

Margo Buchanan

RPS Resiliency Partnership Coordinator & Trauma-Informed Child and Family Therapist Child Advocacy Center
Greater Richmond SCAN

Margo Buchanan is a Trauma-Informed Child and Family Therapist and Coordinator of the Richmond Public School's Resiliency Project with Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now). She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and experienced Trainer. Margo's work is embedded in prevention practice, mainly through working with educators and administrative staff in educational settings to increase trauma-informed care and resiliency focused environments. She has a passion for working with young children and their families who have experienced adversity. Before becoming a social worker, Margo was a preschool teacher.

Annette Nelms

Owner
Mindful Matters, LLC

Nothing in her work as a corporate trainer or in her studies for a master's degree prepared Annette for the challenges she would experience as a Residential Food & Clothing Manager (commonly known as a Stay-at-Home Parent). As such, when her boys were young, she found herself getting angry over little things or for no apparent reason. Ashamed for having temper tantrums suitable to a three-year old, she turned to mindfulness as a healthier coping method. In 2016 she began a daily mindfulness practice which helped her meet parenting challenges. She went on to receive her training through Mindful Schools and is currently pursuing her Mindfulness Teacher Certification through the Greater Good Science Center at USC Berkeley, Annette lives in the Richmond area with her family where she teaches mindfulness in the community through her company Mindful Matters, LLC.

Anne Gibbons

Outreach Programs Coordinator
Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

Anne Gibbons is the Outreach Programs Coordinator at the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC). Anne joined VCIC after many years of service to Lynchburg College, now the University of Lynchburg. She is a 1996 recipient of VCIC's Humanitarian Award, and has facilitated Diversity and Inclusion programs for many years. Anne has a special passion for the intersection of spirituality and social justice. She received her undergraduate degree in Social Work from Augustana College and has a Masters of Divinity from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

M. Gabriela Alcalde

Managing Director for Equity and Health
Richmond Memorial Health Foundation (RMHF)

Gabriela is a public health leader with 20 years of experience and commitment to equity and social justice. Gabriela joined RMHF in 2017 as the first Managing Director for Equity and Health. Gabriela's role involves developing and implementing strategies for community engagement, developing and managing effective grantmaking focused on operationalizing equity, working with partners on salient community issues, serving as a resource to RMHF, our partners and the broader community and supporting strategic initiatives and efforts related to equity and health.

Gabriela has worked in the academic, government, nonprofit and grassroots sectors throughout her career and served in various volunteer capacities to promote equity. Prior to joining RMHF, Gabriela was Vice-President for Policy and Program at the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky for five years. She previously founded and led Kentucky Health Justice Network, a statewide grassroots organization working with communities of color, rural, low-wealth, immigrant, and LGBTQ communities and with health care and social service providers. Gabriela also served as director of the Louisville Metro Office for Women, representing the mayor in public policy and advocacy related to women, immigrants and families. She earned her DrPH in health administration at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an MPH in maternal and child health at Boston University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Louisville.

Cory Richardson-Lauve

Vice President of Programs
Virginia Home for Boys and Girls

Cory Richardson-Lauve serves at the Vice President of Programs at the Virginia Home for Boys and Girls, where she has worked since 2003 in several roles. Over the years she's been responsible for training, program evaluation, and human resources. Prior to that, she worked as a case manager, staff supervisor, and in a direct care role with youth in VHBG's group homes. She also has experience working with foster care youth at Boys Town in Nebraska as a classroom teacher in Baltimore. She graduated from the University of Virginia in 1996 with an undergraduate degree in English and a Masters in Teaching.

Lisa Jobe-Shields, PhD

Assistant Professor
University of Richmond

Lisa Jobe-Shields, Ph.D. is an assistant professor at University of Richmond in the Department of Psychology and a licensed clinical psychologist. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Child and Family Studies from The University of Memphis where she trained at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She completed her internship and two years of NIH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at Medical University of South Carolina, National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center. Her research and clinical work focuses on evidence based treatments for traumatic stress at multiple generations, as well as the impact of parental trauma-related mental health on parenting experiences and child outcomes.

