The 25th Annual Statewide Conference

SF TRENGTHENING FAMILIES

2024

It Takes a Whole Community



March 27-28, 2024 JUMP

1000 W. Myrtle St., Boise ID 83702

The Board of Directors of the *Idaho Children's Trust Fund* Salutes

IDAHO COALITION FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Winner of the 2023 Ed Van Dusen Legacy Award:

And all Idahoans working to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

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It Takes a Whole Community

March 2024

The more we learn about the roots of ACEs and especially child abuse and neglect, the clearer it is that our focus needs to be on shaping communities that support families. Towards this end, our keynote speaker this year is Jeff Todahl with the 90 by 30 Project at the University of Oregon. For the last eleven years, the 90 by 30 project has been working to reduce child abuse and neglect in Lane Co. (Eugene), Oregon by 90% by 2030 through building community interventions. I cannot wait to hear how concentrating efforts in one place can show us how to do the work at scale.

We will also be looking at how other community-based efforts are making a difference in Idaho already. We will hear how the Community Schools Strategy is transforming neighborhood schools into neighborhood-based family and student resource hubs for the whole community surrounding them. There is also community-based work being developed in Idaho based on the Icelandic Prevention Model. This work is focused around increasing relationships between youth and adults to increase social connection and decrease isolation that may lead to negative outcomes.

Our closing panel this year will focus on relatives raising their grandchildren or other family members. This is such an important role but these caregivers are often not well supported when they take it on. I hope we will learn more about how we can support them.

As you read through the workshop offerings, I hope you will find plenty of things you'd like to learn about.

Welcome to the 25th annual Strengthening Families Training Institute!

Roger Sherman Executive Director

P.S. Wednesday evening we have added a couple of "Don't Miss" events! **AIM Early Idaho** is hosting a reception right after close. Learn more about early childhood and infant mental health while enjoying some light snacks! At 6:30, join us for a very special event between two Idaho writers in the lobby of the Hilton Garden Inn. Our board president, **Brenda Stanley, will host a conversation with Kelly Green McConnell** who has written a book about child sexual abuse and repressed memory, called *When Knowing Comes*. It promises to be a great conversation! There are food and beverages available for purchase at the hotel.





Conference at a glance

This year's conference offers professionals the opportunity to earn up to 9 Continuing Education Units (CEU's).

Wednesday March 27, 2024

8:45-9:00 MST Welcome, Introductions and Housekeeping

9:00-10:30 Keynote Address: *The 90by30 Initiative- Child Maltreatment Prevention: One Community, One Goal, presented by Jeff Todahl, Ph.D.*

10:30-10:45 MST Break

10:45-12:15 MST Plenary Workshop: Jeff Todahl

12:15-1:15 MST Lunch and Networking

1:15-2:30 MST Workshops Session 1

2:30-2:45 MST Break

2:45-4:15 MST Workshops Session 2

4:30-6:00 MST AIM Early Reception

6:30 MST Evening Event: When Knowing Comes—Hilton Garden Hotel Lobby

Thursday, March 28, 2024

8:45-9:00 MST Welcome Back and Reflections

9:00-10:30 MST Workshops Session 3

10:30-10:45 MST Break

10:45-12:15 MST Workshops Session 4

12:15-2:30 MST Awards Luncheon and Closing Panel

JUMP Floorplan









DAY ONE KEYNOTE





The 90by30 Initiative Child Maltreatment Prevention: One Community, One Goal Jeff Todahl, PhD

The keynote will describe Lane County, Oregon's "90by30 Initiative,", an 11-year ongoing effort with one aspirational goal – a 90% reduction in child abuse and neglect in one U.S. county. Jeff Todahl, 90by30 cofounder and director, will outline Lane County's process of community engagement, core beliefs and strategies, successes, challenges/barriers, and key lessons learned. This keynote will include evaluation efforts, a recent 10-year retrospective, and current shifts underway. The presentation will emphasize reasons for optimism, a role for inclusion, and will encourage participants to acknowledge and celebrate Idaho's efforts as we look ahead to next vital steps.

All-Institute Workshop: Following the keynote there will be an all-Institute workshop to continue to develop plans for how you could implement a similar approach where you live. What if we could really prevent 90% or –let's think even bigger—100% of child abuse and neglect? They call that a BHAG for a big hairy audacious goal.

Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in small group discussions to share ideas and experiences and will leave with some BHAGs of their own to build communities focused on child-wellbeing.



Jeff Todahl, **PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Counseling Psychology and Human Services Department at the University of Oregon and Director of the MS Degree in Counseling. He is Director and Co-Founder of the UO's <u>Center for the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect</u> and the <u>90by30 Initiative</u>.

His research centers around violence prevention, community-level protective factors, and community engagement as a vehicle for reducing child abuse and other forms of interpersonal violence. He is currently measuring child abuse and neglect rates in Oregon (Oregon Child Abuse Prevalence Study), has partnered with the University of Kentucky and 24 U.S. universities to evaluate sexual assault

bystander prevention effectiveness, and works actively with The Ford Family Foundation on an Oregon-wide evaluation of Protect Our Children (sexual abuse prevention), and with dozens of Oregon schools and districts in a trauma informed and child well-being initiative, and Lane County's local effort to reduce child maltreatment. He is active in the community, including for example service on the Board of Directors for Womenspace, Ophelia's Place, the Trauma Healing Project and on the Kids First Safe Alternatives Center Advisory Committee. He contributed to the Oregon Safety-Focused-High Conflict Parenting Plan Workgroup, the Oregon State Regional Judicial Training on Domestic Violence and on the Womenspace Community Engagement Project, and LC Prevention and Wellness Fund Advisory Group.





TUESDAY EVENING When Knowing Comes 6:30 PM (See description on Page 7)

Capnote Luncheon and Awards!

We will close this year's SFTI with a facilitated panel of relatives raising their grandchildren or their siblings' children that will highlight the challenges families face today and what they wish others knew to help better support them and their needs. Panelists: Feather Holt, Racquel Broncheau, David Brinkley and Tammy Creswell. Moderated by Debora Kasten.

The Ed! & Pinwheel Awards

Winner of the 2023 Ed Van Dusen Legacy Award for Exemplary Practice to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect

The Idaho Coalition for Community Schools is a group of Community Schools practitioners, leaders, and partners who are committed to promoting the Community School strategy throughout the state of Idaho. Their purpose is to provide a means for local and state community schools stakeholders to connect, deepen knowledge and skills, and advocate for supportive policies.

In 2016, the *Idaho Children's Trust Fund* Board began a tradition to recognize people and groups who have made significant contributions in the past year. The **Pinwheel Awardees for 2023** are:

Children's Village— Children's Village, Inc. is a nonprofit children's residential care facility in Coeur d'Alene, serving children displaced from their families due to abuse, neglect, or severe family crisis. Children's Village has taken on the development of northern Idaho's assessment center.

Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics-- The Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics mission is to promote the health and welfare of Idaho's children by influencing policy on any and every issue affecting child health: immunizations, air pollution, and so much more. The AAP has been a supporter of CAP Month for several years and has committed to increasing their involvement.

Lakeside Pediatrics—Lakeside Pediatrics in Coeur d'Alene strongly believes in well-childcare and preventative medicine. Lakeside was an early adopter of practice recognizing the importance of ACEs and resilience in overall health. They have integrated behavioral health into their practice, understanding that physical and behavioral health are integrally connected.

Nez Perce Child Support Program—The Nez Perce Child Support Program has chosen a unique and culturally significant approach to parenting education by using cultural practices to teach parenting. While building hand drums or sewing moccasins, the parenting curriculum is presented. The practice itself is healing as many have struggled with their cultural identity and parenting roles that were upended through historical trauma and dislocation. Culture is prevention when it helps to heal the wounds that have made it hard to parent.

Aim Early Idaho- Ready, Set, Start Your Engines! 4:30 pm to 6pm IUMP Room 5th Floor

AIM Early Idaho invites you to attend our reception as we unveil the "Road Map" for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health in Idaho. Join us for light snacks (fuel) and conversation as AIM Early Idaho "revs up our engines" and starts a road trip journey promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health and supporting the workforce which helps families ensure healthy development with social and emotional well-being of infants and young children.







