8:00-9:00 a.m.
Registration

9:00-10:30 a.m.
Milton Creagh
Founder, ML Creagh and Associates, LLC; Motivational Speaker
KEYNOTE: If It Takes A Village To Raise A Child, Have You Taken A Look At The Village Lately?
Remember when you were growing up, everyone in your neighborhood, school, and community knew you and your family. My, my, how things have changed. Back in the day, we used to sit around and “watch” the radio. Have you heard what’s coming out of the radio these days? Let’s take a look at what your village is doing to watch over our children.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.
Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Detention Reform: An Overview of JDAI and Best Practices
Honorable Judge Daniels, Douglas County Separate Juvenile Court
Raquel Mariscal, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Sr. Consultant/Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Management Team
Corey Steel, Juvenile Specialist, Office of Probation Administration

For two decades, jurisdictions around the country have been safely reducing reliance on secure detention and transforming their juvenile justice systems by participating in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). Recently, Douglas County chose to join the JDAI network and has begun assessing the detention component of their system and planning for change. This workshop is an overview of the JDAI approach to detention reform, including practical innovations from other JDAI sites and best practices. Local stakeholders will describe successes and challenges in establishing the foundation for change.

Juvenile Justice System Overview
Honorable Larry Gendler, Sarpy County Separate Juvenile Court
Dennis Marks, Sarpy County Public Defender
Gary Brollier, Sarpy County Deputy County Attorney

This session will examine the different phases of juvenile justice cases in Nebraska. We will look at delinquency and status offenses as well as abuse/neglect cases. How do juvenile justice cases begin? How and why are they charged and prosecuted? What is involved in defending a juvenile or their parent? What is the role of the judge before and after adjudication? What goes into a disposition? This panel will discuss these issues and hopefully answer any questions you might have about juvenile justice cases from initiation, adjudication, and disposition.

Mentoring: A Strength-Based Strategy for Empowering Youth to Fulfill Their Fullest Potential!
Pete Ferguson, Youth Development Coordinator
Tri-Mentoring Partnership Specialist, Lincoln Public Schools Federal Programs

This session will focus on core strategies and strength-based approaches to address a multicultural student population. We will examine how various strength-based mentoring approaches (traditional site, community, and group) impact academic and life outcomes of youth with increased chances of being impacted by the juvenile justice system. During this interactive workshop, we will examine how to increase the impact of various mentoring formats, introduce creative solutions to address the waiting list dilemma, and myth that we can’t recruit enough qualified mentors to serve our population! The Lincoln Public Schools culturally specific Group Mentoring and Empowerment Initiative will be profiled as an intervention and prevention strategy. This session will be hands-on, and participants will leave re-inspired to empower others to fulfill their fullest potential.
Sudanese Culture and Juvenile Justice – Bridging the Gap
Khamisa Abdalla, Nypiat Ayok, Dech Machar, Sudanese Advocates

Since the 1990s refugees have been fleeing Sudan, and some have found a new home in Lincoln. Their resettlement and adaptation to American culture and systems has been at times challenging. Three Sudanese refugees, who have devoted themselves to serving as cultural liaisons for the community and bridging the gap between cultures, will discuss their work as advocates for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and their perspective on delinquency among the Sudanese youth.

Awards Luncheon - Presentation of the Service to Youth and Scholarship winners

Clay Roberts
Entrepreneur, Author, Consultant, and National Speaker
KEYNOTE: What Young People Need to Succeed

Clay will engage the audience in learning about the power of the 40 Developmental Assets. Participants will gain a greater understanding of the need for the 40 Developmental Assets among hard-to-reach youth.

Break

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Building Assets With Young People Who Are Challenging
Clay Roberts, Entrepreneur, Author, Consultant, and National Speaker

Clay will provide participants with effective skills and strategies on “HOW TO” utilize the 40 Developmental Assets, when working with challenging youth. This session is for professionals looking for skills that will increase protective factors while decreasing risk factors among the youth they are serving.

