



Families Like Mine 2024: Relative Caregivers of Children Conference



**Saturday, September 14, 2024
Chula Vista Resort
Wisconsin Dells**

Agenda

8:00-8:45: Registration & Continental Breakfast/Vendor Room Open

8:45-9:00: Welcome & Announcements

9:00-9:45: Lived Expertise Keynote Address/Jean OBrien & Holly Seals

9:45-10:15: Tabletop Discussion/Connection

10:15-10:30: Break/Vendor Room Open

10:30-10:45: Co-Sponsor Presentation: Office of Children's Mental Health

10:45-11:45: Understanding the Juvenile Court Process: CHIPS & Minor Guardianship Cases/Christina Tenuta & Kristen Wetzel

11:45-12:45: Lunch/Vendor Room Open (12:15-12:45)

12:45-2:00: Considering Forgiveness in an Unforgiving World/Tim Markle, Forgiveness Factor

2:00-2:30: Tabletop Discussion/Connection

2:30-2:45: Break/Snack/Vendor Room Open

2:45-3:45: Resources and Respite for Relative Caregivers of Children/
Bryn Ceman, Family Caregiver Support Specialist & Leslie Thede, Program Specialist, RCAW

3:45-4:15: Wisconsin Wayfinder: A New Way to Find Resources/Tim Markle, Outreach Manager Waisman Center of UW Madison

4:15-4:45: An Introduction to Kids Matter Inc. Services/Susan Conwell

4:45-5:00: Closing

Presenters/Presentations

Bryn Ceman: National Family Caregiver Support Program

Bryn started her career in Long-Term Care over 20 years ago in case management and service coordination for clients and families; later growing in that role with a Managed Care Organization focusing on approaches to address social determinants of health, access to preventative services, and emergency/crisis planning. Before her current role, Bryn was the Aging Unit Director and Adult Protective Services & Benefits Specialist Supervisor for Winnebago County. Now in her role as the Family Caregiver Support Specialist her work centers around technical assistance & training for 70 counties and 11 Tribes and serves on seven coalitions to promote advocacy efforts to address family caregiver issues.

Christina Tenuta: Navigating the Courts-Children's Court Improvement Project (CCIPS)

Christina graduated from the City University of New York School of Law (CUNY) in 2010, where she received the Hon. Bryanne Hamill Family Law Fellowship and the Public Interest Law Fellowship. Prior to joining the Wisconsin Children's Court Improvement Project (CCIP) in 2024, Christina spent ten years in private practice as a family law attorney. For eight years, Christina also served on the Parental Representation Project of Dane County, representing parents in abuse and neglect cases. As a dedicated public interest attorney, she participated in the creation of the Tri-County Foreclosure Mediation Clinic in northeastern Wisconsin and the Senior Wills Clinic in Dane County. Christina is on the editorial board of the Wisconsin Journal for Family Law. Her publications include: Can You Really Be a Good Role Model to Your Child if you Can't Braid Her Hair?: The Unconstitutionality of Factoring Gender and Sexuality into Custody Determinations, 14 N. Y. City Law Rev. (Summer 2012) and Ten Things My Clients Taught Me About Domestic Violence, Wisconsin Journal of Family Law, Vol. 40, No. 3 (July 2023).

Jean OBrien & Holly Seals: Lived Expertise Keynote Speakers

In this lived expertise keynote, the presenters will share their journey from the deadly and devastating impact of opioids on their family, to the path of hope and healing. This keynote offers the unique opportunity to gain insights into the perspectives of both a parent with a substance use disorder, as well as the grandparent who cared for the children while supporting her adult child's recovery. The presenters will share the insights and lessons learned that led them to best support the children in the home as well as deepening their own connection.

Presenters/Presentations Cont'

Kristen Wetzel: Navigating the Courts-Children's Court Improvement Project (CCIPS)

Kristen Wetzel joined the Children's Court Improvement Program (CCIP) as a Legal Advisor in August 2018 where she focuses on CHIPS, TPR, adoption, and minor guardianship proceedings. Prior to her position with CCIP, she worked as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in Portage County handling CHIPS, TPR, and Chapter 48 guardianship cases. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Law Studies from Marquette University and a Juris Doctor from the John Marshall Law School.

Leslie Thede: Respite Care Association of Wisconsin

Leslie's passion for people has led her to hold various roles in the service industry. In these roles, Leslie has worked with people across the lifespan. She has overseen teams of people and always prides herself on building relationships and improving communication. Whether she was responsible for regulatory compliance or person-centered care, improving the quality of life of others has always been of the utmost importance. The role that made her fall in love with the service industry was Life Enrichment Coordinator at a senior living facility. Most of her time growing up was spent in a SNF bonding with her grandmother with Alzheimer's Disease.

Susan Conwell: Kids Matter Inc.

Kids Matter Inc. was founded in 2000, inspired by the compelling need to improve the lives of the many Milwaukee County children involved in the child welfare system. The mission of Kids Matter Inc. is to help abused and neglected children heal and thrive, to bring volunteer energy and community support to foster and kinship children, and to apply lessons learned from helping children heal to preventing further child abuse.

Tim Markle: Forgiveness Factor and Wisconsin Wayfinder

Tim Markle is founder and director of Forgiveness Factor. Forgiveness Factor exists to promote forgiveness as a way to live mentally well. Tim teaches classes, workshops, seminars and speaks about forgiveness, suicide prevention, and addiction recovery in Wisconsin, nationally, and internationally. He regularly partners with Stoughton Health and Stoughton Senior Center to teach a 6-week course on Freedom Through Forgiveness. A frequent guest on podcasts, Tim can also be heard Tuesday mornings on Life 102.5FM in Madison. He is a speaker and contributing writer for the International Forgiveness Institute. In July of 2022, Tim was presented with the Healing Hearts Hero Award at the International Agape Love and Forgiveness Conference for "his years of commitment to helping others learn about the virtues of self-forgiveness and interpersonal forgiveness."

