



Joint Council
on international children's services

**2008 Annual Medical Institute and Conference
"Creating Permanency Through Families: Intercountry
Adoption's Role in Child Welfare"**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2008 - Saturday, April 12, 2008
Holiday Inn on the Hill ♦ Washington, DC
415 New Jersey Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20001**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
AND WORKSHOP SUMMARIES IN-DETAIL

<i>Wednesday, April 9, 2008 – JCICS Medical Institute</i>	
7:30 am – 5:00 pm	Registration and Hospitality Desk
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am – 8:15 am	Welcome Session & Announcements <i>Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS</i>
8:15 am – 9:30 am	<u>Physical Growth in Young Children Randomized to Foster Vs. Institutional Care</u> <i>Dana Johnson, M.D., Ph.D., University of Minnesota International Adoption Clinic</i>
9:30 am – 10:30 am	<u>An Intervention Model for Promoting Healthy Emotional Development in the Internationally Adopted Child</u> <i>Ira Chasnoff, M.D., Children's Research Triangle</i>
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Coffee Break
10:45 am – 11:30 am	<u>Developmental and Behavioral Performance of Internationally Adopted Preschoolers</u> <i>Linda Tirella, OTR/L, MS, MHA, International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center</i> <u>International Adoptees as Teenagers and Young Adults</u> <i>Laurie Miller, M.D., International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center</i>
11:30 am – 12:45 pm	<u>The Nature and Nurture of the Brain</u> <i>Julian Davies, M.D., Center for Adoption Medicine, University of Washington</i>
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<u>Session 1A:</u> <i>(Basic)</i> International Adoption Basics for Adoption Agencies: Useful Medical and Developmental Information <i>Jill Barnhart, MS, OTR/L, UAB International Adoption Clinic, and Elaine Schulte, M.D., The Cleveland Clinic</i> <u>Session 1B:</u> <i>(Advanced)</i> Institutional Autism: A Myth or Reality <i>Boris Gindis, Ph.D., Center for Cognitive-Developmental Assessment and Remediation</i>

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Coffee Break
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<p>Session 2A: <i>(Basic)</i> Myths and Misconceptions in International Adoption Medicine <i>Paul J. Lee, M.D., Winthrop-University Hospital Pediatric Infectious Diseases and International Adoption Program</i></p> <p>Session 2B: <i>(Advanced)</i> A Comprehensive Model of Care for Internationally Adopted Children with Craniofacial Deformities and Feeding Issues <i>Edward M. Kolb, M.D., International Adoption Clinic-Boys Town National Research Hospital, and Julie Keck, M.D., Riley Hospital for Children</i></p>
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Welcome Reception for All Conference Attendees

Thursday, April 10, 2008 – JCICS Conference

7:30 am – 5:00 pm	Registration & Hospitality Desk
7:45 am – 8:45 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am – 8:30 am	New Member/ New Attendee Orientation
8:30 am – 9:00 am	<p>Opening Remarks & Announcements <i>Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS</i></p>
9:00 am – 10:30 am	<p>Keynote: <i>Ambassador Janice Jacobs, U.S. Department of State, and Dr. Victoria Kelly, Children & Families First</i></p>
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Coffee Break
10:45 am – 12:00pm	<p>Workshop Series 1:</p> <p>Caucus 1: Central and South America * JCICS Members only</p> <p>1A: Panel Discussion of Waiting Child Advocacy and Family Recruitment Best Practices <i>Spring Hecht, MSW, World Association for Children and Parents; Teri Bell, Americans for International Aid and Adoption; Martha Osborne, Rainbowkids.com; Abbie Smith, Holt International Children’s Services; Peg Studaker, Children’s Home Society and Family Services</i></p>

10:45 am – 12:00pm (continued)	<p><u>1B:</u> Managing Transformation: Creating a New Organization Without Losing the Old <i>Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS</i></p> <p><u>1C:</u> Developing and Implementing Simple, Effective Collaborative Humanitarian Projects for Orphans Living in Institutions Abroad <i>Jane Aronson, M.D., Worldwide Orphans Foundation</i></p>
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	<p>Networking Lunch</p>
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<p>Federal Panel:</p> <p>1:30 – 2:30 pm Congressional Panel 2:30 – 3:30 pm U.S. Department of State and COA Panel 3:30 – 3:45 pm Coffee Break 3:45 – 5:00 pm U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Panel</p>
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<p>Workshop Series 2: <i>These workshops will be held simultaneously with the Federal Panel.</i></p> <p>1:30 – 2:30 pm <u>2A:</u> Practical Planning/Creative Resources for Required Adoption Training <i>Joan McNamara, MS, Hopscotch Adoptions, Inc.</i></p> <p><u>2B:</u> Strategic Thinking and Planning: Creating a Plan that is Truly Strategic <i>Paul D. Meyer, Tecker Consultants, LLC</i></p> <p><u>2C:</u> Summer Hosting Programs: How Are Kidsave’s Older Adopted Children and Their Families Doing? <i>Susan Blake, MA, Ph.D., Kidsave International, and Lauren Reicher Gordon, Kidsave International</i></p> <p>Workshop Series 3: <i>These workshops will be held simultaneously with the Federal Panel.</i></p> <p>2:30 – 3:30 pm <u>3A:</u> Keeping Hope Eternal When Dreams and Reality Collide <i>Janice Goldwater, LCSWC, Adoptions Together</i></p> <p><u>3B:</u> The Legal Evolution of Claims for “Wrongful Adoption” and Methods to Protect Your Agency from Exposure to Such Claims <i>Deborah E. Spivack, Esq., The Law Office of Deborah E. Spivack</i></p> <p><u>3C:</u> Preparing for a Motherland Visit <i>Joy Lieberthal, LCSW, Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children, and Kate DeLosso, Travel Counsellors</i></p> <p>3:30 – 3:45 pm Coffee Break</p>

	<p>Workshop Series 4: <i>These workshops will be held simultaneously with the Federal Panel.</i> 3:45 pm – 5:00 pm 4A: Strategies and Technologies for Efficient Communication During “Tough Times” <i>Carol Wahl, MPH, Children's Home Society and Family Services, and Molly Rochon, Children’s Home Society and Family Services</i></p> <p>4B: Understanding and Improving Agency Communication <i>Richard Pearlman, MSW, Family Resource Center</i></p> <p>4C: Reflections on Ethiopian Adoptions: An Ethiopian Daughter and Her White American Mom Talk Together <i>Maureen Evans, MA, adoptive parent, and Aselefech Evans</i></p>
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm	Country Caucus & Committee Meetings * JCICS Members only Education * Africa * Guatemala * Haiti

Friday April 11, 2008 – JCICS Conference

7:30 am – 5:00 pm	Hospitality Desk
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Directors’ Breakfast
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Creating Permanency Through Families: Intercountry Adoption’s Role in Child Welfare * JCICS Members only <i>Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS</i>
9:00 am – 10:15 am	Breakout Session I: Caring for Orphans: Adoption and the Other 99% <i>Tom Davis, Children's HopeChest</i>
11:00 am – 11:15 am	Coffee Break
11:15 am – 12:30 pm	<p>Workshop Series 5: 5A: Is Adoption PC: Anti-Intercountry Adoption Trends in the Media, Cyberspace and the Adoption Community <i>Susan Cox, Holt International Children’s Services, Inc., and Kathy Sacco, Family and Children's Agency</i></p> <p>5B: Preserving and Retaining International Program Staff <i>Kim Bernstein, MSW, LICSW, Wide Horizons for Children</i></p> <p>5C: Parenting for Attachment, Part II <i>Georgia Leonard, MSW, The Family Network, Inc.</i></p>

12:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Lunch on Your Own – Explore DC’s local restaurants!
1:45 pm – 3:00 pm	<p>Workshop Series 6:</p> <p>6A: Taking Advantage of Post-Placement Visits to Teach Real-Time Adoptive Parenting Skills <i>Judy Stigger, LCSW, The Cradle, and Dori Fujii, The Cradle</i></p> <p>6B: ABC’s of Grantwriting <i>Rebecca Utley, CFRE, Hope Cottage Pregnancy and Adoption Center</i></p> <p>6C: Families First! Moving Away from Institutions and Toward Family-Based Care for Orphaned and Abandoned Children <i>Renee Wallis, Firefly Children’s Network, and Melinda Richards, Firefly Children’s Network</i></p>
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Coffee Break
3:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Country Caucus & Committee Meetings * JCICS Members only Young Professionals * China * India * Ethics
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Washington DC Neighborhood Dining Options

Saturday, April 12, 2008 – JCICS Conference

8:30 am – 1:00 pm	Hospitality Desk
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Continental Breakfast
9:00 am – 10:00 am	<p>Networking Session Directors, Social Workers and Case Workers, Adoption Topics of Interest</p>
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Country Caucus & Committee Meetings * JCICS Members only Korea * Vietnam * Russia
11:00 am – 11:15 am	Coffee Break

11:15 am – 12:30 pm	<p>Breakout Sessions II: Promising Interventions for At-Risk Children <i>Karyn Purvis, Ph.D., Texas Christian University Institute of Child Development</i></p> <p>Agency Partnerships: Working Together to Best Serve Clients <i>Phyllis Laughlin, MA, LCPC, The Cradle</i></p> <p>The View from the Other Side: What Families Are Looking For in Choosing Agencies, Country Programs and Crisis Management <i>Trish Maskew, Ethica, Inc., and Linh Song, Ethica, Inc.</i></p>
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Closing Remarks

All events listed are subject to change. Workshops listed in the schedule above are hyperlinked to summary descriptions; click on the highlighted link to learn more about the session. The workshop summaries on the following pages also include presenter biographies, the number of continuing education credits offered and specific learning objectives.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP MATRIX

Please note that country caucus and JCICS committee meetings do not fall under the track system and are, therefore, not included on this page. Workshops are hyperlinked to summary descriptions. Click on the highlighted link to learn more about the session.

