



FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE

Anaheim Marriott, 700 West Convention Way, Anaheim, CA 92802

APRIL 1-2, 2025



TUESDAY, APRIL 1

7:30 AM - 6:00 PM REGISTRATION O PLATINUM FOYER

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

8:30 AM - 8:40 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

Welcome: Chief Steve Jackson, San Joaquin County Probation; President, Chief Probation Officers of California

Honor Guard: Orange County Probation Department

8:40 AM - 10:00 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

Resilience, Opportunity, and the Transformative Power of Positive Engagement

Lucas' powerful story is one of resilience, opportunity, and the transformative power of positive engagement. Having experienced foster care and adoption, he will share how supportive adults shaped his path—while also reflecting on what other family support opportunities could have been explored. His insights will challenge and inspire all of us working to improve outcomes for youth and families.

SPEAKER: Lucas Daniel Boyce, MBA, Author

10:00 AM - 10:20 AM BREAK

PLATINUM FOYER

10.20 AM - 11.00 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

The Importance of Connections: Voices of Former Justice Involved Youth

This general session will highlight the voices of former probation youth in foster care and what was most impactful to them that led to their path to wellness and success. We will hear their important messages which can improve our work with young people today.

SPEAKERS: Youth Panel

11:00 AM - 12:05 PM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

Foster Care Rate Structure and How Do Counties Prepare

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) will provide an overview of the state's new Permanent Foster Care Rate Structure and will share the next steps for departments to consider to better prepare for implementation. The first phase of implementation will begin July 1, 2025, requiring the use of standardized high-fidelity Integrated-Practice Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (IP-CANS) assessment for all youth and non-minor dependents (NMDs) in foster care. The new tiered rate structure will be effective July 1, 2027.

SPEAKERS:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

- Daniel Wilson, Chief, Integrated Practice and Resource Development Section
- Emily Smallson, Project Manager, The Children and Family Services Division
- Erin Thuston, Chief, Permanency Policy Bureau



TUESDAY. APRIL 1 CONTINUED

12:05 PM - 1:15 PM LUNCH o PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

The Right Services and Support: Implementing CANS and CFT Practices to Support Comprehensive Case Planning for Youth

County probation departments will have new requirements for the upcoming implementation of the Permanent Foster Care Rate Structure. If you would like to dive deeper to learn more about the high fidelity Integrated-Practice Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (IP-CANS) implementation that will go into effect July 1st, this is the breakout session you don't want to miss. This session will share a high-level overview of IP-CANS, provide information to help counties prepare for the operation of the tiered rate structure, and attendees will learn how to incorporate the IP-CANS into Child and Family Team meetings to better support youth and families.

SPEAKERS:

- Daniel Wilson, Chief, Integrated Practice and Resource Development Section, California Department of Social Services
- Emily Smallson, Project Manager, The Children and Family Services Division, California Department of Social Services
- · Dana Androsky, Analyst, Integrated Services Unit, California Department of Social Services
- · Chris Van Orden, Senior Probation Officer, Napa County Probation

PLATINUM BALLROOM 1-4

Fostering Partnerships: Tribes and Probation Working Towards Family Preservation

This presentation will provide an overview of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the requirements and protocols for working with Indian children, their families, and tribal leaders. San Diego County Probation will share their approach to working with tribal families and representatives through engagement, collaboration and partnership while adhering to ICWA mandates. Attendees will explore new strategies to strengthen their current family preservation efforts through engagement with Indian Children and their tribes.

SPEAKERS:

- Yvonne Salgado, Supervising Probation Officer, San Diego County Probation
- Clara Lapastora, Supervising Probation Officer, San Diego County Probation

PLATINUM BALLROOM 7-10

Supporting the Education of Youth: Partnering with Your Local Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program

This session will provide information about the Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) and how it supports youth on probation who are at risk of entering or in foster care. Join us and learn about what services are available, who is eligible under the recent changes made in AB 3223, and how County Offices of Education, Probation and other stakeholders can partner together to support youth and families.

SPEAKERS:

- Michelle Lustig, Program Director, Los Angeles County Office of Education
- Mindy Corless, Program Coordinator, Los Angeles County Office of Education



TUESDAY. APRIL 1 CONTINUED

2:45 PM - 3:05 PM BREAK O PLATINUM FOYER

3:05 PM - 4:35 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

A Forever Home: Process and Strategies to Achieve Permanency

Every child that comes into care has an urgent need to be restored by loving, healthy, committed, and consistent connections; whether it is their biological family, a resource family, or a willing person who has stepped up to love, care for, and nurture them. Data shows that children thrive when they know they are loved and have a sense of belonging. Come listen to Los Angeles County Probation Department share their strategies to support youth and families to establish permanency as well as learn about the permanency process. Family reunification, legal guardianship, adoption, and Kinship-Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) are some topics that will be covered in this session.

