



5th Annual Safe & Together Model SYMPOSIUM

Domestic Violence and Children

September 20-22
 St. Anthony Hotel
 San Antonio, Texas

Pre-Symposium

WEDNESDAY, September 20, 2017

8:00 am	Registration Opens	
8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast in Anacacho Ballroom	
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome by David Mandel	
Select one full-day workshop to attend:		
9:15 – 3:45	Introduction to the Safe & Together Model: Creating domestic violence-informed child welfare systems	Enhanced Advocacy: Developing a shared language of safety for domestic violence advocacy & child welfare
	Interviewing Domestic Violence Perpetrators: Engaging perpetrators as parents	Maintaining Rigor When Partnering with Families: Engaging domestic violence survivors using solution focused, safety organizing strategies
Coffee Breaks at 10:30 and 2:15 / Lunch served at 12:00		

Symposium

THURSDAY, September 21, 2017

8:00 am	Registration Opens		
8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast in Anacacho Ballroom		
9:00 – 10:30	Welcome and Keynote by David Mandel “I’d always thought of the children, not myself”: How current research supports a strength-based approach to domestic violence survivors		
10:30 – 10:45	Morning Break		
10:45 – 12:00	Ordinary Magic: Resilience across a lifespan Casey Keene, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence	Meeting the needs of fathers exposed to DV in childhood Ericka Kimball, PhD, Portland State University	Engaging Perpetrators of DV in the Family Group Decision Making Process Malveria Cox-Carter & Stacey Ann O’Rourke, Devereux Kids
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch in Anacacho Ballroom		
1:15 - 2:30	Plenary By Simon Lapierre, Ph.D., University of Ottawa Our Mailbox: Fostering mother-child communication in the context of domestic violence, in a safe, fun and creative environment, in order to strengthen their relationships and foster their empowerment		
2:30 – 2:45	Afternoon Break		
2:45 – 4:00	Successes and Challenges with New Jersey’s Co-located Advocate Program and Implications for Survivors and their Children Brittany DiBella, MSW, DVS	Domestic Violence: Developing Perpetrator Pattern Case When Partnering with Families Luck P Luckey, County of San Diego Heather Meitner, NCCD Children’s Research Center	Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV): Changing the conversation Ericka Kimball, PhD, Portland State University Casey Keene, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

FRIDAY, September 22, 2017

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast in Anacacho Ballroom		
9:00 – 10:30	<p align="center">Plenary By Katreena L. Scott, PhD, C. Psych., University of Toronto Intervention at the Intersection of Domestic Violence, Fathering, and Child Protection: Lessons Learned from <i>Caring Dads</i></p>		
10:30 – 10:45	Morning Break		
10:45 – 12:00	<p align="center">Key Elements of Domestic Violence Informed Documentation</p> <p align="center">Beth Ann Morhardt, Safe and Together Institute</p>	<p align="center">When Young People Engage in 'Violent Resistance' as a Response to Domestic Violence</p> <p align="center">Simon Lapierre & Isabelle Cote, University of Ottawa</p>	<p align="center">Introduction to Intervening and Interviewing Domestic Violence Perpetrators</p> <p align="center">Kyle Pinto, Safe & Together Institute</p>
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch in Anacacho Ballroom		
1:00 – 2:15	<p align="center">Using a Policy Approach to Infuse Domestic Violence - Informed Practice into the Texas Child Welfare System</p> <p align="center">Brooke King & Krista DelGallo, Texas Council on Family Violence</p>	<p align="center">Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value their Children</p> <p align="center">Katreena Scott, University of Toronto</p>	<p align="center">You Already Have the Data: Design, search, collect and understand evaluation data</p> <p align="center">Katie Gregory, Michigan State University</p>
2:15 – 2:30	Afternoon Break		
2:30 – 4:00	<p align="center">Keynote by David Mandel</p> <p align="center">"Wait, I don't even know how to work with non-violent fathers": How upping our game with non-violent fathers helps our work with domestic violence</p>		

*More workshops being added with topics that include Exploring Safe and Together Institute's E-Learning Courses, Trauma and the Sensory Brain, Texas' Domestic Violence-Informed Child Welfare Practice Guide and more.

