

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Fourth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Council
Common Ground: Community, Kids, Courts & Education
November 15, 2022, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Castle Ridge Conference Center
Centralia, Illinois

Sharon Behrens

Sharon Behrens, adoptive and foster parent, discovered the miraculous ability of children to heal through her own experiences raising Mia. She has received several recognitions and awards 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. Sharon has a B.S. degree from University of California Riverside: 40 plus units in children's issues. She has given over 30 presentations on childhood trauma, has two published articles and a book written about her youngest adopted child, Mia, and her journey toward wellness, *Magical Moments of Change: How Psychotherapy Turns Kids Around*.

Mia Behrens

Mia is a survivor of severe trauma as a child. She now speaks out with her adoptive mother, Sharon, about the formation of the healing team and the process of becoming a triumph over tragedy. In 2018 Mia received from Kids First a lifetime achievement award at age 29 for her lifelong dedication and service to children and families. At the award ceremony she received a certificate of recognition from California Assembly, Kevin Kiley; State of California certificate of recognition from Senator Nielsen and Senator Gaines; and a certificate of special congressional recognition from Tom McClintock and Doug LaMalfa. Mia has worked with her mother, Sharon, on Recovery Happens for many years, an event celebrating recovery from substance abuse and mental health issues. She has volunteered at Koinonia, a teen in-patient treatment program. Primarily, her emphasis is to talk about early intervention, resilience and healing. Mia says often, "Life doesn't choose who you are, you choose your life." Mia has her A.A. degree in medical assisting and EMS coursework, and is planning to go back to school to study social work.

David Haslett

David Haslett has been Bureau Chief of the High Tech Crimes Bureau at the Illinois Attorney General's Office for 17 years, and has been prosecuting High Tech Crimes for over 21 years. The High Tech Crimes Bureau is active in the investigation and prosecution of Child Exploitation Offenses involving the use of a computer and other computer and internet related offenses.

Shannon O'Brien

Shannon O'Brien is an Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Bureau Chief for the State of Illinois, serving in the High Tech Crimes Bureau and working on Illinois ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) cases around the state. She also serves as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, working on Project Safe Childhood cases. She has prosecuted a range of child exploitation offenses, including child pornography and child sexual abuse, for the last nine years, since moving to Illinois in 2013. Prior to that she worked as an Assistant State Attorney in Orlando, Florida for six years, working on a variety of cases, including a specialization in child abuse and neglect, child exploitation, and both adult and child

victim sexual abuse cases. Ms. O'Brien has taught fellow prosecutors, investigators and other personnel on emerging issues in the increasingly overlapping spheres of technology and criminal prosecutions. She has also worked as an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago, teaching a course on Cyber Crime Detection and Investigation.

Arvin Moden

Arvin Moden felt a calling to children's home work while still in high school. He graduated from Manhattan Christian College. He obtained a Master's degree, Specialist degree and completed all classroom work for a Ph.D. in counseling psychology at Georgia State University. He interned at Pine Rest Christian Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He served as Director of Social Services at Illini Christian Ministries for 17 years and Executive Director at Oblong Children's Christian for 22 years, where he is presently employed.

Dave Jaques

Dr. Jaques (Dave) is the founder and Director of "Visions LLC," a consulting group geared toward helping individuals experience desired or optimal behavioral health. Dave has worked with persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities, brain injuries, neurocognitive disorders, mental health challenges and their support networks throughout his now 35 year professional career.

Over the past several years, Dave and several of his Visions colleagues, have developed a working interest in services and support for people who have had contact or are at high risk of having contact with the criminal justice system. Toward this end, Visions serves as a subcontractor in the state of Illinois Redeploy program. Visions is currently active in both the 4th and 1st judicial circuits Redeploy programs. In addition, Visions has recently become involved in the design, development, and implementation of 'wellness initiatives and programs' for both individuals and organizations.

From an academic perspective, Dave has an undergraduate degree in Psychology, a Masters in Instructional Design/Development, post graduate studies and certification in Behavior Analysis (I'm a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst) and a PhD in Organizational Leadership.

As the final aspect of my introduction I would like to include the Visions LLC mission statement. I believe this mission statement is informative as it relates to our approach to consulting and behavioral health.:

Mission statement: Visions LLC:

Visions' approach to behavioral consultation is grounded in an understanding that there is always more to learn. In providing meaningful support, we first seek to understand the experience of others. We serve in the spirit of openness, flexibility and collaboration to foster effective, person-centered growth.

Ann Ramey

Ann Ramey is the Director of Midwest Operations with Visions LLC, a consulting group geared toward helping individuals and organizations experience desired or optimal behavioral health. Ann has worked with persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and been serving in the mental health arena over the last 15 years. Ann has a bachelor's degree in Social Work, a Master's degree in Social Work, and post graduate studies and certification in Behavior Analysis. Ann is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Ann enjoys learning about organizations and training staff in the supports needed to best serve.

Carla Stalnaker

Carla was the Juvenile Probation Officer in Clinton County for 21 years before being promoted to Chief Probation Officer in February 2021. She has a B.S. degree in Psychology. Her previous experience includes 8 years at Hoyleton Children's Home where she worked with behavior disordered, developmentally delayed, and sex offender youth in a residential placement setting. Carla was instrumental in implementing the ACE

Questionnaire and pre-trial assessments in Clinton County. She is certified to facilitate several different cognitive-behavioral groups including ART, MRT, Jump Start, Active Parenting, Voices, Families in Action, and Exploring Trauma for Men. Carla has been training on the topic of trauma for several years and has trained probation officers, law enforcement, health department personnel, social works, educations, and ministry personnel. She has presented at IPCSA conferences, the National Association of Social Workers conference, and the Illinois Child Advocacy Centers Conference. Carla has completed numerous trauma trainings, including but not limited to, Trauma Informed Supervision 2020, Trauma Based Behavioral Health in 2016, the SAMSHA “Certified Curriculum for Trauma-Informed Care Awareness and Train the Trainer” training in April 2019, and the ACE’s Symposium in 2022.