SPEAKERS:

- Lisa Campbell-Motton, Director, Los Angeles County Probation
- Kendra Hamilton, Supervising Deputy Probation Officer, Los Angeles County Probation

• PLATINUM BALLROOM 1-4

Engaging Youth with a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Harm Reduction Approach

Join staff from the CDSS Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit as they present information on Harm Reduction strategies. This will include a general overview of Harm Reduction principles, how Harm Reduction has been applied with youth impacted by CSE, what has been learned, and how these same principles can be applied to all children with complex needs. The session will provide an opportunity for attendees to engage and discuss potential harm reduction strategies with the presenters as they review a series of scenarios that youth impacted by CSE often experience.

SPEAKERS:

- Darrin Holt, Manager, Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit, California Department of Social Services
- Leeland Turner, Analyst, Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit, California Department of Social Services

PLATINUM BALLROOM 7-10

Across the Continuum: Expanding Wraparound Services to Youth Served by Probation
It is well established that the wraparound program and services are effective in meeting the unique
needs of youth at risk of entering or exiting foster care. This session will focus on two county probation
departments' use of the wraparound model as an intervention across their continuum of services. Learn
about their successes and challenges as a preventative measure and as a model to assist youth with
transitioning from an STRTP into aftercare.

SPEAKERS:

- Kyle Borg, Division Director, San Bernardino County Probation
- Ivy White, Division Director, Orange County Probation

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM RECEPTION © ELITE BALLROOM



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

7:30 AM - 11:30 AM REGISTRATION O PLATINUM FOYER

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

8:30 AM - 8:40 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

Welcome: Chief Tracie Neal, Shasta County Probation; Juvenile Services Committee Chair, Chief Probation Officers of California

8:40 AM - 10:10 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

Understanding Juvenile Justice Trends and Adolescent Development to Help Inform Positive Youth and Family Engagement

Why do intelligent adolescents engage in risky, sometimes reckless behaviors? What differences in adolescent development have been identified in youth involved in the juvenile justice system? Dr. Cauffman will explore how cognitive and emotional development follow different timelines; why these differences affect impulse control, judgment, and decision-making; and what probation officers and youth professionals can do to improve youth engagement and outcomes.

SPEAKER: Elizabeth Cauffman, Ph.D., Professor of Psychological Science, Education and Law; University of California, Irvine

10-10 AM - 10-25 AM BREAK O PLATINUM FOYER

10:25 AM - 11:30 AM GENERAL SESSION O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6

The Power of Connection in Schools for Engaging System-Involved Youth to Ensure Belonging, Wellbeing and Success

During this insightful concluding session, Dr. Faris Sabbah will highlight how intentional engagement of foster and justice-involved youth can transform lives and communities. Drawing on examples from Santa Cruz County's standout Alternative Education and FosterEd programs, as well as a comprehensive, new diversion initiative, the session will illuminate how – and why – schools are evolving into hubs of services, safety, and support, and provide actionable insights into how to form partnerships and practices spanning probation, child welfare, and education that can drive lasting positive outcomes for system-involved youth.

SPEAKER: Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools, Santa Cruz County Office of Education

11:30 AM CLOSING O PLATINUM BALLROOM 5-6



DANA ANDROSKY

Analyst, Integrated Services Unit California Department of Social Services

Dana Androsky serves as an Analyst for the Integrated Services Unit in the Children and Family Services Division at the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). In this role, she focuses on programs that support youth and families in the child welfare system, including Child and Family Teams (CFTs) and the Integrated Practice Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (IP-CANS) assessment. Prior to joining CDSS, Dana supported diverse populations in behavioral health services in both San Joaquin and Sacramento counties for over seven years.

KYLE BORG

Division Director San Bernardino County Probation

Kyle Borg is a Division Director with San Bernardino County Probation Department. He has spent a considerable part of his career overseeing foster youth, placement youth and those receiving juvenile services including Wraparound, the Independent Living Program, Drug Court and Girls Court. Mr. Borg has recently joined the Statewide Wraparound Steering Committee and is excited to discuss Wraparound in the context of juvenile probation supervision.

