# SOUTHERN REGIONAL AHEC







Annual Child Abuse Summit 2023: Be Their Voice: Help Them Soar! Thursday, April 20, 2023 8 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

#### Location:

John D. Fuller Sr. Recreational/Athletic Complex 6627 Old Bunce Road, Fayetteville, NC 28314

#### **Target Audience**

This program is designed for mental health professionals, psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, counselors, child advocacy centers, department of social services, law enforcement investigators, and other professionals working with children that have been abused or in high risk environments.

#### **Program Description**

Each year local Cumberland County and Fort Bragg community partners collaborate to provide a regional conference to highlight Child Abuse month in April. This year's Child Abuse conference will discuss the following topics: Rewind (the documentary), WORTH court, criminal justice, dangers of sexting and texting, LGBTQ, Integration of Clinical Hypnosis and Child Abuse and Child Labor Trafficking 101.

#### **Agenda**

7:15 a.m. Registration / Check In

8 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, Housekeeping

8:15 a.m. **Opening Plenary Presentation: Rewind - Documentary and Discussion** 

Sasha Neulinger

This opening plenary will discuss Sasha Neulinger's candid personal memoir as he revisits his childhood and the events that tore his seemingly-perfect world apart.

**Objectives** 

• Discuss the documentary "rewind"

10 a.m. Break

#### 10:15 a.m. **Morning Breakout Sessions**

#### Session A – Integration of Clinical Hypnosis and Child Abuse

Johnny Leonard

This session will introduce the audience to the world of hypnosis-what it is and what it is not. There is plenty of misinformation about hypnosis and through this session we will demystify those thoughts. Additionally, we will explore how to access the subconscious and use techniques to heal the mind.

#### **Objectives**

- Discuss what is Clinical Hypnosis and how a child can benefit from clinical hypnosis with other modalities
- Review the interplay between trace states and emotional psychological abuse
- Demonstrate how to access the subconscious mind and implement techniques to heal the mind from abuse

#### Session B – Criminal Justice, Dangers of Sexting and Texting

Dr. Eric See

This program explains and breaks down the separate but highly inter-related concepts of sexting, texting, and cyber bulling, particularly to adults who think they have a solid grasp on these topics. Children and young adults often express themselves primarily, if not entirely, through the use of texting and social media apps such as Snapchat and TikTok. The true power and functionality of these apps is often lost on adults, who underestimate the reach and power they hold over the user. Finally, the discussion will turn to the policy and planning that agencies and caseworkers must engage in to best serve their respective client populations.

#### **Objectives**

- Discuss the connection between texting, sexting, and cyber bullying
- Review, explain and understand how sexting and texting have evolved over the past decade
- Demonstrate how to develop a policy plan

### Session C - Same but Different or Is It? Best Practice Treatment for Lesbian and Bisexual Young Adults with Substance Use Disorders

Avery Cook, MSW, LCSW

Members of the lesbian community present to treatment with a great deal of challenges and strengths that have informed their experience. Participants of this workshop will gain a basic understanding of the lesbian population as well as issues specific to the lesbian experience of addiction and recovery. Working towards the development of cultural competency as the goal, this workshop will be interactive; setting the expectation that participants engage in thought provoking dialogue. Objectives

- Demonstrate increased familiarity with the issues and barriers faced by lesbian persons in need of substance use disorder-related services
- Explain the difference between substance use and abuse
- Explain the difference between different LGBT issues
- Describe ways to provide more sensitive, affirmative, culturally relevant, and effective treatment to lesbian clients

#### Session D - Through the Eyes of a Child

Sasha Neulinger

"Through The Eyes of a Child" aims to educate MDT (multidisciplinary teams) on the child's experience of dealing with the system. In sharing an in depth account of his experience, Sasha breaks down what was helpful for him, what wasn't helpful, and what MDT can keep in mind to make the process as painless as possible for the child. Objectives

- Discuss the difference of what a child "presents" and what a child is feeling
- Review the importance of body language, tone, and energy when interfacing with a potential child abuse victim
- Demonstrate the importance of working as a team on a case

11:30 a.m. **Lunch** (Food Trucks Available – Lunch On Your Own)

### 1 p.m. Afternoon Breakout Sessions Session A – WORTH Court

Caitlyn Lacey, Assistant District Attorney, Cumberland County
Bengie M. Hair, Coordinator WORTH Court Cumberland County
WORTH Court will be described as a diversion court focusing on the needs of survivors for healing while engaged with the legal system. The presenters will describe the formation, implementation, and operation of WORTH Court and its continued development. One essential component will be local, regional, and national training opportunities designed to enhance human trafficking awareness. Objectives

- Identify awareness and details of WORTH Court
- Discuss survivor scope of service and support needs with a clear understanding

#### of trauma

 Summarize the many aspects of human trafficking and how it affects our communities

### Session B - Exploring the Rainbow: Enhancing Cultural Competency in Work with the LGBT Community

Avery Cook, MSW, LCSW

Members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community present to treatment with a great deal of challenges and strengths that have informed their experience. Participants of this workshop will increase their cultural competency in working with members of this community by learning more about identity development, resiliency, as well as the discrimination and oppression that members of this community often face. This workshop will be interactive and participants will engage in thought provoking dialogue around these issues.