	Practitioner Track A	Management Track B	Policy Track C
Workshop Series 1 Thursday, April 10 th 10:45 - 12:00	1A: Waiting Child Advocacy/Family Recruitment	1B: Managing Transformation	1C: Collaborative Humanitarian Projects
Workshop Series 2* Thursday, April 10 th 1:30 – 2:30	2A: Practical Planning for Adoption Training	2B: Strategic Thinking and Planning	2C: Summer Hosting Programs
Workshop Series 3* Thursday, April 10 th 2:30 – 3:30	3A: Keeping Hope Eternal	3B: “Wrongful Adoption” Claims	3C: Preparing for Motherland Visit
Workshop Series 4* Thursday, April 10 th 3:45 – 5:00	4A: Communication During Tough Times	4B: Improving Agency Communication	4C: Ethiopian Adoptions
Workshop Series 5 Friday, April 11 th 11:15 – 12:30	5A: Is Adoption PC?	5B: Retaining International Program Staff	5C: Parenting for Attachment (II)
Workshop Series 6 Friday, April 11 th 1:45 – 3:00	6A: Post-Placement Visits	6B: ABC’s of Grantwriting	6C: Families First

**These workshop series are held simultaneous to the Federal Panel.*

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS IN DETAIL

JCICS MEDICAL INSTITUTE - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008

Physical Growth in Young Children Randomized to Foster Vs. Institutional Care-- The Bucharest Early Intervention Project.

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Dana Johnson, M.D., Ph.D., University of Minnesota International Adoption Clinic

8:15 am - 9:30 am

Growth failure is a common, if not universal, finding in young children raised within institutional care settings. Children placed within a foster or adoptive home generally reverse this trajectory of poor growth, but little is known about the degree of improvement, time course, or the influence of age, gender or starting point. This workshop will discuss a study undertaken to further understand this phenomenon of post-placement catch-up growth.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will understand the factors, aside from environment, that result in suppressed growth amongst institutionalized children

Learning Objective 2: Participants will analyze the effects of a more nurturing environment on height and weight, as well as the factors that lead to greater "catch-up"

Learning Objective 3: Participants will review the accuracy of varying factors, including environment, as predictors of baseline IQ in children

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the Medical Day sessions.)

Presenter #1:

Name: Dana Johnson, M.D., Ph.D.

Organization: University of Minnesota International Adoption Clinic

Bio: Dana Johnson earned his M.D. and a Ph.D. in Anatomy, served his internship and residency, and completed his neonatology fellowship at the University of Minnesota, and is currently a professor in the division of Neonatology. In addition to attending on the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Dr. Johnson is director of the Division of Neonatology and director of the International Adoption Clinic at the University of Minnesota. His research interests include the effects of early institutionalization on growth and development and the outcomes of internationally adopted children. Dr. Johnson has published extensively and is an invited speaker worldwide. Dr. Johnson founded the International Adoption Clinic in 1986. He and his staff received the "Friend of Children Award" from the North American Council on Adoptable Children in 2002.

Physical Growth in Young Children Randomized to Foster Vs. Institutional Care

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Ira J. Chasnoff, M.D., Children's Research Triangle

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Children adopted from overseas have often spent their formative years in institutions or foster families that are understaffed and under-stimulating. The majority of these children also come from backgrounds plagued by poverty, and in many cases, social ills such as alcoholism, substance abuse and prostitution. The purpose of this workshop is to present an intervention model that promotes healthy emotional development in internationally adopted children. Participants will learn to describe the structural and functional changes that occur in brains of children with prenatal alcohol exposure or early deprivation, as well as instruments for assessment and a trans-disciplinary treatment plan.

Learning Objective 1: The presenter will describe the structural and functional changes that occur in the fetal and infant brain in children with prenatal alcohol exposure or early deprivation

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn of three validated, age-appropriate instruments used to assess internationally adopted children

Learning Objective 3: Participants will gain an understanding of a trans-disciplinary treatment plan that promotes healthy emotional development in internationally adopted children

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the Medical Day sessions.)

Presenter #1:

Name: Ira J. Chasnoff, M.D.

Organization: Children's Research Triangle

Bio: Ira J. Chasnoff, M.D., received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas, and served a pediatric residency at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. He is the President of the Children's Research Triangle and Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Chasnoff and the CRT team operate a laboratory preschool classroom to develop specific interventions for children exposed prenatally to alcohol and other drugs. In 2002, under Dr. Chasnoff's leadership, the Children's Research Triangle was selected by the Center for Disease Control as one of five national centers for research into innovative treatment for children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Dr. Chasnoff's current work focuses on community approaches to the integration of behavioral health services into primary health care for women and children, and he has been active in establishing comprehensive family intervention programs for children in many countries around the world.

Developmental and Behavioral Performance of Internationally Adopted Preschoolers
Linda Tirella, OTR/L, MS, MHA, International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center

International Adoptees as Teenagers and Young Adults

Laurie Miller, M.D., International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center

10:45 am - 11:30 am

CE credits (based on combined length of both presentations): 0.75

Developmental and Behavioral Performance of Internationally Adopted Preschoolers

This portion of the workshop details a follow-up study of four-year-olds who have lived with their adopted families for one to three years. The study assessed language, cognitive, fine and gross motor skills, as well as executive function, attention and sensory processing ability.

Learning Objective 1: To determine the profile of pre-adoptive risk factors of three- to four-year-old children who have been in the United States for one to three years

Learning Objective 2: Participants will understand the characteristics of the children's post-adoptive learning environment, including use of Early Intervention resources

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn to identify risk factors predictive of poor performance on developmental scales and protective factors related to favorable outcomes

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the Medical Day sessions.)

Presenter #1

Name: Linda Tirella, OTR/L, MS, MHA

Organization: Linda Tirella has served as a developmental therapist at the International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center since 2001. Prior to this position, she worked as an occupational therapist for 30 years at various Massachusetts facilities. This timeframe included 16 years as the Head Occupational Therapist for the Burlington Public Schools, LABBB Collaborative. Having presented more than a dozen lectures since 1988, Ms. Tirella has recently focused on discussing sensory integration and oral motor dysfunction in the post-adopted child. She has completed the Comprehensive Program in Sensory Integration and received certification for the Sensory Integration Praxis Test (SIPT) (2005 certificate # 2238).

International Adoptees as Teenagers and Young Adults

The latter half of the session will delve into a follow-up study to better understand how being adopted relates to the way teenagers develop and behave. Both parents and teens completed surveys related to behaviors, social skills, quality of life, and self esteem.

Learning Objective 1: This workshop intends to improve methods used to treat people who are adopted when they first arrive into their new family, and throughout their lives

Learning Objective 2: Participants will gain an understanding of variance in social skills occurring because of international adoption

Learning Objective 3: Participants will assess the concept of teenage self-esteem from the perspective of an adoptee

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the Medical Day sessions.)

Presenter #1

Name: Laurie Miller, M.D

Organization: International Adoption Clinic New England Medical Center

Bio: Dr. Miller has spent the last 19 years serving as director of the International Adoption clinic at the Floating Hospital for Children, New England Medical Center (one of two clinics specializing in the evaluation of internationally adopted children). She has extensive experience as a pediatrician in Egypt, China, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bosnia. She has authored many articles on the topics of international child health and international adoption. Dr. Miller is also a member of the International Child Health subcommittee of the American Academy of Pediatrics and is chairperson of its task force on institutionalized children.

The Nature and Nurture of the Brain

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Julian Davies, M.D., Center for Adoption Medicine, University of Washington

11:30 am - 12:45 am

The “Decade of the Brain” came and went, bringing many advances in neuro-imaging, and better understanding of the effects of prenatal drug and alcohol exposures, malnutrition, maltreatment, neglect and the stress on the developing brain. What can the latest research tell us about how these all-too-frequent influences affect the neurodevelopment of internationally adopted children? This presentation will explore how nature and nurture interact to shape brain development, the neurobiology of relationships and behavior, and how brain plasticity impacts risk and resilience, with an emphasis on avenues for intervention.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will gain an understanding of the human brain, including how it is studied/testing techniques, maturational trends, plasticity, and the role of genetics in resiliency

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn about emotional systems in the brain, including the role of neurotransmitter oxytocin in the limbic system and solutions for coping with traumatic emotional memories

Learning Objective 3: Presenter will discuss the effect of stress on brain systems, the effects of stress on the body, the effects of trauma and neglect, implications for parenting & practice

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the Medical Day sessions.)

Presenter #1:**Name:** Julian Davies, M.D.**Organization:** Center for Adoption Medicine, University of Washington**Bio:** Julian Davies is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington, and a staff pediatrician at the UW Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic and Prevention Network. He is also the Co-Director of the Center for Adoption Medicine, where he provides pre-adoption consultations, post-placement evaluations, and ongoing general pediatric care for adopted children. He is the primary author for www.adoptmed.org, an online resource for medical and developmental issues in adoption and pediatrics. He has traveled, clowned, and volunteered extensively in Russia with an arts rehabilitation program and summer arts camp for Russian orphans.**International Adoption Basics for Adoption Agencies: Useful Medical and Developmental Information***CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.5**Jill Barnhart, MS, OTR/L, UAB International Adoption Clinic, and Elaine Schulte, M.D., The Cleveland Clinic*

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm

This workshop will address both the unique medical needs and typical developmental differences associated with international adoptees. More than 50% of children adopted internationally have an undiagnosed medical condition at the time of their initial evaluation in the United States, regardless of age, sex, or country of origin. The more primary care providers understand these unique medical needs, the better they can provide early treatment and intervention while clarifying their role in caring for international adoptees. The workshop will focus on topics such as medical record review, parent preparations and immunizations before delving into specific developmental differences often found during post-adoptive medical screening. In addition to learning variations in children's gross, fine and oral motor skills, participants will become aware of available resources and treatment options.

Learning Objective 1: Participants in this session will review developmental differences in internationally adopted children, including differences in gross motor skills, fine motor skills, and oral skills

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn why language is so affected in the internationally adopted population, when catch-up is complete, and how communication delays affect school readiness

Learning Objective 3: Participants will discuss how and when to evaluate children in their first language, as well as the appropriate types of academic testing

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption Professionals who are interested in or are relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Jill Barnhart, MS, OTR/L

Organization: UAB International Adoption Clinic

Bio: Jill Barnhart has been a practicing Occupational Therapist for over 20 years. She also has a Master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education. In 2002, she helped establish and has worked continually at the UAB International Adoption Clinic completing developmental and educational assessments. In addition, she trains other clinicians in early intervention, private practice and school settings in the developmental differences in internationally adopted children.

