### 2021 CBCAP Grantee Meeting-at-a-Glance

**Wednesday, May 12, 2021 (Pre-Conference Session)**

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| 2:00 — 3:30 pm ET | CBCAP 101  
*Zoom links will be sent to all registrants*  
A pre-session for state leads new to CBCAP. Session will include a review of the New State Lead Manual and an introduction to the Federal Project Officers, TA staff, and Parent Advisory Council. |

**Thursday, May 13, 2021 (Pre-Conference Session)**

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| 2:00 — 3:30 pm ET | American Rescue Plan Act: A Discussion on Supplemental CBCAP Funding and Office of Grants Management Updates  
*Zoom links will be sent to all registrants*  
Sharon McKinley and Julie Fliss, Children’s Bureau; Janice D. Caldwell from Office of Grants Management |

**Monday, May 17, 2020 (DAY ONE)**

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| 1:30 – 2:30 pm ET | Welcome and Introductions  
Julie Fliss and Sharon McKinley, Children’s Bureau/Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN)  
Associate Commissioner Aysha Schomburg, J.D., Children’s Bureau  
Valerie Spiva-Collins, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP  
Plenary Session: Unpacking the Connection Between Poverty and Child Neglect: Implications for Policy and Practice  
This talk offers an overview of the decades-long research literature on the role of poverty in child maltreatment and child protective services (CPS) involvement, with an emphasis on situations of neglect. Recent staggering statistics on the cumulative childhood incidence of CPS involvement and disparities by race require urgent policy and practice responses that need to confront chronic and intergenerational poverty, as well as systemic and structural factors that contribute to poverty. Specific policy and practice solutions for preventing child neglect are offered, drawing on an understanding of the current policy and economic contexts, as well as the existing prevention landscape in the U.S.  
Kristen Slack, PhD, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work and Faculty Affiliate of the Institute for Research on Poverty |
| 2:30 – 3:00 pm ET | Poster Session  
Visit this virtual session to view over 20 posters from various CBCAP State Leads, Set-Aside Grantees, FRIENDS PAC, and FRIENDS as they share programs, innovative initiatives and evaluation findings. |
| 3:15 – 4:45 pm ET | Innovative Initiatives to Support Families and Communities  
Trisha Reynolds, Utah Department of Human Services; Brian Cook, Wyoming Citizen Review Panel and Sara Serelson, Wyoming Children’s Trust Fund; Dr. Rebecca Fauth, Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development, Tufts University; and Sarita Rogers, Massachusetts Children’s Trust  
Update on the Development of Parent Leadership Evaluation Resources and the Spanish PFS-2  
Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, Dr. Steffany Sloan, and Danielle Brower, University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research; and Casandra Firman, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP  
The Community Response Program Experiment in Wisconsin  
Dr. Kristen Slack, Professor, UW-Madison and Rebecca Murray, Executive Director, WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board  
P*See session descriptions on page 4* |
| 5:00 – 6:00 pm ET | Virtual Meet and Greet  
A networking opportunity for all participants to meet and interact with other state leads, federal staff, FRIENDS staff, and parent leaders. |
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| 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET | **The Prevention Mindset**  
Institute: Reimagining Prevention Services Through Systems Change  
Sasha Rasco, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services; Kari Akins, Ohio Office of Families and Children and Nicole Sillaman, Ohio Children’s Trust Fund; Angela Ponivas, California Office of Child Abuse Prevention |
|              | **Art for Fostering Resilience in Youth Who Have Experienced Trauma**  
Dr. Donalyn Heise, Visiting Associate Professor, College of Fine Arts, University of Texas-Austin |
|              | **Your Data Say What?**  
Understanding and Sharing Outcome Data  
Casandra Firman and Samantha Florey, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP and Kristen Kirkland, Bureau of Research, NY’s Office of Children and Family Services |

