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Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Virtual Annual Grantees Meeting June 26-27, 2024





2024 CBCAP Grantee Meeting-at-a-Glance



Tuesday, June 25, 2024 (PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION)

2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

2:00—3:30 pm ET

CBCAP 101

Orientation session for new leads and others who would like a review. Julie Fliss and Emily Fisher with the Children’s Bureau and MaryJo Caruso and Carolyn Abdullah with the FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP will co-lead this session along with Parent Advisory Council members, Paula Bibbs-Samuels and Matthew Porter. A New State Lead Orientation manual will be available to participants.

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 (DAY ONE)

1:00 – 4:45 PM ET

1:00 –2:30 pm ET

Welcome and Federal Greeting

Federal Greeting: Julie Fliss, Children’s Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN)
Overview of Meeting and Program: Valerie Spiva Collins, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP

Using Stories to Inform, Educate, and Stimulate Action

Elayna Fernandez, Founder of The Positive Mom, Author, and Consultant

In this opening plenary, the audience will hear Ms. Fernandez’s own compelling story, beginning life in abject poverty and using her experiences to help others. Learn how storytelling can be used to build relationships and develop stronger alliances with collaborators and partners. She will share the key elements of writing and sharing stories so you can share your own, including stories about the power of prevention.

2:30 –2:45 pm ET

Break

2:45 – 4:00 pm ET

(Each participant chooses one session to attend)

Breakout sessions will be recorded and available for viewing later through the FRIENDS’ website. Discussion groups will not be recorded.

**See session descriptions on page 5*

Breakout Sessions

Storytelling for Prevention

Elayna Fernandez, Founder of The Positive Mom, Author, and Consultant

Supporting Sustainable Programs Through Diverse Funding

Nikki Hartwig (IA), Dr. James Anderst (MO), Mary Pinker (NE)

Moving Beyond the Box - Creative Ways to Support Families

Taila AyAy (WA), Jennifer Justice (WA), Jenni Olmstead (WA), Kiounis Williams (TX), Tiffani Arsenault (NH), Liz Scruton (NH)

Discussion Groups

Mandated Reporting to Supporting

Facilitators: District of Columbia Child & Family Services Agency staff

Sustaining Family Resource Centers With Data and Collaboration

Facilitator: Tené Marion (AZ)

4:00 – 4:15 pm ET

Break

4:15 – 4:45 pm ET

Day One Closing Session

Looking at the World Through Her Lens

Ariana Brown, Spoken Word Artist, Poet, Author, Teacher

Spoken word artists use their voice as a medium for artistic expression. Ariana Brown will share her artistry with us to end day one, addressing issues that impact her life and that speak to her heart.

Closing Comments for Day One

Emily Fisher, Children’s Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN)

Please complete the Day One evaluation



2024 CBCAP Grantee Meeting-at-a-Glance



Thursday, June 27, 2024 (DAY TWO)

1:00 – 4:30 PM ET

<p>1:00 – 1:30 pm ET</p>	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>CBCAP Around the US <i>Edi Winkle and MaryJo Caruso, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP</i></p> <p><i>My Prevention Moment</i> is a pilot effort between FRIENDS and Memory Fox that supports a qualitative approach to storytelling, collection, and sharing. In preparation for the 2024 Grantees Meeting, FRIENDS in collaboration with CBCAP State Leads and Tribal/Migrant grantees, utilized this platform to collect images and video clips highlighting the impact of prevention work. Join us as we share a video produced from your submissions showcasing CBCAP Activities around the US and learn how this digital platform can be used for storytelling to share messages of child abuse prevention and family strengthening in your state.</p>									
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| **3:00 – 3:15 pm ET** | **Break** | | | |
| **3:15 – 4:30 pm ET** | **Closing Session** **Communicating Effectively in a Rapidly Changing World** *Dr. Anna Marie Trester, Senior Associate, FrameWorks Institute* Communicating about complex social issues like child abuse prevention can be challenging for many reasons, among them that when it comes to prevention, you are talking about something that (hopefully) doesn't happen. In addition, public thinking is constantly evolving, especially in these unprecedented times of social change, which can shape how messages are heard, understood, and acted upon. Against this backdrop, the FrameWorks Institute brings a multi-method, multidisciplinary approach to help a field thoughtfully mobilize knowledge and come together in one voice to more effectively garner support for transforming the systems that help our communities thrive. This session will begin with insights from FrameWorks' ongoing Culture Change research into mindsets and long-term culture change which illuminate communications obstacles and opportunities. It will then move to practical strategies and evidence-based tools, and recommendations for framing conversations to broaden understanding, invite engagement, and catalyze innovation and change. It will end with some hands-on application and an opportunity to experience putting these tools into practice, enabling participants to experience firsthand the coherence and alignment which can result from focus on communicating the why, what, and how of your collective work. **Closing Comments for Day Two** *Julie Fliss, Children's Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN)* **Please complete the Day Two evaluation** | | | |