Institutional Autism: A Myth or Reality

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.5

Boris Gindis, Ph.D., Center for Cognitive-Developmental Assessment and Remediation

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm

Autism is a behaviorally defined, neurologically based disorder that can be diagnosed in children before their fifth birthday. Conversely, “institutional autism” is not a medical diagnosis, but merely a description of behavioral patterns similar in appearance to autism. Unfortunately, it is difficult to assess whether children displaying signs of “institutional autism” truly possess the neurological aberrations of the condition or rather, are experiencing attachment issues, child depression, or the language attrition often associated with international adoptees. This presentation will review a methodology of differential diagnosis that can be applied by mental health professionals, as well as a practical recommendation for the remediation of “autistic-like” behaviors.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will understand the difference between the neurologically based "real" autism and the learned behaviors of "institutional autism"

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn practical strategies for the remediation of learned behaviors such as withdrawal, self-stimulation, and emotional outrage

Learning Objective 3: Participants will understand the link between "institutional autism" and increased risk for developing autism spectrum disorders, as well as attachment issues, child depression, and immature social skills

Intended Audience: Advanced (Experienced Adoption Professionals would benefit from this more in-depth educational workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Boris Gindis, Ph.D.

Organization: Center for Cognitive-Developmental Assessment and Remediation

Bio: Boris Gindis received his doctorate in developmental psychology at Moscow Academic Research Institute of General and Educational Psychology and his post-doctoral training in School Psychology at the City University of New York. He is a licensed psychologist and a nationally certified bilingual school psychologist. Dr. Gindis is the Director of the Center for Cognitive-Developmental Assessment and Remediation, which provides bilingual psychoeducational evaluations and other services for internationally adopted children in

cooperation with a network of Russian-speaking mental health and education specialists. Dr. Gindis is the principal instructor of BGCenter Online School, where he teaches a series of courses for parents of internationally adopted children and school and adoption agency professionals.

Myths and Misconceptions in International Adoption Medicine

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.5

Paul J. Lee, M.D., Winthrop-University Hospital Pediatric Infectious Diseases and International Adoption Program

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

The amount of information that the Internet and email makes available to parents, adoption agencies and physicians has actually made our lives more difficult and confusing. Stories, rumors and half-truths are disseminated and perpetuated so quickly that they become “established fact” in the blink of an eye. The purpose of this presentation is to look beyond the hype by addressing common misconceptions and areas of confusion in international adoption medicine. The talk is geared for everyone who has had to deal with parents’ questions, the concern of co-workers, medical review terminology issues and other cross-talk resulting from the Internet.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will learn to differentiate between common misconceptions and truth in international adoption medicine and will discuss the prevalence of each in their professional environments

Learning Objective 2: Participants will understand how tuberculosis vaccines protect against TB, and how reliable foreign country's laboratory testing can be

Learning Objective 3: Participants will address additional rumors regarding topics such as Hepatitis A, B, and C, influenza, parasitic diseases and HIV

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption Professionals who are interested in or are relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Paul J. Lee, M.D., Winthrop-University Hospital Pediatric Infectious Diseases and International Adoption Program

Organization: Paul J. Lee is an attending physician in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases and International Adoption Program at Winthrop-University Hospital in Long Island, NY. He has spent a majority of his time there working with the unique healthcare issues and infections of adopted children and their parents. His post-graduate training included an internship and residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at New York Hospital-Weill Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases at Columbia University/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital. He earned his medical degree from New York Medical College. Dr. Lee is a member of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society, the American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Adoption and Foster Care, and the AAP's Section on International Child Health. He has been on medical missions to Guatemala and El Salvador.

A Comprehensive Model of Care for Internationally Adopted Children with Craniofacial Deformities and Feeding Issues

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.5

Edward M. Kolb, M.D., International Adoption Clinic-- Boys Town National Research Hospital, and Julie Keck, M.D., Riley Hospital for Children

Increasing numbers of internationally adopted children are known to have one or more physical anomalies. Frequently, obvious deformities of the head, face and associated structure cause children to be abandoned or placed for adoption in foreign countries with limited medical resources and traditional social approaches to disfigured children. There is great need to prepare American families considering adoption through evaluation of the prospective adopted child and education of the medical resources necessary to raise a child with a craniofacial deformity. Furthermore, medical professionals should take a comprehensive team approach to diagnosis, treatment and follow-up to minimize effects on speech, language and education. In addition, a large number of internationally adopted children experience issues related to feeding and growth. These issues can be multi-factorial, stemming from environment, culture and medical disorders—even behavioral factors once an adoption is complete. In fact, a child that experiences pain or fear associated with eating will often miss a vital opportunity to connect to their adoptive parents. This workshop will evaluate common feeding issues and methods of treatment in order to make meal time a more mutually pleasing experience.

Learning Objective 1: Presenter will discuss the incidence of craniofacial deformities in internationally adopted children and educate adoption professionals as to medical evaluations and pre-adoptive counseling

Learning Objective 2: Participants will be offered a model for evaluation and treatment by a multi-disciplinary team with special attention to unique challenges of internationally adopted children coming into the American medical system

Learning Objective 3: Participants will discuss the problems associated with pre-adoption nutritional deprivation, such as failure to thrive and stunted height velocity

Learning Objective 4: Participants will learn behavioral issues related to feeding dysfunction, such as hoarding, stuffing and hiding, and ways to combat negative emotions associated with meal times

Intended Audience:

Advanced (Experienced Adoption Professionals would benefit from this more in-depth educational workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Edward M. Kolb, M.D.

Organization: International Adoption Clinic-- Boys Town National Research Hospital

Bio: Edward M. Kolb graduated from the University of California-Los Angeles and has been practicing medicine for 25 years. He is currently the Medical Director of Boys Town National Research Hospital's International Adoption Clinic in Omaha, NB. He served as the President of the Nebraska Society of Anesthesiologists, and is affiliated with the American Society of Anesthesiologists and is a Fellow in the American Academy of Pediatrics.

JCICS ANNUAL CONFERENCE - APRIL 10-12, 2008

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Thursday, April 10, 2008

9:00 am – 10:30 am

JCICS 2008 Keynote Address (Formal Title TBD)

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.5

Janice Jacobs, Amb., Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of State;
Victoria J. Kelly Psy.D., LCSW, MHA, Children and Families First

Joint Council is pleased to announce that we will be offering two Keynote Addresses for the 2008 Annual Medical Institute and Conference. The first presentation will be made by Ambassador Janice Jacobs, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary from the U.S. Department of State. Ambassador Jacobs' foreign policy interests include a broad range of issues pertinent to child welfare, including human rights and immigration. In fact, her previous three years serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services contributes to her knowledge of the intercountry adoption process and necessary collaboration across borders. Her address will cover pertinent issues affecting foreign government's ongoing relationship with the United States in terms of adoption, including implementation of the Hague, increased media focus and recent concerns about corruption in countries such as Guatemala and Vietnam.

As the Director of Clinical and Prevention Services for Children and Families First, Dr. Victoria Kelly will bring a different perspective to her keynote address. Working for a human services organization that assists families with counseling and foster care in addition to adoption services, Dr. Kelly will offer a broader look at the global orphan care crisis and offer tactical models for addressing the heart of the issues. She will also provide an assessment of the state of child welfare in 2008, addressing the role of the Internet, media and other mediums that eliminate the notion of geographical borders.

Learning Objective 1: Attendees will receive a general analysis of the policy and legislative issues most affecting intercountry adoption

Learning Objective 2: Attendees will learn about the role of the U.S. government in shaping intercountry adoption standards and the channels for parents, adoption service providers and other advocacy groups to inform federal policymakers

Learning Objective 3: The second portion of the keynote will examine recent trends in the global orphan crisis and preventative measures that can be taken to curb future issues

Learning Objective 4: Attendees will learn the benefits and challenges of multiple forms of family-building, whether through foster care, domestic adoption, international adoption, or parent support

Intended Audience: Introductory - Advanced (The Keynote Address will contain practical and timely information, research and guidelines relevant to practitioners at all levels.)

Keynote Presenter #1

Name: Janice L. Jacobs, Ambassador

Organization: U.S. Department of State

Bio: Ambassador Janice Jacobs took over as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary on August 6, 2007. Prior to assuming this position, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. Ambassador Jacobs is a Senior Foreign Service Officer with 27 years of experience in Africa, Latin America and Europe. She has advanced foreign policy interests across a broad range of issues including democratization and human rights, trade and investment liberalization, counter-terrorism and immigration. She served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services from 2002-2005 and as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo from 2000-2002. Her career includes a mix of Washington, D.C. and overseas assignments, including working in the State Department's Visa Office, Operations Center, and Office of Cuban Affairs. Ambassador Jacobs joined the Foreign Service in March 1980 after many years of overseas experience as a Foreign Service dependent. She has lived in Senegal, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia (twice), France, Mexico (twice), Nigeria, and Thailand. She received a BA in French and Education from Southern Illinois University in 1968 and a Master's in National Security Strategy from the National War College in 1995.

Keynote Presenter #2

Name: Victoria J. Kelly Psy.D., LCSW, MHA

Organization: Children and Families First

Bio: Dr. Kelly has over 30 years experience in child welfare and mental health. She is currently Director of Clinical and Prevention Services at Children and Families First of Delaware. In addition, Dr. Kelly has been an Adjunct Professor at the Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology at Widener University in Pennsylvania. She is also President of the international Association for Treatment and Training in the Attachment of Children (ATTACH). Dr. Kelly is a nationally known trainer and consultant in the areas of attachment, trauma, and child welfare. She is currently working on a book, "Understanding the Developmental Issues of Trauma." She received her Masters of Social Work from Louisiana State University and her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Widener University.

