

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (____) _____

Fax # (____) _____

E-Mail _____

Please check all that apply:

Adoptive Parent _____ Professional _____

Adoptee _____ Birthparent _____

Other _____

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$90.00 per person in advance (with CEU's)

\$60.00 per person in advance (without CEU's)

\$110.00 single day fee onsite

Receipts available onsite.

Registrations are non refundable.

Online registration available at:
<http://laab2012.eventbrite.com>

OR mail registration and check to:

Kim Mouton, LAAB
825 Ardmore Dr.
Lake Charles, LA 70605

For registration information contact:

Kim Mouton (337) 474-2788
kmouton1@gmail.com

For other conference information contact:

Linda Woods, Conf. Chair
(504) 443-1012 or
email: linrwoods@aol.com

Registration: June 8, 2012

Foyer of hotel 7:30-8:15AM

*If you have special requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act please attach a written description of your needs.

LOCATION

Lodging: The Radisson Hotel, site of the conference, has reserved a block of rooms on June 7-8, 2012. The sleeping room rate is \$85.00 per night. For reservations in the Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board block, call the Radisson Hotel by May 6, 2012, at 225-236-4000. Overnight parking is free. Guest amenities include free in-room high speed internet, an outdoor pool with a waterfall, a fitness facility, and a sauna.

Directions: From I-10 East and West: Exit 157B. From exit ramp turn North onto Acadian Thruway. Shortly after, turn right from Acadian into hotel between the Chevron Service Station and Mestizo's Restaurant.

Childcare Option: Available at It's My Party. Advance reservations required. For fees and availability, please call (225) 768-8171.

Book Exchange: Please consider donating new or used adoption related books to LAAB. Donations should be brought to the conference. Those interested in a book will be asked to pay what they can for the book with all funds received going to support LAAB.

Continuing Education Units

Application has been submitted for 6.0 CEU hours to the National Association of Social Workers, Louisiana Chapter, as authorized by the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners and may be applied toward the continuing education requirements for licensure renewal.

Certificates of Attendance issued by LAAB at registration desk starting at 4:30 pm.

NASW-LA certificates available upon request from NASW-LA. Contact NASW-LA for details regarding fee and delivery.

Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board, Inc.
P.O. Box 2332
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

A Coalition of Adoption
Advocates Serving Louisiana's Children



An Adoption Conference

"The Lifelong Journey of Adoption"

Sponsored by:

The Louisiana Adoption
Advisory Board, Inc.

June 8, 2012

The Radisson Hotel
2445 South Acadian Thruway
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
225-236-4000

Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board, Inc. Celebrating 20 Years

LAAB was formed in April 1992 by a federal grant for post-adoption services. The Board represents all parties to adoption.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board, Inc. is to bring various members of the adoption community together to share different perspectives, seek common understanding, and promote initiatives that pertain to adoption.



Adoption: Give A Child A Chance

Funding provided through grants from the National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice and Permanency Planning at Hunter College of Social Work, a service of the Children's Bureau, The Louisiana Children's Trust Fund, The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, and ExxonMobil Corporation.

AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 8TH, 2012

8:15 AM – 5:00 PM

REGISTRATION

TIGER I 7:30 AM – 8:15 AM

WELCOME 8:15 AM – 8:30 AM

KEYNOTE 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

FRANK KUNSTAL, PH.D.

Family-Friendly Parenting Amid Challenging Behaviors

While we often hear that parents are the real experts about their children, so often it's just lip service. The expert, we are told, is really a television personality, a photogenic child psychologist, or the get-down-to-business super nanny. Many authors tell parents how to raise their children, when it's really the parents who understand what makes children tick, and what their bad behavior means. This presentation will focus on the common-sense parenting it takes to do some digging, and get down to the bottom of what's troubling children and teenagers. Our focus will be to understand behavior from the child's point of view, and then to use that understanding to make their lives better, and even with the most challenging problems, to make successful parenting a do-able challenge, not an impossible dream. This presentation will focus on understanding children and teens' behavior problems and troubled emotions, and on helping carers with common-sense ideas and strategies to tackle the seemingly endless problems and extraordinary challenges they give us. Dr. Frank Kunstal is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in working with challenging children and teens and their families. Dr. Kunstal has written numerous articles on children and families, has consulted and conducted trainings nationally and internationally, and is currently preparing his latest text on parenting, *"The Behavior Detectives."*

CEU: 1 hour General

BREAK 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

SESSION I 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

TIGER I – GERALD (GARY) P. MALLON, DSW

Lifelong Themes in Adoption and Foster Care Family Systems Facilitating permanency for youth can be very challenging work. Many teens that have been in the child welfare system have experienced multiple placements and are at a crossroad between childhood and adulthood. Adults who work with the youth must help them identify caring, committed adults with whom they might want to establish a lifelong connection. The practice and professional literature speaks to the importance of permanence for youth and how continued instability increases the long-term risks for teens, which may continue well into adulthood.

