

COVER

**FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
MISSISSIPPI CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

***“Rethinking Child Welfare Services: Forging New Direction through
Community Based Partnerships”***

**Sponsored by
School of Social Work
College of Public Service
Mississippi Child Welfare Institute**

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**Partners**

*Platinum*

**Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services**

**Division of Family and Children’s Services - Independent  
Living Program**

*Bronze*

**Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative**

*Copper*

**Another Chance Enterprise**

**Jackson Medical Mall Foundation**

*Contributor*

**Senator John Horhn, District 26, Hinds and Madison Counties**

The 2017 Mississippi Child Welfare Institute Conference offers a maximum of 11  
Continuing Education Hours (CEHs)

## **Congressman Bennie Thompson Letter**

## **GOVERNOR BRYANT'S LETTER**

## **MAYOR YARBER'S LETTER**

## **PRESIDENT PAIGE’S LETTER**

## **DR. LEGGETTE'S LETTER**

## **DEAN BROWN'S LETTER**



## **DR. ISIAH MARSHALL JR. LETTER**

## **DRS. PRATER AND RATLIFF LETTER**

## **MISSISSIPPI CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE AND CONFERENCE HISTORY**

The Mississippi Child Welfare Institute was established at Jackson State University in 2003 as a part of the School of Social Work. The impetus to begin the Institute emanated from a grant awarded by the Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the 2000 to 2004 period. The proposal was developed by Gwendolyn Spencer Prater, PhD, MSW, who was then Dean of the School of Social Work. The Institute and conference began prior to the organization of the academic colleges at Jackson State University.

The proposal submitted to the Children's Bureau resulted in a funded grant which permitted 26 committee-selected and dedicated students to participate in the education project. All of the social work students were provided tuition, stipends, and special training and educational opportunities both in-state and across the country at national conferences with the goal of preparing them for careers in child welfare. The students graduated and many attained social work positions in the field of child welfare. Mrs. Wanda Gilliam, MSW, Deputy Director of Programs, Mississippi Department of Human Services, was the liaison with the School of Social Work during the grant period and actively and successfully facilitated productive experiential educational opportunities for students with the Division of Family and Children's Services.

During the 2002-2003 academic year, Jackson State University's School of Social Work, in partnership with other state institutions of higher learning, and the Mississippi State Department of Human Services, under the capable leadership of Mrs. Thelma Brittain, MSW, initiated the Title IV-E Program in Child Welfare. The program was readily supported by the Mississippi Legislature, with strong leadership from the late Representative Charlie Capp, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee. Jackson State University's administration also provided strong support for the Institute and the conference. The School of Social Work programmatic and administrative leadership team included Drs. Prater and Ruth M. Williams as the Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator, respectively, and Ms. Velma Hankins, MSW, as the Program Administrator.

The program continued for approximately three and one-half years, with Jackson State University serving as the lead institution for the majority of that period, with the final program year being rotated to one of the other state institutions of higher education. Numerous students at the baccalaureate and master's levels were educated and provided training for child welfare practice with vulnerable populations. In addition, during that three-year period, training was also developed and provided for foster and adoptive parents and public child welfare staff. Since that time, there has not been a consortium of state schools and programs of social work jointly engaged in Title IV-E academic programming with the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

The Mississippi Child Welfare Institute at Jackson State University, however, continues to offer its annual conference for professional development of child welfare practitioners, supervisors, administrators, faculty, and students in Mississippi, other states in the Southeastern Region, and indeed across the United States of America. The Institute partners with public and private agencies and organizations as it works to improve services to children and families including but not limited to: the Mississippi State Departments of Human Services, Health, and Mental Health, the Children's Defense Fund (Southern Regional Office), Mississippi Children's Home Services and CARES Center, Catholic Charities, and the Casey Family Programs and Marguerite Casey Foundations.

Conferences (2003-2017):

*2003: Social Workers' Challenge: Changing the Lives of Mississippi's Children and Families\**

*2004: Mississippi's Challenge: Rebuilding the Village*

*2005: Social Work: Empowering Mississippi's Children and Families through Public Service*

*2006: Working Together for What Matters Most: Children and Families*

*2007: United Voices Committed to Helping Our Children*

*2008: The Many Faces of Child Welfare: A Rainbow of Diversity*

*2009: Child Poverty: Facing the Challenges, Creating Opportunities*

*2010: Child Welfare: Building Community Partnerships for Safe and Healthy Children and Families*

*2011: Building Community Partnerships for Safe and Healthy Children and Families*

*2012: Building Bridges for a New Decade of Transformational Services with Children and Families*