When Knowing Comes 6:30 pm to 8pm Hilton Garden Inn Lobby

Join Kelly Green and Brenda Stanley for a discussion of Kelly's new novel, *When Knowing Comes*. The book is a legal novel about two men who sue an elite soccer club decades after they were abused as children. The novel deals with repressed memory and the struggle to get justice. Kelly draws on her 30+ years of experience practicing law to write fiction involving legal drama.

Food and beverage will be available for purchase

Day 1

Wednesday, March 27th

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The Workshops

Session 1: Wednesday March 27, 1:15 – 2:30

1A: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: Oregon Communities Mobilizing for Change Jeff Todahl, PhD / Room: Move 5th Floor

This workshop will describe Oregon's "Protect Our Children" (POC) Initiative, a 9-year rural-led effort to prevent child sexual abuse statewide. With nearly 45,000 Oregon participants, POC includes the Stewards of Children Training, additional modules, and a web of intentionally localized efforts, each contributing to a shared vision for primary prevention. We will highlight key lessons learned from this statewide mobilization effort, impact from a comprehensive and ongoing 7+ year evaluation, and POC's next phase including emerging new curriculum and strategies to align multiple violence prevention efforts more intentionally.

1B: "Everything I needed to know about protective factors I learned from..."

Amanda Mills / Room: Jump 5th Floor

The Protective Factors can show up in the most unexpected places. For me it's Crossfit; for my son it's Dungeons and Dragons. With so much uncertainty, disruption of routine, and social isolation in the world today, it is important for families to find ways to remain connected and stay on a path to happy, healthy lives. In this workshop we'll identify how and where the Protective Factors are evident in our lives and how we can use everyday opportunities to promote them. We





will focus on building both individual and community resilience. And finally, we will discuss practical strategies that individuals, families, organizations, and communities can use to build the protective factors and thrive in the midst of life's challenges.

1C: Leveraging Culture for Stronger Native Families

Lilly James and Andre Picard / Room: Inspire 4th floor

Explore the transformative power of how cultural roots strengthen Native American families against challenges, promoting unity and pride. Join the Nez Perce Tribe Child Support Program in this immersive workshop that explores into the heart of Native American cultures, revealing the interconnected web of communal support and cultural practices that serve as powerful tools for preventing child abuse and fostering resilience within families. We collectively explore the strength within Native American communities, utilizing cultural practices to cultivate pride, enhance family togetherness, and create a vision of resilient families and united communities! By the end of the workshop, participants will be equipped with practical knowledge, resources, and a deeper understanding of how cultural practices can be harnessed to prevent child abuse and strengthen Native American families.

1D: Strengthening Communities through the Community School Strategy

Hayley Regan / Room: Loft 5th Floor

The Community School strategy is creating lasting change for students and families by coordinating resources and partnerships through local schools to increase family stability and expand opportunities for students. Students often face barriers outside the classroom that make it difficult for them to be successful inside the classroom. By finding the right partners to help address these barriers, children and families are supported both inside and outside the classroom. With resources like free preschool and afterschool programs, student mentorship, dental services, mental health services, basic needs support, adult education, and more, the Community School Strategy is reimagining local schools to be a community hub where families and students are supported and empowered to achieve their goals.

1E: Trauma Stewardship

KJ Brant, MS / Room: Pioneer 6th Floor

Secondary Trauma, also known as vicarious trauma, secondary traumatic stress, empathic strain, compassion fatigue, burnout, and emotional residue, has very real impacts. Secondary trauma takes a mental, physical, and emotional toll. If you lack a proper way to cope, secondary trauma can damage your worldview, quality of life, ability to care for others, and health. Secondary trauma can also lead you to develop emotional defense mechanisms that block your ability to empathize with and care for others. But these trauma impacts can be named and managed. Trauma stewardship is learning to care for others who have gone through trauma by learning to care for ourselves. This will then enable us to be fully present with others in their pain, trauma, and suffering without taking it on as our own. Trauma stewardship is a long-term approach to tending to our own wholeness so we can be helpful to others with our full integrity for as long as we desire.

Session 2: Thursday, March 28th 2:45 -4:15

2A: Data in the Real World: Planning, Implementing, and Learning from Evaluation

Kim Hemmert / Room: Move 5th Floor

Storytelling connects people. In this workshop you will learn how to use data to tell stories. You will come away from this workshop knowing the difference between outcomes and indicators, how to use logic model, understanding and evaluating measurement tools, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and continuous quality improvement. With this information, you'll be better able to tell your prevention story, grounded in science and data!





