

Keeping Families Together: Crisis in Child Welfare

Introduction - 9:30-9:45am

Crystal Grant, Associate Clinical Professor & Director of Children's Law Clinic, Duke School of Law

1. Where Are We Now? Disciplinary Frameworks Governing Child Welfare - 9:45-11:00am

Laws, policies, and practices create and perpetuate a system that harms families in the name of helping children. Speakers on this panel will address the challenges and opportunities for change within law, social work, education, and health care.

Moderator: Maxine Eichner, Distinguished Professor of Law, UNC School of Law

Allison Korn, Clinical Professor of Law & Director of Health Justice Clinic, Duke School of Law

Kele Stewart, Professor of Law & Co-Director of Children & Youth Law Clinic, Miami School of Law

Shanta Trivedi, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Baltimore School of Law

Lauren van Schilfgaarde, Assistant Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law

Break - 11:00-11:15am

2. A View From the Ground - 11:15-12:30pm

Practitioners and activists in North Carolina examine harms inflicted by the current system, levers for change, and best practices.

Moderator: Tenika Hall, Director & Supervising Attorney of Juvenile Law Clinic, NCCU School of Law

Hon. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell, North Carolina District Court Judge

Jessica Fludd, Attorney, Fludd Law, LLC

Toia Potts, Impacted Parent, Organizer, Emancipate NC

Sharice Zachary, MSW, North Carolina Office of Public Defender

Lunch - 12:30-1:15pm

3. Family Defense Lawyering - 1:15-2:30pm

What is the role of parent representation in effecting change? Speakers will discuss the field of family defense, zealous advocacy of accused parents, and where lawyers may fall short.

Moderator: Laura Matthews-Jolly, Assistant Professor of Law, NCCU School of Law

Christine Gottlieb, Director of Family Defense Clinic, NYU School of Law

Joyce McMillan, Founder & Executive Director of JMAC for Families

Wendy Sotolongo, Parent Defender, Indigent Defense Services

Alexis White, 3L Student, NCCU School of Law

Break - 2:30-2:45pm

4. Moving Forward - 2:45-4:00pm

What might it look like to move toward a society that truly values children and families? Speakers will address the laws, policies, and practices that must be in place in order to move towards such a society and what we can learn from current models that seek to provide families what they actually need in order to thrive.

Moderator: Barbara Fedders, Associate Professor of Law, Director of Clinical Programs, Director of Youth Justice Clinic, UNC School of Law

Erin Miles Cloud, Co-Founder & Co-Director, Movement for Family Power

Elizabeth Simpson, Strategic Director, Emancipate NC and Adjunct Clinical Professor of Law, UNC Law

Amanda Wallace, Founder, Operation Stop CPS
Youth Advocate, SaySo