

Refresh, Renew,

8

Refocus

Preliminary Brochure
July 14-17, 2024
The Saratoga Hilton Hotel

Welcome & Keynote Address Monday, July 17 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Saratoga 2&3

Presiding:

Michael McMahon NYPWA President and Commissioner of Rensselaer

Phil Barrett, Chairman, Saratoga County Board of Supervisors

DaMia Harris-Madden, Commissioner, Office of Children and Family Services

Barbara Guinn, Commissioner, Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Keynote Speakers



Katherine Bailey

Katherine is a seasoned consultant with over two decades of experience working with individuals and organizations. In her consulting practice, Katherine leads retreats and workshops aimed at promoting performance and wellbeing within organizations. She specializes in crisis intervention, leadership and organizational support, and trauma-responsive care. Additionally, she is highly sought after as a leadership coach and keynote speaker. Her work spans across various sectors, including non-profits, government, education, philanthropy, and the private sector.

As a consulting faculty member at the Energy Project, Katherine led programs for a diverse range of clients, including NASA, United States Air Force Special Operations, Fidelity, Apple, Comcast, Firstbank, Citadel, and Greenhouse. She delivered keynote addresses at prestigious institutions such as the University of Michigan, the University of Waterloo, the G100, PWC, and the Society of Gynecologic Oncology. She was also a featured presenter at the MANY conference. As a Managing

Director, Katherine created The Energy Project's CEO Intensive program.

During her tenure as a senior faculty member of The Sanctuary Institute, Katherine spearheaded the Sanctuary Crisis Response and played a key role in developing the 5-day leadership training. Additionally, she co-authored the Sanctuary certification standards. She led Sanctuary implementation projects for organizations such as the Mount Vernon School District, the Westchester Department of Social Services, and the WNY OCFS Implementation and Core Team.

Katherine's keynote address with be nothing but amazing. Nothing influences performance, outcomes, and satisfaction more than energy management, yet individual and organizational renewal is often seen as a luxury, an afterthought, or disregarded entirely. This session serves as a call to action to harness the science of high performance to drive engagement, excellence, and joy. Participants will receive the tools and inspiration necessary to enact lasting change.

Sunday ■ July 14

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Gallery/Pavillion Exhibit Setup and Registration

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Conference Registration

Lower Lobby

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Pub Crawl

Participants:

- Saratoga City Tavern
- Parting Glass
- Caroline St. Pub
- Whitman Brewing

Dinner on Your Own

Monday ■ July 15

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM Saratoga 2/3

Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Lower Lobby

Conference Registration

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Gallery

Exhibit Area Open

Lobby/Gallery

- All Day Refresher Break
 - Sponsored by Binti

9:00 AM- 10:30 AM

Concurrent Sessions

Phila

NYPWA Board of Directors' Meeting

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Caseworker and Witness Prep (1.5 CLEs 90 minutes)

Witness testimony is often the most crucial factor in presenting a winning case at trial. This program will help attorneys prepare caseworkers and providers for courtroom testimony. For caseworkers this training will cover how to prepare for testimony, including understanding the basics about what materials to "study", the standard of proof for each type of hearing, and how to organize notes to refresh your recollection. We will also discuss issues that are just as important as your words in your testimony- appearance, demeanor, and mannerisms.

Presenter:

Camille J. Siano Enders, Esq., Deputy County Attorney, Schenectady County DSS

Broadway 1/2

The Journey to Go Digital for Workers & Families

As we all know, technology has advanced rapidly over the past decade. Many county departments of social services have been on journeys to go digital to streamline processes and help mitigate the burden paperwork puts on workers. 64% of child welfare burnout is said to be work-related factors like documentation and paperwork. During this session, representatives from Chemung County DSS and Oswego County DSS will join Northwoods to share lessons learned and best practices for effectively conducting change management when implementing a technology project to increase long-term utilization and drive more meaningful outcomes.

Presenters:

Laura Haffield, Director of Advocacy, Northwoods **Mindy Banfield**, Commissioner, Chemung County DSS

Meghan Rose, Case Supervisor B - CPS, Oswego County DSS

NYC Asylum Application Help Center

In June 2023, NYC Office of Asylum Seeker Operations (NYC OASO) opened the first-in-the-nation municipal Asylum Application Help Center (AAHC) to provide immediate, high-quality assistance to migrants applying for asylum. Today, the AAHC staff--application assistants, interpreters, and immigration lawyers--support hundreds of clients every week in applying for not only asylum but also Temporary Protection Status (TPS) and work authorization pro se. The AAHC is driven by client-centered service design and informed directly by client needs. *Presenters:*

Molly Schaeffer, Executive Director, NYC OASO Masha Gindler, Asst Deputy Commissioner, Mayor's Office of Asylum Seeker Operations Executive Director, Asylum Application Help Center

Broadway 4

The State of Youth who are Missing from Foster Care: Challenges & Opportunities in Practice

This session will be a conversation between OCFS, the EMPOWER program at Children's Home of Poughkeepsie, and participants about the state of youth who are missing from foster care. Together we will discuss the challenges, strategies, and opportunities in this area of practice. Themes will include enhancing safety by embedding youth voice and practicing the reasonable and prudent parenting standard.

Presenters:

Madeline Hehir, Senior Director, OCFS Lori Stella, Assistant Executive Director, Child Welfare Programs, Children's Home of Poughkeepsie

Travers/Alabama

Still Wound Up! Medicaid Best Practices and Strategies for the LDSS

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Only)

As the Medicaid program continues to evolve, local districts face many new challenges, related to the great unwinding. The shared experiences of other counties has proven to be an underutilized source of knowledge and insight. This facilitated discussion

will allow districts to share their successes and seek out best practices. * This is a continued round-table discussion, based partly on feedback from the January 2024 session. *

Presenter:

Jim Sluder, Medicaid Director, Suffolk County DSS

Highrock

Automate, Differentiate, & Accelerate: How Technology & Unique Datasets Can Streamline Eligibility Determinations Throughout the Benefit Lifecycle

Social service agencies are constantly faced with the challenge of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable populations while strengthening program integrity. Agencies are tasked with effectively administering programs, allocating resources to manage ever-increasing caseloads, and implementing technology to support multiple programs, while staying compliant with statutory and regulatory requirements.

