

## 2019 Together for Children Conference Presenters

### **Lisa Adams-Qualls, PhD, MSW, SAC**

*Assistant Professor, Concordia University*

Dr. Lisa Adams-Qualls is a full time Assistant Professor at Concordia University. She graduated from Capella University with a Doctoral Degree in Social Work. She obtained her Master's Degree in Social Work at the University of Kentucky and received her Bachelor's in Social Work from Tennessee State University. Dr. Adams-Qualls has over 20 years working in the primary and secondary education arena. She started as a school social worker, then transitioned into an administrative role as Program Manager for School Based Mental Health Clinics for Racine School District as while as Assistant Principal.

### **Mary Burke, JD**

*Attorney, Department of Children and Families*

Mary E. Burke is an attorney-confidential at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. Mary's areas of responsibility include juvenile justice, public records, and employment-related legal matters. Mary is a Triple Badger, having earned her J.D. cum laude, M.A. in Public Policy Administration, and B.A. in Political Science from UW-Madison. Mary previously worked at the Wisconsin Department of Justice, where her areas of responsibility included representing DCF in litigation and handling public records matters including litigation, training, and responding to requests. Mary began her legal career in a health care tax-exempt financing practice at Ice Miller Donadio & Ryan, Indianapolis.

### **Lynn Cook, MSW**

*Forensic Interviewer, Children's Hospital of WI*

Lynn Cook received her MSW at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in 2008. Lynn is currently one of two full time Forensic Interviewers at the Milwaukee Child Advocacy Center of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. She began her work in that capacity in July of 2015 and has conducted nearly 1,300 forensic interviews of children and teens who have experienced or witnessed violence and child maltreatment. She is a contributor and faculty member for the Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines and conducts regular statewide trainings for investigators on how to conduct this type of interview. She provides expert testimony on forensic interviewing and child abuse, in addition to conducting statewide and national training on these topics.

Prior to her work with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Lynn worked for over seven years as a Sensitive Crimes Victim Advocate in the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office. There she worked on hundreds of child sexual abuse and sexual assault cases from charging through sentencing. She has also worked in the areas of child welfare and primary prevention education, and has instructed a course at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee on Criminal Violence. Lynn is a member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and has a Certificate in Trauma Counseling.

### **Jessi Corcoran, MPH**

*Training & Technical Assistance Coordinator, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA)*

Jessi Corcoran is a Training & Technical Assistance Coordinator at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She has a B.A. in English and Gender Studies from Indiana University and a Master of Public Health from Boston University. Her studies and work have focused primarily on campus sexual violence prevention and response, sexual health promotion, and the intersections of sexual violence and oppression. She also sits on the statewide Awareness 2 Action committee, which focuses on preventing child sexual abuse. Jessi's professional ambition is to integrate social justice activism and public health work.

**Carol Corn, BA, MSW**

*Director of Social Services, Menominee Tribal Social Services*

I have worked in Indian Child Welfare at Menominee Tribal Social Services since March of 1997. Throughout my career as a Social Worker, I held an advanced practice license through the State of Wisconsin. I managed a full caseload of Menominee children throughout the State of Wisconsin as well as working with other jurisdictions in Alabama, Alaska, California, Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington State. In addition to holding a full caseload, I facilitated the CPT and MDT for the Menominee Tribe. I participate in various Tribal, State and Federal committees discussing and advocating for child welfare policy. I have been training Case Practice with American Indian Families since 2008, which is a foundation training requirement of the State. I am currently the Director of Menominee Tribal Social Services. I was Acting Director in 2015 and went on to become Director in 2017.

**Robin Dalton, JD**

*Senior Immigration Attorney, RISE Law Center – Project of End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin*

Robin Dalton is a nationally recognized trainer and respected advocate against sexual and domestic violence. For over a decade, she has successfully represented hundreds of survivors, and their family members, in immigration proceedings to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and in front of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR). To date, all clients that Robin has represented in front of the EOIR have had their removal/deportation hearings terminated or closed (meaning the survivor was not deported) and Robin has a near 100% approval rate for cases filed with USCIS. In addition to client representation, Robin was the President of the Wisconsin Asian Bar Association, the Co-Chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) VAWA, Us, & Ts Committee, and was a Board Member on the State Bar of Wisconsin Board of Governors. Robin has been recognized for her commitment and work within the immigrant and refugee community as a YWCA Woman of Distinction, a Top 10 Best Immigration Attorney, a repeat recipient of the WI Access to Justice Commission Pro bono Award, and an AILA Michael Maggio Memorial Pro Bono Award recipient. Robin is also bilingual (Spanish).

