Taking Your Job Seriously and Yourself Lightly: The Positive Power of Humor

You have a very serious job that can affect and touch the lives of many people. It is important that you are a serious professional... and it is also important not to become a solemn professional. This keynote will include a combination of learning-filled, laughter-fueled, powerful principles to help you discover: the secret to finding humor in your life and work; reasons why you should be very serious about humor; how humor might enhance the quality of both your life and work; and potent personal and professional tips to tap the positive power of humor to improve your health, to build positive working relationships, and to tickle stress before it tackles you. Joel Goodman is a very popular speaker and director of The HUMOR Project, Inc. (www.HumorProject.com) in Saratoga Springs.

Monday, July 17, 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
The keynote will be preceded by welcoming remarks by state and local officials, followed by special recognition of Margaret A. Burt, Esq., Counsel to the NYPWA, and recipient of the ABA Center on Children and the Law's 2017 Mark Hardin Award. (See page 12 for more info.)

Presiding:
John Imhof, NYPWA President

Commissioners’ Meetings
We will be meeting with OCFS & OTDA commissioners and executive deputies on Monday afternoon. Throughout the conference, we will feature policy discussions developed by and for local commissioners. Our commissioners' breakfast and business meeting will be on Wednesday, followed by a meeting with the State Medicaid Director.

Social Workers’ CE Info - Page 13

Attorneys’ CLE Information - Page 14
Outside the Sandbox Redux: Reassessment of Child Care Subsidy Program Requirements

This interactive workshop is intended for local district staff and will focus on the following: review of process timeline for reassessment of child care subsidy program requirements; overview of recommendations from the 2017 Community Forums on child care requirements; and results of the subsidy program reassessment survey of districts (to be conducted in May/June 2017). We will also continue district discussion on: changes to improve the child care subsidy program, automated systems support, prioritization of changes, implementation issues, and updates on implementation of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.

Presenters:

Merideth Bastiani, Manager of the Child Care Subsidy Program, OCFS
George Ciezkowski, Children & Family Services Specialist 2, Child Care Subsidy Program, OCFS

How to Be Data Savvy in a Data Driven World

Ever wonder where you can find up-to-date information on child protective, foster care, adoption, and juvenile justice related services, outcomes and disparities? This presentation will provide an overview of the data packages and reporting products provided by the Office of Children and Family Services. Panel members will show attendees how to find and interpret key data reports, such as Monitoring and Analysis Profiles, Quarterly Comprehensive Report, CFSR outcomes, Foster Care Placement Trends, and Youth in Care. The presentation will also cover pre-defined reports accessible through the OCFS data warehouse that can be used to derive up-to-date information on admissions, in-care and discharged populations and improve data entry/quality.

Presenters:

Rebecca Colman, Ph.D., Director, Research, Evaluation and Performance Analytics, OCFS
Vajeera Dorabawila, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Research, Evaluation and Performance Analytics, OCFS
Lisa Gharth Y Ogundimu, Assistant Commissioner, OCFS
Claire Strohmeyer, Child Welfare and Community Services, OCFS

10:30 AM
Coffee Break • Sponsored by Conduent

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Welcome & Opening Address • Sponsored by Optum

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Luncheon • Sponsored by L-Tron Corporation

1:30 - 3:00 PM
Concurrent Sessions

State & Local Commissioners’ Dialogue

Commissioners of OTDA and OCFS, and their executive deputies, are invited to discuss current issues facing social services with local DSS commissioners. Local commissioners will convey information and ideas on issues of most importance to them for discussion. (Local commissioners will be meeting with the State Medicaid Director on Wednesday.) This meeting is limited to state and local commissioners.

Chaired by:
John Imhof, NYPWA President

Commissioners’ Coffee Break • Sponsored by KPMG LLP

Managing Child Support Arrears

This session will discuss the 2016 Arrears Pilot Initiative to Improve Child Support Compliance (15-ADM-07) from implementation to outcomes and will discuss lessons learned from that initiative that, along with other current and former initiatives, inform the development of a statewide arrears management policy.

Presenters:
Susanne Dolin, Bureau Chief for Policy, Planning and Training, OTDA Child Support Services
Aimee Furdyna, Special Assistant, Policy Bureau, OTDA Child Support Services
Rapid Permanency Reviews

NYC ACS has partnered with Casey Family Programs to implement Rapid Permanency Reviews (RPRs) of 2,500 children in foster care for more than two years. RPRs are a tool designed to 1) identify and mitigate case level and system level bottlenecks and barriers to permanency for children in foster care, and 2) identify best practices and bright spots that may be shared system-wide to improve permanency practices. The RPRs are different from Permanency Round Tables (PRT) and other similar qualitative reviews that rely heavily on extensive consultation to identify practice barriers. Instead, the RPRs use case record information to determine the critical junctures in the case and, in collaboration with the caseworker and supervisor, strategize on solutions for moving permanency forward. The target population are children who are deemed to be close to permanency by a review of data, but may not actually be close due to a variety of factors. Attendees will hear from Casey and ACS about the experience implementing and results from these reviews, and from Erie County DSS, which is currently planning to implement RPRs.

