



***Detailed Schedule as of February 5, 2016***  
*(Dates and times subject to change. Speakers listed are those confirmed as of February 5, 2016. Check back regularly for updates)*

**Thursday, February 11, 2016**

**Plenary I 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM**

**Partnering with Parents to Help Children: Child Support as Part of the Social Safety Net**

While not traditionally thought of as a social program, child support payments provide more support each month than SNAP/food stamps, WIC or the Earned Income Tax Credit, and if all child support obligations were paid and collected, they would provide families with more financial support per month than any other social program. Dr. Cynthia Osborne, Director of the University of Texas, Child and Family Research Partnership will discuss child support's changing role as a part of the social safety net. Mark Greenberg, Acting Assistant Secretary at ACF, will then discuss the vision of addressing the needs of children in poverty and what role the child support program plays.

*Speakers: Mark Greenberg (Administration for Children and Families, Dept. of Health and Human Services); Cynthia Osborne (University of Texas at Austin)*

*Moderator: Brad Logsdon (Dane County, WI Child Support Agency)*

**Plenary II 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Changing the Conversation**

There is growing concern that the IV-D program may be losing its relevancy for families in the 21st Century. The families served by the IV-D program at its inception in 1975 are very different from those served now and those we will need to serve in the future. As evidenced by declining caseloads across the nation, we are serving fewer families and fewer of those we do serve receive public assistance (TANF, et al). These changes raise questions about how we are currently serving, as well as who are the families who we are not serving and why. The plenary addresses those questions by changing the conversation about IV-D services to America's families. Topics include:

- The declining and changing caseload for IV-D, TANF, SNAP
- Defining the potential caseload of families not now served by IV-D
- Needs, demands, and expectations of 21st Century parents
- Facilitating economic stability for families by facilitating family connections

*Speakers: Scott Cade (Xerox); Kathryn Edin (John Hopkins University); Alisha Griffin (Dept. of Child Support Services)*

*Moderator: Hannah Roots (British Columbia Family Maintenance Enforcement Program)*

**Plenary III 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

**Using Data Science & Behavioral Science to Better Understand and Engage Non-Custodial Parents**

Child Support Agencies have a wealth of data related to child support customers, and several use the power of analytics to assist caseworkers' proactive assessment and engagement of noncustodial parents. Speakers from the Florida and Pennsylvania child support programs will provide an overview of noncustodial parent demographics, and discuss how caseworkers use advanced analytics to promote positive noncustodial parent actions during establishment and enforcement of child support orders. Speakers will also discuss using analytics to avoid the need for contempt proceedings, and explore future applications of analytics to achieve better case outcomes for children and families.

*Speakers: Ann Coffin (Florida Child Support Enforcement Program); Jim Guszczka (Deloitte); Edward Lehmann (Philadelphia Family Court)*

*Moderator: Margot Bean (Deloitte)*

**Workshop 101 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**20 Years Later: The Evolution of Voluntary Acknowledgements of Paternity**

The modern family is complex and so is paternity. We have learned a lot in the past twenty years since the voluntary acknowledgement of paternity process was established. Join our expert panel as they give an overview of the current research on paternity and how acknowledgments are working. We will also hear how one State has addressed the issue with recent legislation. Join us for this interactive discussion on the impact of voluntary acknowledgments on our children, parents and IV-D agencies.

*Speakers: Tanguler Gray (Georgia Division of Child Support Services); Cynthia Osborne (University of Texas at Austin); Letitia Logan Passarella (University of Maryland)*

*Moderator: Diane Potts (CSF, Inc.)*

**Workshop 102 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Child Support: Barrier or Bridge to Successful Co-Parenting?**

No matter what you call it--"parenting time, access and visitation, co-parenting --most everyone agrees that children benefit emotionally and financially when they have ongoing and consistent contact with both parents. What's less clear is the interplay between financial support and parenting time. Does increased parenting time lead to more financial support? Or does payment lead to increased parenting time? And is the IV-D program a bridge or a barrier to ongoing and consistent contact? This panel will discuss current efforts to incorporate formal parenting time agreements into the IV-D process, how parenting time can be implemented at little or no cost to the IV-D program, and how current child support processes may be improved to eliminate barriers to successful co-parenting.

*Speakers: Katie Murphy (Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association); Adam Scott Fohlem (Montgomery County Child Support Enforcement Association); Nigel Vann (National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse/ICF International)*

*Moderator: Michael Hayes (HHS/ACF/OCSE.)*

**Workshop 103 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Child Support and Child Welfare: How Can Child Support Programs Implement Policies to Foster Better Outcomes for Post-Reunification Families?**

Research shows that children living in single-parent families are overrepresented in the child welfare system. These families are frequently served by the child support program before a child's out of home placement (OHP). However, when the residential parent is ordered to pay support to offset the costs, this can affect post-reunification resources available to the family. Also, the assignment to the State of any arrearages owed by the nonresidential parent to the residential parent further reduces post-reunification resources. In this workshop, we will discuss what the research says about how child support practices impact families involved with the child welfare system, and representatives from State child support programs will describe policies they have put into place to help alleviate some of these impacts.