WORKSHOP SERIES 1:

Thursday, April 10, 2008

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

1A: Panel Discussion of Waiting Child Advocacy and Family Recruitment Best Practices

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Spring Hecht, MSW, World Association for Children and Parents;

Teri Bell, Americans for International Aid and Adoption; Martha Osborne, Rainbowkids.com;

Abbie Smith, Holt International Children's Services; Peg Studaker, Children's Home Society and Family Services

The climate of international adoption is ever-changing. With every new development, professionals are forced to look for innovative ways of finding families for children with special needs, especially when international counterparts tighten up restrictions. Many lessons and best practices have been identified over the years by those in the field, several of whom will present their experiences and suggestions in this panel presentation. Topics include family recruitment and advocacy, adoption policies for waiting children and the protection of children's rights in connection to confidential information.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will explore creative ways to find families for children with special needs, especially after international counterparts tighten restrictions

Learning Objective 2: Participants will gain a better understanding of waiting child policy issues and protection of children's rights

Learning Objective 3: Participants will compare and contrast their agency's best-practice approaches for preparing families to adopt special needs children

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption professionals who are interested in or relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Spring Hecht, MSW

Organization: World Association for Children and Parents

Bio: Spring Hecht first joined WACAP as the Director of the Family Finders Program in 2002. As a Korean adoptee, Ms. Hecht served two years in the Peace Corps in Cameroon after receiving her B.A. from Whitman College. Upon return from Africa, she spent time working with older children with serious emotional issues living in a residential treatment center in San Francisco, California. Ms. Hecht went on to receive a Master's degree in International Social Work from Columbia University. She then moved to San Diego, California, to coordinate public health studies with the Korean and Latino populations, and through a grant, began pursuing a doctorate in Public Health.

1B: Managing Transformation: Creating A New Organization Without Losing the Old

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Thomas DiFilipo, Joint Council on International Children's Services

In a field where nearly every day seems to bring major news, it only makes sense that adoption service providers must adjust their organizational structure to accommodate change. There is a careful balance to be struck, however—one that embraces a shift in organizational consciousness and culture while remaining true to an overarching mission. This workshop will focus on the decision-making process behind organizational transformation, including a mechanism to determine the appropriate timing of such actions and tactics for disseminating new standards and procedures.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will learn strategies for managing within an ever-changing environment

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn techniques for purposefully changing organizational consciousness, culture, purpose and functions

Learning Objective 3: Participants will be presented with a decision mechanism for determining if, when, and how to initiate the transformation process

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Thomas DiFilipo

Organization: Joint Council on International Children's Services

Bio: Tom DiFilipo, President and CEO of Joint Council on International Children's Services, previously served nine years as Vice President for the CASI Foundation and Chief Operations Officer for International Children's Alliance. Mr. DiFilipo also served the social services community through his roles as board member for Joint Council, Focus on Adoption, and Discovery Ministries. In 2006, Mr. DiFilipo became the Director of International Relations for Joint Council, where he was instrumental in forming new relationships and communicating our missions to a worldwide audience. Prior to his work in children's services, Mr. DiFilipo held executive positions with a variety of consumer products firms. He is the father of three children, with two joining the family through adoption.

1C: Developing and Implementing Simple, Effective Collaborative Humanitarian Projects for Orphans Living in Institutions Abroad

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Jane Aronson, M.D., Worldwide Orphans Foundation

This workshop will detail effective humanitarian aid projects organized by the Worldwide Orphans Foundation, which has had programs in 10 countries. Several different types of programs will be discussed, including the following: a volunteer model where professionals do needs assessments for children and provide services to them directly; oversight programs where in-country medical professionals and social workers train orphanage staff to deliver daily care and implement health policies; stipend-supported care provided by retired adults who are trained by in-country psychologists and social workers. Participants will walk away with an understanding of the benefits and challenges of each scenario, and a greater understanding of which is appropriate in a given environment.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will understand the types of services rendered to institution professionals, such as training in daily care models, feeding practice models, and early intervention

Learning Objective 2: Participants will understand services offered to special needs children, such as HIV/AIDS patients, including medical oversight programs and the implementation of public health policies

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn about upcoming "Granny" programs in which elderly community adults are hired to provide individual attention to orphans

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Jane Aronson, M.D

Organization: Worldwide Orphans Foundation

Bio: Dr. Jane Aronson is the Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Worldwide Orphans Foundation. WWO is 10 years old and has had humanitarian projects in 10 countries. It currently operates programs for institutionalized orphans in six countries with two large programs focused on the treatment of orphans with HIV/AIDS (Ethiopia and Vietnam). Dr. Aronson is a board-certified general pediatrician and Pediatric Infectious Diseases specialist with 15 years experience as an Adoption Medicine Specialist. She has traveled to many orphanages and has broad experience with medical, developmental and psychological issues in orphans; she has personally evaluated over 6,000 orphans as they enter into families in the United States.

WORKSHOP SERIES 2:

Thursday, April 10, 2008

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

2A: Practical Planning/Creative Resources for Required Adoption Training

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Joan McNamara, MS, Hopscotch Adoptions, Inc.

Getting new families connected with required international adoption education and training can be a rewarding and frustrating experience. This is particularly true when families live at a distance from the placing agencies or in the case of smaller programs that must be extra resourceful to convey necessary messages to adoptive parents. This workshop, based on research and three decades of training experience, will explore practical, yet creative approaches to parent training that can meet both Hague standards and the availability of agency resources, along with crucial family needs.

Learning Objective 1: This session will explore practical and creative parent training methods for Hague requirements, including key challenges and take-home messages for parents

Learning Objective 2: Presenter will provide a continuum of effective training modes and invite a group discussion of adult learning/training practices

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn how to offer extensive Hague training modules with limited resources

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Joan McNamara, MS

Organization: Hopscotch Adoptions, Inc.

Bio: Joan McNamara has been immersed professionally and personally in international adoption, especially for children with special needs, for almost four decades as an advocate, adoption worker, administrator, researcher, trainer, parent, and author. She has presented training nationally and internationally and written and edited a number of books and training curricula for professionals, parents, and children. She and her husband have 13 children, 11 adopted, who are now all adults.

& FEDERAL PANEL

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Congressional Panel

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Learning Objective 1:

Become aware of current legislation that may impact international adoption

Learning Objective 2: Gain awareness of policy issues in countries outside of the US that might have an impact on adoption agencies and child welfare organizations

Learning Objective 3:

Receive in-depth knowledge of the policy process involved in intercountry adoption in order to promote ethical practices in the adoption field

Learning Objective 4:

Learn updated information about accreditation required of adoption service providers working in Hague countries

Intended Audience:

Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the panels. Panelists will explain basic elements of the policy or accreditation process in which they specialize and will answer specific and advanced questions on more complex issues.)

2B: Strategic Thinking and Planning: Creating a Plan That Is Truly Strategic

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Paul Meyer, CAE, Tecker Consultants, LLC

In this session, the presenter will detail best practices in strategic thinking and planning gathered across his work with more than 100 non-profit organizations, institutions and corporations. Participants will be introduced to a successful model and practice for aligning their organization's work with its overarching goals and mission. They will also learn about attributes and tools needed for successful implementation.

Learning Objective 1: To provide participants with “best practices” in strategic thinking and planning

Learning Objective 2: To introduce participants to a successful model and process for strategic thinking and planning

Learning Objective 3: To present attributes and tools for successful implementation of strategic planning.

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Paul Meyer, CAE

Organization: Tecker Consultants, LLC

Bio: Paul Meyer has been in consulting for six years and has conducted strategic planning sessions with over 100 not-for-profit organizations, institutions and corporations. He has over 15 years of experience working for not-for-profit organizations and corporations prior to consulting. Paul has an MBA and is the co-author of the ASAE best-selling book, *The Will to Govern Well: Knowledge, Trust and Nimbleness*. Paul is an expert facilitator, researcher and change management advisor.

2C: Summer Hosting Programs – How are Kidsave's Older Adopted Children and Their Families Doing?

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Susan Blake, MA, Ph.D., Kidsave International

Kidsave Summer Miracles brings older orphans to the United States from foreign orphanages for visits with families. Nearly 1,500 children have participated in summer programs over the past nine years, and other agencies have launched similar programs. However, few studies exist that provide information about the adjustment of older orphans and the families who adopt them. This presentation will detail the results of a survey given to 580 families who adopted children from Eastern Europe and participated in the Summer Miracles Program from 1999 to 2003. This research will be used to better understand how children adopted at an older age are adjusting to life with their families and to help other families make an informed decision about adopting an older child.

Learning Objective 1: The presenter will introduce Kidsave's summer hosting program and how it is used as an intervention strategy for older adopted children

Learning Objective 2: Participants will increase their knowledge base of older adoptions by learning about a longitudinal study of successful adoptions

Learning Objective 3: Participants will better understand the challenges for parents and children related to older adoptions (5-15 years old), including academic learning, behavior problems, and parent-child relationships

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption Professionals who are interested in or are relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Susan Blake, MA, Ph.D.

Organization: Kidsave International

Bio: Dr. Susan Blake is an associate Research Professor in the Department of Prevention and Community Health at the George Washington University Medical Center School of Public Health and Health Services. She received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology with a minor in environmental psychology from the University of Arizona, and specialty training in healthy psychology/behavioral medicine at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center and University of Minnesota Hospitals. Dr. Blake's research focuses primarily on child, adolescent, and family health with an emphasis on understanding behavioral and social determinants of risk and resiliency, and prevention of risk through behavioral and community-based interventions.

WORKSHOP SERIES 3:

Thursday, April 10, 2008

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

3A: Keeping Hope Eternal When Dreams and Reality Collide

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Janice Goldwater, LCSWC, Adoptions Together

Adopting internationally often means that parents choose a child with limited information about his or her cognitive and psychological state. This presentation will explore what happens when the dreams of parenting and the reality of the needs of the child collide. Participants will explore how to interpret child behavior from an attachment perspective and thereby, give professionals the tools to help parents better understand why children act the way they do. It will also cover interventions for professionals to help parents gain awareness into their own functioning and feel more competent in managing their child's behavior.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will better understand how to interpret a child's behavior based on attachment patterns and the child's inner working model, and how to relay this information to parents

Learning Objective 2: Participants will gain tools to examine parents' behavior and their responses to a child's behavior

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn to direct parents in how to locate and utilize the right kind of support

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Janice Goldwater, LCSWC

Organization: Adoptions Together

Bio: Janice Goldwater, a master level licensed social worker, is the founder and Executive Director of Adoptions Together. She has 25 years experience in the design, delivery and implementation of child welfare and mental health services, and speaks regularly across the nation about issues related to permanency. Ms. Goldwater is a parent by birth and adoption to four children. She serves on national and regional boards that advocate for positive change in child welfare.