Presenters:
Russell Woods, Casey Family Programs
Julie Farber, Deputy Commissioner, Family Permanency Services, NYC ACS
Gavin Kasper, Assistant Commissioner - Administration, Erie County DSS

Celebrating Families

Celebrating Families is an intergenerational, cognitive behavioral group model for families in early recovery. The objectives are to break the cycles of chemical dependency and violence/abuse in families by increasing participant knowledge and use of healthy living skills; decrease participants use of alcohol and other drugs and reduce relapse by teaching all members of the family about the disease of chemical dependency and its impact on families; and positively influence family reunification by integrating recovery into daily family life and by teaching healthy parenting skills. Celebrating Families helps the whole family recover from the disease of addiction and have an opportunity to live a safe, healthy and happy life. Celebrating Families is a multi-family, strength-based, skills building program serving the whole family—children ages birth to 18, their substance abusing parents, and children’s caregivers. Each session begins with a healthy meal eaten in family groups, followed by 90-minute, age-appropriate, skill building groups, and ends with a 30 minute structured, related family activity. The curriculum includes information on brain chemistry, addiction, life skills, resilience and asset development.

Presenters:
Barbara Sorkin, Deputy Commissioner for Services, Ulster County DSS
Rob Rosenhaus, Project Manager, Statewide System Reform Program, NYS Office of Court Administration
Amy Cole, Program Coordinator, Family Services
Jenn Allen, Senior Caseworker, Ulster County DSS

Working with Exempt Individuals to Restore Self-Sufficiency

The Monroe County DHS Restoration to Self-Sufficiency Program (RSSP) works with exempt individuals to track treatments meant to restore them to employability. Internally and with our contract partner, CCSI, Inc., we are working to educate TA recipients as well as the provider community to the benefits of complying with treatment recommendations.

Presenters:
Elizabeth O’Brien, Financial Assistance Coordinator for Self-Sufficiency, Monroe County DHS
Tricia Chiavaroli, RSSP Project Director, Monroe County DHS

Using Automation to Improve Efficiency

The presenter will discuss ways NYC HRA is incorporating automation to improve efficiency and productivity. The systems to be discussed include an Automated Employee Personal Expense System—which automates and eliminates the paper W-717 expense form used by the agency and its employees. Another application (the E-SIF System) helps to electronically capture and store Imprest Fund / Non-Imprest Fund reimbursement and payment requests, approvals, and disbursement processes.

Presenter:
Harold M. Delaney, Deputy Commissioner, Fiscal Operations, NYC HRA

Raise the Age Legislation for Attorneys

This presentation will provide an overview of the Raise the Age legislation enacted in New York State in 2017, with a focus on aspects of most importance to local social services attorneys.
3:00 PM
Coffee Break • Sponsored by Northwoods

3:30 - 5:00 PM
Concurrent Sessions

Policy, Training, and Contract Administration Update
Workshop will discuss federal Final Rule, recently issued and developing policy guidance impacting districts, and updates on inter county workgroup. Discussion will also include recommendations from the training needs assessment and training updates. Finally, best practices and findings from the debit card transition will be discussed.

Presenters:
Eileen Stack, Assistant Deputy Commissioner and Director, OTDA Child Support Services
John McPhillips, Assistant Director, OTDA Child Support Services
Monique Rabideau, Assistant Director, OTDA Child Support Services
Susanne Dolin, Bureau Chief, OTDA Child Support Services
Larry Dole, Bureau Chief, OTDA Child Support Services
Jennifer Sherry, Bureau Chief, OTDA Child Support Services
Liz McGeough Gamache, Bureau Chief, OTDA Child Support Services

Working with Adult Service Clients: Focusing on the Interdependent Relationship Between the DA and Social Services
This workshop will focus on how two specific systems (District Attorney and Social Services) interact and engage with adult service clients, working towards creating an individualized plan to assist the elderly so they have safer abuse-free lives. Emphasis will be placed on effective communication and collaboration between both agencies, sharing information, confidentiality (under SSL 473-3) and creating trusting relationships. The workshop will also de-mystify the criminal justice process for social service providers and agency attorneys. The presenters will describe how APS can make an effective referral to the DA’s office and law enforcement, the type of information required to initiate a criminal investigation, useful interviewing techniques of victims, kinds of evidence of abuse that should be documented and preserved by APS and when police can and cannot make an arrest. Statutes governing the secrecy of grand jury proceedings will be highlighted, and penal law statutes that apply to older adults or disabled people being abused will be referenced.