In this session, participants will learn how automating the eligibility verification process with differentiated data sets such as income, employment, and incarceration can help alleviate these issues throughout the benefit lifecycle. By seamlessly integrating unique financial and non-financial data elements within existing workflows and decision-making streams, social service agencies can accelerate their eligibility determination and renewal processes and better support continuity of benefits.

Presenter:

Joel Hardi, Director of Product Management - Government Solutions, Equifax

Saratoga 1

Fiscal Basic Training

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Only)

All are invited to join the Fiscal Administrators as they discuss Fiscal 101 Topics. Whether you are new to the fiscal world or been around the block a few times. This will be a nice course to help everyone with some of the basics in the fiscal world. *Presenter:*

Jessica Weinman, Director of Administration & Fiscal Services, Cattaraugus County DSS

10:30 AM

Gallery

 Coffee Break • Sponsored by Equifax-Carahsoft

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Saratoga 2/3

Welcome & Opening Address

11:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Saratoga 2/3

• Luncheon • Sponsored by Conduent

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Travers/Alabama

State & Local Commissioners' Dialogue

(Limited to State and Local Commissioners)

Commissioners of OTDA and OCFS, and their executive deputies, will discuss current issues facing social services with local DSS commissioners. The session will begin with topics from local commissioners, followed by time for state commissioners to raise additional issues. Chaired by: Michael McMahon, NYPWA President

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Child Welfare Caselaw Review, Part I (1.5 CLEs, 90 minutes)

The published opinions related to child welfare cases released from January-June 2024 will be reviewed. Part I will primarily be a review of FCA Article 10 cases.

Presenter:

Mark E. Maves, Esq., Counsel to NYPWA

Broadway 1/2

Effective Child Support Administration

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Only)

This session is designed specifically for Child Support Coordinators and is restricted to LDSS staff who oversee the Child Support program. Please join your colleagues in addressing what is happening in your district and in other regions. This session is an opportunity for meaningful dialogue on the issues that matter the most to you concerning the local

administration of child support. *Presenters:*

Maria Restivo, Child Support Enforcement Coordinator, Ulster County DSS Laura McKay, Child Support Enforcement Coordinator, Sullivan County DSS Michelle Henry-Walker, FA Coordinator-Child Support Services, Monroe County DSS

Broadway 3

Coaching the Emerging Workforce

Coaching the Emerging Workforce: As the younger generations enter the workforce, in addition to technical training, coaching is critical to help them learn important skills such as effective communication and listening, empathy, and emotional intelligence. Hear from a Professional Certified Coach (PCC) with the International Coaching Federation (ICF) who has successfully coached NYS, NYC and County staff in a safe and confidential setting, which is the perfect place to overcome challenge areas, grow and learn. The presentation will include the essentials of coaching and why it's so successful as well as share some successful case studies. You'll walk away with the knowledge to make an informed decision as to whether coaching would benefit your organization. Presenter:

Deborah J Cabral, PCC, Cabral Enterprises, LLC DBA DC Efficiency Consulting

Broadway 4

Fox in the Hen House: When APS Workers Violate Trust

APS agencies investigate financial exploitation of vulnerable adults daily. However, when the accused exploiter is the caseworker who is assigned to help the adult, the impact is significant on the client, the staff of the department, and community. In Erie County, a Senior Caseworker systematically stole from several clients who were in receipt of SSI funds as their sole source of income. Erie County's experience will be shared from the call of concern that started the investigation through the sentencing of the exploiter with the goal of assisting other agencies who may experience this.

Presenters:

Michele Pfeffer, Administrative Director, Erie County DSS

Erik Mattoon, Social Case Supervisor, Erie County DSS

Highrock

SNAP & Temporary Assistance Application Processing Timeliness Updates

This workshop will be directed at SSD SNAP and Temporary Assistance Directors and staff and will provide an overview of how Application Processing Timeliness (APT) rates are calculated, OTDA's targeted reviews of SSDs with APT rate issues, common themes, lessons learned, and best practices identified to date from the reviews and next steps. The workshop will also provide SSDs an opportunity to discuss amongst themselves and with OTDA their progress, initiatives and what support they need to help them improve their APT rates.

Presenters:

Stacey Nodelman, Director of TA Programs, OTDA **Wendy DeMarco**, Director of Food & Nutrition Policy, OTDA

Sherry Tomasky, SNAP Bureau Chief, OTDA

Saratoga 1

Deep Dive into the Fiscal World, Part I

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Only)

Mini Roundtable Discussions: Child Welfare Settlement Tool, FFFS Plan, Child Care Budgeting & Forecasting, Medicaid Budgeting, and Audit Findings & Best Practices.

Facilitators:

Brian Napoleon, Director of Fiscal Services, Dutchess County DCFS **Biji Kuruvila**, Reimbursement Specialist,

Westchester County DSS

Olha Fizer, Supervisor of Fiscal Operations, Westchester County DSS

Elizabeth Provenzano, Director of Finance, Ulster County DSS

3:00 PM

Gallery

• Coffee Break • Sponsored by Exemplar

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Child Welfare Caselaw Review, Part II (1.5 CLEs, 90 minutes)

The published opinions related to child welfare cases released from January-June 2024 will be reviewed. Part II will primarily be a review of TPR, and custody cases, as well as trial level decisions related to a number of child welfare related cases. *Presenter:*

Mark E. Maves, Esq., Counsel to NYPWA

Broadway 1/2

Streamlining Child Welfare Processes Through Technology

Part One - A demo of the new Online Portal for Mandated Reporters by the OCFS State Central Register and an opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback on the system and implementation plan.

