

# Right to Life of North Central Indiana

**2024 Pregnancy Resource Center Networking Day - Friday, November 1, 2024**

## Workshop Topics and Presenter Bios

We are excited about the line-up of workshop presenters and topics for this year's Pregnancy Resource Center Networking Day. We are bringing back several popular presenters (with new material) from previous years and adding some new ones. Below is the list of presenters and their workshops scheduled to date.

### Workshop Topic – Connecting With Your Hispanic Community

***Presenter: Lucas Fonseca – Founder and Director of Language Matters***

**Workshop Description:** Our focus through this training is to equip learners with clear, practical strategies for branding their organization to connect with the Hispanic community. Attendees will walk away with strategies that will allow them to interact confidently with the Hispanic demographic they intend to serve. Participants will walk away with practical knowledge, such as how to create effective promotional materials, and how to make the most out of each interaction. We want this workshop to be informative and practical for you and your team!

#### **Activities:**

- 1. Create a flyer:** Attendees work on creating a small flyer that could be used to promote their services to the Hispanic community - This will help to understand what elements are important to consider when promoting to the Hispanic community.
- 2. Spanish greeting:** Attendees will learn how to respectfully greet someone in Spanish and communicate essential information about their services.
- 3. Plan to attend an event:** Attendees will prepare to attend a Hispanic festival or event where they will think through all that is needed to have a booth and effectively reach the Hispanic community.

**Bio:** Lucas Fonseca founded Language Matters in college in 2018. Since then, he has built an outstanding international team that is highly respected for their work in the community. Some of his most rewarding projects to date have included work with municipalities, economic development corporations, chambers of commerce, colleges, and nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

In early 2022, Lucas developed a language-access plan for the City of Warsaw, which he continues to implement. He has recently expanded this innovative model to the City of Logansport, Indiana and

the City of Marion, Indiana. Lucas is actively connecting with mayors across the state, equipping municipalities to connect with the growing immigrant population.

During his company's six years of operation, his work has also made entrepreneurial programs accessible to Latino business owners and provided interpretation for COVID testing sites. His company was also selected as a 2021 gBETA company at gener8tor, a nationally ranked accelerator. In the same year, Lucas was awarded KEDCO's Rising Leader Award for outstanding leadership in Kosciusko County. In August 2023, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation nominated Lucas for Forbes 30 under 30 North America for his impactful work in the state of Indiana.

Since the onset of the business, Lucas and his brother also co-founded Aiming Toward College: a recruiting agency that helps international students obtain scholarships in the United States.

### **Workshop Topic – Why Won't You Listen to Me?**

***Presenter: Stacey Gagnon – RETA CEO***

**Workshop Description:** Communication skills are vital to our ability to connect with others. Often, children and adults with developmental trauma have an inability to appropriately communicate their needs. This leads to challenging behaviors and broken relationships. This class will provide insight into how humans communicate, and how, with some basic understanding, we can learn to have more positive interactions with clients and help them relate more successfully to their children.

**Bio:** Stacey firmly believes that the right to life extends beyond the womb. Seeing the need to lower infant mortality rates, build stronger brains at the point of conception, and improve the overall physical and mental health of Elkhart's and Saint Joseph's County children, Stacey is dedicated to RETA's mission. Stacey is a passionate advocate for children in the areas of special needs, adoption, and foster care. She has a degree in education and spent seven years in the classroom. Stacey is also a licensed RN and has mostly worked in public health and pediatric mental health.

### **Workshop Topic – Showing Love and Support for Your Male Clients**

**Presenter:** Jarid Mayo – Care Net's Fatherhood & Family Manager

**Workshop Description** - Tina Turner once asked, "What's Love Got To Do With It?" The answer: everything! While men can't undergo a pregnancy test and ultrasound, they play a crucial role in the decision-making process. They contribute 50% to the reasons we have clients. In this session, we will explore practical ways to show love and support to the men who visit our centers.

**Bio:** Jarid Mayo serves as Care Net's Fatherhood & Family Manager. He works to develop strategies to develop and further enhance fatherhood programs within pregnancy centers across America. He previously started and managed a fatherhood program at 9 pregnancy centers in Ohio, serving almost 2,500 fathers! Jarid enjoys music, personal training & comic books. He's been married to the lovely Jennifer for 17 years.

## **Workshop Topic – Post Traumatic Growth**

***Presenter: Dr. Adam Dell***

**Workshop Description:** The possibility of healing on the other side of harm. Insights from psychology and 20 years of clinical experience.