Presenters:
Arlene Markarian, Esq., Unit Chief, Elder Abuse Unit, Nassau County District Attorney’s Office
Karen R. Garber, Esq., LMSW, Program Coordinator, Nassau County DSS
Sarah Smith, LCSW-R, BCD, APS Assistant Director, Nassau County DSS

Unveiling the New Child Welfare Foundations Training
OCFS will present the New Child Welfare Foundations training. Participants will discuss the paradigm shift and the responsibility of the districts and agencies to make the new program successful in improving New York State Practice. The opportunities the new program presents will be highlighted.

Presenters:
John Thompson, Principal Education Specialist, PDP
Laura Velez, Deputy Commissioner, OCFS
Eileen Tiberio, Commissioner, Ontario County DSS

Strategies for Improving Morale
Every LDSS says “morale is a problem...”, “how can we improve our morale...” There are no easy answers, however agencies can work together to cultivate a positive work environment. Attendees will hear how one district is addressing this issue. Panelists will discuss: How do you define morale; who is responsible; what can be done to improve it; and how can it be maintained? Clinton County will share an adapted tool and other strategies available to districts for addressing morale issues.

Presenters:
Ona Belser, Assistant Professor, SUNY Plattsburgh & Independent Consultant
Stephanie Clarke, Director of Staff & Organizational Development, Clinton County DSS
Rich Holcomb, Deputy Commissioner, Clinton County DSS
**Raising the Age in New York State**

This presentation will provide an overview of the Raise the Age legislation enacted in New York State in 2017. Presenters will discuss its impact on Local Social Services Districts and service providers and include a question and answer session with pertinent OCFS staff.

*Presenters:*
- Nina Aledort, Associate Commissioner, OCFS
- Lisa Ghartey Ogundimu, Assistant Commissioner, OCFS
- Deborah Davis, Acting Budget Director, OCFS
- Cassandra Kelleher-Donnaruma, Associate Attorney and Bureau Head, OCFS

**Two Local DSS Initiatives to Increase Efficiencies**

Cattaraugus County reorganized their HEAP Unit to provide better service while maintaining a manageable work environment for staff. Discussion will include the shifting of staff to build in more clerical support, the implementation of a central HEAP call-in system, and prioritizing work where the daily focus is on the most emergent cases, all while maintaining optimal customer service. Suffolk County DSS received a waiver from the State DOH to allow MA telephone renewals at the county level. A telephone recording system was purchased for quality assurance. Consumers schedule an appointment, and their MA renewal is completed via a phone call. This initiative has been well received by consumers as well as advocates. With appropriate waiver approval, this initiative could be exported to other program areas.

*Presenters:*
- Wendy Green, Chief Examiner, Cattaraugus County DSS
- James Sluder, Social Services Examiner IV, Suffolk County DSS

**5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Commissioners’ Reception**
*(LDSS Commissioners Only)*

**6:00 PM**

**Saratoga Dine-Around**

If you purchase a hotel and meal package or an individual ticket for Monday night dinner, you will receive a $35 dinner voucher. Please come to the NYPWA registration table for information on using your Dine-Around voucher at participating local restaurants on Monday evening.

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**Tuesday ■ July 18**

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM

**Breakfast Buffet**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Conference Registration**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Exhibit Area Open**

**9:00 - 10:30 AM**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**How NYC Department of Homeless Services Is Bringing Shelters into Compliance**

The New York City Department of Social Services’ Office of Regulatory Compliance and Accountability (ORCA) is tasked with overseeing Department of Homeless Service (DHS) compliance with state and local regulations for temporary shelter, and developing and implementing best practices to ensure that DHS fulfills one of its missions: providing client safety and shelter habitability. DSS will share its progress, as well as strategies and tools used to implement and track compliance within the NYC Shelter System.

*Presenters:*
- Saratu Grace Ghartey, Chief Program Accountability Officer, NYC DSS
- Shalini Gajadharsingh, Assistant Commissioner for Regulatory Compliance and Accountability, NYC DSS

**Long Term Care Update**

The Division of Long Term Care staff will discuss the roles of the local district, NY Medicaid Choice, and NY Connects relative to Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) and the Community First Choice Option (CFCO).

*Presenters:*
- Eric Henderson, Deputy Director, Division of Long Term Care, NYS DOH
- Deb Flora, Medical Assistance Specialist III, Division of Long Term Care, NYS DOH
- Karis Browder, Long Term Care Service Specialist II, Division of Long Term Care, NYS DOH
**Strategies for Improving Child Support Performance**

This workshop will be a facilitated conversation with local district child support staff to discuss best practices for improving program performance. Topics may include collections, customer service, and caseload management.