Laura Reed

Project Manager – Family First

Virginia Department of Social Services

Laura Reed joined the Virginia Department of Social Services-Division of Family Services in May 2017 and became the Project Manager for the Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) in September 2018. The Division of Family Services is responsible for the supervision of the child welfare services continuum including the programs of: Prevention, Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoption, Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance and Title IV-E programs for Virginia. Laura has more than 15 years' experience in child and family social work practice. Prior to joining the Virginia Department of Social Services, Laura held a number of positions as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), including leadership positions at the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority and the Virginia Treatment Center for Children. Most recently, she served as the Regional Director of Family Preservation Services-Richmond Region from 2013-2017. Presently, Laura is facilitating Virginia's Three Branch Initiative to implement the unprecedented child welfare system changes that accompany the signing of the Family First Prevention Services Act. Laura holds a Bachelor of Sociology (BA) from the University of Virginia and a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and has held her Virginia LCSW license since 2008.

Caitlin Martin, MD MPH

Assistant Professor

Virginia Commonwealth University Obstetrics and Gynecology

Dr. Caitlin Eileen Martin is an assistant professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. She received her B.S. at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She then received her Master's in Public Health and Medical Degrees from the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine and Public Health. She went on to complete her residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She has also attained additional training in addiction medicine. She practices as a general obstetrician-gynecologist as well as an addiction medicine provider caring for women with substance use disorder through the lifespan including during pregnancy. As a physician scientist, her primary research interests lie at the intersection between addiction, gender reproductive and sexual health as well as pain.

Melissa McGinn, LCSW

Community Programs Coordinator

Greater Richmond SCAN

Melissa McGinn, MSW, LCSW, is currently Greater Richmond SCAN's Community Programs Coordinator and Coordinator of the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network. Melissa is responsible for the management and coordination of all SCAN's prevention programs, training, and consultation on becoming a trauma informed organization. Melissa has been an adjunct professor and field liaison at Virginia Commonwealth University for over 10 years. Most recently Melissa worked at the Virginia Department of Social Services, re-establishing the Child Welfare Stipend Program at four universities across the state. Melissa spent the first 14 years of her career as a child and family therapist specializing in the treatment of complex trauma, working primarily with children in the child welfare system, in community based and outpatient settings.

Ian M. Danielsen, MSW, LCSW

Assistant Professor

Longwood University, Social Work Program

Ian Danielsen earned his Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1992. He then worked for the Virginia Dept. of Juvenile Justice for nearly ten years in an intensive treatment program for sexually aggressive youth. Ian then worked for four years as a Clinician in a private agency providing residential treatment services for adolescent boys in foster care. He then served the Director of the Greater Richmond SCAN Child Advocacy Center from 2006 to 2016. In this role, Ian coordinated several important projects including earning national accreditation, forming seven new multidisciplinary child abuse teams, and engaging in statewide legislative advocacy on behalf of Virginia's children. He served as an adjunct faculty instructor for the VCU School of Social Work from 2009 to 2016. He currently serves as Assistant Professor in Longwood University's Social Work Program.

Ian was honored to be a 2011 recipient of the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award and a 2012 awardee of the Commonwealth of Virginia Governor's Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect. Ian now serves as Assistant Professor in Longwood University's Social Work Program. In this capacity, he serves on the Steering Committee of Longwood LIFE, a post-secondary education program at Longwood for young adults with Autism and intellectual disabilities. His research interests include child protection and welfare, public health outreach for infant safe-sleep practices, and program evaluation for adults with disabilities in higher education. He has been an authorized Stewards of Children Trainer since 2008 and an authorized Safe Church Trainer since 2013.