Tim Markle cont': Forgiveness Factor and Wisconsin Wayfinder

Tim brings a unique perspective through sharing his personal journey through childhood trauma, alcoholism, betrayals, misunderstandings, mental health challenges, and life. He also brings a background in psychology and counseling. Tim is married, has two adult children and lives in Stoughton, WI. Forgiveness is what he does for fun as he is employed by the Waisman Center at UW-Madison as an Outreach Manager. In his outreach role, Tim is the Director of the Wisconsin Youth Health Transition Initiative and Outreach Lead for the Children's Resource Center-South and is on Faculty for the Wisconsin Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Training Program. You can contact Tim through Forgiveness Factor at www.forgivenessfactor.org or email at tim@forgivenessfactor.org.

<https://internationalforgiveness.com/> <https://forgivenessfactor.org/>

Vendors

211 Wisconsin | United Way of Wisconsin

EdVest 529

Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR)

Kids Matter Inc.

Office of Children's Mental Health (OCMH)

Oneida Family Services

Public Knowledge

Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW)

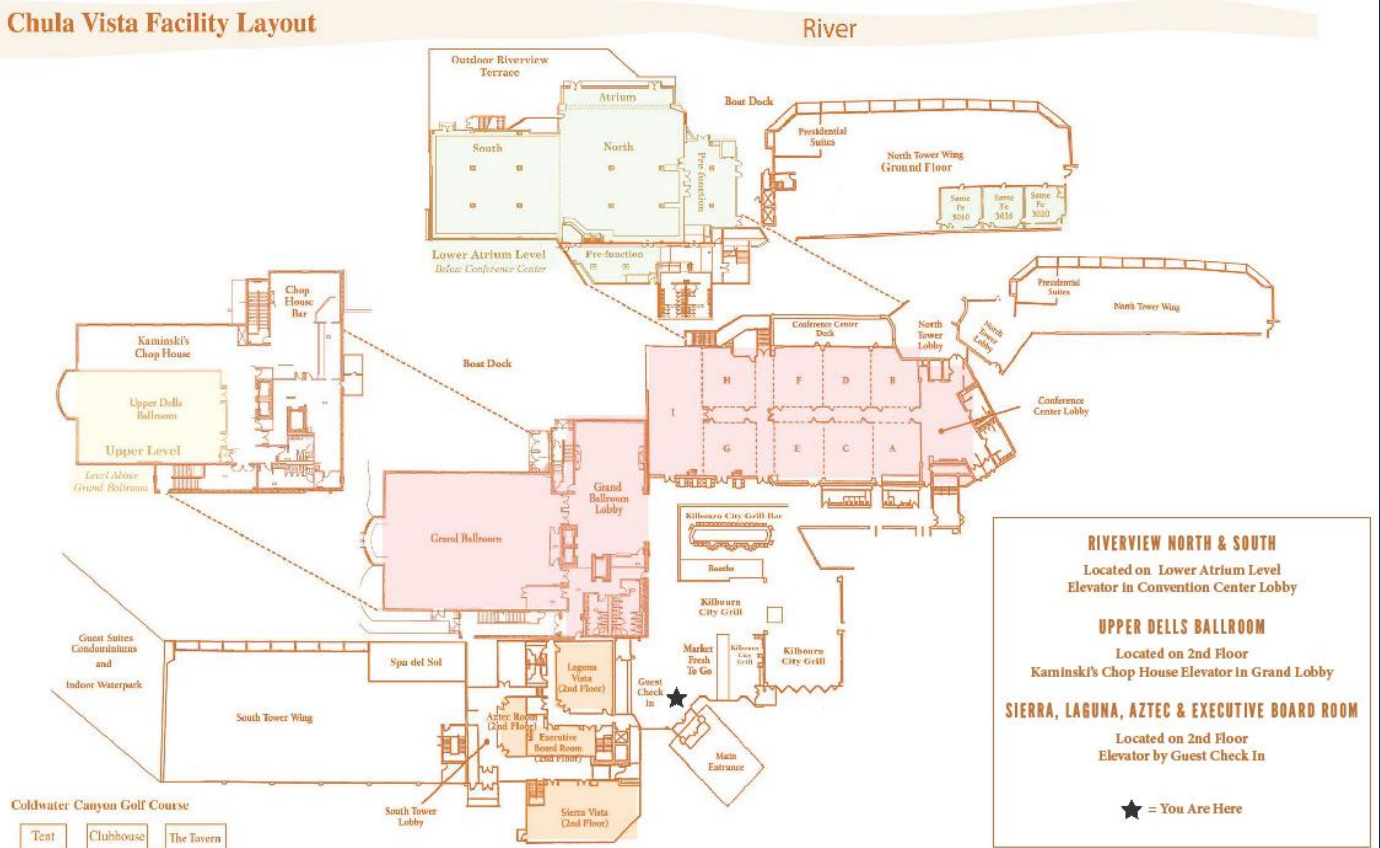
Wisconsin Wayfinder

Wisconsin Family Connections Center

We would like to extend a very special thank you to the Office of Children's Mental Health for their generous sponsorship.



Chula Vista Facility Layout



Facility Layout:

Conference Meeting Space: I, G, H

Vendor/Resource Room: E, F

Handouts and Resources:

Using your phone's camera, scan the QR code below to access any handouts and resources electronically from today's conference.