**Bio:** Dr. Adam Dell is board certified in clinical Psychology. He is husband to Janine and father to two daughters. He and his wife were foster parents in three states over the course of 6 years. He served nearly 7 years as an active-duty psychologist in the United States Air Force and an additional 4 years as the Director of Emotional Well-Being at the University Of Notre Dame. He currently services hospitals throughout Northwest Indiana and maintains a small private practice.

## **Workshop Topic – Sexual Risk Avoidance Programming**

***Presenter: Cheryl Labelle – Education Director for Clarity of Central Indiana***

**Workshop Description:** Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA) is an established health model used to promote wellness and eliminate risk through primary sex education prevention. Extensive research shows that SRA programs significantly impact positive teen behavior changes which lead to healthier outcomes. Benefits include delaying sexual initiation, discontinuing sexual activity if already initiated, better academic outcomes, and less likely to participate in other risk behaviors.

In this workshop Cheryl will guide participants through the main concepts of SRA Education that create protective factors in teens. Topics include holistic optimal health, benefits of abstinence, the success sequence, healthy relationships, risk behaviors, and tools that equip teens. She will also use short segments from the *I Decide For Me* curriculum to demonstrate how these concepts can be taught to students in the classroom. There will be time for participants to ask questions. Information will be provided for those interested in growing their PRC in the SRAE field.

**Bio -** Cheryl LaBelle is a graduate of Concordia University, Chicago where she received her certification as a Director of Christian Education. She continued her studies at Concordia University, Nebraska to attain a Master's of Science in Family Life. She currently serves as the Education Director for Clarity of Central Indiana and is a certified Sexual Risk Avoidance (SRA) Specialist. Having lived through the challenges of being the daughter of a single teen mom, Cheryl is passionate about helping youth make healthy choices for their successful future. She works with an amazing group of women who have collaborated their experience, knowledge in the SRAE field and outside research to build the evidence supported curriculum *I Decide For Me*. She is a wife, a mom of three teenagers, and has experience working with youth for more than two decades.

## **Workshop Topic – Adoption as an Option**

***Presenter: Jocelyn Wallace***

**Workshop Description:** The staff at pregnancy resource centers are enthusiastic about preserving life for both moms and babies but may feel ill equipped to talk about adoption as a viable option in unplanned pregnancy situations. In most cases, adoption is almost always seen as the least desirable option when an expecting mom is faced with an unplanned pregnancy, often even more undesirable than abortion. This workshop is designed to help you skillfully present the pros and cons of both parenting and placing a child for adoption, so the mother can make the best decision for everyone involved. The workshop will discuss grief in adoption, non-coercive options counseling, and counseling skills recommendations.

**Bio:** Jocelyn Wallace is an author, conference speaker, and biblical counselor with 25 years of experience serving hurting women with hope and help from God's Word. She was formerly the Executive Director of Rainbow Haven Transitional Housing Center in Frankfort, Indiana and Vision of Hope Residential Treatment Center in Lafayette, Indiana.

She currently serves as the Director of Development at Gifts of Grace Adoption Support Center in Lafayette, Indiana. Jocelyn has been a certified biblical counselor with ACBC since 2006 and is the co-host of the Joyful Journey Podcast.

## **Workshop Topic – Chemical Abortion and Abortion Pill Reversal**

***Presenter: Dr. Donna Harrison***

**Workshop Description:** This workshop will cover the issues related to chemical abortions and the opportunities with abortion pill reversal.

**Bio:** Dr. Donna Harrison is a physician, board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology. She is currently serving as Director of Research for the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the largest non-sectarian pro-life physician organization in the world, with over 6,000 members across the United States, and associate members worldwide. Under her leadership as past CEO, AAPLOG doubled membership, launched the annual Matthew Bulfin Educational Conference, developed an up-to-date website and social media presence, and launched systematic outreaches to the medical, legal, and policy communities to discuss the effects of abortion on women.

Dr. Harrison's research interests include Selective Progesterone Receptor Modulators, Endometrial Contraception, Maternal Mortality, and Abortion Mortality and Morbidity. She has authored peer reviewed papers on the approval of RU-486 and on Ulipristal (Ella) as well as on the embryocidal potential of hormonal contraception. Dr. Harrison is a Continuing Medical Education Speaker in the United States and internationally on topics of Medical Abortion with Mifepristone and Misoprostol, Emergency Contraception with Ulipristal, Maternal Mortality, and Abortion Morbidity.