**Amanda Didier, MS, CSW**

*Executive Director, Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center*

Ms. Didier has dedicated her career to serving children and families affected by abuse and neglect. Her roles in the past twenty years have included group home worker, juvenile probation officer, social worker, Child Protective Services Initial Assessment worker, youth with sexual behaviors group facilitator, therapist, crisis counselor, and forensic interviewer. In her previous position as forensic interviewer at the Children's Hospital of WI – Child Protection Center, she completed interviews for local, state, and federal investigators; facilitated peer reviews; mentored new interviewers; provided both expert and fact testimony; offered guest lectures and trainings at universities and for professional groups and agencies; and provided advocacy to children and families. Ms. Didier has completed over 3000 interviews and continues her commitment to advocating for the disenfranchised, the marginalized, and the unheard.

In 2015, Ms. Didier was recruited to assist Ozaukee, Sheboygan, and Washington counties in the development of a new child advocacy center. As of September 2018, the Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center opened its doors as the seventeenth CAC in Wisconsin. To date, LRCAC has already reached over 300 children.

**Michelle Dobbs, BA**

*Owner, Sugarfoot*

Michelle is a working artist who specializes in Leadership and organizational development. She is a graduate of Howard University in Journalism and French, and brings more than 25 years of experience with young leaders through national service programs in the United States and Senegal.

**Connie Dunlap, BS**

*Family Engagement Specialist, Supporting Families Together Association*

Connie Dunlap is the Family Engagement Specialist at Supporting Families Together Association. In her role, she has been the Project Manager for the statewide Parent Café initiative, statewide evidence based Parent Education Initiative, as well as provides Family Engagement support to agencies in the Early Childhood field (Family Resource Centers and Child Care Resource & Referral agencies). She is the Wisconsin Strengthening Families Committee Co-Chair and facilitates the Training of Trainers for the Strengthening Families in Early Care and Education trainings. Connie has over 20 years of experience in the Early Childhood and Family Support fields.

**Therese Durkin, JD**

*Attorney, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services*

Therese Durkin is an attorney at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, where she has advised on the spectrum of child welfare issues, including child abuse and neglect, foster care, termination of parental rights and adoption. Therese previously served as the Chair of the State Bar Children and Law Section. Therese received her undergraduate degree in Geography from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

**Erik Engebretsen, BA**

*Detective, Hartford Police Department*

Detective Engebretsen has been with the Hartford Police Department since 2004, promoted to Detective in 2013. He is a Certified Drug Recognition Expert and been trained in forensic interviewing. He is an active member of Wisconsin Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). He was the American Legion Post-Courtney-Carr-Milner Post 19 – Officer of the Year 2017 and Washington County Council of the American Legion – Officer of the Year 2017.

**Joella Eternicka, MS**

*Associate Community Health Director, Central Racine County Health Department*

Joella has worked with the Central Racine County Health Department for 8 years in multiple roles, including Public Health Nurse Home Visitor, Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Coordinator, and Home Visiting Supervisor. She was also the initial Supervisor for Family Connects Racine County and helped facilitate program development and implementation. In her current role, she provides community health program oversight, technical assistance, quality assurance, and accreditation implementation. Joella received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Alverno College, where she furthered her enthusiasm for staff development, public health, and education. When she's not working, she spends time at home with her boyfriend, 6-year-old son, and 5 crazy dogs. She's also looking forward to the arrival of her second child in July.

**Elizabeth Ghilardi, BA, MSW**

*Forensic Interview Program Supervisor, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin*

Liz has interviewed over 2000 children and provided training on this topic since 1999 on a local, statewide and national level. She has attended training relating to child abuse and interviewing children on a regular basis. Liz has also provided expert testimony in the subjects of sexual abuse and interviewing children.

**Sara Haberlein, RN, MSN, APNP**

*Advanced Practice Provider, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin*

Sara Haberlein received her MSN from Marquette University in 2008. She is a full time Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin- Milwaukee Child Advocacy Center where she conducts medical evaluations on children who have experienced maltreatment. Sara provides expert testimony on child abuse and medical evaluations. She has presented her research locally and nationally and is a member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children.

**Heather Halonie, CSW, MSW**

*Intertribal Child Welfare Specialist, Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System*

Heather began working with the training system as the Training Manager for the Intertribal Child Welfare (ICW) Training Partnership in 2005. Her primary focus is on development and coordination of training for tribal child welfare workers. Heather also developed and trains the Foundation curriculum "Case Practice with American Indian Tribes" for county child welfare workers. Prior to working for the ICW Training Partnership, Heather worked in child protection in both the county and tribal systems. Heather obtained her B.S. from the University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire, and was a recipient of a Bush Leadership Fellowship in 2007 which allowed her to go on and receive her MSW from the University of Minnesota—Duluth.

