



39th Annual Michigan Statewide Conference

# CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

PREVENTION, ASSESSMENT, AND TREATMENT

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE  
**OCTOBER 18-19, 2021**



[www.canconferenceuofm.org](http://www.canconferenceuofm.org)

# CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

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The Michigan Medicine Child Protection Team and the Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Conference Planning Committee welcome you to the **39th Annual Michigan Statewide Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect: Prevention, Assessment, and Treatment** on Monday and Tuesday, October 18-19, 2021.

This two half-day **virtual** conference features noted national and Michigan experts who will address a range of topics in the field of child abuse prevention, assessment, and treatment. Each day will consist of one 90-minute keynote and two 75-minute presentations.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

The conference is designed for prevention specialists, social workers, child welfare professionals (Children's Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoption), juvenile justice services, physicians, nurses, mental health and other medical professionals, attorneys, law enforcement, child advocacy professionals, and educators. Community members are also welcome to attend.

## CONFERENCE GOALS

At the conclusion of the conference, participants will understand and be able to implement:

- Recent advances in the field and applications to practice.
- Improved recognition of the symptoms of abused and neglected children in complex presentations.
- Improved recognition of the source of child behavior when children are abused and neglected.
- Successful intervention and treatment plans for children.
- Successful prevention models in child abuse and neglect.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Dates:** Monday and Tuesday, October 18-19, 2021

**Time:** Conference sessions begin Monday and Tuesday at 8:30 am and end at 1:00 pm.

**Online information:** A Zoom meeting link will be emailed to all participants, with instructions on how to join, a week prior to the conference.

## CONFERENCE FEES AND REGISTRATION

Monday only:	\$75
Tuesday only:	\$75
Monday & Tuesday:	\$150

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Registration is online. Please visit our website for information:  
[www.canconferenceuofm.org](http://www.canconferenceuofm.org)

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** There are no refunds or substitutions for this conference.



**THIS CONFERENCE IS CO-SPONSORED BY**  
Michigan Medicine Child Protection Team  
Michigan Medicine Department of Social Work  
Michigan Medicine C.S. Mott Children's Hospital

## ACCREDITATION

The University of Michigan Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The University of Michigan Medical School designates this live activity for a maximum of 8.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This conference has been approved by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative. The Training Approval Number is MICEC 0056 for a maximum of 7.0 continuing education clock hours to be earned over this two-day period. Attendees should only claim credit commensurate with their extent of participation in the event.

The conference has been registered with MCOLES for the use of 302 funding.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact us at: [Canconf.uofm@gmail.com](mailto:Canconf.uofm@gmail.com).

## CONFERENCE PLANNERS

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### **Martha Kerr, LMSW**

CAN Conference Planning Committee-Chair  
Abuse Prevention Initiative &  
Child Protection Team Coordinator  
Michigan Medicine, University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI

### **Bethany Mohr, MD, FAAP**

Clinical Associate Professor  
Medical Director, Child Protection Team  
Pediatric Hospitalist  
Department of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases  
Michigan Medicine, University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI



# PRESENTERS

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## **Rebecca Ford-Paz, PhD**

Co-Director, Forensic Assessment for Immigration Relief (FAIR) Clinic  
Clinical Child Psychologist,  
The Pritzker Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health  
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, IL

Rebecca Ford-Paz has nearly 20 years' experience in community/school mental health. Her work focuses on reducing health disparities by increasing access to evidence-based and culturally attuned prevention/treatment interventions, building the capacity of community-based providers, and conducting community-based participatory research. Dr. Ford-Paz has a longstanding interest in Latinx mental health, and engages in clinical work, research, and advocacy with Latinx and immigrant/refugee populations. In 2020, Dr. Ford-Paz co-founded the Forensic Assessment for Immigration Relief (FAIR) Clinic at Lurie Children's. Dr. Ford-Paz specializes in culturally attuned cognitive behavioral therapy and is a certified therapist for the Unified Protocols for Transdiagnostic Treatment of Emotional Disorders in Children and Adolescents. Dr. Ford-Paz co-chairs the Lurie Children's Immigrant Family Learning Collaborative at Lurie Children's and is on the Steering Committee of the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health and the Midwest Human Rights Consortium. She is also the co-chair of the Mental Health and Wellness Subcommittee of the Chicago is With You Task Force in the Mayor's Office of New Americans, tasked with operationalizing the Welcoming City ordinance in the City of Chicago.