She is an Adjunct Professor at Trinity International University in Deerfield, IL, teaching post-graduate seminars at the annual Center for Bio Ethics and Human Dignity summer workshops. She is Associate Editor of the peer-reviewed medical journal, "Issues in Law and Medicine".

Dr. Harrison is married to Dr. Mark Harrison M.D., and is the mother of 5 children and 12 grandchildren.

### **Workshop Topic – Servant Leadership**

***Presenter: Richard (Dick) Armington – Advancement Director for RETA (Reason Enough to Act)***

**Workshop Description:** Workshop Topic: Servant Leadership (of your organization/department) Isn't for The Weak.

This class will discuss some of the most basic yet difficult to address fundamentals of leading people. Many make the mistake of thinking they are a leader because they can tell people what to do. Servant leadership teaches us that by focusing on the needs of those we've been called to lead takes planning and energy but will result in the healthiest results for our team and our organization. You should expect to come away with some strategic, yet mostly common-sense best practices for leading people and thus your organization and/or department.

Participants will:

- Understand how servant leadership takes strength and courage to lead by focusing on others, not yourself.
- Strengthen communication skills which are essential for your culture and team dynamics.
- Explore how to proactively address potential opportunities and issues to negate more work and less results down the road.

**Bio:** Richard graduated from Bethel University, Mishawaka, Indiana with a degree in secondary education. Dick taught and coached high school for four years before embarking on a business career that included positions in sales, sales leadership, President, and CEO of four organizations and being a certified leadership trainer.

After a mission trip to Honduras during the middle of his business career, God called Dick to Compassion International where he became the National Director of Donor Development. Dick has participated and led over 30 mission trips to Honduras, Haiti, The Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru, India, and Kenya with many of these being donor related.

Dick is currently the Advancement Director for RETA (Reason Enough To Act), a Pregnancy Resource Center located in Elkhart, Indiana. RETA offers full medical services via a Nurse Practitioner, licensed mental health counseling, family store resources, food, clothing, men's and women's coaching, and one-on-one mentoring in addition to other services that affirm life and help build Christ-centered families.

Dick is married to Deb, his college sweetheart. They have four adult children, three of which are married and have blessed Dick and Deb with ten grandchildren: five girls and five boys, ages 12 to twin 2-year-old girls.

### **Workshop Topic - Healing the Abortion Wounded Heart**

***Presenter: Lisa Davis – Founder and Director of Deeper Still of Northern Indiana***

**Workshop Description:** We will review the characteristics of an abortion wounded heart and the process for healing. We will talk about the importance of early intervention for the newly post abortive woman to (hopefully) prevent a repeat abortion, adverse coping skills, and relationship decline.

We will also discuss the impact of abortion on relationships, especially with the father of the baby. Adverse impact on men will be reviewed and the rationale behind helping fathers heal. We will also discuss the impact of abortion on the culture as a whole and why healing for the abortion wounded heart is key to bringing healing to our nation.

**Bio:** Lisa has over 20 years of experience working as a psychiatric nurse and another 20 years working in pregnancy resource centers helping women and their families with unplanned pregnancies. Additionally, Lisa has extensive training in dealing with the trauma of abortion, as well as personal experience with abortion and personal/spiritual healing. For nearly 20 years, Lisa facilitated Bible study/support groups addressing the specific grief and pain from a past abortion.

In 2017 Lisa established Deeper Still Northern Indiana, a not-for-profit which provides Biblically based healing retreats for men and women with abortion wounded hearts, offered free of charge to participants. DSNI is a chapter of Deeper Still (national) founded by Karen Ellison in Knoxville Tennessee. Deeper Still has 27 chapters nationwide. Lisa and her husband, Mike, publicly share their abortion experience, which occurred in 1985, to help others overcome their grief and shame and to help Christians develop a helpful response to their abortion wounded family and friends. They co-facilitate Deeper Still Retreats in Indiana.

Lisa and Mike are the parents of two fine adult children and grandparents to two beautiful granddaughters. They attend Harvest Fellowship Church in Fort Wayne, IN.

### **Workshop Topic - The Effects of Trauma on Maternal Health**

***Presenters: Brandie Yoder and Kelli Brien***

**Workshop Description:** This session will cover data related to the infant and maternal morbidity and mortality rates, and the effects of trauma on maternal health. Topics covered will include:

- Generational trauma in underserved communities

- Epigenetics and body response to trauma
- Intergenerational birth trauma
- Healing relationships with patients and professionals
- Informed emotional consent
- Trauma informed communication in emergency

This session will address lingering effects of generational and systemic harm that created barriers to quality care and continues to affect the health of vulnerable populations. We will provide solutions to communication and administrative issues to create environments conducive to excellent communication and care, and improved outcomes.