*2013: Community Engagement: A Guiding Light to Successful Children, Youth and Families*

*2014: Child Welfare: Building Multi-Generational Teams to Serve Families and Communities*

*2015: Child Welfare: Using Cross-Cutting Strategies to Empower Families and Communities*

*2016: Supporting and Preserving Children, youth and Families through Community Welfare*

*2017: Rethinking Child Welfare Services: Forging New Direction through Community Based Partnerships"*

*Note: All conferences have been held in Downtown Jackson;*

*\*Crowne Plaza Hotel (2003-2004)*

*Jackson Marriott Hotel (2005-2017)*

## PLENARY SPEAKERS



**Wanda F. Reives** is a Clinical Associate Professor and Collaborative Director for the Child Welfare Education Collaborative at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work. Her professional interests include public child welfare, family based service and public human service management/leadership.



**Anna McPhatter** is the Dean of the School of Social Work at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD. Her research areas include Child Welfare; Children, Youth, & Families (with a special focus on African American Families); Cultural Competence; Maternal and Child Health; and Adolescent Health. She has authored numerous publications and has received national recognition for her research in Child Welfare.



**Kristi Plotner** is the Deputy Commissioner of Administration, Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services. Ms. Plotner has committed her career to analyzing existing program issues and searching for solutions. Her experience in systems change efforts have changed operations and offered new programs for vulnerable people and their families.

## CLOSING LUNCHEON SPEAKER



**Mildred Muhammad** is a domestic violence survivor with a story to tell the world. Many know her first and foremost by her former husband, John Allen Muhammad – the convicted DC sniper who terrorized the Washington DC metro region in late 2002. However, many are not aware that the reasons for the horrific attacks on innocent women, children and men in the DC Metro area, originated from John Allen Muhammad’s stalking and the control tactics he used on Mildred and their children. Nearly 15 years later, Ms. Muhammad continues to share her experiences nationwide.

## SPECIAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SESSION SPEAKERS



**Marcello Gordon** is a 2016 graduate of the Master’s of Social Work Program at Jackson State University. Mr. Gordon channeled his passion for children and youth by establishing a non-profit organization named BECOME LLC. The mission of BECOME is to motivate, inspire and transform. He believes that we, like the caterpillar are to “BECOME” what we are born to be; so why should we settle for crawling, when we were born to fly!



**Kristin V. Richards, Ph.D., MSW** is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at Jackson State University and serves as the Associate Director of the Financial Therapy Center, LLC. Dr. Richards and her Financial Therapy Center colleagues were Hot Topic presenters at the 2015 CSWE Annual Program Meeting in Denver, Colorado. Additionally, she teaches Personal Financial Planning. She is co-authoring her fourth book, Clinical Applications of Financial Therapy, in conjunction with Springer Publishing.

**FIFTEENTH ANNUAL  
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*“Rethinking Child Welfare Services:  
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**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

**SPECIAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SESSION**

**Conference Overview**

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. **Special Youth Empowerment Session**

**Thursday, February 9, 2017**

|                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m.–8:25 a.m.   | <b>Registration</b>            |
| 8:30 a.m.–9:45 a.m.   | <b>Opening Plenary Session</b> |
| 9:45 a.m.–10:00 a.m.  | <b>Break</b>                   |
| 10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b>     |
| 11:30 a.m.–12:50 p.m. | <b>Lunch on Your Own</b>       |
| 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.   | <b>Plenary Session</b>         |
| 2:05 p.m.–3:05 p.m.   | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b>     |
| 3:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. | <b>Break</b>                   |
| 3:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.   | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b>     |
| 4:20 p.m. – 5:20 p.m. | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b>     |

**Friday, February 10, 2017**

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8:20 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.   | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b> |
| 9:20 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.  | <b>Concurrent Sessions</b> |
| 10:25 a.m. - 10:35 a.m. | <b>Break</b>               |

10:40 a.m. -11:40 a.m.

