CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

--- SUNDAY ---

2:30 - 4:30 PM  Early Check-In  (Registration Desk)
5:00 - 7:00 PM  Opening Reception  (Governors’ Hall)

--- MONDAY ---

7:45 - 8:30 AM  Check-In & Breakfast  (Registration Desk)
8:30 - 8:45 AM  Welcome & Opening Remarks  (Governor’s Hall A & B)
8:45 - 10:15 AM KEYNOTE: Sasha Neulinger  (Governor’s Hall A & B)
10:30 - 12:00 PM Session 1 Workshops

1A: Bring Your Whole Self to Work: Creating Inclusive Environments
1B: Corroborating Evidence: Critical Steps for All (pt. 1)
1C: Photo Documentation of Injuries
1D: Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse: Working with Non-offending Caregivers
1E: MDT Approach to Working with Special Needs Victims

12:00 - 1:00 PM  Lunch  (Governors’ Hall)
1:00 - 2:30 PM  Session 2 Workshops

2A: Through the Eyes of a Child
2B: Corroborating Evidence: Interactive Case Study (pt. 2)
2C: Safety Beyond Our Doors: The Role of Advocacy in Assessing Risk
2D: TF-CBT and Young Children: Applying the Model to Children Under 8
2E: Better Together: Law Enforcement and Therapist Case Collaboration

2:30 - 3:00 PM  Snack Break  (Governors’ Hall)
3:00 - 4:30 PM  Session 3 Workshops

3A: Suffer From BURNOUT? Give em’ the F.I.N.G.E.R.!
3B: Social Media Investigations: The Use of Open Source Intelligence
3C: The Key Factors of Crisis Intervention: Addressing Caregiver Needs
3D: TF-CBT with Adolescents: Avoidance, Risk Taking, Engagement
3E: How to Build Reports in Collaborate
TUESDAY

7:45 - 8:15 AM  Check-In & Breakfast  (Registration Desk)
8:15 - 9:45 AM  KEYNOTE: Victor Veith  (Governors’ Hall A & B)
10:00 - 11:30 AM  Session 4 Workshops

4A: Suffer From BURNOUT? Give em’ the F.I.N.G.E.R.!
4B: It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time: Ethics and the FI Process
4C: A Closer Look at the Most Commonly Used Apps by Kids & Predators
4D: Get SMART: An Intro to Sensory Motor Arousal Regulation Treatment
4E: The Best Kept Secret: Mother-Daughter Sexual Abuse

11:30 - 12:45 PM  Lunch  (Governors’ Hall)
12:45 - 2:15 PM  Session 5 Workshops

5A: CAC’s are the Safest Place...Right?
5B: Assessing Allegations of Sexual Abuse in Pre or Non-Verbal Children
5C: Reducing the Impact of Domestic Violence Perpetrators on Children
5D: Using Sandtray Therapy to Reach Traumatized Clients at CAC’s
5E: Normative Sexual Development in Children

2:30 - 4:00 PM  Session 6 Workshops

6A: Recent Developments in Child Protection Law
6B: How Children Talk About Events: Implications for Forensic Interviewers
6C: Human Trafficking Investigations & CAC Protocol Development
6D: Music Through the Pain: Using Music Interventions to Enhance TF-CBT
6E: What About Our Boys? Understanding the Challenges Facing Male Victims
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION, 8:45 - 10:15 AM
Rediscovering the Beauty Within, presented by Sasha Neulinger, Voice For The Kids

“Rediscovering the Beauty Within” is an autobiographical story about Sasha Joseph Neulinger’s journey surviving multigenerational child sexual abuse. In this presentation, Sasha utilizes photos, childhood drawings, home video and archival news footage as immersive aids to invite the audience on his journey from child victim to adult survivor. Covering the abuse, family dynamics, childhood therapy, the prosecution process, and how he got to where he currently is today, “Rediscovering The Beauty Within” is as educational as it is inspirational.

SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS, 10:30 - 12:00 PM

1A Bring Your Whole Self to Work: Creating Inclusive Environments for Your Team to Thrive, presented by Kori Stephens, MPH & Jordan Benning, MEd, Midwest Regional Children’s Advocacy Center
LOCATION TBD
As leaders, we are responsible for creating the most conducive environments for every member of our staff and team to thrive. This workshop will provide strategies for embracing differences that show up in the work place, an interactive dialogue around methods for creating shared intentions, establishing team agreements and norms, and discuss best practices for creating spaces where people feel comfortable and supported to show up as their whole self.

1B Corroborating Evidence: Critical Steps for All (pt. 1), presented by Bill Fulbright, JD, Ravalli County, Montana Attorney’s Office
LOCATION TBD
Most child abuse investigations lack traditional physical evidence, leaving children at a disadvantage in court. It is the multi-disciplinary team’s responsibility to corroborate what the child has disclosed, giving the child the best opportunity to see justice done on their behalf. This workshop will discuss working as a team to build a strong case, various areas of necessary corroborating evidence, its sources, the significance of the different items of evidence, and presenting cases at trial with limited evidence.

1C Photo Documentation of Injuries, presented by Brenda Lamica, BSCJ & Debra Simms, MD, Spectrum Health, Helen Devos Children’s Hospital, Center for Child Protection
LOCATION TBD
This workshop will address proper photo documentation of medical injuries. We will discuss the different types of injuries, i.e. burns, bites, bruises, etc. and how to properly document them in the field for evaluation. We will also discuss the process of when and where to send children if you believe they need immediate medical attention. The workshop will also discuss collaboration among the Center for Child Protection and the Investigator.

1D Adult Survivors of Sexual Abuse: Working with Non-offending Caregivers who have been Victims, presented by Jessica Unkelhauser, MSW, First Witness Child Advocacy Center
LOCATION TBD
Sexual abuse can be generational. Moms and Dads who have experienced abuse, now walk through our doors after a report from their child. Their child’s report may trigger a new crisis stage for parents in their own healing journey. Understanding common experiences and needs of adult survivors can help advocates support them in their efforts to help their children.

Workshop Descriptions
Monday, April 15, 2019

General/Administration
Investigation/Prosecution
Victim Services (Clinical/Advocacy)
Multi-Track Audience
MDT Approach to Working with Special Needs Victims, presented by Hannah Griffis, MEd & Mallory Hulsey, The CARE Center

LOCATION TBD

This workshop will provide MDT members, victim service providers, social workers, and law enforcement with vital information in regards to working cases that involve children and adults with special needs and considerations. Physical, emotional, and mental limitations will be addressed, providing attendees with information on how to gather accurate, relevant, and appropriate information about the needs of victims.

SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS, 1:00 - 2:30 PM

2A Through the Eyes of a Child, presented by Sasha Joseph Neulinger, Voice For The Kids

LOCATION TBD

“Through the Eyes of a Child” aims to educate MDT on the child’s experience of dealing with the system. In sharing an in-depth account of his experience, Sasha breaks down what was helpful for him, what wasn’t helpful, and what MDT’s can keep in mind to make the process as painless as possible for the child.

2B Corraborating Evidence: Interactive Case Study (pt. 2), presented by Bill Fulbright, JD, Ravalli County, Montana Attorney’s Office

LOCATION TBD

This case study will be an interactive presentation in recognizing the dynamics of abuse and identifying corroborative evidence from the child forensic interview. By viewing video clips of the forensic interview of a 5-year-old victim of child sexual abuse, participants will interactively engage in identifying the dynamics of the relationship between the child victim and the offender, and identifying the necessary and available areas to be investigated, corroborated, and presented at trial.

2C Safety Beyond Our Doors: The Role of Advocacy in Assessing Risk, presented by Jessica Unkelhauser, MSW, First Witness Child Advocacy Center

LOCATION TBD

One role of advocacy is to walk with the child and family through all of the systems and processes that come into play after a child discloses abuse and help identify how those systems can support and provide safety for the family. Advocates respond to the self-identified needs of the family and are integral in helping the family create long term safety. However, advocates run the risk of putting more pressure and “to-do” lists for the family with added assessments and plans. This workshop will clearly lay out how the advocate can provide true safety support for the family and work with the team to meet safety needs.

