



Adoption *Professionals*

OCTOBER 17-18
2024

Registration

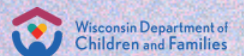
fee is \$50 for both
Virtual or In-Person Attendance

Wilderness Resort

511 E Adams St. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Questions?

Contact Kim Eithun at
keithun@wisc.edu



Conference Information

The 2024 Wisconsin Adoption Conference, sponsored by the Department of Children and Families, will feature national and local experts providing training, innovations, and evidence-based programs to support and preserve children, adoptive and birth families. The conference will cover a variety of topics including supporting resiliency in children and families, addressing ambiguous loss in children and families, connecting birth and adoptive families to resources, and supporting the workforce. Workshops will highlight best practices and provide tools and skill-building exercises. You will be able to attend in person or virtually.

Thursday, October 17

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Friday, October 18

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Wilderness Resort

511 E. Adams Street

Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Registration

Registration is available at:

<https://btnt.short.gy/Adopt2024Reg>

There is a registration fee of \$50 for both in-person and virtual attendees. Please indicate any dietary restrictions or special accommodations when you register. Registration closes on October 15, 2024.

There will be a virtual option for all the plenary and workshop sessions.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservations can be made at:

1-800-867-9453. Please state you are with the WCWPDS - Adoption Conference 2024 at Glacier Canyon Lodge, Leader #A13640.

Please make your hotel reservations by September 16, 2024, to ensure you receive the discounted rate.

Please provide your tax-exempt documentation prior to checking in.

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing Education Hours (CEH) will be offered to attendees. You will receive 1 CEH for each hour attended.

Conference Materials

Conference materials will be provided to attendees in electronic format only. These materials will be made available prior to the conference in the Whova app. Participants wishing to have hard copies should print the materials prior to arrival.

Questions

Please contact Kim Eithun at keithun@wisc.edu or (608)807-6152.



Agenda at a Glance

Thursday, October 17

7:30 am - 8:30 am	Registration and Breakfast
8:30 am - 8:45 am	Welcome
8:45 am - 9:45 am	The Child Welfare Experience and Trauma
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Yoga Stretch
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am - 11:30 am	Workshop A
11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Lunch
12:15 pm - 12:45 pm	Department of Children and Families Updates
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm	Panel of Adoptees, Adoptive Parents, Relatives, Birth Parents
1:45 pm - 2:00 pm	BREAK
2:00 pm - 3:15 pm	Workshop B
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	BREAK
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Preparing the Whole Family for Foster Care or Adoption
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Networking Reception

Friday, October 18

7:30 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30 am - 10:00 am	Ethics and Boundaries
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am - 12:30 pm	Ethics and Boundaries (continued)

Workshop A

A - 1

Generational Trauma

Trauma is not confined to the experiences of a single individual; it reverberates across generations, shaping how we perceive the world and respond to it. Participants will gain insights into how trauma is inherited, its impact on individuals and communities, and its connections to complex PTSD.

A - 2

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) for the Whole Family Part 1

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) is an evidence-based parenting model and a family-based intervention designed for children who have experienced relationship-based traumas. It helps parents understand their child's perspective and the feelings underlying the challenging behaviors. Parents support their child's healing through providing research-proven strategies to help children feel safe and learn essential life skills. This session will give you an introduction and overview into TBRI®, an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children.

A - 3

Private TPR/Adoption Legal Perspective

Join us for an insightful workshop designed to deepen your understanding of how to support private adoptions including private Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) and adoption cases.

A - 4

Ambiguous Loss, Unresolved Grief, and Trauma for Adoptees

At the core of every child's experience in foster care and adoption is the experience of loss. This workshop addresses the often overlooked and complex layers of ambiguous loss, unresolved grief, and trauma that adoptees face.

This presentation will delve into:

- The concept of ambiguous loss and its impact on adoptees
- The multifaceted nature of grief in children who have experienced multiple layers of loss
- Effective strategies and tools to help children process and navigate their grief and trauma

Workshop A (continued)

A - 5

Supporting LGBTQIA2+ Youth in Their Identity Development

LGBTQIA2+ youth in foster care and adoption services face unique challenges in their identity development journey. This workshop is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge and tools to effectively support these children and youth in navigating their identities.

