

South Jersey Finding Solutions for Kids

Monday, September 27, 2021 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Live from Eynon Ballroom at Rowan University, and Via Zoom

9:00 Registration

9:30 Welcome: Mary Coogan, Vice President, ACNJ

Data Presentation: A County Profile of Child Well-Being

Alana Vega, Kids Count Coordinator, ACNJ

Panel Discussion: Older Youth and COVID-19

Moderator: Mary Coogan, ACNJ

Panelists: Charles Goldstein, L.C.S.W., Executive Director, Salem County Inter-Agency Council of

Human Services

Chiara Latimer, Autism PATH Coordinator, Office of Career Advancement, Rowan

University

Elizabeth Schopfer, Program Supervisor, Functional Family Therapy, Cape May & Atlantic

Counties, Acenda Integrated Health

John Woodruff, Director, Academic Success Center & Disability Resources, Rowan

University

Panel Discussion: Young Children, Their Parents and COVID-19

Moderator: Alana Vega, ACNJ

Panelists: Gina Hoffman, Director of Infant and Early Childhood Health, Acenda Integrated Health

Barbara May, Director of Policy and Program Development, Southern New Jersey Perinatal

Cooperative

Election Advocacy &

Closing Remarks: Mary Coogan, ACNJ

Share pictures on social media. Tag @ACNJforKIDS and share thoughts and comments using #KIDSCOUNT and #NJVOTES4KIDS. A special thanks to our partners at Acenda Integrated Health and Rowan University.

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Giving Every Child A Chance

Guest Speakers



Charles "Chuck" Goldstein, L.C.S.W., is the Executive Director of the Salem County Inter-Agency Council of Human Services. He is also a part-time lecturer at the Rutgers Graduate School of Social Work. Chuck has over 40 years of clinical and administrative practice. He has worked with a variety of populations, including mental health needs of all ages, substance abuse, developmental disabilities and the elderly. He has held the positions of Director of Social Work in psychiatric hospitals, Program Director of a residential treatment facility, Clinic Director of an outpatient clinic and Chief Operating Officer of a private practice. He was the CEO of CGS Family Partnership, the care management organization for Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties. Chuck is a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). He has chaired many committees

in New Jersey, including the New Jersey Youth Suicide Advisory Board.



Gina Hoffman is the Director of Infant and Early Childhood Health at Acenda Integrated Health. She oversees CGS Central Intake, ECCS COIIN, Healthy Families (HFA) and Parents as Teachers (PAT) within the Division of Prevention, Youth and Education Services. In this role, Gina develops strong partnerships with local organizations, schools, doctors and hospital systems to promote holistic care for new moms and babies throughout pregnancy and the first few years of the child's life. She is passionate about supporting the needs of local children and families through evidence-based home visiting models and providing compassionate care. Gina has extensive experience analyzing data trends and program outcomes to ensure continuous quality improvement of Acenda's maternal health services and to maintain HFA Accreditation and PAT Blue Ribbon Affiliate status. Previously, Gina was the program supervisor of Acenda's

Glassboro-based Mosaic Family Success Center, where she established and stewarded community partnerships to support families and individuals living in Southern New Jersey.

Gina is Brazelton Touchpoint-certified and has completed the Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey's educational series focused on the development of management skills and model implementation for evidenced-based home visiting programs, specifically Parents as Teachers and Healthy Families. Outside of the office, Gina is an active member of the Healthy Families Operations Committee, reviewing and influencing policy change for Healthy Families of American programming throughout New Jersey. Gina holds a Bachelors of Arts in Communication Studies with a specialization in Rhetoric/Cultural Studies from Rowan University.