Part Two - A facilitated discussion with the OCFS Bureau of Clearances and Records regarding accessing and using the Online Clearance System and processing of database checks. As well as the OCFS RFI (Request for Information) Portal. *Presenters:*

Brian Kelley, SCR Director; OCFS Laura Wilmoth, SCR Assistant Director; OCFS Becky Wood-Hulbert, BCR Director; OCFS Kara Boni, BCR Program Manager; OCFS

Broadway 3

Building Resiliency in Managing Civil Service Changes

The NYS Department of Civil Service is completely reinventing the future state of civil service. While it's an exciting time, change can force people to feel overwhelmed and stressed. Learn how resiliency is critical to effectively leading your team through these important changes. The presentation will share easy to implement strategies to be more resilient and ways to engage your staff so they can become resilient too. Walk away with an action plan on how to make positive changes to better manage

change by being more resilient.. *Presenter:*

Deborah J Cabral, PCC, Cabral Enterprises, LLC DBA DC Efficiency Consulting

Broadway 4

Leveraging Community Partnerships to Solve Long-Standing Social Issues

Community providers are increasingly finding themselves on the front lines of critical social issues. Homelessness, substance use disorders, and mental health-related disparities not only have devastating effects on those most at-risk. but they continue to challenge behavioral health and emergency service providers each day. In Schenectady, N.Y., a partnership between the police, county behavioral health professionals, and key stakeholders are transforming the way communities approach these issues. From the inception of their diversion and deflection programs aimed at helping those with substance use disorders, to their most innovative homeless outreach efforts yet, learn how Schenectady is leveraging community partnerships to provide comprehensive solutions.

Presenters:

Jennifer Hayden, LMHC,CASAC, Dual Recovery Coordinator, Schenectady County Office of Community Services

Michelle Cejka, MA, Adult Behavioral Health Coordinator, Schenectady County

Lieutenant Ryan Macherone, Lieutenant of Neighborhood Engagement, Schenectady County Sergeant Nicholas Mannix, Sergeant of Neighborhood Engagement, Schenectady County

Travers/Alabama

Medicaid 101 & 102

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Commissioners Cnly)

A fundamental primer for Commissioners on Medicaid eligibility, financing and services topics, including Medicaid financing and coverage for undocumented individuals.

Presenters:

Gabrielle Armenia, Director, Division of Eligibility & Marketplace Integration, DOH

Anne Marie Massaro, Deputy Director, DEMI/DOH Mary Frances Carr, Bureau Director, Long Term Care/SSI-Related Populations, DEMI/DOH

Megan Gagliardi, Assistant Director of the Community Enrollment & Eligibility Processing Bureau, DEMI/DOH
Sara Oberst, Deputy Director, DEMI/DOH

Highrock

Interactive Voice Response for SNAP Inquiries

Monroe County was awarded a USDA SNAP Technology Grant to address a significant operational gap of incoming phone call capacity. The system went "live" in late 2023. Callers into the SNAP Workgroup can get automated case information based on workflows of the most frequent inquiries or scenarios. To date, the IVR system has provided case information to over 30,000 callers.

Presenters:

Denise Read, Deputy Commissioner,

Monroe County DHS

Randy Scott, Director of Financial Assistance, Monroe County DHS

Doborob Hill Financial

Deborah Hill, Financial Assistance Coordinator, Monroe County DHS

Jon Casper, Senior Computer Project Coordinator, Monroe County DHS

Saratoga 1

Hot Topics for State & Local Fiscal Administrators

Join local fiscal administrators and invited state staff from OCFS, OTDA and DOH in a discussion of fiscal issues directly affecting social services districts--including any new developments in the SFY 2024-25 Enacted State Budget, Child Care Services, Child Welfare/Family First Initiatives, Housing, Employment, Medicaid, and other important hot topics.

Presenters:

Laura Fiske, Action Budget Director, Bureau of Budget Management, OCFS

Mala Boolchandani, Director, Bureau of Financial Operations, OCFS

Mary Bucca, Assistant Director, Bureau of Financial Services, OTDA

Anil Thomas, Principal Accountant, DOH

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

Private

Commissioners' Reception

(LDSS Commissioners Only)

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Foyer/Pavillion

• Cocktail Reception • Sponsored by The Saratoga Hilton

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Saratoga Ballrooms
Buffet Dinner with *Live Music* by
Made in the Shade

Tuesday ■ July 16

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM Saratoga 2/3

Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Lower Lobby

Conference Registration

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Gallery

Exhibit Area Open

Lobby/Gallery

All Day Refresher Break

Sponsored by Merative

8:00 AM- 9:00 AM

Travers/Alabama

Streamlining TA Administrative Processes

LDSS Workgroup Members Only (as Designated by Commissioners)

Workgroup members will review recommendations made to date. The group will review existing requirements and ways the operation of Temporary Assistance Programs could be improved to maximize resources.

9:00 AM- 10:30 AM

Concurrent Sessions

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Medicaid Spousal Refusal (1.5 CLEs [.5 CLE in Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection-General], 90 minutes)

When and how to file a petition seeking recovery from chronic Medicaid care payments where there has been a spousal refusal form signed. We will cover the federal and state regulations that require that the LDSS to pursue recovery, what is required for a petition under Articles 3 & 4 of the Family

Court Act, and case law from all Departments. The presentation will also address cyber security concerns regarding financial information transmission.

Presenters:

Margot Cullen, Esq., Assistant Counsel, Greene County DSS

Raghuvijai Guntur, Esq., Counsel to the Commissioner, Greene County DSS

Morgan R. Thurston Esq., Assistant Welfare Attorney, Onondaga County Department of Law

Broadway 1/2

Streamlining Administrative Processes in Family and Childrens Services

LDSS Workgroup Members Only (as Designated by Commissioners)

Workgroup members will review recommendations completed to date. The group will continue to consider processes, reports, or plans that could be eliminated or streamlined to improve operational efficiencies.