2B: Picture Books Build Protective Factors

Jen Redford, MLS / Room: Jump 5th Floor

Are you looking for a new way to help families build protective factors? Try picture books! Books can help you introduce a tough topic, illustrate behavior strategies, and tell stories about HOPE and resilience. During this workshop, we will explore different picture books that you can use to help families build protective factors. We will also discuss different ways to read a picture book to have the most impact and how to talk with children about books.

2C: Indian Child Welfare Act as the Gold Standard

Rebecca Lehman, LMSW / Room: Inspire 4th Floor

This workshop will briefly explore the basics of ICWA, utilizing a QEW testimony and assist in the understanding of jurisdictional sovereignty of Tribes in state courts. Education for foster care placements and caseworkers of tribal children in state licensed foster homes with the need for collaboration between tribes and states for those children will be offered. A large portion of this workshop will focus on the spirit of ICWA; the need for active effort at all times for successful reunification, the importance of culture in a family's' healing journey, and what "prevention" efforts look like for children on the Nez Perce Reservation.

2D: Community- Engaged, Upstream Prevention for Youth Mental Health: The case for the Icelandic Prevention Model Drs. Megan Smith, PhD, Ann Abbott, PhD, and Matt Isbell, PhD / Room: Pioneer 6th Floor

Recent findings at both the national and state level here in Idaho show that youth mental health rates are an area of concern. This includes sadness, hopelessness, and suicidal ideation. While individual level prevention and intervention strategies possess strengths, they tend to take more resources, while simultaneously serving fewer people. Universal prevention approaches, aimed at community-driven change, are designed to impact more lives and sustain positive change over time. The presenters will discuss the potential of the Icelandic Prevention Model, the most successful youth substance use prevention approach in current research, for effectively addressing youth mental health in Idaho. This will include a description of the model, risk and protective factors relevant to Idaho youth, and the key barriers and successes of this work so far in Idaho. One of the key highlights of the work in Idaho so far is the way it brings communities together around a shared goal that is easy to talk about and act upon. The presentation will conclude with ways to get involved and time for questions and answers about attendees' specific communities.

2E: "What about the Baby"? Why Early Relational Health Matters Holly Whitworth / Room: Loft 5th Floor

Learn about the unique and universal concept of Early Relational Health and why it matters to the work that we do with parents, policy makers, students, and other practitioners. This session will address research in the last five years about the essential relationship between parents and their babies and provide practical tools YOU can immediately use in the classroom, on home visits and in community spaces. This workshop will use the knowledge and experience from diverse disciplines to capture the power of human relationships and skills to promote the development, resilience, and wellbeing of young children.

Day 2

Thursday, March 28th

8:45-9:00 MST Welcome Back and Reflections

9:00-10:30 MST Workshops Session 3

10:30-10:45 MST Break

10:45-12:15 MST Workshops Session 4

12:15-2:30 MST Awards Luncheon and Closing Panel





Session 3: Thursday, March 28th, 9 - 10:30

3A: Population Health Data for Idaho: The Get Healthy Idaho Data Framework

Joe Pollard, BS / Room: Inspire 4th Floor

The workshop will introduce participants to the data dashboards located in the Population Health Data section of the Get Healthy Idaho website. Participants will get brief descriptions of all the dashboards available on the GHI website and learn about some of the features of the more complex dashboards. The workshop will also explore different ways the data can be used and talk about how programs and organizations are using the data dashboards currently and might use them in the future.

3B: Learning about Positive, Tolerable and Toxic Stress through the Brain Architecture Game ICTF Staff / Room: Jump 5th Floor

The Brain Architecture Game, developed by the Harvard Center on the Developing Child, is a fun and interactive tool to learn about how both positive and adverse experiences impact the developing brain from birth through early childhood. Play it for your own learning and then learn how to use it in your own community.