Emily Burleson

Social Work Bachelor of Science Candidate

Longwood University

Emily Burleson is a Junior-level Social Work Bachelor of Science Candidate at Longwood University. She plans to obtain her Bachelor of Science in May 2020. Emily is a member of Longwood Chapter of Federation of Student Social Workers (FSSW) And is the Treasurer of Longwood's Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society. She is grateful for the opportunity to speak with you all on such a relevant and important topic.

Emily Griffey

Policy Director

Voices for Virginia's Children

Emily Griffey is Voices' policy director, leading Voices' policy team and tackling cross-cutting issues, such as economic opportunity and trauma-informed policy. With the Campaign for a Trauma-Informed Virginia Emily helps connect Voices' policy expertise to opportunities to advocate for trauma-informed policies. In this role she helps connect partners working on trauma-informed practice and policy change to form a state-level unified agenda on trauma-informed policy. Emily serves on the Governor's Children's Cabinet Trauma-Informed Care Workgroup, the Three Branch Initiative focused on implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act, and on partner advocacy coalitions.

Emily comes to Voices with experience in working on early childhood issues at a local and regional level for Greater Richmond's Smart Beginnings, Richmond City Social Services, and Baltimore's Safe and Sound Campaign. Emily is a graduate of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond and earned her master's degree in public policy at Johns Hopkins University.

Allison Gilbreath

Policy Analyst

Voices for Virginia's Children

Allison Gilbreath is Voices' Policy Analyst for foster care and juvenile justice. Allison comes to Voices with several years of experience working on issues related to children and families. She began her career at Prevent Child Abuse Virginia, then moved to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), and most recently worked with the lieutenant governor's office, where she served on the Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success. Allison is a CASA (court appointed special advocate) and has been appointed to the CASA/Children's Justice Act Advisory Board for DCJS.

Allison was a governor's fellow in 2011 and was selected for the 2016 Emerging Leaders Program at University of Virginia's Sorenson Institute. She has given speeches at the Virginia Child Abuse Prevention Conference, the Virginia statewide CASA conference, and in many other public-speaking forums. Allison received the 2015 RVA Inspiring Woman Award as well as the 2016 David Saunders Legislative Award from the VCU School of Social Work. She serves on the YWCA of Richmond's Young Woman's Leadership Alliance. Allison earned her Bachelor of Science and master's of social work degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Sheri Parcell

Director of Training and Technical Assistance for Parents as Teachers State Office

Families Forward Virginia

Sheri Parcell one of two state leaders and the Director of Training and Technical Assistance for the Parents as Teachers State Office, a program of Families Forward Virginia. For almost 30 years, she has been dedicated to helping children grow up happy and healthy. She started as a preschool teacher in Blacksburg right out of college, moved to Winchester where she worked as an independent Child Care Administration Consultant, a K-1 Assistant Teacher in the Winchester Public School System, and then a Child Development Center Director before moving back to Blacksburg in 1998 with her family. She also worked as the Child Development and Education Specialist with New River Community Action Head Start for more than six years, the Coordinator for CHIP of New River Valley for four, and she recently celebrated her eight-year anniversary with the PAT State Office.

Juliana R. Weaver

Family Support Supervisor

Jefferson Area CHIP

Juliana Weaver is one of the Family Support Supervisor for the Jefferson Area CHIP Home Visiting program. Juliana has been working with children and families for over 20 years. Her work with families started in her native country of Brazil as a School Counselor. Juliana has worked at the University of Virginia for 9 years in a multi-site longitudinal study in child development and home visiting. In 2013 Juliana has joined Jefferson Area CHIP and has since then providing Reflective Supervision to Family Support Workers. Juliana has a MA in Psychology, IMH-E r (II) Infant Mental Specialist; is a National Trainer for the Family Check Up - evidence based home visiting model and provides training on Trauma Informed Care for home visitors with Early Impact Virginia.