*Presenters:*
- **Monique Rabideau**, Assistant Director, OTDA Child Support Services
- **Karen Sicurelli**, Child Support Specialist 3, OTDA Child Support Services
- **Aimee Furdyna**, Special Assistant, Policy Bureau, OTDA Child Support Services

**Best Practices for Title IV-E Eligibility Determinations**

*Attendance is limited to LDSS staff.* This workshop will cover best practices to support current Title IV-E eligibility determinations. The workshop will offer technical assistance and guidance in preparation for the 2018 Title IV-E audit. It will be a panel presentation sharing the knowledge and expertise from Albany, Saratoga, Steuben, and Washington Counties. This workshop will be of benefit for persons working in children services as well as fiscal personnel.

*Presenters:*
- **Susan Burns**, Systems Supervisor, Albany County DCYF
- **Elizabeth Constantino**, Foster Care Supervisor, Saratoga County DSS
- **Lise Reynolds**, Deputy Commissioner, Steuben County DSS
- **Tracy Hudson**, Grade B Supervisor for Placement & Preventive Services, Washington County DSS

**Integrated Eligibility System Update**

Please join the IES Program team for an update on the program and upcoming milestones. The mission of the IES Program is to transform health and human service delivery through coordinated business practices, modernized technology, and strategic partnerships. **Vendors are prohibited from participating in this workshop.**

*Presenters:*
- **Deborah Buck**, Director, Integrated Eligibility System, NYS ITS
- **Dennis Packard**, IES Business Change Lead, Integrated Eligibility System, NYS ITS

**Case Law Update on CPS and Permanency Issues**

Hear the critical details on new case law in child welfare covering Abuse, Neglect, Dispositions, and Permanency Hearings.

*Presenter:*
- **Margaret Burt, Esq.**, Counsel to the NYPWA

10:30 AM

Coffee Break • Sponsored by CSRA, Inc.

**MA Eligibility Update**

Asset Verification System—is it detecting undiscovered resources? Learn about how AVS implementation is going, an update on the State Administration timeline, an update on federal activities around the ACA, and what the impact on Medicaid eligibility could be.

*Presenters:*
- **Judy Arnold**, Director, Division of Eligibility and Marketplace Integration, NYS DOH OHIP
- **Wendy Butz**, Director, Bureau of Medicaid Enrollment and Exchange Integration, Division of Eligibility and Marketplace Integration, NYS DOH OHIP
- **Eileen Brennan**, Medicaid Specialist, Bureau of Long Term Care/SSI-Related Population, NYS DOH OHIP

**Assessing Cultural Competence in the Delivery of Client-Focused Human Services**

The purpose of the presentation is to provide an overview on the benefits in promoting, creating/enhancing and implementing the delivery of culturally competent human services by taking inventory of the degree of culturally competent employees, services strategies and organizational policies/procedures. Participants will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with a three-pronged cultural competence assessment tool that assesses cultural competence on individual employee, service delivery and organization policy/procedural levels.

*Presenter:*
- **Marvela L. Guice**, M.S. Human Resources Management & Organization Development
Case Law Update on Foster Care, TPRs, and Adoptions
Hear the critical details on new case law in child welfare covering Foster Care, Terminations of Parental Rights, and Adoptions.

Presenter:
Margaret Burt, Esq., Counsel to the NYPWA

Strategies to Increase Collections
Given our large volume of cases (355,000), NYC takes a strategic approach to reviewing cases. This allows us to hone in on specific cases to move them to a productive status. This workshop will review the techniques that have led to increased collections, including specific practices such as improving employer compliance, resolving DMV discrepancies, and ensuring that critical data elements (SSNs) are accurate.

Presenter:
Michael Pocchia, Executive Director of Enforcement Operations, NYC HRA Office of Child Support Enforcement

County Budget Monitoring
Presenters will share samples of the tools that they use to monitor their county budgets. This session will explore approaches to tracking expenditures, preparing annual projections, estimating revenue, and identifying caseload trends. Counties use a variety of monthly reports, spreadsheets, and graphs for this purpose. The same tools are also used to guide the annual budget development process.

Presenters:
Kenneth Knappe, Director of Finance, Suffolk County DSS
Todd Craner, Fiscal Director, Orange County DSS
Donald Horan, Director of Administrative Services, Allegany County DSS

Building Casework Capacity through a Front Door, Collaborative Approach
Children’s Services Caseworkers begin their journey with DSS with a variety of life experiences, educational backgrounds and expertise in working with children and families. One common theme for caseworkers is their need for the training, support and the critical thinking skills necessary to reduce their workplace anxiety. The Jefferson County Department of Social Services has created a case-worker training program that enhances workers’ strengths, supports their needs, and in the end creates a pool of strong, competent and resourceful employees. This presentation will provide an in-depth look into the training program including tools for participants for use with their own staff.