**Molly Herrmann, MS**

*Education Consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*

Molly is an education consultant with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). In her role at DPI, Molly manages a grant that works with school districts to support pregnant and parenting teens. Prior to this role, she managed a grant helping districts across the state create safe and supportive environments for LGBT students, promote exemplary sexual health education, and increase access to key sexual health services. Prior to joining the team at DPI, Molly worked for over 15 years as a health educator at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in the AIDS/HIV Program's Prevention Unit. Molly also works as a private consultant on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health with experience training providers, conducting research with LGBT communities, and developing strategies to increase inclusion in mainstream services. Molly brings over 18 years of experience as a trainer and educator, specializing in LGBT health, intimate partner violence, HIV, and community readiness assessments.

**James Holmes, BA**

*Special Agent, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation*

Jim Holmes has been a certified law enforcement officer in Wisconsin since 1995. He began his law enforcement career with the Dane County Sheriff's Department as a sheriff's aide. He then served as a patrol officer with the Fitchburg Police Department before obtaining a position as a special agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice/Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) in 1996. Jim was assigned to DCI's White Collar Crimes Bureau for four years, while also being assigned to DCI's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Unit from 1998-2001. Jim transferred to DCI's Major Crimes Unit in 2000 where he has been involved in numerous adult and child homicide and equivocal death investigations, officer involved death investigations, murder-for-hire cases, missing and abducted children cases, child sexual exploitation, and child abuse and neglect cases.

In June of 2006, Jim attended a national train-the-trainer course on Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigations (SUIDI), which was sponsored by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and he has been continually enhancing his knowledge in these investigations through education and case work since that time. Jim has been a member of the Wisconsin Statewide Child Death Review Council since 2007.

**Nicole M. Homer, JD**

*Legislative Attorney, Ho-Chunk Nation, Legislature*

Ms. Homer has been a legislative attorney with the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature since November 26, 2018. Prior to that she was a tribal attorney with the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice since December 2008. She practiced principally in the areas of health and social services. Before joining the HCN DOJ, she spent several months with California Indian Legal Services in Eureka, CA.

Additionally, Ms. Homer was a judicial law clerk with the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court from May 2006- December 2007. In the summer of 2005, she clerked for the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) in Boulder, CO, where she assisted with "A Practical Guide to the Indian Child Welfare Act." While in undergrad, she had the opportunity to intern for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), extern for Indian Health Services (I.H.S.), and work for a lobbyist dealing solely with Native American tribes.

Ms. Homer has lectured on legal topics relating to the Indian Child Welfare Act, Family Wellness Courts, Drug Courts, and Indian Probate. Additionally, she participates in policy workgroups within the state regarding issues affecting Native American families. She finished her term as immediate-past Chair of the Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin in 2018.

Ms. Homer received her J.D. from Loyola Law School (New Orleans, LA) in 2006 and her B.A. in Law & Society from American University (Washington, DC) in 2003. She is an enrolled member of the Oneida of the Thames in Ontario, Canada, although grew up within the traditional lands of the Onondaga Nation in Syracuse, NY.

**Julie Hueller, RN, BS, MSM**

*Manager, Racine Collaborative for Children's Mental Health, Racine Unified School District*

Julie Hueller has vast experience in the Mental Health Addiction Service Field. She started her career as an inpatient psychiatric nurse and developed her career path in program development, administration including services line and senior leadership positions. Over the last ten years, Julie has focused on community collaborative work in addressing the unmet mental health needs of children in the Racine Community. Part of this work included creating the business case and plan for the implementation of School-Based Mental Health Clinics within Racine Unified School District.

**Julie Incitti, MSW, CAPSW**

*School Social Work Consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*

Julie Incitti is the school social work consultant at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Her areas of focus include professional ethics and boundaries, child welfare, attendance/truancy, educational records, mental health, trauma-sensitive schools, and school discipline. Julie received her MSW from the University of Wisconsin – Madison before working as a school social worker in the public schools. Julie served as the president of the Wisconsin School Social Workers Association (WSSWA). Her work has focused on developing policies and procedures that best serve students and school districts at multiple systems levels.