Leslie Lieberman, MSW

Senior Director of Training and Organizational Development
Health Federation of Philadelphia

A social worker at heart, Leslie Lieberman believes deeply in the power of relationships to create change and heal. She lives by the motto “start where the client is.” She has applied these values to her work with individuals, groups, communities and systems for more than 25 years. Today, Leslie serves as the Senior Director of Training and Organizational Development at the Health Federation of Philadelphia where she leads a multi-disciplinary department which builds organizational, system, and community capacity for trauma informed care, HIV/AIDS care, resilience and healing. Leslie continues to be guided by her passion to assist others as they work transform visions into reality. Leslie holds a masters degree in social work from the University of California at Berkeley and received her BA Cum Laude from Carleton College.

Susan Geller

Founder and President
Wingspan

Susan Geller holds a Master’s Degree in Developmental Psychology from Vanderbilt University and has dedicated her career to providing assessment, home visiting, and prevention services for children and families. She founded Wingspan in partnership with Virginia Commonwealth University where she directed the development of the nationally recognized early childhood prevention program, Al's Pals: Kids Making Healthy Choices, and the parent education program, Here, Now and Down the Road ...Tips for Loving Parents. Ms. Geller manages Wingspan’s international work. She conducts professional training and develops resources to foster resilience in children and families.

Elizabeth Clark

CSA Administrator
Hampton Department of Social Services/Hampton CSA

Elizabeth Clark has been an advocate for children and families with complex needs for over 25 years. Elizabeth is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a Master’s degree in Social Work. Elizabeth spent 14 years at the Hampton Newport New Community Services Board serving in a variety of roles. In these roles she oversaw the development of innovative approaches to child welfare and mental

health to include the Professional Parent Program and Intensive Care Coordination. Elizabeth has been the CSA Administrator in Hampton the past nine years. In her current role, she has built upon efforts to provide a home for every at-home child living in Hampton; building each family's unique and individualized strengths; reducing the number of children and adolescents in foster care; and building positive outcomes for children, families, and communities. Elizabeth's commitment to building the Hampton System of Care has involved connecting every child-serving agency in Hampton in the Wraparound process.

Keli Lichty

Education Program Director
NRV Cares

Keli Lichty has spent most of her career working with children and families. She joined NRV CARES as the Education Program Director in October 2007 and oversees NRV CARES Parent Education Program as well as the Community Education Program. Keli believes that all children have the right to live in a safe nurturing environment and strives to ensure that through her work at NRV CARES.

Allison Lowry

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Services Program Manager
Fairfax County Department of Family Services

Ms. Allison Lowry is the program manager of the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Services programs for Fairfax County, VA. The programs provide community-based prevention and early intervention services to strengthen families, promote healthy family functioning, and encourage families to become self-reliant. Ms. Lowry has eighteen years of experience in social services. Prior to her work in Prevention, she developed the Child Welfare Quality Assurance Unit which conducted qualitative and quantitative research, conducted case reviews for Child Protective Services and Foster Care & Adoption, and focused on continuous quality improvement for child welfare. Before joining the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Ms. Lowry worked for an information technology firm specializing in business process redesign for state and local government public safety agencies. Ms. Lowry has a Master of Public Administration from the George Washington University.

Mary Jo Davis

Coordinator of Social Work Services
Fairfax County Public Schools

Mary Jo Davis, LCSW, is the Coordinator of Social Work Services for Fairfax County Public Schools. Ms. Davis received her Master's Degree in Social Work at Catholic University in 1990 and is a license clinical social worker in Virginia since 1993. She has twenty years of school social work secondary and elementary experience with both Loudoun and Fairfax County Public Schools prior to becoming the Coordinator in 2014. She previously worked in social work leadership as a Program Manager and a senior social worker supervising school social workers as well as providing program development, management and supervision to school social workers. During her years in FCPS social work services leadership she has assisted the evidence based committee in the development of EBP interventions in schools and tracking aggregate outcome data for the Office of Social Work. Ms. Davis has presented at

several local and national conferences to include; Advancing School Mental Health conference and School Social Work Association of America conference on Evidence Based Interventions in schools; Meeting Mental Health Needs through Data Decision Outcomes.

