



The Arizona Chapter of the AFCC

Presents

The 41st Annual Conference

# Beyond Good Intentions

Best Practices in  
Advance Family Court Matters

January 19-21, 2024  
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 by 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

# 2023-2024 AzAFCC Board of Directors



## **President**

Robert DiCarlo, PhD  
Phoenix



## **President-Elect**

Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW  
Phoenix



## **Vice President**

Lisa Dodd, LPC  
Phoenix



## **Secretary**

Karey O'Hara, PhD  
Phoenix



## **Treasurer**

Caroline Shanholtz, PhD  
Phoenix



## **Past President**

Sidney Buckman, MA  
Flagstaff

Beth Winters, LPC

Leslie Satterlee, Esq

Kaela Gray, JD

New Professional

Malia Mantilla, JD, MS

Brecken Blades, PsyD

Colleen Sullivan, MS

Brooke Clanton, BSW

Hon. Max Covil, JD

Student Representative

Erin Osterman Ballos, MEd

Christy Kalbach, BS

Raymond Branton, PsyD, LP

Mayela Cano, MEd

Sarah Gallimore, PsyD

Gretchen Slover, PsyD, LMFT, MALaw

**Interested in joining our board?  
Email [arizonaafcc@gmail.com](mailto:arizonaafcc@gmail.com)**

# Registration Information

## Conference Pricing:

Early Bird Member	\$400
Early Bird Non-Member	\$450
Member	\$450
Non-Member	\$500
Student/Post-Doc	\$200
Speaker	\$350
Friday Dinner Plus One (for non-registered guests)	\$160
<b>Pre-Conference Institute</b>	
Member	\$200
Non-Member	\$230
Student	\$50

**Register Before  
December 29th  
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.



# Sponsors



Now Available: Calls

A simple and secure way to track virtual parenting time



Scan the QR code to learn more or to connect with our team. We'd be happy to answer any questions about Calls or set up a training.

<https://landing.ourfamilywizard.com/calls>



## ProperComm edits abuse out of messages

### Before ProperComm:

Screw you Beth. You're such a lying piece of trash. You will never change, so of course I have to be at the doctor appointment because you are a lying bitch and hide everything from me.

### After ProperComm

I will be at the doctor appointment.

[WWW.PROPERCOMM.COM](http://WWW.PROPERCOMM.COM)

# Sponsors



## Court-Ordered Supervision Services

•Supervised Visits •Therapeutic Supervision •Safe Exchanges

*With over 10 years in the industry, Angels Monitoring provides professional services you can trust.*

### About our Monitors

- SVN (Supervised Visitation Network) trained
- Angels Monitoring trained
- Forensically informed
- Educated in PAS (Parenting After Separation)
- Mandated Reporters
- Certified in CPR and First Aid
- Level 1 AZ fingerprint clearance card and background checked
- Have a Bachelor's degree, Master's degree or extensive work related experience

### Our Service Locations

- Public places
- Monitored parent's home
- Our off-site facility (with security), the Phoenix Burton Barr Central Library

### Our Reporting

- 2<sup>nd</sup> party reviewed
- Unbiased reporting
- Provided to the Court Appointed Advisors

602.767.3539 | [angelsmonitoringaz@gmail.com](mailto:angelsmonitoringaz@gmail.com) | [AngelsMonitoring.com/phoenixarizona](http://AngelsMonitoring.com/phoenixarizona)

\*We take great pride in providing services that adhere to the highest monitoring standards in the country, meeting California's statutes for supervised visitation to ensure safe, respectful and fun visits for the children and families that we serve.



# SOBERLINK

## Prime Health and Wellness, LLC

# Conference Schedule

## Friday, January 19th

12:00 pm - 6:00 pm	REGISTRATION
12:45 pm - 5:00 pm	PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE: Why Did I Do That...Again?!-Adversity's impact on coping strategies and how to develop healthier ones. <i>Elizabeth Dunn, MS, LPC, NMT Phase II Certified</i>
6:00 pm - 6:15 pm	WELCOME REMARKS: <i>Robert DiCarlo, PhD</i>
6:15 pm - 7:15 pm	PRESENTATION: "Face to Face in a Frenzy." <i>Zarco Guerrero</i>
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	RECEPTION AND DINNER
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm	HOSPITALITY SUITE

## Saturday, January 20th

7:30 am - 8:30 am	AzAFCC MEMBERS ONLY BREAKFAST MEETING: Supporting the Forensic Community. <i>Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW, Robert DiCarlo, PhD, and Andrew B. Turk, JD</i>
7:30 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST BUFFET
8:30 am - 10:00 am	PLENARY: Helping the Herd, Polyvagal Principles, and a New Paradigm for Working with Complex Cases. <i>Rebecca Bailey, PhD</i>
10:00 am - 10:15 am	BREAK