**This program is Approved by the National Association of Social Workers (Approval # 886624904-5303) for 15 continuing education contact hours (5 per day).

Safe & Together Keynotes

"I'd always thought of the children, not myself": How current research supports a strength-based approach to domestic violence survivors

By David Mandel, Safe and Together Institute

In 2017, the Safe and Together Institute published its first Research Briefing focused on the protective capacities of adult domestic violence survivors. As strengths-based work with families becomes more prevalent, the research on protective capacities of domestic violence survivors as parents becomes more important to supporting a shift in policy and practice - from "failure to protect" to domestic violence-informed. In this plenary session, David will explore some of the research that demonstrates the protective capacities of adult survivors and its implications for policy and practice.

"But wait, I don't even know how to work with non-violent fathers": How upping our game with non-violent fathers helps our work with domestic violence

By David Mandel, Safe and Together Institute

When systems attempt to implement domestic violence-informed policy and practices, they often face numerous challenges. One of the biggest hurdles to overcome is to improve staff skills and confidence in finding and successfully working with perpetrators as parents. In most instances, we are asking workers who have little or no training working with non-violent fathers, to go and engage violent fathers. This makes an already difficult task much harder than it needs to be. Improving the ability of staff to work with all fathers is one the best ways to speed up the successful implementation of domestic violence-informed change.

In this plenary session, David will discuss how to think about making your systems more "father-inclusive" in manner compatible with domestic violence-informed practices. He'll discuss the ground-breaking concept of "male parental development" and how our practice with families can change with the simple understanding that "men's choices and behaviors impact child and family functioning. He will explore how father-inclusive practices can benefit women, children and fathers. He'll also explore the importance of these practices for families from marginalized and historically oppressed communities. Using case practice examples he will also explore the implications of father-inclusive practice work with domestic violence perpetrators as parents.

Guest Plenaries

Intervention at the Intersection of Domestic Violence, Fathering, and Child Protection: Lessons Learned from Caring Dads

By Katreena L. Scott, PhD, C. Psych., University of Toronto

Our Mailbox: Fostering mother-child communication in the context of domestic violence, in a safe, fun and creative environment, in order to strengthen their relationships and foster their empowerment

By Simon Lapierre, Ph.D., University of Ottawa

Symposium Breakout Workshops

Meeting the needs of fathers exposed to domestic violence in childhood

Ericka Kimball, PhD, Assistant Professor, Portland State University

This workshop will present the preliminary findings of qualitative interviews conducted with fathers who were exposed to domestic violence in childhood and their application to practice. It will highlight the ways exposure to domestic violence in childhood influences parenting among these fathers and their unique experiences. The workshop will also offer opportunities to discuss and brainstorm ways to meet the unique needs of these fathers. Learning Objectives:

- Understand the experiences of parenting among fathers exposed to domestic violence.
 - Identify ways to meet the unique needs of these fathers
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Engaging Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in the Family Group Decision Making Process

Malveria Cox-Carter, MBA, Devereux Kids

Stacey Ann O'Rourke, Program Manager, Devereux Kids

This workshop will explain how Devereux Florida's facilitators are using a combination of Family Team Conferences (a model of Family Group Decision Making) with components of David Mandel's Safe and Together model to address domestic violence in child welfare. This collaborative effort serves not only the victim/survivors of domestic violence but also engages the perpetrator as a parent. This workshop will describe strategies used to engage the perpetrator in the FGDM process by reviewing a sample case, and will explore data about the use of the Safe and Together Model as a tool for perpetrator accountability in Child Welfare practice.

