



NCJSA Fall Conference October 9-11, 2024

Perseverance:
MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE
POSSIBLE



President's Message

Greetings NCJSA Membership Body and Juvenile Justice Professionals:

We are excited, as always, to host our fall conference, “Perseverance: Making the Impossible Possible,” October 9-11, 2024, in Greensboro, NC, at the Embassy Suites-Airport.

We know in an ever-changing world there are many challenges that we face, but nevertheless, we always seem to adapt, adjust, and advance. As we continue to strive for achievement and excellence in every field of human endeavor, we are amazed by your perseverance, passion, and service as you continue to make the impossible possible for our youth.

Kind regards,

Randy L. Jones

NCJSA President

“Perseverance: Making the Impossible Possible”

“Agenda Subject to Change”

Wednesday, October 9th

10:00am - 12:30pm **Registration Check-in/Business Networking
(Lunch Provided)**
360 Photo Booth (Methodist Home for Children)

1:00pm - 1:30pm Welcome/Conference Opening
NCJSA President Randy L. Jones
Members of the NCJSA Board of Directors

1:30pm - 2:45pm **Opening Speaker and Presentation**

Qu’Derrick Covington

3:00pm - 4:15pm **Session: *Vaping/Contraband***
Taylor Jones

4:30pm - 7:30pm **Hotel check in and Dinner on Your Own**

4:30pm -5:30pm **Vendor Reception**

7:30pm - 10:30pm **Lip Sync Battle and Dance**
Sponsored by
SEANC
360 Photo Booth (Methodist Home for Children)

Thursday, October 10th

8:00am – 8:30am

Registration/Breakfast Main lobby

8:30am-9:45am

Session: *Effective Partnerships and Engagements*
Deborah Moore

10:00am - 11:15am

Session: *You Can't Pour from an Empty Cup*
Donielle Smith

11:30am - 1:30pm

Luncheon/Keynote Speaker
Nicole Sullivan

Sponsor Spotlight: Eckerd Connects

1:45pm - 3:00pm

Breakout Sessions

Salon A: *Multisystemic Therapy (MST)*
Gabrielle Gallbrieth and Lauren Lymen

Salon B: *Kids at Work*
Kimberly Townsend

Salon C: *MHC-Empowering Youth*
Laura Gausling and Alexander Blake

Salon D: *NC Juvenile Justice Behavioral
Health Partnerships (JJBH)*
Dannette McCain

3:30pm-4:30pm

JCPC Provider Session: YASI
Candance Moore

4:30pm-6pm

Dinner on your own

6pm-10pm

Game Night

• **6pm-8pm**

MONTANA HORSESHOES (Cornhole)

• **6pm-7pm**

SPADES

• **8pm-10pm**

BINGO

Friday, October 11th

9am-10:15am

**Closing Session
Dannette McCain**

10:30am-11:30am

NCJSA Updates and Conference Closing

Thank You!

NCJSA Members

Keynote Speaker



Nicole E. Sullivan
NC Department of Public Safety
Division of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention
Director of Reentry Services & Staff Training

Nicole Sullivan joined the Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention team on Jan. 1, 2023, to help oversee and coordinate reentry efforts, as the Division's first director of Reentry Services. This position reports directly to the deputy secretary and will be responsible for helping DJJDP develop a comprehensive strategy for juvenile reentry. She will coordinate with Facilities, Clinical Services, Community Programs and Court Services to ensure that effective reentry remains a top priority for the Division. Sullivan also works with the Staff Development and Training team who are responsible for basic and in-service training.

Sullivan is a veteran criminal justice professional with 32 years of experience working in program development and reentry. She most recently served as deputy secretary for analysis, programming, and policy with Adult Correction. In that role, she provided oversight of evidence-based programs, reentry services, community programs, quality assurance and research, planning and administrative analysis.

Sullivan began her career in 1992 as a social research assistant and has worked in various roles in corrections. She is a nationally recognized expert and trainer on evidence-based practices, the principles of effective interventions, risk-needs assessments, cognitive behavioral interventions, and reentry and transition programs. Sullivan has led multiple best practice research initiatives with the Council of State Governments Justice Center, Research Triangle Institute, Vera Institute of Justice, Pew Foundation, and other criminal justice organizations. She passionately works to champion policies and practices that encourage positive behavioral change, engage community stakeholders, maximize the efficient use of supportive services, and enhance public safety. Sullivan holds a bachelor's degree from Emory University and a master's degree from Duke University.

She currently serves on the National Steering Committee for the Justice Counts Initiative and as an Advisor for the Reentry 2030 Campaign with the Council of State Governments Justice Center.

