Montana Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Conference
April 25–27, 2017
Radisson Colonial Inn, Helena, Montana

DAY ONE – Tuesday, April 25, 2017

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Dignitary Speakers (Maurita Johnson, CFSD Division Administrator, and Honored Guests) Awards Presentations (Child and Family Services Division, CASA of Montana, Children’s Trust Fund)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 – 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Served Luncheon (must register for luncheon by April 10th)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>John Sommers-Flanagan, PhD The Power of Prevention and You</td>
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<td>3:00 – 3:15 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15 – 4:45 PM</td>
<td>Gabor Maté, MD The Biology of Loss: What Happens When Attachments are Impaired and How to Foster Resilience</td>
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John Sommers-Flanagan, PhD, John Sommers-Flanagan is a clinical psychologist and Professor of Counselor Education at the University of Montana. He is author or coauthor of over 60 professional publications and eight books. His books, co-written with his wife Rita, include Tough Kids, Cool Counseling (2nd ed., 2007), How to Listen so Parents will Talk and Talk so Parents will Listen (2011) and Clinical Interviewing (6th ed., 2017). Dr. Sommers-Flanagan has been publishing articles, book chapters, and videos on working with youth and families since 1995. He is cohost of the national “Practically Perfect Parenting Podcast.” Dr. Sommers-Flanagan is a popular keynote speaker and professional workshop presenter throughout the United States and Canada. In his wild and precious spare time, Dr. Sommers-Flanagan loves to run, dance, laugh, and produce home-made music videos.

The Power of Prevention and You: Without question, child abuse prevention makes America stronger. Why then, are efforts to prevent child abuse so underappreciated? And how can we deepen and extend the reach of prevention? Using metaphor, facts, and research insights, this keynote will focus on how you can maximize your personal power, effectiveness, and ability to prevent child abuse and other social problems. We will also develop a plan for helping others recognize that prevention is and always will be the road to positive economic, educational, environmental, interpersonal, and health outcomes.

Gabor Maté, MD, Gabor Maté is a medical doctor recently retired from active practice. He was a family physician for two decades and for seven years he
served as Medical Coordinator of the Palliative Care Unit at Vancouver Hospital. For twelve years he worked in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside with patients challenged by hard core addiction, mental illness, HIV and related conditions. For two years he was the onsite physician at Vancouver's unique Supervised Injection Site, North America’s only such facility.

He is internationally known for his work on the mind/body unity in health and illness, on attention deficit disorder and other childhood developmental issues, and his breakthrough analysis of addiction as a psychophysiological response to childhood trauma and emotional loss. He is the author of four best-selling books published in twenty languages on five continents, including *When The Body Says No: Exploring the Stress-Disease Connection* and the award winning *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters With Addiction*.

Gabor is the recipient of an Outstanding Alumnus Award from Simon Fraser University and an Honorary Degree of Law from the University of Northern British Columbia, among other awards. He frequently addresses professional and lay audiences in North America and internationally on issues related to childhood development and parenting, physical and mental health and wellness, and addiction. He is Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Criminology, Simon Fraser University. His next book, *Toxic Culture: Trauma, Illness and Healing in a World of Materialism* will be published in 2016.

**The Biology of Loss: What Happens When Attachments are Impaired and How to Foster Resilience:** This presentation, based on the best-selling *Scattered Minds, Hold on To Your Kids, and In The Realm of Hungry Ghosts*, outlines the mental health implications of early childhood emotional loss, whether due to abuse in the family or simply of stress on the parents, on the subsequent loss of attunement with the child.

Childhood developmental disorders such as ADHD, ODD, and other mental health problems such as anxiety, depression, personality disorders, etc. can all be traced to either negative childhood experiences or the absence of sufficiently positive ones. Addiction and adult mental health issues also flow from the same source.