# Conference Schedule

## Saturday, January 20th

10:15 am - 11:45 am	<p>PLENARY: Adjusting our Lens: How Cultural Biases Can Affect the Courtroom.</p> <p><i>April Harris-Britt, PhD</i></p>
11:45 pm - 1:15 pm	<p>LUNCH (On Your Own)</p>
1:15 pm - 2:30 pm	<p>PLENARY: LGBTQ+ Cultural Responsiveness and Best Practices.</p> <p><i>Brooke Fulton</i></p>
2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	<p>PLENARY: Recent Legislative and Rule Changes in the Family Law Arena.</p> <p><i>Liana Garcia, Director Government Affairs for the Arizona Supreme Court</i></p>
4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	<p>PLENARY: The Use and Misuse of "Anxiety" and "Trauma" in Family Court.</p> <p><i>Pamela Rak, DCSW, LCSW</i></p>
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<p>DINNER (On Your Own)</p> <p>SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT DINNER</p>
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm	<p>HOSPITALITY SUITE</p>



# Conference Schedule

## Sunday, January 21st

7:30 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST BUFFET
8:00 am - 8:30 am	ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
8:30 am - 9:30 am	ETHICS PLENARY: Combine Professions. Hon. Ronda Fisk, Hon. Amy Kalman, Hon. William Wingard, Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Sarah Gallimore, PsyD, Joel Covert, LCSW, Gregg Woodnick, JD, Jason Castle, JD, and Kiilu Davis, JD
9:30 am - 9:45 am	BREAK
9:45 am - 10:45 am	ETHICS BREAKOUT MENTAL HEALTH: Encounters with Ethical Dilemmas: What We've Learned (hopefully) from 100+ years of Practice Collectively. Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW, and Sidney Buckman, MA
9:45 am - 10:45 am	ETHICS BREAKOUT LEGAL: Lawyer Regulation in Arizona. Maret Vessella, Chief Bar Counsel State Bar of AZ
9:45 am - 10:45 am	ETHICS BREAKOUT MEDIATOR: Ethics Essentials for Mediators. Andrew B. Turk, JD

# HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS



**Hilton**

SEDONA RESORT AT BELL ROCK



**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 \$249 per night (plus tax and resort fees) for either a standard room or one-bedroom suite.

# Conference Schedule

## FRIDAY

### Pre-Conference Institute

"Why Did I Do That...Again?!-Adversity's Impact on Coping Strategies and How to Develop Healthier ones."

*Elizabeth Dunn, MS, LPC, NMT Phase II Certified*

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Dr. Bruce Perry's work on the effects of adversity, neglect and trauma on brain development provides the framework for understanding a range of unhealthy and unacceptable behaviors that often lead to non-compliance with court plans. In taking the "What Happened to You" approach, Dr. Perry and his team have demonstrated improvement in behavioral and relational interactions across settings such as residential treatment, juvenile detention, group homes, school districts, foster placements and adult correctional facilities. This workshop provides an introduction to Dr. Perry's research on directly applying the critical skills of regulation and relationship to foster successful interactions and plans with people struggling with managing their lives with adversity-informed coping skills. Generational and cultural adversity play a significant role in an individual's ability to self-regulate, to trust systemic interactions and to navigate with systems. These concepts are embedded throughout the workshop as they often play a key role in how a client will succeed or struggle as they interact with the court system. Participants will explore and be invited to engage in brief, "hands-on" regulating activities designed to boost cognitive functioning skills when working with stressed individuals.

### Opening Remarks

*Robert DiCarlo, PhD*

6:00 pm - 6:15 pm

# Conference Schedule

## FRIDAY

### Presentation

*Zarco Guerrero*

6:15 pm - 7:15 pm

Renowned sculptor/mask maker Zarco Guerrero reveals the awesome power of the mask to transform in this unique one man performance. With a master's touch, the artist personifies eccentric prototypes forcing us to examine our most innate feelings and thoughts on such themes as self-esteem, bigotry, aging, abuse and denial. Zarco who has traveled extensively investigating the use of the mask in theater, ritual and ceremony, brings years of first hand experience to life in this chilling yet comical presentation. Through the artist's eyes we see ourselves and society as never before – exposed by his masks, movement and monologue.



Mask Madman Zarco Guerrero brings universal stereotypes to life in this “in your face” follies featuring a curious cast of crazy hand carved characters. The artist comically reflects the contradictions of ourselves. As a performance piece Face to Face in a Frenzy is a maniacal one man masked manipulation that mirrors the mystery of the mind and heart in a myriad of fantastic faces.





# Conference Schedule

## SATURDAY

### AzAFCC Members Only Breakfast Meeting

Supporting the Forensic Community

*Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW, Robert DiCarlo, PhD, and*

*Andrew B. Turk, JD*

7:30 am - 8:30 am

We will discuss effective strategies when dealing with difficult cases and share personal experiences.