Broadway 3

NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team: Implications for Social Services Professionals

This workshop will provide an overview of the NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and what the team has learned through its review of deaths and near-deaths related to domestic violence in New York State since 2013. The presenters will share the findings of the team, including lethality indicators, systems accessed by individuals prior to the death, strengths and challenges identified by the team, and implications for social services professionals.

Presenters:

Mary M. Walsh, Assistant Director of Policy/NYS Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team Coordinator, NYS OPDV

April Maas, Director of Policy, Innovation & Professional Education, NYS OPDV

Broadway 4

A FiSH!ing Expedition ... Ways to Renew & Refresh Your Teams

Looking for a fresh new way to refocus your teams? This dynamic and fun-filled presentation

will awaken your senses to the FiSH! Philosophy. Presenters will reveal how they are implementing strategies of the 4 FiSH! practices in their organization creating a renewed team culture. If you join this interactive presentation, you must be ready to choose your attitude, to be present, to play, and to make someone's day! *Presenters:*

Marlene Reynolds, Training & Development Coordinator, Schuyler County DSS Steph Hoxie, Staff Development Coordinator, Oswego County DSS

Jennifer Delmar, Training Coordinator, Child & Family Services, Oswego County DSS Cathleen Morlock, Staff Development Coordinator, Albany County DSS

Travers/Alabama

Suggested Strategies for Low Barrier Shelter

Onondaga DSS/ES to present with their Continuum of Care (CoC) on how low barrier shelters operate in Syracuse/Onondaga County. Low barrier shelters are a critical tool in the reduction of unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness. Through their collaboration and innovation, Onondaga DSS/ESS and the CoC are able to keep their unsheltered numbers low for a city/county of its size.

Presenters:

Linda Camoin, Assistant Director, BHSS, OTDA **Sarah Watson**, Assistant Director, BHSS, OTDA **Monica Brown**, Executive Deputy Commissioner, Onondaga County DSS/ES

Megan Stuart, Director; Housing & Homeless Coalition of Central New York

Highrock

Staff Engagement & Retention Through Easy Change Implementation

Every organization struggles with recruiting, engaging and retaining staff. And sure, there are many ideas to address these struggles, but who has time to wait for months of work groups and pilot programs that go nowhere... slowly. In this workshop, you'll hear about how Westchester County Department of Social Services joined the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute's Breakthrough Series Collaborative to learn and

utilize the "plan, do, study, act" method of change implementation. We'll share how to quickly test, spread, and bundle small changes that target staff engagement and retention, utilizing the Surgeon General's Framework for Workplace Mental Health and Well-Being.

Presenters:

Catherine Arman-Santana, Director of Operations, Westchester County DSS Giannina Frino, Staff Development Specialist, Westchester County DSS

Saratoga 1

Fiscal Foundation for District Commissioners & Executive Staff

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Commissioners & Executive Staff Only)

Join a panel of local fiscal administrators to learn the basics and fundamentals of social services budgets, including an opportunity for questions & answers and dialogue.

Panelists:

John Befus, First Deputy Commissioner, Westchester County DSS

Lise Reynolds, Deputy Commissioner of Administrative Services & Finance, Steuben County DSS

Margaret Pletnikoff, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer, Division of Financial Services, NYC ACS

10:30 AM Gallery

• Coffee Break • Sponsored by Northwoods

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Article 81 Guardianship (1.5 CLEs, 90 minutes)

The program will focus on issues that arise when an LDSS is appointed as guardian. Included will be such areas as: required reports, marshalling and disposition of property, petitioning for additional powers, and issues related to the discharge of the guardianship.

Presenters:

Mark E. Maves, Esq., Counsel to NYPWA Morgan R. Thurston Esq., Assistant Welfare Attorney, Onondaga County Department of Law

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions

Broadway 1/2

Child Support Program Updates, Part I

Come hear the latest program developments including federal and State level updates; annual performance and collections overview; recently issued and in development policy guidance impacting districts; recently released and in development training opportunities; and Program Operations and Fiscal Operations updates. *Presenters:*

Eileen Stack, Deputy Commissioner & Director, OTDA/CSS

Susanne Dolin, Assistant Director, OTDA/CSS Monique Rabideau, Assistant Director, OTDA/CSS Aimee Furdyna, Bureau Chief - Policy & Training, OTDA/CSS

Elizabeth McGeough Gamache, Bureau Chief - Program Operations, OTDA/CSS

Karen Sicurelli, Bureau Chief - Data Management, OTDA/CSS

Lisa Schroeder, Bureau Chief Fiscal Operations, OTDA/CSS

Broadway 3

Our Future Begins at DAY ONE: The multiplier Impacts of Quality Day Care

Day One is an innovative and replicable solution to the childcare crisis and future workforce needs. Dutchess County has worked with Day One to pilot a successful program which was recently honored with a visit by First lady Jill Biden last Fall. This year, Day One is looking to expand and operate in multiple counties. The program ensures that children receive quality day care that prepares them to start kindergarten at grade level cognitively, socially, and emotionally. The program also provides merit-pay support to trained teachers to match elementary-school pay levels, and challenge businesses and community partners to expand sites, supports, and incentives. Presenters will explain how the program works and explore what counties can do to join the initiative.

Presenters:

Sabrina Jaar Marzouka, Commissioner, Dutchess County DCFS **Geraldine Laybourne**, CO-Founder, Day One **Broadway 4**

Implementing Successful & Sustainable Succession Planning Systems

This thought-provoking workshop and discussion will provide an overview of the importance of proactive succession and transition planning, especially in civil service organizations that are currently experiencing the pandemic and post-pandemic mass workforce exodus. Succession and transition planning frameworks, approaches, and tools will be presented during this interactive workshop session.