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

U.S. Department of State and Council on Accreditation Panel

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Learning Objective 1:

Become aware of current legislation that may impact international adoption

Learning Objective 2:

Obtain comprehensive awareness of the visa application process for children adopted from abroad and any anticipated changes to that process

Learning Objective 3:

Gain awareness of policy issues in countries outside of the US that might have an impact on adoption agencies and child welfare organizations

Learning Objective 4:

Receive in-depth knowledge of the policy process involved in intercountry adoption in order to promote ethical practices in the adoption field

Intended Audience:

Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the panels. Panelists will explain basic elements of the policy process in which they specialize and will answer specific and advanced questions on more complex issues.)

3B: The Legal Evolution of Claims for “Wrongful Adoption” and Methods to Protect Your Agency from Exposure to Such Claims

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Deborah E. Spivack, Esq., The Law Office of Deborah E. Spivack

This presentation will detail the evolution of claims for wrongful adoption, as well as ways that agencies can aim to prevent and/or address claims from liability for wrongful adoption based on fraud or negligence. The session will explore the definition of such claims and provide a brief history so that all attendees can participate regardless of their previous legal knowledge. It will also focus on the litigation of a claim for “wrongful adoption” and review documentation such as contract provisions, waivers of liability and referral acceptance paperwork to provide guidance regarding agency policies and procedures.

Learning Objective 1: The presenter will introduce the legal history of wrongful adoption claims and discuss best defenses

Learning Objective 2: Participants will be exposed to contemporary court analyses of wrongful adoption complaints

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn to protect their agencies from such claims based on fraud or negligence by using transparent fee schedules, waivers of liability and good faith efforts

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Deborah E. Spivack, Esq.

Organization: The Law Office of Deborah E. Spivack

Bio: Deborah Spivack is an attorney who devotes her time exclusively to adoption and family building. She also provides legal, policy, and strategic consulting services to adoption agencies, both domestic and international. Ms. Spivack is currently working with dozens of agencies who are seeking accreditation under the Hague convention, and has written numerous materials to assist client agencies with that process. Ms. Spivack previously served as the Executive Director of an international adoption agency and has been an effective advocate for federal adoption policy, most notably the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption and the ICARE legislation.

3C: Preparing for a Motherland Visit

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.0

Joy Lieberthal, LCSW, Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children, and Kate DeLosso, Travel Counsellors

For more than 15 years, adoptees have made the pilgrimage back to their birth country, whether on their own or with their families. This return to the “Motherland” carries with it many complexities ranging from travel arrangements to deciding whether or not to visit a child’s orphanage. This presentation will serve as a paradigm for agencies and

organizations to aid adoptees and families as they prepare for this trip—both logistically and emotionally. Topics discussed will include pre-trip consultations to understand family expectations and post-trip visits to gather information for future clients. Please note that presenters will focus on a birth country visit that does not include search for birth family members, as each country is unique in its approach to search and reunion.

Learning Objective 1: Presenters will share a paradigm for agencies and parents to use in logistical and emotional preparation for a Motherland visit

Learning Objective 2: Presenters will provide guidelines for managing families' expectations, including visiting the orphanage and gathering adoption-story specifics

Learning Objective 3: Presenters will outline a post-trip debriefing to aid adoptees and families in coping with their new perspectives

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption professionals who are interested in or relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Joy Lieberthal, LCSW

Organization: Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children

Bio: Joy Lieberthal is a social worker and Korean adult adoptee. She received her Masters in Social Work from Columbia University and has been working professionally in the field of adoption since 1999. She worked at the Evan. B. Donaldson Adoption Institute and Adoptive Families Magazine, and has been on staff at Spence-Chapin for the last six years, both in the international department and post-adoption department. Ms. Lieberthal is currently an independent contractor for Spence-Chapin, running their Kids Groups, Mentorship Program, and other post-adoption- related clinical services. She is also the former president of Also-Known-As, an adult adoptee volunteer organization.

WORKSHOP SERIES 4:
Thursday, April 10, 2008
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

**4A: Strategies and Technologies for Efficient Communication
During “Tough Times”**

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

*Carol Wahl, MPH, Children’s Home Society & Family Services, and
Molly Rochon, Children’s Home Society & Family Services*

Serving as Program Managers for an agency’s China and Eastern European programs, the presenters of this workshop have extensive experience communicating with clients during ambiguous time with very little “hard” information to share. They will provide tips on the types of communication they found most helpful and offer live demonstrations of available technologies. Issues explored will include the pros and cons of different types of communication and whether there is such a thing as “too much” talk.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will learn technologies to help them better communicate internationally and to a large number of clients

Learning Objective 2: Participants will engage in interactive demonstrations to learn what types of communications best apply to certain situations

Learning Objective 3: Participants will gather strategies for delivering personal communication using impersonal means, as well as for addressing rumors

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Carol Wahl, MPH

Organization: Children’s Home Society & Family Services

Bio: Carol Wahl has worked for CHSFS' Russia Program for over 10 years, the last four supervising the Russian and East European Programs. She has a lifetime interest in the peoples and cultures of Russian and Eastern Europe, and has traveled and studied extensively throughout Russia, Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia, Serbia, and Bulgaria. In addition to a BA in Russian and Psychology, Ms. Wahl received an MPH with a major in Epidemiology.

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm
**U.S. Citizenship and
Immigration Services
Panel**

*CE credits (based on length
of presentation): 1.25*

Learning Objective 1:

Become aware of current legislation that may impact international adoption

Learning Objective 2:

Obtain comprehensive awareness of the visa application process for children adopted from abroad and any anticipated changes to that process

Learning Objective 3: Gain awareness of policy issues in countries outside of the US that might have an impact on adoption agencies and child welfare organizations

Learning Objective 4:

Receive in-depth knowledge of the policy process involved in intercountry adoption in order to promote ethical practices in the adoption field

Intended Audience:

Introductory - Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, will benefit from the knowledge presented during the panels. Panelists will explain basic elements of the policy process in which they specialize and will answer specific and advanced questions on more complex issues.)

4B: Understanding and Improving Agency Communication

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Richard Pearlman, MSW, Family Resource Center

Improving communication within an organization increases staff morale and effectiveness while enhancing the ability to mitigate client anxiety. This session will help individuals improve and deepen their appreciation for their agency's internal communication process through a hands-on simulation used by organizational consultants around the globe. This simulation duplicates a typical organization's structure and hierarchy to generate greater understanding about roles and the tactics that create effective communication within existing systems. Participants will gather enough information during this seminar to recreate the simulation at their own agencies.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will deepen their understanding of effective agency communication and how it can improve client relations

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn skills to manage parents' expectations, including how to remain positive in the face of adversity

Learning Objective 3: Participants will participate in a hands-on simulation of agency organization in order to examine how communication occurs

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Richard Pearlman, MSW

Organization: Family Resource Center

Bio: Richard Pearlman is the founder of the Family Resource Center, a Chicago-based licensed child welfare agency in operation since 1987. During his tenure as Executive Director, Family Resource Center has participated in more than 2,500 adoptions. Mr. Pearlman was first introduced to the field of child welfare as a student intern as he lived and worked with street children in Bogota, Colombia. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Joint Council on International Children's Services. Mr. Pearlman has traveled to Guatemala, China, Ukraine, and Russia, and is the father of three children, one of whom is adopted.

4C: Reflections on Ethiopian Adoptions: An Ethiopian Daughter and Her White American Mom Talk Together

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Maureen Evans, MA, adoptive parent, and Aselefech Evans

There is little doubt that adoptions from Africa will be an important component of the field in the coming years. With increasing attention, however, comes additional concerns behind the "trendiness" and media perceptions of these adoptions, as well as the possible volatile combination of naiveté and good intentions among prospective adoptive parents. This presentation will combine personal stories from an adoptive mother and daughter and

statistical information about transracial adoption (specifically, white parents and black children) in addition to realities about racism in America. The presenters hope their session will be a reminder, if not a wake-up call, to professionals about the importance of preparation regarding race in adoption.

Learning Objective 1: Presenters will discuss the effects of varying views of transracial African adoptions, including the media's portrayal

Learning Objective 2: Participants will gather anecdotal and statistical evidence about race relations while gaining the perspective of a white adoptive mother and her adopted daughter from Ethiopia

Learning Objective 3: The instructors will highlight the importance of preparation in regards to issues of race, highlighting tactical suggestions

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption professionals who are interested in or relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1

Name: Maureen Evans, MA

Organization: adoptive parent

Bio: Maureen Evans has over 20 years of personal and professional experience in adoption. The parent of four transracially adopted children, she was the first Executive Director of Joint Council on International Children's Services, interim Executive Director of The Barker Foundation, and the Executive Director of ASIA. She has presented workshops across the United States on adoption issues and published articles in magazines and newspapers, including The Washington Post and Adoptive Families. Ms. Evans has also received the North American Council on Adoptable Children's "Friends of Children" award.

BREAKOUT SESSION I:

Friday, April 11, 2008

9:00 am – 10:15 am

Caring for Orphans: Adoption and the Other 99%

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Tom Davis, Children's HopeChest

Families in the United States adopt over 25,000 children each year from foreign countries. The startling fact, however, is that well over 99% of orphaned children are never adopted by anyone. When adoption is not possible for whatever reason, every effort must be made to help a child overcome their abandonment, develop healthy relationships and support networks, and learn skills for living independently. This presentation will highlight the speaker's belief in addressing the situation through long-term relationships formed by national leaders and supported by Americans in a variety of ways. It will also present solutions for how adoption agencies and adoptive parents can extend their care for orphans beyond the children who can be adopted.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will assess worldwide orphan statistics and the social environmental factors behind rising numbers

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn about potential interventions in the form of national adoptions, in-country foster care, and overseas sponsorship

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn to better utilize their relationships with overseas institutions by developing strategic partnerships and by leveraging strengths

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Tom Davis

Organization: Children's HopeChest

Bio: Tom Davis is the President of Children's HopeChest, a mission organization bringing hope and love to orphans around the world—with a focus on the countries of Russia, Romania, and Ukraine. Before joining HopeChest, Mr. Davis was a pastor for 10 years. He served on the staff of several well-respected churches in Dallas, Texas, including Metroplex Chapel and Hillcrest Church. Mr. Davis also taught conferences and seminars with the Leadership Network; he is also a professional trainer in leadership development. Mr. Davis is the author of two books, *Fields of the Fatherless* and *Red Letters*. Additionally, Mr. Davis is the founder and co-owner of Saint's Coffee, a specialty coffee company that re-invests profits in orphan care projects in Africa.

