

25th Annual Breaking The Cycle of Abuse Conference on child abuse prevention
Friday, April 7, 2017
Bevill State Community College

8:00-9:00 am
Registration, Refreshments and Networking

9:00-10:00 am
Opening Keynote Address
How Are We Doing As A Community In Protecting Children? - A Report From The Front Line
Paige Vick, JD, Deputy District Attorney, 25th Judicial District
The emotional impact of child abuse indicators and allegations can challenge the objectivity of both laypersons and seasoned professionals. This is especially true in rural communities where the involved parties are often acquainted with each other. This keynote will review our progress towards putting child safety ahead of personal issues.

Learning Objectives

1. Mandated reporters of suspected child abuse will appreciate their vital role in maintaining a vigilant awareness of signs of child abuse and willingness to act in good faith when child abuse is suspected.
2. Participants will empathize with emotional conflicts experienced by all parties involved in deciding the validity of child abuse allegations, including the alleged victims' family and friends, investigators, attorneys, and jurors (in cases that go to trial).
3. In cases of child abuse investigations, participants will be prepared to support cooperation by non-abusing parents, partners, and extended family members, including compliance with safety plans.

10:00-10:15 am
Break

10:15-11:45 am
Morning Workshops

The Medical Provider and Suspected Human Trafficking
Melissa Peters MD FAAP, Medical Director, The CHIPS Center, University of Alabama
Birmingham

Learning objectives

1. Describe the extent of and characteristics of human trafficking in the U.S.
2. Describe red flags in presentation, history, and physical exam, which may indicate a victim of human trafficking.
3. Develop a toolbox for how to approach suspected victims
4. Explain the role of consent in evaluation and reporting of suspected human trafficking

Problem Solving and Effective Multidisciplinary Responses to Child Abuse: Best Practices

Timothy Birt, MS, MPA, LPC, LMFT, NCC, CCMHC
Director/Therapist, Counseling and Therapy Services, LLC

This 1.5 hour training for professionals will train participants in problem solving and best practices in a coordinated multidisciplinary response to allegations of child abuse. Participants will be invited to share challenges and issues, review problems encountered and learn best practices and recommended solutions that may help coordinate the responses of multiple agencies and professionals involved. Areas to be covered include forensic interviewing and evaluations, sharing of information in multidisciplinary team case planning and review, effective coordinated law enforcement and child protection investigations, improving prosecution outcomes with involvement of law enforcement, mental health, child protective services, and integration of medical exams an involvement of nursing, mental health, first responders and educators in reporting.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Participants will learn the importance of coordinated multidisciplinary agency response to allegations of child abuse and neglect and be able to explain critical problems that occur when a multidisciplinary response is not used.
- 2) Participants will be introduced to best practices in each area of interdisciplinary response to child abuse including need for forensic interviews, child appropriate language, coordinated investigations, source monitoring, evidence based mental health treatment, specialized medical examinations, family advocacy, and multidisciplinary case review and be able to identify why each of these practices is helpful.
- 3) Participants will have opportunity to bring challenges and issues to the training and ask specific questions related to their area of responsibility to help identify potential solutions to issues they experience with response to child abuse allegations and receive recommendations from the presenter and other participants to address at least one issue that concerns them during the training.

Community-Based Treatment of Adult Sexual Perpetrators, Part 1: Lecture/Discussion John Lancaster, PhD, LCSW; Stephen Hopkins, BS

Although the validity of community-based sex offender treatment is well documented, two obstacles continue to diminish these successes and promote unjustified mistrust in a sound clinical practice. Media reports of crimes involving sex offenders often elicit extreme revulsion accompanied by irrational outcries for the most barbaric punishments imaginable. In contrast, personal acquaintance with a convicted sex offender can lead to minimization of risk factors, failure to manage risk, and re-offense. The latter extreme often takes the form of “cheap grace” when the offender is a member of an unsuspecting faith community. Pedophilia can be successfully treated by avoiding either extreme when the offender is in compliance with an accepted clinical treatment approach.

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will appreciate the necessity of multiple positive interventions which compel and nurture compliance with community-based sex offender treatment programs.
2. Participants will be prepared to evaluate sex offense risk management practices and to detect both high and low-risk sexually offensive behaviors.
3. Participants will advocate for the restoration of relationships between treatment compliant sex offenders and their community such as entering into a covenant with communities of faith where risk management practices are in force.