General Information

Meeting Platform

The 2024 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 June 19, 2024. 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.

CBCAP 101

CBCAP Leads who are new to their role have the option of participating in this virtual orientation to CBCAP, providing participants with the opportunity to learn more about their role and resources to get better acclimated to their position. The session will include a review of the 2024 New State Lead Manual and an introduction to the Federal Project Officers, FRIENDS TA staff, and FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council.

Exhibits

Please visit the exhibit area of the Whova site to find more FRIENDS and Child Welfare Information Gateway resources.

Evaluation Reminders

Please click on the “Survey” tab on the virtual platform for the evaluation link or on the QR code on the front of your packet (or below) 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.



Day 1 Session Descriptions

Share Strategies - Exchange Ideas - Make Connections-Join a Discussion Group!

This year's CBCAP Grantee meeting will feature four discussion groups, two during each of the two breakout sessions. These table talks will provide unique opportunities to learn from your peers and share ideas and strategies that you can utilize in your state to help strengthen and support families and ensure they thrive. Participants are expected to be active in the discussions. These sessions are not for observers.

All Discussion Groups are limited to 20 participants.

Wednesday, June 26th: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm ET

Using Stories to Inform, Educate & Stimulate Action

In this opening plenary, the audience will hear Ms. Fernandez's own compelling story, beginning life in abject poverty and using her experiences to help others. Learn how storytelling can be used to build relationships and develop stronger alliances with collaborators and partners. She will share the key elements of writing and sharing stories so you can share your own, including stories about the power of prevention.

Elayna Fernandez, Founder of The Positive Mom, Author

Wednesday, June 26th: 2:45 pm – 4:00 pm ET

Storytelling for Prevention

This workshop will delve deeper into using storytelling in your work. Participants will have the opportunity to write a brief story, following the clear steps provided in the opening plenary. How do we use stories to inform, educate, and garner support?

Elayna Fernandez, Founder of The Positive Mom, Author, and Consultant

Supporting Sustainable Programs Through Diverse Funding

Is your state interested in learning how to diversify their CBCAP funding streams for programming? Join this informative session and hear how some states and local programs are diversifying their funding streams for their family strengthening programming and supports. Hear innovative strategies from a Tribal and Migrant Grantee in Iowa and CBCAP programs in Missouri and Nebraska.

Nikki Hartwig (IA), Dr. James Anderst (MO), Mary Pinker (NE)

Moving Beyond the Box - Creative Ways to Support Families

Join us to learn about creative strategies that are in place to support three very special populations – fathers building their capacity through comprehensive support services in a Texas housing community, families in Washington seeking legal advocacy and guidance in a prevention capacity, and incarcerated parents in New Hampshire seeking stronger connections with their children through parent resources and support.