**Kristen Iniguez, DO, FAAP**

*Director/Medical Director, Marshfield Child Care Advocacy Center*

Dr. Kristen Iniguez has a long history of working with children exposed to adversity and complex trauma. She is a pediatrician with specialized training in caring for children who are potential victims of child maltreatment. As the director of the Marshfield Child Advocacy Center, Dr. Iniguez provides comprehensive medical exams for children when abuse is suspected. She works as part of a multidisciplinary team that include law enforcement, child protective services, and legal team members to ensure the best possible outcomes for children impacted by abuse.

Early in Dr. Iniguez' career she recognized the need for providing truly comprehensive care for children who had experienced maltreatment. Over the last five years she created the *Resilience Clinic* as part of the Marshfield Child Advocacy Center. The *Resilience Clinic* offers services to children with a history of complex trauma who have developed

physical, behavioral, emotional, or intellectual problems as a consequence of their trauma. The *Resilience Clinic* is truly innovative in that it employs an interdisciplinary model bringing together professionals from the medical, education and social work domains, all with expertise in trauma. Together the *Resilience Clinic* team develops a pathway for children that will optimize their ability to overcome the effects of their prior traumas, leading to health, healing and happiness.

**Karla Jenquin, BS**

*Parent Educator, Family & Childcare Resource of N.E.W.*

I am a wife of over 17 years and a mother of 2 boys. For more than 26 years I have worked in various aspects of the education field. Starting from Early Childhood to currently as a Parent Educator. I am currently employed with Family & Childcare Resource of N.E.W. for the past year and a half. As a Parent Educator, I am certified and facilitate an evidence based positive parenting curriculum called Triple P and Protective Factors. I have a passion for supporting families in understanding each other and strengthening their family unit.

**Robyn Klaila, MSW, CAPSW**

*Forensic Interviewer, Safe Harbor Child Advocacy, Inc.*

Robyn Klaila is a Forensic Interviewer at Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center in Madison, WI. Robyn spearheaded the development of Safe Harbor's Facility Dog Program and is the primary handler of Teddy, Safe Harbor's facility dog. Safe Harbor is the first Child Advocacy Center in the state of Wisconsin to have a facility dog program.

Robyn has been facilitating forensic interviews since 2011 and has completed over 1000 forensic interviews to date. Robyn provides expert testimony regarding forensic interviewing, facilitates the Dane County forensic interviewing peer review program, participates in state and national peer review, as well as the forensic interviewing journal club. She is trained in multiple nationally recognized forensic interviewing guidelines and protocols. Prior to her position at Safe Harbor, Robyn conducted forensic interviews for Columbia County and was also a Forensic Interviewer for Racine County Child Advocacy Center. Robyn received her Master's Degree in Social Work and is certified by the state of Wisconsin as an Advanced Practice Social Worker. Robyn has devoted the last 16 years of her career working with victims of abuse, while collaborating with and working alongside law enforcement agencies, child protection social workers, prosecutors and the judicial system.

**Mary Kleman, BS, MSE**

*Prevention Manager, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services*

Mary has 20 plus years in the field of child sexual abuse prevention. Master of Science degree in Counseling and Certified Professional Counselor. She is an experienced presenter in a wide variety of topics; including child abuse, child sexual abuse and Adverse Childhood Experiences.

**Lauren Krukowski, MSW**

*Lead Supervisor-Child Protective Services, Brown County Health and Human Services*

Lauren Krukowski has been in the role of Lead Child Protective Services Supervisor for the past two years with five prior years of Initial Assessment Supervisor at Brown County Health and Human Services. She has her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from the University of WI - Eau Claire and her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of WI - Madison. Lauren is also a contract trainer with the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System (WCWPDS) and trains both Safety in Child Protective Services – Present Danger and Protective Planning as well as Supervising Safety Module One on Present Danger and Protective Planning.

**Jeffrey Langlieb, MPH, RN**

*Community Health Director, Central Racine County Health Department*

Jeffrey Langlieb is the Community health Director for Central Racine County Health Department. Mr. Langlieb holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He previously led his team at Central Racine County Health Department through Healthy Families America accreditation and most recently, Family Connects certification. Mr. Langlieb has also provided strong public health leadership at the local, state and national level through work on CRCHD's Community Health Improvement Plan, various state committees and subcommittees charged with recommending strategies that effectively evaluate home visiting programs at the state level, and currently serves as a local implementing agency representative on the HVCollIN Steering Committee.

