

*The Administrative Office of the Courts, in  
Partnership with the California Southern  
Regional Training Academy present:*



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN  
& THE COURTS

## Improving Permanency & Inclusion For Our Youth

**May 13-14, 2014**

**Marina Village Conference Center  
1936 Quivira Way  
San Diego, California 92109**

# Agenda

### **TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014**

#### **A Focus On Permanency for Non Minor Dependents**

The training will provide current legal information on AB 12; 212; 1712 and 787 regarding extended foster care and non-minor dependents. Taking a look at some of the unintended consequences of the new law and ethical considerations, participants will re-focus efforts toward concurrent planning and permanency for this youth population.

**Hon. Patricia Bresee (Ret.)**, Consultant/Trainer/Retired Juvenile Court Commissioner  
**Hon. Donna Quigley Groman**, Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
**Marymichael Miatovich**, Attorney, AOC, Center for Families, Children & the Courts  
**Brian Blalock**, Youth Justice Project Director, Bay Area Legal Aid, Oakland  
**John Paul Horn, MSW**, Former Foster Youth & Training Associate  
**A. Chris Downs, Ph.D.**, President, The Downs Group, LLC, Seattle, Washington  
**Michael Meyers, M.A.**, Trainer/Consultant  
**Destiny Carter**, Current Non Minor Dependent Youth, Los Angeles  
**Christine Prue**, Supervising Probation Officer, San Diego County Probation Department

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.      **Registration**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.      **Current Legal Overview of Extended Foster Care**  
*Hon. Patricia Bresee (Ret.)*  
*Hon. Donna Quigley Groman*  
*Marymichael Miatovich*  
*Brian Blalock*

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.      **Lunchtime Speaker: The Road to Permanency**  
*John Paul Horn*

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.      **Permanency Planning**  
*Chris Downs*  
*Michael Meyers*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.      **Break**

3:15 – 5:00 p.m.

### **Getting the System Involved/Q&A**

*Destiny Carter*

*Christine Prue*

*Faculty Panel*

#### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Attendees will be able to identify the legal requirements for permanency in older youth.
2. Attendees will be able to distinguish between legal and emotional permanency.
3. Attendees will be able to explain the legal process for extended foster care.
4. Attendees will value the importance of focusing on permanency at the beginning of the case.
5. Attendees will understand the legislative history and intent of extended foster care.
6. Attendees will understand the relationship between securing connections for youth and permanency outcomes.
7. Attendees will learn at least one new strategy for meaningfully engaging youth.
8. Attendees will be able to describe several unintended consequences from AB12.
9. Attendees will be able to apply 3 new strategies when working with youth to help improve outcomes.

#### **Day One of this training will provide continuing education units for the following categories:**

- 6 hours towards continuing education for Judicial Officer, Juvenile Dependency Mediators, and court staff.
- 6 hours of continuing education for MFTs & LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). The AOC, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is a Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) approved CEU provider, Provider #699
- 6 hours of continuing education for Attorneys as required by the State Bar Association (MCLE). The AOC is approved by the State Bar of California as a Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Provider #4781
- 6 hours of continuing education for Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) credit.

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014**

#### **Permanency & Inclusion for Youth**

This training will provide an overview of the legal benefits for non minor dependents before shifting the focus to the LGBTQ youth population. Participants will take a look at the unique needs of LGBTQ youth and how to engage in culturally sensitive practices that promote safety and wellbeing. Additionally, participants will learn strategies and effective practices toward achieving improved outcomes for our youth.

