



Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Cynthia L. Cordes

**Human Trafficking Coordinator, Assistant U.S. Attorney,
U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Missouri**

Cynthia L. Cordes is the Human Trafficking Coordinator and an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Western District of Missouri. In 2006, she created and has continued to lead the Human Trafficking Rescue Project (HTRP), the local human trafficking task force, which is comprised of federal, state, and local law enforcement and assisting victim service providers. She has prosecuted more human trafficking cases than any other Assistant U.S. Attorney in the country. She is the first federal prosecutor to utilize the Trafficking Victims Protections Act (TVPA) to prosecute customers of commercial sex trafficking. She is also the first federal prosecutor to utilize the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) to charge an international trafficking enterprise. She is well known for her unique use of federal statutes to successfully address anti-trafficking efforts. Ms. Cordes joined the U.S. Department of Justice through the prestigious Attorney General Honors Program. She graduated with honors from Boston University and the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Michelle Derr

Senior Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research

Michelle Derr, a senior researcher at Mathematica Policy Research, is well known for her ability to translate research findings effectively to improve public policies and direct practice. Most of her work focuses on quick turnaround research projects used to describe a promising practice or document the implementation of a public policy. She has conducted site visits to welfare agencies and other social service programs in more than 80 communities in more than half the states and the District of Columbia. She specializes in evaluating employment and training initiatives targeted to public assistance clients, ex-offenders, individuals with disabilities, and other disadvantaged populations. Putting her knowledge into practice, she provides evidence-based technical assistance to states and local communities to help strengthen their performance outcomes. In addition to her work at Mathematica, she is currently an adjunct professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Social Work, Northern Virginia Campus. She has taught a variety of courses including Research for Social Work Practice, Social Work and Social Justice, and Social Policy for Children and Families. She holds a Ph.D. in social work from the University of Utah.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Denise DeVaan

**Assets for Independence (AFI) Regional Consultant,
National Coordinator of AFI Regional Consultants**

Denise DeVaan works through ICF International to provide financial asset building services and consultation to Region V. She is the National Coordinator of AFI Regional Consultants, working to help staff the HHS-sponsored ASSET Initiative. Ms. DeVaan has worked in the anti-poverty field since 1983, mostly as a social policy lobbyist with the Minnesota Legislature. In 1997 she began working in the financial asset building field, one of the AFI and IDA pioneers. For ten years she organized and coordinated the Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota (FAIM) Collaborative. To date AFI IDA savers have deposited \$2.5 million. Several thousand have opened IDA accounts, completed financial education classes, purchased homes/businesses/higher education or training as well as secured federal and state tax credits. Ms. DeVaan has worked with Jim Gatz and the ASSETS for Independence Program, HHS, for six years providing technical assistance and training activities for AFI grantees. Ms. DeVaan holds an MA degree in Human Development with concentrations in economics, public policy, political science. She is a National Kellogg Fellow in leadership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Traci Francis

Director of Programs, Hope House

Traci Francis, Director of Programs at Hope House, holds a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in clinical services and has been with Hope House for 11 years. Ms. Francis directly supervises the majority of non-clinical direct service programs offered by Hope House, including the Shelter, Transitional Housing, Guardian (supervised visitation), BridgeSPAN (medical advocacy), Court Advocacy, and Early Childhood programs. Ms. Francis maintains a working knowledge of the needs of survivors and trends in the field and communicates those to all staff, students, and volunteers whom she supervises; provides leadership, training, on-going support, and evaluation of program personnel; and identifies short and long term goals for each program that are consistent with the agency's mission.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Mark Greenberg

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Administration for Children and Families

Before joining HHS, Mark H. Greenberg directed the Georgetown University Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy, a joint initiative of the Georgetown University Law Center and the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. In addition, he was a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress (CAP) and the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). He previously served as the Executive Director of CAP's Task Force on Poverty and as CLASP's Director of Policy. During his career, Mr. Greenberg has written extensively on issues relating to federal and state welfare reform efforts; workforce policy issues affecting low-income families; child care and early education policy; tax policy; poverty measurement; and a range of other low-income issues. In addition, he frequently provided technical assistance to state and local governments regarding poverty reduction strategies. Prior to coming to D.C., Mr. Greenberg worked at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid in Florida and the Western Center on Law and Poverty in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Greenberg is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School.