**Dave Lasse, JD**

*District Attorney, Brown County*

David Lasse has been the District Attorney for Brown County, WI, since 2012. He currently oversees a team of 16 prosecutors and about 20 support staff. Shortly after law school David began practicing in the Brown County DA's office in 2002 where he remained until 2005, before leaving to work in commercial litigation at a law firm in Green Bay. David returned to the Brown County DA's office in the fall of 2008 and began handling a wide variety of cases ranging from felony and misdemeanor property crimes to serious physical assaults, sensitive crimes and homicide.

David is a board member of the Wisconsin District Attorneys' Association, a member of Brown County Sexual Assault Response Team, a member of the Executive Committee of the Dual CCR for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, and the advisory committee for the Willow Tree Child Advocacy Center, and is a member of several other professional and civic organizations.

David has both a BA and JD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is an avid sports fan, a WIAA basketball official and a former American Legion baseball coach. David and his wife Meg are proud parents of two beautiful daughters, Margaret and Madeleine.

**Meghan Lindberg, BA, JD**

*Assistant District Attorney, State of Wisconsin, Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office*

Meghan Lindberg attended college at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and graduated law school from the University of Iowa, College of Law. Currently Meghan is an Assistant District Attorney with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, where she has worked as an ADA for the last 10 years. Prior to that Meghan was a prosecutor in Minnesota for about a year. Meghan's assignments with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office include criminally prosecuting domestic violence, sensitive crimes, child abuse, and juvenile delinquency sexual assaults. Meghan is currently assigned a Children in Need of Protection and Services caseload at Children's Court specifically handling cases of child abuse and neglect. Meghan has presented at the National Colloquium for the [American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children](#), Children's Hospital Of Wisconsin "Together for Children" Conference, US DOJ's "Serving Victims of Crime Conference," and at the National Symposium of Child Abuse at the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Meghan also annually trains law enforcement, DMCPs, MPS, medical staff, and other community partners on the Milwaukee County's Child Abuse Response Team's Joint Protocol and moderates the Milwaukee County Child Abuse Response Team's weekly and monthly Multidisciplinary Team Meetings as part of the Joint Protocol. Meghan also participates in the Youth Services Subcommittee for the Milwaukee Joint Human Trafficking Task Force.

**Gabriel McGaughey, MSSW**

*Director, Child Well Being; co-Director, Institute for Child & Family Well-Being, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin*

Gabriel McGaughey serves as the Director of Child Well-Being for Children's Hospital of Milwaukee Community Services and is a founding co-Director of the Institute for Child and Family Well-Being. In these roles, he works to move child welfare and other public systems toward a more holistic approach to working with children and families facing complex challenges, with the goal of improving their immediate health and long-term well-being. Gabriel's current work focuses on systemic interventions around housing, health, and child welfare and the use of Human Centered Design to co-create innovative solutions with families and others. Previously, Gabriel served as the director of Children's Child Welfare program, overseeing the implementation of a new program design, performance outcomes, and quality improvement. Gabriel holds bachelors and master's degrees in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Joshua Mersky, PhD, MSSW**

*Professor, UW-Milwaukee*

Joshua Mersky is a professor of social work at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and founding co-director of the Institute for Child and Family Well-Being. Since 2011, Dr. Mersky has been lead evaluator of Wisconsin's Family Foundations Home Visiting program, a statewide network of MIECHV-supported home visiting programs. He is principal investigator of the *Healthy Families Study*, a randomized trial of home visiting programs in Milwaukee, as well as the *Families and Children Thriving Study*, a longitudinal study of risk and resilience among families who receive home visiting services. In partnership with the Central Racine County Health Department (CRCHD), Dr. Mersky recently launched a new study titled *Racine Elevates All Children's Health* (REACH). The REACH study will examine the impact of Family Connects, a brief, universal home visiting program that is being implemented by CRCHD in partnership with Ascension All Saints hospital in Racine.

**Jason Mims, BS**

*Lead Instructor, Empowerment Training*

Jason Mims is the CEO of Empowerment Training LLC, a coaching and consulting firm that establishes a client centered PEERS model (Partnership of Empowered Experts Reaching Synergy) to help individuals and organizations maximize their internal strengths to achieve their goals and dreams.

Jason, a US veteran, is passionate about caring for those who care for others. For 11 years, Jason served as the Health Safety Manager for the Milwaukee Fire Department. Jason designed and implemented a nationally recognized comprehensive, peer driven, health program that empowered the firefighters to increase their professional and personal resilience.

Jason serves as the Family Life Pastor at Parklawn Assembly church in Milwaukee, WI.

