

Clinton County District Attorney's Child Advocacy Center Presents

In partnership with the Saint Regis-Mohawk Tribe, Essex County District Attorney, Franklin County District Attorney, Clinton County Department of Social Services, and Franklin County Department of Social Services

Hope Changes Everything

Conference on Child Abuse, Exploitation, and Trafficking

Click Below "Westside Ballroom"
for Directions

Westside Ballroom

Have You Registered?

October 12th
7:30 am- 5:00 pm

Save the Date

Look Who Is Coming. . .

Keynote Speaker: Sasha Joseph Neulinger



Sasha Joseph Neulinger (B.A. in Film Production at Montana State University) is the co-founder and Head of Production at Step 1 Films. He has worked behind the scenes on National Geographic's award winning series, "America, The Wild" as a post production assistant. At Step 1 Films, he has produced, directed, and edited multiple commercial videos for various corporate clients nationally. He is currently directing his first feature length documentary, "Rewind To Fast-Forward," an autobiographical film about his life surviving multigenerational child sexual abuse. In April 2014, Sasha launched a Kickstarter campaign to help raise funds for his film, and in doing so became the 6th most backed documentary in Kickstarter history, raising over \$176,000 from the support of 4,395 supporters. In October 2014, Sasha directed an Emmy Award Winning Film crew in Philadelphia, and completed principal photography for *Rewind To Fast-Forward* during a three week film shoot. While raising the remaining funds needed to complete his film, and directing the post-production team, Sasha also travels nationally as a public speaker, advocating for reforms in child advocacy and child abuse prevention. On March 27th, 2015, Sasha presented at TEDxBozeman. His presentation was titled "Trauma Is Irreversible. How It Shapes Us Is Our Choice." Since it was released to the public on May 20th, 2015, Sasha's TEDx Talk has been viewed over 83,000 times to date, reaching survivors internationally.

Geri Wisner, J. D.

Geri Wisner is a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, a former United States Marine and a mother. She is the Tribal Prosecutor for the Pawnee Nation and Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, the Executive Director for the Native American Children's Alliance (NACA) and oversees the Wisner Law Firm. Ms. Wisner is a nationally recognized speaker on the issues of criminal justice in Indian Country, collaborative responses to address violent crimes and integrating traditional Tribal healing and practices. She also conducts specialized trainings for law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates and allied child abuse professionals responding to child maltreatment and domestic violence. Geri trains child abuse professionals on advanced investigative and prosecutorial techniques utilizing a victim-centered approach. Ms. Wisner has been appointed to serve on several Congressional committees focusing on the improvement of Tribal justice, the protection of Native children and safer communities in Indian Country. Ms. Wisner served as the first Ambassador to the United Nations for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Geri is the president of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation bar association and serves as a board member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC).

David Melnick, LICSW

David is the Director of Outpatient Services at Northeastern Family Institute (NFI), Vermont. For the past 30 years, David has worked with children, adolescents and families in a variety of settings including: outpatient, residential treatment, and schools. In addition to providing direct clinical work, David consults with and trains professionals and parents throughout Vermont. His areas of expertise include developmental trauma, family therapy, adolescence, and attachment. Dave is trained in EMDR, DDP (Dr. Dan Hughes's attachment model), and a variety of family systems models. The Child Trauma Academy acknowledges that Dave has completed NMT Training Certification through the Phase II level. David is a graduate of UC Berkeley, and is an adjunct instructor at the University of Vermont.

Scott J. Modell, Ph.D.

Scott J. Modell received his Ph.D. from the College of Education at Florida State University in 1997. Dr. Modell is currently serving as the Deputy Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. Most recently he has served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Prior to moving to Tennessee, Dr. Modell spent fifteen years as a Professor at California State University, Sacramento. Over his last five years at the university, he additionally served as Director of the university's Autism Center for Excellence. He is an expert in child abuse, crime victims with disabilities, disability etiology, and interview techniques. He has authored nine books and has over 250 published articles and abstracts. Dr. Modell is frequently invited to lecture at national and international conferences regarding child abuse and crime victims with disabilities. Dr. Modell has taught for the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC), National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC), National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA), National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), and the Singapore National Council of Social Service (NCSS). He has conducted workshops and trainings reaching thousands police officers, educators, child protective service and adult protective service professionals across the country. He has received international recognition for his work in the area of crime victims and interview techniques for individuals with disabilities.

Candace Joice

iEmpathize is a non-profit organization whose mission is to evoke empathy and empower people to eradicate child exploitation. iEmpathize creates original media as a tool to educate and train individuals how to actively respond to the issue of exploitation and human trafficking.

Candace Joice is the Education Manager at iEmpathize. Candace uses her expertise in pedagogy, academic and social research, curriculum development, and production management to increase the impact of our education based programs for youth. She wrote and produced iEmpathize's prevention curriculum, The Empower Youth Program. She also provides training and workshops regarding human trafficking and exploitation prevention. Prior to joining iEmpathize, she worked for five years as a post-secondary/secondary educator. Candace also carries more than ten years of experience as a theatre and film artist. As an iEmpathize team member, Candace contributes to the fusion of education and art, two fields that can generate great social justice when united together.

Dr. Karyn Patno

Dr. Patno is Vermont's first, and only, board certified Child Abuse Pediatrician through the American Board of Pediatrics. The achievement culminates over 5 years of work in the field of child abuse pediatrics. Dr. Patno started the ChildSafe Program of Vermont in February 2008 after completing 6 months of fellowship training in Providence, RI. She studied and trained under the tutelage of Dr. Carole Jenny, one of the early pioneers in the field of Child Abuse Pediatrics. In 2013, in collaboration with the Clinton County Child Advocacy Center, Dr. Patno started the first child abuse medical clinic in Northern New York. She serves patients in four counties and the Saint Regis-Mohawk Tribe providing support, consultation, and forensic medicals.