2D TF-CBT and Young Children: Applying the Model to Children Under 8 years old and their Caregivers, presented by Jennifer Wilgocki, MS LCSW, Midwest Center for Psychotherapy & Sex Therapy

LOCATION TBD

This workshop is for therapists who are using TF-CBT with young children. We will focus on caregiver inclusion in treatment, approaches and strategies that are developmentally appropriate, and how to construct a trauma narrative with the youngster who may not be able to read or write.

2E Better Together: Law Enforcement and Therapist Case Collaboration, presented by Detective Jen Wordelman, Grand Rapids Police Department & Samantha Akerman, LMSW, Children’s Advocacy Center of Kent County

LOCATION TBD

Law Enforcement and Therapists typically are working in two completely unrelated professions, but in CSA cases, the professions can complement each other for justice and healing. This workshop will walk through case studies in which these two professions worked together for excellent outcomes. The workshop will discuss the importance of relationship building, the benefits of seeing the case through a different worldview and how to best support the family through the investigation and prosecution.
SESSION 3 WORKSHOPS, 3:00 - 4:30 PM

3A Suffer from BURNOUT?, Give’em the F.I.N.G.E.R., presented by Mark Yarbrough, JD, Give’em the F.I.N.G.E.R.

LOCATION TBD

Burnout affects millions of Americans each year and has been called “the disease of our civilization.” The unhappiness and detachment burnout causes can threaten your job, your relationships, and your health. But there’s good news -- burnout can be healed. Former 20-year elected District Attorney, MARK YARBROUGH, from Littlefield, Texas (hometown of Waylon Jennings), personally experienced burnout, learned how to successfully overcome it, and went from “Burnout” to “On Fire!” He has since become a “burnout expert” and has written and published on the subject. Mark is a very entertaining, motivating and inspiring speaker. He has taught thousands of people how to overcome Burnout -- from companies like Blue Bell Ice Cream and Xcel Energy, to teachers and doctors/nurses, to a variety of government workers (police officers, CPS workers, attorneys, victim’s rights advocates, counselors, mental health professionals, etc.). Audience members will learn the definition of Burnout and the symptoms thereof. But more importantly, attendees will be laughing, and at the same time learning how to apply Mark’s F.I.N.G.E.R. philosophy to help themselves or their co-workers avoid and/or recover from Burnout. This is a training that you won’t want to miss!

3B Social Media Investigations: The Use of Open Source Intelligence, presented by Detective Sergeant Gerald Yott & Detective Sergeant Matt McLalin, Michigan State Police, Computer Crimes Unit and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force

LOCATION TBD

This course will be an overview of open source intelligence and social media tips and tricks for investigators. Learn how to leverage open source intelligence to further develop information on suspects and their social circles. Insights from presenters on past cases in which Open Source Intel and Social Media investigations have been leveraged to gain critical information.

3C The Key Factors of Crisis Intervention: Addressing the Needs of the Caregiver, presented by Nicole Dekker, LLMSW, Care House of Oakland County

LOCATION TBD

This workshop is tailored to meet the needs of a victim advocate in a CAC setting, and may assist programs with developing a more comprehensive approach to their victim advocacy services. It will teach participants the key factors to crisis intervention as it applies to the needs of caregivers of children who’ve experienced sexual abuse. Participants will also learn how to employ crisis intervention skills when talking with caregivers and how to integrate relevant psychoeducation into brief advocacy sessions.

3D TF-CBT with Adolescents: Avoidance, Risk Taking, and How to Keep them Engaged, presented by Jennifer Wilgocki, MS LCSW, Midwest Center for Psychotherapy & Sex Therapy

LOCATION TBD

This workshop is for therapists who are using TF-CBT in their current practice with adolescents (ages 11-18). We will look at how to work with three of the most common challenges when working with them: avoidance behaviors, risky behaviors that create COWs (for example, self-injury, substance abuse, unsafe sexual behaviors), and how to keep them engaged and, ultimately, graduated from treatment.