## **Jason Kilmer, PhD**

Associate Professor  
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA

Dr. Jason Kilmer is an Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington (UW), and serves as an investigator on studies evaluating prevention and intervention efforts for alcohol, cannabis/marijuana, and other drug use by college students. In addition to research and teaching, he has worked extensively with college students and student groups around alcohol and other drug prevention programming and presentations throughout his career, both at UW and on

over 100 campuses across the U.S. Jason also serves as the chairperson of Washington state's College Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention.

Jason is the principal investigator of the Washington Young Adult Health Survey. The survey launched in 2014 prior to the opening of cannabis retail stores after legalization of non-medical cannabis, and has collected substance use data from young adults annually to monitor trends and emerging prevention needs.

Jason was the 2014 recipient of the National Prevention Network's Award of Excellence for outstanding contributions to the field of prevention, and was also the 2017 recipient of the Washington State Prevention Professional Award of Excellence.



# PRESENTERS

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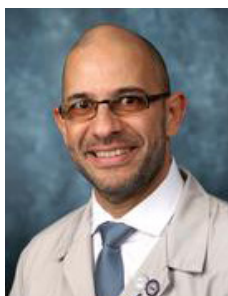


## **Dena Nazer, MD, FAAP**

Medical Director, Kids TALK Children's Advocacy Center  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI

Dr. Nazer is an associate professor of pediatrics at Wayne State University. She is the Medical Director at the Kids-TALK Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) in Detroit. Dr. Nazer is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in both General Pediatrics and Child Abuse Pediatrics. She has numerous publications and teaches both nationally and internationally on different aspects of child maltreatment. Dr. Nazer particularly

enjoys teaching and publishing about mimics of child abuse to educate the multidisciplinary team members on various conditions that may be mistaken for child abuse.



## **Norell Rosado, MD**

Interim Division Head, Child Abuse Pediatrics  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Child Abuse)  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, IL

Dr. Rosado obtained his MD from Escuela Mexicana de Medicina, Universidad La Salle, and subsequently completed his residency in pediatrics at Sinai Children's Hospital here in Chicago, where he also served as chief resident and then as

Medical Director of Child Protective Services. He is board-certified in general pediatrics and child abuse pediatrics.

Before coming to Lurie Children's in 2014, Dr. Rosado was on faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at Rush Medical College. During that time, he also served as an attending physician in the Division of Child Protective Services at the John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County and the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center.

After joining Lurie Children's and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Dr. Rosado has served as Clinical Practice Director in the Division of Child Abuse Pediatrics since 2015. He has also been very active as an educator, having served as director of residency education for his division from 2015-2019. He received the Outstanding Teacher designation from the Feinberg School of Medicine in 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2018-19. He has also been a frequent invited lecturer in domestic and international settings on topics of child maltreatment, child protection and child advocacy.



## PRESENTERS

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### **Craig Smith**

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Retired)  
Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada

Craig Smith retired from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in 2000, after a 27 year career. He spent seventeen of those years in plain clothes units dealing primarily with Child Abuse and Homicide investigations. In 2010, he returned to the RCMP and served a further six years as a Reserve officer. Since retiring, Craig has given presentations to over 12,000 police officers, child protection workers, prosecutors, medical personnel and other professionals on topics such as Child Sexual Abuse Investigations, Interviewing & Interrogation Techniques, Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma and Adult Sexual Assault Investigations. He has spoken to audiences throughout Canada, the United States, Australia, India, Singapore, the Philippines and the Netherlands.