**Concurrent Sessions**

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

**Closing Luncheon**



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**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

**SPECIAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SESSION**

**Location: Windsor III**

**5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

*Presiding*

***Ms. Temcula Robinson***  
*Mississippi Department of Child  
Protective Services  
Jackson, MS*

*Welcome*

***Mr. Mario Johnson***  
*Mississippi Department of  
Child Protective Services  
Jackson, MS*

*Introduction of Speakers*

***Mr. Howard Sanders***  
*MSW Student  
Jackson State University*

***Mr. Raymon Holeman***  
*Mississippi Department of  
Child Protective Services  
MSW Student  
Jackson State University*

*Speakers*

***Dr. Kristin V. Richards***  
*Associate Professor  
Jackson State University*

***Mr. Marcello D. Gordon***  
*Motivational Speaker  
Become LLC  
Jackson, MS*

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**Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
Location: Windsor III**

**SPECIAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SESSION**

Questions

***Audience***

Entertainment

***JSU Dance Ensemble  
Jackson, MS***

Remarks

***Dr. Theresia Johnson-Ratliff  
Conference Co-Chair  
Dr. Isiah Marshall, Jr.  
Co-Chair***

**Youth Reception – 7:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.**

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**Conference Registration**  
7:00 a.m. - 5:20 p.m.

**Exhibits**  
8:00 a.m. - 5:20 p.m.

**OPENING PLENARY SESSION**

Location: Windsor III, IV, & V

**8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.**

*Presider*

***Ricardo A. Brown, Ph.D.***  
*Dean and Professor  
College of Public Service  
Jackson State University*

*Greetings*

***Evelyn J. Leggette, Ph.D.***  
*Provost and Senior Vice President  
Academic and Student Affairs  
Jackson State University*

*Introduction of Speakers*

***Belinda D. Smith, Ph.D., LCSW***  
*Associate Professor  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

*Speakers*

***Anna McPhatter, Ph.D.***  
*Dean of Social Work  
Morgan State University  
Baltimore, MD*

***Kristi Plotner, LCSW***  
*Deputy Commissioner of Administration  
MS Department of Child Protective Services*

*Presentation & Remarks*

***Isiah Marshall Jr., Ph.D., MSW***  
*Associate Dean/Associate Professor  
College of Public Service  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

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**Thursday, February 9, 2017**

**9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**BREAK**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session I     ***Rethinking Social Work through Best Practices: Administration of Children and Families for Social Work with Families and their Recommendations***

***Room: Canterbury***

The Administration on Children and Families provide states who have completed their Child and Family Services Review (CSFR) and have been found deficient in certain areas with an opportunity to improve their service delivery. The presenter, a federal reviewer of the Children’s Bureau for the Administration of Children and Families will also provide an inside look into the policies and procedures of the actual review process.

*Presenter:     Marian Swindell, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Mississippi State University  
Meridian, MS*

*Moderator:     Jerrica Hicks  
Bachelors of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor:        Laquita Spann  
Bachelors of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

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**Thursday, February 9, 2017**

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session II     ***Family-Based Services: A Closer Look at Advocacy through the Lens of  
Caregivers and Professionals***

***Room: Surrey Ballroom I***

Parents who are knowledgeable about their child's condition have greater confidence which enables them to have a more positive relationship with professionals and less likely to encounter negative experiences. Participants in this session will understand the importance of family engagement, and family-based services; become familiar with ways to promote parental involvement and collaborative advocacy among families and professionals; and identify ways to effectively empower and promote parental involvement within the child welfare setting.

***Presenters:***     *Benetra Magnum-Johnson, Ph.D., LAPSW  
The University of Memphis  
Department of Social Work  
Memphis, TN*

*Cherry C. Malone, LMSW  
The University of Memphis  
Department of Social Work  
Memphis, TN*

***Moderator:***     *Niasha Stewart  
Bachelors of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

***Monitor:***         *Jerrica Gates  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session III     ***Tribulations and Achievements: The Lived Experiences of African American College Students Formerly in Foster Care***

***Room: Surrey Ballroom II***

This presentation will include a qualitative study that explored the factors contributing to the college matriculation of African Americans formerly in foster care.

*Presenter:*     *Tiffany Lane, Ph.D., MSW*  
*Assistant Professor*  
*West Chester University*  
*West Chester, PA*

*Moderator:*     *Reneatha Newell*  
*Master of Social Work Student*  
*Jackson State University*

*Monitor:*        *Toya Lampkin*  
*Bachelor of Social Work Student*  
*Jackson State University*

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Session IV     ***Behavioral Healthcare Services Transformation: A look at New Directions in Services and Community Based Partnerships***

*LPC Approved*

***Room: Winston Ballroom I***

This presentation will identify the historical context of the mental health recovery movement, list fundamental components of recovery-focused behavioral health service model and discuss recovery-focused interventions available for service providers to incorporate into their daily practices.

