



**Fulfilling Hope:**  
*Building and Supporting Families*

**2010 Medical Institute, Annual  
Conference, and Adult Adoptee  
Institute and Adoptive Family  
Conference**  
Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel  
March 17- 20, 2010

### Medical Institute Presenters

**Julian Davies, M.D.**

Julian Davies is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington and the Co-Director of the Center for Adoption Medicine. He is also a faculty pediatrician at the longest-running FAS clinic in the US. His interest in international adoption stems from his experiences volunteering in Russia with older orphans in an arts rehabilitation center and summer arts camp. He created [www.adoptmed.org](http://www.adoptmed.org), an online resource for adoption and pediatrics. He and his colleagues provide pre-adoption reviews, on-call travel support, post-placement evaluations, and ongoing pediatric care for adopted children.

**Lisa Albers Prock, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Lisa Albers Prock is a Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician at Children's Hospital (Boston) and Harvard Medical School where she co-founded the Adoption Program in the Developmental Medicine Center. She has combined her clinical interests in child development and international health with advocacy for children impacted by foster care and adoption (domestic and international) in medical, residential and educational settings since 1991. She has worked in Cambodia teaching pediatrics and studying tuberculosis epidemiology. She has traveled extensively with parents adopting children and has visited a number of child-care institutions in Eastern Europe, China, and South East Asia. She has co-authored numerous original publications and articles for families. She has been an editor of a reference on international adoption for medical and mental health providers; and is co-authoring the forthcoming AAP Manual on Adoption. Her research interests include the long-term developmental, behavioral and emotional concerns of adoptee. She is a non-profit board member for organizations including: the Center for Family Connections (providing family therapy to foster-care & adoptive families); Adoptive Families Together (parent support group); and Treehouse Foundation (foster family empowerment program). She has received numerous local and national awards for her work, including the 2004 U.S. Congressional 'Angel in Adoption' Award. She is currently the Chairperson of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Adoption and Foster Care.

**Julia Bledsoe, M.D.**

Julia Bledsoe, MD, founded the Center for Adoption Medicine at the University of Washington in 1997, where she is currently the co-director of the program, along with Julian Davies, MD. She has also been a pediatrician in the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome clinic at the University of Washington, where FAS was first described in 1973. Her career interests include preadoption consultation, post adoption evaluation, and ongoing care of foster and adopted children with complex behavior problems and learning disabilities. She has two adopted children from Korea.

**Gail Farber, M.D.**

Dr. Gail Farber's experience with adoption began in the mid '70's as a consultant to the Waiting Children's Program at the Children's Home Society of Minnesota. She was a primary pediatrician for 20 years, caring for a large number of internationally adopted children. In the early '90's she became the Medical Director of Children's Seashore House, now merged with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where she directed the care for children with chronic illnesses and disabilities. She has experience with orphans in Korea, Vietnam, Romania and Laos. She founded the International Adoption Health Program at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia a decade ago, and, with her associated pediatricians,

occupational therapists, and psychologist, is working with families in the pre- intra- and post-adoption phases. She and her husband have 4 adult children, one of whom was adopted from Korea.

**Susan Friedman, M.D.**

Dr. Susan Friedman has spent the past 22 years working in the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Neonatal Follow Up Program, a multi-disciplinary program that cares for infants and children with high risk neonatal backgrounds and significant chronic illness and disabilities. She has also served as Medical Director of the Well Baby Nursery at the Hospital of the University of PA for the past 14 years. Dr. Friedman was delighted to join Dr. Farber in the International Adoption Health Program at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 2006 and apply her clinical skills to this immensely rewarding field. She became Co-Director in 2008, and recently assumed the role of Director. She and her husband have 4 children.

**Sharon Glennen, PhD**

Sharon Glennen, Ph.D. is Professor and Chair of the Department of Audiology, Speech Language Pathology and Deaf Studies at Towson University in Maryland. After adopting two toddlers from Russia and watching their language develop, she became interested in learning what was typical versus atypical for internationally adopted children. She started a series of longitudinal studies that tracked children who were newly adopted from abroad through the language learning process. Her research has been published in the *Journal of Language, Speech and Hearing Research*, *American Journal of Speech Language Pathology Seminars in Speech and Language*, and *Topics in Language Disorders*. She has presented her work at state and national conferences for speech language pathologists, and at the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Rachel Hachen, M.D.**

Dr. Rachel Hachen is the medical director of CHOP's multidisciplinary Neurofibromatosis and Spina Bifida programs. She recently joined Dr.'s Farber and Friedman in the International Adoption Program at CHOP, adding her expertise in the areas of neural tube defects and neurocutaneous syndromes. She has 4 children.