Olivya Wilson

Parent Engagement Coordinator
Greater Richmond SCAN

Olivya Wilson is the RPS Resiliency Partnership Parent Engagement Coordinator. In this role, she works with a team to provide an innovative trauma-informed approach within Richmond's most challenging schools, by embedding training, parent support and mental health counseling in 8 East End Schools in order to help young people and their families build resiliency. Olivya has a wealth of experience in various roles including in-home counselor, mental health skill builder, and hospice care worker. She also is very involved in community engagement work through her church, the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network and other community projects. She believes parent or caregiver engagement is a vital component of the RPS Resiliency Partnership because children need support, guidance, and commitment from those they feel closest to. Parental engagement helps boost children's morale, leaving them feeling encouraged and empowered. Olivya has a Master's degree in Social Work (2013) from Virginia Commonwealth University, she is a licensed clinical social worker and is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Divinity at Virginia Union University's Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology

MaryJo Alimena Caruso, M.Ed

Training/Technical Assistance Coordinator
FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention

MaryJo Alimena Caruso is a Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator with the FRIENDS National Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention. MaryJo has over 30 years of experience in the delivery of services and in the provision of training and technical assistance for child welfare and human service professionals. She holds a Master's Degree in Counseling and Education with an emphasis in disability issues. MaryJo is experienced in statewide and national initiatives in the areas of program planning and design, building and sustaining coalitions, curricula and resource development and dissemination, and identifying strategies for quality assurance, best practices and outcome data. In addition, MaryJo has developed and authored resources for child welfare and prevention works as well as those who support individuals with disabilities and serves as an adjunct faculty member and field supervisor for local universities' social work and rehabilitation counseling programs.

Gretchen I. Brown, MSW

Division Manager, Child Welfare Programs
Henrico County Department of Social Services

Gretchen Icard Brown, MSW, received a bachelor's degree in sociology and social work from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1992 and a master's degree in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia in 1994. She worked as a Child Protective Services Investigator for 6 years in Prince William County, Virginia and then moved to Henrico DSS as a CPS investigator for 2 years, CPS Investigations Supervisor for 16 years and she is now the Division Manager for Child Welfare Programs. She has also supervises CPS Ongoing Services. In addition to her responsibilities with her local agency, she has served on the Henrico Fatality Review Team, been an active member of policy-writing and legislative committees and served as co-chair of the Henrico Best Practice Court Team since its initiation. She participates in the Greater Richmond Trauma Informed Community Network and the TICN's Brief Screen Tool workgroup and is on the Henrico DSS Trauma-Informed Leadership Team that is focused on advancing trauma-informed practices that will promote resiliency in children and families and will support and retain staff by reducing the impacts of secondary traumatic stress.

Lisa Wright, LCSW, RPT-S, CTP

Trauma-Informed Treatment Program Coordinator
Greater Richmond SCAN

Lisa received her Master's degree in Social Work (MSW) from VCU in 1993, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Registered Play Therapy Supervisor, Certified Trauma Practitioner and certified therapist in Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Lisa has an extensive professional background in trauma assessment, treatment and community collaboration. Through her work as the Coordinator of the Greater Richmond Trauma-Informed Community Network and Brief Screening Tool Committee Chair, she has led efforts in piloting the North Carolina Project Broadcast Brief Trauma Screening Tool and collaborating with local DSS agencies. Lisa has provided trauma-focused treatment to individuals (children, adolescents and adults) who have experienced trauma for the past 26 years. She is an experienced clinician and has training and experience in trauma-focused screening, assessment, and evidence based and evidence informed treatment models. Lisa has been in a leadership role as the program coordinator at Greater Richmond SCAN's Child Advocacy Center's Trauma-Focused Treatment Program since November 2004. In this position, she provides clinical supervision to several clinicians, oversees client work and carries an active caseload. She also collaborates with professionals from the CAC Multi-disciplinary Team (e.g., law enforcement, Department of Social Services, Commonwealth Attorneys, victim witness advocates, CASA, forensic nurses). In addition, Lisa has served as an adjunct faculty member for the VCU School of Social Work since 2007 and is the mother of two teenagers.

