being. In order to achieve these outcomes, it is critical that all stakeholders have a solid understanding of effective and quality treatment programs look like. The National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) developed a set of guiding questions aimed to provide professionals with a set of considerations and information to gather from their treatment partners about the treatment in their community. These guiding questions may be used to direct a discussion with treatment partners and help court and child welfare professionals gather information on the types and quality of services provided for families who are involved with child welfare. This tool will help agencies become better consumers of substance abuse treatment. The session will equip attendees with other cross-system training and technical assistance resources, including the NCSACW’s free online training tutorials.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
- Identify key elements of effective substance use treatment for families in child welfare
- Learn about the treatment and recovery process and how it impacts the child welfare case
- Identify strategies and opportunities for judicial leaders to partner with substance use treatment providers to better serve families affected by substance use disorders
**Keeping Families Front and Center Each Step of the Way—How Family Drug Courts are Supporting Recovery and Reunification Using a Milestones Approach**

**Alexis Balkey**  
*FDC TTA Program Manager*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA

**Julie Spielman**  
*Drug Court Administrator*  
35th Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri  
Kennett, MO

**Honorable Phillip Britt**  
*Drug Court Commissioner*  
35th Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri  
Kennett, MO

**Track:** Families First: Taking Family Dependency Treatment Courts to the Next Level  
**Session Info:** D–4, Chesapeake ABC

**Date:** Monday – July 10, 2017  
**Time:** 3:15pm – 4:30pm

**Abstract:**
The accountable, time-limited mandate for achieving permanency for children set forth in the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) drove the demand for a better and coordinated system response to meet the complex and multiple needs of families affected by parental substance use. The Family Drug Court model emerged as a collaborative solution to address these challenges. As participant families progress through the FDC, the question of readiness for reunification raises another set of challenges for the FDC team. This workshop presentation will explore the importance of family recovery and supporting the parent-child relationship through key service elements, including ensuring quality visitation and contact, implementation of evidence-based services inclusive of parent education, therapeutic services and access to ongoing family recovery support. This workshop will also highlight the Dunklin County (Missouri) Family Treatment Court and their innovative approach to preparing families for reunification through a behavioral milestones approach framed around visitation. This workshop discussion will explore family readiness as a collaborative practice issue by raising the need for coordinated case plans and effective communication protocols across child welfare, treatment and court systems.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Understand the impact of parental substance use on the parent-child relationship and the essential service components needed to address these issues
- Understand family readiness as a collaborative practice issue and why “team” is just as important as any “tool” for assessing readiness
- Learn key elements of Milestones Approach and various case management strategies, including implementation of quality visitation and contact, evidence-based services, coordinated case plans and effective communication protocols across child welfare, treatment and court systems
**GIVING PARENTS A VOICE AND A FAIR CHANCE—STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTABILITY AND SUCCESS WHILE USING A MANDATORY APPROACH TO FAMILY DRUG COURT PARTICIPATION**

**Honorable Roger Heideman**  
*Family Treatment Drug Court Judge*  
Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County  
Lincoln, NE

**Honorable William S. Owens**  
*Associate Juvenile Judge*  
Wapello County Family Treatment Court  
Ottumwa, IA

**Phil Breitenbucher**  
*Director, Family Drug Court Programs*  
Children and Family Futures  
Lake Forest, CA

**TRACK:** Legal, Judicial, and Ethical Issues in Problem Solving

**SESSION INFO:**  
**Date:** Monday – July 10, 2017  
**Time:** 3:15pm – 4:30pm

**ABSTRACT:**

The voluntary nature of problem-solving courts ensures clients are given autonomy and allowed to exercise their voice and maintain a sense of control throughout program participation. While most FDCs remain voluntary, there are a few programs in which families with allegations of parental substance use are ordered to participate in the FDC. This session will highlight the importance two important concepts—therapeutic jurisprudence in which the judge acts as a therapeutic agent to hold clients accountable and promote compliance; and procedural justice, in which participants see the Court as fair and unbiased. The Honorable William S. Owens from Wapello County, Iowa and Honorable Roger Heideman of Lancaster County, Nebraska will share how their respective FDC programs and its mandatory nature of participation does not negatively impact perceptions of fairness and trust with the FDC team. This workshop will explore the importance of judicial leadership and how every component of the FDC program and every staff member provides an opportunity to give clients a voice and sense of hope and fairness. Both judicial leaders will also discuss how they are infusing specific FDC strategies, such as delivery of enhanced recovery supports, more frequent hearings and increased judicial oversight to achieve better outcomes for families in their regular dependency court dockets.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Identify key strategies on how to engage client participation and autonomy while mandated to participate in FDC program
- Highlight the importance judicial interaction and oversight in both FDC and regular dependency dockets
- Explore the importance of both strong judicial leadership and team approach to ensure procedural justice for participants
I’VE BEEN IN YOUR SHOES, NOW LET’S WALK TOGETHER—UTILIZING PARENT MENTORS TO INCREASE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND RESILIENCY IN FAMILY DRUG COURTS

Tara Doaty–Mundell  
Clinical Psychologist  
Consultant  
Founder/Lead Mental Health Consultant  
Sage Wellness Group  
Baltimore, MD

Jocelyn Gainers  
Executive Director  
The Family Recovery Program, Inc.  
Baltimore, MD

TRACK:  Families First: Taking Family Dependency Treatment Courts to the Next Level

SESSION INFO:  E-4, Chesapeake ABC

Date:  Monday – July 10, 2017  
Time:  4:45pm – 6:00pm

ABSTRACT:

Client engagement strategies and practices are at the root of ensuring client participation and ultimate family success.  Engagement strategies that are inclusive and supportive of identifying child and family needs have been shown to increase parent motivation, compliance, and abstinence.  The Family Recovery Program (FRP) has begun utilizing the professional and personal experience of Parent Mentors to assist parents as they navigate through the child welfare process.  Participants will be introduced to FRP’s Child Service Plan, which is completed using a strengths-based perspective by parents at various parts of the reunification process.  Participants will also learn how the utilization of Parent Mentors can be beneficial to FDC participants and staff, especially when serving high-risk/high-need populations.