**Paul J. Lee, M.D.**

Paul J Lee MD is Director of the International Adoption Program at Winthrop-University Hospital in Long Island, New York and assistant professor of pediatrics at the SUNY Stony Brook School of Medicine. Dr. Lee has spent a majority of his time at Winthrop since 1998 working with the unique healthcare issues and infections of adopted children. His post-graduate training included an internship and residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at New York Hospital-Weill Medical Center from 1989-93, followed by a fellowship in pediatric infectious diseases at Columbia University/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York from 1995-1998. He earned his medical degree from New York Medical College in 1989. He has been on medical missions to Guatemala and El Salvador since 2001.

**Leigh Leslie, Ph.D.**

Leigh Leslie, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in FMSC. She holds a PhD in Human Development and Family Studies from the Pennsylvania State University with a pre-doctoral internship in clinical-community psychology from Yale University, School of Medicine. She is the author of numerous book chapters and over 25 journal articles focusing on topics related to gender issues in families and ethnic minority families. She was the director of a needs and services assessment of the Latino immigrant population in Washington, DC funded by the Ford Foundation, and has conducted evaluations of psychoeducational programs in areas such as couples communication, parent education, and promoting emotional resiliency in children. She is a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist and maintains a private practice focusing on families with adolescents and interracial families.

**Debbie Riley, M.S.**

Debbie Riley, M.S., is a marriage and family therapist and Executive Director and co-founder of C.A.S.E. Ms. Riley has over 25 years of experience in child and adolescent mental health, as well as administration and program development of both public and private mental health care systems. Since 1993, Ms. Riley has worked exclusively in the field of post-adoption, creating a continuum of innovative and effective service programs to address the complex needs of families from a variety of adoption backgrounds, including public and private, international and domestic. Ms. Riley has directed three Adoptions Opportunities grants, which have contributed important information to the practice of post-

adoption. She is available to train on C.A.S.E. therapeutic and service models, development of post-adoption services, adoption and adolescence, and therapeutic issues for post-institutionalized children and teens. Ms. Riley is also an adoptive mother.

**Elaine Schulte, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Schulte is the Chair of the Department of General Pediatrics and Medical Director of the International Adoption Program at Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital. She has worked with internationally adopted children and their families since 1995. She maintains an active clinical practice, with specific interests in international adoption, learning disabilities, ADD/ADHD, lead poisoning, immunizations and residency education. The International Adoption Program includes pre-adoption consultation through eClevelandClinic, travel support, post-adoption screening, ongoing primary care and a multi-disciplinary clinic for development and behavior evaluation, as well as learning needs. Dr. Schulte is an active member of the Joint Council on International Children's Services and the American Academy of Pediatrics Executive Committees of the Section on Adoption and Foster Care and the Section on Early Childhood, Adoption and Dependent Care. She has given numerous national and regional presentations and workshops on international adoption at JCICS, AAP, and the Pediatric Academic Society's meetings. She is the parent of two daughters adopted from China.

## Annual Conference Presenters

### **A. Lucy Armistead**

Mrs. Armistead, Founder and Executive Director of Kentucky Adoption Services, is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor who is also the parent of five children, two of whom were internationally adopted as older children. She has initiated adoption service provision and humanitarian aid projects in multiple countries and was a 2006 recipient of the Angels in Adoption Award.

### **Michelle Barr-Hsia, MS, OTR/L**

Michelle Hsia is an occupational therapist who has been practicing with the pediatric population for the past six years at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. One of the clinics in which she works is the International Adoption Health Program. She specializes in post-institutionalization, as well as children with sensory integration problems, cerebral palsy, neuromuscular diseases, orthopedic injuries, and seating and positioning needs. She traveled to Vietnam in 2006 to provide developmental training in pediatric hospitals and orphanages. She continues to study the effects of institutionalization on child growth and development.