3C: Children's Champions in Action: Becoming an Effective Public Policy Advocate Christine Tiddens, LMSW / Room: Loft 5th Floor

As our state's greatest treasure, children and their interests should be prioritized in public policy discussions. By coming together as champions in action, we can advance smart policies that improve the health and well-being of children and ensure future generations thrive. This workshop will highlight current system and policy issues impacting Idaho's kids while also offering training on how to engage as an effective policy advocate in Idaho. Specific topics will include early childhood programs, health care coverage, and child welfare.

3D: More than the 5th Grade Puberty Movie

/ Room: Move 5th Floor

Knowledge of sexuality and good communication skills can be important protective factors for children from toddlers to adolescents. Join us in understanding basic sexual growth and development and explore ways to develop an easy conversation in a caring, accepting atmosphere. There is power of safety in helping children gain confidence, knowledge, self-esteem and reducing stress in today's challenging environment.

3E: The Art of Attachment: Nurturing Healthy Bonds with Adolescents Janelle Stauffer, LCSW / Room: Pioneer 6th Floor

This training will delve into the complexities of teenage relationship dynamics. Discover the foundations of attachment theory, explore the characteristics of healthy adolescent connections, and gain practical strategies to foster secure bonds. This training equips professionals with valuable insights into the challenges of adolescent attachment, providing tangible tools for communication, trust-building, and intervention. The content will enhance your understanding of the critical role attachment plays in adolescent development, empowering you to make a lasting impact on the lives of the teens you serve. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your expertise and strengthen your ability to connect with and support today's youth.

Session 4: Thursday, March 28th, 10:45 to 12:15

4A: "Don't go it Alone!" The Value of Discussion & Consultation when Navigating Ethical Dilemmas Lori Watsen, LCSW / Room: Pioneer 6th Floor (Ethics credit available for this workshop)

All who work in human services encounter ethical challenges and dilemmas regularly as we navigate relationships with clients and service providers, set and manage boundaries, and interact with complicated systems. Too often, we work through ethical questions we face or decisions we need to make under stress and in isolation. In this workshop we will explore





barriers that keep us from sharing and discussing ethical concerns with colleagues and supervisors. We will discuss strategies to address these barriers and the importance and value of consultation when navigating ethical decisions and dilemmas. Finally, we will consider how ethical decision-making models and processes can help us structure ethical discussions and consultations for effectiveness.

4B: Get Healthy Idaho: Upstream Solutions to Promote, Protect, and Improve Health in Idaho Communities Katie Lamansky and Dr. Amy Wuest, PhD / Room: Jump 5th Floor

The Workshop will describe Idaho-based and locally led efforts to invest in the conditions that support health and well-being and reduce the root causes of unequal health outcomes in Idaho communities. Participants will learn how the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Division of Public Health is investing in local efforts to address the unique social, economic, and environmental factors that prevent people from being as healthy as possible. The United Way of Southeast Idaho will share how their Get Healthy Idaho community health collaborative used data and community voices to identify health needs and develop an action plan that addresses Bannock County's most pressing health issues using a unique community-led, collaborative approach. Participants will also have a chance to explore how FindhelpIdaho.org is improving access to health resources across the state.

4C: Assessment Centers: Year 2 Monty Prow, MPA, Savannah Swisher, Ann Burton, MS/ Room: Inspire 4th Floor



Highlighting the new services for youth in Idaho, we will discuss the Youth Assessment and Crisis Centers after a year of operation: how they are working, what role they are playing in the community and how they are working with youth and families. Please join to tell us what your experience has been interacting with the centers.

4D: The Resilient Schools Project Katie Francis, M.Ed, Ed.S /

Room: Loft 5th Floor

The Resilient Schools Project is an evidence-informed and comprehensive systems approach to establishing a culture of resilience and trauma informed practices in K-12

school buildings and districts nationwide. The goal is to equip school professionals with knowledge, training, and support to foster resilience in children. No one professional can support an entire system alone. Moreover, systems change requires careful planning to implement impactful measures. Training involves helping all school staff (from the bus driver who brings the child to school, to the teachers, administrators, and support staff the child sees throughout their school day), to view student behaviors through a trauma-informed, resilience-focused lens. This means recognizing every student's strength and potential regardless of whether their behaviors fall short of expectations, and to view challenging behaviors as a clue to the child's unmet needs.

4E: A New Stewards for a New Generation: Putting it into Practice Cathy Carmen, MSW, and Taryn Molitor / Room: Move 5th Floor

In this workshop, Taryn and Cathy will overview Darkness to Light's new Stewards of Children Sexual Abuse Prevention Training, released in April 2023. We'll consider what's new, the updated data and how it's more trauma informed for both facilitators and participants. Then we'll offer a brief Bystander Intervention training to give participants a sense of how the 5-Steps to preventing child sexual abuse can be used in our everyday lives.





Workshop Presenter Biographies

Anne Abbott, PhD

Dr. Anne Abbott's research focuses on the intersection of health communication and improving youth/young adult health outcomes. She is particularly interested in mass communication interventions or intervention components that can prevent violence and self-harm; she applies her health communication expertise to a wide-range of topic areas.

KJ Brant, MS

KJ is an experienced and passionate victim advocate and spokesperson. She has enjoyed a 24-year career in servant leadership roles. For 17 years, KJ served as a victim advocate, working with individuals and families entangled in overwhelming domestic and legal situations resulting from their involvement in the child welfare system or other adverse life experiences. Currently, KJ supports child abuse and neglect prevention efforts through programs that strengthen families as staff for the Idaho Children's Trust Fund. She is a certified H.O.P.E. Champion trainer and is skilled in strength-based intervention and trauma-informed strategies. KJ and her husband, John, have 4 young adult daughters.

Ann Burton, MS

is the Pathways Crisis Center Director. She currently possesses a Master's in mental health counseling and is a current doctoral candidate for a PHD in trauma counseling. She has over 25 years of experience as a senior manager within the mental health field.

Cathy Carmen, MSW, LCSW

Cathy Carmen is the Darkness to Light Stewards of Children Coordinator at Idaho Children's Trust Fund. She has been a facilitator and instructor in this field since 2015. Her background and experience are with children and adults with lived experience with sexual abuse, educational program development and outdoor education. When not doing prevention work, Cathy can be found exploring Idaho's beautiful rivers and mountains with her family.

Katie Francis, M.Ed

My professional journey has revolved around my love for working with children, especially working with the toughest crowd. I am deeply passionate about providing opportunity and education for all to drive meaningful change. I have extensive experience in education including Principal, District Administrator (School Safety and Social Emotional Learning), Instructional Coach, and classroom teacher. I currently hold certifications as a Trauma-Informed and Resilient-Focused trainer (Education and Clinical), Community Resilience Model trainer and Making Sense of Your Worth Facilitator. I have recently made the shift to non-profit leadership as the Strategy & Development Director for the Idaho Resilience Project. I also lead The Resilient Schools Project, which is dedicated to removing barriers and fostering resilience among children across Idaho's educational landscape.

Kim Hemmert, LMSW

Kim Hemmert is the grants manager for the Idaho Children's Trust Fund and leads the statewide HOPE Conquers AC Es Community of Practice. Her previous experience with Head Start and Early Head Start elevated her understanding of why healthy brain development and attachment is so critical in the early years of life. She was a foster parent for the state of Idaho for six years.

Matt Isbell, Ph.D

Dr. Matt Isbell works with various organizations and across the private, nonprofit, and government sectors consulting on a range of topics all around how to make organizational processes work for their members. Whether it's how to make better decisions, collectively lead, implement ideas, or change, Dr. Isbell focuses on the communication processes that stall or stagnate organizational innovation.





Lilly James

Lilly James is a dedicated professional with extensive experience in program and case management, specializing in federal and tribal initiatives. As the Child Support Program Director for the Nez Perce Tribe, she oversees the Title IV-D Child Support Program. Lilly's journey includes roles such as Case Manager for the Nez Perce Tribe Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Health and Safety Specialist for the Early Childhood Development Program, and Diabetes Program Coordinator at Nimiipuu Health. Lilly has a strong background in health, wellness, and fitness. Lilly's unique perspective, grounded in her role as a single parent and her own challenges raising extended family, enriches the Rooted Resilience workshop. Her authenticity and understanding offer valuable insights into the complexities that families may face, and her journey highlights the path to healing and strength in the face of adversity.