Earl Johnson

Director, Office of Family Assistance

Prior to joining ACF, Earl was senior Policy Advisor to Oakland, California Mayor Ron Dellums, where he was responsible for helping set policy and program goals for the city in the areas of workforce, health and urban affairs. He also worked with the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships on fatherhood initiatives.

Before serving in Oakland he had significant state and non-profit sector experience, having served as Associate Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the California Health and Human Services Agency, as Associate Director, Working Communities for the Rockefeller Foundation, and as Senior Program Officer for The California Endowment, a private statewide health foundation.

Dr. Johnson graduated from the American University in Washington, DC and earned a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D in Social Welfare from the University of California. He is widely known for his work in developing programs and policy on matters related to TANF and has authored articles on needy family issues. His areas of expertise include poverty and fatherhood, both high priority issues for the Administration and HHS.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Lewis A. Kimsey

State Refugee Coordinator, Program Manager - General Assistance & Funeral Assistance Programs; Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services
Mr. Kimsey has served as the Director of Kansas' Refugee Resettlement program since 1993 and as Program Manager for the other areas of responsibility since 2002. During a five year period beginning in 1999, Mr. Kimsey also served as President of the State Coordinators of Refugee Resettlement's (SCORR) professional association. A graduate of Washburn University in Topeka, Mr. Kimsey began his career with the Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services in 1988.

Tina Malinowski

Advocacy and Education Coordinator, Rose Brooks Center

Tina Malinowski is an advocate and activist for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. She began her work in the field 18 years ago and her experience today includes individual and institutional advocacy, shelter management, advocacy program leadership and extensive community collaboration. She is currently employed at Rose Brooks Center where she is the Outreach Advocacy and Education Coordinator. She is an active member of Kansas City's Jackson County Safe Family Coalition, a coordinated community response to the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and MOSAIC, a bi-state network of individuals and systems that works to ensure meaningful access to culturally and linguistically appropriate domestic violence services. She also serves survivors and agencies statewide on the Board of Directors of the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

LaDonna Pavetti

Vice President for Family Income Support Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Dr. LaDonna Pavetti is the Vice President for Family Income Support Policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. In this capacity, she oversees the Center's work analyzing poverty trends and assessing the nation's income support programs, including the TANF program.

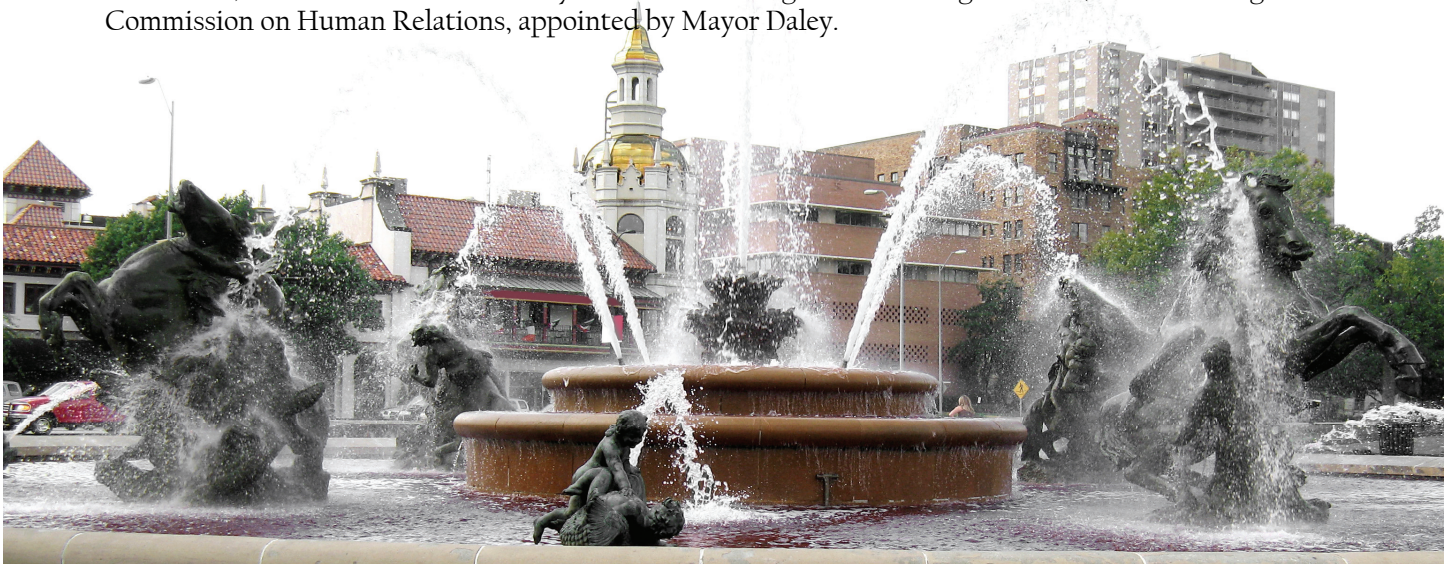
Before joining the Center in 2009, Dr. Pavetti spent 12 years as a researcher at Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., where she directed numerous research projects examining various aspects of TANF implementation and strategies to address the needs of the hard-to-employ. She has also served as a researcher at the Urban Institute, a consultant to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on welfare reform issues, and a policy analyst for the District of Columbia's Commission on Social Services. In addition, for several years she was a social worker in Chicago and Washington, DC.