A - 6

Helping Transracial Families Nurture “Conscious Identity” Development

Racial-ethnic identity development can be fluid and it can shift from one moment to another, sometimes leaving adoptees feeling confused, betrayed, and abandoned from all sides. Many adoptees had a relationship to several identities before they were adopted. What happens when families and professionals struggle to preserve and honor those important truths about our stories? In this training, Cam will address and demonstrate how identities can shift, live contested, die on purpose, keep us anchored, and transform alongside us. Learning to nurture “conscious identity” can be a pivotal factor in an adoptive parent’s ability to cultivate trust and relational attunement, which becomes a foundational orientation for empowering adoptees within and beyond their immediate family constellations. Join Cam for this interactive training and leave with an increased awareness about ways to practically support youth and adults through their adoptee experience as it relates to racial-ethnic identity and adoption.



Workshop B

B - 1

Assessing Capacity for Parenting Children With Special Needs

This workshop is designed to provide valuable insights and guidance for current/prospective adoptive parents, as well as professionals working in adoption and foster care. We will explore common specialized needs, hear family stories, and provide practical tools and strategies to assist attendees in exploring and assessing openness and readiness for specialized parenting. Vignettes from parents and adoptees with lived experience, self-assessment tools, and additional resources enrich this presentation to support families and professionals in their assessment processes.

B - 2

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) for the Whole Family Part 2

This session is a continuation of A-2 Trust-Based Relational Intervention for the Whole Family. Please sign up for both sessions so you have complete information.

B - 3

Healing Vulnerable Hearts: Understanding Therapeutic Techniques for Adopted Children

This workshop is dedicated to addressing the unique and complex needs of adopted children. Led by Lauri Budzynski who specializes in adoption-related trauma, this session will explore therapeutic techniques designed to support children who have experienced profound loss and change. Participants will learn how to guide and coach parents in the healing process, helping them to become active facilitators in their child's emotional recovery. This workshop will provide insights into creating a safe and nurturing environment where children can grieve, heal, and rebuild their sense of security and belonging.

B - 4

Navigating Sensory Challenges Together

Join us for a workshop designed for supporting children with sensory disorders and their families. This interactive session, led by Laura Hewitt, an experienced occupational therapist, will guide you in supporting families through essential techniques to help children understand and manage their sensory experiences. Professionals will leave empowered with practical tools to support families in fostering a sense of security in the child's environment.

Workshop B

B - 5 Secondary/Vicarious Trauma and Avoiding Burnout

Adoption work is both vital and challenging, often exposing professionals to secondary trauma. This workshop is designed to equip adoption professionals with the knowledge and tools to recognize the signs of secondary trauma and prevent burnout. The session will offer practical strategies for self-care, stress management, and building resilience in the face of ongoing challenges. Through insightful discussions and interactive exercises, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how to maintain their well-being while continuing to provide compassion, effective care for the children and families they serve.

B - 6 Adoption Literacy

"We grow up thinking social responsibility is one thing, and it takes a new way of being to realize there may be more to the story, more to the people involved. Cam Lee Small, author, clinician in private practice, and dynamic advocate for mental health and adoptee wellbeing, brings lived experience and professional insight to the forefront of this training. Based on his personal journey as a Korean American adoptee navigating reunion with birth family and heritage, Cam teaches a practical framework for Adoption Literacy to lift our relationships, and our culture as a whole, into new potentials and breakthroughs. His work synthesizes personal testimonies with decades of research in a way that brings new life to intimate histories, living origins, and untapped possibilities, locally and worldwide. Regardless of your role in the community, this training will be vital for anyone who has ever wondered how their relational presence cultivates dialogue over silence, to nurture growth among today's youth, and compassion across our lifespan."

October 18: Ethics and Boundaries

Exploring Racial Justice in Social Work - White Privilege & Allyship

This workshop will explore white privilege in social work through the lens of racial justice and the role allyship has in today's social work practice and what we as professionals can do to break down barriers of racial injustice.

- Discuss white privilege in the context of modern social work practice and social justice
- Discuss allyship in the context of modern social work practice and social justice
- Challenge the concept of racial justice and allyship in your practice