



Tuscaloosa's Promise



Doing What Matters for Alabama's Children
12th Annual Conference to Improve the Well-Being of Our Children
Tuesday, January 23, 2018
Bryant Conference Center
The University of Alabama
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

7:45- Registration, Breakfast and Exhibits
8:30

8:30- Welcome, Invocation and Presentation of Colors

8:35 *Amanda Lightsey, Executive Director, Tuscaloosa's One Place, A Family Resource Center*
Rev. Joseph Scrivner, PhD., Pastor, Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Chapel, Stillman College
Central High School JROTC

8:35- Opening Remarks

8:45 *Mayor Walt Maddox, City of Tuscaloosa*

8:45- America's Promises

9:00 *Dr. Charles Nash, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, UA System*

9:00- State of Children in Alabama

9:30 *Melanie Bridgeforth, Executive Director, VOICES for Alabama's Children*
Introduction: Kristy Brown, Training Coordinator, The University of Alabama, Child Development Resources

9:30- Resilience Video: Coping with Early Adversity and Mitigating its Affects

10:45 *Sallye Longshore, Director, Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention*
Introduction: Teresa Costanzo, Field Director, Alabama Dept. of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
Respondents: Stacey Adams, Administrator, West Central District Alabama Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian S. Gannon, MD, FAAP - Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, College of Community Health Sciences, University of Alabama School of Medicine

10:45- Exhibits and Networking

11:00

11:00-12:00 Breakout Sessions

Ensuring Civility in the Lives of Our Children at Home, at School, and in the Community ***Central***
Zoe Savitsky, Deputy Legal Director, Southern Poverty Law Center

This presentation will provide an overview of the legal and social policy definitions of child well-being. It will review the legal ramifications of varying definitions of child well-being over time and institution, and discuss

how those definitions do or do not correlate with social science research. It will also include a discussion of the legal and education policy ideas and concerns animating current conversations about civility in our schools.

Tech Talk - Understanding the Impact of Social Media on Children

Rast A

David Albright, School Resource Officer, Tuscaloosa Police Department

This session will take a closer look at the dangers, risks and tips parents can use to monitor their child's social media usage. The session will be presented by a Tuscaloosa Police Officer who has 20 years of experience in law enforcement.

Alabama Opioid Crisis

Rast B

Kathy House, Executive Assistant for the Associate Commissioner of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, State of Alabama Department of Mental Health

What comes to mind when you hear opioids? Prescription drugs, pain, overdose, addiction. There is no doubt about the severity of the crisis facing Alabama. This course will describe the opioid problem and outline initiatives the Alabama Department of Mental Health has taken to begin to address this crisis. Participants will understand what opioids and Fentanyl are, gain a better understanding the opioid crisis in Alabama, and understand the initiatives underway to address this crisis.

Safe Sleep Recommendations for Caregivers of Young Children

Birmingham

Dr. Maria Hernandez-Reif, Professor and Director of Pediatric Development Research Lab, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, The University of Alabama

Tracy Plummer, Deputy Director, Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

This session will focus on Safe Sleep practices for young children. Topics will include Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendations to prevent SIDS, recognizing the different sleep states, and tips for caregivers to help infants sleep.

Understanding the McKinney-Vento Act

Mobile

LaDonna Rudolph, State Homeless Coordinator, Alabama State Department of Education

This session will provide an overview of the McKinney-Vento Law and best practices in homeless education to help educators and child welfare advocates work together to support the academic success of children and youth in out-of-home care. It will also assist local agencies and staff in laying a foundation for working together, agreeing on requirements and expectations, promoting school stability, and incorporating children fully in academic and school activities.

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Employment Trends: Impact on Alabama's Economic Future

Fitzgerald Washington, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Labor

Introduction: Dr. Charles Nash, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, UA System

1:00- Exhibits and Networking

1:15

1:15- Becoming a Social Justice Educator

1:45 *Dr. Ross Bryan, Associate Dean/Associate Professor, Honors College, The University of Alabama*

Introduction: Amanda Lightsey, Executive Director, Tuscaloosa's One Place

1:45- Human Trafficking is Very Real and Happening Right Now in Alabama

2:30 *Andrew Arrington, Assistant Attorney General, State of Alabama*

Introduction: Ruth Gaddis, Success By 6 Director, United Way of West Alabama

2:30- Exhibits and Networking
2:45

2:45-3:45 Breakout Sessions

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Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Impact on the Family, School **Birmingham**
Dr. Martha R. Crowther, Professor, Community Medicine & Population Health Family, Internal, & Rural Medicine

Over the past two decades there has been a dramatic increase in the number of grandparents serving as primary caregivers to their grandchildren & great-grandchildren. Approaching this family system from a multifaceted perspective will allow service providers and researchers an opportunity to systemically examine from contextual and individual perspectives both the problems & resources of grandparent caregivers and the impact of this family system on schools, legal agencies, social services, and health care systems.

4:00- Where Do We Go from Here: Creating A Common Agenda to Address the Wellbeing of Our
4:15 Children

Melanie Bridgeforth, Executive Director, VOICES for Alabama's Children

4:15 Door prizes and CEU Distribution