Fundamentals of Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System
Michael Finley, Sr. Program Associate, W. Haywood Burns Institute
Raquel Mariscal, AECF, Sr. Consultant/JDAI Management Team

This workshop will provide a general understanding of many of the issues related to the problem of racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system. Presenters will address issues such as: (1) determining whether and to what extent disparities exist; (2) identifying target populations for detention reforms that will reduce racial and ethnic disparities in detention utilization; and (3) analyzing how policies, practices, and procedures may disparately affect youth of color. The workshop is designed to increase the capacities of local jurisdictions to organize and champion efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile detention.

Cyber-bullying: R U rdy?
Susan M. Swearer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of School Psychology and Licensed Psychologist
Co-Director, Nebraska Internship Consortium in Professional Psychology, UNL

Cyber-bullying is on the rise among elementary, middle, and high school students. In this presentation participants will learn about different forms of bullying and will understand the influence that technology is having on bullying behaviors. Participants will learn strategies for recognizing and responding to cyber-bullying.

The Mine Field of Special Education Services for Youth
Tanya Wright, Assistant Superintendent and Special Education Director for Boys Town

This session will provide information regarding special education needs and services for youth. During the session, special education paperwork, services, educational placements, and funding will be addressed. Current legislation in Nebraska will also be covered, as well as time for Q&A at the end of the session.

Networking Reception Hors d’oeuvres and networking, with a chance to win great door prizes!
Continental Breakfast

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Dealing With Gang Members
Victor M. Gonzalez, Jr., Gang Consultant

This speaker will discuss techniques to establish rapport and develop trust with gang members, and the importance of understanding gang dynamics, signs, symbols and gang activity in your community. He will address how professionals can be more effective when dealing with the street gang culture and community to assist with their everyday duties as law enforcement, criminal justice, and corrections professionals. He will also present on some practical strategies for collaboration and information sharing among agencies to reduce gang activity. The importance of having prevention, intervention and suppression strategies working simultaneously will be stressed in this session.

How to Win the Powerball ... Prevention and Criminal Justice Hitting the Jackpot!!
Nebraska Partners in Prevention; Community Coalitions

Participants will leave with a greater understanding of substance abuse prevention coalitions that have been developed throughout Nebraska. A panel of coalition leads from around Nebraska will discuss capacity and sustainability challenges and successes within their respective communities. Juvenile Justice is a key stakeholder for all coalitions. Effective strategies and barriers will be identified as well as data-driven strategic planning, inclusive of effective strategies that will benefit prevention, treatment, and criminal justice entities.

The Nebraska Juvenile Service Delivery Project: Providing Options – Expediting Services
Amy Latshaw, Juvenile Justice Specialist, Office of Probation Administration
Kristi Lesley, Juvenile Justice Resource Supervisor, District 4J Probation, Douglas County

This innovative project, an interagency agreement between the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Probation Administration, increases service accessibility to juveniles on probation. The project piloted in Douglas County in 2009 has provided the Judiciary an option to utilize probation in juvenile cases, rather than becoming wards of the State strictly for access to services. Outcomes being shown by the project are providing information for statewide juvenile justice system benefits.

Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center: Implementing Change
Dr. Mindy Abel, YRTC-K Psychologist
Jana Peterson, YRTC-K Facility Administrator

Dr. Mindy Abel and Facility Administrator Jana Peterson will discuss programming and discipline components that are occurring at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center in Kearney. They will briefly discuss the history, mission, youth profile, and guiding principles of YRTC-K. During this session they will discuss motivational interviewing techniques they utilize while working with the youth. The program that they are in the process of implementing is the EQUIP Program.

Break

Victor M. Gonzales, Jr.
Gang Consultant
KEYNOTE: Dealing With Gang Members

Victor M. Gonzales, Jr. has 20 years experience working with high-risk youth, including 15 years working directly with youth involved with Houston area gangs. This work included substance abuse intervention, recreation, and various prevention programs. For six years, Victor worked as a gang intervention specialist and program manager for the Association for the Advancement of Mexican American’s Barrios Unidos Youth Program, the only state-funded gang intervention program serving the heavily gang-impacted East End.
# 2011 Annual Conference

**May 12 & 13, 2011 • Kearney Holiday Inn**

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- ☐ Early Bird Conference Fee @ $75 (Payment must be received before May 2, 2011 to receive Early Bird rate)
- ☐ Student Conference Fee @ $50

Registration is confirmed upon receipt of payment. Walk-ins are welcome, but space is not guaranteed.

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