#### <u>Objectives</u>

- Identify increased familiarity of issues and barriers facing members of the LGBT community
- Review the effects that discrimination and oppression can have on mental health and substance abuse issues
- Identify ways to provide more sensitive, affirmative, and culturally relevant and effective treatment to clients
- Demonstrate ways to integrate respect and inclusion into the community

### **Session C – Generational Interviewing - Speaking to Younger Generations** *Chris Campbell*

This breakout session will give a brief overview of generations within the workplace and how each differs from the other. This session will primarily focus on understanding how new generations differ from others when being interviewed. It will also offer the ways to go from deceptive responses to soliciting truthful answers. Examples of new ways Y/Z Alpha lie compared to that of previous generations. This session stems from research in the area of Y/Z Generations. Chris has interviewed and compiled data from approximately 1000 individuals within these generations, focusing on lie detection and truth gathering. During this research, Chris discovered that while there are substantial differences between the generations, understanding each other can benefit today's workplace. Objectives

- Discuss the difference between the X Generation (and before) and the Y Generation (and beyond)
- Discuss how interviewing techniques have changed since the Y Generation has been established
- Discuss the shift between Generation X and the new generations

#### Session D – Child Labor Trafficking 101

Alex Bumgardner, MSW Intern

In this session, attendees will gain a foundational understanding of child labor trafficking. Attendees will learn about vulnerabilities that increase a child's risk of being trafficked, how to identify signs of child labor, and ways to help protect the

youth in their community. As consumers, we likely benefit from forced child and adult labor on a daily basis. At this breakout session, attendees will learn what practices they can instill into their daily lives to empower those who are vulnerable to exploitation and how to avoid contributing to labor trafficking. Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of child labor trafficking
- Identify the different forms of child labor trafficking
- Discuss how to respond as a community as well as individually

2:30 p.m. **Break** 

#### 2:45 p.m. Closing Plenary Presentation: Rediscovering the Beauty Within

Sasha Neulinger

This closing plenary will address "Rediscovering The Beauty Within" as Sasha's story of triumph in the reclamation of his life after what was a traumatic childhood. Utilizing photos, childhood drawings, home videos and archival news footage as immersive aids, Sasha shares his journey from child victim to a thriving adult who chose and crafted a life not defined by trauma. "Rediscovering The Beauty Within" is as educational as it is motivational.

#### **Objectives**

- Review the "inside mind of a child abuse victim" learning about the intimate thoughts, logic, and beliefs of a child sexual abuse victim while trapped in the secret (pre-intervention)
- Discuss the "secondary trauma of the prosecution process" reflecting the absence of CAC and the high-profile nature of a case can negatively impact the prosecution and the mental health of the victim
- Identify "effective healing practices/positive reinforcements for survivors" on how to shift the perceptions, thoughts, logic and beliefs on what Sasha uses to positively reinforce a healthy life, post trauma

4:45 p.m. Closing Remarks/Adjourn

#### **Speakers**

**Alex Bumgardner, MSW Intern** has her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from North Carolina State University. She has worked in disaster services, within the school system working with refugees, and in anti-human trafficking case management. Through The Salvation Army's, Project FIGHT (Freeing Individuals Gripped by Human Trafficking) Alex worked with survivors of sex and labor trafficking, providing crisis and long-term case management services. Alex is currently earning her Master's in Social Work and her Associate License as an Addiction Specialist through North Carolina State University Social Work program. She also continues to work in anti-human trafficking efforts as an MSW Intern at the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission.

**Chris Campbell, MA** has been in law enforcement since 2005 and has investigated cold cases, sexual assaults, homicides, and other significant crimes. In 2010, Chris joined the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (NCSBI) and has been a polygraph operator since 2012, conducting criminal and preemployment testing while working criminal cases.

Chris spent time working within the Computer Crimes Unit and is currently assigned to the NCSBI Behavioral Threat Assessment Unit. In 2017, Chris reconstructed the NCSBI Interrogation Academy and implemented psychological interviewing based on different generations. Chris is currently a lead instructor for the NCSBI Academy Interrogation School. Chris holds a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology and is currently pursuing his Doctorate. Chris has presented his research to local, state, and federal entities across the United States.

**Avery Cook, MSW, LCSW,** is the Clinical Coordinator at Counseling and Psychological Services at UNC-Chapel Hill, where she engages in clinical work with individuals on issues involving gender identities and expression, LGB culture and identity development, as well as anxiety, depression and crisis intervention. She has been a field instructor with UNC-CH School of Social Work for the past 10 years and serves as a training consultant with the School of Social Work's AHEC Training Partnership. Avery collaborates with the LGBTQ Center at UNC to serve students on campus and conducts trainings across the state on issues related to gender identity and gender expression. She also has a private practice in Chapel Hill.

This presenter is being supported through the partnership between UNC-CH, School of Social Work and the NCAHEC Program.

