



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Commonwealth of Virginia Adoption Conference

November 20-21, 2019

OMNI CHARLOTTESVILLE HOTEL

212 Ridge McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Virginia CALL FOR TRAINING PROPOSALS

The Department of Social Services, Division of Family Services is seeking proposals to provide training sessions of 1 1/2 hours in duration, which includes time for audience questions and comments. Topics will focus on post adoption services, kinship care adoption, pre-adoption services and services and supports for special needs adoptions.

The Virginia Department of Social Services is hosting its annual statewide adoption conference. Conference attendees will include professionals, adoptive families, prospective adoptive families, attorneys, and community partners. There are 120 local departments of social services in Virginia. Virginia is state supervised and locally administered.

Please use the attached form to submit your proposal. **All proposals are due by September 16, 2019.** Proposal acceptances will be sent out by **September 23, 2019.**

Sample Topics of Interest

Post Adoption Services

- Maintaining sibling relationships after adoption/effects of sibling separation.
- Preventing adoption disruption/dissolution.
- Supplying adoptive parents with tools to build relationships and resiliency.
- Navigating behavior health and development services.
- Navigating Virginia's special education system to advocate for your child.
- How to inform educators of your child's history and adoption.

Search and Reunion

- How is social media and DNA heritage testing changing search and reunion?
- Search Techniques: How and where to begin? What records are available?

- Preparing and planning for an adoption search at the time of the adoptive placement.
- Exploring the impact of search and reunion on the adoption triad and how to prepare.

Intercountry and Non-Agency Adoption

- Navigating intercounty adoption and what issues families may face.
- What is a non-agency adoption? What are the requirements for step-parent, parental placement, close relative, and adult adoption?

Recruitment

- Kinship adoptions. What is the difference between relative and non-relative adoptions? What are the risk factors of kinship adoption?
- Establishing healthy relationships with birth family after TPR.
- How to recruit for teenagers and children with special needs.

Trauma

- Trauma informed care (child).
- How to avoid caregiver stress and burnout (adoptive parents).
- Developing resilient workers: Effective ways to respond to secondary trauma (workers/professionals).
- Exploring the difference between stress vs toxic stress. How stress can impact a child's physical and mental health as well as impact attachment.

Workforce/Data Analysis

- Using data to drive permanency practice
- Succession Planning: How to prepare and retain institutional knowledge to ensure permanency for children and youth.
- How to use your passion to help build a high-performing, mission-driven agency.

Courts

- Strategies with working with courts to achieve permanency

Youth Voice Panel

- Adoptees discussion on their experience.

However, we are flexible with topics and are willing to review all. Please submit using the attached form to conference organizer:

Ellena McConnell , Member Services Coordinator at NewFound Families-Virginia
emcconnell@newfoundva.org, Phone 804-241-7012



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Program Title:
Coordinating Presenter Information

Full Name:		
Title:		
Institution/Organization:		
Address 1:		
Address 2:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:	

Additional Presenters

Full Name:		
Title:		
Institution/Organization:		
Full Name:		
Title:		
Institution/Organization:		
Full Name:		
Title:		
Institution/Organization:		
Full Name:		
Title:		
Institution/Organization:		



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Brief Bio of Coordinating Presenter:

Brief description to be printed in the conference program – 80 word maximum.

Program Purpose/Description:

Brief description to be printed in the conference program – 80 word maximum.

Learning Objectives:

Please indicate what attendees can expect to take away from your presentation.

Brief Training Outline:

Please include how your program reflects this year's conference theme.

Please list any AV equipment you will require: