



**The Arizona Chapter of the AFCC
Presents**

The 40th Annual Conference

INNOVATIVE INTERVENTIONS FOR DIVERSE FAMILIES



**JANUARY 20 - 22, 2023
SEDONA, AZ**



The Arizona Chapter of the AFCC

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

About Us

The Arizona Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts ("AzAFCC") is a non-profit organization committed to professional excellence and improving the lives of children and families. AzAFCC members enjoy all of the benefits received by joining AFCC's international organization and special programs and information tailored to be locally relevant.

Mission

The AFCC is an interdisciplinary association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict. AFCC promotes a collaborative approach to serving the needs of children and those who work in and with family law systems, encouraging education, research, and innovation, and identifying best practices. AzAFCC employs the mission of AFCC.

Join Today!

As a member of the AFCC, you receive:

- Discounts on registration for Chapter and International conferences, symposia, trainings, and other educational events
- AFCC Journal: Family Court Review
- A list of AFCC publications and pamphlets
- Access to the Members Only internet discussion groups on critical issues in family law
- Access to the Members Only member directory to connect with professionals around the world!

To join, you must simultaneously join AFCC by registering online at: <https://members/afccnet.org/become-a-member>

Current Member Rates

	AFCC:	AzFCC:
Individual:	\$160	\$50
Student:	\$25	\$10
Institutional:	\$390	\$60

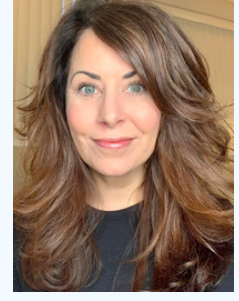
2022-2023 AzAFCC Board of Directors



President
Sidney Buckman, MA.
Flagstaff



President-Elect
Robert DiCarlo, PhD
Phoenix



Vice President
Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW
Phoenix



Secretary
Karey O'Hara, PhD
Phoenix



Treasurer
Caroline Shanholtz, PhD
Phoenix



Past President
Norma Izzo, JD
Phoenix

Tucson

Joi Hollis, PhD

Beth Winters, MA

Hon. John J. Assini

Susan Winder, MSW

Negar Katirai, JD

Phoenix

David Weinstock, JD, PhD

Malia Santilla, JD, LLM

Lisa Dodd, LPC

Colleen Sullivan, MS
Student Representative

Yuma

Nancy Gray-Eade, MBA

Flagstaff

Benjamin L. Deguire, JD

Interested in joining our board? Email arizonaafcc@gmail.com

We currently have 5 open positions!



Registration Information

Conference Pricing:

Early Bird Member	\$300.00
Early Bird Non-Member	\$350.00
Member	\$350.00
Non-member	\$400.00
Student	\$200.00
Speaker	\$260.00
Certificate of Attendance	\$15.00
Non-Attendee Meals	\$305.00
<i>Pre-Conference Institute</i>	
Member	\$150.00
Non-member	\$180.00
Student	\$50.00

***Register Before
January 1st for the
Early Bird Rate!***

**Click Below to
Register:**

REGISTER

Continuing Education (CE) & Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Credits

Participants may apply for CE and CLE credits, including ethics credits. The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content.



Conference Schedule

Friday, January 20th

12:00 pm - 6:00 pm	REGISTRATION
12:45 pm - 5:00 pm	PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE: <i>Identifying and Understanding Coercive Control</i> Tommy Black, PhD, LPC & Gina Loretelli
6:00 pm - 7:15 pm	WELCOME REMARKS: Sid Buckman, MA PLENARY: <i>Interactive Discussion on Future Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities for AzAFCC</i> Drs. Joi Hollis, Robert DiCarlo, Caroline Shanholtz
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	RECEPTION AND DINNER
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm	HOSPITALITY SUITE CANCELLED

Saturday, January 21st (Morning)

7:30 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST BUFFET
8:30 am - 10:00 am	PLENARY: <i>FIT Program</i> Hon. Bruce Cohen & Karey O'Hara, PhD
10:00 am - 10:15 am	BREAK
10:15 am - 10:30 am	STATE OF AFCC Mindy Mitnick, EdM, MA
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	PLENARY: <i>The Traumatized Child</i> Mindy Mitnick, EdM, MA
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	LUNCH (On Your Own)



Conference Schedule

Saturday, January 21st (Afternoon)

