

## **13th Annual Phoenix Area Child Life Conference**

### **Treating the Whole Child: Emphasis on Culture, Family, and Integrating Therapies**

**Purpose:** To enhance the knowledge and skills of individuals working with children in the healthcare setting.

**Location:** Banner Thunderbird Medical Center 5555 W Thunderbird Rd, Glendale, AZ 85306

Park in the east parking garage off 55<sup>th</sup> Ave and Thunderbird Rd. Enter the hospital through the east entrance. Take the elevators down to LL (lower level) where you will find the conference rooms.

**Hotel Accommodations:** For information regarding hotel accommodations please contact: Wendy Pauker (602)865-5074

**Hospital Tour:** There will be a short hospital tour available to those interested immediately following the conclusion of the conference.

Every effort is made to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If specific auxiliary aids are needed, notify Wendy Pauker (602)865-5074.

### **Conference Agenda March 27, 2020 7:30a-4:30p**

Registration & Continental Breakfast 7:30-8:00a

Welcome 8:00-8:15a

Keynote 8:15-9:45a

#### **Real World Ready Kids: How to reach, teach, and support kids of the iGeneration**

Description: Kids of the iGeneration live in real life and online. While technology is an advancing tool it also can contribute to issues that can at times impede social emotional wellness and overall health. In this session, participants will take a keen look at how we can support them as they navigate the new landscape of childhood.

Domain: Professional Responsibility

1.5 PDU

#### Speaker:

Katey McPherson M Ed, MHFA, QPR

Youth Prevention Advocate

West Coast Associate of Hazard, Young & Attea Associates

Bio: Katey McPherson brings experience in school leadership, prevention, and organizational change with 25 years as a secondary school teacher, guidance counselor, and PK-12 school administrator. Katey's educational career focus is on student and teacher social-emotional needs and wellness, youth mental health initiatives, social justice, and digital citizenship/social media responsibility.

Katey recently served as Executive Director of The Gurian Institute, an international teacher and parent training institute rooted in neuro-biological and evidence-based teaching strategies. Katey currently serves as a West Coast Associate of Hazard, Young & Attea Associates. When not traveling, and speaking, she is busy raising her 4 tween and teen daughters.

Break 9:45-10:00a

Session #1 10:00-11:00a

### **Communicating with Families in "Hot States"**

Description: Exploring "Hot and Cold Emotional States" as they pertain to patient and family care, communication, and decision making. We will review studies of physiological and psychological states in times of trauma and crisis and how these affect the ability of families to receive critical information. Understanding these "hot emotional states" improves communication and outcomes for hospital staff and families. Participants will leave with an understanding of the emotional states of families at hospitals and will additionally come away with skills and tools necessary to walk families out of these states. Building on the work of George Loewenstein on *Hot States* and the work of Stephen Porges' on *Emotions and Self-regulation*, we will specifically address how to re-engage the thinking brain and the parasympathetic nervous system. This will allow for clearer thinking and a regained sense of calm. In essence, we will be speaking of how to have meaningful conversations and communication with families.

Domain: Intervention

1 PDU

Speaker:

Marcel E. Pincince, BA, STB

Professional Education Developer

Donor Network of Arizona

Session #2

11:00a-12:00p

**A “tiny” glimpse of Child Life in a neonatal intensive care unit**

Description: Our presentation will explore the behind the scenes of a NICU environment and will offer ways that a child life specialist can be an active member of the multidisciplinary team. We will discuss the different stages of preterm baby brain development and explore how premature infants have very different needs than full-term infants and why it is important that a CLS be educated on the sensitivity of these infants. The presentation will offer a unique perspective of a child life specialist and mother who gave birth to premature twin girls and spent a number of weeks in the NICU.

Domain: Assessment

1 PDU

Speakers:

Shannon Hickson MSL, CCLS, CIMI, NIDCAP certified  
Clinical Specialist & Area Sales Trainer  
Abbott Neuromodulation

Melissa Thomson CCLS, CIMI

Certified Child Life Specialist

Phoenix Children’s Hospital

Lunch

12:00-1:00p

Session #3

1:00-2:00p

**Things to consider when a patient has a visual impairment**

Description: Is it ok to use seeing words with a patient with a visual impairment? How do you orient a patient who has a visual impairment to their room or the play room? How can planned activities be adapted for a child with a visual impairment? Participants will have all these questions answered during this session and time will be available for other pertinent questions and resource support available through the Foundation for Blind Children.

Domain: Intervention

1 PDU

Speaker:

Katie Armstrong, MS cTVI, COMS

Teacher of the Visually Impaired & Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Foundation for Blind Children

Mary Wilson MC

Family Support Counselor

Foundation for Blind Children

Session #4 2:00-3:00p

**“Why don’t you just eat?”: Understanding, identifying, and treating individuals with eating disorders**

Description: In this presentation, participants will be provided with an overview of eating disorders, red flags to be aware of, common misperceptions, and treatment and level of care options. In addition, participants will learn of common disorders that coexist among individuals struggling with eating disorders such as anxiety, depression, substance and alcohol use, suicidal ideation and self-harming behaviors.

Domain: Intervention

1 PDU

Speaker:

Stephanie Paige MC, LAC, NCC

Primary Therapist

Rosewood Centers for Eating Disorders

Break 3:00-3:15p

Closing 3:15-4:15p

**Being silly to build trust: “Improvisation as a bridge to empower positive patient and family imagination”**

Description: This presentation will follow the Badge Buddy Curriculum. Child Life professionals will learn to utilize improvisation techniques to help bridge connection and communication between provider and patient through trust, appreciation, connection and reciprocity. They will understand how the principles of improvisation can enhance everyday communication skills. They will exhibit increased empathy and appreciation for patients and peers through increased capacity for close listening, affirming and problem-solving as a team.

Domain: Intervention

1 PDU

Speakers:

Pasha Yamotahari

Associate Producing Director & Artistic Director for Partners That Heal  
The Phoenix Theater Company

Brian Sweis, Liz Polen, Mike Lawler, Kim Manning, & Sally Jo Bannow  
Partners That Heal Actors  
The Phoenix Theater Company

Evaluations & Certificates 4:15-4:30p

6.5 PDU

## **Conference Registration**

Early Registration Fees:

*Early registration ends February 29th*

Professional - \$50

Student - \$40

Speaker – No fee

*Registration after February 29th: \$65*

We are excited to offer this conference via Vidyo for those unable to attend in person. The conference can be viewed live or watched later. Please select attend virtually on registration form and pay registration fee. Vidyo login instructions will be emailed the week before conference.

Registration Questions? Call Jessica Bryson CCLS at 602.512.3229

## **Conference Handouts**

Handouts will not be provided at the conference. Please check back in March to view and print conference handouts. Handouts will be posted as they are received.