Taila AyAy (WA), Jennifer Justice (WA), Jenni Olmstead (WA), Kiounis Williams (TX), Tiffani Arsenault (NH), Liz Scruton (NH)

Mandated Reporting to Supporting (Discussion Group)

Join this interactive discussion to learn how some states are making the shift from Mandated Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting to Community Supporting. The State Lead agency in the District of Columbia will share their plans, successes, and challenges and facilitate the conversation among participants.

Facilitators: District of Columbia Child & Family Services Agency staff

Sustaining Family Resource Centers with Data and Collaboration (Discussion Group)

Join this interactive discussion to share and learn about opportunities and existing strategies to successfully maintain Family Resource Centers. Engage in an exploratory discussion on how data and collaboration contribute to sustainability and discuss roles that parents can play in strengthening FRC sustainability.

Facilitator: Tené Marion (AZ)

Wednesday, June 26th: 4:15 pm – 4:45 pm ET

Looking at the World Through Her Lens

Spoken word artists use their voice as a medium for artistic expression. Ariana Brown will share her artistry with us to end day one, addressing issues that impact her life and that speak to her heart.

Ariana Brown, Spoken Word Artist, Poet, Author, Teacher

Day 2 Session Descriptions

Share Strategies - Exchange Ideas - Make Connections-Join a Discussion Group!

This year's CBCAP Grantee meeting will feature four discussion groups, two during each of the two breakout sessions. These table talks will provide unique opportunities to learn from your peers and share ideas and strategies that you can utilize in your state to help strengthen and support families and ensure they thrive. Participants are expected to be active in the discussions. These sessions are not for observers.

All Discussion Groups are limited to 20 participants.

Thursday, June 27th: 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm ET

CBCAP Around the US

My Prevention Moment is a pilot effort between FRIENDS and Memory Fox that supports a qualitative approach to storytelling, collection, and sharing. In preparation for the 2024 Grantees Meeting, FRIENDS in collaboration with CBCAP State Leads and Tribal/Migrant grantees, utilized this platform to collect images and video clips highlighting the impact of prevention work. Join us as we share a video produced from your submissions showcasing CBCAP Activities around the US and learn how this digital platform can be used for storytelling to share messages of child abuse prevention and family strengthening in your state.

Edi Winkle and MaryJo Caruso, FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP

Thursday, June 27th: 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm ET

Creating a Comprehensive Parent Leadership Strategy

Parent leadership and partnership are vital to the work of primary prevention efforts. This presentation highlights three states who will share their strategies and activities for engaging parents in diverse leadership roles beyond Parent Advisory Councils.

Sara Serelson (WY), Nicole Sillaman (OH), Leesa Nelson (SC)

Breaking the Cycle- Strengthening Families Through Programs for Incarcerated Families

The research tells us that the strength or weakness of the parent-child bond and the quality of social support systems can play a significant role in helping children be

resilient. Come learn about prevention programs aimed at helping to strengthen the bond of the parent and child even during incarceration.

Jennifer Wilder (CT), Bailey Waller (AL), Shannon Luper (OK)

Measuring Impact Using Ripple Effects Mapping and Other Qualitative Methods

In this session, attendees will learn about a qualitative evaluation method, Ripple Effects Mapping (REM), and how the Kansas CBCAP evaluation uses this method to engage CBCAP service providers in examining their program's impact. REM is a participatory action approach that engages providers, program recipients, and key community partners utilizing mind mapping approaches that promote reflection, curiosity, and innovation and yield a more nuanced understanding of the impact. We will also present other possible qualitative methods for evaluating CBCAP programs. We will have a group discussion on qualitative methods to measure impact and quality improvement, answer questions, and strategize ways to include qualitative methods into CBCAP evaluations.

Meghan Cizek and Olivia Landon, KU-CPPR

Change is Good! How Do You Diversify Your CBCAP Grantees? (Discussion Group)

Join this interactive discussion amongst your peers on ways to diversify your state's CBCAP funding recipients. Explore through conversation, ideas on how to develop and offer funding opportunities that attract new, unique, small, or diverse programs and organizations, and how to support them through your application or request for proposal (RFP) process.

