



## ***Final Detailed Schedule***

**Thursday, February 6, 2014**

Plenary I 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

### **Social Mobility and the American Dream**

America is suffering from an opportunity gap. Children born in a “comfortable” lifestyle can expect a comfortable adult life, while economically disadvantaged children are at high risk of remaining that way as they grow to adulthood. There is a near-unanimous agreement that there is too little economic opportunity for those on the bottom rungs of the economic ladder. Richard V. Reeves, a fellow in Economic Studies and policy director for the Center on Children and Families at the Brookings Institution, will discuss his research on policies to make evidence-based social mobility—from birth, through childhood into adulthood—a priority, at both state- and federal-levels. Following his presentation, representatives from the Senate Finance Committee Majority and Minority Staff will provide their response to the concept of developing public policy based on this data. What is the role of government and the child support program in narrowing the opportunity gap?

*Moderator: Tom Joseph (Waterman & Associates)*

*Speakers: Richard Reeves (Brookings Institute), Dierdra Henry-Spires (Senate Finance Committee); Rebecca Dean Shipp (Senate Finance Committee)*

Plenary II 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Tools and Strategies for the Modern Family**

Join the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement to hear the latest program initiatives including the national strategic plan. A panel of OCSE staff will also explain how the federal office can help states use technology, data, and right-sized orders to improve their program and effectively serve our diverse customers

*Speakers: Vicki Turetsky, Joe Bodmer, Thom Campbell, Adrienne Noti, Dennis Putze*

Plenary III 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

### **Systematically Evaluating Impacts of Policy and Operational Changes in the IV-D Program**

The story of the IV-D program is one of innovation and change. But how do programs determine the value or impact of innovations? How does a state know when it makes sense to evaluate a program innovation or policy change? What kind of evaluation methods should be used? What are reasonable evaluation costs? Who should do the evaluation? What have state programs learned from working with evaluators/researchers? Consider this plenary a free policy evaluation “consultation” with a panel composed of nationally recognized social science researchers with extensive IV-D experience. Their presentation will be facilitated by Washington State IV-D Director, Wally McClure - who will draw on his experience working with university and private research organizations to keep it real and relevant for IV-D program administrators. The panel will address some of the general questions about policy and program evaluation and provide examples from

some recently completed studies, but the primary focus will be in responding to evaluation topics picked by NCSEA Policy Conference attendees through a pre-conference survey.

*Moderator: Wally McClure (Washington)*

*Speakers: John Topagna (ECONorthwest), Maria Cancian (University of Wisconsin), Cynthia Osborne (University of Texas-Texas Child and Family Research Partnership); Jessica Pearson (Center for Policy Research)*

- Follow up Plenary III with three breakout workshops that will do a “deep dive” into recently completed and newly launched research/evaluation on three big policy issues: paternity establishment, NCP employment programs and moving NCPs out of the underground economy. And provide your input on a new, major fatherhood research effort funded by the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

Workshop 101 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM

### **New Frontiers in Paternity Establishment**

Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity -twenty years have passed since its inception - a conversation about its impact on children and families is long overdue. Join nationally recognized experts as they discuss the latest research findings and a cutting edge program designed to give every newborn a “Bright Start.”

*Moderator: Mary Morrow (Illinois)*

*Speakers: Cynthia Osborne (University of Texas-Texas Child and Family Research Partnership); John Topagna (ECONorthwest)*

Workshop 102 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM

### **Be the Voice: Help Shape the National Fatherhood Research Network**

The newly created National Fatherhood Research Network wants to hear from child support experts. The Network was recently created through federal funding to link practitioners and evaluators serving economically disadvantaged and under-studied populations of fathers. The intent of the Network is to build research and practice knowledge that is based on rigorous evidence. Network leaders will ask session participants to identify knowledge gaps in responsible fatherhood efforts. In turn, Network leaders will use this and other information to develop a research agenda for the Network and conduct and fund fatherhood research to fill these gaps. This session is an amazing opportunity for NCSEA members to have input on the National Fatherhood Research Network and future research on fatherhood!

*Presenters: Jessica Pearson (Center for Policy Research); Jay Fagan (Temple University & Co-Director, Responsible Fatherhood Research Network); Elaine Sorenson (OCSE), Jane Venohr (Center for Policy Research)*

Workshop 103 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM

### **NCP Employment: Moving NCPs Out of the Underground Economy**

One model of innovation in the child support program are projects that help noncustodial parents (NCPs) secure long-term employment and move to consistent payment of child support. This workshop features an in-depth discussion of NCP employment programs from both an operational and an evaluation perspective and features perspectives from well-established programs as well as a new program that is part of the National Child Support Noncustodial Employment Demonstration that is being funded and conducted by the Office of Child Support Enforcement. Research on the interplay of other child support innovations such as debt reduction, full pass-through, and order modifications on NCP employment will be highlighted.