3E How to Build Reports in Collaborate, presented by Ted Buckenham, Network Ninja

LOCATION TBD

Participants will learn how to create reports in Collaborate by adding the necessary fields, setting default values where needed, and saving the report for later use. Participants will learn: (1) the concepts of selecting fields to be included in the report, (2) how to set and apply default filters in the report, (3) how to run the report and manipulate filters to produce the specific data they need, (4) how to export data to spreadsheet applications when needed.
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION, 8:15 - 9:45 AM

Unto the Third Generation: A Call to End Child Abuse Within 3 Generations, presented by Victor Vieth, JD MA, Director of Education and Research, Zero Abuse Project

In this moving, hopeful address, participants will learn the five obstacles that prevent us from ending child abuse and will learn of sweeping changes now taking place in our child protection system that will enable us to significantly reduce and perhaps eliminate child abuse over the course of the next three generations. The keynote is based on a scholarly work that was published in the Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma and in the Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy, Fall 2006. As a result of this presentation, participants will be able to articulate the following: five factors that prevent us from significantly reducing the rate of child abuse; numerous peer-reviewed approaches to reducing maltreatment including dramatically improving the undergraduate and graduate education of professionals responding to instances of maltreatment; concrete resources they can utilize to implement one or more of the recommended reforms in their state or community.

SESSION 4 WORKSHOPS, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

4A Suffer from BURNOUT?, Give’em the F.I.N.G.E.R., presented by Mark Yarbrough, JD, Give’em the F.I.N.G.E.R.

LOCATION TBD

Burnout affects millions of Americans each year and has been called “the disease of our civilization.” The unhappiness and detachment burnout causes can threaten your job, your relationships, and your health. But there’s good news -- burnout can be healed. Former 20-year elected District Attorney, MARK YARBROUGH, from Littlefield, Texas (hometown of Waylon Jennings), personally experienced burnout, learned how to successfully overcome it, and went from “Burnout” to “On Fire!” He has since become a “burnout expert” and has written and published on the subject. Mark is a very entertaining, motivating and inspiring speaker. He has taught thousands of people how to overcome Burnout -- from companies like Blue Bell Ice Cream and Xcel Energy, to teachers and doctors/nurses, to a variety of government workers (police officers, CPS workers, attorneys, victim’s rights advocates, counselors, mental health professionals, etc.). Audience members will learn the definition of Burnout and the symptoms thereof. But more importantly, attendees will be laughing, and at the same time learning how to apply Mark’s F.I.N.G.E.R. philosophy to help themselves or their co-workers avoid and/or recover from Burnout. This is a training that you won’t want to miss!

4B It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time: Ethics and the Forensic Interview Process, presented by Victor Vieth, JD MA, Director of Education and Research, Zero Abuse Project

LOCATION TBD

Forensic interviewers are often confronted with critical ethical choices that must be made before, during or after the forensic interview. In the absence of an ethical code, forensic interviewers do not have nationally accepted standards to draw upon in making these decisions. This workshop will examine ten case scenarios involving the forensic interview process and will discuss the ethical or moral response in each instance. The workshop will also consider the value of the APSAC and NACCFI ethical codes in resolving some of these issues. Finally, the workshop will consider the role of the prosecutor in the interview process. Some prosecutors refuse to be present at a CAC during the interview while others have gone to the other extreme and have dictated standards governing the interview process, such as the protocol to be used, whether or not to videotape, and the usage of anatomical dolls. These vastly different positions will be considered in the light of the ethical codes, statutes and case law governing the proper and improper role of the prosecutor during the forensic interview process.
A Closer Look at the Most Commonly Used Apps by Kids and Predators, presented by Detective Sergeant Gerald Yott & Detective Sergeant Matt McLalin, Michigan State Police, Computer Crimes Unit and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force

LOCATION TBD

This course will be an overview of the most commonly used mobile device applications by children. The presenters will provide their knowledge and expertise, concerning their work as Internet Crimes Against Children investigators. Several case studies will be examined that directly tie into specific apps that were used by child victims and their offenders. This session will also provide resources for the audience to educate themselves and others about the trends, risks and dangers associated with these apps.

Get SMART: An Introduction to the Sensory Motor Arousal Regulation Treatment, presented by Adrienne Bailey, LMSW CTP & Alli Watson, LMSW, Ed and Nancy Hanenburg Children’s Advocacy Center, & Jessie Thompson, LLMSW, Northern Michigan Children’s Assessment Center

LOCATION TBD

This workshop will introduce professionals to the SMART model. Sensory Motor Arousal Regulation Treatment (SMART) is a treatment model specially designed for children and youth who have been affected by complex trauma. SMART is based on the principles of development, attachment, and trauma. This treatment utilizes sensory tools, which are often seen in occupational therapy, to help regulate emotions. In addition, this workshop will also address utilizing SMART techniques in a CAC setting.

The Best Kept Secret: Mother-Daughter Sexual Abuse, presented by Julie Brand, MS, CAPER Consulting

LOCATION TBD

This workshop describes the complex mother-daughter incestuous relationship—the subtle, yet intentional violations of normal mother-child boundaries, covert and overt abuse and the psychological manipulations used to silence victims. Attendees will learn ways to include mothers as potential perpetrators in prevention programs and in sexual abuse investigations. Six key therapeutic issues for recovery will be discussed.

Three types of female offenders will be addressed: female teachers in “positions of trust,” mothers who co-offend along with male partners and pre-disposed offenders who act alone. Recent cases of the arrests and successful prosecutions of mother offenders will be shared. The program concludes with a discussion of the common dynamics and also some of the differences between mother-daughter and mother-son incest.

The presenter is both an experienced counselor and a resilient survivor of maternal sexual abuse.

SESSION 5 WORKSHOPS, 12:45 - 2:15 PM

CAC’s are the Safest Place...Right?, presented by Rebekah McDowell, Children’s Advocacy Center of Kent County & Cassandra Kiger, LLMSW, Ed and Nancy Hanenburg Children’s Advocacy Center

LOCATION TBD

The one thing we all have in common is the belief that CACs are the safest place to investigate and respond to child sexual abuse. The reality is that this is simply not true for every child. What feels safe for some children can actually have the opposite effect for others, based on their cultural backgrounds. When we fail to take race/ethnicity, documentation status, physical ability, religious, and (even for our younger clients) sexual orientation or gender identity differences into consideration, we may fail to truly support our clients—and we may fail to even get them in the door in the first place. In this interactive session we will explore what makes a CAC safe, why we may be missing the mark for some of our clients, and what we can do to fix that.
Assessing Allegations of Sexual Abuse in Pre or Non-Verbal Children, presented by Victor Vieth, JD MA, Director of Education and Research, Zero Abuse Project

This dynamic workshop will explore how to prove sexual abuse in pre/non-verbal children through combining brief statements from children with behavioral and brain research. The difficulties of substantiating abuse among preschool children will also be explored and students will learn methods to overcome these obstacles and secure justice for more of these vulnerable children. As a result of this presentation, participants will be able to identify the impact of trauma on infants and young children and incorporate poly-victimization research into a case of sexual abuse involving a pre or non-verbal child. Participants will also acquire practical skills in investigating a case of sexual abuse involving a pre or non-verbal child including interviewing the alleged victim, alleged perpetrator, assessing a potential crime scene, and presenting a case in court.

Reducing the Impact of Domestic Violence Perpetrators on Children, presented by Tiffany Martinez, LMSW, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

The parenting choices of domestic violence perpetrators create multiple pathways to harm for children. This workshop will identify ways in which perpetrator behaviors impact the safety and well-being of children as well as overall family functioning. Participants can expect to learn strategies to increase and support child safety, well-being, stability and healing in ways that can reduce the traumatic impact over time.

Using Sandtray Therapy to Reach Traumatized Clients at CAC’s, presented by Deanna Couture, MA LPC-S NCC RPT & Amelia Siders, PhD LP, Traverse Bay Children’s Advocacy Center

Sandtray therapy can be used at CACs to help traumatized clients express themselves without using words. The toll of developmental trauma can make it difficult for children and adults to process at an integrated verbal level. Sandtray therapy allows for participants to engage in a therapeutic expression of conflict and trauma. Come and see how this type of treatment can help your clients - both young and old! Many sandtray case examples will be shared.

Normative Sexual Development in Children, presented by Debra Poole, PhD, Central Michigan University

Suspicions about sexual abuse sometimes arise when children engage in behavior that adults view as inappropriately sexual. This workshop describes common body-related behaviors in each developmental phase, discusses research that compared children with sexual behavior problems and their peers, and explains the implications of children’s body knowledge for forensic interviewing.

SESSION 6 WORKSHOPS, 2:30 - 4:00 PM

Recent Developments in Child Protection Law, presented by Frank E. Vandervort, JD, University of Michigan Law School

This session provides an “update” regarding recent changes in the law relating to child protection. It will examine statutory changes and case law developments in both the criminal and civil contexts. It will provide sufficient baseline information so that the attendee can understand the significance of the recent developments. It will address changes in the law at both the federal and state level.
How Children Talk About Events: Implications for Forensic Interviewers, presented by Debra Poole, PhD, Central Michigan University

LOCATION TBD

Knowledge of how children talk about events can help forensic interviewers select effective questions. This knowledge is also crucial for distinguishing between true contradictions and inconsistencies that might have stemmed from language immaturity or other issues. Drawing on numerous examples from laboratory transcripts, this workshop is a tour of how children’s minds work during interviews and how interviewers can respond to increase the amount of accurate information children report.

Human Trafficking Investigations & CAC Protocol Development, presented by Detective Trooper Specialist Amy Belanger, Michigan State Police & Claudnyse Holloman, Esq, Voices for Children Advocacy Center

LOCATION TBD

We know that high risk and human trafficking children have been involved with multiple systems and agencies throughout their lives. These children may have different vulnerabilities than those who have been victims of child sexual abuse. Michigan State Police worked with their local CAC to draft a protocol that addresses how the county should respond to child human trafficking, using the MDT response to support victims of HT. In the protocol, each discipline has a role and objective to help respond to victims of HT. Attendees will learn how their county can respond to victims of human trafficking via an MDT response, how law enforcement and CPS should coordinate their investigations and how to perform victim-centered investigations.

Music Through the Pain: Using Music Interventions to Enhance TF-CBT and Other Trauma Informed Practices, presented by Amber Teunis, MT-BC LMSW, Washtenaw Child Advocacy Center

LOCATION TBD

Throughout human history, music has long been used as a healing tool. What makes music so effective in therapy and how can music be used to enhance trauma informed practice? Learn the answers to these questions as well as several different music interventions that can be used to enhance the therapeutic process at each stage of the TF-CBT PRACTICE model.

What About Our Boys? Understanding the Challenges Facing Male Victims of Sexual Abuse and Assault, presented by Julie Brand, MS, CAPER Consulting

LOCATION TBD

Society is still in denial that males can even be victims of sexual assault. This ignorance serves to block males from self-disclosing their victimization and may even keep “mandated reporters” from reporting sex crimes involving male victims. Ignorance and minimization of the problem impede male victims’ opportunities for intervention, legal recourse and for recovery.

Male victims can experience overwhelming gender bias when disclosing sexual abuse, whether their perpetrator is male or female. This program discusses male sexual victimization, the unique challenges men face and the myths that keep male victims silent. We’ll examine the stats and facts and learn how “The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study” validates what many professionals have long believed about both the frequency and the resulting trauma of male sexual victimization.

Male victims—whether as children, adolescents or adults—often find it humiliating and mortifying to divulge their sexual abuse, especially by female perpetrators. We’ll explore the added challenges for male victims of both familial (such as mothers, aunts, sisters) and non-familial (teachers, neighbors, family friends) female sex offenders. Resources for male survivors will be shared.