Amanda Wimmersberg

Amanda is a Special Investigator with the High-Tech Crimes Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General Investigations Division and an ICAC Task Force Officer. In law enforcement for 15 years, she has exclusively investigated Child Pornography offenses, to include offenses related to the sexual assault and abuse of children, for the past 9 years. She served as a Special Deputy US Marshal Task Force Officer assigned to the FBI Violent Crimes against Children Task Force from 2013-2019. She specializes in proactive Peer-to-Peer investigations utilizing BitTorrent, eMule, Gnutella, and Freenet as well as proactive undercover chat investigations. Her present duties include the investigation of CyberTips, Peer-to-Peer investigations, assisting other agencies with Peer-to-Peer and CyberTip investigation, training other investigators, and preparing and executing search warrants. Amanda is also an Associate Instructor with the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College and instructs the ICAC BitTorrent Investigations, ICAC eMule Investigations, ICAC Freenet Investigations, ICAC Investigations of CyberTips, and ICAC Investigative Techniques training programs nationwide. In 2015 Amanda was awarded the prestigious Medal of Valor Award by the Southern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission and the Southern Illinois Police Chief’s Association for her work on a Child Pornography case.

Shelley Kenow

Shelley is a wife, mother, author, and 30-year special educator. She has written hundreds of IEPs and attended even more IEP meetings. She has taken training through Crisis Prevention Institute, Wrightslaw, and completed the Master IEP Coach® Mentorship. Shelley loves working with kids who have unwanted behaviors and teaching parents/teachers/therapists/and anyone who works with kids with IEPs, how to write the most appropriate IEP and provide an education that will meet the child's unique needs while preparing them for further education, employment, and independent living.

Dr. Jeremy Jewell

Dr. Jeremy Jewell is a Professor of Psychology at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Owner of Jewell Psychological Services. He has authored over 50 books, book chapters, peer-reviewed manuscripts, and psychological treatment manuals focused on the topic of child and adolescent mental health. These include the Great Myths of Child Development, Great Myths of Adolescence, and the Kid First and Teen First Divorce Treatment Programs. He is also Co-Editor-in-Chief of the 10 volume Encyclopedia of Child and Adolescent Development. Dr. Jewell consults with county and circuit courts around Illinois providing psychological evaluation as well as program evaluation services.

Christine Feller

Christine Feller is the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) Program Manager with the Illinois Attorney General’s Office. Within the ICAC, Christine’s primary responsibility is to manage the CyberTips received from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). Additionally, she has developed and delivered online safety training to over 300,000 individuals throughout Illinois, primarily youth – but also educators and community members. Christine’s career in online crimes against children

began in 2001 at NCMEC, where she spent ten years primarily in the Child Victim Identification Program. While at NCMEC, she also trained law enforcement throughout the US on victim identification and participated in INTERPOL's Specialist group on Crimes Against Children.

Bryanna Stevens

Bryanna Stevens is a Cyber Crime Specialist with the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) with the Illinois Attorney General's Office. Bryanna's main focus within ICAC is to analyze CyberTipline reports from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and refer to law enforcement. Prior to joining the ICAC Task Force, Bryanna spent five years with the Sangamon County Child Advocacy Center in various roles including Senior Advocate, Multidisciplinary (MDT) Coordinator and back-up Forensic Interviewer interviewing child victims of sexual and/or physical abuse or witnesses to violent crimes. Bryanna has been part of the Child Welfare field for 9 years.

Robert Kraemer

Special Agent Robert Kraemer is a Major Crimes Investigator with the Illinois State Police Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Zone 7 Investigations unit. He is lead Homicide certified and is an ICAC affiliate with the Illinois Attorney General's Office. Prior to his investigations assignment he served with the Illinois State Police District 22 Patrol (2019-2020), City of Marion K-9 Patrol Officer (2014-2019), and DeKalb County Police Department East Precinct Patrol (2013-2014). Additionally, Robert is a US Army Veteran.

Libby Moeller

Moeller joined the CASA mission in 2009 at the local level sitting on CASA of Effingham County's board, served as board president and later served as Executive Director for four years. During her time with Effingham's program, she served as Southern Regional Representative for Illinois CASA. Moeller currently serves as Training Manager for Illinois CASA.

Ericka Sanders

Judge Ericka Sanders is an Associate Judge from Marion County, Illinois, appointed in 2010. Sanders presides over juvenile abuse, neglect, dependency and delinquency cases, as well as problem solving courts, in multiple counties in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. She serves as the chair of the Fourth Circuit's Juvenile Justice Council and is a member of the Illinois Supreme Court Committee for Juvenile Court.

Hasan Davis

Hasan Davis is a Hope Dealer. He believes that each child can and will succeed as long as adults in their world create hope. Starting as a counselor and a teaching artist, and through his years as a youth development specialist, Hasan has transformed the attitudes and strategies of educators, parents, and members of the community to help hundreds of children graduate from high school prepared for success. Hasan has a GED from the state of Georgia, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Berea College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky College of Law. He has served as Commissioner of Juvenile Justice for the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is internationally recognized as a speaker, educator, and advocate for youth.