*Moderator: Michael Hayes*

*Speakers: Maria Cancian (University of Wisconsin); Steven Golightly (Los Angeles County); Tamara*

Thomas (Stanislaus County, CA)

**Friday, February 7, 2014**

Plenary IV 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

### **The Next Generation of Child Support Guidelines – A Lively Debate**

Child Support Guidelines have worked great for many families. But as we delve into the intricacies of some family dynamics and corresponding likelihood of payments, is there a better way for the future? Panelists will debate different options that are being discussed across the nation. The audience will participate by asking questions of the panelist/debaters. At the end, we will see if the panelists were able to sway any opinions of the audience.

*Moderator: Joe Mamlin (CSG Government Solutions)*

*Debaters: Steven Eldred (Orange County, CA); Kim Newsom Bridges (Ohio CSEA Directors Assoc); Jane Venohr (Center for Policy Research)*

- A continuation of the Guidelines discussion will follow in workshops following Plenary IV.

Workshop 201 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Child Support Guidelines and the ACA: Doing the Math**

There are still a lot of unanswered questions regarding the IV-D program's ongoing role in medical support, given the Affordable Care Act. There are intersections and disconnects that will need to be worked through as more of child support's customers begin securing medical coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. One area of intersection that bears looking at is child support guidelines: How might IV-D orders account for the IRS dependency deduction, Premium Tax Credits, and the availability of Child Only Plans through the Marketplace? The panel will also share the most up-to-date information about policy issues the ACA raises for the child support community.

*Moderator: Mike Henry (Maximus)*

*Speakers: Kathy Sokolik (SRA); Bob Williams (Veritas); Michael Wright (Judicial Council of California/OAC)*

Workshop 202 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Analyzing the Data – Research into Caseload Patterns and Solutions to NCP Payment Barriers**

The collection of child support for families is at the heart of the child support program's mission, and directly linked to our federal performance incentive measures. It is also the most difficult thing to accomplish in terms of obtaining regular and sustained collections -- especially for low income NCP's who struggle daily with barriers to paying child support. Using hard research data, this workshop will explore caseload patterns and how certain barriers increase the likelihood that the NCP will fail to pay child support. Presenters will provide potential solutions that may be available in working the caseload with low income NCP's, including NCPs with multiple families.

*Moderator: Jeffrey Witthun (Clark County, NV)*

*Speakers: Steve Eldred (Orange County, CA), Dawn Zellner (Oklahoma), Lisa Ellington (Oklahoma)*

Workshop 203 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

### **The Rise of Female Breadwinners: What's the Impact on Child Support?**

Recent studies have reported that women are now the leading or solo breadwinners in 40 percent of households. How does this societal phenomenon impact family formation, child well-being and

child support? Liza Mundy, author of *The Richer Sex: How the New Majority of Female Breadwinners is Transforming Sex, Love and Family*, and Elaine Sorensen will address broad public policy implications and future considerations that may be needed in the application of child support policies. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss and share experiences from their agencies regarding how these developments are impacting their child support cases.

*Moderator: Kim Newsom Bridges (Ohio CSEA)*

*Speakers: Liza Mundy (New America Foundation); Elaine Sorenson (Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement)*

Plenary V 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

### **What Constitutes a Family? A Multi-Cultural Perspective**

What constitutes a "family" in an urban region? In a Native American tribe? In another country? Children today are being raised in incredibly diverse family structures. This plenary will explore how the concept of family varies throughout the world and why these differences are important in our mobile and global society. This plenary also will examine the beliefs, cultures, and religions that influence the idea of family. Finally, our panel will discuss the relationship between how a family is defined and legal financial obligations for children.

*Moderator: Scott Cade (Xerox)*

*Speaker: Thomas Meysen (German Institute for Youth Human Service and Family Law ), Maria Cancian (University of Wisconsin, Tish Keahna (Lac Courte Orielles)*

Workshop 301 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

### **Bridging the International Divide for Children**

Laws and government programs to secure maintenance/support for children differ in every country. Core philosophies often vary significantly as well. For example, some countries take an inclusive approach to financial responsibility while other countries have more restrictive laws. Other countries may recognize same sex marriages and relationships, while many do not. The 2007 Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support addresses these differences and find common ground to achieve the goal of securing financial support for families. Come learn where the concept of international support collection is today, and join in an interactive discussion on how to bridge program differences for the children.