This breakfast meeting is only available to current AzAFCC members, and preregistration for the breakfast is required.

### Plenary

Helping the Herd, Polyvagal Principles, and a New Paradigm  
for Working with Complex Cases

*Rebecca Bailey, PhD*

8:30 am - 10:00 am

This presentation is intended to introduce the application of polyvagal principles to high-conflict families and systems. The polyvagal principles will be incorporated by introducing an approach that looks at the interplay of multiple nervous systems and their impact on resolution. In addition, alternatives to traditional talk therapy will be introduced such as walk-and-talk therapy and equine-assisted interventions. The rationale for the interventions will be introduced as well as possible alternative hypothesizes for adaptive behaviors.

Dr. Bailey is considered a nationally recognized expert in non-familial and familial abductions. Dr. Bailey is also a regular consultant referral for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She has been a guest and commentator on Anderson Cooper, Good Morning America, Piers Morgan, Erin Burnett, Kyra Phillips, 20/20, Diane Sawyer, Dr. Oz and World News Tonight. In 2013, she co-authored the book *Safe Kids, Smart Parents* (Simon Schuster).



# Conference Schedule

## SATURDAY

### Plenary

Adjusting our Lens: How Cultural Biases Can Affect the  
Courtroom

*April Harris-Britt, PhD*

10:15 am - 11:45 am

This program will explore the necessity and challenges of providing culturally-informed services for court-involved families. We will focus on understanding the myriad of ways that cultural variables can present in our work, including but not limited to recognizing and avoiding biases, developing a cultural biography of the family system, and maximizing the cultural safety of our work within family law in order to provide high-quality services to all families.

### Plenary

LGBTQ+ Cultural Responsiveness and Best Practices

*Brooke Fulton*

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

This comprehensive and interactive workshop will guide audiences through common terms and best practices for best serving LGBTQIA+ survivors, creating inclusivity and dismantling oppression in anti-violence communities.

# Conference Schedule

## SATURDAY

### Plenary

Recent Legislative and Rule Changes in the Family Law Arena

*Liana Garcia, Director of Government Affairs*

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

Liana Garcia, Director of Government Affairs for the Arizona Supreme Court, will provide an update on recent legislative and court rule changes in the family law space and give a preview of potential legislation being considered in the 2024 legislative session.

### Plenary

The Use and Misuse of "Anxiety" and "Trauma" in  
Family Court

*Pamela Rak, DCSW, LCSW*

4:15 pm - 5:30 pm

Research has shown that disrupted parent-child relationships have a negative impact on children of all ages. There is also an increasing frequency and complexity in the use of "anxiety" and "trauma" among various disciplines where those terms/diagnoses may be beneficial, detrimental or blurred. There is substantial support in the literature for the need to work through issues, not avoid them, as a prerequisite to healthy relationships.

# Conference Schedule

## SUNDAY

### Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

*Robert DiCarlo, PhD*

8:00 am - 8:30 am

The Board of the Arizona Chapter will host its annual board meeting. Officers for the upcoming terms shall be elected. The Board will discuss initiatives and goals for the upcoming year. All Arizona Chapter members are encouraged to attend.

### Ethics Plenary

Combine Professions

*Hon. Ronda Fisk, Hon. Amy Kalman, Hon. William Wingard, Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Sarah Gallimore, PsyD, Joel Covert, LCSW, Gregg Woodnick, JD, Jason Castle, JD, and Kiilu Davis, JD*

8:30 am - 9:30 am

This ethics session is for all professionals represented under the umbrella of AzAFCC. Presenters from diverse legal and behavioral health professions will discuss realistic fact patterns that overlap roles and issues potentially impacting the ethical conduct of the individual professional. Audience participants will identify potential ethical pitfalls in the scenarios and how to avoid them. Discussion among audience members and with the presenters will stimulate critical thinking about ethics and professional standards. Relevant rules, statutes and ethical standards from the various disciplines will be used to guide ethical problem-solving. Attendees will discuss potential outcomes and limitations relevant to the scenarios.

# Conference Schedule

## SUNDAY

Area-Specific Ethics Break Outs  
9:45 am - 10:45 am

### Ethics for Mental Health Providers

*Faren Akins, PhD, JD, Barb Kiffmeyer, LMSW, and Sid Buckman, MA*

The focus of the workshop is how to approach, analyze, address, and resolve ethical problems encountered in the forensic arena. The presenters will provide complex fact patterns involving ethical issues from their respective practices. Audience members will be asked for input at certain decision points leading to interactive discussions. Presenters will follow up with thoughts, suggestions, and analysis.