### **Diana Boni**

Mrs. Boni, Haiti Adoption Coordinator for Kentucky Adoption Services, has worn many hats in her professional career, moving from a successful career in technology to the world of non-profit, adoption and humanitarian aid work following her initial adoption. She is the proud parent of four children adopted from Haiti, as well as two biological children and is a current host for a child on a medical visa. She is also the recipient of the Joint Council Child Advocate of the Year award in 2007 and 2008 and has successfully managed overseas contacts, as well as served as an efficient liaison between governmental entities, adoptive families and NGO's.

### **Tom DiFilipo**

Tom DiFilipo is currently the President and CEO of Joint Council on International Children's Services after serving nine years as Vice President for the CASI Foundation and Chief Operations Officer for International Children's Alliance. Mr. DiFilipo has also served the social services community through his roles as a Board member for Joint Council on International Children's Services, Focus on Adoption and Discovery Ministries. In 2006, Mr. DiFilipo was hired as the Director of International Relations for Joint Council where he was instrumental in forming new relationships and communicating JCICS' mission and goals to a world-wide audience.

### **Julie Drew**

Julie Drew has a personal connection to international adoption through her eldest daughter. Julie brings her professional background in education to Heart of the Matter Seminars, having worked in a variety of classroom situations, as an evaluation associate for the Missouri Reading First program through the University of Missouri St. Louis and as trained classroom observer for the Reading First National Impact Study. Her talent for teaching helps make each Heart of the Matter Seminars course or webinar a more meaningful experience for all learners. Julie and her husband Pat live in Lee's Summit, MO with their three children, Tanya, Sidney and Sam.

### **Lynn G. Gabbard, M.S.**

Lynn Gabbard has worked in the field of Adoption and Child Welfare for over 25 years and currently serves as Director of Adoption Services for Lutheran Social Services of New England. She founded and directs the LSSNE Post Adoption Resource Center, a statewide resource center designed to meet the ongoing needs of adopted children and their families, as well as provide training for adoption professionals, clinicians, etc. She is a frequent presenter on topics related to child placement and adjustment issues and has testified before Congressional subcommittees regarding various adoption-related issues. Ms. Gabbard is Connecticut representative to the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC), past president of the Open Door Society of Connecticut, a statewide adoptive parent support group, and serves on various state and local adoption-focused committees. She and her husband are parents to seven children, all of whom joined the family through adoption.

**Janice Goldwater, LCSW-C**

Janice Goldwater, LCSW-C is the Founder and Executive Director of Adoptions Together, a Maryland, DC, and Virginia based child placement agency that provides a broad base of services to help children achieve and maintain permanency. Celebrating twenty years of service to the community, Adoptions Together offers a holistic and diverse base of services that strengthen the fabric of the family unit and society as a whole. Janice is a parent of four children by birth and adoption and personally specializes in helping children and their families heal from the damaging effects of trauma.

**Suzanne Levy, Ph.D.**

Dr. Levy has worked clinically with children and adolescents for over the past 10 years. Dr. Levy received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2004. She completed her postdoctoral training at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Dr. Levy has been conducting research and clinical work at CHOP since December 2004. During this time, she has researched and trained in a form of family therapy focused on attachment for depressed and suicidal adolescents and their families. Dr. Levy is currently the Director of Training of Attachment Based Family Therapy

**Selena Liu, M.Div.** currently works for Spence-Chapin as the Network Program Coordinator for the International Adoption Department. She remains connected to domestic foster care as a contracted trainer for the UCLA Center on Child Welfare, training DCFS Regional and Adoption workers, and Olive Crest Foster and Adoption Agency, where she continues to provide pre-certification trainings for foster families. Before moving to New York to work in international adoption, she was a supervising case manager at Olive Crest, and also worked as a supervisor for the Adoption Promotion and Support Services program at Five Acres and a children's support group leader at Kinship Center. For families not qualified under state funded programs, she conducted private adoption consulting sessions with children and families using art process as co-Founder of Adoption Village. Among the at-risk communities she worked in before establishing herself in adoptions, was a Cambodian refugee community in CA. She was a keynote speaker at the 2008 ChildShare conference in Los Angeles and co-presented on "Working with the Re-App Family" at the 2009 JCICS conference.