Jason is a Life and ADHD Coach, a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (**MINT**), as well as a WI certified Peer Specialist. He serves as a workshop facilitator with Community Building Milwaukee, a Community Wellness Advocate for Living Compass (a wellness and faith-based ministry), and a presenter for the Compassion Resilience Toolkit developed by Wisconsin Initiative for Stigma Elimination and Rogers Memorial Hospital.

Jason Mims and his wife own a private dental practice in Milwaukee and are blessed to be parents to their 11 year old son Joshua.

**Kami Mordi, MSW, APSW**

*Social Worker, Children's Hospital of WI, Milwaukee Child Advocacy Center*

Kami Mordi is an Advanced Practice Social Worker (APSW) who obtained her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in 2011. Kami specializes in working with children and families in both direct and macro settings. Kami's experience includes working in a variety of capacities to include case management, clinical settings, adoption, pregnancy and parenting support, hospital based social work, child and family advocacy, and systemic collaboration. Kami has extensive experience in working with families and individuals that have experienced trauma. Currently, Kami is a Social Worker within the Child Advocacy and Protection Services (CAPS) program at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Kami was specifically chosen to fulfill the role of the multidisciplinary team (MDT) coordinator for Milwaukee County to ensure systemic collaboration, trauma informed care and best practice.

**Rebecca Murray, MBA**

*Associate Director, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board*

Rebecca Murray joined the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board in 2011 and is currently the Associate Director. Rebecca administers the grants program and provides technical assistance to the Prevention Board grantees. Rebecca is a certified trainer for "Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life in Your Work" and a Triple P Seminars accredited practitioner. Rebecca received her Bachelor's in Communication Arts and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

**Cassie Pakkala, BS, AD**

*Detective, City of Green Bay Police Department*

I worked 3 years as a 911 Communication Center operator at the Green Bay Police Department. During that time I completed my Associate Degree in Police Science from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC).

I was sworn as a Law Enforcement Officer in January, 2000, and served the next 14 ½ years as a patrol officer, and eventually a field training officer. In June 2014, I became a Detective. After about 6 months in the Detective Division, I began working primarily sexual assaults and crimes against children, and now I am exclusively working crimes against children.

I worked as part of a multidisciplinary team to construct a protocol for abusive heat trauma in young children, and have had training in forensic interviewing, so I can act as a community interviewer at my child advocacy center. I am also currently serving as a board member to the Green Bay Police POST team.

My husband Craig, is also a detective with the Green Bay Police Department. We recently celebrated our 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, even though our cubicles are one cube apart from each other and we are assigned the same work vehicle. We have two daughters, ages 11 and 13, and one yellow lab, Seger.

**Patricia Parker, BA, MCCMH**

*Curriculum and Instruction Manager, UW - Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership (MCWP)*

Patricia Parker is currently a full-time Curriculum and Instruction Manager for the Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership for Professional Development located in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. Patricia received her degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduate certificate in Community Mental Health from the Trinity College of Vermont. Patricia has worked as a consultant/trainer with the National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice-University of Iowa since 1989.

Ms. Parker has over thirty-eight years of experience working in the human services. She has provided in-home family therapy, individual therapy, group therapies, strength-based community development and other human services in Wilmington, North Carolina, Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin. She has worked with both public and private agencies; and provided consultation, technical assistance, and training services in 30 states across the country.

Ms. Parker serves as a volunteer Chaplain at the Robert E. Ellsworth Women's Correctional Facility in Racine County, Wisconsin and has since 1993. She has been a member of NASW-WI since 2010 and serves as co-chair of the Diversity Taskforce.

**Hillary Petska, MD, MPH, BS**

*Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Medical College of WI*

Dr. Petska is a board-certified child abuse pediatrician and Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her clinical practice is at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Milwaukee-Campus and Milwaukee Child Advocacy Center where she evaluates children in foster care and children with suspected maltreatment. She also provides expert child abuse consultations and court testimony in cases of suspected child maltreatment. In addition to working as a clinician, she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She teaches medical students, residents, fellows, and the community about injuries, child maltreatment, and medical conditions that may be mistaken for abuse or neglect. Research interests include child abuse prevention, improved detection of child maltreatment, and public health.