LUCAS DANIEL BOYCE. MBA

Speaker/Author

Lucas Daniel Boyce, MBA; is a Servant Leader, Author & International Speaker. He just completed a local government appointment for Orange County Florida where he served as an Advisor to the County Administrator on public policy and strategic direction for over 1.5 million people that call Orange County Home. Additional duties afforded Lucas the opportunity to lead the Mayor's Interfaith Council and make a positive impact in the lives of the people that he served. Prior to his public service to Orange County, Lucas was appointed

to a number of different roles focused on Philanthropy, Multicultural Insights & Corporate Social Responsibility with the NBA's Orlando Magic from 2008-2016. He served as Director of Business Development, Community Relations, Multicultural Insights, Cause Marketing, & Government Affairs.

Prior to the Orlando Magic, Lucas served at The White House from 2005-2008 in a number of different public-facing roles including Public Relations & Community Engagement in the Office of the Vice President, the Office of Public Liaison, & the Office of Political Affairs. During his tenure Lucas spearheaded proactive communication, public relations, community engagement, public policy, and education outreach throughout a range of diverse communities, constituencies, and issues on behalf of the President of the United States. Lucas managed ten states from Missouri to California, directing all official and political activity in addition to the presidential travel required to each of those states. He served as the President's Principal Liaison to the African American Community nationwide. His service also afforded him the opportunity to serve as the Principal Liaison and Director of Professional & Collegiate Sports Engagement.

Lucas is the author of Living Proof: From Foster Care to the White House and the NBA. With over twenty years of professional speaking experience, he travels across the country giving speeches focused on Servant Leadership, Teamwork, Overcoming Obstacles, & Making a Positive Impact in the Lives of Others. Lucas earned his bachelor's degree in political science and Speech Communication from the University of Central Missouri in July of 2003 & graduated with his executive MBA from Rollins College in May of 2013.



LISA CAMPBELL-MOTTEN

Director Los Angeles County Probation

Lisa Campbell-Motton is a Los Angeles County Probation Child Welfare Director in Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance (PPQA), a monitoring agency for Probation Child Welfare, with oversight of the California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) and implementation of the countywide System Improvement Plan (SIP), along with Los Angeles County child welfare partners. Her PPQA Team conducts federal case reviews, family finding, adoptions and legal guardianships, life connection matching, residential program monitoring, compliance investigations, child abuse investigations, and resource family approvals. Lisa works with both internal and external stakeholders to improve outcomes for probation foster youth in the areas of safety, well-being and permanency. She, her PPQA Team, Bench Officers and her colleagues in both child welfare and probation child welfare achieved the first adoption in delinquency court and have gone on to complete four more, which are five (5) of seven (8) completed in the entire state. Her passion is seeing children achieve a place they can forever call home, no matter their age.

MINDY CORLESS

Program Coordinator Los Angeles County Office of Education

Mindy Corless joined the Los Angeles County Office of Education Foster Youth Technical Assistance Program in 2022, supporting Foster Youth Services Coordinating Programs (FYSCP) Statewide. Previously, Ms. Corless worked within the San Diego County Office of Education, FYSCP for 19 years. Additionally, she has provided in-home case management services to families and supervised children in a short-term care group home facility. She is an advocate for students in foster care to receive appropriate educational services and resources through collaboration and technical assistance to schools, school districts, social service agencies, and community-based organizations.

ELIZABETH CAUFFMAN, PH.D.

Professor of Psychological Science, Education and Law University of California, Irvine

Elizabeth Cauffman is a Professor in the Department of Psychological Science in the School of Social Ecology and holds courtesy appointments in the School of Education and the School of Law. Dr. Cauffman received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Temple University and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Center on Adolescence at Stanford University. At the broadest level. Dr. Cauffman's research addresses the intersect between adolescent development and juvenile justice. She has published over 100 articles, chapters, and books on a range of topics in the study of contemporary adolescence, including adolescent brain development, risk-taking and decision-making, parent-adolescent relationships, and juvenile justice. Findings from Dr. Cauffman's research were incorporated into the American Psychological Association's amicus briefs submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court in Roper v. Simmons, which abolished the juvenile death penalty, and in both Graham v. Florida and Miller v. Alabama, which placed limits on the use of life without parole as a sentence for juveniles. As part of her larger efforts to help research inform practice and policy, she served as a member of the MacArthur Foundation's Research Network on Adolescent Development and Juvenile Justice as well as the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on the Neurobiological and Socio-behavioral Science of Adolescent Development and Its Applications. Dr. Cauffman currently directs the Center for Psychology & Law (http://psychlaw.soceco.uci.edu/) as well as the Masters in Legal & Forensic Psychology program (https://mlfp. soceco.uci.edu/) at UCI. To learn more about her research, please visit her Development, Disorder, and Delinquency lab website.