*Presenter:*     *Cynthia Johnson, Ph.D.*  
*Resilience Psychological Services*  
*Brandon, MS*

*Moderator:*     *Cliffanique Towbridge*  
*Master of Social Work Student*  
*Jackson State University*

*Monitor:*        *Jackie Green*  
*Bachelors of Social Work Student*  
*Jackson State University*

**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session V      ***Ethics and Cultural Competence in Social Work Practice***  
*Ethics*

***Room: Churchill***

This workshop will make a case for the development and practice of ethical culturally competent practice. It will explore the ethical implications of social workers and other related human service professionals and counselors in their work with culturally non-dominant individuals, families, groups, and communities. An orientation to these ethical implications will be presented based on the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics (2008) and the NASW Standards for Cultural Competence in Social Work Practice (2015).

*Presenters:*      *Pamela Higgins Saulsberry, Ph.D., LCSW-BACS*  
                         *Title-E Child Welfare Project*  
                         *Director of ULM School of Behavior & Social Science*  
                         *Monroe, LA*

*Jenny Savage, Ph.D., LCSW*  
*Title-E Child Welfare Project*  
*ULM School of Behavior & Social Science*  
*Monroe, LA*

*Moderator:*      *Lakecia Fields*  
                         *Bachelor of Social Work Student*  
                         *Jackson State University*

*Monitor:*          *Shemenia Sims*  
                         *Bachelor of Social Work Student*  
                         *Jackson State University*

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**10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session VI

***LPC Approved Healthy Babies Healthy Futures: Empowering Communities to promote prematurity awareness***

***Room: Winston Ballroom II***

Healthy Babies Healthy Futures is a train-the-trainer curriculum. The curriculum was developed for volunteers from the faith-based community and for agencies serving the African-American community to teach women and families about issues surrounding healthy pregnancies. Therefore this workshop will equip you with a clearer understanding about infant mortality, and provide you with the necessary tools to work with this family system, and understand the impact of prematurity in the country but more so the state of Mississippi.

***Presenters: Wendy Thompson, Dr.PH, MSW  
Associate Professor  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University***

***Wengora Thompson, MPH  
Director of Maternal and Child Health  
Mississippi March of Dimes***

***Moderator: Christiana Jefferson  
Bachelors of Social Work  
Jackson State University***

***Monitor: Jonneka Pough  
Bachelor of Social Work  
Jackson State University***



**11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.**

**LUNCH (on your own)**

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**Thursday, February 9, 2017**

**PLENARY SESSION**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Location:

*Presider*

***Ahfiya J. Howard, LMSW***  
*Interim, BSW Program Director*  
*School of Social Work*  
*Jackson State University*

*Introduction of Speaker*

***Bernice G. McKenney, LMSW***  
*Instructor*  
*School of Social Work*  
*Jackson State University*

*Speaker*

***Wanda F. Reives, MSW***  
*Clinical Associate Professor*  
*Child Welfare Education Collaborative*  
*UNC-CH School of Social Work*  
*Chapel Hill, NC*

*Presentation/Remarks*

***Wengora Thompson, MPH***  
*Director of Maternal and Child Health*  
*Mississippi March of Dimes*

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**2:05 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session VII     ***Let’s Talk About Child Welfare***

***Room: Canterbury***

Students should understand that regardless of their choice of study or client population, child welfare can and will play a role. This interactive workshop will enhance student’s understanding of child welfare services and help them see how child welfare intersects with all areas of social work practice.

*Presenter:        Wanda F. Reives  
                         Clinical Associate Professor  
                         School of Social Work  
                         University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

*Moderator:      Gwendolyn C. Lee  
                         Ph.D. Social Work Student  
                         Jackson State University*

*Monitor:          Toya Lampkin  
                         Bachelor of Social Work Student  
                         Jackson State University*

**2:05 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.**

Session VIII     ***Adolescents in Care: Issues of Permanency and Transition***

***Room: Surrey I***

The purpose of this session is to offer information and strategies to assist workers in helping adolescents to establish permanency and transition to adulthood. First we will identify some of the permanency and transitional challenges youth in foster care face. Next, we will look at the importance of positive, permanent relationships for the youth we serve. Finally, we will offer strategies for permanency and transitional planning with adolescents and older youth.

*Presenter: Angela R. Adams, LMSW  
Education/Training Specialist  
The University of Mississippi  
Department of Social Work  
Child Welfare Training Academy  
University, MS*

*Moderator: DeShayla Jackson  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Sheron Tate  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**2:05 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

Session IX     ***The Clinical Supervision Process: Ethical and Diversity Concerns***  
***LPC Approved***  
***Ethics***  
***LCSW Supervision***

***Room: Churchill***

Clinical supervision is a complex process with multiple elements and people involved. Supervisors are required to integrate a deep level of understanding and sensitivity to the supervisee and the consumers. This workshop will explore the following: supervisor-supervisee ethical boundaries; the importance of competent practice and the application and understanding of diversity issues as they relate to consumer services.