Facilitators: Tanesha Woods (MD), Angela Phillips (NJ), and Sandy Starr (NJ)

What's Working? Reaching Ultra-Rural and Frontier Communities (Discussion Group)

Join this informative discussion and learn about strategies being used to connect with families in ultra-rural and frontier communities. Share and learn about the diverse barriers beyond geographic obstacles that impact access to essential health and social services. Take away ideas for supports that would be helpful to practitioners engaging with communities in these hard-to-reach parts of our country.

Facilitators: Valerie Lebanion (KY) and Magdalena Benitez (FRIENDS)

Day 2 Session Descriptions (cont)

Thursday, June 27th: 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm ET

Communicating Effectively in a Rapidly Changing World

Communicating about complex social issues like child abuse prevention can be challenging for many reasons, among them that when it comes to prevention, you are talking about something that (hopefully) doesn't happen. In addition, public thinking is constantly evolving, especially in these unprecedented times of social change, which can shape how messages are heard, understood, and acted upon. Against this backdrop, the FrameWorks Institute brings a multi-method, multidisciplinary approach to help a field thoughtfully mobilize knowledge and come together in one voice to more effectively garner support for transforming the systems that help our communities thrive.

This session will begin with insights from FrameWorks' ongoing Culture Change research into mindsets and long-term culture change which illuminate communications obstacles and opportunities. It will then move to practical strategies and evidence-based tools, and recommendations for framing conversations to broaden understanding, invite engagement, and catalyze innovation and change. It will end with some hands-on application and an opportunity to experience putting these tools into practice, enabling participants to experience firsthand the coherence and alignment which can result from focus on communicating the why, what, and how of your collective work.

Dr. Anna Marie Trester, Senior Associate, FrameWorks Institute

Keynote Speaker Bios



Ariana Brown is a queer Black Mexican American poet from the Southside of San Antonio, Texas, now based in Houston, Texas. She is the author of the poetry collections *We Are Owed* (Grieveland, 2021) and *Sana Sana* (Game Over Books, 2020). Ariana's work investigates queer Black personhood in Mexican American spaces, Black relationality and girlhood, loneliness, and care. Her debut poetry EP, *LET US BE ENOUGH*, is available on Bandcamp.

She holds a B.A. in African Diaspora Studies and Mexican American Studies from UT Austin, an M.F.A. in Poetry from the University of Pittsburgh, and an M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas. Ariana is a 2014 national collegiate poetry slam champion and owes much of her practice to Black performance communities led by Black women poets from the South. She has been writing, performing, and teaching poetry for over ten years. Follow Ariana on Twitter and Instagram @ArianaThePoet.



Elayna Fernández, known globally as the Positive MOM, is a bestselling author, internationally acclaimed storyteller, and award-winning entrepreneur. Her blog, books, and programs inspire millions of people worldwide to break cycles, find peace, and feel whole. She leads training in how to tell a compelling and strategic story to a variety of audiences. Great stories are developed after challenging experiences.

Fernandez was born and raised in a slum in the Dominican Republic and finds her greatest joy in raising her four daughters, two of whom are now adults.

Elayna's work has been recognized by many audiences. She is a 4x TEDx Speaker, contributing writer at Entrepreneur.com, awarded as a Woman of Influence by SUCCESS Magazine, named one of the 125 Top Leaders to Know in 2022 by SUCCESS Magazine, named one of the top parenting blogs worldwide, award winner for "Best Parenting and Family Content Creator", #12 of 100 Top Mom Blogs Worldwide, Two-time Best Latina Lifestyle Blogger Award Winner, and a certified Thought Leader Speaker Coach.