Presenters:
Karen Mullin, Director of Services, Jefferson County DSS
Jessica Hyde, Senior Caseworker in CPS, Jefferson County DSS
Katie DeMarse, Senior Caseworker in Ongoing Children’s Services, Jefferson County DSS

Saratoga County Emergency Housing Project
With the rising costs of emergency housing, Saratoga County initiated an emergency housing project to reduce lengths of stays, reduce expenditures and assist recipients in locating permanent housing. A team was put together with representatives from the Administration, Temporary Assistance, Adult and Family Services, Accounting and Fraud units. The team meets monthly to review the case management efforts in working with the hard-to-serve population.

Presenters:
Concetta Hmura, Director of Services, Saratoga County DSS
Marisa Alber, Director of Eligibility, Saratoga County DSS
Keith Kirchhoff, Adult Services Supervisor, Saratoga County DSS
Monica Hulett, Principal Social Welfare Examiner, Saratoga County DSS
Laurie Fregeau, Senior Social Services Investigator, Saratoga County DSS

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 PM
Concurrent Sessions

Assessing Your Customer Focus: A Collaborative Effort
This presentation provides attendees a description of the presenters’ collaborative efforts, experiences, and reflections on the development and implementation of this method to assess the quality of service delivered to Nassau County Department
of Social Services (DSS) customers. Staff from DSS and members of its Advisory Council, comprised of individuals from community-based organizations and academic institutions, designed a survey that measures client satisfaction with DSS service delivery and the subsequent impact on policies and procedures. The purpose of this survey was to measure service delivery at key points during a client’s visit in order to assess service performance and provide diagnostics for performance improvement. The results will be used to improve service delivery for clients. This workshop describes this collaborative effort and presents the results of this study.

Presenters:
Elissa D. Giffords, DSW, LCSW, Professor LIU Post and Chair Nassau County DSS Advisory Council, Long Island University Post Social Work Department
Douglas A. Russell, PhD, Director of Quality Management, Research and Planning, Nassau County DSS
Jaclyn McCarthy, LMHC, CASAC, Program Director, Central Nassau Guidance

Fiscal Roundtable
Join local fiscal administrators and state staff from OCFS, OTDA, and DOH in a discussion of fiscal issues directly affecting social services districts.

Presenters:
Mary Bucca, Assistant Director, Bureau of Financial Services, OTDA
James Carroll, Assistant Director, Bureau of Financial Operations, OCFS
George Cusack, Program Research Specialist 4, NYS DOH

Succession Planning Using Multiple Strategies
Not unlike many other social services districts, Monroe County DHS is faced with the need to replace significant staff due to retirements. As 20, 30, and 40 year employees leave the agency, we have several initiatives underway to plan for their replacement and capturing some of their knowledge on the way out.

Presenters:
Christine Wolff, Financial Assistance Coordinator, Monroe County DHS
Cassie Gratton, Staff Development Coordinator, Monroe County DHS

Recognizing and Honoring the Burden and Dignity of Difference: Putting Mindfulness into Practice
Tara will facilitate an engaging crucial conversation with workshop participants centered on the intersectionality of race, ethnicity, culture and other “-isms” in her work with Westchester Building Futures, and beyond, focusing on how to better build relationship wealth with youth, young people and adults that we serve, as well as the experienced professionals that we work with day in and day out—all of whom may come from different and diverse backgrounds.

Presenter:
Tara Linh Leaman, JD, Program Director, Westchester Building Futures, Westchester County DSS

NYS Child Permanency Mediation
The workshop will review what child permanency mediation is, how the program works in NY State, benefits of the program and give examples of case types. A panel of participants will also accompany the presentation to give first-hand knowledge of their experiences of the child permanency mediation program.

Presenters:
Suzanne Shafer, MA, NYS Child Permanency Mediation Project Manager, Child Welfare Court Improvement Project
Honorable Julia Brouillette, Family Court Judge, Oneida County
Kim Conidi, Esq., Attorney, Erie County DSS
Kathleen Sullivan, Citizens Concerned for Children, Inc.
Alice Decker, Esq., Broome County Public Defender’s Office

Systems, State Disbursement Unit, and Program Operations Update
This workshop will provide information related to: systems updates and future enhancements; program operations—including best practices and findings from recent audits and Support Collection Unit projects; and update on State Disbursement Unit (SDU) operations and transition.

Presenters:
Eileen Stack, Assistant Deputy Commissioner and Director, OTDA Child Support Services
John McPhillips, Assistant Director, OTDA Child Support Services
What Do DSS Attorneys Need to Know about Good Quality CPS Investigations?

The panel will discuss the basic requirements under the regulations for CPS workers to respond to a SCR report. The state trainers for new CPS workers will describe what workers and supervisors are trained in regarding good practice in doing complete, quality investigations. The role of the DSS attorney in helping to decide policy issues and setting up procedures for such key things as taking and/or retaining field notes, photographs, texting and emailing with clients, and collection of physical evidence will be highlighted.