Tanisha L. Knighton, Ph.D.

Tanisha L. Knighton holds a B.A., M.C.J. and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Knighton is an independent consultant and national trainer with over 17 years of combined experience as a Social Worker with the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Service and the Missing Persons Unit for the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department. Dr. Knighton creates curricula and provides training on a variety of topics which include enhancing group therapy strategies, working with sexual offenders, treating juvenile sexual offenders, working with victims of sexual abuse, sexting, teen sexuality, trauma and trauma bonds, missing persons, and human trafficking for a variety of agencies and national

Ross Cheit, J.D. and Ph.D.

Ross Cheit is Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at Brown University, where he has been teaching since 1986. His most recent book, *The Witch-Hunt Narrative: Politics, Psychology and the Sexual Abuse of Children*, was published by Oxford University Press. Cheit graduated from Williams College and received a J.D. and Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of California-Berkeley.

The Unacknowledged History of Child Sexual Abuse in America: This presentation will describe some of the findings from Ross Cheit's recent book (*The Witch-Hunt Narrative: Politics, Psychology, and the Sexual Abuse of Children*) about highly-contested child sexual abuse cases from the 1980s and early 1990s. Cheit found considerable evidence that contradicts the widespread claims about "hysteria" during this era. Those findings will be connected to contemporary developments in the Catholic Church and at Penn State. The presentation will conclude with some observations about silence and the power of speaking up.

Jenna Quinn

Jenna Quinn has been an activist for 11 years going back to the age of 17 when she was approached by the Dallas Morning News about featuring her story. This was paramount in her decision to speak out as a victor and not a victim. Her story sparked an array of news and media opportunities for her to speak out about child sexual abuse issues. A poised and charismatic speaker with a Masters Degree in Communications, Jenna has traveled the country making speeches to law-enforcement and abuse-prevention groups.

She has moved into political action reaching out to Texas legislators about the need for schools to adopt age-appropriate curriculum on child sexual abuse. Republican Representative Tan Parker championed what is now known as "Jenna's Law" in August 2009. **"Jenna's Law" passed the state senate unanimously making it the first child abuse prevention law in the U.S mandating K-12 trainings for students, all school staff, and parents.** "Jenna's Law" addresses **sexual abuse and other forms of maltreatment.** Moreover, "Jenna's Law" was expanded to incorporate **child care centers, foster care centers, child placing agencies, and universities.** She didn't stop there, in 2014 she required accountability of the law through the Texas Education Code 38.0041. Jenna is speaking to audiences all across the country about sexual abuse prevention. She has a desire to see struggling individuals reach their full potential in Christ, and live a life of peace and wholeness.

John H. White, Ph.D.

John H. White, Ph.D., is a former Investigator Sergeant with the Dallas, Texas, Police Department. During his 11 year tenure, he was assigned to Patrol, the Psychological Services Office, Internal Affairs Division, and the Fugitive and Special Investigations Unit. He earned a doctorate in Counseling/Psychology while working as a police officer. He earned a post doctoral certificate in Clinical Neuropsychology at Fielding Graduate University.

After leaving the police department, Dr. White became licensed as a psychologist with a forensic specialty in New Jersey while teaching psychology and criminal justice at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. At the college, Dr. White co-authored the criminal justice master's degree program, and implemented the forensic psychology tracks in undergraduate and graduate schools. As a practicing psychologist, Dr. White has treated and interviewed over 400 sex offenders and others who have committed violent crimes. He is the psychological consultant to Atlantic County's Crisis Response Team and has been consulted by local law enforcement on several violent crimes. He has testified in numerous court cases as an expert witness. In addition to belonging to professional associations, Dr. White is a member of the prestigious VIDOCQ Society. He is also the author of numerous peer reviewed journals relative to sex crimes and serial murder.

Dr. White is currently a member of the psychology faculty at the college and helped found the Richard Stockton College Center for Public Safety and Security.

Closing Speaker: Benjamin Perks

Benjamin Perks is the UNICEF Representative to Montenegro and is responsible for advocating for and supporting reforms that strengthen the human rights of children, particularly with regard to child protection, justice, health, education and early childhood. Most recently, UNICEF in Montenegro supported the government in developing a strategy for increasing pre-school enrollment from 52% to 95% by 2020. He has previously served with UNICEF in Georgia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, India and Albania. In Afghanistan he helped to coordinate the Back to School campaign in the Northern part of the country after the collapse of the Taliban. Nationally, the campaign brought 1 million girls and 2 million boys into school-most of them for the first times in their lives.



In a personal capacity he is currently a Senior Fellow with the University of Birmingham's Jubilee Centre which researches teaching of on character, social and emotional skills in schools. He holds a Masters Degree in International Relations from the University of Kent at Canterbury and a Bachelors Degree in Politics and History from the University of Hertfordshire. He has recently completed a mid-career programme with the Harvard Graduate School of Education on leadership and Education Reform. He also recently did a TedX talk on adverse childhood experiences <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qp0kV7JtWIE> He is a supporter of Tottenham Hotspur Football club

\$50.00 Registration Fee

Please Make Check Out To:
Child Advocacy Center

Mail Check To:
46 Arizona Avenue
Plattsburgh, New York 12903

To Register email Jami Rock: jami.rock@clintoncountygov.com

Please include your Name, Organization, Contact Phone Number, and Lunch Selection
(California Chicken Wrap, Roast Beef/Cheddar/Horseradish Wrap, or Vegetarian Selection)

A block of rooms have been reserved at the price of \$99.00 at the Comfort Inn in Plattsburgh, New York in conjunction with this conference. Please call 518-562-2730 to make a reservation.