Faith and Marriage: When Your Spouse Is A Survivor of Child Sexual Abuse (will repeat in afternoon session)

Rev. Bryan McIntyre and Mary Cron McIntyre

Multiple studies of child sexual abuse consistently report that large numbers of girls and boys will have experienced some form of sexual abuse by age 18. These survivors often carry a burden of secrecy and irrational self-blame into adulthood with self-destructive results. As a result of childhood abuse, many survivors are unable to achieve intimacy and trust in their marriage or other adult partnerships. Medical and other helping professionals, including social work, mental health, nursing and family practice, are often the first point of contact for many abuse survivors who may present with medical/emotional disorders exacerbated by their adverse childhood experiences. It is widely recognized that many in the helping professions are survivors of abuse. These individuals are at-risk to keep their abuse history concealed from their partner, due to the irrational belief that no one would want them if they knew about their childhood abuse. The presenters will share their personal experience of the destructive effects of childhood sexual abuse on their marriage and their journey to healing and restoration.

Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to recognize the warning signs of childhood sexual abuse in their spouse/partner or in the professional setting. In the latter case, appropriate referrals will be defined.
2. Participants will be able to describe practical steps to transformation and healing of childhood sexual abuse in themselves and/or their spouse/partner.
3. Participants will identify steps they can take to prevent sexual abuse within their family and church.

11:45 am-1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00-2:00 pm

Mid-Day Keynote

Making The Invisible Visible: Approaches To Combat Human Trafficking

Melissa Peters MD FAAP, Medical Director, The CHIPS. Center, University of Alabama

Birmingham

Learning objectives

1. Describe the scope of and contexts of human trafficking in Alabama and the US
2. Identify risk factors for becoming a victim of human trafficking
3. Describe a public health approach to prevention and intervention in human trafficking
4. Recognize how changing laws and collaborative efforts affect the identification and response to human trafficking

2:00-2:15

Break

2:15-3:45 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Cultivating Effective Multidisciplinary Teams

Melissa Peters MD FAAP, Medical Director, The CHIPS Center, University of Alabama
Birmingham

Learning objectives

1. Describe features of an effective interdisciplinary team
3. Recognize the contribution of professional cultures to team function
2. Identify barriers and challenges to effective team function
4. Describe several ways to diagnose and approach interdisciplinary conflict

Polyvictimization: Assessing and treating children who have been subjected to multiple types of trauma

Timothy Birt, MS, MPA, LPC, LMFT, NCC, CCMHC

Director/Therapist, Counseling and Therapy Services, LLC

This 1.5 hour seminar will explore and apply poly victimization in children. Supported by substantial research on the prevalence and impact of poly-victimization in the Child Adverse Experiences studies (ACE) Center for Disease Control, the seminar will explore assessment and treatment implications in mental health work with children, families, and adult victims.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Participants will learn the prevalence and potential life-long impact of poly-victimization.
- 2) Participants will learn with assessment instruments and techniques that are helpful in identifying various types of trauma and the impact of multiple types of victimization in children.
- 3) Participants will gain knowledge of the treatment implication of multiple victimization and in their work with child victims and have the resources to improve their expertise in treating child victims.

Community Treatment of Adult Sexual Perpetrators, Part 2:

Experiential/Personal Accounts including break-out small group sessions with perpetrators regarding their treatment progress.

John Lancaster, PhD LCSW; Stephen Hopkins, BS

(Same learning objectives as part 1)

Faith and Marriage: When Your Spouse Is A Survivor of Child Sexual Abuse (repeat of morning session)

Rev. Bryan McIntyre and Mary Cron McIntyre

3:45-4:00 pm

Break

4:00-5:00 pm

Closing Panel Discussion:

Multidisciplinary Intervention for Child Abuse: Expertise Each Discipline Brings to Help Victims

Moderator: Timothy Birt, MS, MPA, LPC, LMFT

Panel Members: Paige Vick, JD; Melissa Peters MD FAAP

This 1 hour interactive panel discussion of the roles each member of the multidisciplinary team brings to reporting, assessing, investigating, prosecuting and treating cases of child abuse with a focus on their expertise and functioning of the local multidisciplinary team.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Participants will understand the role and function of each member of the multidisciplinary team.
- 2) Participants will understand interaction of agencies in fulfilling their role and the part each agency plays in interventions.
- 3) Participants will learn how their community currently structures interagency response and agencies will have the opportunity answer questions

5:00

Conclusion of conference/Sign-Out for LPC's and Nurses

Social Workers pick up certificates

Everyone pick up a certificate of participation