Chiara Latimer is the Coordinator of the Autism PATH Career Program at Rowan University. This program is designed to support the transition of neurodiverse students from higher education into meaningful employment. Chiara has dedicated ten years of her career to supporting neurodiverse students in clinical and educational settings. Upon the completion of her Masters in Family Therapy at Drexel University, Chiara focused on providing therapeutic services to individuals on the Autism Spectrum. With the growth of neurodivergent students entering higher education, Chiara began teaching courses on career development and self-advocacy skills as an adjunct faculty member. In addition, she supported students and faculty in the implementation of academic accommodations. Chiara currently serves on the Neurodiversity Taskforce and Council for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Rowan University.

She is also the co-chair of the Neurodiversity Affinity Group for the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers. With a focus on career readiness and employer education, Chiara continues to promote the importance of empathy and inclusion in the workplace. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership in higher education.



Barbara May, R.N., M.P.H., is the Director of Policy and Program Development for the Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative, a licensed, regional Maternal and Child Health Consortium with offices in Pennsauken, Camden and Atlantic City. She is responsible for the development, implementation and ongoing quality management of regional and state programs, including statewide replication of successful projects. Barbara provides leadership to state and federally-funded maternal and child health (MCH) and early childhood projects and home visitation teams in southern New Jersey as they develop care management and evaluation tools. She is also responsible for oversight of Fetal and Infant Mortality Review, a member of the Southern New Jersey Child Fatality Review Board. She co-chairs the Governor's Council for the Prevention of

Developmental Disabilities Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Task Force and Advocates for Children of New Jersey's Pritzker Infant and Toddler Home Visiting Workgroup.

Barbara has been employed by the Southern NJ Perinatal Cooperative since 1985. She received her B.S. in Nursing from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina and her Master's in Public Health from the UMDNJ School of Public Health, now Rutgers University.



Elizabeth Schopfer is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), working as a Bilingual Program Supervisor in the Functional Family Therapy Program (FFT) at Acenda Integrated Health. She has previously worked at Acenda as a Mobile Response Outreach and Case Manager Team Lead as well as a therapist at the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, where she assesses risk, de-escalates crisis and coordinates care with system partners. She has also collaborated and assessed care with the Emergency Department at Jefferson Health Systems in Washington Township for children and adolescents experiencing suicidal and homicidal ideation. She is certified in school counseling in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Elizabeth has spoken at the New Jersey School Counselor Association, New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addictions Agencies. Gloucester County EMS Symposium, NJ State Department of Education, Ambassador Christian Academy, The Greater Philadelphia Trauma Training Conference, 8th and 9th Annual Center for Sleep and Circadian Neurobiology Research Retreat and Rider University on topics ranging from Suicide Risk, Mental Health and Trauma, Wellness and Stress Management as well as Anti-Human Trafficking.

Elizabeth volunteers as a Traumatic Loss Coalition Lead Response Team member, and a Disaster Response Crisis Counselor in Gloucester County, as well as Board Secretary at Calvary Hill Church. Elizabeth obtained a B.A. in Psychology with Distinction and a Certificate in Spanish from the University of Pennsylvania in 2013, in addition to a M.S.Ed. in Counseling and Mental Health Services in 2014 and a M.Phil.Ed. in Counseling and Mental Health Services in 2015, also from the University of Pennsylvania



John Woodruff is Director of the Academic Success Center and Disability Resources at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. He coordinates campus services for students with disabilities and manages transitions for students entering college. John holds an M.S. in Health Education from St. Joseph's University and a B.S. in Business Administration from St. Francis University (Loretto, Pennsylvania). John is the co-author of a book with Dr. Michelle Kowalsky entitled, *Creating Inclusive Library Environments*. His most recent activities include outreach to faculty and students to increase empathy for the varying needs of students; development of year-round speaker programs, activities and events to promote understanding on campus and in the local community; and leadership of faculty-led and community—led strategic partnerships for inclusion, training and

mentoring. John's professional career reflects over thirty-eight years of education, training, administration and management of employment and training programs for persons with disabilities.

KIDS COUNT is a national and state-by-state statistical effort to track the state of children in the United States, sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) is a statewide child research and action organization and the New Jersey Kids Count grantee.