### **Bios:**

**Brandie Yoder**, MPH, BSN, RN, CCM, is an accomplished registered nurse and certified case manager currently serving as the Clinic Director at RETA, where she oversees the provision of free obstetric care for pregnant women and a range of additional services. With extensive experience in healthcare, Brandie has held roles as an ICU and hospice nurse and has led several ambulatory clinical teams. Her commitment to systems-level change in healthcare led her to earn a Master of Public Health.

In addition to her role at RETA, Brandie contributes to the Elkhart County Fetal Infant Mortality Case Review Team and co-leads the Building Strong Brains Maternal and Child Health Action Team. She is also an active member of the Healthcare Alignment Team of Elkhart County. Her dedication extends to her involvement with local organizations, serving on the boards of First Light Mission, a homeless shelter, and Welcome Home Youth Advocacy.

Outside of her professional commitments, Brandie and her husband, along with their three biological children and one adoptive child, are engaged in fostering.

**Kelli Brien**, CD(DONA) LCCE, CLS, SpBCPE is a certified doula, childbirth educator and lactation specialist. She created the Speak Life Doula program and co-authored the Safety PIN grant submission that garnered multiple awards from the Indiana State Department of Health.

Kelli founded In Full Bloom Maternity Service LLC and Mahogany Maternity, a 501(c)(3), has served in hospitals, home births, and birth centers, for over 14 years, and established the 32nd Milk Bank Depot in Indiana. She serves on The Saint Joseph County Fetal Infant Mortality Review team, the Indiana State Department of Health Maternal Mortality Review team, the board of Mental Health Awareness of Michiana, and chairs the Birth Equity Subcommittee for DONA International and serves as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She co-founded Birth Equity and Justice SJC, and has testified at the Indiana Statehouse in House and Senate chambers in support of Senate Bill 416, which passed, to be signed by Governor Eric Holcomb.

## **Workshop Topic - The LOVE Approach to Ultrasound**

***Presenter: Christa Brown***

**Workshop Description:** This workshop will provide tips to medical professionals to offer ultrasound with a spiritually focused approach and optimize the experience for the client. We will focus on scanning techniques that hold the client's attention, case studies, and how to define the success of your work. Whether you are new to ultrasound or are wanting to refine your approach, we will explore ways to successfully introduce moms to their babies for the very first time.

**Bio:** Christa Brown BSN, RN, LAS serves as the Senior Director of Medical Impact for Heartbeat International, offering support and training to medical clinic affiliates throughout the world in ultrasound and other medical services. In addition, she and her team oversee the Abortion Pill Rescue Network. APRN is a global initiative operating 24 hours a day, staffed with a dedicated nursing team and a network of more than 1,000 medical professionals as well as clinics and hospitals. Through the network, thousands of lives have been saved in 93 different countries and all states in the U.S.

With over twenty-five years of dedication to the pregnancy help movement, serving as Executive Director in three Pregnancy Help Medical Clinics, Christa has empowered thousands of families to navigate challenging circumstances and choose life for their children. Christa is married and has five children and nine grandchildren. Christa's advocacy for women and families worldwide has made a profound impact on women's health and the sanctity of life.

## **Workshop Topic – BIG Asks and SMALL Event Planning**

***Presenter: Cathy Wilson***

**Workshop Description:** In this presentation, we will discuss making the big ask when your stomach is doing cartwheels, how to find and cultivate those major donors, and yes, you do have them. Then, we'll shift gears and talk about small event planning. How is it the same yet still different from planning your annual banquet? Join us as we talk about leveling up fundraising at your PRC.

**Bio:** Passion and experience are what Cathy brings to her role as a Fundraising Strategist for *Choose Life Marketing*. With over 20 years of marketing and fundraising experience, much of it has been done in the pro-life industry.

Holding a certificate in Fundraising Management from IU School of Philanthropy, Cathy's proudest accomplishment is "fundraising for the most important cause, saving the unborn." She is eager to build relationships with clients and help them meet their needs for success.

Outside of work, Cathy loves spending time with her family along with Penny, and Eleanor, the "cutest Jack Russell Terriers you will ever meet." She enjoys Glamping at the lake and shopping for just about anything. Rumor has it that pancakes from Cracker Barrel are the secret to her sweet smile and outgoing personality.