*Speakers: Mary Dahlberg; Hannah Roots (British Columbia Family Maintenance Enforcement Program); Robert Keith (Office of the General Counsel, Dept. of Health & Human Services)*

Workshop 302 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

### **Modern Laws for Modern Families**

The traditional family structure in the United States with a father, mother, and 2.3 children has changed dramatically. Today, families come in all shapes and sizes—families with three or more legal parents, step and de facto parents, same sex parents, grandparents, and parents with multiple families. Because traditional laws on parentage and financial support are often insufficient or inapplicable, States have developed new laws recognizing the complex non-traditional family. This workshop will examine the problems attendant to the diverse and dynamic family structure and recent modern laws designed for today's modern family.

*Moderator: David Oppenheim (California CSDA)*

*Speakers: Michael Wright (Judicial Council of California), Eileen Stack (New York State Child Support)*

Workshop 303 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

### **NCSEA Policy Discussion: Share Your Policy Wish List**

This highly interactive and robust discussion will focus on policy issues facing the IV-D program

and for which are we seeking guidance from OCSE. What are your barriers to effecting change, or are you perfectly satisfied with your current solution and would like to be part of the discussion in the following areas:

- Treatment of incarcerated individuals - forgive, forget or treat like everyone else who voluntarily has no income?
- Right sizing – is it really worth the additional resources to ensure this is done right or more often?
- Enforcement tools - 1099 reporting, gambling intercept, full family distribution
- Technology solutions - text notices (really these can only be reminders... or can they??) of court hearings, e-Service of process, court appearances through Skype, etc..

*Facilitators: Kelly Peiper (CSG Government Services) & Jim Fleming (North Dakota)*

### **Saturday, February 8, 2014**

OCSE Outreach 7:30 – 8:30 AM

#### **A Discussion about the National Child Support Strategic Plan**

The National Child Support Strategic Plan is an opportunity to articulate and communicate the vision that the child support community holds for the future of the program. It states what we believe about the child support program, how to move the program to the next level, and how the program can best serve the next generation of America's children and families. The effort to develop the next National Child Support Strategic Plan for FFY 2015-2019 was launched last December and is now entering its second phase with Strategic Alignment Networks (small groups of state and tribal IV-D directors) coming together to dive down deep into the biggest issues likely to impact the program over the next 5 years. Grab your continental breakfast, and come to this session to discuss the National Plan and to give your input on the process, the issues, and the Plan's overall direction.

*Facilitator: Thom Campbell (OCSE)*

Plenary VI 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

#### **The Child Support Program – New and Improved, But Has Anybody Noticed?**

While we have been a very effective anti-poverty program and a major positive factor in the lives of millions of families across the country, misperceptions exist along with a lack of knowledge on the part of our customers, government officials, and outside community partners in terms of who we are, what we do, and how well we do it. A major effort at “re-branding” our program on a national, state and local level needs to be undertaken. This plenary session, using a talk show “discussion” format with a group of well-respected panelists, will endeavor to identify the common perceptions about our program, the progress made toward changing the face of the program, and how we can continue to increase awareness of the program's effectiveness so as to encourage more parents to participate and improve compliance.

*Moderator: Vernon Drew (Center for the Support of Families)*

*Speakers: Jennifer Burnszynski (OCSE), Kinsey Dinan (New York City); Vincent DiCaro (National Fatherhood Initiative); Stacy Brustin (The Catholic University of America)*

Plenary VII 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

#### **Managing Through Change Fatigue: Who Moved My Mission?**

We know that upheaval in the child support enforcement program is a constant. Our program has built a story of success as we have transitioned through new regulations, policies, procedures, and systems. However, overall program performance numbers are now stagnating. Our shrinking staff

are tired of being “the less” from whom we seek more and different work. How do we convincingly communicate that the mission and focus of our core program have not changed, in the face of their “new” responsibilities for outreach and data analysis and for performing their duties within changing workflows and case management practices. Presenters from the state and county levels, as well as private sector change professionals, will discuss change management challenges in leading staff when workplace philosophies, methods, and systems are being redesigned, replaced, and realigned.

*Moderator: Gary Dart (Oklahoma)*

*Speakers: Rhonda Tamulonis (Auctor), Wally McClure (Washington), Jeffrey Witthun (Clark County, NV)*

***Thank you to our wonderful presenters for a successful conference!***