Opening Speaker



Q.R. Covington, widely recognized as a sought-after speaker, presenter, leadership development coach, and mentor, has left an indelible mark on audiences across the nation with his powerful messages. With a track record of captivating crowds exceeding 3000, he delivers interactive workshops, seminars, and keynote addresses that leave a lasting impact, earning him the name *The Purpose Speaker and Coach!*

In 2018, Qu' Derrick was hailed as one of the most influential voices of his generation, touching the lives of individuals of all ages. His expertise and accomplishments have earned him recognition in esteemed publications such as Black Male PhDs, Howard University Bison Beat, and The Academy of Preachers. In 2016, Mr. Covington received a special invitation from Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge to discuss crucial issues concerning voting rights and the challenges faced by millennials at our nation's capital. Moreover, in 2022, he was honored with an invitation to present at the White House for the Ocean Science and Technology Subcommittee, where he addressed the pressing need to promote diversity in Ocean Science within Black and Brown communities, particularly focusing on historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and minority-serving institutions (MSIs). Qu' Derrick holds a bachelor's degree from Fayetteville State University and is an esteemed member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., having served on the fraternity's national board of directors as the 59th Southern Region Assistant Vice President. Furthering his education, he pursued a Master of Science degree at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership and Policy at Howard University. With a diverse professional background, Mr. Covington has held prominent positions throughout his career, including roles such as DEI Director and Chief Diversity Officer at a Florida-based institution. His entrepreneurial spirit led him to become a full-time entrepreneur, founding [The Tulsa Initiative Inc.](#) in 2019, an entrepreneurship, educational, and mentoring platform that provides access to capital for entrepreneurs. Additionally, he is the proud owner of QD Real Estate Company, with locations in the DMV and NC areas while serving as the senior consultant of Q. R. Covington Enterprise, Corporation. Mr. Covington's commitment to community service is reflected in his roles on the Fayetteville State University Foundation Board and the City of Fayetteville Airport Commission, where he serves as a Commissioner. In recognition of his remarkable achievements, he was named 2023 40 Under 40 at FAMU and the City of Fayetteville.

Q. R. Covington's journey as a Purpose Speaker and Coach exemplifies dedication, leadership, and a passion for making a positive impact. Through his speaking engagements, entrepreneurial ventures, and community service, he continues to inspire individuals to reach their full potential and create meaningful change in their lives and communities.

Featured Presenters



Deborah Moore is the Lead Implementation Specialist with the North Carolina High Fidelity Wraparound Training Program (NCHFWTP) at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. She is a Nationally Certified High Fidelity Wraparound Practitioner through NCFIE. Deborah obtained her Bachelor of Social Work Degree from North Carolina A&T State University and her Master of Social Work from the University of South Carolina Columbia. She has served youth and families for 25 years in various capacities, starting at the Department of Social Services (DSS) as a Child Protective Services Investigator. During Deborah's tenure at DSS, she was privileged to serve as the Intensive Family Services Supervisor and later as the Program Manager of Placement Services. Deborah was a state Trainer of Social Workers for NC State University for six years where she had the opportunity to share practical skills congruent with policy and professional experience. Deborah has presented at various conferences, including the Global Leadership Initiative on Self-Care, the i2i Winter Conference on "Developing an Integrative Mindset for Cross-System Collaboration", and most recently at the National Wraparound Conference in Cocoa Beach, FL on "The Power of the Strengths Needs Culture Discovery". Deborah trains, coaches, and offers best practices for family-driven work, strength-based perspectives, and leadership skill-building. As a sought-after consultant, trainer, and presenter, Deborah has developed leadership seminars to assist supervisors and managers in building strong teams and creating healthy workplace cultures. She has hosted family panels for the NCHFWTP Annual Conferences and led dynamic discussions that amplified the youth and families' voices in sharing their stories. Deborah is passionate about her work and seeks to motivate the listener through her engaging and enthusiastic style to be better equipped to serve in their community.



Donielle Smith, LCSW, LISW-CP, is a dedicated holistic therapist and coach with a profound commitment to fostering mental wellness and community connection. Holding a bachelor's degree in psychology from Spelman College and a master's in social work from The University of Alabama, Donielle is also certified in various trauma modalities, family therapy, and holistic approaches. With years of experience in providing both individual and group therapy, Donielle integrates holistic practices such as yoga and mindfulness into her therapeutic approach. Her work is grounded in creating a safe, inclusive space that supports people of color and addresses diverse mental health needs. Donielle offers grounding experiences and culturally sensitive care, striving to empower individuals to achieve emotional balance and personal growth. As the founder of Community Cultivator PLLC, she has built a reputation for unwavering support and dedication, demonstrated by long-term client relationships and numerous referrals. Her mission is to cultivate environments where people can be happy, healthy, and healing through holistic care. Donielle is passionate about advancing mental health practices and contributing to the broader community through innovative and compassionate approaches.