**Bengie Hair, BS,** has been a contract consultant for almost 4 years with WORTH Court. Before Bengie worked with WORTH Court, he worked in at Moore County Public Health Department and was an Assistant Director for Medications Access and Development with the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Health. Prior to working with Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Health, Bengie was the Project Officer and Branch Chief for the Federal Government's Department of Health and Human Services, a Program Manager for Roper St. Francis Healthcare, a Program Manager for Cape Fear Valley Medical Center and the Program & Grants Manager for South Central Health Care Consortium.

**Caitlyn Ray Lacey, JD,** Assistant District Attorney, Graduated from Texas A&M University with her BA in Political Science and earned her JD from Gonzaga University School of Law. Ms. Lacey began her work with the Cumberland County District Attorney's office in 2019 after moving to North Carolina to be closer to her military family. Over the last 4 years working in the DA's office Ms. Lacey has assisted in the prosecution of crimes ranging from low level misdemeanors to homicides. Most recently Ms. Lacey worked as the lead juvenile prosecutor, in addition to specializing in prosecuting felony sex crimes, appearing for the State on all sex offender registry hearings, and representing her office as a part of the team responsible for attending MDT Meetings at the CAC. Over the last year she has transitioned into leading human trafficking prosecutions in the DA's office and has been working closely with the W.O.R.T.H. Court initiative as well as law enforcement partners in both Cumberland County and on Fort Bragg in addressing this complex issue.

**Johnny Leonard, LCMHCS, LCAS** is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor Supervisor; and owner of Healing Minds Therapeutic Services PLLC. He provides psychotherapy, professional consultation, and educational trainings. Mr. Leonard specializes in the areas of trauma, addictions, alternative counseling approaches. Additionally, he serves as a Treatment Provider with WORTH Court. He earned his MA in Counseling Psychology from the Fayetteville State University (FSU) and BS in Psychology from FSU.

**Sasha Joseph Neulinger** is the Founder and President of Voice For The Kids, and Co-Founder and Head of Production at Step 1 Films. In 2015, Sasha presented at TEDxBozeman with his first public speech, "Trauma Is Irreversible. How It Shapes Us Is Our Choice." Since his TED Talk, Sasha has presented over 100 keynote speeches around the world, helping raise over \$8 Million for the fight against child abuse. Sasha made his directorial debut at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival with his autobiographical, feature length documentary, REWIND. REWIND had its US Television Premiere on May 11, 2020 as a part of PBS' Independent Lens lineup, and has since been streaming for audiences both nationally and internationally. REWIND was nominated for a 2020 Critics Choice Award for Best First Feature

Documentary and received three Emmy Nominations in 2021, including Outstanding Social Issue Documentary, Outstanding Direction, and Outstanding Editing

**Dr. Eric See** is the Division Head for Criminal Justice and Military Science at Methodist University. He has published a variety of books, book chapters, and journal articles on topics including firearms, terrorism, mental health, and methamphetamine. He has presented at the local, state, and national level on the topic of sexting and texting and has worked with the local school system to educate both parents and students on the potential dangers of sexting and texting.

#### Fee

This program is free to attend. Space is limited.

#### **ADA Service**

Americans with Disabilities Act Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the ADA coordinator at least five days prior to the event at (910) 678-7226 or ashley.diehm@sr-ahec.org.

#### **Credit**

**C.E.U.:** 0.6

**Contact Hours:** 6.0

**NC Psychologists Category A:** The program will provide 6.0 contact hours (category A) continuing education credit to NC Psychologists.

**NCASPPB:** Approved by the North Carolina Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board for up to 6.0 hours of credit (Approval pending)

Southern Regional AHEC is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

No partial credit will be given. Individuals arriving 15 minutes or more after the starting time will not receive credit. Credit will be awarded to participants who attend 100% of the program.

#### Substitutes/Refunds/Transfers

- Cancellations must be in writing (fax, email, or mail)
- Registrants cancelling between two weeks and two full business days prior to the first day of the event are refunded at 70% of the registration fee subject to a minimum \$25 cancellation fee.
- No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations received less than two full business days prior to the event.
- Cancellations greater than 2 weeks prior to the event will receive 100% refund.
- No vouchers will be issued in lieu of a refund.
- Transfers/substitute(s) welcome (notify in advance of the program)

Attendance at this activity grants permission for Southern Regional AHEC to use any photographs, audio, video, or other images from this activity for promotional or educational purposes. Please notify an AHEC staff member if you have concerns.

#### **Contacts**

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A MyAHEC account is required to complete registration. If you do not have a MyAHEC account, please go to our website at:

https://www.southernregionalahec.org/create-account to create an account. Please use your personal email address when you create your MyAHEC account as work email accounts can change.

The handouts for the program will be provided online. Early registration is encouraged, as full access instructions will be sent with registration confirmation via e-mail.

For Continuing Education References concerning inclement weather, tobacco-free campus and ADA requirements, please go to:

https://www.southernregionalahec.org/about-us/general-reference/

#### **Registration Form**

CASCE # 70697 / MH230420

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**Fee:** This program is free to attend. Space is limited.

Register Online: <a href="https://www.southernregionalahec.org/courses-and-events/70697">https://www.southernregionalahec.org/courses-and-events/70697</a>

Date

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