**Amy Lynch, Ph.D.**

Dr. Amy Lynch has been practicing with the pediatric population since receipt of her degree from Tuft's University. She is now Program Coordinator at the IAHP at CHOP and has obtained a doctorate in Biomechanics and Movement Studies, with an emphasis on Infant Motor Behavior at the University of Delaware. She is also working as a Post Doctoral Fellow with Dr. Mary Dozier at the University of Delaware. Dr. Lynch specializes in post-institutionalization, as well as children with sensory integration problems, feeding/oral motor dysphagia, and cerebral palsy. She is certified in the Sensory Integration and Praxis Tests (SIPT) and Infant Massage. She has completed her 8 week training in Neurodevelopmental Treatment. Dr. Lynch was the Manager of the OT Department at CHOP for 5 years. She is a faculty member at Misericordia University, where one of her responsibilities is teaching the Sensory Integration Evaluation and Treatment course for advanced master's students. She has presented regionally, nationally, and internationally in feeding, sensory integration, international adoption medicine, and developmental care. Dr. Lynch is also a proud new mom of a little boy who is from Russia.

**Jennifer Mansfield Phillips**

Jennifer Mansfield Phillips has been working in the adoption field for seventeen years. She graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from Dickinson College in 1992. Through her years of adoption work, she has helped to develop a curriculum for adoptive parent education, provided home study services, post adoption and post placement services, facilitated waiting parent support groups monthly, and provided ongoing clinical services to families and children in all phases of the adoption process. Jennifer and her husband have 2 young sons.

**Karen Maunu**

Karen Maunu is the volunteer Associate Executive Director of Love without Boundaries and mother to five children, two of which are from China. For the past 4 years, Karen has traveled throughout China meeting with Chinese hospitals and government officials, working to find the best way possible to care for the over 1500 children that LWB helps each year. She has been responsible for planning large scale cleft missions, coordinating medical training seminars, setting up medical exchanges in both the US and

China, arranging surgeries for over 1000 children, and has co-developed a special needs manual to educate orphanage staff, foster parents, and adoptive parents on children with special needs.

### **Paul Meyer**

Paul D. Meyer, is a Principal Partner with Tecker Consultants, LLC, and is Principal Consultant with Thunderbolt Thinking, Inc. providing strategy development and change management consulting, issue resolution facilitation, organizational governance, innovation training, operational analysis, volunteer leadership development, and research for corporations and not-for-profit organizations.

### **Sarada Peri, LA, Senator Mary Landrieu**

Sarada Peri handles education, healthcare, adoption and child welfare issues for Senator Landrieu. Before joining the Senator's staff, she taught at Marion Abramson Senior High School in New Orleans as a Teach for America corps member. She also worked as State Policy & Communications Manager at the Center for Policy Alternatives. Sarada holds a BA in political science from Tufts University and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

### **Katie Prigel Sharp**

Katie Prigel Sharp, LMSW, first became involved in international adoption through the adoption of her son and later as a social worker supervisor at an international adoption agency. Katie co-founded Heart of the Matter Seminars and is pleased to devote herself to its mission on a full time basis. Heart of the Matter Seminars provides education for adoptive families and professionals through the updated, online Because They Waited system, shorter online courses and live webinars. Katie lives in Lee's Summit, MO with her husband Eric and two children, Andrew and Olivia.

### **Kris Probasco, LCSW, LSCSW**

Kris A. Probasco is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the States of Missouri and Kansas and has practiced in the field of infertility, reproduction and adoption since 1972. Kris operates Adoption & Fertility Resources, a licensed child placing agency in the States of Missouri and Kansas. Kris has worked in both the public and private setting providing adoption and fertility services. Kris provides services for domestic, international and embryo adoptions in which counseling for birth, genetic-donor and adoptive families is provided. Kris also maintains a general psychotherapy practice with Clinical Counseling Associates, a family-owned mental health corporation. Kris is the founder and has been an honorary board member of Resolve of Kansas City, Adoption Triad Support Network of Kansas, and Guatemala Adoptive Parents Support Group of Kansas City. Kris is a member of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine, the American Adoption Congress and the Metropolitan Adoption Council in Kansas City. She speaks nationally and locally on various issues relating to adoption, infertility, donor conception, embryo adoption and surrogacy.

