



## DCF NEWSLETTER

June 2019 - Issue 4

### New Jersey Child Welfare in the 21st Century: Regional Forums in North, Central and South Jersey



DCF Commissioner Christine Norbut Beyer and Mary Coogan from Advocates for Children of NJ joined forces to host a second round of three Regional Forums to discuss the vision and strategic plan for a 21st Century Child Welfare System. Collaboration, Evidence-based programs, Equity, Integrity and Family Voice are the core approaches that will guide the transformation.

### 2019 Healthy Centered Engagement Adolescent Advocacy Program Summit

DCF's Office of Adolescent Services hosted the 2019 Healthy Centered Engagement Adolescent Advocacy Program Summit at Mercer County College.



The keynote speaker, Dr. Farima Pour-Khorshid is an assistant professor and teacher supervisor at the University of San Francisco and a member of the radical healing team at Flourish Agenda. Dr. Pour-Khorshid addressed the topic of Healing Centered Engagement, an approach to trauma which expands how we think about responses to trauma and offers a holistic view which moves beyond "what happened to you" to "what's right with you".

The second presenter, Rachel Godsil is a Professor of Law and Chancellor's Scholar at Rutgers Law School and the Director of Research & Co-Founder of Perception Institute. Rachel discussed the topic of Implicit Bias, the brain's automatic and instant association of stereotypes or attitudes toward particular groups, often without conscious awareness.



## IN THE NEWS

New Jersey leads the country in helping children and families be safe, healthy and connected. [Read More...](#)

## 2019 SUMMER SAFETY

**NEVER** leave your child unattended in a car.



**NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE!**

Left alone in a vehicle, even for a short time, a child is in danger of abduction, injury, dehydration or even death.

[Learn More...](#)



#WaterSafety - We want to remind you to be vigilant with young children around water.

[Water Safety Tips](#)



## DCF's first annual Family & Community Partnerships Conference



DCF Commissioner Christine Beyer, Family and Community Partnerships Assistant Commissioner Niurca Louis, and ACF Region II Administrator Joyce Thomas spoke with attendees at the first annual FCP Conference: "Keeping New Jersey's Families Healthy and Connected" before an afternoon of workshops focused on 11 topics: 1. The caregivers role in promoting healthy social-emotional development of infants and toddlers, 2. How to engage African-American men at risk, 3. Advancing 2nd generation programming in your community, 4. Addressing the substance use crisis and vaping in our community, 5. Working to build communities that survive and thrive, 6. Reframing the vaccination message, 7. Paid Family Leave: How changes benefit the working families, 8. Reducing the stigma for mental health services, 9. Elevating the family voice to make a difference, 10. Intersections of violence and the impact on the child, and 11. Paid sick time is now the law in NJ.

## 2019 DCF Regional School Graduations Throughout NJ

Congratulations to the 127 graduates of our 15 New Jersey DCF Regional Schools! DCF Regional Schools serve students referred by their districts, including expecting and parenting teens as well as youth with severe medical and/or developmental disabilities.



## 2019 Violence Against Women Certificate



On June 12th, the Director of Division on Women, Anna Martinez spoke and issued certificates to 60 participants of the Violence Against Women Certificate Program. Congratulations to the 2019 VAWC Graduating Class! Knowing the link between child maltreatment and domestic violence, DCF established a program to train field staff to be aware of the signs of both, and to support families across the needs spectrum. Since its inception, 378 participants, including this class, have graduated from the program.

## DCF Supports LGBTQI



Multiple DCF local and area offices participated in advocating for and representing equality during Pride Month in June.

#TeamDCF

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