KENDRA HAMILTON

Supervising Deputy Probation Officer Los Angeles County Probation

Kendra Hamilton is a Supervising Deputy Probation Officer for the Los Angeles County Probation Child Welfare's Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance (PPQA). PPQA is a monitoring agency for Probation Child Welfare, with oversight of the California Child & Family Services Review (C-CFSR) and implementation of the countywide System Improvement Plan (SIP), along with Los Angeles County child welfare partners. Kendra supervises the Resource Family Approval (RFA) Team and CFSR Team. The CFSR Team conducts federal case reviews on both probation child welfare and dependency agencies within Los Angeles County; while the RFA Team conducts all home assessments for those caregivers who are willing to be placement options for youth and within Los Angeles County. Kendra Hamilton has worked within PPQA for almost 20 years, advocating to improve permanency and well-being outcomes for probation foster youth. In 2013, as a Permanency Officer, she achieved two (2) of the five (5) adoptions within her department. She continues to advocate and emphasize the need to recruit loving families for youth.

DARRIN HOLT

Manager, Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit California Department of Social Services

Darrin joined the California Department of Social Services June 1, 2022, and is currently the Manager of the Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit. Prior to joining the CDSS, Darrin worked in the field of child welfare in Illinois for over 27 years. He worked in direct service, managerial and administrative roles within private child welfare agencies in Illinois who are contracted by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Darrin holds a BA in Sociology and an MS in Education, Guidance and Counseling from Eastern Illinois University.

CHIEF STEVE JACKSON

San Joaquin County Probation President, Chief Probation Officers of California

Chief Jackson was appointed Chief of the San Joaquin County Probation Department in March of 2020. He began his career in 1998 as a Probation Officer in Stanislaus County. In 2019, he served as the Assistant Chief of the San Joaquin County Probation Department and was then appointed the Chief Probation Officer in 2020.

Chief Jackson has administered, supervised and worked in nearly every assignment and division within the probation organization throughout his career. Some of those assignments have included the Street Gang Unit with the Modesto Police Department, High Risk Offender, AB 109 Realignment Unit, and the Professional Standards Unit. Prior to leaving Stanislaus County, he was the Superintendent of the Juvenile Hall and Juvenile Commitment Facility. Chief Jackson also spent time as a Range Master and ASP Baton Instructor. He believes it is the Department's obligation to serve, educate and collaborate with the community in an effort to promote positive change in clients and bring healing to impacted families, victims and communities.



CLARA LAPASTORA

Supervising Probation Officer San Diego County Probation

Supervising Probation Officer Clara Lapastora has been employed with the County of San Diego for 25 years and has over 22 years of experience working for the San Diego Probation Department. She has served in various roles within both Juvenile and Adult Field Services. Most recently, she assisted in writing and developing policies, procedures, and training for San Diego County Probation to support ICWA requirements and tribal engagement. Currently, Ms. Lapastora serves as a Supervising Probation Officer, overseeing both the In-Service Training Unit and the Wellness Unit within the Professional Standards and Training Division. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of California, San Diego.

MICHELLE LUSTIG

Program Director Los Angeles County Office of Education

Michelle Lustig, Ed. D. is the Program Director for the Foster Youth Technical Assistance Program for the Los Angeles County Office of Education with over 30 years' experience in public and private sectors. Dr. Lustig served as the Director of FYSCP and Homeless Education with the San Diego County Office of Education, created nationally recognized programs including programs that support and increase school stability and academic outcomes for students in foster care and developed a model interagency database that allows secure access to health and education data for children under the jurisdiction of juvenile court in San Diego County. She also spearheaded the creation of a countywide cost sharing transportation agreement that ensures students in foster care are able to remain in their school of origin. Dr. Lustig believes that educational attainment is the gateway to a successful life and works to ensure that every student can fulfill his or her academic potential.

CHIEF TRACIE NEAL

Shasta County Probation Juvenile Services Committee Chair, Chief Probation Officers of California

Tracie Neal has been the Chief Probation Officer of Shasta County since 2013. Chief Neal has worked in the field of probation services and community corrections since 1996. She started her career at Humboldt County Probation as a Juvenile Group Counselor and Deputy Probation Officer. Later, she worked at Mono County Probation, where she progressed to Assistant Chief Probation Officer before joining Shasta County Probation in 2012. Throughout her career, Chief Neal has implemented numerous programs and practices aimed at improving the lives of young people involved in the juvenile justice system and their families, as well as adults involved in the criminal justice system. She remains dedicated to public safety by implementing best practices and evidence-based approaches to enhance rehabilitative options for both youth and adults, as well as community alternatives to detention.