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

WORKSHOPS:

A1: Applying Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy via Telehealth to Latine Families

Caroline Shanholtz, PhD & Yuliana Fernandez, BA

A2: Nine Years of Making Equal Parenting Time Work for Individual Families: Lessons Learned and Strategies Developed in Arizona

Faren Akins, PhD, Tracy McElroy, MA, Michael Aaron, JD, Hon. John Assini & William Fabricius, PhD

A3: 10 Things Clinicians and Lawyers Should Know About DCS

Gregg Woodnick, Esq & Hon. Suzanne Nicholls

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

BREAK

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

WORKSHOPS:

B1: Infusing Respect and Trust Between Co-Parents: A Research-Based Approach to Technology in Co-Parenting

Robert DiCarlo, PhD, Michael Saini, MSW, PhD, Katrina Volker, & Matt Havrevold

B2: Using Social Science to Understand Credibility Discounting in Family Law Cases with IPV

Kelly Behre, JD, Deborah Goldfarm, JD, PhD, & Amelia Mindthoff, PhD





Conference Schedule

Saturday, January 21st (Afternoon)

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>B3: COBI: An Update on Effectiveness and Practical Suggestions to Maximize Utility</i> Hon. Bruce Cohen & David Weinstock, JD, PhD
5:15 pm - 5:45 pm	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	DINNER (On Your Own) SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT DINNER
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm	HOSPITALITY SUITE CANCELLED

Sunday, January 22nd

7:30 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST BUFFET
8:30 am - 9:30 am	PLENARY: <i>Interactive Ethical Scenarios</i> Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Hon. Suzanne Nicholls, Kiilu Davis, JD, David Weinstock, JD, PhD, Jamie Picus, PsyD, & Raymond Branton, PsyD
9:30 am - 9:45 am	BREAK
9:45 am - 10:45 am	<i>Behavioral Health Ethics</i> Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Diana Vigil, LPC, & David Weinstock, JD, PhD
	<i>Legal Ethics</i> David Horowitz, J.D.
	<i>Mediation Ethics</i> Kathy McCormick

CONFERENCE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS



**90 Ridge Trail Dr.
Sedona, AZ 86351
(928) 284-4040**

**Book directly with the Hilton using our
conference rate with the link below:**

CLICK HERE

Or Call: 1-877-273-3762

**The Conference rate is \$239 per night (plus tax and resort fees)
for either a standard room or one bedroom suite.
Book before December 18th, 2022 to guarantee
our **AzAFCC Conference Rate!****

Conference Schedule

FRIDAY

Friday Pre-Conference Institute

Identifying and Understanding Coercive Control

Tommy Black, PhD, LPC & Gina Loretelli

Moderator: Robert DiCarlo, PhD

12:45 pm - 5:00 pm

Identifying coercive control/emotional and psychological abuse, which is a risk indicator for future alienation in divorce cases, continues to be one of the most difficult tasks mental health professionals have as evaluators and therapists. Identifying children who have been coerced to reject a parent vs. children who have estranged themselves by choice from an abusive parent is another piece to the puzzle that must be evaluated. Alienating parents use coercive control, as well as coercive control by proxy, to manipulate, intimidate, and control the other parent and the children's perspective of the targeted parent. Coercive control by proxy occurs when the coercive parent uses the children, or others, to aid in developing their control and marginalization over the victim parent and to monopolize the children's and other's perspectives. The purpose of this training is to aid the professional in identifying not only when alienation is likely to occur, but which parent is responsible, and how to address these concerns.

Friday Opening Remarks/Plenary

An Interactive Discussion Focused on Future

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities for AzAFCC

Joi Hollis, PhD, Robert DiCarlo, PhD, & Caroline Shanholtz, PhD

6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

The purpose of this symposium is to have a roundtable discussion with members to 1) assess DE&I needs of our members, 2) generate ideas on DE&I initiatives that can be implemented in our chapter, 3) discuss the formulation of a DE&I committee paralleling the parent organization. Ultimately, we hope this can lead to new ideas to develop educational opportunities for AzAFCC memberships related to DE&I matters, engage members in DE&I discussions, promote AzAFCC to diverse communities, and pursue activities that would improve AzAFCC efforts toward DE&I.

