Defending Hope

Pioneer Cellular Event Center
Weatherford OK

August 11, 2016

9:00   Registration

9:30   Welcome

10:00  Trauma is just the beginning
       Pam Toohey

11:45  Lunch (on your own)

1:15   Resilience in the Foster Care System
       Dr. Deb Shropshire

2:30   Champions for Change -
       Workshops by discipline
       - Courts             - Child Welfare
       - Mental Health      - Stakeholders
       - Resource parents  - Law Enforcement
       - Educators

3:45   Report out & Wrap up
Defending Hope

Keynote Speakers:

Pam Toohey
Pam Toohey is first and foremost a Mom of five and Grandma to 11 grandchildren. She is also the Coordinator of Child Trauma and Resilience with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. For over 17 years, Ms. Toohey has worked as a peer support provider, substance abuse counselor, and case manager within multiple child and family serving systems. Ms. Toohey’s passion and life's work is to erase the stigma experienced by persons receiving services from the behavioral and mental health system, substance abuse services, special education, and the criminal justice system. Ms. Toohey promotes and educates individuals and groups on the importance of viewing events through a trauma informed lens which is what brought her here to us today. Ms. Toohey received her Alcohol and Other Drug Studies Certification at San Diego City College and has worked as a substance abuse counselor and case manager within multiple systems including child welfare, criminal justice, and mental and behavioral health. Personal life experiences helped her to found and develop a San Diego grassroots, peer run, non-profit agency the "Birth Parent Association" that provides advocacy and peer support for at risk parents and their families within the child welfare system. Ms. Toohey still remains a consultant for San Diego's Rady Children's Hospital Chadwick Center for Children and has sat on the San Diego Children, Youth and Family Behavioral Health Systems of Care Council, the Southern Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils Coalition, Chadwick's Trauma Informed Systems Project National Advisory Committee, and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network’s Parent Trauma Committee, Child Welfare Committee and the Military and Veteran Families Collaborative Group.

Dr. Deborah Shropshire, M.D.
Dr. Deb Shropshire is a Deputy Director for Community Partnerships in Child Welfare with the Department of Human Services and an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at OU College of Medicine. Her heart was captivated when, as a medical student, she encountered the complex world of foster children. That experience changed her career direction, and as a young physician she began to seek opportunities to work with groups that advocate for children who have been abused or neglected. She provides direct health care service to children through the Fostering Hope clinic, at the OU College of Medicine. She works with numerous community groups to improve the medical outcomes of children experiencing the child welfare system and to inspire others to stand up for Oklahoma’s abuse and neglected children.
Trauma is just the Beginning

Pamela Toohey; Coordinator of Child Hope and Resilience; Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Description: As partners we will explore a comprehensive basic overview of a Trauma Informed Child Welfare System. A real life case study will be used to help us understand the specific and negative effects of exposure to overwhelming stress, and the potential lifetime impact of that stress on an individual's physical, psychological and social well-being. TRAUMA is not only a Child Welfare concern, it is everyone's concern.

Learning Objectives:
- To expand participants' knowledge base relating to trauma and how it effects a child throughout his/her lifespan.
- Participants will learn about the ACE - Adverse Childhood Experiences - Study and how exposure to trauma can impact one’s physical, psychological and social health, as well as their future generations.
- Participants will be able to identify symptoms of trauma and recognize how these symptoms may manifest in the life of a child or adult that we care for but within the lives of caregivers and people serving professionals as well.
- To provide participants with an overview of the necessity to create safe environments, instill hope, and help build resilience in the lives of the populations we touch.

Breakout Sessions: Champions for Change

Breakout sessions will be held according to professional discipline and is focused on identifying issues in child protection and ways to reduce trauma to children who experience abuse and neglect. The objective is to identify ways to reduce the trauma associated with investigations, and other responses by professionals working in the child welfare system. Breakout sessions will be held for Courts, law enforcement, child welfare, mental health, educators, foster parents, and stakeholders. Each session will be led by a professional who will facilitate a discussion about creating system change to improve outcomes for families.

Groups will reconvene in the general session and report out on ideas gathered.

- Courts- Jennifer Hossler, MSW Chadwick Center for Children and Families
- Child Welfare- Kelli Litsch, MSW Child Welfare District Director
- Mental Health- Katie Morris-Henson, LPC, LADC Mental Health Consultant DHS
- Stakeholders- Brett Hayes, MSW DHS- CW
- Law Enforcement- Asst. Chief Josh VanDeburgh, Weatherford PD and Daniel Evans, Probation and Parole
- Foster Parents- Al Killen-Harvey, LCSW Chadwick Center for Children and Families
- Educators- Amanda Hines School Based Social Worker
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August 12, 2016

8:30 Welcome

8:45 Movie: Tough Love

Break

Panel: What can you do to support children in the foster care system?

11:30 Recognition

12:00 Dismiss
August 12, 2016

Movie: Tough Love

Offering a rare look at the inner workings of the American child welfare system, Tough Love chronicles the lives of two parents—one in Seattle and one in New York City—as each fights to be reunited with children taken out of their custody. Through intimate, verité footage of both families, we witness first-hand the complex and daunting bureaucracy of America’s family courts. Moreover, we come to understand the powerful role poverty and prejudice play in keeping parents and children apart—and the challenges parents must overcome in order to put their families back together.

Director/Producer: Stephanie Wang-Breal

Panel Discussion: What can you do to support children in the foster care system?

Panel members include a biological parent, foster youth, child welfare staff and a mental health professional to magnify what is needed from professionals to build resilience and hope in children and families in the child welfare system.

Recognition of Champions for Change

Register on line:


This class has been accredited by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training for __7__ hours of mandatory continuing education credit. Regarding any law enforcement concepts, practices, methods, techniques, products, or devices as might be taught, promoted, or otherwise espoused in outside schools or seminars, there is no intent, expressed or implied, that ‘accreditation’ indicates or in any way conveys ‘CLEET approval’ of such concepts, practices, methods, techniques, products, or devices, unless such approval is explicitly stated by CLEET.
Thank you for all you do for Oklahoma’s children!