***Brian Blalock***, Youth Justice Project Director, Bay Area Legal Aid, Oakland

***Michael Meyers, M.A.***, Trainer/Consultant

***Shannan Wilber***, Youth Project Director, National Center for Lesbian Rights, San Francisco

***Marta Cunningham***, Director and Producer of the film *Valentine Road*

***Aydin Kennedy, MSW, ACSW***, Transgender Health Program Coordinator, St. John's Well Child & Family Center, Los Angeles

***Johanna Olson, MD***, Medical Director of the Center for Transyouth Health and Development, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Benefits for Non Minor Dependents</b> <i>Brian Blalock</i>
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<b>Increasing Engagement with LGBT Youth</b> <i>Michael Meyers</i> <i>Shannan Wilber</i>
12:15 – 1:45 p.m.	<b>Lunchtime Speaker and Film <i>Valentine Road</i></b> <i>Marta Cunningham</i>
1:45 – 3:15 p.m.	<b>Transgender Youth: Needs, Risks, Outcomes and the Role of the System</b> <i>Aydin Kennedy</i> <i>Johanna Olson</i>
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
3:30 – 4:45 p.m.	<b>Transgender Youth Continued, Q&amp;A</b> <i>Aydin Kennedy</i> <i>Johanna Olson</i> <i>Faculty Panel</i>

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Attendees will be able to distinguish between the different benefit options available to foster care youth and non minor dependents.
2. Attendees will be able to have knowledgeable conversations with youth about their benefit options.
3. Attendees will be able to explain the need for integrating culture and diversity into practice.
4. Attendees will recognize the differences between awareness, diversity, competency and humility.
5. Attendees will consider various components of cultural humility.
6. Attendees will increase their understanding of the California laws and professional standards governing services to LGBT youth in state custody.
7. Attendees will have a greater understanding of how privilege, heteronormativity and heterosexism impact the psychosocial development of transgender individuals.
8. Attendees will have a greater understanding of the developmental process for gender non-conforming and transgender youth.
9. Attendees will understand the basic needs of transgender youth.
10. Attendees will recognize the risk of multiple negative mental health and behavioral outcomes for transgender youth who do not get timely and appropriate treatment.
11. Attendees will be able to apply new strategies for advocating on behalf of improved outcomes for LGBT youth.

**Day Two of this training will provide continuing education units for the following categories:**

- 7.25 hours towards continuing education for Judicial Officer, Juvenile Dependency Mediators, and court staff.
- 7.25 hours of continuing education for MFTs & LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). The AOC, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is a Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) approved CEU provider, Provider #699
- 7.25 hours of continuing education for Attorneys as required by the State Bar Association (MCLE). The AOC is approved by the State Bar of California as a Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Provider #4781
- 7.25 hours of continuing education for Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) credit.

## **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

**BRIAN BLALOCK** is a staff attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid, where he founded and currently directs the Youth Justice Project (YJP), providing direct representation and systemic advocacy on issues related to youth who are under twenty-five years old. Brian's work at YJP aims to create a civil legal safety net for youth in the Bay Area through a strong presence in the community and collaboration with system partners with a focus on reaching youth who are delinquency or dependency involved and/or who have disabilities. YJP's current projects include working with homeless young adults in accessing appropriate benefits, health, and emergency supports and looking at systemic funding issues that create barriers to entitled services. Brian was formerly a public school teacher in the south Bronx. He has graduate degrees from Columbia and Harvard and a law degree from Stanford Law School.

**HON. PATRICIA BRESEE (RET.)** is a retired Juvenile Court Judge. Pat Bresee is a recognized expert in Juvenile Law and has been recognized as Juvenile Court Judge of the Year by the California Judges Association and as Judge of the Year by the National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association. She served two terms on the San Mateo County First Five Commission and currently serves on the San Mateo County Blue Ribbon Commission and the San Mateo County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission. In addition, she is the Chair of the Board of California CASA. She continues to train attorneys and judicial officers in Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Law and fills in for judges in Juvenile Court in San Mateo County on request.

**DESTINY CARTER**, age 20, is currently a non minor dependent living in Los Angeles. Miss Carter entered foster care at age 15, was in and out of juvenile detention, and resided in one placement facility before she became involved with First Place for Youth and moved into an apartment she shares with a roommate. Miss Carter is currently working and attending LA Trade Technical College where she is focusing on Automotive Trade/Career. Miss Carter is passionate about skating, stating "it gives me a release and helps me get through life".