Anna Marie Trester is a Senior Fellow with the Research Interpretation and Application (RIA) unit at FrameWorks Institute. As an interactional sociolinguist, she illuminates how language works and conveys meaning in context. She's particularly focused on the language of inclusion and raises awareness of how language can be used to exclude and "other". Since joining FrameWorks in 2014, she has specialized in supporting networks (KIDS Count through the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the National Network of Ocean and Climate Change Interpreters, and the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network). She provides technical assistance, independent studies, coaching to support leadership development, and academic collaborations including a co-taught course in framing at the University of Alberta, community engagement initiatives at Sewanee University of the South, and fostering social responsibility and participatory citizenship

workshops at liberal arts colleges across the country through Project Pericles. Prior to joining FrameWorks, she directed the MA in Language and Communication program in the Department of Linguistics at Georgetown, and has also taught at Howard, San Francisco State, and Stanford Universities. Her books include *Discourse 2.0*, published in 2013 by Georgetown University Press, the self-published (in 2017) *Bringing Linguistics to Work*, and *Employing Linguistics*, forthcoming with Bloomsbury Academic Press. She is also the creator of Career Linguist, a community and resource center for career exploration for linguists. She received her BA from the University of Arizona, M.A. from NYU, and Ph.D. from Georgetown. In her spare time, you can find her storytelling with Odyssey Storytelling in Tucson, Arizona.

Speaker Bios



Dr. James Anderst is a Child Abuse Pediatrician, the Division Director of the Division of Child Adversity and Resilience, and Professor of Pediatrics at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. He is a board member at the Missouri Children’s Trust Fund. As Program Committee Chair, Dr. Anderst works with CTF staff to develop systems and policies to create a coordinated home visiting system in Missouri.



Tiffani Arsenault obtained her bachelor’s in criminal justice in 2008 and proceeded to work towards a graduate degree in clinical mental health. In 2010, while attending graduate school, she attended a workshop featuring the Family Connections Center at the NH Department of Corrections. The program inspired her to pursue a position within it and began as a Family Support Specialist working with incarcerated fathers at the Northern NH Correctional Facility in Berlin, NH. In 2014 she earned her graduate degree in Adult, Juvenile and Community Correctional Leadership and continued to enhance and expand the fathering program at NCF. She led that specific Center until 2021 when she was promoted to Administrator of the program now responsible for overseeing the entire program in the State’s three prisons as well as transitional work center and three transitional housing units. In her first year as Administrator, she was awarded the NHDOC Innovation Award for excellence in thinking outside the box and implementing facets to the program which increased its reach and depth. In 2024, she applied for and was accepted to the newly established Peer Support Team at the NH Department of Corrections, part of a State-wide initiative.



Taila AyAy, a graduate of Seattle University School of Law, has been an advocate for families since she began her career in 2009. Her practice focuses on dependency litigation, administrative law, and family law, specializing in the representation of parents and children. As the Executive Director and Attorney for FIRST Legal Clinic, Taila leads with a steadfast commitment to preventing families from entering oppressive and systemically racist systems.

Her extensive experience also includes tribal representation and serving as a guardian ad litem. Taila is passionate about social justice and works tirelessly to increase equitable access to resources for her clients, their families, and the broader community. This commitment extends to her leadership role at FIRST Legal Clinic, where she guides strategic and operational efforts to dismantle barriers and advocate for systemic change.



Meghan Cizek, MA, LCSW is an Assistant Director at the Center for Public Partnerships and Research at the University of Kansas. Meghan leads efforts focused on transforming systems to cultivate child and family well-being and invest in and expand the primary prevention infrastructure to shift toward a system of well-being and proactive support of children and families.



Nikki Hartwig has a bachelor’s degree in social work and began her career as a social worker for the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services before joining the team at Child, Adolescent, and Parent Support (CAPS) in Marshalltown, IA. Nikki has worked for CAPS for 16 years and has held many positions within the agency. She currently is a program supervisor, handles some of the agency’s fiscal responsibilities, and writes all the agency’s grant proposals.