The impact of the environment on brain development is discussed, along with ways of recognizing and helping to heal the negative consequences of early loss. Also discussed is the impact of peer orientation, as articulated in *Hold On To Your Kids*.

Topics covered will include the basis of healthy child development; the attachment relationship with parents, teachers and other adults; how the human brain develops in interaction with the social/psychological environment; the stresses in our culture that have undermined the necessary conditions for healthy development, and their consequences in childhood and adolescent disorders; the
role of medicalized birth practices; why, even for the average "normal" child, the traditional relationship has become undermined, leaving parents and teachers frustrated and many children alienated and immature; what peer orientation is and how it competes with children’s adult attachments; how to recognize its signs; how to recognize intra-family stresses, and how to deal with them to create a safe, nurturing environment for our children; and understanding resilience and its promotion as a function of attachment.

**DAY TWO – Wednesday, April 26, 2017**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 – 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Break Out Sessions</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:15 AM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:15 – 11:45 AM</td>
<td>Repeat of Morning Break Out Sessions</td>
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<td>11:45 AM – 1:15 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (on your own)</td>
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<td>1:30 – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Break Out Sessions</td>
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<td>3:00 – 3:15 PM</td>
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<td>3:15 – 4:45 PM</td>
<td>Repeat of Afternoon Break Out Sessions</td>
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**DAY TWO – Wednesday Morning, April 26, 2017**

**Break Out Sessions: 8:30 – 10:00 AM and 10:15 – 11:45 AM**

Gabor Maté, MD, The Biology of Loss: What Happens When Attachments are Impaired and How to Foster Resilience: This breakout session will provide a follow-up to yesterday’s keynote presentation in a more intimate setting allowing for participant questions and more in-depth discussion. **Please note: Due to Dr. Maté’s travel schedule, this session will only be offered once from 8:30-10:00 AM.**

Schylar Canfield-Baber, Schylar grew up in the Montana foster care system after being removed from his biological family at the age of 6. Due to his experience in the system, Schylar has become a strong advocate for foster care reform. He has dedicated much of his spare time to improving the lives of not only Montana’s foster youth, but foster youth around the country.

Schylar is the executive director of Voice for Adoption in Washington, D.C., an organization that advocates for the 112,000 children in foster care waiting to be adopted. He works with Congress and other organizations to create and implement policies that protect the well-being of children in the US foster care system, and encourages permanence and adoption in the belief that no child is too old to be adopted. Schylar was adopted himself at the age of 25 in Billings, MT.

**Foster Youth Panel: From Our Perspective:** The panel, facilitated by Schylar Canfield-Baber and made up of members of the Chafee Foster Care
Independence Program Youth Advisory Board, will speak regarding their experience in the Montana foster care system, create dialog about engaging young people in the foster care system and answer questions from audience members. There is no better expert on foster care and youth engagement than those currently experiencing the foster care system and its services. There are many positive aspects of the foster care system, and a lot that can be improved. Listen to the experiences, journeys, and stories that our young people have to share. In addition, learn some of the various leadership opportunities for Montana’s current or former foster youth, hear Youth Advisory Board’s first-hand experience participating in those opportunities and participate in a youth lead discussion.

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Gregory Satya Shanks, MA, LCPC, is a licensed clinical professional counselor in private practice in Missoula, Montana. Greg completed his undergraduate studies in psychology at Manchester University in England, and his graduate studies in counseling at the University of Montana. He has also practiced mindfulness and meditation for thirty five years within the context of the Buddhist tradition. As such he lived for a period of years at a residential meditation retreat center and in various residential spiritual communities and helped create ‘Right Livelihood’ businesses that were based on spiritual values such as mindfulness and compassion. He was ordained into the Triratna Buddhist Order in 1984.

In the United States before working as a mental health counselor, he was Spiritual Director at the Rocky Mountain Buddhist Center where he taught weekly meditation classes and later worked as a hospice Chaplain for 7 years, providing spiritual support and grief counseling to hospice patients and their families. After completing his graduate schooling, Greg worked in a neurology practice. He has focused much of his professional training on seeking methods and approaches that are based in our understanding of the brain and nervous system to address the tsunami of trauma in our society.