Katie Lamansky

Katie Lamansky is Health Program Manager for Get Healthy Idaho in the Division of Public Health, Idaho Department of Health & Welfare. She joined the Division in 2008 under the Idaho Physical Activity and Nutrition Program where she managed a federal block grant, led the growth and expansion of Idaho's Fit and Fall Proof™ program, and supported multiple grant initiatives to improve safe, healthy, and active environments in childcare settings and communities across Idaho. In 2019, Katie shifted roles in the division, supporting the development of Get Healthy Idaho − Idaho's statewide health improvement plan - and the creation of an innovative, place-based funding initiative under Get Healthy Idaho. Katie leads this initiative and Idaho's health improvement plan through strategic leadership and systems-level oversight to achieve Get Healthy Idaho's vision of healthy people living and thriving in safe, healthy, and resilient communities.

Rebecca Lehman, LMSW

Rebecca currently serves the Nez Perce Tribe as the Director of Indian Child Welfare. In her duties, she oversees the Child Protection Program, the Nez Perce Tribe Children's Home, inhimiyume (My Relatives) Sober Living Home for women and children, the 'iniit Teen Shelter, Victim Services and the Foster Care program. She has extensive training in working with children of trauma, addiction and victim advocacy. She understands that healing is a journey and says it's a privilege to serve her community. Rebecca has extensive training and certifications in a variety of mental health and substance misuse modalities. She is also a Qualified Expert Witness for the Nez Perce Tribe who has testified in various state courts.

Amanda Mills

Amanda Mills has worked in early childhood education here in the Treasure Valley for over 20 years. She is the Strengthening Families Specialist at IdahoAEYC and works with early childhood professionals, families and family-serving organizations to integrate the Strengthening Families Framework and the Building Blocks of HOPE into practice.

Taryn Molitor

Taryn Molitor, BS Community Health Education from Idaho State University, 2007. Taryn began her career in child abuse prevention in 2009 with the ICARE Program of St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho. First serving as a home visitor and Nurturing Parenting Program Facilitator, she soon gained certification as an Authorized Facilitator and Certified Instructor for the Stewards of Children sexual abuse prevention program. Taryn is a facilitator for the Ready 4 Kindergarten! school readiness program as well as a HOPE Facilitator for the HOPE Community of Practice across Idaho. In her personal life, she is a wife and mother to four children and also serves as a small group leader for Real Life Post Falls' High School Ministry. She is always up for a coffee date/meeting and loves exploring our beautiful area.

Andre Picard Jr.

Andre L. Picard Jr., serving as the Nez Perce Tribe Child Support Program Community Outreach Specialist, brings a wealth of cultural leadership to his role. Holding a Business and Communications Inter-Disciplinary Degree from Lewis Clark State College, Andre leverages his educational background to bridge cultural understanding within the Nez Perce Tribe and surrounding communities. As a cultural leader, Andre employs tribal customs as powerful tools for community betterment. His teachings and trainings center around essential pillars, including impactful speaking, tribal singing, engaging artwork, and the cultivation of self-respect. Beyond his professional contributions, Andre is a devoted husband and a father of two sons and two daughters. His commitment to fostering cultural awareness and community well-being enriches the initiatives of the Nez Perce Tribe Child Support Program.





Simone Piper, MS

Simone Piper has supported research and evaluation efforts at the Center for the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect since 2016. Prior to CPAN, she worked as a data manager with the University of Oregon's Center for Translational Neuroscience, as a research assistant and assessor with the Oregon Social Learning Center's Kids in Transition to School program, and served in preschool classrooms at YWCA Clark County Y's Care Children's Program in Vancouver, Washington. After graduating from Willamette University with a bachelor's in psychology, Simone completed a master's degree in developmental psychology at the University of Oregon. Simone's research interests include the primary prevention of interpersonal violence, community mobilization and engagement, and collective impact.



Joe Pollard

Joe Pollard is the Health Data Analytics Manager for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Division of Public Health. His primary role is to promote and assist in the effective use of population health data across the Division of Public Health, population health stakeholders, and population health partners. He has been with the division for nearly 30 years and the lead program manager for many components of the GHI data framework.

Mary Ratliff, MPA

Mary has led Protect Our Children since its earliest phase of development in 2014. She is widely recognized as "the secret sauce" in the Initiative's success, bringing a perfect blend of smarts, heart and organizational prow-

ess. Mary has over 20 years of experience in the human services field, focusing on child abuse prevention and intervention strategies and child advocacy. She has held a variety of supervisory, leadership and development positions with local nonprofits. Mary is an active participant in community-building activities and has served on boards of directors for local rural nonprofits. Currently, she is the Board Chair for the Oregon Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America.