Speaker Bios



Jennifer Justice is a dedicated parent with previous involvement in the child welfare system. She initially entered the system in 2015 due to struggles with substance use disorder and unaddressed mental health issues. Her journey through the dependency system ultimately

concluded with the termination of her parental rights. Nevertheless, Jennifer has maintained a strong and nurturing connection with her children, as they found placement with caring relatives. In 2020, Jennifer faced a family voluntary case, but thanks in part to the exceptional support of the F.I.R.S.T Legal Clinic Team, she promptly addressed her parenting style. Remarkably, her family voluntary case was resolved and dismissed within a mere six months. Jennifer's profound personal experiences within the child welfare system have ignited a passionate commitment to preventing new mothers from encountering similar challenges. In 2021, she joined the WSPAC (Washington State Parent Advisory Committee) and took her dedication a step further by obtaining her Associate of Applied Arts Degree in Legal Administrative Assisting in 2022. August 2022 marked a significant milestone in Jennifer's journey as she embarked on her career as a Parent Ally with the F.I.R.S.T Legal Clinic, continuing her impactful work within the realm of child welfare.



Olivia Landon, MS, is an Associate Researcher at the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research. As a qualitative researcher, she conducts research to amplify child and family voices and shed light on

their experiences and reduce inequities across diverse family systems. She uses a variety of techniques, such as participatory action research, grounded theory, framework analysis, content and thematic analyses, phenomenology, ethnography, and discourse analysis. In addition, she has first-hand experience facilitating

interventions aimed at families who have experienced the family court system.



Shannon Luper is currently the Manager of Girl Scouts Beyond Bars Program for Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma. Shannon began volunteering with the prison ministry in the 1990's, where she found her passion. Shannon joined Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma in 2003 and is not only an advocate, but a

facilitator of several cognitive based curricula for inmates and their children. Shannon is a current student of I Am Victorious School of Ministries where she is seeking her ministerial credentials.



Jenni Olmstead is the Primary & Community Prevention Lead at the Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families working to sustain and grow statewide child abuse prevention policies, programs, and strategies. She has 10+ years of experience in community-based child abuse prevention

with a focus on strengthening families and communities. She leads a dedicated and passionate team that works boldly to keep prevention efforts at the forefront.

Jenni received her Master of Social Work at the University of Washington with an emphasis on multigenerational practice deepening her passion for young children. Her expertise is in systems integration and collaboration development, strengths-based practice, and parent partnership. She finds motivation in the family and community voices that amplify, and shape system change.

Washington state has been home to Jenni her entire life. She is a parent to an energetic 5-year-old and feels grateful to be in a career that prioritizes teamwork, family, and fun.

Speaker Bios



Leesa Nelson has more than 14 years of experience working with families experiencing complex trauma. She is Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Certified; she is a certified trainer of Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® by the Crisis Prevention Institute; and she is trained in adverse

childhood experiences and the Strengthening Families Program.

She holds both a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's in community mental health counseling from Clemson University.

"I strive to empower family systems so that my community and state can be safe and healthy for families. I am here to help create and support places where both children and their families can continue to grow into better people every day. Ultimately, I long to see families having access to beautiful, safe, and joyful lives."



Mary Pinker is the Vice President of Community Well-Being at Nebraska Children and Families Foundation. Mary brings experience in human service, non-profit leadership, and child welfare organizations, with a background in behavioral and trauma-based therapy

approaches, case management systems, project management, program evaluation, and contract compliance. In her current role, Mary is responsible for the collective impact infrastructure of the Bring Up Nebraska community collaborative prevention systems. Mary works to enhance locally driven community-based prevention systems by infusing public/private partnerships and opportunities to connect to a statewide infrastructure for prevention.

Mary holds a degree in Sociology/Social Inequality as well as a Master's Degree in Community Counseling. She is originally from southwest Iowa and has a passion for

collective impact and collaboration for prevention in rural settings.