Presenters:

Marvela L. Guice, Founder & President, DBA
Marvela L. Guice Organizational & Staff
Development Training Services
Vanessa Exhem, Certified Life Coach, Marvela L.
Guice Organizational & Staff Development
Training Services

Travers/Alabama

Long Term Care

DOH will present updates on activities in the long-term care arena, focusing on services such as personal care and consumer directed services. *Presenter:*

Cherlyn B. Fay, Director, Bureau of Medicaid LTC Policy, Division of Program Development and Management, OHIP, DOH

Highrock

Family Type Home for Adults (FTHA) Program & Adult Protective Services Family Type Home for Adults – Strengthening Our Communities Through Safe Housing & Care for Dependent Adults

The Family Type Home for Adults (FTHA) program serves dependent adults in community home-based settings. The Office of Children and Family Services and local departments of social services/NYC HRA work together to oversee the program. Currently, there is bed capacity for nearly 600 dependent adults statewide. By increasing that number, it would help communities have more options to meet the growing aging population and their housing and

care needs. Learn about program basics and outreach ideas to promote in your own communities. OCFS will also discuss Adult Protective Services topics, including the status of the Federal Regulations.

Presenters:

Lisl Maloney, Children & Family Services Specialist 2, OCFS

Susan Hollander, Children & Family Services Specialist 2, OCFS

Julie Kelleher, Children & Family Services Specialist 3, OCFS

Saratoga 1

Integrated Eligibility System Program Update

(Vendors Are Prohibited From Participating in This Workshop)

During this session attendees will learn about IES Program updates, including accomplishments to date and plans going forward.

Presenters:

Mathan Jebaraj, Acting Program Director for the Integrated Eligibility System, ITS

Venkatesh Nattanmai, Acting Technical Director for the Integrated Eligibility System, ITS Suzette Poulin, Acting Director of Program Operations for the Integrated Eligibility System, ITS

Robert Mundinger, Deputy Director, Project Management, ITS

Dennis Packard, Business Change Lead, ITS **Kelli Stone**, Senior Manager, ITS

11:30 AM - 1:15 PM Saratoga 2/3 Lunch

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

Phila

Integrated Eligibility System Meeting (LDSS Workgroup Only)

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Saratoga 1

Medicaid Update, It's a Triple Play

A triple session including an update of the Medicaid Unwind, Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) and Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control (MEQC) status updates, a high level overview of the initiative to modernize New York's Medicaid eligibility and enrollment system, and an overview of New York State's Health Equity Reform 1115 Waiver.

Presenters:

DEMI/DOH

Gabrielle Armenia, Director, Division of Eligibility & Marketplace Integration, DOH

Anne Marie Massaro, Deputy Director, DEMI/DOH

Mary Frances Carr, Bureau Director, Long Term Care/SSI-Related Populations, DEMI/DOH Megan Gagliardi, Assistant Director, Bureau of Community Eligibility & Enrollment Processing,

Daniel Washington, Bureau Director, Program Compliance & Audit, DEMI/DOH

Mary Lisa, Bureau Director, Program Review, DEMI/DOH

Diane Farrell, Deputy Director, DEMI/DOH Sara Oberst, Deputy Director, DEMI/DOH Selena Hajiani, Director of Strategic Operations & Planning, DOH

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Child Witnesses & Expert Witnesses in Child Protective Cases

(1.5 CLEs, 90 minutes)

This presentation will discuss when it is appropriate to call child witnesses and expert witnesses at trial, as well as techniques that can be used when litigating Article 10 Child Protective cases.

Presenters:

Vineet Chawla, Esq., Family Court Legal Services, Legal Training & Support, NYC ACS

Jennifer Sadaka, Esq., Senior Team Leader & Legal Trainer, NYC ACS

Broadway 1/2

Child Support Program Updates, Part II

Session will provide information on system enhancements and releases; Integrated Eligibility System (IES) projects; Contract Administration (including banking transition), Data Management, and the State Disbursement Unit..

Presenters:

Eileen Stack, Deputy Commissioner & Director,

OTDA/CSS

Susanne Dolin, Assistant Director, OTDA/CSS Monique Rabideau, Assistant Director, OTDA/CSS Shannon Smith, Bureau Chief - Integrated Eligibility System, OTDA/CSS

Jennifer Pekins, Bureau Chief - Systems Operations, OTDA/CSS

Karen Sicurelli, Bureau Chief - Data Management, OTDA/CSS

Linda Ward, Bureau Chief - Contract Administration, OTDA/CSS **Jennifer Sherry**, Bureau Chief - State Disbursement Unit, OTDA/CSS

Broadway 3

Child Care Keeps on Changing: Updates from the Division of Child Care Services

This interactive presentation will cover implementation of items included in the SFY 2024-25 budget, implementation of grants and other initiatives related to Child Care in New York State, and an overview of New York State's plans to move towards compliance with the new federal rule from the Health and Human Services Department, which became effective on 03/01/2024 as is intended to improve child care access, stability and affordability under the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF).

Presenters:

Nora Yates, Deputy Commissioner, OCFS Merideth Infantino, Director of Child Care Assistance and Enrollment Services, OCFS Erin Cassidy, Associate Commissioner, OCFS Joy Connolly, Associate Commissioner, OCFS

Broadway 4

Workplace Wellness-Radical Self Care

Mind~Body~Spirit = Alignment: Our mission is to treat, educate and inspire people to understand their internal power, to heal and care for themselves and improve work/life balance. We provide masterful collaboration and treatment around wellness in the workplace, self-care, and mindfulness activities, and provide opportunities to Slay Your Stress using varying (traditional/nontraditional) modes of treatment. You will have the pleasure of working with us to R.E.M.I.N.D© you to be your best self. Renew yourself Encourage your mind Motivate your spirit Inspire your senses Nurture your inner child

Develop your new you! *Presenter:*

Dr. Sharifa Armorer, CWO, Chiron Enterprises Inc.

Travers/Alabama

The New York State Homeless Assistance Datawarehouse Environment (NYSHADE)

OTDA will demonstrate the reporting capability of the data warehouse and speak about the importance of local homelessness data being entered into the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) so that ultimately data can be uploaded to the data warehouse and NYS can get a statewide picture of the nature and scope of homelessness.