Gary Mallon, DSW, is a Professor and Executive Director of the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning at the Hunter College School of Social Work in New York City. He is a visiting professor at the LSU School of Social Work and Tulane University School of Social Work.

CEU: 1 hour General

AGENDA

TIGER II – KIM STEVENS, M.ED.

Advocacy: 101 to Advanced Parents are natural advocates – whether it's getting services for a child at school or working to improve the child welfare system. In this session participants will learn the various steps and strategies to effectively advocate for the best needs of children on an individual basis or as a community group.

Kim Stevens, M.Ed., served as Co-Director of Massachusetts Families for Kids. While at MFFK, she established the Speak Out Team, a nationally recognized model for foster/adopted youth advocacy and raising awareness. Kim works at North American Council on Adoptable Children as project manager for the Jockey Being Family™ funded Community Champions Network. CCN is working with 18 communities to build grassroots advocacy coalitions. Kim has provided training and consultation on foster care, adoption, and youth permanency issues throughout the U.S. and Canada.

CEU: 1 hour General

BREAK 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM

SESSION II 11:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

TIGER I - FRANK KUNSTAL, Ph.D.

Behavior Detectives Helping Parents and Professionals to be Super Sleuths and Solve the Mystery of Children's Misbehavior. Most parents have questions about their children's behavior. In fact, most parents worry or fret about their children, at times blaming themselves or wondering where they've gone wrong. Parents and professionals alike need to ask the right questions and find the correct answers that will help address children's behavior. This workshop will provide thoughtful solutions and interventions for behaviors such as lying, cheating, stealing, and negative attention seeking.

CEU: 1 hour General

TIGER II - CHARLIE CUSIMANO, KENT GONSOLIN AND DELLA PRESSLER

Adoption and the Law in Louisiana The legal issues surrounding adoption in Louisiana and recent legislation regarding adoption in the State.

Charlie Cusimano is an attorney located in Baton Rouge and an adoptive parent. Kent Gonsolin is the LAAB Board Chair and a birthfather in an open adoption. Della Pressler is an adoptee and the Chair of the Adoptee Birthrights Committee Support Group in Baton Rouge.

CEU: 1 hour General

Box Lunch Provided (meal ticket required) –

TIGER I 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM

KEYNOTE – TIGER I 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM

PATRICIA MARTINEZ DORNER, MA, LPC, LMFT

Search and Reunion How does the journey of search and reunion relate to core needs in adoption? We will examine the ethical and practical issues that arise and avenues to handle the complexities associated with these issues.

Patricia Martinez Dorner has been a proponent of adoption reform for many years. She is the author of *How to Open an Adoption: A Guide for Parents and Birthparents of Minors*;

AGENDA

Adoption Search: An Ethical Guide for Professionals; Talking to Your Child About Adoption; and co-author of *Children of Open Adoption*. Ms. Dorner has an adoption-focused practice including counseling, search assistance, preparation and support, and the opening of adoptions involving minors. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Texas.

CEU: 1 hour General

ADOPTION ADVOCATE PRESENTATION

1:45 PM – 2:00 PM

RICHARD CAFFAREL

LAAB ADOPTION ADVOCATE AWARD

BREAK 2:00 PM – 2:15 PM

SESSION III 2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

TIGER I – PAM HASEGAWA, BETSY FORREST, MSW, LSW AND PENNY CALLAN PARTRIDGE, MSW

Reunions, Loyalty, and Connections A workshop designed to help others understand some of the issues and feelings in a reunion from the adoptee's perspective. Pam Hasegawa is an adoptee and active adoption advocate. Betsy Forrest, MSW, LSW, is a retired adoption social worker with a Masters in Education who worked for Children's Aid and Family Services. Penny Callan Partridge, MSW, is an adoptee and an adoptive parent. She is author of *"The People They Brought Me"* which shares Penny's poems about the adoptee experience.

CEU: 1 hour General

TIGER II – KIM STEVENS, M.ED.

Post-Adoption Support Models In an effort to help communities identify their local needs and develop the best possible programs, this training explores existing post-adoption services offered around the U.S. and Canada. Participants will learn which particular programs, services, and model elements are right for their community as well as how to pursue program development.

CEU: 1 hour General

BREAK 3:15 PM – 3:30 PM

SESSION IV 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

TIGER I – PAM HASEGAWA, BETSY FORREST, MSW, LSW AND PENNY CALLAN PARTRIDGE, MSW

What is in a Name? An interactive workshop to help understand the significance of names in our society and how names are often altered by the adoption process. Foster children struggle sometimes with losing their identity in a name change and adoptees struggle with a desire to know their birth name.

CEU: 1 hour General

TIGER II-PATRICIA MARTINEZ DORNER, MA, LPC, LMFT Open Adoption: An Ethical Model

This presentation will define open adoption and provide guidance for parents and professionals in navigating open adoption with emphasis on a child's developmental understanding of open adoption.

CEU: 1 hour General

TIGER I 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM **Drawing for raffle and silent auction bids and adjourn**