### **Jared N. Rolsky**

Jared N Rolsky has been the Director of Golden Cradle Adoption Services in Cherry Hill, NJ since 1997. He has been involved with domestic and international adoptions since the early 1980's and has worked to make adoption an accessible and client driven service. Prior to coming to Golden Cradle, Mr. Rolsky was Executive Director of Jewish Family Service of New Haven, CT. There, he expanded the adoption program to include adoptions from South America and Eastern Europe. He has been associated with Council on Accreditation since the mid-1980's and is currently a team leader for COA. Mr. Rolsky was President of the Council of Family Service Agencies of Connecticut, Treasurer of the United Way Executives of CT, board member of the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies and currently Membership Chair and webmaster for the Delaware Valley Adoption Council. He chaired the JCICS Ethics Committee that was charged with the recent Standards of Practice Statement.

### **Julie Rosicky**

Julie Osyka's early career focused on foster youth and families as a child/family therapist at the Oregon Social Learning Center's (OSLC) therapeutic foster care program in Eugene, OR and with troubled youth at the Oneida Indian Nation, Oneida, NY. She implemented and administered Tri-County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) a component of the Peacemaker Program, Utica, NY and later went on to become the agency's Executive Director. During her tenure at Peacemaker Program the agency tripled in size to include not only child advocacy programs but a variety of child/family and community conflict resolution services as the area's main alternative dispute resolution center. Her passion for understanding conflict eventually led her to working across cultures at the Mohawk Valley Resource

Center for Refugees, Inc. (MVRRCR) as the Director of Multicultural Services. After her tenure at the Refugee Center, Julie and her family headed South and Julie implemented and administered a three million dollar cooperative agreement between the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. (MCVRC) and the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime (OVC); soliciting, selecting and building the capacity of 28 sites across the United States to provide services to underserved victims of crime in high crime urban areas. After fully implementing this program, Julie joined ISS-USA. Julie received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Cum Laude from the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO and a Masters of Science in Developmental Psychology from the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. Julie is married with two children and a bi-lingual dog, adopted from Puerto Rico.

**Elaine E. Schulte, M.D., MPH**

Dr. Schulte is the Chair of the Department of General Pediatrics and Medical Director of the International Adoption Program at Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital. She has worked with internationally adopted children and their families since 1995. She maintains an active clinical practice, with specific interests in international adoption, learning disabilities, ADD/ADHD, lead poisoning, immunizations and residency education. The International Adoption Program includes pre-adoption consultation through eClevelandClinic, travel support, post-adoption screening, ongoing primary care and a multi-disciplinary clinic for development and behavior evaluation, as well as learning needs. Dr. Schulte is an active member of the Joint Council on International Children's Services and the American Academy of Pediatrics Executive Committees of the Section on Adoption and Foster Care and the Section on Early Childhood, Adoption and Dependent Care. She has given numerous national and regional presentations and workshops on international adoption at JCICS, AAP, and the Pediatric Academic Society's meetings. She is the parent of two daughters adopted from China.

**Judith A. Stigger, LCSW**

Judy Stigger, LCSW, is the Director of Professional Relations for Adoption Learning Partners, an interactive adoption educational site. A licensed clinical social worker, Judy provides counseling and therapy for adopted teens and families. She has extensive experience in domestic as well as directed international adoption programs. She has also conceived of and is NASW content expert for [www.AdoptionLearningPartners.org](http://www.AdoptionLearningPartners.org). Judy has presented at numerous national and local seminars and authored a book, "Coping with Infertility", plus various chapters and articles. She serves on the Editorial Advisory Boards of the Adoptive Families Magazine and is a past president of the Board of Joint Council on International Children's Services. In addition, Judy received a Congressional "Angel in Adoption" award in 2000. Judy and her husband are the adoptive parents of two now-grown, special needs and cross-racially placed children, and are co-parenting two granddaughters.

**Ronald L. Stoddart, BSJD**

Ron Stoddart has practiced adoption law for more than 20 years and is a partner in the firm of Schmiesing Blied Stoddart & Mackey. He is also the Executive Director of Nightlight Christian Adoptions, a licensed agency, which is accredited by the Hague. His longtime commitment and involvement in pro-life issues were instrumental in the development of the agency's Snowflake Embryo Adoption Program. This program has gained national attention as the fate of frozen embryos has captured the attention of the media and Congress. Ron also developed and directs the agency's international adoption program in Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Taiwan. Ron and his wife, Linda, have four children, including one adopted domestically at birth and one adopted from Russia at the age of 11.