Greg is trained in innovative and effective treatments for trauma which are underpinned by attachment theory and have somatic mindfulness components, such as Eye Movement Desensitizing Reprocessing (EMDR), Compassion Focused Therapy (CFT), Sensorimotor psychotherapy training, Trauma Resiliency Model (TRM) and Natural Processing (NP). He has also taught secular trainings in mindfulness such as Mindfulness- Based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) for depression relapse prevention and Mindfulness- Based Stress Reduction (MBSR).

He has taught MBSR, MBCT and other mindfulness based courses for the last 6 years at the Learning Center at Red Willow whose mission is to ‘alleviate the suffering of life’s inevitable adversities and traumas by nourishing the human capacity for response.’
Mindfulness Meditation for Handling Stress and Building Resiliency: This three hour breakout session will be a mix of experiential learning and psycho-education. Employing the latest understanding from cutting edge neuroscience research and clinical practice you will learn helpful skills to calm your mind, calm your body and regulate your emotions. The session will teach you practical tools that you can use every day in a variety of situations for yourself and your clients.

You will learn about the structure and function of the brain and the nervous system as it relates to stress and trauma. We know that secondary trauma is a reality and that it is held in our body-mind system. Trauma Research over the past 10 years has made great advances in understanding stress and trauma and revealing what approaches and techniques really work to address this effectively.

The core skill you will learn is mindfulness. Mindfulness is a basic human quality, a way of learning to pay wise attention to whatever is happening in your life that allows you a greater sense of connection to your life, both inwardly and outwardly. Mindfulness is also a practice, a systematic method aimed at cultivating clarity, insight and understanding. In the context of your health, mindfulness is a way for you to experientially learn to take better care of yourself by exploring and understanding the interplay of mind and body as well as mobilizing your own inner resources for coping and growing.

This experiential training will teach you specific mindfulness skills that we will practice together in session so that you can walk away with them and apply them immediately in your life. Also, information about apps for your phone and access to audio recordings will be provided as resources for you to continue learning and practicing into the future. Please note that this is a half-day session and will run from 8:30-11:45 AM.

Detective Katie Petersen, Katie Petersen graduated from the University of Montana with a Major in Recreation Management and a Minor in Wildlife Biology. During college she worked as a river ranger which piqued her interest in enforcing laws, and she began working as a Missoula Police Officer in 2001. She served for over four years in the Patrol Division and since then has served in the Detective Division Special Victims Unit with a focus on investigating sexual crimes against children. In 2016 she was appointed to the Montana Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Katie has been a Defensive Tactics and Ground Fighting Instructor, a Breath Test Specialist, and a Taser Instructor and holds both her Advanced and Instructor Certificates from the Montana Law Enforcement Academy.

Katie was trained as a Child Forensic Interviewer in 2009 and currently assists in evaluating new forensic interviewers. In 2012 she helped establish the Missoula Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Team which provides guidance and training throughout Montana on the issues surrounding sexual abuse prevention. She is a
Darkness to Light Stewards of Children Facilitator, serves on the St. Patrick Hospital First Step Multidisciplinary Team, JUST Response, and the Child and Family Services Child Protection Team. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Parenting Place Child Abuse Prevention Center and the Poverello Homeless Shelter. Katie has received a Certificate of Commendation for her work as a law enforcement officer, and she has also published a story in Mamalode Magazine about the real life intersection of being a mother and investigating sexual crimes against children.

**What Child Protection Specialists and Law Enforcement Can Do to Help Each Other During Investigations of Serious Child Abuse:** This presentation will be from a law enforcement perspective with a focus on how Child Protection Specialists and Law Enforcement can best work together during serious child abuse investigations. Communication, sharing prior history about families, knowing what the other agency can legally do, and presenting a united front to families, can help reduce duplication of efforts and can help determine the best courses of action for the respective and concurrent investigations.