*Presenter: Mary S. Nelums, Ph.D., LCSW  
President of Mary S. Nelums Foundation  
Jackson, MS*

*Moderator: Mikayla Coleman  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Shemenia Sims  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

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**2:05 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session X     ***Are there Differences in Resilience Among Youth Aging-Out of Foster Care? A Latent Class and Latent Transition Analysis***

***Room: Winston I***

Aging-out of care or emancipation in this study refers to when a youth reaches the age of majority, and he/she is no longer under the control of their parents, legal guardians, or the state. Resiliency Theory provides the conceptual framework for examining and comprehending why some youth aging-out foster care fair better than others despite of all their difficulties (i.e., risk factors).

*Presenter:     Pedro M. Hernandez, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Jackson State University School of Social Work  
Jackson, MS*

*Moderator:     Yemekia Steele  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor:         Jonneka Pough  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**2:05 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.**

Session XI     ***Influence of Grandfathers on the Development and Educational Attainment of Grandchildren***

***Room: Winston II***

This manuscript reports the findings of a study entitled African American Grandfathers: A Pilot Project Investigating their Role and in Stabilizing Family and Communities. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, through the Distinguished Endowed Chair Grant Award, funded the two-year study. The manuscript and presentation provides an overview of the themes that emerged

from interviews with 28 grandfathers. The most prevalent themes focused on family and community, obtaining an education, and passing on their values to their grandchildren. The manuscript provides insight into their attempts to influence the healthy growth, development and aspirations of these children.

*Presenter: Olga Osby, DSW  
Associate Dean, School of Social Work  
Barry University  
Miami Shores, FL*

*Moderator: Kamari Williams  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Chadsity Lindsey  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**2:05 pm – 3:05 pm**

Session XII     ***See.....I Told You She was Lying About Being Abused!” Predicting and Preparing for Recantation***

***Room: Surrey II***

This workshop is relevant to social work practice because there are more reports of child sexual abuse as well as more substantiated cases than ever before and with increasing caseloads, social workers are often misunderstanding of the recantation phenomenon. With the increasing use and availability of the internet, more child related sex crimes are occurring and social workers need to be proactive in this area.

*Presenter: Marian Swindell, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Mississippi State University  
Meridian, MS*

*Moderator: Brittany Bass  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Charlicia Anderson  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**3:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**BREAK**

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session XIII    ***Therapeutic Modalities: Evidence based Therapies***  
***LPC Approved***

***Room: Canterbury***

Psychotherapy can help children and families understand and resolve problems, modify behavior, and make positive changes in their lives. There are several types of mental health therapeutic modalities among children and adolescents but not all approaches provide scientific evidence. Some of these models comprise of different approaches, techniques and interventions. A combination of medication, behavioral management and/or psychotherapy may also be effective in the treatment.

*Presenter:        Sherry Bouldin, LPC*  
*Department of Mental Health*  
*Jackson, MS*

*Moderator:       Cynetheia Norwood*  
*Master of Social Work*  
*Jackson State University*

*Monitor:           Jackie Green*  
*Bachelor of Social Work*  
*Jackson State University*

**3:15 pm – 4:15 pm**

Session XIV    ***Caregiving and Keeping the Aged Independent***

***Room: Surrey I***

This workshop looks to provide participants with an understanding of the potential impact caregiving has on the caregiver. It will discuss challenges/barriers faced by caregivers and key principles for effective caregiving.

*Presenter:        Rita B. Range, LCSW*  
*Veterans Administration*  
*Memphis, TN*

*Moderator: Elizabeth Aniakwa  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Jasmine Booker  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session XV ***Self-Care for Victim Service Providers***

***Room: Winston I***

*Presenter: Mildred Muhammad  
Mother, Activist, and Author*

*Moderator: Niasha Steward  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Jerrica Gates  
Bachelor of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

Session XVI ***Reclaiming Faith with Foster Care Children***  
***Diversity***

***Room: Churchill***

The purpose of this presentation is to share thoughts, ideas, and stories of children in foster care system from all over the US. Demographic statistics, length of stay challenges to adoption, faith refining and outcomes are also discussed. Particular challenges within the system of care as well as solutions are presented and discussed

*Presenter: Marian Swindell, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Mississippi State University  
Meridian, MS*

*Moderator: Michael Peterson  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

Session XVII **Financial Therapy: An Opportunity to Enhance Capability within Child Welfare**

***Room: Surrey II***

The purpose of this interactive workshop is to present a theoretical model for conceptualizing how personal values are utilized to make financial based decisions-The Financial Therapy Model (Smith, Shelton & Richards, 2015). This presentation provides background information regarding utilization of this model to better assist practitioners in assessment of financial concerns within the therapeutic context and discussion regarding how to incorporate this model into the child welfare setting.

