

Leading Change

2015

FAMILY DRUG COURT LEARNING ACADEMY WEBINAR SERIES

Leading the Way to Best Practice -
Family Drug Court Peer Learning Court Program TED-like Talks

Thursday, August 13, 2015 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm (Pacific Time)

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Welcome and Overview of Peer Learning Court Program

Tarah Garcia

Program Specialist, Children and Family Futures

2

Compared to What? The Importance of Comparison Groups in FDC Evaluation

John Dantzler

Jefferson County, Alabama

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The Importance of the Judicial Leadership - Reflections from the FDC Bench

Honorable William Owens

Wapello County, Iowa

4

Judicial Succession - How to Create a Smooth Transition that Covers all the Bases

Penny Clodfelter

Jackson County, Missouri

5

Walking the Talk - Three Ways How Our FDC Models a Support System for Those We Serve

Joni Strange

Chatham County, Alabama

6

Recovery Support Specialists and Peer Support - Why Your FDC Needs Them

Jill Murphy

King County, Washington

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Post-Webinar Break-Out Discussions – Call (877) 273-4202

Group A – Enter ID: 404-6824 (Comparison Groups, Judicial Leadership, Judicial Succession)

Group B – Enter ID: 967-124-820 (Modeling Support Systems, Recovery Support)

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Presenter Bio Summaries

Tarah Garcia, BA
Program Specialist
Children and Family Futures
Lake Forest, CA
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Ms. Garcia currently serves as a Program Specialist for the National Family Drug Court TTA program. In this role, Ms. Garcia assists the TTA Team in responding to training and technical assistance requests; offers logistic support and coordination for local, regional and national trainings; manages all social media and serves as the Peer Learning Court Liaison. Exceptionally organized, she coordinates multimedia packages and assists with marketing materials and advertising text. She develops and implements marketing and communications content procedure and standards. Ms. Garcia revises and converts documents to ensure Section 508 compliance.

Ms. Garcia previously served as the Communications Program Assistant, working closely with the Project Director to update and maintain the CCFF and NCSACW web sites to provide a user-friendly, attractive, engaging web-based venue for marketing and dissemination NCSACW products, services and resources. Specifically, she assisted with overall content management of CCFF and NCSACW web sites, including organizing updates and edits, and uploading presentations, publications, webinars and videos.

Ms. Garcia is first generation Mexican American and bilingual in Spanish and English. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English with an emphasis on Creative Writing from California State University, Long Beach. She is currently working on her Masters in Science in Child Development.

John Dantzler, PhD
Jefferson County Family Drug Court
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John Dantzler is an assistant professor in The University of Alabama's Department of Educational Studies in Psychology, Research Methods and Counseling in the College of Education. He currently teaches educational research methods courses for the University. Prior to his work in higher education, Dantzler was the owner of a program evaluation consulting firm. His fifteen years of work with this firm consisted of designing research and evaluation surrounding federally funded programs in higher education, K-12 education, mental health, low income housing, substance abuse prevention, criminal justice, HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, and public health. For the past 10 years he has worked with the UAB TASC program as the principal evaluator for their drug court, family drug court, adolescent drug court, and recovery oriented system of care programs. Dantzler has a Ph.D. in Educational Research with an emphasis in psychometrics and program evaluation.

Honorable William S. Owens
Wapello County Family Treatment Court
Ottumwa, Iowa

Judge William Owens was appointed as an Associate Juvenile Judge in November 1998. Judge Owens received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Kansas in May 1981, and his Juris Doctor degree from Drake University Law School in May 1984.

Prior to his appointment to the bench Judge Owens served as Assistant Monroe County Attorney from 1984-1989, and Monroe County Attorney from 1990-1998. At the time of his appointment to the bench Judge Owens

was President-Elect of the Iowa County Attorney's Association. Judge Owens also was engaged in the private practice of law until his appointment to the bench, and at the time of his appointment was a partner in the law firm of Owens & Albers, L.L.P.