*Speakers: Brad Logsdon (Dane County, WI Child Support Agency); Jennifer Noyes (University of Wisconsin); Sharon Redmond (Washington State Dept. of Social Health Services)*

*Moderator: Elizabeth Morgan (CSF, Inc.)*

**PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION 5:00 – 6:00 PM**

**Friday, February 12, 2016**

**Plenary IV 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Esprit de IVs – Collaboration Between Public Assistance and Child Support**

Child support and public assistance agencies want the same thing ... self-sufficiency for families. But laws, policies, and bureaucratic habits keep us locked in our silos, working at cross purposes, expecting to produce better results. Witness ACF Leadership's vision for breaking down barriers in order to achieve real interoperability. Then learn how to merge the child support program onto the Self-Sufficiency Super Highway. Washington State's TANF/SNAP director and IV-D Director will share their recent multi-pronged approach to treating the whole family, even when one parent lives apart, and ACF Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Maria Cancian will provide her vision for the future of the self-sufficiency infrastructure.

*Speakers: Maria Cancian (Administration for Children and Families, Dept. of Health and Human Services); Wally McClure (Washington State Division of Child Support); Babette Roberts (Washington State Dept. of Social Health Services)*

*Moderator: Jim Fleming (North Dakota Division of Child Support)*

**Workshop 201 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Pass-Through & Disregard: Policies That Encourage Self-Sufficiency among Custodial Families**

Families that leave the welfare program often struggle to maintain self-sufficiency, and yet, research shows that the receipt of child support can help families remain independent. Ensuring that families receive this critical source of income while they are TANF recipients will encourage permanent exits from welfare. This session will discuss pass-through and disregard policies across the country and the strategies states have used to adopt these family supporting policies.

*Speakers: Larry Desbien (Colorado Division of Child Support Program); Meghan McCann (National Conference of State Legislatures); Eileen Stack (New York State Division of Child Support Enforcement)*

*Moderator: Letitia Logan Passarella (University of Maryland)*

## **Workshop 202 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

### **Engaging Custodial Parents**

Research finds that child support reduces the child poverty rate by 4.4 percent and is a substantial source of income for many poor and low-income families. Yet, not all child-support eligible families seek child support assistance. This session explores the extent that economically vulnerable families voluntarily seek IV-D child support services, why some do not, and what IV-D agencies can do to overcome misperceptions and other barriers to help all eligible families engage with IV-D agencies and improve the financial security of their children. Attendees will learn about national trends in IV-D take-up rates and poverty reduction rates, what NYC found about engaging custodial parents from in-depth interviews with parents, and the perspectives of low-income custodial parents, as told by an advocate vastly familiar with the wide range of public assistance programs available to low-income families. The conversation will consider the interaction of child support income with other benefits such as public housing, child care assistance, and SNAP. The session will end with a lively discussion of what can be done to overcome these misperceptions and barriers to help more children and families.

*Speakers: Kinsey Dinan (NYC Human Resources Administration, Office of Child Support Enforcement); Melinda Hugdahl (Legal Services Advocacy Project); Elaine Sorenson (HHS/ACF/OCSE)*

*Moderator: Frances Pardus-Abbadessa (NYC Human Resources Administration, Office of Child Support Enforcement)*

## **Workshop 203 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

### **Innovation, Collaboration, and Dedication are Moving the Nation!**

Ground-breaking programs across the United States are changing the lives of families. Come learn about the latest and best ways to help custodial parents engage in a whole-family approach with noncustodial parents. The session will consider ground-breaking models and initiatives such as two-generational methodologies, trauma-informed community networks, and the Fatherhood Research and Practice Network. From family violence prevention to integrated service delivery to fatherhood programs that support mothers and co-parenting— this workshop has it all!

*Speakers: Maureen Alexander (Arapahoe County Dept. of Human Services); Allison Jackson (Integration Solutions, Inc.); Jessica Pearson (Center for Policy Research); Katherine Smith (Arapahoe County Dept. of Human Services)*

*Moderator: Maureen Leif (Colorado Judicial Branch)*

## **Plenary V 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

### **"With Great Power Goes Great Responsibility": Ensuring Procedural Justice in the Child Support Program**

The 2014 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and other publicized cases involving parents who owe child support have shed new light on areas where there is a risk that child support agencies could hold parents accountable for unrealistic expectations, including imputation of income and contempt of court. Speakers from inside and outside the child support program will address the minimum requirements of due process as applied to child support cases, the public's expectations for the child support program at a national level, and the realities of maintaining case-specific procedural justice in the context of rising caseloads and automated case processing.