Dr. Pavetti has an A.M. in social work from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Edwin Silverman

Chief of the Bureau of Refugee & Immigrant Services, Illinois Department of Human Services

Edwin Silverman received his bachelor's degree from Purdue University and his doctorate from Northwestern University. He has been employed by the State of Illinois since 1973. From 1976 until 1997 he administered the Illinois Refugee Resettlement Program, which became part of the Illinois Department of Public Aid in 1980. In 1997, the program became part of the Illinois Department of Human Services, and he continues to administer it as the Chief of the Bureau of Refugee & Immigrant Services. He has actively participated in the development of program and policy at the federal level, and contributed to the drafting of the Refugee Act. He is President Emeritus and active on the Executive Board for SCORR, the national affiliation of State Coordinators of Refugee Resettlement. He has received awards from the federal government, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and various community groups for his contributions to the area of refugee resettlement. He also received the Assistant Secretary's Public Service Award from DHHS and was one of five national recipients in 1995 of the American Society for Public Administration's National Public Service Award. Since 2003, he has chaired the Advisory Council for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, appointed by Mayor Daley.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Kenneth Tota

Deputy Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement

Ken Tota currently serves as the Deputy Director for the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). As the Deputy Director, Ken serves as the senior advisor to the Director of ORR and provides oversight with regard to all program operations.

Prior to this, he served as Senior Program Specialist at the Immigration and Naturalization Services where, as manager-in-charge, Ken was directly responsible for the orderly transfer of the Unaccompanied Alien Children's Program from the U.S. Department of Justice to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Before entering civil service, Ken was the Cuban Haitian Program Coordinator for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in Washington, DC and Miami, FL. In this role, Ken helped to coordinate a series of mass migration response efforts from both Cuba and Haiti.

Ken has Masters in Public Administration from the American University in Washington, DC.





Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance
Regions V and VII

2011 TANF Directors Technical Assistance Meeting Speaker Biographies

Maggie Wynne

Director of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division, Office of Refugee Resettlement, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Maggie Wynne is Director of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division in the Office of Refugee Resettlement within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In that capacity she leads the HHS campaign to Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking. HHS' goal is to identify trafficking victims and help them receive the services needed to rebuild their lives. Programs funded through the Rescue and Restore campaign train social service, public health, and other frontline intermediaries so they can help identify and connect victims to support services offered through the HHS/ACF Office of Refugee Resettlement. Miss Wynne manages a network of funded grantees and volunteer coalitions raising awareness and providing victim assistance. She also oversees ACF's collaboration with other Federal Government agencies on policy issues related to anti-trafficking measures.

From 2005 to 2007, Miss Wynne served as a Special Assistant to the Director of the HHS Office of Global Health Affairs (OGHA), and prior to that as a Legislative Analyst in the Office of the HHS Assistant Secretary for Legislation (ASL). At OGHA her portfolio included the development of policies with respect to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and implementation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. In ASL, Miss Wynne's areas of responsibility included reauthorization of national welfare reform legislation, biomedical ethics, and issues and programs within the jurisdiction of the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