Successes and Challenges with New Jersey's Co-located Advocate Program and Implications for Survivors and their Children

Brittany DiBella, MSW, DVS

New Jersey's Domestic Violence Liaison (DVL) program is a partnership between the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Office of Domestic Violence Services in the Division on Women (ODVS), Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P), the New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence (NJCEDV), the DCP&P local offices and domestic violence lead agencies. The goal of this program is to strengthen and enhance the service coordination between New Jersey's child welfare and domestic violence systems to bring about improved safety and well-being outcomes for women and children when child abuse and domestic violence co-occur. This presentation will provide an overview of New Jersey's DVL program as well as both the successes and challenges the state faces as these systems work towards improved collaboration

- Overview of New Jersey's statewide DVL program including the make-up of the program, policies and practices across each of the 21 counties.
 - Overview of both successes of the program and challenges around communication and collaboration between systems, the functioning of the DVL role, and outcomes for families in New Jersey.
 - Steps New Jersey is taking towards improved collaboration between the domestic violence and child welfare systems.
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Ordinary Magic: Resilience Across the Lifespan

Casey Keene, Director of Programs and Prevention, NRCDV

While trauma is part of the human experience, resilience is an innate human capacity. It's the most important super power you didn't realize you've always had. This presentation explores how childhood experiences of trauma (with a specific focus on domestic violence exposure) shape our lives from an asset-based perspective, and reviews key considerations and best practices for crafting trauma-informed responses as strategies to bolster resilience capacity across the lifespan. Promising local, state, and national practice models and resources will be highlighted. The presenter will make the case that by shifting away from a deficit model and embracing lessons learned from resilience research, we can more effectively pave the pathway to prevention where individuals, families, and communities can thrive. Learning goals:

- Understand how experiences of trauma shape children's lives;
 - Explain the importance of embracing asset-based, trauma-informed approaches to working with children; and
 - Identify strategies for building resilience capacity in yourself and the people you work with.
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Domestic Violence: Developing Perpetrator Pattern Case When Partnering with Families

Luck P Luckey, Practice Coach, County of San Diego Child Welfare Services and Trainer
Heather Meitner, Senior Program Specialist, NCCD Children's Research Center

Domestic violence can have an impact on the physical and emotional safety of the children and the functioning of the entire family. This hands-on training will engage participants in critical thinking about their practice when there is a perpetrator pattern of coercion, control and violence. It can be a challenge to hold the perpetrator accountable while keeping the children safe and together with the survivor.

- Trainers will use Safe and Together concepts to assist child welfare workers increase proficiency in engaging domestic violence perpetrators using solution focused and safety organized strategies.
 - Trainers will share and model use of solution focused questions while interviewing perpetrators to create the belief that there is a possibility of change.
 - Learners will be introduced to the six core components of a domestic violence case plan.
 - Participants will identify perpetrator's pattern of coercive control and practice building SMART case plans that meet the family needs, hold's perpetrators accountable, and maintains child safety first.
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Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV): Changing the conversation

Ericka Kimball, PhD, Assistant Professor, Portland State University
Casey Keene, Director of Programs and Prevention, NRCDV

A project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, the Adult Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (ACE-DV) Leadership Forum was established to amplify the voices and experiences of ACE-DV to enhance our work to end domestic violence. This innovative project is looking to shift the paradigm from deficit to growth – supporting the development of trauma-informed, culturally responsive, asset-based policies and practices that enhance resilience capacity in those who experience childhood trauma. This presentation will highlight the work of the ACE-DV Leadership Forum to harness the power of survivors' voices to impact the way we understand and respond to childhood trauma. Members of the ACE-DV Leadership Forum will share their personal stories of healing and resilience, and engage participants in a conversation around how the themes and lessons we've learned can enhance our work with families who experience domestic violence. Learning goals:

- Explore the richness of survivor stories in informing our understanding of and response to childhood trauma;
- Understand the importance of embracing trauma-informed, culturally responsive, asset-based approaches to serving children exposed to domestic violence across the lifespan.