Baltimore City’s Family Recovery Program, Inc. is a Family Dependency Court that is enhancing outcomes for Baltimore’s children by addressing the many physical and emotional needs of its clients and their families by partnering with community stakeholders while providing excellent case management to Baltimore’s substance abusing parents.  In 2014, FRP was selected to expand its services and provide Recovery Support Specialists to Washington, D.C.’s Family Treatment Court.  The Family Recovery Program is recognized by Child and Family Futures and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention as a Peer Learning Court.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Increase participant knowledge surrounding roles, responsibilities and tasks of a Parent Mentor

- Increase participant identification and implementation of evidenced-based and promising practices used by Parent Mentors to identify needed child and family services in FDCs

- Introduce domains of The Child Service Plan that can be completed at any point within the child welfare/reunification process to assist parents in identifying and meeting child and family needs
Helping Dads Recover—Effective Strategies to Engage Fathers in Family Drug Courts

Dan Griffin  
CEO/Lead Consultant, Senior Fellow  
The Meadows  

![](avatar1.png)  

Keynote Speaker, Author  
Dan Griffin Enterprises  
Los Angeles, CA

Russ Bermejo  
Senior Program Associate  
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Session Info: CG-12, Maryland A

Date: Tuesday – July 11, 2017  
Time: 11:00am – 12:15pm

Abstract:

Father involvement plays an invaluable role in a child’s successful development and has been correlated with benefits such as better cognitive outcomes, higher self-esteem, and educational performance. Traditionally, child welfare agencies have been challenged with engaging fathers in service case plan and family activities. Family Drug Courts have a unique opportunity to promote father involvement through enhanced service coordination and service delivery. This workshop will identify key strategies from a cross-system perspective to enhance your program’s ability to engage and serve dads. Author, national expert and speaker, Dan Griffin, who co-authored Helping Men Recovery, will share his experience and expertise in engaging fathers in treatment programs using a gender-responsive and trauma-informed approach unique to men and the father role. Innovative practices currently conducted by FDC programs nationwide will also highlighted.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify the interpersonal, structural, and environmental barriers that men face in child welfare, drug treatment, and family court systems, including biases and presumptions
- Identify key components and practice principles of gender-responsive drug treatment
- Learn practice skills and strategies to effectively engage with fathers from a cross-systems perspective
OJJDP 2017 Annual Grantee Gathering—FDC Grantees, SSRP Awardees, Peer Learning Courts, and SAMHSA FDTC-PM Grantees

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SESSION INFO: Grantee Gathering—Closed Meeting

Date: Tuesday – July 11, 2017
Time: 10:15am – 2:45pm
Room: Annapolis 3 & 4

ABSTRACT:

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Family Drug Court (FDC) Program, Statewide System Reform Program (SSRP), and Peer Learning Court (PLC) Grantee Gathering will provide time for participants to meet with the Federal Project Officer, as well as network and exchange information with other grantees. By coordinating the meeting with this national conference, there is enhanced opportunity for all FDC teams to learn from an expanded network of professionals working in or with family drug courts, and to hear and exchange information concerning policy, program strategies, and advanced practices for family drug courts. Attendance at the national conference is not mandatory for invitees.
CONNECTING VTCs AND VJOs THROUGH COLLABORATIVE COURT STAFFING: IMPROVING SERVICE DELIVERY TO VETERANS, THEIR CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES THROUGH FAMILY-CENTERED APPROACHES

Larisa Owen  
Director, Veterans Programs  
Children and Family Futures  
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Honorable Mary Kreber Varipapa  
Veteran Treatment Court Judge  
Superior Court of California, County of Orange Community Court  
Santa Ana, CA

TRACK: VTCs: Advanced Issues

SESSION INFO: VCC-C-3, BALTIMORE 3-4

Date: Monday – July 10, 2017  
Time: 1:45pm – 3:00pm

ABSTRACT:
All collaborative courts are family courts when their participants include adults who have children. Recent survey results indicate that more than half of the participants served by VTCs are parents with children. Prioritizing family-centered approaches in VTCs is justified based upon the trauma and substance use disorder service needs of veterans, their children, and families. This session will explore the need to establish connections between VTCs with VJOs while drawing upon existing family- and child-servicing agencies within the community. Participants will gain a greater understanding about how to improve service delivery by examining the collaborative strategies within the Ten Element VTC Framework. Highlights of this presentation include particular attention to parental stress, family trauma, and the associative factors of disrupted parent-child relationships including deployment, reintegration, and separation from service. Presenters will make the case for family-centered approaches by drawing upon their collective experience as part of a coalition in Orange County, California which collaboratively operates service provisions to veterans involved in collaborative courts (i.e., Veterans Treatment Court, Domestic Violence Court) and mental health systems.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Develop an understanding about the importance of applying family-centered approaches through a continuum of services to address the unique needs of veterans, their children, and families
- Learn how to apply the key principles of the Ten Element VTC Framework to enhance collaboration, develop community partnerships, and improve service delivery to VTC participants
- Increase an awareness and advance knowledge about the associative factors affecting parent-child relationships including deployment, reintegration, and separation from service
Advancing the FDC Movement
2017

Improveing
Family
Outcomes

Strengthening
Partnerships

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