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National Institute for Permanent
Family Connectedness



NIPFC Permanency Blast

January 22nd, 2020

Happy New Year!

We're starting off 2020 with a brand new episode of **Let's Have a Conversation**. Bob Friend was able to sit with attendees at the Kempe Center's International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement and discuss a number of topics. This episode yields a conversation with experienced leaders of two organizations who have helped to install and sustain family involvement practices in their agencies in Hawaii and Minnesota, in partnership with their local public counterparts, so that families can have primary authorship over the plans and results in matters involving their kin who may be or have entered the child welfare system. A second episode will soon follow which contains interviews/perspectives with these leaders and other attendees about the greatest need for changes in child welfare, and plans that the participants have to make an impact in their communities.

NIPFC is building our presence on Facebook and LinkedIn. You can get in the moment updates on news, innovation, and upcoming events. Follow us! Our connections are rapidly increasing!!

The Quality Improvement Center for Adoption and Guardianship Support and Preservation (QIC-AG) has completed a five year project working with 8 sites to implement effective interventions to promote stable permanence in adoptive and

guardianship homes. One of the interventions selected was Pathways to Permanency 2, which is a parent training series designed by Kinship Center-Seneca Family of Agencies, for adoptive, foster, and kinship/guardianship families. Its goal is to help families support children in the Permanent Managing Conservatorship of Texas to address issues of trauma, grief, and loss and build healthy attachments and lasting relationships. Learn about the overall QIC-AG project, and the progress that the Texas chapter has made through articles and videos on their website.

While at the Kempe Center's "**International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement**" in San Diego, Thursday, Nov 21st, 2019, Seneca Family of Agencies and NIPFC were presented an award for ongoing efforts to find, engage, and involve families. View a list of awardees at the conference, as well as more information on the Kempe International Conference below.

The Institute for Innovation and Implementation has announced that the **2020 Training Institutes** from June 29-July 3 in Orlando FLA is now open for registration. Sign up for the conference and book your hotel. The institute has secured a room block at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel for their conference during the week of June 29th-July 3rd. There's also a special promotion at the Rosen Shingle Creek: Extend your stay after the conference and celebrate July 4th Weekend in Orlando at the Rosen for an additional discounted rate of \$99 from July 3 - 8, 2020. Information and links provided below.

Finally, there is a change in the NIPFC team. The position of NIPFC Coordinator will be handed off from Jonica Little to Ana Martinez. Learn more about them below.

Happy Listening and Reading!

Let's Have A Conversation

In our 10th episode of our "Let's Have a Conversation" podcast series Director Bob Friend connects with Kelli DeCook and Renaux Swancutt of Family Service Rochester, as well as Laurie Tochiki from Epic `Ohana. They converse how they've maintained 20 years of quality engagement via their family involvement practices.

Let us know how we're doing. Rate our episodes and leave us comments!

[Episode 10- Sustaining Family Involvement](#)

Show Links:

[Family Service Rochester](#)

[County of Olmsted Child and Family Services](#)

[Epic `Ohana, Inc.](#)

Previous Episodes

[Episode 1- The History of Family Finding](#)

[Episode 2- Restoring Hope](#)

[Episode 3- The Impact of "Casework as Usual" on Innovative Practice](#)

[Episode 4- Convergence of 21st Century Science with the Wisdom of the Ages](#)

[Episode 5- Family Finding Practice Abroad](#)

[Episode 6- A Story of Partnership](#)

[Episode 7- Listening to and Learning from Lived Experience](#)

[Episode 8- What about Dad?](#)

[Episode 9- Iron Sharpens Iron](#)

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QIC-AG

Quality Improvement Center for
Adoption & Guardianship Support and Preservation



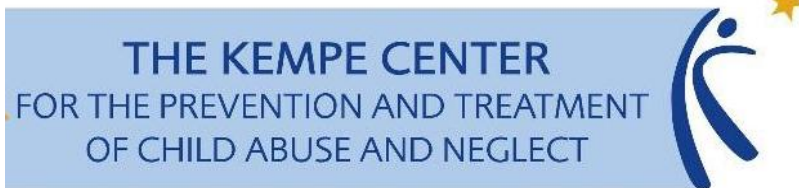
The National Quality Improvement Center for Adoption and Guardianship Support and Preservation (QIC-AG) is a five-year project working with eight sites (Catawba County, N.C.; Illinois; New Jersey; Tennessee; Texas; Vermont; Winnebago Tribe, NE; Wisconsin) that will implement evidence-based interventions or develop and test promising practices which, if proven effective, can be replicated or adapted in other child welfare jurisdictions.