Presenters:

Linda Camoin, Assistant Director, BHSS, OTDA **Sarah Watson**, Assistant Director, BHSS, OTDA **Jason Gallacchi**, Program Research Specialist 1, BHSS, OTDA

Highrock

Preventing vs Reacting: The DSS Mobile Response Unit Approach

Are you ready to reimagine crisis response? In the DSS Mobile Unit, we have a fresh approach to behavior and crisis management. We're not just reacting to crises, we're preventing them. Our approach also aims to break down the silos in social services and hold all stakeholders accountable for family stabilization. By diverting families from foster care, we're creating better outcomes for those in need.

Presenters:

Dawn LiGregni, Program Administrator, Westchester County DSS **Michelle Bethencourt-Garcia**, Child Welfare Manager II, Westchester County DSS

3:00 PM Gallery

• Coffee Break • Sponsored by Deloitte

3:30 PM- 5:00 PM

Concurrent Sessions

City Center-Meeting Room 1

Nicholson v Scopetta at 20 (1.5 CLEs, 90 minutes)

The presentation will consist of a review of case law in the almost 20 years since

Nicholson v. Scoppetta decision was issued. The original decision held that: "(1) evidence that caretaker allowed child to witness domestic abuse against caretaker is insufficient, without more, to satisfy statutory definition of "neglected child," and (2) emotional injury from witnessing domestic violence can rise to level that justifies removal of child, but witnessing does not, by itself, give rise to any presumption of injury." Since that time, Courts have ruled on the impact of the decision on both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence and the nature and quantum of evidence required to show negative impact on the child. The hope is that the presentation will generate lively discussion of best practices in these cases. Presenters:

Patricia L. Woehrlen, Esq., Deputy County Attorney-Children's Services Unit, Monroe County Law Department

Dyzio Guzierowicz, Esq., Deputy County Attorney-Children's Services Unit, Monroe County Law Department

Broadway 1/2

I'm Human: Empowering Social Services Teams Through RESPONSIVE Leadership for Enhanced Staff Well-being & Organizational Health

This 90 minute interactive facilitated discussion showcases the transformative impact of RESPONSIVE Leadership on social service environments. Participants will engage in experiential learning that emphasizes personal growth, emotional resilience, and team dynamics. The session is designed to equip social service professionals with the tools and insights necessary to foster a supportive and empowering workplace, thereby enhancing both individual and organizational health. Participants will leave with practical strategies to implement RESPONSIVE Leadership principles effectively within their teams.

Presenters:

Dr. Lisa Patierne, President, The I'm Human Project

Brandy Hillard Bouldin, Commissioner, Schenectady County DSS

Broadway 3

What is next for Blind Removal & Kinfirst Firewall?

In 2024 the New York State Office of Children & Family Services released the qualitative study on the impact of Blind removal and Kin First fire wall administrative directive. A national study was also completed by Mathematica about data driven practice. The intent of the studies, while different, provide social services information on how to implement continuous quality improvement. What really impacts equity in removals? Do these processes impact families receiving services they need before removal? Does such a process impact implicit bias. Facilitators will use this session to discuss next steps.

Presenters:

Teresa Boykins, Senior Administrative Analyst, OCFS

Jessica Brown PhD, Research Scientist 3, OCFS Tyler Bellick, Research Scientist 2, OCFS John Thompson, Principal Education Specialist, OCFS

Broadway 4

Recruitment, Retention, & Promoting DSS (Public Sector/ Civil Service Careers)

In these challenging times of recruiting, on boarding and retaining staff, there is a need to be creative and resourceful, to leave no stone unturned. Westchester County DSS-Office of Human Resources (OHR) has implemented a few "Best Practices" to assist these efforts. Within the confines of civil service rules and policies, DSS-OHR has expanded the recruiting process to include: Marketing-PSA's, college & local job fairs, postings on "Indeed" and "LinkedIn", partnerships with colleges and universities, community partnerships, and BSW & MSW internships. *Presenters:*

Jennifer Coker-Wiggins, Staff Development Specialist (Prof. Services), Westchester County DSS Vedette Roye, Assistant Personnel Director, Westchester County DSS

Valerie Raynor, Director of Human Resources, Westchester County DSS

Temporary Assistance, Employment & SNAP Forum

(Attendance is Limited to State & Local DSS)

OTDA will participate in a roundtable discussion exclusively for Temporary Assistance, SNAP and Employment Directors and their staff to discuss items identified by OTDA as agency priorities as well as topics for discussion identified by districts. *Presenters:*

Elida Esposito, SNAP Policy Bureau Chief, OTDA **Sherry Tomasky**, SNAP Policy Bureau Chief, OTDA **Tammy Thackrah**, Temporary Assistance Bureau Chief, OTDA

Keri Stark, Temporary Assistance Bureau Chief, OTDA

Bill Koncelik, Employment and Advancement Services Bureau Chief, OTDA

Tara Wood, Employment and Advancement Services Bureau Chief, OTDA

Emily Urban, Bureau Chief, HEAP Bureau, OTDA **Wendy DeMarco**, Director Food and Nutrition Policy, OTDA

Phila

Homeless Housing/Code Blue Workgroup LDSS Workgroup Members Only

(as Designated by Commissioners)

A closed session, workgroup members will continue to discuss experiences districts are having related to these topic areas--looking for the emergence of common themes and brainstorming possible solutions.

Highrock

Connecting the D.O.T.S (Diversion, Opportunities, Treatment and Services)

This workshop will focus on the importance of cross systems alignment as it refers to youth justice and involving the care and rehabilitation of young offenders and/ emerging adults between the ages of 16-25. The goal of this workshop is to ensure that young people who come in contact with the justice system receive appropriate and effective services to address their unique need(s), reduce recidivism, and promote successful reintegration into the community.