Conference Schedule

SATURDAY

Saturday Early Morning Plenary

FIT Program

Hon. Bruce Cohen & Karey O'Hara, PhD

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Cases where parents have never resolved their conflict become known in the family law community as frequent fliers. Cases that fit into this category disproportionately use the resources of the court and are seemingly without resolution. Most importantly, children are adversely affected by the behaviors of parents caught up in high-conflict. There are various programs for these families, most of which are deployed after the high-conflict pattern of behavior has been embedded over an extended time period. The most effective programs are expensive and time-consuming. Further, they are not scalable for use as an early intervention. Research shows that children exposed to high conflict are at risk of suffering long-term negative consequences. Recent research has shown that the outcome for children remains dire, even if over time parents resolve their conflict. Therefore, early intervention is critical. The Families in Transition program ("FIT") is a computer-based and interactive program being developed through a partnership of the Maricopa County Superior Court and the National Center of State Courts. Funded by grant money from the State Justice Institute, it focuses on parental behavior, not their beliefs, with the goal of assisting in modifying those behaviors. The program, once launched, will be subjected to rigorous study by researchers at ASU to determine its efficacy.



Conference Schedule

SATURDAY

Saturday Late Morning Plenary **The Traumatized Child in Family Law Cases**

Mindy Mitnick, EdM, MA

Moderator: David Weinstock, JD, PhD

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Family Law professionals need a clear understanding of what constitutes trauma and the varied impacts trauma may have on a child. Trauma is often misunderstood as any stressful event in a child's life. However, trauma has unique effects on the developing brain and so has significant impact on the child's cognitive, emotional, and behavioral development. This sessions will assist professionals in identifying child trauma, in implementing strategies for addressing the child's needs, and in engaging the child, such as in an evaluation interview. The presentation will also focus on specialized interventions for traumatized children that differ from those for "high-conflict" cases.



Conference Schedule

SATURDAY

Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions 'A'

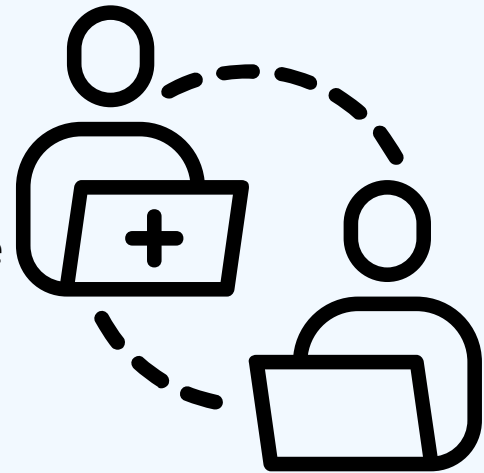
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

A1. Applying Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) via Telehealth to Latine Families

Caroline Shanholtz, PhD & Yuliana Fernandez, BA

Moderator: Robert DiCarlo, PhD

This session will provide mental health clinicians tools and guidance for delivering Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) via telehealth to Hispanic and Latine families. Specifically, this session will cover best practices for delivering TF-CBT via telehealth using an interpreter for families speaking Spanish and reviewing the available research on culturally tailoring TF-CBT to meet family cultural needs. Clinicians will leave this presentation with guidelines on best practices and resources to use with clients and families via telehealth.



A2. Nine Years of Making Equal Parenting Time Work for Individual Families: Lessons Learned and Strategies Developed in Arizona

Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Tracy McElroy, MA, Michael Aaron, JD, & Hon. John Assini

Moderator: William Fabricius, PhD

Four presenters will discuss lessons learned and strategies developed in working with families to individualize equal parenting time plans. The presenters represent the perspectives of judges, attorneys, mental health providers, and conciliation courts. Participants will break-out into small groups to share other strategies and identify current issues. This proposed session will bring together, expand, and document the unique gold mine of experience that Arizona family law professionals have acquired in working with families.

Conference Schedule

SATURDAY

Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions 'A'

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

A3. 10 Things Clinicians and Lawyers Should Know About DCS

Gregg Woodnick, Esq & Hon. Suzanne Nicholls

Moderator: Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW

Many professionals in the legal and mental health community struggle to understand how the DCS investigative process operates. This presentation will focus on the 10 most important things that lawyers and mental health professionals should know about DCS, its inner workings, and its investigative process.

Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions 'B'

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

B1. Infusing Respect and Trust Between Co-Parents: A Research-Based Approach to Technology in Co-Parenting

Robert DiCarlo, PhD, Michael Saini, MSW, PhD, Katrina Volker, & Matt Havrevold

Moderator: Karey O'Hara, PhD



Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) has seen exponential growth in the past two decades. One important area of inquiry is how best to integrate ICTs to enhance coparenting relationships within parenting plans. This workshop will highlight the coparenting research in the context of separation and divorce and consider the various domains of positive coparenting, including recent research that highlights the importance of establishing respect and trust in coparenting relationships post separation.

Conference Schedule

SATURDAY

Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions 'B'

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

B2. Using Social Science to Understand Credibility Discounting in Family Law Cases with Intimate Partner Violence

*Kelly Behre, JD, Deborah Goldfarm, JD, PhD, Amelia Mindthoff, PhD
Moderator: Negar Katirai, JD*

This interactive presentation will connect current social science research about the accuracy of the ways in which people make credibility assessments to the impact of credibility discounts on victims of intimate partner violence participating in the family court system. We address the impact of bias on victims of intimate partner violence and include tips for providing trauma-informed representation.

B3. COBI: An Update on Effectiveness and Practical Suggestions to Maximize Utility

Hon. Bruce Cohen & David Weinstock, JD, PhD

The Court Ordered Behavior Interventionist (COBI) was introduced in Maricopa County in February 2021 as an alternative to the Therapeutic Interventionist (TI). The presenters intend to address tools to improve the utility of the process, both from a legal and behavioral intervention perspective. They will also focus on the COBI process and things professionals can do to maximize success. The intent of the presentation is also to endorse audience participation, so attendees can ask questions and bounce ideas off of each other as to things each has done that has or has not worked with the new process.



Conference Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday Morning Ethics

Plenary Interactive Scenarios

Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Hon. Suzanne Nicholls, Kiilu Davis, JD, David Weinstock, JD, PhD, Jamie Picus, PsyD, & Raymond Branton, PsyD

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Diverse practitioners from professions serving in family law cases will discuss and analyze complex case fact patterns through interaction with audience members. Participants will present case scenarios that highlight ethical and legal issues that may be encountered in real word practice. Question and Answer dialogue with workshop attendees will be used to challenge thinking, analysis, and possible resolutions to thorny issues that difficult practice situations can generate. Come join us and bring your best thinking caps.

Area Specific Ethics Break Outs

9:45 am - 10:45 am



Mediation Ethics

Kathy McCormick



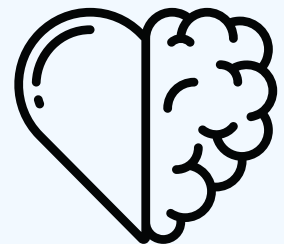
Legal Ethics

David Horowitz, JD



Behavioral Health Ethics

Faren Akins, PhD, JD, David Weinstock, JD, Ph.D., Diana Vigil, LPC





SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications Due Dec. 5th!

AzAFCC offers a limited number of scholarships for students and individuals in training programs (i.e. postdoctoral fellowships) to attend the conference.

These scholarships are designed for young professionals interested in learning about working with families involved in the legal system. If you know someone interested in working in this area, specifically students in law, psychology, counseling, social work, or any other field associated with family law and mental health, please encourage them to apply!

APPLY NOW

Email: azafccscholarships@gmail.com

Scholarships include:

- 1) Conference Registration
- 2) A Shared Hotel Room at the Conference Hotel with Another Scholarship Recipient
- 3) All Meals

Scholarship recipients will be asked to perform volunteer duties at the conference, including helping with registration, symposium set up, and conference clean up.

SCHOLARSHIP



Health and Safety. **Protocols**

AFCC reserves the right to implement health and safety protocols that are consistent with CDC guidelines.

This may include requiring wearing masks except when eating and drinking, along with proof of vaccination or a negative covid test within 72 hours for all conference participants.

Social gatherings planned for smaller spaces will be assessed for risk and a final decision will be made closer to the conference dates.

Masks will be available for attendees.





**Thank
you!**

Ready for Next Year?

Stay tuned for our call for proposals this Spring!

- Title of your Presentation
- 80 Word Summary
- 250 Word Description of Your Presentation
- 3-5 Learning Objectives
- List of Presenters (Max. 3) with Their Biographies and Curriculum Vitae
- 3 Peer-Reviewed Citations within the Past 10 Years NOT written by the Presenters