**MARTA CUNNINGHAM** is an accomplished actor turned first-time filmmaker. A native of Northern California, she was so moved by the story of Lawrence King's murder that she became embedded in Oxnard and soon began filming those whose lives were touched by the tragedy. The result would be "Valentine Road", a feature length documentary that was selected to compete in the 2013 Sundance Film Festival and premiered on HBO in October of 2013. Ms. Cunningham was awarded the prestigious Baker Scholarship at Georgetown University, where she studied English literature. Recently she became a part of the Sundance Institute's Film Forward program, which aims to enhance cultural understanding, collaboration and dialogue around the globe by engaging audiences. She has also joined the Sundance Institute's Women Filmmakers Initiative which assesses the role of women in the film industry.

**CHRIS DOWNS, PH.D** is a Developmental Psychologist with over 35 years experience in universities, corporate America, and non-profits focused on issues of adolescent and young adult well-being, independent living, and permanency. Chris is considered a national expert on improving both services and outcomes of youth living in out-of-home care. He co-authored the Casey Alumni studies published by Oxford University Press, led the creation of life skills assessments and companion tools completed by over 1 million youth and caregivers since 1996, and was selected Master Teacher by the University of Houston. Chris' company, The Downs Group LLC, is a national child welfare consulting firm with offices in Seattle, Denver and Indianapolis. Chris and his team created a highly effective approach to permanency called the Permanency and Transition Highway, or PATH. This model offers many training courses, assessments and formal consultation to help public and private, large and small agencies improve their services and outcomes for youth.

**HON. DONNA QUIGLEY GROMAN** has been a judicial officer since 1997. She is presently assigned to the Los Angeles County Juvenile Delinquency Court. Prior assignments include criminal and juvenile dependency. Judge Groman was named the California Judges Association Juvenile Court Judge of the Year for 2012. Judge Groman serves as faculty to the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) in California, teaching juvenile delinquency law and related topics to judges statewide. She is a member of the Juvenile and Family Law Advisory Committee of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and serves as the Chair of the CJER Juvenile Law Curriculum Committee. Judge Groman is implementing best practices and creating systemic change in the juvenile justice system in the following areas: domestic minor sex trafficking (“STAR” Collaborative Court”); successful re-entry from probation facilities; reducing the school to prison pipeline through intake revision and implementation of restorative justice practices; school-based arrest reform; school discipline as it impacts probation youth; parent engagement; extended foster care and independent living services for youth aging out of the system; permanency planning for probation youth; and child-parent domestic violence. Judge Groman received her J.D. from the American University, Washington College of Law in 1979. Judge Groman has served as a lawyer then a judge in the field of juvenile law for approximately 28 years.

**JOHN PAUL HORN, MSW** is an alumni of the California foster care system and child welfare researcher. He has previously been a member of California Youth Connection and Foster Care Alumni of America, completed the Foster Youth Internship program with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute in Washington, D.C., and worked as a research assistant for the National Resource Center for In-Home Services. He works on a consultation basis with the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice to develop training materials. Mr. Horn currently lives in Iowa, where he works for a small non-profit.

**AYDIN KENNEDY, MSW, ACSW** is the Transgender Health Program Coordinator at St. John's Well Child & Family Center in Los Angeles, a comprehensive medical and mental health program serving trans adults throughout the Southern California region. As a queer transgender man, he is extremely passionate about exploring the intersecting identities and often multiple disparities experienced by the trans and queer communities. He has been working with the queer and trans community since 1998, providing LGBTQ+ cultural humility trainings for service providers for over 10 years and for the last 5 years mentoring and counseling trans\* youth, adults and their families.