Presenters:
Margaret Burt, Esq., Counsel to the NYPWA
Mike McNally, Senior Manager, Center for Development of Human Services
Gene D. Skarin, Esq., Trainer, Center for Development of Human Services

Enhancing Oversight of Foster Boarding Homes

This workshop will highlight existing and proposed tools for enhancing oversight of foster boarding homes and for supporting foster parents. It will include a standardized template for application and home study and a component on CONNECTIONS functionality regarding CPS reports in foster care. The presenters will address roles and responsibilities of LDSS, voluntary agencies and OCFS regarding oversight and monitoring.

Presenters:
Lisa Gordon, Senior Director, Child Welfare and Community Services, OCFS
Jason DeSantis, Children and Family Services Manager, Child Welfare and Community Services, OCFS
Linda Gorthy, Upstate Implementation Lead, CONNECTIONS Project, ITS

Sneak Peek at the New Shelter Management System

This system will go live in January 2018 and will replace the existing manual shelter management processes to build a web based application that standardizes data collection and reporting, and supports a seamless end to end sharing of information statewide.

Presenters:
Cheryl Contento, Deputy Commissioner, OTDA
State & Local Child Support Administrators’ Meeting

Attendance is limited to LDSS & OTDA staff. OTDA Office of Child Well-Being Director, Eileen Stack, and additional CCWB staff will join local district child support staff to discuss outstanding child support issues.

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Cocktail Reception

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Buffet Dinner with Live Music by Made in the Shade

Wednesday ■ July 19

LDSS Commissioners’ Meetings

Presiding:
John Imhof, NYPWA President

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
Commissioners Only Networking Breakfast (Arrive by 8:15 AM)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Commissioners’ Meeting & Policy Discussion
President John Imhof will facilitate a discussion on issues that arose during the conference and other compelling topics of interest to local commissioners.

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Meeting with State Medicaid Director
President John Imhof will facilitate a meeting with Jason Helgerson, Deputy Commissioner, NYS DOH, on the Medicaid Transition.

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Wrap-Up

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM
Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Conference Registration

8:30 AM
Coffee Break • Sponsored by KPMG LLP

9:00 - 10:30 AM
Concurrent Sessions

Fostering Positive Team Dynamics for Supervisors

The research on effective supervision identifies numerous skills that a supervisor should possess. This session organizes these skills into five categories: Guiding the Work, Organizing the Work, Developing Your Staff, Managing Performance, and Managing Relations. A common thread runs through all of the skill dimensions – the ability to balance the goals of the organization with the needs of the work group. The supervisor is a link between management of the organization and the employees. The supervisor is accountable to management for getting the work done according to expectations, and to his or her employees for their well-being, and to him- or herself for his or her own development.

Presenter:
Denise Y. Schaller, Lead Trainer, Schaller Solutions

Monitoring the Implementation of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act

The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act created requirements to remove roadblocks for youth and foster families to improve outcomes for youth in many key areas. OCFS will give an overview of the proposed measures and methodology to monitor the statewide implementation of the law. OCFS is seeking to provide an opportunity for discussion and feedback from the field.

Presenters:
Nina Aledort, Associate Commissioner, OCFS
Katherine Jones, OCFS
**Practical Considerations for New Child Support Lawyers**

A panel from the Office of Legal Affairs will provide a survey of the responsibilities of an attorney representing the child support enforcement unit. The session will cover the basic actions and proceedings, with practical tips for attorneys new to child support (i.e., discovery tips, case file preparations, trial tactics, etc.)

**Presenters:**

**Brian S. Wootan, Esq.,** Deputy Counsel, OTDA Office of Legal Affairs  
**Edward W. Stano, Esq.,** Associate Counsel, OTDA Office of Legal Affairs  
**Nikita M. Valcik, Esq.,** Senior Attorney, OTDA Office of Legal Affairs  
**Elizabeth Barbanes, Esq.,** Senior Assistant County Attorney, Westchester County Law Department

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
**State & Local Attorneys’ Meeting**

Local district attorneys will meet with **Krista Rock, Esq.,** General Counsel, and other OTDA attorneys, as well as **Daniel Tarantino, Esq.,** Director, Bureau of Health Insurance Programs, Division of Legal Affairs, NYS DOH.

**Facilitator:**  
**Paula Engel, Esq.,** Onondaga County Department of Law

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**Margaret A. Burt, Child Welfare Attorney, Winner of National Award**

Congratulations to Margaret A. Burt, recipient of the prestigious Sixth Annual Mark Hardin Award for Child Welfare Legal Scholarship and Systems Change, presented by the Center on Children and the Law of the American Bar Association at their national conference on April 27, 2017. We will recognize Margaret’s achievement during our opening ceremonies.