The Texas QIC-AG project aims to help children in the Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) of Texas address issues resulting from trauma, grief, and loss by using an interactive series for caregiver families that focuses on parenting children who have trauma and loss as a part of their history.

They are making progress by implementing Pathways to Permanence 2: Parenting Children Who Have Experienced Trauma and Loss (Pathways 2), one of two parent training series designed by Kinship Center, a member of Seneca Family of Agencies, for adoptive, foster, and kinship/guardianship families. Pathways to Permanence 1: Parenting in Real Life is designed to prepare prospective adoptive and foster care parents. Pathways 2 is designed for foster and adoptive parents, kinship caregivers, and guardians who are actively parenting children who have experienced trauma and loss. Pathways 2 is a seven-session series that uses a group-based format to enhance parents' and caregivers' ability in skilled application of strategies. The program is designed as a clinically informed competency-building training, and is delivered as an interactive learning experience with robust discussion.

The Texas QIC-AG site page includes an [Overview](#) of the overall QIC-AG project and the chosen intervention by the Texas chapter, how Texas is [Implementing](#) as well as recruitment and retention efforts, [Lessons Learned](#) throughout the process, and finally a [Video](#) that chronicles the sites implementation journey and highlight the personal impact of providing the intervention to children and families.

For More Information, Tools and Resources, [Click Here!](#)



Innovation Conference Awards Ceremony



Seneca Family of Agencies and NIPFC were presented an award at the 2019 Innovations in Family Engagement Conference in San Diego Thursday, Nov 21st, for its ongoing efforts to find, engage and involve families, citing the work of CPYP, Kevin and our joint work over the years. Bob Friend and Mike Mertz accepted and represented our collective history.

To view the list of awardees click on the link below:
[2019 Kempe Conference Award Ceremony](#)

For more on the Kempe 2019 International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement, [Click Here!](#)

The Institute for Innovation and Implementation June 29-July 3, 2020

[Register Here](#)



Next summer in Orlando, 2,000 leaders and experts-including youth and families-will gather to connect, learn, and find new ideas and approaches for the future.

The 2020 theme **#WhatCouldBe: Bolder Systems & Brighter Futures for Children, Youth, Young Adults & their Families** challenges us with new ideas and approaches. Are you up for the challenge?

[Click Here to Book Your Hotel & Save](#)

We have secured special room rates at the [Rosen Shingle Creek](#), available for stays between June 26 to July 3, 2020. You can make reservations online or call 1-866-996-6338, please specify you are attending the 2020 Training Institutes

Extend your stay after the conference and celebrate July 4th Weekend in Orlando at the Rosen for an additional discounted rate of \$99 from July 3 - 8, 2020.

For More Information, [Click Here!](#)

NIPFC Coordinator Transition

As of January 31st, Ana Martinez will take over the role of NIPFC Coordinator. Jonica Little is currently assisting Ana in the transition.

Ana Martinez



Coordinator- Ana Martinez joined National Institute for Permanent Family Connectedness (NIPFC) after working in different programs within Seneca Family of Agencies since 2013. During that time Ana worked in school settings coaching and collaborating with staff and families to create modified and sustainable learning environments for youth in special education programs. She shares her knowledge skills in coaching in training service providers in motivational interviewing and behavioral modification strategies. She is excited to be able to attribute focused energy into serving youth and families in a different avenue. Since graduating from the University of Redlands with a degree in Psychology, Ana has been pursuing opportunities in learning and growing in the field of mental health.

Jonica Little



Jonica will continue to pursue an education in healthcare and nursing to start her career in Forensics.

Connect and follow her progress on her [LinkedIn profile](#).

Keep Us in the Loop

We want to hear about what's goin on in your community. If you have an article, newsletter, or announcement, send it our way. It might end up in our next Blast!



Send us suggestions for future blast topics!

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