Participants will be able to articulate when law enforcement should become involved in CFS investigations, will be able to identify what information law enforcement and CFS can share, and will be able to describe the role of law enforcement in CFS investigations.

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**Victoria Sweet, JD**, Victoria is a program attorney at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She is licensed in Minnesota. Sweet received her JD from Michigan State University College of Law with a certificate in Indigenous Law and Policy, attended the Pre-Law Summer Institute at the American Indian Law Center, and earned her MAEd and BA from George Wythe University. Prior to her legal career, Sweet was a high school teacher and educational lecturer. She has presented at national and international conferences on topics such as human trafficking, violence against Native women, ICWA compliance, protection orders, and intergenerational trauma and provides technical assistance to both state and tribal court judges, attorneys, advocates, and court staff. Sweet also assists with curriculum development and judicial training institutes. Her publications include articles on the human trafficking of Native women and girls and the violence against and exploitation of Native women.

**The Indian Child Welfare Act: Why it was Passed, Why it is Important, and What Systems Stakeholders Need to Know about the New Regulations:** The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was passed in 1978 after two years of Congressional hearings determined that Native children were being removed from their families and communities at disproportionately high rates. Since passage, courts around the country have struggled to understand the intent of the law and inconsistent implementation has left many individuals and
families feeling frustrated and unable to trust the system. Many workers assigned
to ICWA cases have felt similar frustration as terms like active efforts and inquiry
have not always been adequately defined for them. In December 2016, new
federal regulations went into effect adding some mandatory requirements for
judges. These are the first legally-binding changes since the law was passed.

This session will cover some of the reasons behind why this law was passed and
why it remains important 39 years later. In addition, the presenter will share some
of the key new requirements from the regulations and explain what all systems
stakeholders need to know to ensure cases are in compliance with the law.

Maegan Rides At The Door, MA, Maegan Rides At The Door is the Director of
the National Native Children’s Trauma Center. Maegan previously served at the
Trauma Center as a School Behavioral Health Specialist, providing training and
technical assistance in schools and other settings and helping to coordinate a
suicide prevention project. She is also an experienced counselor, having worked
with children of all ages and adults in various settings. Maegan currently serves
as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center
and on the Youth Homes, Inc. Cross-Cultural Awareness Committee. Maegan’s
tribal affiliations are Fort Peck Nakota/Dakota and Absentee Shawnee.

Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma: A Workshop for
Resource Parents: Many children who are involved in the foster care system
have experienced trauma. Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma: A
Workshop for Resource Parents is a curriculum developed by the National Child
Traumatic Stress Network. This session will provide training that will cover the
following topics: understanding trauma’s effects, building a safe place, dealing
with feelings and behaviors, and connections and healing. The curriculum uses
case studies to help session participants understand concepts and apply them to
realistic situations. The overall purpose of the session will be to help resource
parents understand how a child may experience trauma (in essence, help
resource parents become “trauma-informed”) and learn strategies to help support
children. Please note that this a half-day session will run from 8:30 to 11:45
AM.

Kristine Fortin, MD, MPH, Dr. Fortin is an attending physician with the Safe
Place and the Center for Child Protection and Health at the Children’s Hospital of
Philadelphia. She received her MD from the University of Montreal, Montreal,
Quebec, and completed her residency in pediatrics at the University of Montreal,
Sainte-Justine Hospital, Montreal, Quebec. Dr. Fortin is certified by the American

Abusive Head Trauma: Injuries, Causation and Outcomes: Case examples
will be used to review the injuries associated with abusive head trauma and their
mechanisms. The differential diagnosis including accidental trauma and medical conditions will be reviewed, and proposed alternate causal theories will also be discussed. Outcomes will additionally be reviewed.