**Kathleen Strottman, Esq., ED CCAI**

Kathleen Strottman comes to her role as the Executive Director of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) after serving for nearly eight years as a trusted advisor to Senator Mary L. Landrieu (D-LA). As the Senator's Legislative Director, Kathleen worked to pass legislation such as the No Child Left Behind Act, The Medicare Modernization Act, The Inter-Country Adoption Act, The Child Citizenship Act of 2000, The Adoption Tax Credit and the Family Court Act. Together with the Senator, Kathleen worked to increase the opportunity for positive dialogue and the exchange of best practices between the United States and sending countries such as China, Romania, Russia, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and India. Prior to joining the Senator's staff, Kathleen attended Whittier Law School's Center for Children's Rights where she graduated with honors and received a state certified specialty in juvenile advocacy. A member of the Whittier Law Review, Ms. Strottman published an article entitled "Creating a Downward Spiral: Transfer Statutes as Answers to Juvenile Delinquency." Kathleen received her bachelor's degree in political science from the College of the Holy Cross and went on to

serve as a Jesuit Volunteer. She and her husband, Matt, are the proud parents of two children, Grace and Noah.

### **Kimberly Tyson**

Kimberly Tyson has more than 20 years of leadership experience developing and deploying leading edge technology products and services for top-tier companies. An accomplished corporate marketer, her vision and expertise in business performance have brought goal-oriented success in the medical, education and general business sectors. Kimberly is currently Program Manager for Nightlight Christian Adoptions, using her experience to bring success to the federally funded Embryo Adoption Awareness Center. During her brief tenure she has developed educational training and videos, created an Internet strategy to increase website traffic, launched a legal essay competition and established regular communications with Adoption Agencies and Fertility Clinics throughout the U.S. She received her BA from Colorado State University in Business Administration-Marketing with a minor in Political Science.

### **Steven Walker**

Steven Walker is a dedicated young man who has overcome the obstacles, struggles, and hardships that abuse and foster care has brought upon him. Ever since his adoption, he has been working as an adoption advocate to promote and greatly better our foster care and adoptive systems. He has been published in magazines in several states, and helped write legislation in New York State to keep siblings together. This proud brother of eight siblings is saddened by the horrible experiences they and many others in foster care have faced prior to their adoption. This sadness has motivated him to study law and political science with aspirations of one day sitting in the White House and signing an adoption bill. His goal is not to quit until he finds every child a permanent, loving home, and ends all other hardships for adoptees.

### **Rebecca Weichhand, Esq., Dir of public Policy, CCAI**

Rebecca Weichhand has a J.D. from Regent Law, and has singularly focused her life work on orphan relief, foster care and adoption policy since she was in high school. During college and law school, Rebecca traveled coast to coast to work with several of the US' premier child welfare law firms and policy organizations, including the Alliance for Children's Rights and National Council for Adoption. She also frequently travels internationally to study and work with orphan care programs in other countries. For years, she has aspired to reduce the bureaucratic impediments that prevent children from joining loving families and enjoys her current position at the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

## Adoptee Institute & Adoptive Parent Conference Presenters

### **Lisa Albers Prock, MD, MPH**

Dr. Lisa Albers Prock is a Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician at Children's Hospital (Boston) and Harvard Medical School where she co-founded the Adoption Program in the Developmental Medicine Center. She has combined her clinical interests in child development and international health with advocacy for children impacted by foster care and adoption (domestic and international) in medical, residential and educational settings since 1991. She has worked in Cambodia teaching pediatrics and studying tuberculosis epidemiology. She has traveled extensively with parents adopting children and has visited a number of child-care institutions in Eastern Europe, China, and South East Asia. She has co-authored numerous original publications and articles for families. She has been an editor of a reference on international adoption for medical and mental health providers; and is co-authoring the forthcoming AAP Manual on Adoption. Her research interests include the long-term developmental, behavioral and emotional concerns of adoptee. She is a non-profit board member for organizations including: the Center for Family Connections (providing family therapy to foster-care & adoptive families); Adoptive Families Together (parent support group); and Treehouse Foundation (foster family empowerment program). She has received numerous local and national awards for her work, including the 2004 U.S. Congressional 'Angel in Adoption' Award. She is currently the Chairperson of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Adoption and Foster Care.