*Presenter: Kristen V. Richards, Ph.D., MSW  
Associate Professor  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

*Moderator: Charlotte Dean  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Arie Johnson  
Student  
Holmes Community College*

**3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

Session XVIII ***Relationships among Racial Awareness, Self-Efficacy, and Practices in Cultural and Racial Socialization among Transracial Adoptive Parents***

***LPC Approved***

***Room: Winston II***

Research has shown that international transracial adoptive parents actively engage their adoptees in cultural activities in an adoptive family. However, some parents are less aware of the importance of such parenting practices in the international adoptees' ethnic identity development has been proved; researchers have explored factors that may increase such socialization practices.



*Presenter: Jaegoo Lee, Ph.D., M.S.W.  
Assistant Professor of Social Work  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

*Moderator: Cliffaniqua Towbridge  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Charmila Fields  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**4:20 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.**

Session XIX *Developing Troubled Adolescent Males into Successful Young Adulthoods*  
*LPC Approved*  
*Diversity*

***Room: Surrey I & II***

A disproportionately large amount of our underserved and economically disadvantaged communities have gone decade after decade producing young men who are not properly equipped to do that which is necessary to bring about any change in this generational perpetuation of this devastating epidemic. Utilizing community relationships within these various systems, mentorship programs can be developed to improve the futures of the young men in the communities.

*Presenter: Brian A. Street  
Master of Social Work Student  
University of Southern Mississippi  
School of Social Work  
Hattiesburg, MS*

*Moderator: Jenetta Burton  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Reneatha Newell  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**4:20 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.**

Session XX     ***Parental Relationships of Young Adults in Long-Term Care: Impediments, Roles, and Interdependence***

***Room: Winston I & II***

This research explores the parental relationship (or lack thereof) between young adults in long-term care facilities and their children. The study explores not only the ecological impediments presenting by the medical disposition of the parent but the psychological schism between parent and child, notwithstanding the redefinition of their role as parents and the acceptance of the concept of interdependence.

*Presenters:     Isiah Marshall Jr., Ph.D., MSW  
Associate Dean/Associate Professor  
Jackson State University  
School of Social Work*

*Yolanda M. Byrd., Ph.D., MSW  
Associate Professor  
Winston-Salem State University*

*Sonja V. Harry., Ph.D., MSW  
Assistant Professor  
Winston-Salem State University*

*Moderator:     Cliffanique Towbridge  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor:         Shemenia Sims  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**4:20 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.**

Session XXI    ***Advocating for a Better Tomorrow***

***Room: Churchill***

The Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative's Mississippi Alumni Board, made up of young adults who have transitioned from foster care, is committed to sharing their unique experiences and knowledge through advocacy to achieve

positive outcomes for themselves and youth still in custody. The objectives of this workshop is to share presenters' stories and to improve the way communities and states respond to their needs.

*Presenters: Zachary Clein  
Shyresha Jenkins  
Devon Vinson  
Princess Lawyer  
Jessica Reese*

*Moderator: Ingrid Cloy, B.A., M.S., M.S.W.  
Mississippi Site Lead  
Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative*

*Monitor: Cynetheia Norwood  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**SESSION XXI**  
***Diversity***

***Parental Engagement and Involvement Promoting Culturally  
Competent Services***

***Room: Canterbury***

This presentation will discuss parental involvement types as it relates to culturally competent services. The six National Standards of Family-School Partnership will be discussed as a concept that can be utilized in different systems. In addition, the benefits of getting “urban” parents engaged will be explored.

*Presenter: Albertstein Johnson-Pickett  
Consultant*

*Moderator/Monitor: Cassedra Booker  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**FIFTEENTH ANNUAL  
MISSISSIPPI CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

***“Rethinking Child Welfare Services:  
Forging New Direction through Community Based Partnerships”***

**Friday, February 10, 2017**

**9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session XXII    ***The Super Highway into Child Pornography: Avenues of Prevention***

***Room: Winston Ballroom I***

This presentation talks about the ways pedophiles groom children, share videos, and collect other child pornography as well as explore ways to prevent a child becoming a victim.