**Dawn Pflugrad, MA, Psy.D, MSW, BSW**

Licensed Psychologist & Licensed Clinical Social Worker, WI Dept. of Health Services & Comprehensive Health Law Services, LLC

Dr. Pflugrad received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology in 2008. She received an additional graduate degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in Clinical Bioethics in 2014. She is currently a Licensed Psychologist in the State of Wisconsin performing forensic and clinical work. She is employed by the Department of Health Services and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections conducting forensic risk evaluations. She also maintains a private practice and holds a position as an Associate Professor at the Wisconsin School of Professional Psychology, where she teaches Ethics and heads the Human Research Subjects Committee. Dr. Pflugrad is one of two certified STATIC-99R trainers in the State of Wisconsin and the only certified STABLE/ACUTE trainer in the state. She is also one of four representatives from the United States on the Scientific Advisory Board for the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO). In addition to her clinical and teaching duties, she is recognized as a world expert in the area of female sexual offending. As such, she conducts research and regularly presents at international conferences her research findings related to criminality, risk assessment and treatment of violence.

**Rebecca Ramirez, PhD**

*Clinical Coordinator, Madison Metropolitan School District*

Rebecca has been involved in community mental health for the last 34 years. She is well grounded in the area of trauma, with a specialty in Historical Trauma. She has a long history of working with ethnic minority groups who are historically underserved in the field of mental health. She has worked as the Director of Mental Health for the Ho Chunk Nation and in other community mental health settings. She currently works for the Madison Metropolitan School District in a program called Building Bridges.

**Meaghan Reindl, BA**

*Family Advocate/Data Manager, Safe Harbor Child Advocacy, Inc.*

Meaghan Reindl is a Family Advocate at Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center. Meaghan is also the secondary handler of Teddy, Safe Harbor's facility dog. Safe Harbor is the first Child Advocacy Center in the state of Wisconsin to have a facility dog program.

As a Family Advocate at Safe Harbor, Meaghan provides support and advocacy to non-offending caregivers and works as an integral part of the multi-disciplinary team to enhance the investigative process of crimes against children. Prior to current position, Meaghan was engaged in advocacy work for survivors of domestic violence at Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) in Madison, WI. Meaghan has a passion for working with people affected by violence and abuse.

**Leah Rolando, MSW**

*Suicide Prevention Specialist, Mental Health America of Wisconsin*

Leah Rolando coordinates Prevent Suicide Wisconsin (PSW), Wisconsin's public-private partnership dedicated to comprehensive statewide suicide prevention. Leah serves as conference coordinator for the Annual Prevent Suicide Wisconsin Conference and agency lead for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Adolescent Suicide Prevention Learning Community for local health departments in Wisconsin. Leah provides coalition management, prevention programming, and grant administration as a member of the Prevent Suicide Greater Milwaukee Steering Committee. Leah presents trainings as a Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Instructor and provides crisis counseling as a volunteer with Crisis Text Line. As an undergraduate at Illinois State University, Leah was founder and President of their university chapter of To Write Love on Her Arms, Inc., a suicide prevention organization. Leah received her MSW from UW-Madison in 2017.

**Gricel Santiago-Rivera, JD**

*Director/Family Law Attorney, RISE Law Center – Project of End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin*

A 1999 graduate of the UW Law School, Gricel joined the RISE team in 2005, and in 2007 became the Director. At RISE, Gricel manages the family law and protection orders caseload. A leader in the WI legal community on complicated issues that arise for immigrant/refugee survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and stalking in family law, Gricel has successfully litigated cases involving complicated maintenance issues, international parental abduction, complex protection order cases, and appellate work to ensure a protection order remained in place. Since 2005, Gricel has presented at multiple trainings on legal issues related to immigrant victims, including: 2017 End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin's Conference *Navigating the Web of Systems with Immigrant Survivors*; 2017 State Bar of Wisconsin's *Domestic Abuse for GAL's: A Four-Step Framework*; 2014 State Bar of Wisconsin's *Shelter from the Storm: Domestic Abuse and Family Law* (presenter and moderator); 2013 End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin's Conference, *Judging a Custody Case with Domestic Abuse – Insights from the Bench and Bar*; 2013 and 2011 Legal Action of Wisconsin Volunteer Training; 2011 *Through the Eyes of a Child Conference*. Gricel is a current board member of the Child Advocacy Centers – WI Chapter.

**Lynn Sheets, MD**

*Medical Director, Child Advocacy Center; Professor, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin & Wisconsin Medical College*

Dr. Sheets is a board-certified child abuse pediatrician who has over 25 years of experience in evaluating children suspected of being maltreated. She is a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and section chief of the Child Advocacy and Protection Division. She is also the Medical Director of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin's Child Advocacy and Protection Services which provides services to children in foster care and children suspected of being maltreated.