### Ethics for Legal Professionals

*Maret Vessella, Chief Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona*

The presentation will cover an overview of lawyer regulation and what happens in a year, including the number of charges received, who is likely to file a charge and the most common concerns expressed in those charges. The presentation will also cover professionalism requirements and when a breach of professionalism can result in a disciplinary sanction. The presentation will highlight some relevant cases that demonstrate unprofessional conduct that has been sanctioned. Additionally, the presentation will include when judges should refer lawyers to the State Bar and some options to address lawyer conduct in the courtroom. The presentation will also highlight some more recent family law cases to illustrate the type of conduct that may result in a disciplinary sanction.

### Ethics for Mediators

*Andrew B. Turk, JD*

This program will discuss basic ethical issues that every mediator should be prepared to address in order to protect the mediation process. Topics of discussion include Conflict Disclosures, Engagement Letters, Confidential vs. Non-Confidential Memoranda, Challenges of Virtual Mediations, and Interpretation of A.R.S. § 12-2238. The session will end with a question and answer period and audience participation will be encouraged throughout.

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications Due December 4

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!

## Scholarship Perks and Duties

- Conference registration.
- A shared hotel room at the conference hotel with another scholarship recipient.
- 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.

**APPLY NOW**

Email: [azafccscholarships@gmail.com](mailto:azafccscholarships@gmail.com)



# SPONSORSHIPS

## Platinum Sponsorship \$1500

- Exhibitor table outside the Canyon Ballroom from Friday at noon until Sunday at 11:00 a.m. All meetings on Saturday and Sunday are in the Canyon Ballroom, as well as the dinner and reception on Friday evening.
- Choice of placement for exhibitor table based on order of sponsorship commitment.
- A quarter page ad in the program brochure (circulation 700+). The brochure is accessible on the AzAFCC's website, as well as the parent organization.
- Logo and acknowledgement on the Annual Conference page of the AzAFCC website.
- Logo on the back of the attendees' name badges.
- Highest level of promotion via AzAFCC social media channels.
- A slide with logo and message will be displayed before each plenary throughout the weekend.
- Three push notifications sent to the attendees during the conference.
- Remarks by your representative before a conference plenary session (2-3 minutes).
- Thank you and recognition in remarks by the AzAFCC president at a plenary session.
- An opportunity to use Lead Retrieval through ExpoPass (there is a separate fee of \$300 paid directly to ExpoPass).
- Attendance at the Friday evening dinner.
- Access to all food and beverage provided to the attendees.

# SPONSORSHIPS

## Gold Sponsorship \$1000

- Exhibitor table outside the Canyon Ballroom from Friday at noon until Sunday at 11:00 a.m. All meetings on Saturday and Sunday are in the Canyon Ballroom, as well as the dinner and reception on Friday evening.
- Business card size ad in the program brochure (circulation 700+). The brochure is accessible on the AzAFCC's website, as well as the parent organization.
- Logo and acknowledgement on the Annual Conference page of the AzAFCC website.
- Promotion via AzAFCC social media channels.
- One push notification sent to the attendees during the conference.
- An opportunity to use Lead Retrieval through ExpoPass (there is a separate fee of \$300 paid directly to ExpoPass).
- Attendance at the Friday evening dinner.
- Access to all food and beverage provided to the attendees.

# SPONSORSHIPS

## Silver Sponsorship 1 \$500

- Supply the attendees with pens and notepads to use each day of the conference. You will need to provide the supplies, but someone from the conference will ensure the supplies are provided to the attendees at each plenary.
- Only one sponsorship available.

## Silver Sponsorship 2 \$500

- Provide a tote bag to each attendee with your logo and advertising materials.
- Customization of the content of the bags for specific attendees.
- Only one sponsorship available.

## Silver Sponsorship 3 \$500

- Provide promotional items not listed in Silver Sponsorship Levels 1 and 2 to attendees with your logo.

## Bronze Sponsorship \$200

- A slide that will be shown before each plenary presentation Friday through Sunday.
- Logo and acknowledgement on the Annual Conference page of the AzAFCC website.
- Promotion via AzAFCC social media channels.

# SPONSORSHIPS

## Hospitality Suite Sponsorship 1 \$250

- Sponsor the hospitality suite on Friday, January 19, 2024.
- This is an opportunity to network with all of the attendees (mental health providers, attorneys, judges, evaluators, and mediators), and display and distribute merchandise to the guests.
- This sponsor provides food and alcoholic beverages.

## Hospitality Suite Sponsorship 2 \$250

- Sponsor the hospitality suite on Saturday, January 20, 2024.
- This is an opportunity to network with all of the attendees (mental health providers, attorneys, judges, evaluators, and mediators), and distribute merchandise to the guests.
- This sponsor provides food and alcoholic beverages.

## Push Notification Sponsorship \$100

- One push notification will be sent to the attendees during the conference with a customized message.

Silver and Hospitality Suite sponsorship levels can be added to the Platinum and Gold levels

To register for a sponsorship level



CLICK HERE



## 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