Key Elements of Domestic Violence Informed Documentation

Beth Ann Morhardt, Safe and Together Institute

This workshop will provide concrete tools and skills needed to develop and increase the level of Domestic Violence Informed Documentation in child protection services. Child protection workers utilize Safe and Together based skills to gather information relevant to perpetrator pattern based behaviors that impact and cause harm to their children. Yet, if there is a gap in practice, it appears when the information is documented in case files and court submitted records. In this workshop participants will learn how to frame the facts they have gathered, and present them in objective and clear formatting. Participants will also have opportunities to ask for assistance with specific issues and actions they specifically struggle with documenting. This workshop will:

- Provide information and factors to support the importance of S&T based documentation
 - Provide concrete tools to utilize in preparing documentation
 - Provide opportunities for participants to ask for assistance with current struggles to create a professional connection to the S&T documentation
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When Young People Engage in 'Violent Resistance' as a Response to Domestic Violence

Simon Lapierre, University of Ottawa

Isabelle Cote, University of Ottawa

This workshop will focus on "violent resistance" to understand children's and young people's behaviours, and to move away from the "intergenerational transmission of violence" model, which tends to pathologize their behaviours. It draws upon the findings from a SSHRC-funded study investigating children's and young people's experiences and perspectives on domestic violence. It shows that children and young people are not passive victims, that they develop their own understanding and strategies. In this context, their recourse to violence can be a rational choice to defend themselves or their mothers, or to resist the perpetrators' violence.

Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value their Children

Katreena Scott, Ph.D. C. Psych., University of Toronto

Although National incidence studies reveal that fathers are responsible for a significant proportion of child maltreatment, fathers have rarely been the focus of either intervention or prevention efforts. *Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value their Children* is an internationally recognized intervention program for men who have abused their children or exposed them to domestic violence. Intervention focuses on helping men end their use of abusive parenting, co-parent with their children's mother in a safe, respectful and non-abusive manner, recognize attitudes that support healthy and unhealthy father-child relationships, and appreciate the impact of violence on children. More broadly, by promoting attitude and behaviour change among men, providing feedback to the broader intervention system, and organizing collaborative case planning, *Caring Dads* ultimately aims to improve the safety and well-being of the children. Participants in this workshop will develop an understanding of the foundational principles necessary for responsible intervention with at-risk fathers and be introduced to content and major therapeutic objectives of the 17-week *Caring Dads* program.

Using a Policy Approach to Infuse DV-Informed Practice into the Texas Child Welfare System

Brooke King, M.A. CPS Policy Manager, Texas Council on Family Violence

Krista DelGallo Policy Manager, Texas Council on Family Violence

In 2011 the 82nd Regular Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 434, establishing a task force charged with examining the relationship between family violence and child abuse and neglect. The legislative direction prompted intensive statewide level collaborative work between the Texas Council on Family Violence

(TCFV) and Child Protective Services (CPS), as well as other important stakeholders in Texas child welfare such as Statewide Intake and Children's Advocacy Centers. The task force produced a report making policy recommendations for both CPS and family violence shelter centers and submitted it to the Legislature in 2012. Since the publication of this report, TCFV has led efforts to improve local and state-level collaboration in responding to families experiencing the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. This interactive presentation will discuss the recommendations made from the SB 434 Task Force, the initiatives TCFV has led to implement those recommendations and where impact on statewide policy and local practices.

- Discuss how policy has been used as a strategy for macro level system change in working with survivors who are involved with the child welfare system.
- Describe the work that's occurred in Texas over the last decade that has helped frame how survivors of domestic violence are engaged by the child welfare system.
- Explore what we learned from the four pilot sites in Texas that focused on ways in which domestic violence programs and CPS can work together to provide better outcomes for families involved in the child welfare system, our new work focusing on an enhanced liaison position at domestic violence programs and how those pilot sites have elevated TCFV's capacity to advocate at the state level on behalf of survivors.

Introduction to Intervening and Interviewing Domestic Violence Perpetrators

Kyle Pinto, *Safe & Together Institute*

Interventions with perpetrators of domestic violence often include removing them from the home, punishing them through criminal court sanctions and/or engaging them with services. Participants of this workshop will discuss and learn strategies for complementing traditional interventions with approaches, such as child-centered engagement strategies, setting behavior-focused expectations to enhance the safety of children, as well as using children as a motivator for perpetrators. Using case examples, role-plays and video demonstrations, this workshop will support participants in finding unique and new ways to work with perpetrators and to support systems to remain child-centered in their practice. Child welfare workers, supervisors, domestic violence advocates and community service providers are encouraged to attend.