Presenters:

Joanne Dunn, Executive Director, Youth Shelter

Tuesday ■ July 16 & Wednesday ■ July 17

Program of Westchester

Jordan Cormier, Director of Programming, Youth
Shelter Program of Westchester

Randy Scott, Deputy Commissioner,

Westchester County DSS

Saratoga 2/3

Deep Dive into the Fiscal World, Part II

(Attendance Limited to LDSS Only)

Mini Roundtable Discussions: Topic discussions with OCFS, OTDA and DOH representatives at tables to give yourself time to ask questions and discuss fiscal topics with them in a small group setting.

Presenters:

Laura Fiske, Action Budget Director, Bureau of Budget Management, OCFS Mary Bucca, Assistant Director, Bureau of Financial Services, OTDA Anil Thomas, Principal Accountant, DOH

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Foyer

Networking Reception

Dinner on Your Own

Wednesday ■ July 17

Saratoga 1

LDSS Commissioners' Meetings (Attendance is restricted to local commissioners only)

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Commissioners Only Networking Breakfast

8:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Commissioners' Meeting & Policy Discussion NYPWA President Michael McMahon will facilitate a discussion on issues that arose during the conference and other compelling topics of interest to local commissioners.

10:45 AM - 12:00 AM *Wrap-up and Next Steps*

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Saratoga 2/3

Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Lower Lobby

Conference Registration

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Concurrent Sessions

Broadway 1/2

Meeting with State Agency Counsel

LDSS attorneys are invited to meet with OCFS (9:00-10:15) and OTDA (10:00-11:00) counsel to discuss questions related to their respective areas of practice as well as those where clarification from the State agencies are needed.

Facilitator:

Mark E. Maves, Esq., Counsel to the NYPWA

Broadway 3

.time for Q&A

State & Local Child Support Dialogue

(Attendance is limited to OTDA & LDSS Child Support Coordinator Staff)

This "wrap-up" session is an opportunity to discuss new policy and procedures that were presented at the conference and to strategize how local districts will be able to implement them, leaving

Facilitators:

Maria Restivo, Child Support Enforcement,

Coordinator, Ulster County DSS **Laura McKay**, Child Support Enforcement,
Coordinator, Sullivan County DSS **Michelle Henry-Walker**, FA Coordinator-Child
Support Services, Monroe County DSS

Broadway 4

Local DSS Fiscal Policy Dialogue

(Attendance is Limited to LDSS Staff)

Fiscal administrators will recap their conference experience and share any useful strategies they learned about or that they have already implemented locally.

Facilitator:

John Befus, First Deputy Commissioner, Westchester County DSS

Travers/Alabama

Deputy Commissioners' Leadership Network Meeting

(Attendance is Limited to LDSS Administrators)

Deputy Commissioners and other upper-level administrators will address issues that arose during the conference, local experiences, new challenges, and other topics of interest.

Facilitated by Steering Committee:

Theresa Giovanniello, Deputy Commissioner, Dutchess County DCFS

Monica Brown, Deputy Commissioner, Onondaga County DSS/ES

Irene Kurlander, Deputy Commissioner, Orange County DSS

Highrock

Staff Development Association Meeting

(Attendance is Limited to LDSS Only)

Chairperson:

Kelly Eagan, President, SDANYS, and Cortland County SDC

10:30 AM- 12:00 PM

Highrock

The Path to High Road Leadership

This workshop will share principles for how to create more united leadership that can change lives and transform organizations. As John Maxwell says, "Everything rises and falls on leadership." Prepare to refresh your mindset and

foster a growth environment that encourages individuals to take the high road and lead themselves first in the delivery of services to others.

Presenter:

Sharon James, President, Exquisite Growth Partners Corporation

Parking Policy:

Only Saratoga Hilton Hotel overnight guests are permitted to park in the lot. Your room reservation will be linked to your vehicle license plate number which you will need to provide when you check-in. Cameras will monitor parking lot use. All other conference guests will need to pay to park in the spacious new City Center Garage next to hotel OR seek out parking in lots that are further away.

Paperless Conference:

Conference information including the program brochure, meeting agendas, and materials will be in electronic format. Please plan to use your own laptop, tablet, or phone to access documents. You may wish to download or print them in advance.

We <u>will</u> have printed name badges and copies of the schedule at-a-glance which lists topics, times, and meeting rooms.

Attorneys' CLE Information

All legal sessions are in-person only and will not be recorded. Local DSS attorneys are eligible for up to 10.5 hours of CLE credits with their paid registration and confirmed attendance.

Sign-in for CLEs opens 15 minutes prior to start of each session.

NYPWA will be providing CLEs for:

- Caseworker and Witness Prep (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)
- Child Welfare Caselaw Review, Part I (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)
- Child Welfare Caselaw Review, Part II (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)
- Medicaid Spousal Refusal (1.5 CLEs [.5 CLE in Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection-General], 90 mins.)
- Article 81 Guardianship (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)
- Child Witnesses & Expert Witnesses in Child Protective Cases (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)
- Nicholson v Scopetta at 20 (1.5 CLEs, 90 mins.)

Materials will be posted at www.NYPWA.org for you to review and choose which documents to download to your device or print and bring to the conference. Copies are not provided on-site.

Attorneys must attend in person to participate and to qualify for CLEs.

Documents will be posted approximately one week prior to the conference.

To access documents, click the "Education & Events" button on our website.