Judge Owens currently serves as co-chair of the Iowa Supreme Court's Advisory Committee for Children's Justice; is a member of the State Council of the Iowa Supreme Court Commission for Children's Justice; and is chair of the Juvenile Judge Committee of the Iowa Judge's Association.

Judge Owens was the recipient of the Outstanding Contributor to Recovery Award from Harold Hughes Hall Association in Ottumwa, Iowa in 2007 for his work with drug courts. In 2008 Judge Owens received the Supreme Court of Iowa Court Innovation Award for initiating a Family Treatment Court in Wapello County that serves the five counties where Judge Owens serves as an Associate Juvenile Judge. In 2013 Judge Owens received the Harold E. Hughes, Exceptional Rural Professional - Award of Excellence. This award, is given annually by the National Rural Drug Abuse Network, and goes to a rural professional who exemplifies outstanding contribution to the rural alcohol and drug abuse field. In 2015 the Wapello County Family Treatment Court was selected as a National Peer Learning Court by Children and Family Futures, Inc., and United States Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Judge Owens is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, Iowa Judges Association, and National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

Judge Owens and his wife Heidi reside in Ottumwa, Iowa, and they have three daughters. Judge Owens is an avid runner and has competed in nine marathons.

Penny Clodfelter, LCSW, LMSW
Family Drug Court Program Manager
Jackson County Family Drug Court
Kansas City, MO
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Ms. Clodfelter is the Program Manager of the Jackson County Family Drug Court, Kansas City, Missouri and also coordinated the Linkage Project for the Court. From 1988 - 1993, she was employed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services as a Child Welfare Specialist. Ms. Clodfelter works part-time as a clinical social worker in the Emergency Department of Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City. She serves as faculty for the National Drug Court Institute, and a consultant for the Department of Justice and Health and Human Services. Ms. Clodfelter has a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Legal Studies from Illinois State University. She is a licensed clinical social worker in both Missouri and Kansas.

Ms. Clodfelter is a founding director of Amethyst Place and is currently on the Program Council after serving 12 years on the Board. She was elected and served two terms (2008-2014) on the Board of the Missouri Association of Drug Court Professionals. In 2008, Ms. Clodfelter was appointed to the Missouri Supreme Court Alternative Treatment Courts Committee.

Jill Murphy , MA, LICSW
Program Supervisor
King County Family Treatment Court
Seattle, WA
Jill.Murphy@kingcounty.gov

Jill Murphy is the Program Supervisor of Washington’s King County Family Treatment Court, a therapeutic court designed to assist chemically dependent parents who have lost custody of their children. She is also the Program Supervisor for the Parents for Parents Program in King County. This program pairs parents new to the dependency system with veteran parents to provide the new parents with additional support and education as they encounter the child welfare process. Prior to moving to Seattle, Mrs. Murphy worked for the Cook County Juvenile Court Clinic (CCJCC), where she facilitated requests for clinical information, evaluated parents’ ability to surrender their parental rights, and provided training and consulting on the CCJCC model. She has worked internationally helping legal professionals interview traumatized prisoners and conducting mental health evaluations for incarcerated men and women in Malawi. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Clinical Social Work from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago and is licensed in the State of Washington.

Joni Strange, BA
Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) Coordinator
Chatham County Family Dependency Treatment Court
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Joni Strange received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Community Service from Emory and Henry College where she received the Hope Award and Senior Service Award. While in college, she volunteered as a mentor, tutor, and community organizer. After the completion of her degree, Joni’s passion for serving families was ignited as she began working with children and families in her community as a Child Protective Services Investigator in rural Virginia. Following her move to Savannah, she transitioned to the position of Family Preservation Services Case Manager, working with families at high risk of having their children removed from their care, specifically those families affected by substance abuse and addiction. She currently serves as the Chatham County Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) Coordinator. Joni has been serving on the FDTC team for 3 years.