Craig is a co-author of the Manual for the Investigation of Child Sexual Abuse (1988). He authored, Shaken Baby Syndrome – An Investigator's Manual (2010) and was a contributor to Child Maltreatment – A Comprehensive Photographic Reference Identifying Potential Child Abuse 3rd and 4th Editions (2005 & 2014). He completed the 2006 revision of the RCMP sponsored manual - An Investigative Guide for Sexual Offences. He also helped develop the RCMP Sexual Investigator's Course and was the facilitator for the first on-line, nationwide, Sex Crimes course run by the RCMP (2008).

Craig received his Bachelor of General Studies degree from the University of the Fraser Valley in June 2010. He is a Certified Forensic Child Interviewer (CFCI) and has conducted approximately 1000 interviews of child and adult sexual assault victims. Craig has been a member of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) since 2000 and spoken at five of their international conferences. He is listed as an expert consultant on Shaken Baby Syndrome with the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome in Ogden, Utah and has been a speaker at six of their international conferences.



## PRESENTERS

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### **Michelle Walls**

Foster Care Advocate  
MD Candidate, Michigan State University  
Lansing, MI

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Michelle Walls is a second-year medical student at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. She received a Bachelor's of Science after degree from Michigan State University after graduating from the Lyman Briggs Residential College. At the age of six years old Michelle lost her father, who was the main supporter of her family. Her mother struggled to care for Michelle and three younger siblings and they were eventually placed in the foster care system when Michelle was nine years old. The family later learned that Michelle's mother was diagnosed with severe mental illness, which ultimately led to Michelle never returning with her

mother. She lived in three foster homes and aged out at the age of 18 years old. Always an honor roll student, Michelle viewed an education as a route to success. She knew that as a foster child, college would be difficult to pay for and without the support of parents transitioning into adulthood was a huge challenge. Still, she relentlessly sought resources and mentors and was able to attend a university out of high school. In college she discovered a strong interest in lifestyle fitness after personal experience with obesity. She was inspired to become a certified personal trainer with the American College of Sports Medicine and began leading community lifestyle fitness events. This led to the creation of Lifestyle Fitness Empowerment INC. (LiFE INC) in 2018. LiFE INC is a nonprofit organization founded to promote practical lifestyle fitness practices in community populations with less access to preventative health services. Michelle also began to use her voice as an advocate for foster youth all over the country. Joining foster care alumni organizations such as the National Foster Youth Institute, she organized and led foster care advocacy groups. Her involvement includes workshop facilitation, public speaking and spearheading the creation of the Michigan NFYI Chapter.

Michelle was accepted into the MSU College of Human Medicine in 2018 and matriculated with the class of 2023. Since beginning medical school Michelle continues to promote healthy lifestyles through LiFE INC and hopes to find ways to incorporate more lifestyle promotion into healthcare overall. She was selected as one of a few students in her college to participate in the NIH-Funded Research to Reduce Health Disparities (R2D2) program, where she has decided to lead an independent research study to show how primary care physicians can improve adherence to exercise prescription and lifestyle recommendations for black women, in particular. Michelle also volunteers with the Spartan Street Medicine at her college to provide basic clinical care for homeless populations. She is partnering with a colleague to create a local advocacy program for patient population like the community's homeless. Michelle enjoys solving problems in medicine and hopes to be an innovative force in medicine. She continues to navigate the family and childhood struggles but is optimistic about the future.



# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021

TIME	EVENT
8:30 AM	Welcome, Opening Remarks  <b>PRESENTATION:</b> Is This Child Abuse or Merely GARLIC? An Overview of Mimics of Child Abuse <b>Presenter:</b> Dena Nazer, MD
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 AM	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:</b> Considering Cannabis: What the Science Says and What It Means for Adolescents and Young Adults <b>Presenter:</b> Jason Kilmer, PhD
11:30 AM	Break
11:45 AM	<b>PRESENTATION:</b> Interviewing the Child Sexual Abuse Victim, the Non-Offending Spouse and the Suspect – Why the Color of the Underwear Matters <b>Presenter:</b> Craig Smith
1:00 PM	Session Adjourns

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021

TIME	EVENT
8:30 AM	Welcome, Opening Remarks  <b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:</b> Foster Care Health Interventions <b>Presenter:</b> Michelle Walls
10:00 AM	Break
10:15 AM	<b>PRESENTATION:</b> Abusive Head Trauma/Shaken Baby Syndrome – An Investigator's Perspective <b>Presenter:</b> Craig Smith
11:30 AM	Break
11:45 AM	<b>PRESENTATION:</b> The Forensic Assessment for Immigration Relief (FAIR) Clinic: A Model for Forensic Evaluations for Humanitarian Immigration Relief <b>Presenters:</b> Rebecca Ford-Paz, PhD; Norell Rosado, MD, FAAP
1:00 PM	Conference Adjourns



# ABOUT THE PRESENTATIONS

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**MONDAY, 8:30AM**

## **Is This Child Abuse or Merely GARLIC? An Overview of Mimics of Child Abuse**

**Presenter:** *Dena Nazer, MD*

**Summary:** Evaluation of children suspected of being maltreated requires a thorough and systematic approach. Certain medical conditions and injuries may mimic child abuse. This may occur when the child has an unusual presentation of a common disease, a rare illness, the team is unfamiliar with the disease or when they are misled by the social situation. This presentation will follow a case based approach with numerous photos highlighting various conditions that may mimic child abuse. It will emphasize how a systematic thoughtful approach may prevent misdiagnosing abuse noting the fact that children with mimics of child abuse may also be victims of abuse.

**Objectives:** Participants will be able to recognize conditions that may mimic child physical or sexual abuse; develop a thorough systematic thoughtful approach when faced with a potential presentation that may mimic child abuse; work as a team and collaborate with others to reach a diagnosis especially when faced with rare or unfamiliar conditions.

**MONDAY KEYNOTE, 10:00AM**

## **Considering Cannabis: What the Science Says and What It Means for Adolescents and Young Adults**

**Presenter:** *Jason Kilmer, PhD*

**Summary:** In this presentation, we will review the science related to cannabis, including impacts on mental health, academic outcomes, sleep quality, driving-related risks, and addiction. Lessons learned after legalization will be discussed. The powerful role of parents on impacting use by youth will be reviewed, as will implications for prevention and intervention.

**Objectives:** Participants will be able to describe at least 2 ways cannabis use impacts cognitive functioning, health, and/or mental health; identify at least one option for screening for cannabis use disorder; describe at least one "lesson learned" after cannabis legalization.

**MONDAY, 11:45AM**

## **Interviewing the Child Sexual Abuse Victim, the Non-Offending Spouse and the Suspect – Why the Color of the Underwear Matters**

**Presenter:** *Craig Smith*

**Summary:** There is a harsh truth within Law Enforcement and Child Protection circles; few people are anxious to investigate Child Sexual Abuse cases. Most investigators feel ill at ease discussing sexual details with victims, witnesses or suspects. These uncomfortable details however, are often the foundation upon which an officer must build a case to put before the courts.

**Objectives:** This presentation will provide investigators with interviewing strategies that can be used to elicit key details from the victim in a Child Sexual Abuse case; provide investigators with interviewing strategies that can also be used to elicit key details from a non-offending spouse or partner of the suspect in a Child Sexual Abuse case; examine strategies for taking the details gained from the child victim and the non-offending spouse/partner and using those detail to develop an effective interviewing plan to be used when dealing with the suspect.