The NYPWA Financial Assistance Policy for Continuing Legal Education:

To apply, attorneys must submit a letter authorized by the local social services commissioner, explaining why this training is essential and include the unique circumstances as to why the agency and the attorney do not have the resources to cover the entire fee, and forward the request for a specific discount based on need to info@nypwa.org

NYPWA'S 155TH ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE

JULY 14-17, 2024

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Complete the Conference Registration form and send it to the NYPWA with your voucher, check, or credit card information.
- 2. All meals must be purchased individually through the NYPWA by completing the "MEALS ORDER FORM". Please return the completed form with payment directly to the NYPWA. Please note: meals are NOT included with the cost of conference registration fee. All purchased meal tickets will beavailable at the NYPWA Registration Desk. Meal packages will NOT be reserved through The Saratoga Hilton as it has in the past. Please use one form per reservation.
- 3. Carefully read the Hotel Reservation Policy, noting that the cut-off date for hotel registration is Friday, June 14, 2024.
- 4. The Saratoga Hilton Registration Link is available on the Hotel Registration form and on our website (www.NYPWA.org). One night reservations will be accommodated by near by hotels
- 5. REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY: Refund of registration fee, less a \$15 administrative fee, will be made only when cancellation is received in writing and emailed by Wednesday, July 3, 2024.
- 6. **MEAL CANCELLATION POLICY**: Refund of meals will be made only when received in writing and emailed before **Wednesday**, **July 3**, **2024**. After **Wednesday**, **July 3**, **2024** all meals MUST still be paid for.
- 7. **MEAL TICKET PICK-UP Location:** If you have purchased meal tickets through the NYPWA, they will be available at The NYPWA Registration Desk upon arrival. The meal tickets will be in your welcome package envelope as long as tickets were purchased for you.

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NYPWA Co	NFERENCE	REGISTR	ATION:		
	By June 14	After June 14	6 th LDSS Registrant	Registrant Information: Name, Title, District (Agency), Address, Phone Number & Email:	
☐ Full Conference	□ \$214.00	□ \$228.00	☐ FREE		
☐ One-Day	□ \$137.00	□ \$140.00	☐ FREE		
NYPWA ME	EAL O RDEF	FORM:	<u>'</u>		
			Pric	E SELECTION	
Monday, July 15 Breakfast Lunch Dinner			\$36. \$41. \$62.	48 \square	
Tuesday, July 16 Breakfast Lunch Reception			\$36. \$45. \$35.	14 🖳	
Wednesday, July 1	17				
Breakfast			\$36.	60	
			Total Amount Enclosed:		
Please include aller	•		•	val:	
NYPWA Forms of Payment:				NYPWA Credit Card Processing:	
1) Check: Make Payable to "NYPWA" and return via mail:				Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Discover):	
NYPWA, 130 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210				Credit Card Payment Contact	
2) Voucher: Email to info@nypwa.org or use surface mail.				(if NOT the same as above [name, title, email & phone number] -	
3) Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Discover):				NYPWA will call):	
Email: Send form to info@nypwa.org with credit card information.				n. <u>Provide</u> :	
				Card Holder Name:	
				Credit Card Number:	
				Expiration Data:	

NYPWA'S 155TH ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE JULY 14-17, 2024

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To reserve a hotel room, please access the website link below or by visiting the www.nypwa.org to access the link as well. Please make your hotel reservation **no later than Friday June 14, 2024**.

Please review the hotel reservation policy carefully before making in your reservation.

HOTEL RESERVATION POLICY: All hotel reservations must be received by The Saratoga Hilton no later than Friday, June 14, 2024, at which time the NYPWA room block will be released, if not already sold out. Hotel reservations made after Friday, June 14, 2024, will be accepted subject to availability. Reservations cannot be accepted by telephone. All rooms must be guaranteed with a credit card or advance deposit. Check-in time is 3:00 pm. The Saratoga Hilton will facilitate storage of luggage if necessary. Check out time is 11:00 am.

Confirmations: Hotel room confirmation will be emailed directly to you from The Saratoga Hilton. Email confirmations will not reflect tax exempt status.

TAX EXEMPT DOCUMENTATION: Tax exempt certificate ST-129 signed by the occupant is required when paying by check, credit card, or voucher (one voucher per person).

MEAL TICKETS: Purchased Meal tickets will be provided at the NYPWA Registration Desk (independent of your guest room reservation). If meals were not purchased WITH your Conference Registration, tickets may be purchased at the NYPWA Registration Desk based upon availability.

HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY: To avoid a charge, reservations MUST be cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival.

HOTEL RESERVATION CHANGES: If you need to make a change to your reservation please contact the hotel at the following inforamtion.

TEL: 518-584-4000, EXT 603 OR SARATOGAINFO@HILTON.COM

Note: If you reserve a double room and your roommate cancels, you will be responsible for paying the single room rate. Rates are subject to applicable taxes. If tax exempt, tax exempt certificate ST-129 signed by the occupant must presented prior to check-in."

Saratoga Hilton Hotel:

534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs https://book.passkey.com/go/NYPWAConference24

Overflow Hotel Rooms with Contracts:

Courtyard by Marriott Saratoga Springs

11 Excelsior Avenue, Saratoga Springs

https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-

link.mi?id=1707838031509&key=GRP&app=resvlink

Hampton Inn & Suites Saratoga Springs Downtown

25 Lake Ave, Saratoga Springs

https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=ALB-SPHX&arrivalDate=2024-07-14&departureDate=2024-07-17&group-Code=CHHNPW&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink

Hilton Garden Inn Saratoga Springs

125 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs

https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/new-york-public-welfare-2024/

Hilton Garden Inn Saratoga Springs

125 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/find-hotels/select-room-rate?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qlta=99801505&icdv=99801505&qS IH=SGANY&qCiD=14&qCiMy=062024&qCoD=17&qCoMy=062024&qGr pCd=PWA&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=Hl&qDest=232%20Broad-way,%20Saratoga%20Springs,%20NY,%20US&srb_u=1&qChAge=&qR mFltr=

(Group Code: PWA)

Overflow Hotel Room with NO Contracts:

The Inn at Saratoga

231 Broadway, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-583-1890

Embassy Suites by Hilton Saratoga Springs

86 Congress St, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-290-9090

Comfort Inn & Suites

17 Old Gick Road, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-587-6244

Homewood Suites by Hilton Saratoga Springs

3368 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-580-1500

Saratoga Casino Hotel

342 Jefferson St, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-682-8888

Best Western Plus Saratoga Springs

3291 S Broadway, Saratoga Springs

Tel: 518-584-2350

Hyatt Place Saratoga/Malta

20 State Farm PI, Malta

Tel: 518-885-1109

Home2Suites by Hilton Saratoga Malta

103 Saratoga Village Blvd, Malta

Tel: 518-899-9100