*See session descriptions on page 5

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<td>3:30 – 4:30 pm ET</td>
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|              | **Federal Updates**  
Julie Fliss and Sharon McKinley, Children’s Bureau/OCAN |
|              | **Plenary: Building Primary Prevention through Progressive Strategies and Community Activation**  
Mr. Morales will draw from his thirty-year career with the Southern California Children’s Bureau, and his experience as a prevention scientist and advocate, to encourage continued transformation of the child welfare system. He will talk about key strategies for making change happen with examples from locations throughout the country. Primary prevention and broad community ownership are critical to this work. Alex tells others that he had great parents, but asks the question, what made them great? They were hard working immigrants AND many individuals and organizations helped make them great! Alex is retired from the Children’s Bureau but he is still on a mission and has not retired from working to make a difference for all families.  
Alex Morales, Retired former President and CEO, Children’s Bureau of Southern California and Board of Directors member at Child Welfare League of America |
Day 1 Session Descriptions

Monday, May 17th: 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm ET

Unpacking the Connection between Poverty and Child Neglect: Implications for Policy and Practice
This talk offers an overview of the decades-long research literature on the role of poverty in child maltreatment and child protective services (CPS) involvement, with an emphasis on situations of neglect. Recent staggering statistics on the cumulative childhood incidence of CPS involvement and disparities by race require urgent policy and practice responses that need to confront chronic and intergenerational poverty, as well as systemic and structural factors that contribute to poverty. Specific policy and practice solutions for preventing child neglect are offered, drawing on an understanding of the current policy and economic contexts, as well as the existing prevention landscape in the U.S.

Kristen Slack, PhD, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work and Faculty Affiliate of the Institute for Research on Poverty

Monday, May 17th: 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm ET

Innovative Initiatives to Support Families and Communities
States are responding to the needs of families and communities by utilizing innovative strategies that focus on data collection, statewide parent cafés and trauma-informed programming. CBCAP SLs from Massachusetts, Utah and Wyoming will share how innovative initiatives are supporting families in their state.

Trisha Reynolds, Utah Department of Human Services; Brian Cook, Wyoming Citizen Review Panel and Sara Serelson, Wyoming Children’s Trust Fund; Dr. Rebecca Fauth, Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development, Tufts University; and Sarita Rogers, Massachusetts Children’s Trust

Update on the Development of Parent Leadership Evaluation Resources and the Spanish PFS-2
This session will describe two evaluation projects underway in partnership with FRIENDS.

Parent leadership continues to be a primary focus of CBCAP programming. To better support evaluating the impact of parent leadership initiatives, a Parent Leadership Evaluation resource is currently in development and being refined collaboratively with pilot CBCAP states to prepare for field testing early 2022. The toolkit will include guidance and support for determining parent leadership goals, evaluating those goals, and choosing right-fit metrics and measurement tools.

In addition, the Protective Factors Survey, 2nd Edition (PFS-2), has been translated into Spanish. We are currently gathering feedback from the field regarding the translation, and preparing for a field test, to begin in October 2021. Participants will learn about the work that has been done to date on both projects, and will have an opportunity to ask questions, offer feedback, and become involved in future focus groups and field testing.

Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, Dr. Steffany Sloan, and Danielle Brower, University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research; and Casandra Firman, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP

The Community Response Program Experiment in Wisconsin
In the mid-2000s, the Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board in partnership with the Department of Children and Families, developed an intervention called the Community Response Program (CRP), intended to fill an important gap in the continuum of services to address child maltreatment. Specifically, families reported to child protective services for alleged child maltreatment, but whose cases were screened out at the hotline call stage or closed following an investigation, were offered voluntary case management services tailored to each family’s unique circumstances and self-determined needs. In this session, we will provide an overview of the history of CRP in Wisconsin, present key programmatic elements and practice frameworks that characterize the intervention and share results from a multi-site randomized control trial to assess the effectiveness of CRP in preventing child protective services involvement.

Dr. Kristen Slack, Professor, UW-Madison and Rebecca Murray, Executive Director, WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board
Day 2 Session Descriptions

**Tuesday, May 18th: 1:30 pm -3:00 pm ET**

**Prevention Mindset Institute: Reimagining Prevention Services Through Systems Change**
Several states are learning together and sharing creative approaches toward building a family-focused child well-being system as part of the Prevention Mindset Institute (PMI). PMI participants from three states (California, Ohio, Texas) will share how they are partnering with state and community stakeholders to provide system supports to strengthen families and communities. All are welcome to attend and learn how these states are reimagining prevention services through systems change.