### **Susan B. Alvarado, LPC, PLLC**

Susan B. Alvarado is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She is committed to serving the adoption community as a psychotherapist, educator, and advocate. She has worked as a therapist in community mental health settings, high schools, and in prenatal health care clinics. She holds a Masters Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling, a Post Master's Certificate in Community Counseling, and is completing a Post Master's Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy at Virginia Tech. In the past six years Susan has dedicated her postgraduate research and training to the field of adoption and attachment processes, incorporating both her knowledge of clinical mental health services and her experiences as an adopted person herself from Colombia, SA. She currently maintains her own practice serving individuals, children, adults, and families created through adoption. She co-leads children, teen and adult adopted persons groups and camps for the Barker Foundation, a local adoption agency that also provides post - adoption services. Her research with other Colombian adoptees was published in the Handbook of Adoption: Implication for Researchers, Practitioners and Families, St. John's University, 2007, and she has been featured in "Adoption Today" magazine. Recently, she contributed to a chapter on attachment theory for the American Academy of Pediatrics Journal.

### **Bill Bistransky**

William J. Bistransky is the Co-Chief for the Adoption Unit in the Office of Children's Issues at the Department of State. His team is dedicated to implementing the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption. He is a career consular officer and has served in Moscow, Havana, Kyiv, and Santo Domingo. This is his third tour at the Department of State in Washington, DC.

### **Kathy Brodsky**

Kathy Brodsky, LCSW received both her Bachelors and Masters of Social Work degrees from Adelphi University in the 1970's. She is a New York and New Jersey Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a member of the National Association of Social Workers and Joint Council on International Children's Services. Kathy has been the Director of the Ametz Adoption Program of the Jewish Child Care Association since 1992 and a consultant to the program for 7 years prior to that time. She has conducted pre and post-adoption homestudies, as well as counseled families at all stages of the adoption process and created many community programs to meet their needs. She has also developed a training program for professionals working in the field of adoption and serves as a consultant to administrators, clinicians and educators regarding adoption and parenting issues. Her prior work experience includes the Children's Aid Society, Children's Village, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Veterans Administration, the NYC Board of Education, as well as a private therapy practice. Kathy is a nationally sought speaker. She is also on the Advisory Board of the American Fertility Association. In 2001, Kathy was recognized as an "Angel in Adoption" by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption. She lives in New York City and is the mother of 2 daughters, ages 18 and 21, who joined her family through adoption.

**Donna Campagnolo**

Donna Campagnolo became the Assistant Center Director for the Customer Relations at the National Benefits Center (NBC), US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Department of Homeland Security in October 2006. From October 2004 to October 2006, Ms. Campagnolo served as the supervisor of the NBC Performance Management Group. The NBC processes family based adjustment of status cases to prepare them for interview at USCIS Field Offices. The NBC also processes forms associated with Hague Adoptions. Ms. Campagnolo holds a Master's of Science degree in Management and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Baker University.

**Dana Johnson, M.D.**

Dana Johnson, M.D., Ph.D. is Professor of Pediatrics, member of the Division of Neonatology and a faculty member in the Global Pediatrics Program at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Johnson co-founded the International Adoption Clinic at the University of Minnesota in 1986. His research interests include the effects of early institutionalization on growth and development and the outcomes of internationally adopted children. Dr. Johnson has authored over 200 scholarly works is an invited speaker worldwide and a Senior Research Fellow in the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Joint Council for International Children's Services, Friend of Children Award from the North American council on Adoptable Children and the Harry Holt Award from Holt International. He is also the father of a son adopted from India.

**Joy Lieberthal, LCSW**

Joy Lieberthal is a licensed clinical social worker in New York. She has a private practice in New York City specializing in issues related to adoption. She has worked in all areas of adoption from public policy and research to direct clinical work with a private adoption agency. She worked extensively in post-adoption creating and running programming for youth and teens who are adopted from kids groups and mentoring programs. She continues to work in an advisory role with Spence-Chapin Services - Post Adoption Dept. She has presented at numerous local and national forums. Joy is a Korean adoptee; she came to her family just shy of her sixth birthday. She was the president for six years of Also-Known-As, a NY based non-profit volunteer organization for internationally adopted people and families. She was on the planning committee for the First Gathering of Korean Adoptees in 1999 as well as the Gathering in Korea in 2004. She lived in Korea for a year working at the Orphans' Home of Korea in Uijongbu. During that time she learned how to speak basic Korean, learned that her birthmother had been searching for her for 21 years and learned that her identity as a Korean adopted person was a significant aspect of who she is.