*Presenter:     Marian Swindell, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Mississippi State University  
Meridian, MS*

*Moderator:    Charmila Fields  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor:        Sheron Tate  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

Session XXIII

***Diversity        Basic Awareness of Culturally Diverse Groups among Child Welfare Workers  
in Southwest Arkansas***

***Room: Churchill***

Diverse groups who are consumers of services provided by Department of Health Services of Southwest Arkansas rely on the direct service worker's ability to be culturally aware of the primary characteristics that identifies or set them apart from other groups in order to foster a strong worker-client bond.

*Presenters:     Raymond Adams, MSW  
Behavioral and Social Sciences Department*

*Southern Arkansas University*

*Jennifer Turner, LMSW, LPC  
Behavioral and Social Sciences Department  
Southern Arkansas University*

*Whitney M. Gass  
Doctoral Student  
Southern Arkansas University*

*Moderator: Kamri Williams  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Elizabeth Aniakwa  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.**

Session XXIV *Social Dance for Social Workers: A Tool for Treatment and Self Care*

***Room: Canterbury***

Along with other art forms, expressive dance is well established as a therapeutic modality with multiple social and psychological benefits — among them, strengthening the mind-body connection, developing personal confidence, and offering an effective and socially acceptable means of nonverbal communication, emotional expression and self-exploration. The proposed workshop will explore the value of social dance in social work practice, in two primary dimensions.

*Presenter: Michael Forster, Ph.D., M.S.W.  
Dean and Professor of Social Work  
College of Health  
The University of Southern Mississippi  
Hattiesburg, MS*

*Moderator: Jasmine Booker  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Christiana Jefferson  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.**

Session XXV ***Building Leadership Capacity of New Social Workers***

***Room: Surrey I***

Social work leaders must go beyond assessment of need to work collaboratively in communities, recognizing inherent strengths and enhancing capacity with residents, interdisciplinary representatives, and youth & families served. Results of two research studies will be compared and contrasted to highlight what leaders in the child welfare field report regarding preparation for leadership, and positive outcomes demonstrated by young adult foster care alumni who served as mentors and leaders in community empowerment efforts. Participants will develop a hypothetical of a plan of action.

*Presenters: Christa Countee-Gilliam, Ph.D., MSW  
Assistant Professor  
West Chester University  
Philadelphia*

*Dana Burdnell Wilson, Ph.D., MSW  
Assistant Professor  
Morgan State University  
School of Social Work  
Baltimore, MD*

*Moderator: Yemkia Steele  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Jerrica Gates  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

Session XXVI ***Role the Board Plays in Your Profession: Rules and Regulation Update***

***Room: Surrey II***

This session focuses on issues regarding social work licensure in Mississippi.

*Presenters: Billy Dilworth  
Executive Director  
Mississippi State Board of Examiners  
  
Christie Ainsworth, LCSW*

*Board Member  
Mississippi State Board of Examiners*

*Brenda Viverette, LSW  
Board Member  
Mississippi State Board of Examiners*

*Moderator: Lucas Watson, LMSW  
Director of Intensive Outpatient Intensive Therapy  
Simpson General Hospital*

*Monitor: Jonneka Pough  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.**

**BREAK**

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**Session XXVII    *What is EMDR? How does it work? A review and Demonstration of Eye  
Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing***

***Room: Churchill***

EMDR and trauma focused CBT are the only two treatments that are recommended by the WHO over medications, Although EMDR is groundbreaking, many communities, therapists and students are unaware of this treatment and its profound healing effects. Because of this, a demonstration will be provided to demonstrate the effectiveness of the treatment and to dispel rumors and distrust.

*Presenter: Roy Thomas  
EMDRIA Certified and Approved Consultant  
Marriage and Family Therapist  
Stephen & Associates  
Flowood, MS*

*Moderator: Cyntheia Norwood  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Laquita Spann  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

Session XXVIII      ***The Flint, Michigan Water Crisis: An Update from A Micro Theoretical Perspective***

***Room: Surrey I***

This session will discuss the current status of the water crisis in Flint, Michigan. An example regarding the effects of lead poisoning through the lens of one family's experience will be included in the discussion. The session will conclude with implications for actions in Flint and other cities in the nation.

*Presenter: Stephanie Bundle  
Social Work Doctoral Student  
Jackson State University*

*Moderator: Niasha Steward  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: DeShayla Jackson  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

Session XXIX ***Navigating the Child Welfare System: Child's Point of View***

***Room: Surrey II***

This presentation is designed to assist professionals in understanding the strengths of children/teens navigating the Child Welfare System by assessing the following: spiritual connections, positive adult relations, consistency and services and resources needed.