*Sasha Rasco, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services; Kari Akins, Ohio Office of Families and Children and Nicole Sillaman, Ohio Children’s Trust Fund; Angela Ponivas, California Office of Child Abuse Prevention*

**Art for Fostering Resilience in Youth Who Have Experienced Trauma**
In addition to the shared trauma of the global pandemic, many children also experience stress from poverty, neglect or abuse, domestic or societal violence, bullying, homelessness, human trafficking, political upheaval, gender issues, incarceration, grief or loss of loved ones, or trauma from natural or environmental disasters. Some may have emotional, mental, behavioral and physical challenges that make them less likely to succeed in school and are at risk of dropping out altogether. The creative arts can foster resilience in youth who have experienced trauma, promote healing and help them feel safe and empowered. This session provides skills, strategies, and hands-on artmaking based on innovative arts practices that enhance learning for youth who have experienced trauma.

The participants will be able to: list the impact of trauma, identify protective factors that foster resilience, describe therapeutic art processes, and design creative art activities to use in their practice.

*Materials needed: paper, pencil, and any marking tool (markers, colored pencils, or crayons)*

*Dr. Donalyn Heise, Visiting Associate Professor, College of Fine Arts, University of Texas-Austin*

**Your Data Say What? Understanding and Sharing Outcome Data**
It is important (and required!) for CBCAP State Lead Agencies to share outcome data demonstrating that their prevention programs and services are producing positive outcomes for children and families. This session will discuss analyzing and understanding your data and how to share them in meaningful and creative ways. We will highlight the five evaluation briefs developed by FRIENDS in partnership with five CBCAP State Lead Agencies, with a special presentation from one of the states about their experience and lessons learned with understanding and sharing data.

*Casandra Firman and Samantha Florey, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP and Kristen Kirkland, Bureau of Research, NY’s Office of Children and Family Services*

**Tuesday, May 18th: 3:30 pm -4:30 pm ET**

**Building Primary Prevention through Progressive Strategies and Community Activation**
Mr. Morales will draw from his thirty-ear career with the Southern California Children’s Bureau, and his experience as a prevention scientist and advocate, to encourage continued transformation of the child welfare system. He will talk about key strategies for making change happen with examples from locations throughout the country. Primary prevention and broad community ownership are critical to this work. Alex tells others that he had great parents, but asks the question, what made them great? They were hard working immigrants AND many individuals and organizations helped make them great! Alex is retired from the Children’s Bureau but he is still on a mission and has not retired from working to make a difference for all families.

*Alex Morales, Retired former President and CEO, Children’s Bureau of Southern California and Board of Directors member at Child Welfare League of America*
**General Information**

**Meeting Platform**
The 2021 Virtual CBCAP Grantee Meeting will be using the Whova platform. You will access all sessions and related CBCAP Grantee Meeting information via this platform. The link to access the platform will be sent out by May 11, 2021. If you have not received the link, please check your spam/junk/clutter folder. Otherwise, please contact Jennifer Gillissen at jennifer.gillissen@kauffmaninc.com. The email will also include an attendee guide that will explain how to use the platform and where information is located.

**Poster Session**
Please visit the “Poster” tab on the virtual platform during the Poster Session on May 17th from 2:30 – 3:00 pm ET. Posters will be available for viewing a week prior to the meeting. There are many posters on exhibit by your fellow SLA programs, the FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council, and more. The posters included are:

- Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Programs (CBCAP) in Alabama: A Study of Program Outcomes (Alabama)
- Predict Align Prevent (Arkansas)
- Parenting, It Takes a Community by the Arizona DCS Office of Prevention (Arizona)
- Strategies Technical Assistance: Launch of Prevention Planning Teams (California)
- Culturally Effective Organizations Framework (FRIENDS)
- FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council (FRIENDS PAC)
- National Parent Leadership Month (FRIENDS PAC)
- Resources to Support Parent/Practitioner Collaboration (FRIENDS PAC)
- Belonging for Hope: Developing and Promoting A Universal Child Abuse Prevention Campaign (Georgia)
- The Language of Our Ancestors: Early Childhood Language Learning as Cultural Connection (Kickapoo Tribe)
- Incorporating Adult Relationship Education into CBCAP Programming (Kansas)
- Data System Development for Family Support Programs: Process and Rationale (Massachusetts)
- Family Support in Maryland's Family Support Centers (Maryland)
- Kinship Navigation Program (New Hampshire)
- Resilient Children and Families Program (RCFP) Expansion Project (Ohio)
- Get Parenting Tips (Texas)
- Center for Trauma-Informed Utah (Utah)
- Aligning Services and Systems for Prevention Impact (Washington)
- A Year in Review: 2020 in Wyoming (Wyoming)
- Spanish-Language Parenting Education Program-Los Niños Bien Educados (Yakima Family Farm Workers Clinic)

**Exhibit**
Please visit the Child Welfare Information Gateway’s (CWIG) exhibit, which can be accessed using the “Exhibit” tab on the meeting platform.

**Meet and Greet**
Grab a snack and beverage and join us for a virtual Meet and Great on May 17th from 5:00 – 6:00pm ET for a chance to network with your CBCAP peers, FRIENDS staff, FRIENDS PAC members, and Federal staff. You can access this event thru the “Community” tab.

**Parent Leader Meet Up**
Calling all Parent Leaders! This Meet Up is hosted by the FRIENDS PAC for anyone who identifies as a parent leader. Don’t miss the opportunity to network with each other and learn more about the FRIENDS NC for CBCAP Parent Advisory Council. To access this event on May 18th from 12:00 -1:00pm ET, click on the “Community” tab.

**Evaluation Reminders**
Please click on the “Survey” tab on the virtual platform to complete the evaluation for each day of the CBCAP Grantee Meeting. Your input is imperative to the content and design of next year’s CBCAP Grantee Meeting.
Kristen Slack, Ph.D. conducts research in Wisconsin and nationally on the role of poverty and economic hardship in child maltreatment (i.e., abuse and neglect). She also studies the role of the U.S. social safety net in preventing child maltreatment, and strategies to improve the identification of risk and protective factors related to child neglect. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Administration for Children and Families, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Professor Slack is a long-time consultant to the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board and the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. She currently is evaluating the Community Response program and Project GAIN, two Wisconsin-based maltreatment interventions. Professor Slack earned her A.M. in Social Work and her Ph.D. in Social Welfare from the University of Chicago.

Alex Morales recently retired in January of 2018 as President and Chief Executive Officer of Children's Bureau of Southern California, a non-profit leader in the prevention and treatment of child abuse, mental health, family support, child development, and community building that has served Southern California since 1904. Under Alex’s leadership, Children’s Bureau formed an ambitious, visionary plan to create a national model, and raised $22+ million to launch it. These resources have been used to build the Magnolia Place Family Center and create the “founding spark” of the Magnolia Community Initiative (MCI) (http://magnoliaplacela.org/) in Los Angeles. MCI is championed by a large community network of 75+ diverse organizations and the Belong Campaign, a social movement led by residents and parents. This revolutionary initiative will become a national model/framework for building community wellness, resiliency, prevention and family support. MCI seeks to help ALL of the 35,000 children and youth within 500 blocks, a dozen neighborhoods, achieve success in education, health, and receive nurturing care and economic stability from their families and community.

Even though Alex has retired as CEO, he has not retired from working to make a difference. For the past 3 years, Alex has been an Adjunct Professor at University of Southern California, School of Social Work with a focus on social innovation and policy. He is also vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare League of America. He serves on the Citizen Review Panel for California Office of Child Abuse Prevention. He is a consultant on a collective impact initiative bringing together multiple government departments, county governmental leadership, philanthropic community, and service organizations to increase recruitment of foster families for Los Angeles County. He is an advocate for primary prevention and community wellness at the local, state, and national level.

Alex has a master’s degree in social work from University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Arts degree in physics.