Featured Presenters



Gabrielle Galbrieth as the Executive Director of NC Health Partners, Gabrielle Galbrieth is driven by a deep commitment to transforming lives through compassionate and effective behavioral healthcare. With a career dedicated to enhancing mental health services, she leads with a vision of creating an environment where both clients and staff can thrive. NC Health Partners provides a comprehensive range of community-based services, including School-Based Therapy, Intensive In-Home Therapy, and Multisystemic Therapy (MST), all designed to address the complex needs of youth and their families. Gabrielle ensures that these services are delivered with the highest level of care and integrity, while fully aligning with Medicaid and state regulations. Her leadership in the MST program is particularly vital, ensuring staff are well-equipped to drive positive

outcomes for clients at the time of discharge. In addition to overseeing Medicaid services, Gabrielle also manages the agency's non-profit arm, which partners with schools in Forsyth County, the Forsyth County Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) to provide mentorship and support to at-risk youth. She plays a pivotal role in securing community partnerships and contracts, while also recruiting and hiring staff who align with the agency's mission and values. Gabrielle's leadership approach is grounded in collaboration, innovation, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. She is passionate about developing and implementing strategies that enhance operational efficiency while maintaining a strong focus on person-centered care. By fostering a culture of continuous improvement and staying at the forefront of industry advancements, Gabrielle empowers her team to reach their full potential and better serve the community. With a strong foundation in both interpersonal and management skills, Gabrielle excels at building a cohesive team that is mission-driven and client-focused. Her commitment goes beyond day-to-day operations—she is driven by the desire to make a lasting impact on the lives of those served by NC Health Partners, contributing to a healthier and more supportive community for all.



Lauren Lyman is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate (LCSWA) with extensive experience as a Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Therapist and Supervisor at NC Health Partners. With a Master's degree in Social Work (MSW) from Fordham University and a Bachelor's degree in Social Work (BSW) from Union Institute & University, Lauren has dedicated her career to supporting at-risk youth and their families through evidence-based therapeutic interventions.

At NC Health Partners, Lauren has played a pivotal role in the implementation and supervision of MST, a highly effective, community-based program designed to address the complex needs of youth exhibiting serious behavioral challenges. As an MST Therapist, Lauren utilized her expertise in trauma-informed care, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), and holistic therapeutic approaches to create individualized treatment plans that address the unique circumstances of each family. She collaborates closely with parents, school staff, and community stakeholders to ensure a cohesive approach to treatment that fosters positive, sustainable outcomes.

Featured Presenters

Lauren Lyman cont.

Lauren's role quickly expanded to MST Supervisor, where she provides clinical oversight, training, and support to a team of therapists, ensuring that treatment fidelity and program standards are consistently upheld. In this leadership capacity, she is responsible for conducting comprehensive assessments, guiding complex cases, and managing referral processes to ensure clients receive the most appropriate services. Her work also includes liaising with external partners, managing program data, and spearheading continuous quality improvement efforts to enhance service delivery.

Lauren's dedication to the MST model, combined with her strong background in trauma-focused therapy, case management, and program supervision, has positioned her as a trusted leader within NC Health Partners. She has been instrumental in expanding the reach and impact of MST services, particularly for underserved communities, and remains committed to supporting the professional development of her team and the well-being of the families they serve.

Her contributions at NC Health Partners underscore her passion for using innovative, research-based interventions to transform the lives of youth and families, making her a key asset to both the agency and the larger behavioral health community.



Chef Kimberly Townsend, A.A.S

- Graduate of The Art Institute of Charlotte- Culinary Arts Program, Charlotte NC
- Carowinds Research and Development- Head Pastry Chef for Park Catering Services
- Johnson C Smith University- Head Student and Faculty Dessert Chef - Elmcroft Assisted Living- Head Chef for Specialty Menus
- Aspire Youth & Family, Inc- District Leader of 15 Counties across NC for nonprofit program operations,
- Star of Bethlehem COGIC- Youth Activities Director, Wash DC

“No youth is beyond reach- some just need a longer and welcoming hand to grab hold of”

Chef Kimberly has always had a passion for helping youth who struggle to find their way and imagine new opportunities for themselves. As a youth ministry director in DC, she was able to provide positive engagement through community outreach events and activities with the support of her Bishop and congregation.

After relocating to NC to care for her senior mother, she was able to pursue a degree in Culinary Arts, one of the many passions she shared with youths in DC by providing Jr cooking classes.

When she became aware of ASPIRE, and their mission, “Aspiring Youths through Culinary Arts”, she knew she had found her home. Starting as a Chef Instructor, she was promoted to a District Leader in less than a year. Having a flare for problem solving, creative outside the box thinking and breaking down BIG picture ideas into realistic action plans, she continues to see new ways and opportunities that reach and empower adolescents through creative and expansive outreach, community support and engagement, and more importantly, opportunities to gain self-confidence, occupational skills training, and entrepreneurial visions.