# ABOUT THE PRESENTATIONS

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## TUESDAY KEYNOTE, 8:30AM

### Foster Care Health Interventions

**Presenter:** *Michelle Walls*

**Summary:** Foster youth make up a small percentage of the nation's population of children, yet they are a high-risk group for illness. In childhood, they are more susceptible to child abuse, behavioral and mental health conditions. Due to frequent transitions, foster youth frequently experience discontinuity in healthcare. Physicians and other healthcare professionals need improved practice interventions that better ensure the healthcare needs of foster youth are met during initial and follow-up encounters. One approach is to increase their knowledge of research-based processes that reveal improvements in foster youth's health. Recent studies recommend a number of patient-care models and strategies, such as developing interdisciplinary health teams.

This presentation accounts the story of a former foster youth, now medical student, as she explores the gaps in healthcare to improve outcomes for youth coming behind her. As a child welfare advocate at the national and local level, her experience lends into the circumstance of foster youth while also understanding the complexity behind implementing better medical practices.

**Objectives:** Participants will be able to recognize and identify when patients in foster care are at increased risk of adverse health outcomes and develop interventions to support continuity of care; strategize approaches to coordinating interdisciplinary care between professionals to improve care for foster youth; develop increased awareness about the barriers and risk factors that foster youth face and explore physician's role in the foster care system; identify Michigan's state based initiatives and programs that relate to the health of foster youth.

## TUESDAY, 10:15AM

### Abusive Head Trauma/Shaken Baby Syndrome – An Investigator's Perspective

**Presenter:** *Craig Smith*

**Summary:** This presentation will focus on the law enforcement investigation of (AHT/SBS) cases. Two major obstacles facing investigators are identifying the perpetrator and confirming the actual mechanism and timing of the injury. Biomechanical research has now developed a clear picture of the mechanism of injury and the degree of force used in this form of child abuse. The research has also revealed that the onset of symptoms in serious injury or fatal cases is immediate. This session will use medical based, animated graphics and case histories to show how this research can be more easily understood by non-medical, investigators and will present techniques that can be used to correctly identify the person responsible for injuring the child. In these investigations, false alibi statements by caregivers, can often be as useful as partial or even full admissions. Participants will learn how to conduct an initial interview of suspects in order to get them "tied" to a particular, detailed story. The more detail we can obtain, the more we can differentiate between the truthful and the deceptive subject. Scene examination, gathering of corroborative evidence, liaison with medical and legal experts and interviewing of suspects will all be topics of discussion during this presentation.

**Objectives:** Participants will receive information on how to conduct an Abusive Head Trauma/Shaken Baby Syndrome (AHT/SBS) investigation that will aid in correctly identifying the offender, along with the time of the offence; will learn how to conduct an initial interview of the caregivers in order to get them "tied" to details in a particular story; be encouraged to use a multi-disciplinary approach with police, social workers, medical personnel and prosecutors, in conducting a thorough investigation.

# ABOUT THE PRESENTATIONS

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**TUESDAY, 11:45AM**

## **The Forensic Assessment for Immigration Relief (FAIR) Clinic: A Model for Forensic Evaluations for Humanitarian Immigration Relief**

**Presenters:** *Rebecca Ford-Paz, PhD; Norell Rosado, MD, FAAP*

**Summary:** This presentation will discuss the rise in the number of children and adolescents seeking asylum in the US, as well as the challenges facing these children throughout their migration journey. The types of humanitarian relief available to unaccompanied children (UAC) once they cross the border into the United States will also be covered. In addition, the FAIR Clinic's model to conduct medical and psychological forensic evaluations for these children will be described, including the importance of affidavits in their court proceedings.

**Objectives:** This presentation will explain the need to improve access to medical and psychological forensic evaluations for children/adolescents seeking asylum in the U.S.; review the types of humanitarian relief available; describe the process to conduct medical and psychological forensic evaluations for children/adolescents seeking asylum in a non-border state; describe an alternative model of a forensic asylum clinic in the Midwest.

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