Alex is a Prevention Scientist and Prevention Advocate. Both of his parents immigrated to the United States from Mexico. Alex likes to say he had great parents, but the real question is what made them great? He is driven by the fact that so many others and organizations helped make them great. In addition to Alex being a social worker, he holds a degree in Physics. His father was a minister. And, his mother was an engineer who later became a minister. Alex no longer sees himself as working; he calls it his mission and ministry.
Speaker Bios

Kari Akins serves as the Assistant Deputy Director over the Bureaus of Automated Systems, Special Projects, and Multi-System Support, in the Office of Families and Children at the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Kari has over 18 years of experience in the field of child protection in both county and state government. Most recently she was the Policy Manager with the Ohio Governor’s Office of Children Services Transformation.

Danielle Brower, MSW, is a Research Project Coordinator with the Center for Public Partnerships and Research at the University of Kansas, where she works on a wide range of maternal and child health focused initiatives. Danielle is focused on making intentional impact with communities through specialized supports and skill development, as well as policy and program development, implementation, and evaluation. She has 10 years of experience in social services, including work at statewide coalitions and institutions.

Janice D Caldwell currently serves as the Director for the Family Protection & Resilience Portfolio (FPR) within the ACF Office of Grants Management. The FPR has responsibility for the awarding, oversight, and fiscal management for well over $15 billion in mandatory and discretionary grants, including the Title IV-E Programs; the Family Violence Prevention & Services programs; the Unaccompanied Children program; and the Runaway and Homeless Youth programs.

Ms. Caldwell received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Accounting from Queens College in Charlotte, North Carolina, her Master of Business Administration from Dallas Baptist University in Dallas, Texas, and her Master of Science in Family Studies from Amberton University in Richardson, Texas. Ms. Caldwell is also an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coaching Federation.

Bryan Cook has worked in various capacities in the Wyoming Child Welfare system since receiving his bachelor’s degree in Administration of Justice from the University of Wyoming in 1999. He is very passionate about working with children and families, as well as community involvement. From 1999 until 2006 Bryan was a juvenile probation officer at Municipal, County and State Levels. He then worked for a short time as a social services analyst, before returning to direct service work as the Director of a Juvenile Drug Court. Bryan then became an adoption recruiter through The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption with Wendy’s Wonderful Kids in 2009 and held that position until 2019. Bryan has been the Executive Director of the Wyoming Citizen Review Panel since July 2019.

Rebecca Fauth, PhD, is a developmental psychologist specializing in research and evaluation of social policies and programs on children and families. Her research aims to unpack whether, how, and for whom programs are or are not effective. Rebecca's expertise on the influence of poverty, neighborhoods, and community contexts on children’s development and family well-being is complemented by extensive knowledge of mixed methods research, evaluation design, and research-practice integration. She is a research assistant professor at Tufts University, co-directing the Tufts Interdisciplinary Evaluation Research (TIER) group and a senior research fellow at Child Trends. At the start of her career, Rebecca worked as a preschool teacher and a family support case worker conducting home visits.

Casandra Firman, a part-time Technical Assistance Coordinator with FRIENDS, has been a teacher, program manager, and advocate for programs that empower and strengthen families for the past 40 years. She taught parenting and adult basic education at a women’s prison and was a parent educator and the Parenting Specialist for Oregon’s Child Protective Service. Casandra taught Child Care practices at North Sydney Technical College in New South Wales, Australia, and later managed a Family Day Care network in Queensland, Australia. Casandra has been assisting respite programs and CBCAP-funded agencies to conduct evaluations of their programs since 2000. Casandra graduated from Central...
Speaker Bios

Washington University in 1972 with a degree in Education. In 1990, she earned a master’s degree in Special Education from the University of Oregon.

Julie Fliss, MSW, is a Child Welfare Program Specialist with the Children’s Bureau’s Office on Child Abuse and Neglect and a national expert on child abuse prevention. She has over twenty years of experience in the field of child welfare at the local, state and federal levels, specifically in the areas of community-based prevention, child protection, continuous quality improvement, and family-centered practice. Her current portfolio includes oversight of and support to initiatives related to community-based child abuse prevention, children and families involved with child welfare and experiencing domestic violence, adverse childhood experiences, and support for Native American/Alaskan Native populations impacted by violence.