DR. FARIS SABBAH

County Superintendent of Schools Santa Cruz County Office of Education

Dr. Faris Sabbah is the County Superintendent of Schools for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education. Over the past 25 years, he has served as county deputy superintendent, county assistant superintendent, university professor, director, assistant principal, teacher, and instructional aide. He carries a deep sense of urgency to disrupt inequitable practices and is committed to partnering with districts and other organizations to create a network of support that propel students to achieve and thrive. He obtained his bachelor's in Psychology from UC Santa Cruz, his masters in Educational Leadership from San Jose State University, and his doctorate in Leadership for Educational Equity from UC Berkeley.



YVONNE SALGADO

Supervising Probation Officer San Diego County Probation

Supervising Probation Officer Yvonne Salgado has over 22 years of experience working for the San Diego County Probation Department. She currently oversees the Youth Development & Community Support Services (YDCSS) Special Projects and Continuous Quality Assurance Unit. In her current assignment, she manages policy updates, quality assurance growth opportunities, and several large-scale projects, including the implementation, training, and quality improvement efforts related but not limited to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Master of Science degree in Counseling, with an emphasis on Marriage and Family Therapy.

EMILY SMALLSON

Project Manager, The Children and Family Services Division

California Department of Social Services

Emily Smallson is a Project Manager for the Children and Family Services Division (CFSD) at the California Department of Social Services. Emily Smallson manages the highest priority projects for CFSD, which includes ensuring a high-level of internal coordination at the executive level on projects that involve cross-functional teams across multiple divisions at the state. Additionally, Emily ensures coordination and engagement with a variety of internal and external partners, stakeholders, and tribes. Most recently, her work has focused on overseeing the development of the Tiered Foster Care Rates proposal and the advancement of the proposal through California's Budget process. Emily provides mentoring and support for other project managers across the Division. Emily earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California's Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work.

ERIN THUSTON

Chief, Permanency Policy Bureau California Department of Social Services

Erin Thuston is the Permanency Policy Bureau Chief for the California Department of Social Services, where she provides management, leadership, and direction to the Family Reunification and Pathways to Permanency Policy, Kin-Centric Compass Unit, and the Permanency Support and Services Units. Her focus is on foster care and the experience of children, families, and caregivers and ensuring policy oversight and program support to public child welfare, probation departments, and Tribal child welfare agencies. Erin is the lead on the implementation of the Strengths Building Program component of the Tiered Rate Structure.

LEELAND TURNER

Analyst, Child Trafficking Research and Policy Unit California Department of Social Services

Lee Turner has been with CDSS for ten years in his current position, and previously with Community Care Licensing (CCL) and the Continuum of Care Reform. He has worked on improving the understanding and consistency of harm reduction implementation internally at CDSS and externally with CDSS partners. He sees harm reduction as an essential tool in helping children make safer choices, as well as an integral part of trauma informed care.

CHRIS VAN ORDEN

Senior Probation Officer Napa County Probation

Chris Van Orden is a Senior Probation Officer/CFT Facilitator for Napa County Probation Department. He has been a Probation Officer with the Napa County Probation Department for the past 16 years. Chris is currently a trainer for CPOC on the subject of family teaming and facilitation.



IVY WHITE

Division Director Orange County Probation

Ivy White is a Division Director with Orange County Probation Department. She brings 31 years of experience across all aspects of the department and currently oversees the Juvenile Field Services Division. This includes the department's placement unit, and the multi-disciplinary OC Wraparound team Supervisor. Ivy has a deep commitment to rehabilitation and community support. She understands the vital role the OC Wraparound program plays in ensuring foster youth and their families receive comprehensive, individualized support, enabling them to remain in their homes and communities, thereby reducing the need for out of home placements.

DANIEL WILSON

Chief, Integrated Practice and Resource Development Section California Department of Social Services

Daniel Wilson has been with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Children and Family Services Division for approximately tenyears. He is currently Chief of Integrated Practice and Resource Development Section, Children and Family Services Division at CDSS. While working at CDSS, he has served in various capacities, including but not limited to supporting Wraparound, CFT and CANS, Medi-Cal managed care and mental health services, peer partners, and the state's Integrated Core Practice Model, during which time he was also a resource parent through Sacramento County. Prior to his time at CDSS, he was a case-carrying social worker with Sacramento County Child Protective Services focusing on family engagement through the jurisdiction and disposition hearing and case planning processes.

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