WORKSHOP SERIES 5:

Friday, April 11, 2008

11:15 am – 12:30 pm

5A: Is Adoption PC: Anti-Intercountry Adoption Trends in the Media, Cyberspace and the Adoption Community

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Susan Cox, Holt International Children's Services, Inc., and Kathy Sacco, Family and Children's Agency

Historically, adoption has been portrayed as a way of protecting and saving children from inadequate environments. Recently, there has been unprecedented criticism of intercountry adoption as an ethical practice. These criticisms have manifested themselves in the form of anti-adoption groups, websites, blogs, scholarly critiques and media representations. This presentation will provide an overview of anti-intercountry adoption trends and explore their substance and methods of dissemination. The presentation will include the emergence of the adult adoptee community and their impact on intercountry adoption. Finally, it will offer participants recommendations for responding to these message in the areas of public relations, policy and practice.

Learning Objective 1: This presentation will provide an overview of anti-intercountry adoption trends, with an emphasis on the substance of anti-intercountry adoption arguments

and how these arguments are disseminated

Learning Objective 2: Presenters will explore the perspective of the adult adoptee community and its impact on intercountry adoption

Learning Objective 3: Participants will hear recommendations for responding to anti-intercountry adoption messages in the areas of public relations, policy and practice

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Susan Cox

Organization: Holt International Children's Services, Inc.

Bio: Susan Cox has been an international adoption and child welfare professional for more than 20 years. Since 1983, Ms. Cox has been involved with Heritage Camps for international adoptees and has directed tours to Korea for adult adoptees, adoptive families, and adopted couples. She is an advocate for life-long issues in adoption. Ms. Cox is a delegate to The Hague Convention on Private International Law Special Commission on the Practical Operation of the Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention, has trained government officials in several foreign countries, and has trained officials and journalists in Romania on effective media advocacy for child welfare. Ms. Cox was also appointed to the first White House Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, in addition to serving on other advisory committees. She is a nationally recognized speaker on international adoption and child welfare issues.

5B: Preserving and Retaining International Program Staff

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Kim Bernstein, MSW, LICSW, Wide Horizons for Children

The day-to-day demands of working with families through the adoption process can take its toll on workers, particularly as they continue to balance the demands of families and overseas partners while keeping their focus on the best interest of children.

This presentation will offer a panel of adoption professionals to discuss strategies for retaining staff. Some of these tactics will focus on adjusting client expectations (e.g., readjusting timeframes and selectively choosing which information to share), as well as internal methods for maintaining staff happiness (e.g., setting up mechanisms for supervisor support or dividing work among staff members).

Learning Objective 1: Participants will learn coping mechanisms to protect themselves from the psychological wear that comes from delivering disappointing news and recurring exposure to crisis management

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn strategies to maintain objectivity when working closely with families

Learning Objective 3: Participants will engage in a panel discussing how to set realistic expectations, how to recognize personal boundaries and buttons, and how to receive necessary support

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Kim Bernstein, MSW

Organization: Wide Horizons for Children

Bio: Kim Bernstein, MSW, LICSW, is the Program Manager for Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan at Wide Horizons for Children. She has worked in the field of adoption for nearly 15 years and for the past 12 years, has primarily focused on adoptions from former Soviet Union countries. Ms. Bernstein has worked at two different international adoption agencies where she has supervised staff both in the United States and overseas.

5C: Parenting for Attachment, Part II

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Georgia Leonard, MSW, The Family Network, Inc.

The foundation for attachment is established from dyadic resonance between the right brain (the emotional center) of the mother and child. This neurological activity may be affected by early traumas in young children, particularly those who have experienced abandonment or loss at a young age. This workshop will examine the definition of “self” as related to the parenting of an infant or toddler, as well as the etiology of shame. It will also focus on the connection between a child’s resilience and capacity for attachment.

Learning Objective 1: The presenter will review psychoneurobiology as it relates to attachment, including the development of the self

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn about the etiology of shame and its relationship to emotional states and the parent-child dyad

Learning Objective 3: Participants will gain perspective of resilience as the ultimate indicator of attachment

Intended Audience: Advanced (Experienced adoption professionals would benefit from this in-depth educational workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Georgia Leonard, MSW

Organization: The Family Network, Inc.

Bio: Georgia Leonard co-founded The Family Network, Inc. (previously named Family Adoption and Counseling Services) in 1979, and served as its Director of International Adoption until she was appointed Executive Director in 2006. In addition to her duties as Director, Ms. Leonard has created Parenting for Attachment workshops for clients, other professionals and the general public to increase awareness. To present this topic, Ms. Leonard combines the knowledge gained attaining her Masters in Social Work (emphasis on attachment disorders and treatment), observations working as a registered nurse for 13 years and personal experiences adopting four children.

WORKSHOP SERIES 6:

Friday, April 12, 2008

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

6A: Taking Advantage of Post-Placement Visits to Teach Real-Time Adoptive Parenting Skills

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Judy Stigger, LCSW, The Cradle, and Dori Fujii, The Cradle

Before placement, Hague-compliant agencies teach adoptive parents about the effects of tough starts and provide training in post-institutional care. However, it is only after placement that parents have the optimal context and motivation to learn. This session invites workers to recognize the opportunity post-placement visits afford to teach real-time adoptive parenting skills. This session will focus on engaging parents in teaching their children self-regulatory skills while the child's coping patterns are still malleable. Attendees will discuss approaches for teaching a child to trust, wait, lose their temper in a moderated manner, calm more quickly after a "melt-down" and to transition between tasks.

Learning Objective 1: This session invites participants to engage parents in teaching self-regulatory skills before behavior patterns become entrenched

Learning Objective 2: Attendees will learn approaches for teaching a child to wait, to trust, and to regain emotional control after a tantrum

Learning Objective 3: Participants will be able to teach parents to recognize their own behavior cues and how they contribute to attachment and emotional control issues

Intended Audience: Introductory (Adoption professionals who are interested in or relatively new to the field)

Presenter #1:

Name: Judy Stigger, LCSW

Organization: The Cradle

Bio: As director of International Adoption, Judy Stigger supervises The Cradle's Russia program in Evanston, Illinois, and abroad. Previously, Ms. Stigger coordinated international and domestic adoption programs and authored many articles related to adoption as well as one called Coping with Infertility. She currently serves on the advisory board of Adoptive Families Magazine. Ms. Stigger also conceptualized www.adoptionlearningpartners.org, creating the content for Conspicuous Families. In 2000, Congress she was recognized by Congress with the Angel in Adoption award in recognition of her years of service and expertise. Ms. Stigger is the adoptive parent of two special needs adults and the grandparent of adoptive and birth granddaughters.

6B: ABC's of Grantwriting

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Rebecca Utley, CFRE, Hope Cottage Pregnancy and Adoption Center

This presentation, focused on grant writing for private or community funders, will cover the vocabulary of grants, methods to conduct grant research and learn about types of grants available, as well as necessary preparation prior to the writing process. Participants will learn about case statements and how to “tell their story” via the grant and supporting materials. They will also learn what is expected to appear in a full proposal, how to package requests and the important follow-up steps once a grant has been submitted.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will understand the vocabulary of grants by learning associated jargon and types of grants available from private and community funders

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn methods to conduct grant-related research and tips for selecting grants appropriate for their organizations

Learning Objective 3: In addition to providing an overview of supporting materials requested for grants, the presenter will convey strategies for compiling this information prior to the writing process, as well as personalizing it in the grant itself to tell an organization's specific story

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Rebecca Utley, CFRE

Organization: Hope Cottage Pregnancy and Adoption Center

Bio: Rebecca Utley has been the Chief Executive Officer for Hope Cottage Pregnancy and Adoption Center in Dallas, Texas, since 1998. She has been a certified fundraising executive since 1984, and has over 25 years of experience in diversified development and non-profit management. Ms. Utley has presented through the Center for Nonprofit Management and the National Society of Fundraising Executives, and is an experienced trainer in subjects such as The ABC's of Grant Writing, Managing the One-Person Development Office, and Developing a Diversified Fundraising Program.

6C: Families First! Moving Away from Institutions and Toward Family-Based Care for Orphaned and Abandoned Children

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Renee Wallis, Firefly Children's Network, and Melinda Richards, Firefly Children's Network

It is estimated that millions of children live in orphanages worldwide, despite documentation that institutional care is the least desirable option for human development and far more expensive than family care. This number includes approximately 800,000 children living in Russian orphanages. Early intervention, which strives to reduce the rates of abandonment, abuse and neglect in families, is a proven best practice approach that combines

modern diagnostic and treatment practices with family support services. The strategy often targets children three years of age and younger, including pre-natal.