The award is named for the longtime director of child welfare at the Center on Children and the Law in honor of his history as an early innovator in that field. The award is given to an attorney, law professor, judge, or legislator who has shown achievement and commitment to legal scholarship and systems change, such as authoring child welfare legislation, leading a child welfare agency through major system change or having a key role in litigation that resulted in major system change.

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**Take Advantage of Our Group Discount for LDSS – 6th Registrant Is Free!**
NYS Licensed Social Workers’
Continuing Education Information

As of January 1, 2015, each New York State Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) and Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) must complete 36 hours of approved continuing education courses during each three-year registration period.

NYPWA will be offering sessions that are eligible for Social Work Continuing Education credits starting with two sessions (1.5 credits each) at our summer conference.

• Working with Adult Service Clients: Focusing on the Interdependent Relationship Between the DA and Social Services

• Assessing Your Customer Focus: A Collaborative Effort

These sessions have been certified by the University at Albany School of Social Welfare Continuing Education Program. Participants who wish to earn credits must make a payment of $30 per person, per workshop directly to the University (not to the NYPWA). Details are provided at the links below.

You will need to register for the conference through the NYPWA in addition to registering for the credits through the University at Albany. Please use the following links to register for each course with the University at Albany:

Working with Adult Service Clients: Focusing on the Interdependent Relationship Between the DA and Social Services
http://tinyurl.com/kfeze77

Assessing Your Customer Focus: A Collaborative Effort
http://tinyurl.com/ll3ehkv

Please note that while we are offering continuing education credits for LMSWs and LCSWs, these workshops are open to all conference attendees.

Do NOT pay the $30 add-on fee for credits if you are not a licensed social worker.

Thanks to John Imhof, NYPWA President and Commissioner of Nassau County DSS, and his team, for spearheading this initiative on behalf of all of our attendees who are seeking to meet these educational requirements.

We will be pursuing workshops proposals to qualify for these credits at future NYPWA conferences.
Attorneys’ CLE Information

Attorneys may earn up to 12.0 CLEs by attending eight workshops.

NYPWA will be providing CLEs for:

- **Raise the Age Legislation for Attorneys** (1.5 CLEs)
- **Working with Adult Service Clients: Focusing on the Interdependent Relationship Between the DA and Social Services** (1.5 CLEs)
- **Case Law Update on CPS and Permanency Issues** (1.5 CLEs)
- **Case Law Update on Foster Care, TPRs, and Adoptions** (1.5 CLEs)
- **What DSS Attorneys Need to Know about Good Quality CPS Investigations** (1.5 CLEs)

OTDA will be providing CLEs for:

- **Ethics for Government Attorneys** (1.5 CLEs in Ethics & Professionalism)
- **Practical Considerations for Child Support Lawyers** (1.5 CLEs)

The NYS Judicial Institute will be providing CLEs for:

- **NYS Child Permanency Mediation** (1.5 CLEs)

Please arrive to sessions early for CLE check-in.

Handouts for legal workshops will be posted at www.NYPWA.org for you to review and choose which documents to download to your laptop or tablet or print out and bring to the conference.

Attorneys must attend in-person to participate and to qualify for CLEs. Both attorneys and non-attorneys must bring handouts for legal sessions if they wish to have them at the conference.

Documents will be posted in July 2017, approximately one week prior to the conference.

To access documents, click the "conferences" button on our website, and then click on "legal track handouts."

All CLEs are in Areas of Professional Practice, unless otherwise noted.

All sessions are suitable for transitional and non-transitional attorneys.

The NYPWA Financial Assistance Policy for Continuing Legal Education

The cost of CLE credits is waived for all social services attorneys who are county or NYC government employees. Attorneys may also request to have the entire conference registration fee waived based on financial hardship criteria. To apply, attorneys must submit a letter authorized by the local social services commissioner, explaining in detail why this training is essential to them and include the unique circumstances on why the agency and the attorney do not have the fiscal resources to cover the total fee. The letter should include a request for a specific discount (e.g., 25%, 50%, or 75%) based on need. Financial aid does not cover travel, hotel rooms or meals. Applications for CLE financial assistance should be sent to info@nypwa.org.
REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete the Conference Registration form (upper portion) with all applicable information, and return the form to the New York Public Welfare Association office with your voucher, check, or credit card information.

2. Meals ARE included with multi-night hotel packages at The Saratoga Hilton. If you want to order meals only, and do not need lodging, use the “Meals Order Form” below. Send it, with payment, directly to the NYPWA by Friday, June 16, 2017. Please note: meals are NOT included with the cost of conference registration; they must be purchased separately. Multi-night hotel package meal tickets will be available at The Saratoga Hilton Registration Desk under the name listed on the hotel registration form. Tickets purchased with the Meals Order Form below will be available at the NYPWA Registration Desk.