Community partnerships have played a major role in her professional activities and accomplishments including helping to develop the first Child Advocacy Center in Kansas. Dr. Sheets has participated in many community projects including the Milwaukee Child Abuse Review Team, Wisconsin Child Death Review Council Fostering Hope, Project Respect, Fostering Futures and the Family Justice Center. She is a co-founder of the Wisconsin Child Abuse Network (WI CAN) to improve multidisciplinary education to improve child abuse investigations. In 2013, she was the winner for the prestigious Ray E. Helfer MD Award from the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds and the American Academy of Pediatrics. In 2014, the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee awarded Dr. Sheets the Equal Justice Medal for her work in advocating for poor and vulnerable children and families.

In addition to her clinical and community activities, Dr. Sheets is an educator on child maltreatment. She is an educator of community groups, medical students, residents and fellows about violence, intentional and unintentional injuries, child maltreatment and conditions that can be mistaken for child abuse. She was instrumental in developing the accredited child abuse pediatrics fellowship at MCW, which is one of the first to be accredited. She has strong commitment to child maltreatment and violence prevention efforts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and nationally.

**Kristie Sickel, MSW**

*Child Forensic Interviewer and Program Director, Willow Tree Cornerstone Child Advocacy Center*

Kristie Sickel, MSW, CSW received her Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work with an emphasis in Child Welfare from the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. Ms. Sickel is currently a Child Forensic Interviewer and Program Supervisor for the Willow Tree Cornerstone Child Advocacy Center with Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin. She has been employed with Willow Tree Cornerstone Child Advocacy Center since July of 2016. Prior to her employment with Willow Tree, Ms. Sickel worked in the field of child welfare for over ten years as an Initial Assessment Social Worker with the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare and Brown County Department of Health and Human Services. She has completed over 1000 interviews of children regarding allegations of child maltreatment and witness to violence.

**Veronica Thomson, BS**

*Parent Educator, Family & Childcare Resource of N.E.W.*

I am currently going to Graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for social work. My end goal is to become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and focus on mental health within the criminal justice system. I am currently employed at Family & Childcare Resources and have been with the agency for over four years. As a Parent Educator, I offer an evidence based positive parenting program known as Triple P. This program is offered in a variety of settings, but I enjoy working at the County jails the most. Inmates are often under-served and vulnerable. That is why I am proud to work for an agency that is willing to support all families regardless of their background. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family and partaking in outdoor activities while also being able to go places with my two dogs.

**James “Dimitri” Topitizes, PhD, LCSW**

*Associate Professor, UW-Milwaukee*

James “Dimitri” Topitizes is an associate professor of Social Work in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM). Dr. Topitizes designs, implements, and tests programs aimed at preventing or treating psychological trauma. In 2013, he created the Trauma-Informed Care Graduate Certificate at UWM, directing the program from 2013-2016. Recently, he helped co-found the Institute for Child and Family Well-being, where he serves as the Clinical Director.

**Samantha Wagner, JD**

*Assistant Corporation Counsel*

Samantha Wagner is an Assistant Corporation Counsel in Brown County for the past six and a half years. She primarily handles child protection matters, but is also the HIPAA compliance officer for the county. She received her JD from Saint Louis University with an emphasis in Health Law and Civil Litigation, as well as a certificate in Health Care Ethics. She received her BA from University of San Diego in international Relations. She is the current president of the Wisconsin Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (WIPSAC) and has served on the Board of Directors for WIPSAC since 2014.

**Amanda Woldt, MSW, APSW**

**Jennifer Yates, RN, MSN, APNP**

*Nurse Practitioner, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin*

Jennifer Yates is a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, specializing in the medical evaluation of children who may have been mistreated since 2005. Currently she is employed by Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin Child Advocacy and Protection Services Programs and provides medical evaluations of potential victims of child maltreatment at the Fox Valley Child Advocacy Center and the Willow Tree Cornerstone Child Advocacy Center in Green Bay. Prior to her current role at Children’s Hospital, Jennifer worked at a Child Advocacy Center in Orange County, California. She is actively involved in providing education and consultation to community medical providers, law enforcement officers and social workers on the medical aspects of child maltreatment. Jennifer provides expert testimony on the medical aspects of child abuse for court as needed. Jennifer received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and her Master of Science in Nursing from California State University, Long Beach. She has also worked as a nurse practitioner for Miller Children’s Hospital in Long Beach providing medical management of children and parents infected with HIV. Jennifer enjoyed working as a public health nurse for ten years prior to her roles as a nurse practitioner. As a public health nurse, she worked for a program in Orange County California that provided case management and home visitation to pregnant women who were infected with HIV and/or affected by drug/alcohol and their children.