This workshop will detail Firefly Children's Network efforts to modernize child welfare in Russia through an intensive, three-year training program. Presenters will discuss the elements of research, coursework and supervision incorporated into the pilot training project, as well as their efforts to align government regulations and funding to support newly trained providers.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will gain an understanding of the challenges various countries face in moving from institution-based orphan care to family-based care structures

Learning Objective 2: The speakers will discuss specific country programs and local and regional variations that lessen the number of institutionalized children

Learning Objective 3: The presenters will highlight the importance of building a world community of practitioners to share best practices in caring for vulnerable child populations

Intended Audience: Advanced (Experienced adoption professionals would benefit from this in-depth educational workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Renee Wallis

Organization: Firefly Children's Network

Bio: Rene Wallis is the Executive Director of Firefly Children's Network. She manages the mission and goals of Firefly by establishing effective training programs for Russian officials, pursuing partnerships, and increasing funding, profile, and organizational capacity while directing staff and resources in the United States and Russia. Ms. Wallis arrived at Firefly after 17 years in American social justice work. She worked to improve the healthcare system for the poor and uninsured by running free medical clinics for 10 years before tackling public policy reform in the District of Columbia. In those roles, she learned the fundamentals of nonprofit management including fundraising, building and managing programs, and public relations. Ms. Wallis is also the foster mom to a 12-year-old boy.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS II:

Friday, April 11, 2008

9:00 am – 10:15 am

Promising Interventions for At-Risk Children

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Karyn Purvis, Ph.D., Texas Christian University Institute of Child Development

The Institute of Child Development has worked with adoptive families and the professionals who serve them for nearly a decade in order to develop research-based interventions for at-risk children. Their work, which incorporates principles of attachment theory, sensory processing insights and neurological/neurochemical development, has resulted in the development of the Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI). The TBRI method explores the effects of abuse, neglect and/or trauma on child development and

informs a path of healing to bring children back into a normal developmental trajectory. This presentation will share ideas and spur discussion of effective therapeutic approaches for families with at-risk adoptions. Strategies to be discussed include intensive home programs, nutritional supplements and participation in therapeutic summer and family camps.

Learning Objective 1: The participants will learn about research-based interventions based in attachment theory, sensory processing insights, and neurological/neurochemical development

Learning Objective 2: Participants will gain an understanding of how to bring failed development back into a healing trajectory

Learning Objective 3: Participants will be trained in applications of interventions discussed, including therapeutic summer camps for children, family camp, intensive home programs, and nutritional supplements

Intended Audience: Advanced (Experienced adoption professionals would benefit from this in-depth educational workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Karyn Purvis, Ph.D.

Organization: Texas Christian University Institute of Child Development

Bio: Karyn Purvis earned a Ph.D. from Texas Christian University, specializing in research with children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or trauma. She also has 10 years experience developing research-based interventions for at-risk children. Dr. Purvis has special training in the administration of the Strange Situation (infant attachment instrument) and Adult Attachment Interview. She has served on boards for the Texas Association of Infant Mental Health and Camp Fire Girls, as well as serving as an expert witness in courts for abused children. Dr. Purvis provides training to numerous adoption agencies, in addition to orphanage research and intervention in Romania. She has personal experiences as a foster mother and adoptive grandmother.

Agency Partnerships: Working Together to Best Serve Clients

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Phyllis Laughlin, MA, LCPC, The Cradle, and Maryanne Ludwig, Wide Horizons for Children

In today's adoption world, it is very common for adopting parents to choose two agencies to assist in their adoption. Whether this agreement is put in place to support adoptions from a Hague country or exists between a placement and homestudy agency for countries not party to the Hague, it is always in the best interest of adoptive parents and their future child to be prepared and well-served by those facilitating their adoption.

This workshop will highlight the relationships developed to support The Cradle's placement program in Russia and how these partnerships affect the mechanics of work. The following areas will serve as the focus: standards of practice, training of parents, referral presentation and post-placement/post-adoption reports. The presentation will conclude with

an open discussion with participants on ways to enhance partnerships, suggestions or other approaches to collaboration and support of families.

Learning Objective 1: The presenter will reinforce the value of partnerships between agencies and stress the unique benefits offered by complementary service providers

Learning Objective 2: The presenter will explain best practices in collaborations, including communication methods and agreement on ethical positions

Learning Objective 3: Participants will discuss methods of enhancing agency partnerships, including collaborating on referral problems and post-placement timelines and report formats

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Phyllis Laughlin, MA, LCPC

Organization: The Cradle

Bio: Phyllis Laughlin has been with The Cradle since 2000, first as an Adoptive Parent Counselor and now as Clinical Director of Adoptive Parent Services. She supervises a staff of counselors, facilitates training sessions, and works with adoptive parents as they go through the homestudy process and accept placements. Ms. Laughlin networks with several partner agencies and oversaw The Cradle's Hague Accreditation process. Ms. Laughlin earned her Master's degree in community counseling and is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in Illinois. She has over 15 years work experience in a corporate setting, and has worked as a grief counselor and trainer.

The View from the Other Side: What Families Are Looking For in Choosing Agencies, Country Programs and Crisis Management

CE credits (based on length of presentation): 1.25

Trish Maskew, Ethica, Inc., and Linh Song, Ethica, Inc.

Ethica provides a unique service to adoptive parents, birth families and adoption service providers through its crisis management program. This workshop will incorporate real-life examples to discuss the most frequent family requests received by the organization. Presenters will also help agencies develop a fair statement of liability and chain of command for crisis situations through a discussion of contracts and other options when things go wrong. The workshop will conclude with a participant-driven conversation on solving recurring concerns such as increasing demands from adoptive families and the effects of the Hague Convention on agency best practices.

Learning Objective 1: Presenters will reveal ethical issues that parents are not likely to discuss with the agency, including how to locate an ethical agency and crisis management

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn the changes parents most want to see in the adoption process, including communication strategies and alternatives when things go wrong

Learning Objective 3: Participants will discuss solutions for increasing trust and openness between agency and parents

Intended Audience: Intermediate (Managers and Executive Directors within International Adoption Agencies would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1:

Name: Trish Maskew

Organization: Ethica, Inc.

Bio: Trish Maskew is the founder and President of Ethica, Inc. Currently, Ms. Maskew is a public interest scholar at American University's College of Law. Ms. Maskew was previously employed as an international program coordinator for an adoption agency. She has a special interest in the adoption of older and special needs children, and authored *Our Own: Adopting and Parenting the Older Child*. She later served on the Board of Directors and as interim Executive Director for Joint Council on International Children's Services. In 2003, Ms. Maskew served a period in residence with the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference, where she assisted in writing an implementation manual for countries ratifying the Adoption Convention. She is also the mother of children who joined her family through birth, foster care and adoption.

COUNTRY CAUCUS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

* JCICS Members only

Date and Time of Presentation: Multiple Offerings from April 10th – April 12th
(four timeframes total; see below)

Country Committee/Caucus Session #1: Thursday, April 10th; 10:45 am – 12:00 pm
CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.25
Central and South America

Country Committee/Caucus Session #2: Thursday, April 10th; 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm
CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.0
Education * Africa * Guatemala * Haiti

Country Committee/Caucus Session #3: Friday, April 11th; 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm
CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.25
Young Professionals * China * India * Ethics

Country Committee/Caucus Session #4: Saturday, April 12th; 9:00 am – 10:00 am
CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1
Korea * Vietnam * Russia

Country Caucus and Committee meetings are sessions in which professionals within the adoption field can meet to discuss areas of concern, ways to collaborate and policy changes in a particular region or topic. Through collaboration during these sessions, attendees are able to share knowledge and experience on countries in which they facilitate adoptions. Country Caucus and Committee meetings are often some of the most valuable sessions, during which even experienced professionals glean knowledge from their peers in the field.

Each Country Caucus and Committee has a liaison from the Joint Council Board of Directors who will facilitate the relevant session. Topics for discussion are often decided upon at the outset of each meeting in order to guarantee that the most current issues are explained and addressed in the greatest detail.

Learning Objective 1: Understand current issues impacting one region or country in the international adoption field

Learning Objective 2: Develop ways to collaborate with other experts in the field in order to best serve the interests of children adopted from outside the United States

Learning Objective 3: Gain timely information on the policy process in specific countries where intercountry adoption occurs

Learning Objective 4: Develop a plan for improving contact with political officials in a specific region or topic area throughout the year so that adoption professionals can work together effectively and in the best interest of children, families and their organization

Intended Audience: Introductory - Intermediate (Attendees should have some knowledge of intercountry adoption and regional knowledge of countries in which their organization works.)

Presenter Information: Each Country/Caucus Committee meeting will be facilitated by a member of the Joint Council Board of Directors. Below is the presenter information for four Board Members, each of whom will be facilitating a session during the four scheduled Caucus/Committee series.

Country Committee/Caucus Session #1: Thursday, April 10th; 10:45 am – 12:00 pm

Name: Richard Pearlman, MSW

Organization: Family Resource Center

Bio: Richard Pearlman is the founder of the Family Resource Center, a Chicago-based licensed child welfare agency in operation since 1987. During his tenure as Executive Director, Family Resource Center has participated in more than 2,500 adoptions. Mr. Pearlman was first introduced to the field of child welfare as a student intern as he lived and worked with street children in Bogota, Colombia. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for Joint Council on International Children's Services. Mr. Pearlman has traveled to Guatemala, China, Ukraine, and Russia, and is the father of three children, one of whom is adopted.

Country Committee/Caucus Session #2: Thursday, April 10th; 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm

Name: Nancy Fox

Organization: Americans for International Aid and Adoption

Bio: Nancy Fox has been involved in international adoptions for more than 30 years as the Executive Director of Americans for International Aid and Adoption (AIAA). Previously having served on the Board of Directors and as President of Joint Council's Board, Ms. Fox is strongly committed to professionalism and good practice in the field of international adoption. She has also served as the President of the Adoptive Parents of Asian Children support group, on the Advisory Board for the Council on Asian Pacific Affairs, and on the Board of Tierra Santa Support, Inc., a children's home in Honduras. She has also received a Friend of Children Award from the North American Council on Adoptable Children. Over the years, she has been a birth, foster, and adoptive parent and, recently, an adoptive grandparent.

Country Committee/Caucus Session #3: Friday, April 11th; 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Name: Susan Cox

Organization: Holt International Children's Services, Inc.

Bio: Susan Cox has been an international adoption and child welfare professional for more than 20 years. Since 1983, Ms. Cox has been involved with Heritage Camps for international adoptees and has directed tours to Korea for adult adoptees, adoptive families, and adopted couples. She is an advocate for life-long issues in adoption. Ms. Cox is a delegate to The Hague Convention on Private International Law Special Commission on the Practical Operation of the Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention, has trained government officials in several foreign countries, and has trained officials and journalists in Romania on effective media advocacy for child welfare. Ms. Cox was also appointed to the first White House

Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, in addition to serving on other advisory committees. She is a nationally recognized speaker on international adoption and child welfare issues.