Samantha Florey, is a Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP. Samantha has almost 20 years of experience in family support and program development. She has developed and delivered specialized training and provided technical assistance to family strengthening networks and organizations across the country. Prior to joining FRIENDS, Samantha was the Director of Training for the National Family Support Network. Other previous work includes 9 years as a Training Specialist working with the Strategies Program in California and several years as the Director of Education & Learning with the Executive Service Corps of Chicago. Samantha has a bachelor’s in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and a master’s in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of San Diego.

Donalyn Heise, Ed. D, is an artist, educator, author, and researcher. Her research focuses on a strengths-based approach to foster resilience through art and enhance social-emotional learning in youth who have experienced trauma. She currently serves as Visiting Associate Professor of art education at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including NAEA-VSA-CEC Beverly Levett-Gerber Special Needs Lifetime Achievement Award, and NAEA Southeastern Region Higher Ed Award, Nebraska Supervision/Administration Award, and Tennessee Art Educator of the Year Award. She co-authored 2 books (with Johns and Hunter) Working With Students Who Have Anxiety: Creative Connections and Practical Strategies, and Art for Children Experiencing Psychological Trauma: A Guide for Art Educators and School-Based Professionals. She has conducted over 100 workshops/presentations at the state, regional, national and international levels. She designed and implemented intergenerational art for resilience programs in family emergency shelters, after school programs and community centers for youth with disabilities.

Kristen Kirkland, MSW, PhD, is a Research Scientist III with the New York State (NYS) Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), Bureau of Research, Evaluation, and Performance Analytics. Dr. Kirkland provides research and evaluation oversight and support for OCFS-funded child abuse prevention programs, including Healthy Families New York (HFNY), Family Resource Centers, parenting education programs, and other home visiting programs. With over a decade of home visiting research experience, she currently oversees all HFNY research and evaluation activities. In this role, Dr. Kirkland serves as the co-principal investigator of the HFNY Randomized Controlled Trial 15-Year Follow-up study and provides leadership and evaluation support for NYS’ MIECHV evaluation team in partnership with the NYS Department of Health. She also serves as a member of the HFNY Central Administration Team and the Healthy Families America Research, Practice, and Policy Council. Dr. Kirkland graduated with a BA in Psychology, minoring in Criminal Justice from SUNY College at Potsdam (2000), then received a Master’s in Social Work (2002) and a Doctorate in Social Welfare (2008) from SUNY University at Albany.

Sharon McKinley, MSW, LMSW, is the Child Welfare Program Specialist in the Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN), housed within the
Speaker Bios

Children’s Bureau, US Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families, in Washington, DC. In this role she is one of two federal project officers that oversees and manages the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) program. She also oversees the Children’s Bureau Learning and Coordination Center and the development of child abuse prevention resources, such as the Annual Prevention Resource Guide and the National Child Abuse Prevention Month (NCAPM) microsite. She also initiates and facilitates several professional meetings and special initiatives, such as the National Child Abuse Prevention Partners and the Federal Interagency Workgroup on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Rebecca Murray joined the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board in 2011 and is currently the Executive Director. In her previous position at the Prevention Board, Ms. Murray administered the grants program and provided technical assistance to the Prevention Board grantees, including the Community Response Program. She was the Prevention Board’s contact for the Community Response Program and Project GAIN evaluations. Ms. Murray is a certified trainer for “Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life in Your Work” and a Triple P Seminars accredited practitioner. She received her Bachelor’s in Communication Arts and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

Angela Ponivas is the Chief of the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) within the California Department of Social Services. She has been in the OCAP for 6 ½ years. She has a vision to develop an “integrated state-wide system that supports families to provide safe, stable nurturing relationships and environments for their children.”

Prior to working for the State, Angela was the Executive Director of Lighthouse Counseling and Family Resource Center in Placer County, California for over 7 years, and she started a non-profit called Love Little Children, a food program for in-home daycare providers in Sacramento. In addition to non-profit leadership, Angela has provided direct service in the various aspects of child welfare, including county level Family Maintenance and Court Investigations as well as Foster Family Agency work, matching families and children, stabilizing placements and conducting adoption home assessments.