*Presenter: Tasha Hickey, LGSW  
Perfect for Purpose  
Baltimore, MD*

*Moderator: Dyelicia Ball  
Ph.D. Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Michael Peterson  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**Session XXX    *How a Mother's Love Changes a Child's Brain***

***LPC Approved***

***Room: Canterbury***

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the importance of healthy parenting activities on the brain architecture and formation of a child. Participants will have an opportunity to reflect on both personal and professional parenting experiences, identifying ways situations and events could have been handled differently.

*Presenter: Marian Swindell, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Mississippi State University  
Meridian, MS*

*Moderator: Raven Tolliver  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Shakeara Matthews  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

Session XXXI *Parent of Children with Sickle Cell Disease: The Needs and Quality of Life*

**Room: Winston I**

The purpose of this presentation is to report our systematic review of current empirical research that explores the quality of life and needs among parents of children with SCD. Our presentation will demonstrate the following main themes: 1) how does SCD affect the well-being and the quality of life among parents and families? 2) How can professionals work with parents and children with SCD?

*Presenters: Tracye Ballard, LMSW  
Social Work Doctoral Student  
Jackson State University*

*Jaegoo Lee, Ph.D., M.S.W.  
Assistant Professor of Social Work  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

*Moderator: Karmen Jackson  
Master of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

*Monitor: Shemenia Sims  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Session XXXII *Universities as Community Partners in Child Welfare*

**Room: Winston II**

The workshop will examine current legislation that impact educational outcomes for youth in foster care, findings and recommendations from qualitative study on older youth aging out of foster care attending HBCU and national and local efforts made by universities and the child welfare system to forge partnerships to improve educational outcomes for youth in foster care.

*Presenters: Dana Burdwell Wilson, Ph.D., MSW  
Assistant Professor*

*Morgan State University  
School of Social Work  
Baltimore, MD*

*Belinda Davis Smith, Ph.D., MSW  
Associate Professor  
School of Social Work  
Jackson State University*

*Mario Johnson  
Division Director of Independent Living Program  
Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services  
Jackson, MS*

*Moderator: Arie Johnson  
Student  
Holmes Community College*

*Monitor: Toya Lampkin  
Bachelor of Social Work Student  
Jackson State University*

**FIFTHTEENTH ANNUAL  
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***“Rethinking Child Welfare Services:  
Forging New Direction through Community Based Partnerships”***

2017 STUDENT POSTER

**The Recruitment, Training, and Retention of Foster Parents**

***O'Dell, Anna, Graduate Student, University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast  
School of Social Work***

For this presentation, an extensive search of the literature was conducted on contemporary best practices regarding foster parent recruitment, training, and retention

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**Friday, February 10, 2017**  
Location: Windsor III, IV, & V

**CLOSING LUNCHEON**

Location: **12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

*Presider*

***Cherish Johnson, MPA***  
*Staff Officer*  
*MS Department of Employment Security*

*Invocation*

***D.L. Govan, Pastor***  
*Voice of Calvary Fellowship Church*  
*Jackson, MS*

*Introduction of Guest Speaker*

***Belinda D. Smith, Ph.D., LCSW***  
*Associate Professor*  
*School of Social Work*  
*Jackson State University*

*Speaker*

***Mildred Muhammad***  
*Mother, Activist, and Author*  
*Maryland USA*

*Entertainment*

***Jalise Haney***  
*Master of Social Work Student*  
*Jackson State University*

*Presentation & Closing Remarks*

***Theresia Johson-Ratliff, Ph.D., LCSW***  
***Isiah Marshall, Jr., Ph.D., MSW***  
*Conference Co-Chairs*

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*“Rethinking Child Welfare Services:  
Forging New Direction through Community Based Partnerships”*

*February 8 – 10, 2017*

**Exhibitors**

*Jackson State University  
School of Social Work*

*Jackson State University  
Public Policy and Administration*

*Jackson State University  
College of Lifelong Learning*

*Mississippi Children’s Home Society*

*Child Welfare Information Gateway*

*Canopy Children Services*

*Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services*

*Youth Villages*

*Hinds Behavioral Services*

*Mississippi Families for Kids*

# **FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MISSISSIPPI CHILD WELFARE INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

***“Rethinking Child Welfare Services:  
Forging New Direction through Community Based Partnerships”***

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**Special Thanks**

**Jackson Convention and Visitor’s Bureau  
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Ms. Olevia Williams- Ph.D. Student  
Ms. Dyelicia Ball- Ph.D. Student  
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**LAYOUT OF MARRIOTT**

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**February 9-10, 2018**

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