CASA – As in past years, CASA will be presenting a breakout session focusing on the interests and needs of CASA volunteers. Specific details will be updated to the brochure as they become available.

DAY TWO – Wednesday Afternoon, April 26, 2017
Break Out Sessions:  1:30 – 3:00 PM and 3:15 – 4:45 PM

Gregory Satya Shanks, MA, LCPC, Mindfulness Meditation for Handling Stress and Building Resiliency: Repeat of morning session. Please note that this a half-day session will run from 1:30 to 4:45 PM.

Detective Katie Petersen, Interview and Interrogation of Developmentally Delayed Child Abuse Suspects Using Child Forensic Interview Techniques: This presentation will be from a law enforcement perspective helping identify techniques and questions to interview developmentally delayed suspects in child abuse cases. Gathering information using developmentally sensitive and legally defensible methods will help elicit accurate information and will later assist other professionals who may need to evaluate the suspect's competency.

Participants will be able to describe the difference between interview and interrogation, articulate questions that can be utilized to help establish a suspect’s level of competency, and additionally identify the difference between leading and non-leading questions.

Traci L. Shinabarger, Chief Child and Family Ombudsman, Ms.
Shinabarger is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Ms. Shinabarger earned her Bachelor’s degree in Political Economy with additional studies in International Relations from James Madison Honors College at Michigan State University and her Masters of Science in Social Work and Masters in Public Administration from Columbia University in the City of New York. Graduate work for certification in Applied Behavior Analysis was completed through Montana State University-Billings.

Ms. Shinabarger’s professional career is dedicated to working with families affected by child abuse and neglect, from providing direct services to foster youth to advocating for systemic improvements at a policy level. Her clinical experience includes working with foster children and families in New York City as
well as Montana. Prior to coming to the Department of Justice, Shinabarger was the Behavior Analytic Residential Services Director for youth and adults with developmental disabilities at A.W.A.R.E., Inc. Shinabarger began as Montana’s first Child and Family Ombudsman in February 2014.

Gala Goodwin, Deputy Child and Family Ombudsman, Ms. Goodwin is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) with over thirty-five years of experience in child protection and residential care for children. Ms. Goodwin earned her Bachelor’s degree in 1976 from Montana State University and her Master of Social Work degree from California State University Sacramento.

Prior to coming to the Department of Justice, Ms. Goodwin worked 16 years for the State of Montana Child and Family Services as a worker and supervisor. Upon leaving Montana, Ms. Goodwin took a position as the Executive Director of Victor Treatment Center in Santa Rosa, CA. She served in this role for 22 years. Returning to Montana in 2013, Ms. Goodwin continued her advocacy for children and response to victims through her work with Victim’s Services in Gallatin County. Ms. Goodwin served as the President of the Montana National Association of Social Workers Board from 2014 to 2016. Ms. Goodwin joined the Department of Justice as the Deputy Child and Family Ombudsman in March 2016.

The Role of the Child and Family Ombudsman: The Office of the Child and Family Ombudsman is an independent, impartial, and confidential resource for citizens concerned about the protection of children and the rights of children and families involved in child protection. In this session, the Child and Family Ombudsman will explain how to access the Office, what intervention looks like, and how recommendations are made to the Department of Public Health and Human Services. The Child and Family Ombudsman will also review the 2016 Annual Report.

Kristine Fortin, MD, MPH, Medical Issues for Foster Children: An Overview for Foster Families: This session will provide an overview of child health for families caring for foster children. Background information on toxic stress, including biologic and genetic changes that can occur will be reviewed. Common medical concerns will be discussed, along with challenges to obtaining optimal care and resources.

