



Empowering individuals and communities to stop child abuse and neglect *before it starts* through **AWARENESS, EDUCATION, SUPPORT** and **LEADERSHIP** for **ACTION**

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NEWS FROM MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES CARING FOR CHILDREN (MCCC)

2017 Blue Tie and Diamonds GALA to End Child Abuse

Our 2017 Blue Tie and Diamonds Gala to End Child Abuse was held on Friday, April 7 at the beautiful Minikahda Club in Minneapolis. It was a wonderful event, and we sincerely thank all our sponsors and our guests. More than 150 people joined us to show their support for our child abuse prevention programs. Through the generosity of many supporters, we raised nearly \$50,000 to support parents, families, and communities across Minnesota.



Guests were called to action by gala speaker Patty Wetterling who, along with her husband Jerry, were the 2017 recipients of the Burron-Campbell Innovation Award. The award was presented to the Wetterlings and the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center for their mission to educate the public about who takes children, how they do it, and what each of us can do to stop it. They have inspired communities across

the nation by turning their pain into action.

Seven impactful individuals were also honored at the gala as Champions for Children. The Champions for Children Award is given out to individuals and organizations for work that supports our mission *to empower individuals and communities to stop child abuse and neglect before it starts through awareness, education, support and leadership for action*. This year's recipients were Nacole Kaai, Elizabeth Melton, Harold Richey, Dave Vagle, Mike Boen, Kristi Jacobson, Sam Simmons. See photos of our Champions with the Chief Executive Officer, Shelley Jacobson, and MCCC's current Board Chair, Victoria Karpeh.



Harold Richey receiving his Champion for Children Award from Becky Dale.

Special thanks to Dan Duffy, President and CEO of Prevent Child Abuse America, for joining us at this year's gala and to all the sponsors, guests, staff, and volunteers that contributed to the success of the event.

2017 Champions for Children



Nacole Kaai



Elizabeth Melton



Sam Simmons



Dave Vagle



Mike Boen



Kristi Jacobson

15th Annual *Pinwheels for Prevention* Awards

Each year, Minnesota Communities Caring for Children shines a spotlight on tribes and communities statewide that have worked to create safe and healthy environments for children. The *Pinwheels for Prevention* Award recognizes communities that exemplify a strong commitment to the prevention of child maltreatment through collaborative efforts.



Congratulations to the *2017 Pinwheels for Prevention* Recipients

African American Babies Coalition | Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church
FATHER Project–The Citizen Father Project | Olmsted County
Shakopee School District–Early Childhood Family Education | Crow Wing County
Carver County Health and Human Services: Parent Support Outreach Program
Carver County Public Health | Regional Early Childhood Mental Health Network
Community Action Partnership of Scott, Carver, and Dakota Counties
Lake County Health and Human Services
Crow Wing County Child Protection Team
Douglas County Child Abuse Prevention Council | Wright County Crisis Nursery
Lincoln Park Children & Families Collaborative
Central Minnesota Child Advocacy Center| Grant County Child & Youth Council

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING EVENTS



World View Webinar
with Dave Ellis
May 11, noon–1:30 pm

Description: When we examine how our world view

impacts our interaction with people who have a history of trauma and take a deeper look at our own trauma, then we can see the many places where those spaces collide. Join us on an exploration on how to better serve others without the interference of our own biases and assumptions.

[Learn More](#)

The Practice and Power of Engaging Parent Leaders

with Lisa Deputie and Roxy Foster

May 23, noon–1:30 pm

Description: This webinar is about understanding the best practices of engaging parents with professionals. We will focus on strategies that empower parents to create change for themselves, their families and communities.

[Learn More](#)

Mental Well-Being & Resilience Learning Community

LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH 10:00–12:00 PM

Launch Date: May 30, 2017

The Minnesota Department of Health is launching a monthly learning opportunity for anyone who is interested in building resilience and promoting mental well-being.

Learn: About effective well-being strategies and practical implementation steps from communities across Minnesota.

Dream: About creating thriving communities, families and youth.

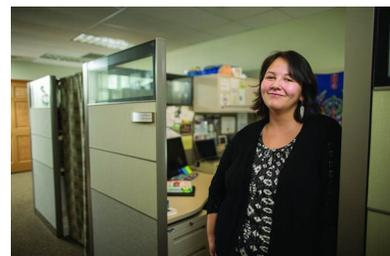
Plan: Community and state action plans. Develop opportunities to partner with people in your community who are interested mental well-being and resilience.

LEARN MORE: Join an initial call (call only) on **THURSDAY MAY 11, 2017 @ 10:00–11:00** to learn more about the structure and how to become a host. If you cannot join, but would like to be a host contact anna.lynn@state.mn.us. Call 888-742-5095 Code: 369-152-1539#

THE FACES BEHIND THE WORK

ACE Interface Trainer Spotlight: Linsey McMurrin

Linsey McMurrin, a Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Prevention Specialist with Peacemaker Resources, is an enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. She is program manager of Girls Lead on the Go!, a leadership program for young women, and is an organizer of the Bemidji Area Truth and Reconciliation Initiative, a grassroots effort to promote truth-seeking, healing and change through increasing understanding and building relationships among area indigenous and non-indigenous communities. Linsey is certified by Minnesota Communities Caring for Children as an ACE Interface Presenter. She is a strong advocate of social justice and community driven work, and believes that the development of cultural, social and emotional competencies is integral to our well-being and ongoing success– as individuals, families and communities.