Jennifer Redford, MLS

Jennifer is a Youth Services Consultant at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, where she supports libraries in their efforts to serve children and families in their communities. Prior to working at the Commission, she was a public librarian at a neighborhood library in Boise for ten years.

Hayley Regan

Hayley Regan is passionate about transforming our education systems to support all children and families. She is the Collaboration Manager at United Way of Treasure Valley. As Co-chair of the national United Way Learning Network for Community Schools she believes in the power of peer learning and relationships. Hayley graduated from Villanova University.

Megan Smith, Ph.D

Dr. Megan L. Smith is an Associate Professor for the School of Public & Population Health at BSU. Megan spent 6 years as a K-12 classroom teacher before pursuing her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies. Dr. Smith's work builds across education, human development, and public health to promote positive health outcomes for youth. As founding director of Communities for Youth, Dr. Smith focuses on upstream prevention through community engaged efforts to promote youth and community health.

Janelle Stauffer, LCSW

Janelle Stauffer is a Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in Nampa, ID. She has been providing attachment and trauma informed therapy services for over 16 years. She works with children and their families and adults to overcome attachment injuries and work through trauma through relational, body based strategies. She has a group practice in Nampa called "The Resiliency Center of Idaho" with a mission to support people as they find healing from a non-pathologizing





and empowering perspective. She has 2 daughters, 2 dogs, 2 cats, and loves to spend time adventuring in the mountains.

Savannah Swisher is a Project Manager with Southwest District Health overseeing the implementation of a decentralized Assessment Center model called YouthROC. With a lengthy career in behavioral and public health systems, her passion lies in creating connections between organizations that allow youth and families to thrive.

Christine Tiddens, LMSW

Christine Tiddens, LMSW, has over a decade of experience developing and leading successful policy initiatives in Idaho that improve the health and well-being of kids and families. As a licensed social worker, she has filled a variety of roles in the nonprofit field, including fundraiser, researcher, lobbyist, coalition leader, political strategist, and educator. Christine is the director of Idaho Voices for Children and serves as an adjunct professor at Boise State University's School of Social Work, on the NASW Idaho Board of Directors, and on the Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT National Steering Committee.

Lori Watsen, MSW, LCSW

Lori Watsen is Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Clinical Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at Boise State University. Her teaching and service work focus primarily on social work practice, diversity, equity, and inclusion. She worked as an Oncology Social Worker for nearly 15 years before moving into her full-time job at BSU in 2016. Lori is a registered Clinical Social Work Supervisor and the current President for the Idaho Society for Clinical Social Work. She enjoys facilitating training, workshops, and support for professionals in the community. In her free time Lori enjoys camping and traveling with her wife, Sharene, and their kids, Conley & Greta (ages 10 & 8).

Holly Whitworth

Holly Whitworth has worked with families and young children for 20 years. She is a program manager at Eastern Idaho Public Health where she works to provide evidence-based home visiting services through Parents as Teachers to families with children 0-5 years of age. Her work focuses on helping families overcome barriers for parent education, family support, preventative health care, infant and early childhood mental health and preventing child abuse and neglect. Holly currently sits on the AIM Early Idaho Board of Directors, is endorsed as an Infant Mental Health Family Specialist®, has served on The Governor's Coordinating Council for Early Childhood and is active across the state facilitating home visiting and programs that strengthen families.

Amy Wuest, Ph.D.

Dr. Amy Wuest is the Director of Health for the United Way of Southeast Idaho. Since joining the United Way, Amy has worked with community members and nonprofit organizations to improve the health, education, and financial security of Idahoans. Amy is helping to launch both findhelpidaho.org and Ride United in southeast Idaho. She has been part of the findhelpidaho.org collaborative since it first began in 2020 and is currently working to support equitable access to resources via findhelpidaho.org by implementing ride shares, increasing resources for Spanish speakers, and improving rural connections to services. Ride United is a multifaceted transportation solution designed to address the social determinants of health by overcoming barriers associated with poverty, limited health care access, and the built environment.





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