Maegan Rides At The Door, MA, Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma: A Workshop for Resource Parents: Repeat of morning session. Please note that this a half-day session will run from 1:30 to 4:45 PM.
Victoria Sweet, JD, Promoting Best Practices for Native Children: How Non-Native Foster Families Can Provide Positive Cultural Connections and Interactions: The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) requires that Native children be placed with family or in Native homes whenever possible. However, these preferred placement options are not always available. Many Native children end up in placements with families who are not Native and who many not understand the culture of the child’s tribe. Best practice recommendations suggest that foster placements try to promote positive cultural connections and interactions for these children, but where does a foster family begin if they are not familiar with the child’s tribe?

This session will provide suggestions for foster parents who have Native children placed in their care. Information will be shared about why it is important for these children to remain connected to their culture and how a non-Native person can find and encourage cultural interactions and opportunities.

Jeff Poirier, PhD, Jeff is a Senior Research Associate in the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Research, Evaluation, Evidence and Data Unit. Previously he was at the American Institutes for Research for 15 years where he addressed equity-related issues; examined policy/program implementation; synthesized research to develop products for the field; and delivered training and technical assistance around the U.S. to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations. His work has addressed issues related to behavioral health, child welfare, cultural and linguistic competence, education, homelessness, juvenile justice, LGBTQ youth, and youth well-being. Dr. Poirier has served as faculty at American University and at The George Washington University as part of its LGBT Health Policy & Practice Program. He is coeditor of a 2012 book, Improving Emotional and Behavioral Outcomes for LGBT Youth: A Guide for Professionals, and lead author of the Guide for Understanding, Supporting, and Affirming LGBTQI2-S Children, Youth, and Families.

Improving Child Welfare Policy and Practice for LGBTQ Youth and Children: This session will accomplish four objectives. First, the presenter will review evidence on the challenges that LGBTQ children/youth may experience generally and when accessing child welfare services. Next, he will review 10 standards for serving and fostering resilience of LGBTQ children/youth in child welfare settings. Then, he will engage the audience in a discussion about strategies to implement and behaviors to avoid when serving LGBTQ children/youth and their families. He will also share resources that practitioners can apply in their work.

Erna Granbois, Erna is the Education Director for the Fort Peck Tribal Education Department in Poplar, MT. Erna holds a Masters in Nursing Administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She has been an
active member in Fort Peck Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes, participating as a Pow Wow Celebration committee member, a Girls Scout Leader, and an HIV Trainer. Erna has a great deal of experience in the areas of nursing, education, and management. Before becoming Education Director, Erna worked as a hospital, school, and clinical nurse; Director of Nursing; Nurse Educator; Diabetes Coordinator; Clinical Manager; and Chief Executive Officer for a Utah Indian Health Service Ambulatory Clinic.

Erna is excited to help implement the Period of PURPLE Crying in Montana because educating others on preventive activities is more beneficial than attempting to teach others how to work with lifelong afflictions, especially those that may never improve.

Serene SunChild, Serene SunChild is the Child Welfare Case Manager for the Chippewa Cree Tribal Social Services Department. Serene holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Services from Montana State University-Northern. She is an enrolled member of the Chippewa Cree Tribe. Before becoming the Child Welfare Case Manager, Serene worked as a Medical Coder at the Rocky Boy Health Center for 8 years. Serene is passionate about the wellbeing of all Chippewa Cree children and wants to help spread the word out about the Period of PURPLE Crying to anyone who will listen.

Jody Jones, Jody is the Special Services Coordinator for the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes Early Childhood Services Program, which houses Head Starts and Early Head Starts across the Flathead Reservation. Jody was a teacher in both Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from University of Montana Western and a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Montana.

Jody has been instrumental in bringing the Period of PURPLE Crying program to the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. She is eager to help other Montana tribal communities bring this important information back to their tribes.