What led you to want to become a certified ACE Interface presenter?

In my role as a Prevention Specialist with Peacemaker Resources, I understand how the development of cultural, social and emotional competencies is integral to our well-being and ongoing success— as individuals, families and communities. Our work enables us to empower all youth by equipping them with the tools needed to successfully navigate the world around them.

As an American Indian woman, I have always felt a great responsibility to my community in everything I do. My life experiences along with those of my family members have contributed to my understanding of how the underlying historical and intergenerational traumas our people have experienced are the root cause of many of the contemporary issues our communities are faced with today. Increasing understanding around these topics both within and beyond our native communities as well as in the broader systems that serve our people is a constant driving force for me.

When I realized that becoming an ACE Interface Presenter would bring together all facets of what informs and drives my work, I knew my purpose had been found. Not only does the ACE Interface curriculum illustrate the implications of the ACE Study and epigenetics along with the brain science behind it, but it also provides a framework for building self-healing communities, to lift up and empower those most affected to be part of the solution. Being an ACE Interface presenter gives me the opportunity to empower people to break the cycles of adversity by recognizing the root causes behind them, and through that knowledge to fully harness the resiliency, strengths and skillsets that are the keys to authentic and lasting individual and community transformation.

How has learning about ACEs impacted you (i.e. in your life and/or in your work)?

As a single mother raising two boys of my own, I have integrated the knowledge into the way I parent. My heightened awareness of the impact of toxic stress on the developing brain has encouraged me to incorporate self-care concepts and implement self-regulation strategies on a daily basis. My older son, a kindergartner, has been trained on these strategies as well and will remind me when a stressful situation arises that we both need to pause and take some deep breaths so we can get back to the "thinking part of our brain." I am hopeful he will help me pass those skills down to his baby brother as he grows as well!

Could you give a brief summary of the work you're doing around ACEs in your community and/or workplace?

Our work at Peacemaker Resources centers around the concept of prevention through increasing competencies in the area of Social-Emotional Learning. The research around ACEs provides further evidence that the approaches we use will bring about lasting impact. We have been working with schools in Northern Minnesota around trauma-sensitive approaches and the information we are able to provide regarding ACEs, epigenetics and historical trauma has been key in shifting perspectives and providing tools to enable teachers and school personnel to better understand, relate to and provide support for the young people they serve. I also have been honored to assist with Minnesota Communities Caring for Children's NEAR Science and Tribal Wisdom project in my home community of the Leech Lake Reservation. Being able to provide the knowledge and understanding in our tribal communities and building capacity through training a cohort of ACE Interface presenters from our own community has been especially rewarding. I

look forward to the next phases of our project that include building and implementing a culturally responsive and community-driven plan to mitigate the effects of ACEs and interrupt the cycle of intergenerational transmission that will prevent ACEs for future generations.

Check out the Minnesota group on [ACEs Connection](#) to read the full interview with Linsey and to learn more about trauma-informed work happening in Minnesota.

PREVENTION INITIATIVES SPOTLIGHT: METRO AREA



Parent Leadership, Education, and Collaboration

Lisa Deputie is the Director of Prevention Initiatives for the Metro Area, ldeputie@pcamn.org or 651.523.0099 ext. 115

The Metro area has been busy. In January, MCCC facilitated a MN Café with Wellstone Elementary school.

The topic of the café was "working with children with behavior challenges".

MCCC also recently participated in two resource fairs:

Wellstone Elementary Family Night – Lisa shared information about MCCC's programs and did a presentation on the Circle of Parents, inviting parents to sign up if they were interested in developing a group for parents at Wellstone. Since Wellstone has a lot of Latino families, MCCC will be doing the Circle of Parents Facilitators Training in Spanish for the first time. The training will take place this summer.

Neighborhood House – Lisa shared resources with families and raised awareness for Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) month.

As a part of CAP month, a pinwheel garden was planted by Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Saint Paul. The pinwheel is the national symbol of child abuse prevention.

MCCC also trained parents from American Indian Family Center (AIFC) as Circle of Parents Facilitators and facilitated a Parent Café for the parents at AIFC. AIFC has completed their Circle of Parent group application process and will begin running private COP groups on the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting May 10th from 2:00 – 2:30 pm.

Lisa created a two minute informational video about Circle of Parents that is now accessible for viewing at the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center for parents needing or wanting information or resources to help strengthen their families.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Developing Services By Centering Culture

As communities become more culturally and linguistically diverse, community-based service organizations (CBOs) are called to do more to reduce disparities in access and use of important social services. An important strategy is developing cultural competency-behaviors, attitudes, and policies that enable CBOs to work effectively in cross-cultural situations. This resource guide identifies easily accessible

resources on cultural competency that CBOs can use to become more responsive to the needs of their targeted populations, and to help attract funds to support their important work.

The guide was created by the [National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families](#). [To Read the Full Guide Click Here.](#)

DONATE NOW!

REMEMBER CHILD ABUSE IS 100% PREVENTABLE

With the support of individuals like you, we can eliminate child abuse in our state. Thanks for joining MCCC in providing better outcomes for our children and protecting our future.

Minnesota Communities Caring for Children
Home of Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota and Circle of Parents Minnesota
(651) 523-0099 | pcamn@pcamn.org | www.pcamn.org



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