Angela’s under-graduate degree is in Business Administration and her graduate degree is in Social Work. She is passionate to influence and support child welfare system transformation that seeks to prevent harm, strengthen families, build community and inspire unity through authentic connection and collaboration.

Sasha Rasco has served as the Associate Commissioner for Prevention and Early Intervention at the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS) since 2013, which oversees more than 160 community based grants to organizations providing an array of evidence-informed family support services, including positive youth development programs, individualized and group parenting education, specialized supports for fathers and military families, and evidence-based home visiting to more than 64,000 families and youth in Texas with a budget of $105 million annually. Sasha's career also includes 14 years in the state’s Child Care Licensing program, the last two years as Associate Commissioner of Child Care Licensing, regulating over 36,000 child-care centers, homes, adoption and foster care agencies, as well as two years with the state’s Early Childhood Intervention program (IDEA Part C). Sasha holds a bachelor’s degree from The University of Texas at Austin’s Humanities Honors Program and a Master’s of Public Affairs from UT’s Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

Trisha Reynolds is the Prevention Services Administrator and CBCAP Lead for Utah. She brings 15 years of diverse child welfare experience to her role, most recently supervising a program that provided clinical support to CPS investigators and the juvenile courts. Trisha obtained her MSW from the University of Utah in 2009 and has clinical experience
Speaker Bios

with substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence populations. Trisha was named the 2020 State Office Administrator of the Year for the energy and innovation she brought to her first year as Prevention Services Administrator.

Sarita Rogers, a Children’s Trust staff member since 1997, Sarita recently assumed the position of Deputy Director of Programs, with oversight of all Children’s Trust programs. This includes the center-based SAFE Child Communities Initiatives and Family Centers, the statewide Healthy Families MA (HFM) home visiting program, Parenting Education and Support Programs providing groups-based parent support, One Tough Job and All Babies Cry online resources, Fatherhood Initiative, Professional Development activities such as the View from All Sides annual conference, and Child Sexual Abuse Prevention activities, including the Safe Kids Thrive website.

Previously, she was the Director of Home Visiting for 22 years, leading the HFM Implementation team providing program and policy development, contract management, technical assistance, quality improvement, quality assurance, and comprehensive training to ensure model fidelity and best practices. HFM has thrice successfully completed Healthy Families America accreditation and has been the subject of a randomized trial evaluation that has demonstrated the positive impacts of HFM in the short and long-term.

Sara Serelson has applied her passion for the prevention of child abuse and neglect throughout the continuum of child welfare from prevention to intervention. Sara holds a bachelor’s degree in human services management and a master’s degree in psychology. Sara worked as a Wyoming social services caseworker from 2008 until 2014, and then as a social services analyst where she was instrumental in training on best practice within the child welfare system across Wyoming. Starting in 2017, Sara held the position of Social Services Supervisor, leading a team of child protection caseworkers in Laramie County. In September of 2020, Sara began as the Executive Director of Wyoming Children’s Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming, the lead agency for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention efforts in Wyoming.

Nicole Sillaman serves as the Chief of Fiscal and Program Planning for the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund. Ms. Sillaman joined the Trust Fund as a program manager in 2014 and transitioned to Chief of Fiscal and Program Planning in December 2019. At the Trust Fund, she works closely with federal, state and local partners to oversee the implementation child abuse and neglect prevention programming, and also is responsible for overseeing and managing all financial activities for the Trust Fund, in collaboration with the OCTF Board Treasurer and Board Finance Committee. During her time at the Trust Fund, she has served as the Project Manager for multiple Trust Fund initiatives inclusive of regional model implementation, human trafficking prevention, early childhood safety initiatives, the Strengthening Families Framework Learning Networks, enterprise grants management, and the child well-being data dashboard, to name a few.

Steffany Sloan, M.Ed, Ph.D is an Associate Researcher at the Center for Policy and Practice Research at the University of Kansas. She works as a researcher and evaluator on a number of projects, including CBCAP, Our Tomorrows story bank project, parent leadership evaluation, and SPFS-2. Steffany is also working on the Thriving Families initiative for the state of Kansas, and Family First evaluation.