Featured Presenters



Laura Gausling has worked with at-risk youth for the past 10 years. In her service with Methodist Home for Children she has held a variety of positions from Direct Care Worker to Coordinator of Program Support. As a Coordinator Laura offers consultation and support to Specialist working with youth and families in the Residential Division. Laura is well versed in working with youth to develop their strengths and visualize their future. She is currently in a master's Level Program for Clinical Mental Health Counseling, in which she hopes to serve the youth of our state further.



Alexander Blake has eight years of experience working with at-risk youth. He began his career with Methodist Home for Children in 2020 as a Residential Counselor at the Forsyth County Transitional Living Group Home, eventually transitioning to the role of Transitional Living Specialist. During his time in Forsyth County, Alexander was able to provide effective mentorship to several youth who continue to seek his guidance today. Currently, Alexander holds the position of Referral Specialist at Methodist Home for Children, working in partnership with Juvenile Court Services, ensuring referred youth are matched with the most appropriate program to meet their individual needs.

Closing Speaker



Dannette is a seasoned and accomplished boundary spanner with over 20 years of experience in cross-system work. She has a diverse professional background including Director of Multicultural Education for a small liberal arts college, Director of an Alternative Education Program for middle and high school students, Director of an inner-city youth serving agency, and she currently serves as the **Program Manager for the Juvenile Justice Behavioral Health Partnerships (JJBH)**. She joined the staff of the Center for Youth, Family and Community Partnerships at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2012. She leads a team that provides training, technical assistance, and coaching for the twenty-one Juvenile Justice Behavioral Health Teams across the state of North Carolina. Her focus is on improving outcomes for juvenile justice involved youth and their families by improving cross-system processes with an emphasis on team fitness, engagement, cultural responsiveness, and process improvement.

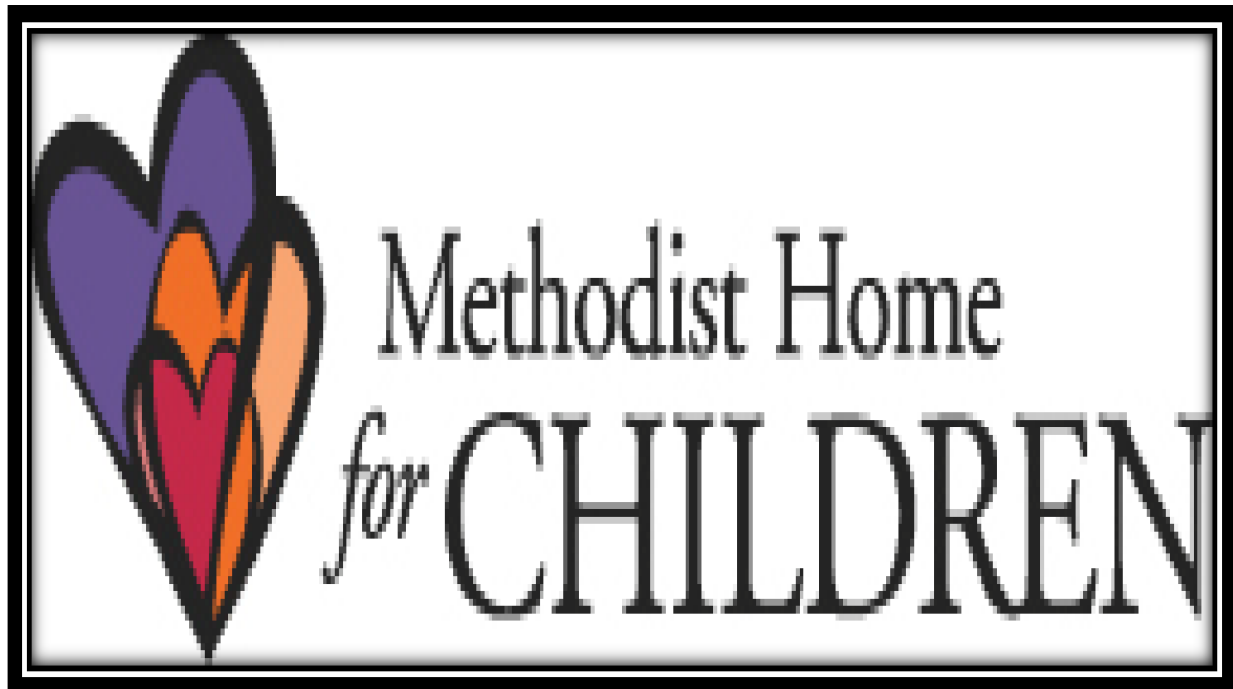
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