**MARYMICHAEL MIATOVICH** is an Attorney with the Center for Families, Children & the Courts for the Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts in San Francisco. Currently, she is a part of the Juvenile Court Assistance Team (JCAT) which works to help improve the juvenile dependency courts

in California. She is a statewide trainer on the topic of laws and best practices related to children in foster care. In 2008, Ms. Miatovich became a Certified Child Welfare Law Specialist (CWLS) through the National Association of Counsel for Children. This specialty is accredited by the State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization. Ms. Miatovich was previously a court-appointed attorney representing parents in Juvenile Dependency proceedings in Santa Clara County. In that capacity, she represented parents in all parts of the juvenile dependency process from the initial hearing to permanency planning. Prior to her work in the area of Juvenile Dependency, she worked in the City Attorney's office for the City of Santa Clara. Ms. Miatovich obtained her undergraduate and law degree from Santa Clara University and became a member of the California State Bar in 2001. Ms. Miatovich obtained her Masters in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in child abuse and neglect from JFK University in 2013.

**MICHAEL MEYERS, M.A.** has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and a Master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, and is currently working on his PhD in Psychology. Mr. Meyers has specialized in the area of child welfare since earning his Master's degree in 1996. He has worked in group homes, foster family agencies, and in most aspects of public child welfare including emergency response, investigations, continuing court, non court, and group homes. Mr. Meyers is a strong advocate for youth voices and permanent connections. He is passionate about making sure placement disruptions are minimized and that youth behaviors are normalized. He is an expert in AB12, having championed the cause of non-specialized caseloads to reduce the losses for these young adults. He also regularly looks to increase the number of connections that youth have, and believes that permanency is not a bed but a relationship (although both are best).

**JOHANNA OLSON, MD** is a pediatrician and Adolescent Medicine specialist working as a full time faculty member of the Division of Adolescent Medicine at Children's Hospital Los Angeles since 2006. In 2012, she became the Medical Director of the Division's *Center for Transyouth Health and Development*. She specializes in the care of gender non-conforming and transgender children and adolescents, and youth with HIV. Currently functioning as a KL2 Clinical Translational Science scholar, she spearheads a program of research at CHLA that aims to understand the experience of gender non-conformity from childhood through early adulthood. Board certified in Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, she is also an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. She has appeared on ABC's *20/20*, *The Dr. Phil Show*, *CNN*, *Dateline NBC* and *The Doctors* to educate audiences about the needs of transgender youth.

**CHRISTINE PRUE**, Supervising Probation Officer, has a bachelor degree in Criminal Justice Administration from San Diego State University. She has been with the San Diego County Probation Department for over seventeen years and a supervisor for the last six years. During her tenure, she has worked in juvenile institutions, juvenile supervision, placement, and juvenile intake and investigation. During her assignment as the supervisor for the Placement Unit, Officer Prue learned the intricacies of extended foster care and ensured eligible youth were given the opportunity to take advantage of the services.

**KRISTINE VAN DORSTEN** is a senior court services analyst with the Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) where she has provided consultation, technical assistance and training on a variety of projects related to family, probate and dependency court system programs since 2007. Ms. Van Dorsten has served as a trainer, facilitator, and moderator for numerous trainings and meetings over the past 20 years. Ms. Van Dorsten's background has included many years of direct service for Children Services and the courts as an investigator and mediator, as well as management and administrative positions within

these systems. She is a licensed social worker in the State of Ohio, and is a certified professional development coach with specialized advanced training in organizational systems and team coaching.

**SHANNAN WILBER** joined the National Center for Lesbian Rights in 2013 to direct the Youth Project, bringing over 20 years of experience advocating for vulnerable children and youth. She represented individual children at Legal Advocates for Children and Youth, engaged in policy advocacy and impact litigation to reform child welfare and juvenile justice systems at the Youth Law Center, and served as the Executive Director of Legal Services for Children. She is the primary author of CWLA's "Best Practice Guidelines: Serving LGBT Youth in Out-of-Home Care," and "Guidelines for Managing Information Related to the Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity and Expression of Children in Child Welfare Systems."