Lisa LaScola Tully

Foster Care Program Consultant
Virginia Department of Social Services

Lisa LaScola Tully, has worked in various positions within the helping profession for the last 25 years. She served as the youth services coordinator for the Petersburg Office on Youth, the program director for the Petersburg local Boys and Girls Club, a foster care social worker for the City of Richmond and a treatment foster care social worker for United Methodist Family Services. Ms. Tully currently works for the Virginia Department of Social Services as the Foster Care program consultant in the Central region and has maintained this position since 2005. She provides technical assistance and support around foster care to 26 local departments of social services and contributed to Virginia's Children's Transformation practice

efforts (2007) along with the Learning Collaborative series (2014-2015) on behalf of children and families across the Commonwealth. Ms. Tully holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Providence College and a master's degree in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University. In her spare time, she enjoys running and spending time with her husband and two children.

Elizabeth Scholla, MSW

Senior Child Protective Services Investigator
Henrico County Department of Social Services

Elizabeth received her Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2009 and completed her Master's Degree in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2011, specializing in Child Welfare. Elizabeth has worked with the Injury and Violence Prevention program through VCU Hospital, public agency foster care and adoption programs and worked for last 7 years in Child Protective Services. Elizabeth is a trained forensic interviewer for children who have experienced abuse/neglect. Elizabeth is certified in multiple courts in Virginia as an expert in Child Protective Services. She is an active member in the Henrico County Multidisciplinary Team for child abuse/neglect. Elizabeth has completed extensive training in identification and response to trauma as it is experienced by children and families. She is an active member of the Trauma Informed Leadership Team through Henrico DSS.

Rachel Miller

Virginia Parent Council

Being a parent is a blessing, and sometimes, the hardest job we can have. My son was diagnosed with autism at age 4. I began helping families to strengthen their bonds, give parents a means to discuss issues, find resources, and develop positive relationships within the family and community with the FAST (Families and Schools Together) program. I joined the Virginia Parent Council about two years ago in order to be an advocate for children, especially ones with special needs. I have learned from family, friends, and community members about many cases of child abuse. Many children with special needs do not have a "voice" to ask for help whether they are verbal or not and we need to be that voice.

Donna Guevara

Parent Leader and National Circle of Parents Trainer
Families Forward Virginia

Ms. Guevara has been involved with parent support group programs for over 25 years. She is the proud mother of 2 daughters and one son. She will share her experience as a parent leader and how Circle of Parents has helped her to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect in her family system

Julie Rivnak-McAdam, M.Ed

Program Director
Families Forward Virginia

Ms. Rivnak-McAdam, M.Ed provides training and technical assistance for the Circle of Parents program in Virginia and also coordinates the National Circle of Parents network. Circle of Parents is a program of self-help parent support groups whose mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect and develop parent leadership. Ms. Rivnak-McAdam has been involved with parent support groups for over 25 years. As a former school counselor, she has a solid understanding of our educational system and the need to support parents in order to make positive changes in family systems.

Teresa Jackson

Circle of Parents Parent Leader at Woodville Elementary School
Greater Richmond SCAN

Teresa Jackson is a 63 year old mother of one biological son and 3 adoptive daughters. She is a grandmother of four - ages 14, 9, 7, and 5 months. She has been raising the three oldest for four years. Teresa worked for Henrico County Public Schools for 23 years, teaching grades kindergarten to fifth grade. She is now retired, but still volunteers in kindergarten classes at Woodville Elementary School, where she is also the proud Parent Leader for the Circles of Parents Group. Teresa loves to help and see people of all ages be the best they can be.