Tribal Period of PURPLE Crying: The Period of PURPLE Crying helps parents understand the first few months in their baby's life, which is commonly inundated by incessant infant crying. It is confusing and concerning to be told your baby "has colic" because it sounds like it is an illness or a condition that is abnormal. When the baby is given medication to treat symptoms of colic, it reinforces the idea that there is something wrong with the baby, when in fact, the baby is going through a very normal developmental phase. That is why we prefer to refer to this time as the Period of PURPLE Crying. This is not because the baby turns purple while crying. The acronym is a meaningful and memorable way to describe what parents and their babies are going through.
Erna, Serene, and Jody are the tribal certified facilitators for the Period of PURPLE Crying program in Montana. They have spent the past year traveling the state to raise awareness of Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma (SBS/AHT) prevention and related resources, tools, and education available to providers and caregivers of infants. They provide trainings that incorporate culturally appropriate traditions. They will give a brief overview of their training that includes lines of evidence, education, and materials for SBS/AHT prevention. Additionally, they will offer a reflection of their experience implementing this program in tribal communities and what it entails to become a certified facilitator. Please note that this is a three part presentation including Tribal Period of PURPLE Crying, Promising Pregnancy Care, and March of Dimes.

Rochelle Quist, Rochelle Quist is the Public Health Nurse Consultant for Health Montana Families, a network of programs around the state that provide voluntary, family-centered services in the home to expectant families and families with new infants and young children. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Montana State University, she proceeded to work with labor and delivery, family practice, pediatrics, and as a health care facility surveyor with the state. As a certified lactation counselor, she enjoys helping to support healthy pregnancy outcomes and child health and development. In her free time Rochelle loves to go hiking, fishing, and camping with her two puppies, family, and friends.

Katie Bevan, RN, BSN, IBCLC, After serving 5 years enlisted in the Navy, Katie graduated cum laude with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Loyola University Chicago in 2011. She commissioned as an officer in the Navy Nurse Corps and began her nursing career in the Navy. Her first duty station was Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. After caring for Wounded Warriors for a year, she changed roles to work in Walter Reed’s Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). During her 2 years in the NICU, she found her true passion for working with children and families. She became an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant and went on to practice in an outpatient pediatric clinic and a women’s health clinic located on the Navy’s Recruit Training base just outside of Chicago, IL.

Promising Pregnancy Care: Studies have shown that group prenatal care decreases the risk of preterm births, increases birth weights, and increases patient satisfaction. The Promising Pregnancy Care Program is Montana Medicaid’s new, reimbursable group prenatal care program for low-risk pregnancies. Group prenatal care has shown no increased cost to providers, and in fact, has even shown to be cost saving for some. This session will provide a brief history of the Promising Pregnancy Care Program, some descriptions of the curriculum, and how the program would ideally operate. Rochelle and Katie will also cover what the program looks like in other communities. Please note that
this is a three part presentation including Tribal Period of PURPLE Crying, Promising Pregnancy Care, and March of Dimes.

**Gina Legaz**, Gina is the Regional Director of Maternal Infant Health at the March of Dimes, where she oversees the maternal and child health work in nine western states: Alaska, Colorado, Wyoming, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Washington. She has a Bachelor of Science from Gonzaga University and a Master's in Public Health from Oregon State University.

Gina has been focused on maternal and child health for the past 12 years. In 2005, Gina spent six months with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians in Oregon focused on the primary prevention of diabetes for the Tribe's youth. After a year of health promotion work at Oregon State University focused on college aged health promotion at Student Health Services, Gina returned to Washington and joined the Washington Health Foundation. For nearly five years, Gina concentrated on health education and community outreach with a particular emphasis on school health working to make Washington the Healthiest State in the Nation. In 2010, Gina joined the Washington Chapter of the March of Dimes as the State Director of Programs and Government Affairs. In 2011, Gina was trained as a Coming of the Blessing facilitator and trainer.