Country Committee/Caucus Session #4: Saturday, April 12th; 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Name: Keith Wallace

Organization: Families Thru International Adoption

Bio: Keith M. Wallace is a 1983 law school graduate from Valparaiso University School of Law and taught law as a Foreign Expert at Peking University in Beijing, China in 1990 - 1991. In 1995, Mr. Wallace founded Families Thru International Adoption (FTIA), a state-licensed, not-for-profit international child placement agency which has placed over 3,000 children from around the world into permanent families. Mr. Wallace serves as FTIA's Chief Executive Officer. In addition, through his law practice Mr. Wallace has worked in domestic adoption for over 20 years. Mr. Wallace and FTIA have been directly involved in donating significant humanitarian aid monies for the benefit of disadvantaged children both in the U.S. and overseas. Mr. Wallace is a member of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys (AAAA), the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the Christian Legal Society (CLS), and is currently serving as a Board member of the Joint Council on International Children's Services (JCICS). Mr. Wallace was selected as a Congressional Angel in Adoption in 2005 by U.S. Senators Evan Bayh and Richard Lugar. Mr. Wallace chairs the Board of Directors of Impact Ministries, an inner-city ministry in his hometown of Evansville, Indiana, is a long term Habitat for Humanity volunteer and recipient of the Habitat 2004 Partnership award, and was honored with the distinction of Sagamore of the Wabash by the late Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon.

FEDERAL PANELS (CONGRESSIONAL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE/COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION, U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES):

Date and Time of Presentation: Thursday, April 10th; 1:30 pm-5:00 pm

Each year at the Joint Council Conference, three federal panels are held that feature experts on policy issues impacting international adoption. More specific topic areas are listed in the schedule below. Individual panel speakers are not yet determined, but they will be staff members of the respective organizations featured in the panels. At the conclusion of each panel, participants will have the opportunity to ask specific questions in a variety of areas. The Federal Panels are the most efficient and comprehensive way in which adoption professionals can become educated on the ever-changing policy and legislative areas involved in intercountry adoption.

Objectives: see pages 22, 25, 28 for individual breakdown

Intended Audience: see pages 22, 25, 28 for individual breakdown

Presenter Information:

Each section of the Federal panel will include several representatives from the associated organization. Below is the name and title of the main representative for each panel as well as more specific information.

Congressional Panel (1:30 pm -2:30 pm)

CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.0

Staff from offices of Senators and Congressmen will discuss current legislation in adoption, intercountry adoption and child welfare.

Name: Deanna Carlson Stacy

Organization: Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute

U.S. Department of State and Council on Accreditation Panel (2:30 pm – 3:30 pm)

CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.0

Office of Children's Issues in the U.S. Department of State will discuss policy changes and issues in countries where international adoption occurs. This will include information from U.S. embassies in these countries. The Council on Accreditation will provide information regarding the status of Hague Accreditation for adoption service providers.

Name: Gerry Fuller

Name: Jayne Schmidt

Organization: U.S. Department of State

Organization: Council on Accreditation

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Panel (3:45 pm – 5:00 pm)

CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.25

Representatives from US Citizenship and Immigration Services will discuss issues and areas of change in adoption visa policies.

Name: Michael Valverde

Organization: USCIS Office of International Operations

ANNUAL JCICS BUSINESS MEETING

*** JCICS Members only**

Friday, April 11

9:00am– 11:00am

“Creating Permanency Through Families: Intercountry Adoption’s Role in Child Welfare”

*** JCICS Members only**

CE credits (based on length of meeting): 2.00

Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS

The Joint Council Business Meeting, facilitated by Joint Council President & CEO Thomas DiFilipo, will consist of a formal presentation as well as the collaboration of the Joint Council Membership regarding strategic planning for the organization. Using the JCICS strategic plan as the focus, those present will become familiar with the process and steps involved in strategic planning in order to use these skills in their own organizations. Participants will also receive an overview of Joint Council’s 2007 advocacy efforts, while helping to chart the course for future areas of focus. The Joint Council Business Meeting provides an opportunity for collaboration and information-sharing between professionals in the international adoption community. The practical knowledge shared at this session is critical to the association as a whole, as well as to managers providing administrative oversight within their respective organizations.

Learning Objective 1: To gain an understanding of the process of non-profit-oriented strategic planning

Learning Objective 2: To enable Joint Council members to apply the strategic planning process to their individual organizations

Learning Objective 3: To understand the strategies included in the Joint Council Strategic Plan (including fundraising, outreach, public education, and advocacy)

Learning Objective 4: To share and gather information relevant to the international adoption field (including areas of concern, policy changes, country issues, etc.)

Intended Audience: Intermediate (experienced professionals, administrators, managers and executive directors of international adoption agencies)

Presenter #1

Name: Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO

Organization: Joint Council on International Children’s Services

Bio: Tom DiFilipo, President and CEO of Joint Council on International Children's Services previously served nine years as Vice President for the CASI Foundation and Chief Operations Officer for International Children's Alliance. Mr. DiFilipo also served the social services community through his roles as board member for Joint Council, Focus on Adoption, and Discovery Ministries. In 2006, Mr. DiFilipo became the Director of International Relations for Joint Council, where he was instrumental in forming new relationships and communicating our missions to a worldwide audience. Prior to his work in children's services, Mr. DiFilipo held executive positions with a variety of consumer products firms. He is the father of three children, with two joining the family through adoption.

ISSUE AREA NETWORKING SESSION

Saturday, April 12

9:00am– 10:00am

Issue Area Networking Session

CE credits (based on length of meeting): 1.0

Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO, JCICS

The Issue Area Networking Session, moderated by Tom DiFilipo, provides adoption professionals the opportunity to address the issues most affecting their day-to-day work. The session will be divided into three groups: directors, social workers and case workers, and general topic of interests. An overview will be presented to each group before giving participants the time to offer their own unique perspectives and solutions for addressing the concerns at-hand. Participants will follow a session framework to best utilize the hour and to walk away with tactics for future practice.

Learning Objective 1: Participants will learn in-depth education on specific areas within the adoption field.

Learning Objective 2: Participants will learn how to promote collaboration between agencies and child welfare organizations

Learning Objective 3: Participants will learn how to develop practical solutions to problems facing adoption professionals.

Intended Audience: Introductory-Advanced (All professionals in the field, from those just starting out to experienced practitioners, would benefit from this workshop)

Presenter #1

Name: Thomas DiFilipo, President & CEO

Organization: Joint Council on International Children's Services

Bio: Tom DiFilipo, President and CEO of Joint Council on International Children's Services previously served nine years as Vice President for the CASI Foundation and Chief Operations Officer for International Children's Alliance. Mr. DiFilipo also served the social services community through his roles as board member for Joint Council, Focus on Adoption, and Discovery Ministries. In 2006, Mr. DiFilipo became the Director of International Relations for Joint Council, where he was instrumental in forming new relationships and communicating our missions to a worldwide audience. Prior to his work in children's services, Mr. DiFilipo held executive positions with a variety of consumer products firms. He is the father of three children, with two joining the family through adoption.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Continuing Education credits will be offered during the Medical Institute and Conference through PsychoEducational Resources, Inc. The cost of the credits will be the same for all mental health professionals as well as those wishing to receive recognition of their attendance at the educational components of the conference. A Continuing Education evaluation form will be provided to those participating in order for them to attest with their signature and date that they have attended, in their entirety, all sessions which they have marked on the form. Continuing Education recipients will be asked to evaluate the workshops and educational sessions that they attended in order to receive credits.

Continuing Education (CE) credits are being offered through PsychoEducational Resources, Inc. (PER). Participants may earn up to twenty-three and one-quarter continuing education (23.25 CE) credits.

PsychoEducational Resources, Inc. (PER) is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. PsychoEducational Resources, Inc. (PER) maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

PER is an NBCC Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP) and a co-sponsor of this program. PER may award NBCC approved clock hours for programs that meet NBCC requirements (Approval # 5536). Please check with your state counseling board to see if they accept the NBCC providership.

PER is approved as a provider for continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards, 400 South Ridge Parkway, Suite B, Culpepper, VA 22701. www.aswb.org. ASWB Approval Period: 4/15/06 – 4/15/09. Social workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval. The following state social work boards recognize the ASWB program: AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, GA, ID, IN, IA, KY, MA, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NM, NC, ND, NJ, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VI, VT, WA, WI, and WY.

PER is also an approved provider with a variety of individual state social work boards which include: the Alabama Social Work Board (#0155), the Florida Board of Licensed Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling (CE Provider Tracking #50-1657, Board Provider #351, exp. 03/31/09), the Illinois Social Work Board (159-000505), the Iowa Board of Social Work (#153), the Maryland State Board of Social Work, the Ohio Social Work Board (RSX-019601), and the Texas Board of Social Work (CS 1596).

This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for social work in Arkansas.

Course meets the qualifications for continuing education credit for MFTs and/or LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (Provider #PCE 203).

This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for social workers, professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, master's level

psychologists, licensed clinical psychotherapists, and alcohol and other drug abuse counselors in Kansas.

PER is an approved provider with the Illinois Marriage and Family Therapist Board (#168-000125).

This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for mental health practice and for social work in Nebraska.

This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for psychologists, pastoral psychotherapists, clinical social workers, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and alcohol and drug abuse counselors in New Hampshire.

PER is an approved Counselor (RCX-129413) provider with the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

PER is a provider of continuing education with the South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists (#98). Please note that the Board will only accept CE hours for renewal purposes that are related to the professional license that is being renewed and hours that are related to the educational requirements or subject matter that is required for the licensure.

This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for social workers, professional counselors, marital and family therapists, and clinical pastoral therapists in Tennessee.

PER is an approved provider with the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists (#130).

PER is approved as a Continuing Education Provider by the National Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) Provider #374 (exp. 9/30/09). The individual sessions in this conference cover the following counselor skill groups: Ongoing treatment planning and Counseling services.

For additional CE information please call PER at **800-892-9249** or e-mail support@per-ce.net.

PER maintains responsibility for this program and its content and adheres to all sponsorship guidelines for awarding CE credits.

PER and JCICS reserve the right to change speakers and/or topics due to unforeseen circumstances.