

# SAVE THE DATE

4th Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Council  
Common Ground: Community, Kids, Courts & Education  
November 15, 2022



## *Plenary Speakers Sharon Behrens & Mia Behrens*

Mia, a gravely traumatized child, known in psychiatric literature as the “Wild Child”, now speaks out with her adoptive mother, Sharon, about the formation of the healing team and the process of becoming a triumph over tragedy. Together they make real the experience of the step by step transformation that gives hope to those serving children.

Sharon Behrens, adoptive and foster parent, discovered the miraculous ability of children to heal through her own experiences raising Mia. She has received recognition and commendations for her work with families and children of trauma. Sharon is a consultant to several mental health programs, provides training on trauma issues and advocates for early intervention trauma informed programs.

Mia’s journey from “Wild Child” to a caring, productive woman has been documented in literary accounts. A February 17, 2009 CBS Nightly News segment, “Mia’s Story”, by Katie Couric was Emmy Nominated. Mia has received accommodations and recognition for her advocacy on behalf of traumatized children.



**Morning  
and Afternoon  
Breakout  
Sessions**

**Castle Ridge Conference Center  
Centralia, Illinois**