Liz Scruton joined the New Hampshire Children's Trust team in 2022. She brings nearly 20 years of Early Childhood Development experience from a variety of roles. Liz is a passionate trainer and brings a strengths-based approach to technical assistance

on a variety of subjects. She has earned her Master of Education with a focus in Family and Society Services from Ashford University, a B.A. in Early Childhood Administration, and an A.A. in Elementary Education. Liz holds multiple Early Childhood Credentials from the DHHS, Bureau of Child Development and Head Start collaboration. She is an NH Native and spends her time enjoying the seasons of NH with her husband and dogs. She can often be spotted checking out NH's hidden gems while enjoying food and music.



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 psych-

ology. Sara worked for Wyoming Department of Family Services with a focus in child protection from 2008 until 2020, when Sara began as the Executive Director of Wyoming Children's Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming.

Speaker Bios



Nicole Sillaman has served as the Executive Director for the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) since 2022. Ms. Sillaman joined OCTF as a program manager in 2014, and since that time, has served in many capacities for OCTF. At OCTF, she works closely with federal,

state and local partners to implement child abuse and neglect prevention programming. During her time at OCTF she has served as the project lead for multiple initiatives including statewide Triple P expansion, human trafficking prevention, the Strengthening Families Framework Learning Networks, enterprise grants management, and the child well-being data dashboard, to name a few.

Prior to the Trust Fund, Ms. Sillaman worked at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center for seven years in program coordination for physician medical education programs. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management, as well as her Master of Business Administration at The Ohio State University.



Bailey Waller is the Program Manager for the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, where she manages the agency's Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) federal funding and leads the work of their Alabama Parent Advisory

Council. Bailey received a bachelor's degree in Psychology-Sociology from Birmingham-Southern College and a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in children, adolescents, and their families from The University of Alabama. She is married to Griff and the proud mother of James (3 years old) and Lucy (2 years old).



Jennifer Wilder brings over 10 years of experience as a primary prevention services coordinator at the State Office of Early Childhood in Connecticut. She supports home visiting programs statewide, with a keen focus on fatherhood initiatives. Jennifer's specialized projects include

working with incarcerated fathers, where she coordinates training sessions and empowerment programs to strengthen parent-child bonds. Her dedication extends to organizing family events within correctional facilities, fostering meaningful interactions between incarcerated parents and their children.



Kiounis Williams, the Program Coordinator and facilitator of the IDADS initiative under the City of Austin Housing Authority umbrella, is a seasoned wellness consultant and mental health first aid instructor for youth. With a background in wellness management and business administration, he

focuses on developing holistic strategies to support individuals and communities.

Kiounis's commitment to holistic well-being is evident in his dedication to family and community wellness. In his pivotal role within the IDADS program, he serves as a guide and supporter for young fathers and families. Through comprehensive support services, including mental health resources, nutrition guidance, and holistic development initiatives, Kiounis humbly leads efforts that have a profound and lasting impact on program participants and the wider community.

NEW FRIENDS

Resources

SCAN QR CODES TO LEARN MORE



Website Accessibility

FRIENDS National Center introduced an **accessibility tool** to the website that can translate every webpage and PDF resource to Spanish (or any of the over 120 languages listed). Look for this symbol, or click "ACCESSIBILITY" at the top right of the webpage.



FRIENDS Podcasts

FRIENDS National Center is now available on your favorite podcast provider and releasing episodes every Monday. Topics include, Historical Trauma Among African Americans, Prevention Mindset Institute, Living with Young Children, Surviving and Thriving when Young Adults Live at Home, and many more. Search for FRIENDS National Center and follow us to be alerted when episodes are released.



Animated Stories

FRIENDS is pleased to announce the release of two animated/illustrated stories for the Sharing the Journey: Voices of Parent Leaders media collection. "**Just Ask**" and "**Unstoppable**" are personal narratives that have been transformed into brief, compelling videos and demonstrate the powerful impact of child abuse prevention efforts.



Diverse Groups Webpage

While CBCAP funded services are often targeted to the broad population, under-served and under-represented groups are a particular focus of limited resources. Check out the newly updated Diverse Groups section of the FRIENDS Website for more information.