3. Carefully read the Hotel Reservation Policy, noting that the cut-off date for hotel registration is Friday, June 16, 2017.

4. Complete the Hotel Registration form with all applicable information — be sure to check the correct rooming package and return the form to The Saratoga Hilton. (One night reservations will be accommodated at the Courtyard by Marriott.)

PRICE SELECTION

MONDAY, JULY 17
- Breakfast: $26.90
- Lunch: $35.40
- Dine-Around Meal Voucher: $35.00

TUESDAY, JULY 18
- Breakfast: $26.90
- Lunch: $35.40
- Dinner Buffet: $53.70

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
- Breakfast: $26.90

Please inform your server at each meal of any special dietary needs.

Please submit conference registration and/or meals form with payment to:
NEW YORK PUBLIC WELFARE ASSOCIATION • 130 WASHINGTON AVENUE • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12210
PHONE: 518-465-9305 • FAX: 518-465-5633
To reserve a hotel room, please fill out the form below and mail or fax it to the hotel no later than Friday, June 16, 2017. Please review the hotel reservation policy carefully before sending in your reservation.

**HOTEL RESERVATION POLICY:** This form must be used. All hotel reservations must be received by The Saratoga Hilton no later than Friday, June 16, 2017, at which time the NYPWA room block will be released. Hotel reservations made after Friday, June 16, 2017, will be accepted subject to availability. Reservations cannot be accepted by telephone. **All rooms must be guaranteed with a credit card or advance deposit.** Check-in time is 4:00 pm. The Saratoga Hilton will facilitate storage of luggage if necessary. Check out time is 11:00 am. Please use one form per reservation.

**CONFIRMATIONS:** Hotel room confirmation will be e-mailed directly to you from The Saratoga Hilton. E-mail confirmations will not reflect tax exempt status.

**TAX EXEMPT DOCUMENTATION:** Tax exempt certificate ST-129 signed by the occupant is required when paying by check, credit card, or voucher (one voucher per person).

**MEAL TICKETS:** If you have selected a package that includes meal tickets, they will be available at The Saratoga Hilton Registration Desk upon arrival. The meal tickets will be addressed to the attendee listed on the reservation.

**HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY:** To avoid a charge, reservations MUST be cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival.

**NOTE:** If you reserve a double room and your roommate cancels, you will be responsible for paying the single room rate. Package rates are subject to applicable taxes. If tax exempt, tax exempt certificate ST-129 signed by the occupant must be presented prior to check-in.

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**RESERVATION INFORMATION (Please Type or Print)**

**NAME:** ____________________________________________

**COUNTY/AGENCY:** ____________________________________

**ADDRESS:** __________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

**EMAIL:** ____________________________________________

**TELEPHONE:** _________________  **FAX:** _________________

**ARRIVAL DATE:** __________    **DEPARTURE DATE:** __________

**GUARANTEE TYPE**

☐ CHECK (ENCLOSED)    ☐ CREDIT CARD

☐ MASTERCARD    ☐ VISA

**CREDIT CARD:** ________________________  **EXPIRES:** __________

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**THE SARATOGA HILTON**

**ATTN: RESERVATIONS**

534 BROADWAY • SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK 12866

TEL: 518-584-4000, EXT 602 OR 603 • FAX: 518-584-7430

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**PACKAGE 1: SUN ARRIVAL - WED DEPARTURE**

Includes 3 nights’ lodging; Monday - breakfast, lunch, dinner; Tuesday - breakfast, lunch, dinner buffet; Wednesday - breakfast

☐ Single Occupancy........................$765.00

☐ Double Occupancy......................$1,014.00 ($507.00 per person)

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**PACKAGE 2: SUN ARRIVAL - TUES DEPARTURE**

Includes 2 nights’ lodging; Monday - breakfast, lunch, dinner; Tuesday - breakfast, lunch

☐ Single Occupancy........................$509.44

☐ Double Occupancy......................$674.88 ($337.44 per person)

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**PACKAGE 3: MON ARRIVAL - WED DEPARTURE**

Includes 2 nights’ lodging; Monday - lunch, dinner; Tuesday - breakfast, lunch, dinner buffet; Wednesday - breakfast

☐ Single Occupancy........................$563.12

☐ Double Occupancy......................$782.24 ($391.12 per person)

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**ROOM ONLY**

Attendees who wish to stay one night only will be accommodated at the nearby Courtyard by Marriott Saratoga Springs. The special conference room rate will be $172.00 single or double occupancy. Please fax reservation forms to the Courtyard at 518-226-0542.

**PLEASE USE THE MEAL ORDER FORM TO ORDER MEALS.**

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Please call NYPWA at 518-465-9305 with any questions.