As she transitioned into her regional role in 2016, she took over as the national staff lead for the Coming of the Blessing initiative. For the past six years, Gina has been focused on initiating systemic change to implement group prenatal care in partnership with tribes and community-based organizations serving women of color. Gina served on the WA State Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities Birth Outcomes Task Force, the WA State Medicaid Birth Outcomes Quality Improvement Steering Committee, and the WA State Safe Deliveries Road Map Steering Committee. Her concentration has been on the intersectionality of cultural competent care with models of evidence-based prenatal care that empower women to take control over their health, provide additional social support, and self-efficacy.

**March of Dimes:** The session will discuss reducing Montana's Pre-Term Birthrate (PTB), focusing on tobacco cessation and group prenatal care, two priority evidence-based interventions, tying in cultural competence and community partnership. The presentation will showcase some examples including the Smoking Cessation and Reduction in Pregnancy Treatment (SCRIPT) Program and Coming of the Blessing, as well as other programs that have been implemented in Washington. Examples will include March of Dimes work with the Yakama Nation and its efforts to start group prenatal care and train tribal members to co-facilitate that care, as well as train them to become doulas. The session will include discussion of PTB prevention and how it relates to child abuse and neglect prevention, as well as infant mortality prevention. Please note that this is a three part presentation including Tribal Period of PURPLE Crying, Promising Pregnancy Care, and March of Dimes.
Robert Friend, LCSW. Robert is the Director of the National Institute for Permanent Family Connectedness at Seneca Family of Agencies. Bob previously led the California Permanency for Youth Project (CPYP) and serves as the co-chair of the California Child Welfare Council's Permanency Committee. Bob previously served as an appointed Commissioner on the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care, as well as the state team co-chair for the Breakthrough Collaborative Series on Independent Living Program Transformation. He has also served as co-chair for the California Youth Permanency Task Force.

Bob has worked in the field of child welfare for over 35 years. His varied experiences in the field include: direct line worker, supervisor and director in residential treatment settings along with public and private foster care agencies. Bob has a Master’s Degree in Social Welfare from the University of California, and a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from Rutgers University. He is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in California.

Restoring Hope Through Relationship: It’s Our Business: While child protection agencies across the nation are facing a host of problematic/systemic issues (including lagging results and high rates of staff turnover), this keynote will mainly focus on characteristics and properties that underlie good work - collaborations and partnerships, inclusion, shared voices and power in decision making, and more - work in which we feel good and help others feel valued, and that is supported by research. Identification of specific examples, strategies and opportunities, and what we can do to maximize the frequency and potency of this type of work will be shared, including importance of family, Intentional Empowering, Intentional Strengths, and Appreciative Inquiry.

David Granirer. David is a counsellor, stand-up comic, speaker, and author of The Happy Neurotic: How Fear and Angst Can Lead to Happiness and Success. He has taught stand-up comedy to recovering addicts and cancer patients, and is the founder of Stand Up For Mental Health. His work is featured by media throughout the world and in the Voice Award winning documentary Cracking Up. David also gives laughter in the workplace presentations to hundreds of organizations across North America, helping them use humor to decrease stress, increase wellness, and cope with change. He is the recipient of a Life Unlimited
Award from the Depression Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA). He also received a
Champion of Mental Health Award, a national award recognizing the
contributions of individuals and organizations that have made outstanding
contributions to the advancement of the mental health agenda in Canada.

**Getting the Laughs You Need:** In today’s world, stress is a major challenge to
everyone’s well-being. Laughter is the cure, the best medicine, a cod liver oil for
the soul. And the wonderful thing is that unlike cod liver oil, a dose of laughter is
not only good for you, it also feels good to take!

While *Getting the Laughs You Need* promises to be a hilarious and entertaining
keynote presentation, you will also learn practical stress management
techniques; how to use humor to defuse tense situations, overcome burnout, and
enhance physical and emotional well-being; positive ways to respond to stressful
situations; and how to use humor to aid the recovery process.

Please note: In an effort to conserve resources, handouts for the 2017 conference will be
provided via USB Thumb Drive only—there will be no hard copy/paper handouts.