**Sandra McLaughlin-Butzine**

Sandra has been working in adoption around the globe for more than 25 years. She was adopted from Korea in 1961 at the age of 5 months. In 1981, she traveled back to her birth country for the first time. She transformed her personal experience into her profession advocating for the needs of homeless children. Throughout her career, Sandra's been involved in helping adoptees discover their heritage. She developed the Holt Heritage Camp Programs in 1982, and led Adoptee Motherland Tours to Korea. Sandra served as a counselor at the Adoptee Gatherings in Seoul, and facilitates birth family search requests for Bethany Christian Services. Sandra's work in post adoption services is just a piece of her work as a leader in the adoption profession. She is the Executive Director of Bethany Christian Services, Western PA regional offices. Sandra is also a strong voice for children and adoption through her role with Adoptees for Children. She was commended by Ambassador Lee Tae-Sik, Republic of South Korea for her work in adoption, and awarded the Angels in Adoption Award by the US Congressional Coalition on Adoption.

**Sue Orban**

Sue Orban has worked in the adoption field for over 20 years and currently works as an Outreach and Education Coordinator for Children's Home Society & Family Services. Sue has traveled with families to Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin American to help them with their adoptions. Sue began her adoption journey when she adopted from Korea in 1980 and is now the proud parent of four children, three adopted internationally and one born to her. Sue began her professional career in 1988 and has developed and/or managed programs in Eastern Europe, Asia, and Latin America. Sue has a degree in education, which she uses to help families understand the adoption process, options available to them, and preparing families for parenting.

**Sam Pitkowsky**

Sam Pitkowsky is the president of the NYC Chapter of the Adoptive Parents Committee and a Tri-State Board member for over 20 years, including the past six as Executive Vice President. He has served on the board of Joint Council of International Children's Services for the past six years and on the Hague Alliance Committee, a group monitoring the Hague International treaty on adoption, including testifying before Congress on behalf of adoptive parents. He is married with two internationally adopted children. One daughter adopted at 2 months of age from Honduras, is now 23 years of age and attending college. The other daughter, adopted from Dominican Republic at 3 months of age, is now 20 years old.

**Debbie Riley, MS**

Debbie Riley, M.S., is a marriage and family therapist and Executive Director and co-founder of C.A.S.E. Ms. Riley has over 25 years of experience in child and adolescent mental health, as well as administration and program development of both public and private mental health care systems. Since 1993, Ms. Riley has worked exclusively in the field of post-adoption, creating a continuum of innovative and effective service programs to address the complex needs of families from a variety of adoption backgrounds, including public, private, international and domestic. Ms. Riley has directed three Adoptions Opportunities grants, which have contributed important information to the practice of post-adoption. She is available to train on C.A.S.E. therapeutic and service models, development of post-adoption services, adoption and adolescence, and therapeutic issues for post-institutionalized children and teens. Ms. Riley is also an adoptive mother.

**Steven Walker**

Steven Walker is a dedicated young man who has overcome the obstacles, struggles, and hardships that abuse and foster care has brought upon him. Ever since his adoption, he has been working as an adoption advocate to promote and better our foster care and adoptive systems. He has been published in magazines in several states, and helped write legislation in New York State to keep siblings together. This proud brother of eight siblings is saddened by the horrible experiences they and many others in foster care have faced prior to their adoption. This sadness has motivated him to study law and political science with aspirations of one day sitting in the White House and signing an adoption bill. His goal is not to quit until he finds every child a permanent, loving home, and ends all other hardships for adoptees.

**Vicky Kelly, Psy.D., LCSW, MHA**

Vicky Kelly is the Director of Clinical and Prevention Services for Children and Families First of Delaware, and Adjunct Professor at Widener University in PA. She is a nationally known trainer and consultant in attachment, trauma, and child welfare. She is the author of the "*Theoretical Rationale for Attachment-Focused Therapy*" and served as the President of ATTACH for three years.