*Speakers: Susan Dunn (ACLU of South Carolinas); Jim Fleming (North Dakota Division of Child Support.); Lisa Foster (U.S. Department of Justice); Katie Morgan (South Carolina DSS/ICSS); Vicki Turetsky(HHS/ACF/OCSE)*

*Moderator: Wally McClure (Washington State Division of Child Support)*

### **Workshop 301 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

#### **The Imputation Debate: When Actual Income Doesn't Tell the Whole Story**

A distinguished panel of child support experts will look at a variety of common scenarios to discuss imputed or potential income in calculating child support obligations. If only actual income should be used, how do agencies accurately determine what it is? Can enhanced customer service and outreach uncover actual income? Is imputation punitive? Or is it appropriate in cases where obligors work in the underground economy or are able but unwilling to work? What about noncustodial parents who are voluntarily impoverished? What flexibility do agencies need to take local job markets, salaries, and unemployment rates into consideration? The panel will discuss policy considerations in determining how far agencies should go to ferret out actual income and, for obligors with no actual income, whether and to what degree imputation is fair. In addition, the panel will discuss innovative alternatives to imputing income that may encourage obligors to pay their support.

*Speakers: Craig Burshem (Virginia Department of Social Services); Lisette Mestre (HHS/ACF/OCSE.); Kate Cooper Richardson (Oregon Child Support Program)*

*Moderator: Alice Burlinson (Virginia Division of Child Support Enforcement)*

### **Workshop 302 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

#### **Partnering with NCPs: Opportunities Everywhere**

Working with non-custodial parents is an integral part of what we do in the child support program and doing it well is key to collecting steady support payments. Fortunately, there are an abundance of opportunities to partner with NCPs and you will learn about several of them in this workshop.

*Speakers: Pam Lowry (Illinois DHFS/DCSS); Katie Morgan (South Carolina DSS/ICSS.); Jim Sullivan (Milwaukee County Child Support)*

*Moderator: Barbara Lacina (HHS/ACF/OCSE)*

### **Workshop 303 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

#### **Setting NCPs Up for Success: CSPED Grantees Show Us the Way**

Eight states were awarded child support noncustodial parent employment demonstration grants in 2012. The grants were to provide enhanced child support, employment, parenting, and case management services to noncustodial parents who are having difficulty in meeting their child support obligations. These parents often face many challenges, including substantial barriers to

employment and access to their children. Grantees have been working diligently to address these challenges. OCSE will share key findings from its implementation report, and two grantees will share their experiences, promising strategies, lessons learned, and their respective roadmaps for the rest of the grant period.

*Speakers: Baljit Atwal (Stanislaus County Dept. of Child Support Services); Rob Pierson (Stark County and Family Services); Elaine Sorenson (HHS/ACF/OCSE)*

*Moderator: Sharon Stacy (Virginia Dept. of Social Services)*

## **Saturday, February 13, 2016**

### **Plenary VI 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM**

#### **Understanding and Treating Poverty: The Role of Child Support in a Comprehensive Policy Framework to Help the Most Vulnerable**

More than 16 million children live in poverty in the US. Almost the same number are in the Child Support Program. Children growing up in poverty face many challenges that can carry over into adulthood, and there is large body of research that associates the experience of poverty with negative outcomes for generations to come. In this plenary, we will explore the impact on children of growing up in poverty, and the impact of the Child Support program as a poverty reducer. Our panel will discuss research, trends and practical approaches to respond to the effects of poverty on children and families.

*Speakers: Curtis Skinner (Columbia University); Marcella Wilson (Transition to Success, LLC)*

*Moderator: Erin Frisch (Michigan Office of Child Support)*

### **Plenary VII: OCSE Strategic Plan 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

#### **The New National Child Support Strategic Plan is Here!**

This is an opportunity to review the 2015-2019 National Child Support Strategic Plan. State, tribal, and local child support directors from across the country worked together and with OCSE staff to make the National Plan substantive and future-focused. As a result, the new National Plan represents and communicates a bold vision that the child support community holds for the future of the program. Come get a first look at the completed National Plan and learn how it can be a tool for moving the program to the next level.

*Speakers: Thom Campbell (HHS/ACF/OCSE); Shelia Drake (HHS/ACF/OCSE); Barbara Lacina (HHS/ACF/OCSE); Vicki Turetsky (HHS/ACF/OCSE)*

*Moderator: Jonathan Stanley (HHS/ACF/OCSE)*