Debbie Webb Blackburn, PhD

Executive Director
Partners in Parenting, PC

Dr. Debbie Blackburn is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, faculty member in the VCU Department of Psychiatry, and the Executive Director of Partners in Parenting. Using an innovative model of service delivery, Partners in Parenting provides both research-based clinical services for families and a nonprofit focused on research, professional training, parent education, and advocacy. Dr. Blackburn works from a developmental and object relations perspective, with a focus on the curative power of relationships. Dr. Blackburn is a certified Circle of Security® therapist and uses an attachment-based lens in understanding and addressing child and parenting concerns. Helping parents and children to enjoy and deepen their relationship is her overarching professional goal.

Jennine Moritz, PhD

Executive Clinical Director
Partners in Parenting, PC

Dr. Moritz is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, an Assistant Clinical Professor in the VCU Department of Psychiatry, and the Executive Clinical Director of Partners in Parenting. Using an innovative model of service delivery, Partners in Parenting provides both research-based clinical services for families and a nonprofit focused on research, professional training, parent education, and advocacy. Dr. Moritz utilizes a family systems framework and play therapy techniques as well as attachment-based theory and interventions to strengthen the parent-child relationship. She has extensive experience working with

children and families with histories of trauma and attachment difficulties. Dr. Moritz is a certified Circle of Security® therapist and is dedicated to supporting parents in better understanding their children's needs and behaviors.

Pam Wong

Programs Manager, Prevention & Systems of Care
Norfolk Department of Human Services

Pam Wong is the Programs Manager or Prevention and Systems of Care at the Norfolk Department of Human Services. She oversees the Early Prevention Unit, Court Liaison, Homeless Action Response Team and is the Interim Coordinator for the Children's Services Act. She has been a human services practitioner for over 25 years, working in the public, private and nonprofit sector. She is passionate about child welfare, and an advocate and trainer for trauma informed care.

Devitta Jones

Advocate

Devitta Jones is a foster care advocate and a former foster care youth. She is currently studying Human Services at Bryant & Stratton College. Devitta is a mother of two and has over 5 years of experience in advocacy work within the foster care system. Her experience ranges from being a Great Expectations Representative, a Youth Network Coordinator, and a Professional Speaker. She has recently shared her message as a speaker at the ARDX Women's Wellness Conference and the Trauma Family Engagement Conference on topics regarding foster care and trauma. She has also discussed topics regarding permanency and normalcy. Devitta is passionate about educating others on the realities and challenges of youth in the foster care system. She hopes to continue her advocacy by bringing change, inspiration, and empowerment to those both in and out of the foster care system.

Samantha Sangenito

Data and Science Systems Lead
ACEs Connection Network

Samantha Sangenito is the Data Science & Systems Lead for ACEs Connection, an organization that runs ACEsConnection.com, a social networking site that connects those who are implementing trauma-informed and resilience-building practices based on ACEs science. The network's 30,000+ members share their best practices while, inspiring others to grow the ACEs movement. Samantha is responsible for the development and maintenance of ACE Connection's suite of web-based tools, including the Presentations Tracker and Expanded Community Milestones Tracker, that help communities manage and evaluate their efforts towards becoming trauma-informed.

Jackie Washington, MSW

Center Director

Six Point Innovation Center at Storefront for Community Design

Jackie Washington, MSW is employed by Storefront for Community Design as the Director of the Six Points Innovation Center (6PIC). She is also a Culture of Health Leader with Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Culture of Health Leaders Program. Jackie serves through values of love-based leadership, cultural resilience, humility and collaboration. She also serves as the Health and Wellness Committee Chair for Community Unity in Action and a longtime member of the National Association of Black Social Workers. She believes that the multi-generational community trauma experienced by communities of color are directly tied to racist policy decisions. Through programming focused on civic education, place-making, relationship building and mental health she believes communities can thrive.