Presenters:

Keynote: The Honorable Maura Corrigan

**Maura Corrigan** is a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), where she studies and evaluates programs related to child welfare, child support, food assistance and disability. In addition to her research and writing, she works with human services officials and leaders at the state level to make them aware of the latest federal policy developments and reform ideas relevant to social welfare policy. She also works to educate federal policymakers about promising state-level social services innovations.

Corrigan is a former chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and a former first assistant US attorney for Detroit, Michigan. Before joining AEI, after a distinguished legal career, she served as director of the Michigan Department of Human Services, where she oversaw public assistance programs for low-income and vulnerable families and children in Michigan. Programs included food, cash, and medical assistance; foster care and adoption services; child support; and children's protective services. As director of the Department of Human Services, Corrigan oversaw a 66 percent reduction in the number of individuals dependent on cash welfare, rolled out an innovative program to help the disabled, and left office with nearly 350,000 fewer Michigan residents needing food assistance.

Corrigan has a J.D. from the University of Detroit Law School and a B.A. from Marygrove College.

**Susan Alford**, Director of the SC Department of Social Services, has worked for nearly 40 years as a child and victim advocate in South Carolina. She most recently acted as Director of the Girls Center and Associate Executive Director for Operations at Clemson University's Youth Learning Institute, and as both Interim Chief of Staff, Deputy Director for Treatment Services, and Associate Director for Policy and Planning at the SC Department of Juvenile Justice. The recipient of numerous state and national awards, Ms. Alford is a recognized speaker and consultant on topics such as trauma-informed interventions, gender-responsive programming, strategic planning, continuous quality improvement in the public sector, and the development and evaluation of programs for at-risk youth. Ms. Alford holds a Diploma degree in Criminology from the University of Cambridge, England, and a Bachelor's of Science in Sociology from the University of South Carolina.

**Christopher Church, J.D., M.S.**, is the Law and Policy Director at the Children’s Law Center at the USC School of Law. At the center, he supervises a small team of researchers and conducts independent research on CPS and foster care. Christopher consults with a number of state child welfare agencies, non-profit organizations, and the federal government on improving outcomes for children and families involved in civil child abuse and neglect proceedings. He holds a Masters in Mathematics from the University of North Texas and a JD from Gonzaga University School of Law. He completed his undergraduate studies at Concordia College in New York. Christopher is licensed to practice law in Georgia and South Carolina, though he has actually practiced law in neither. He lives in Columbia with his wife, Amanda, and their two dogs, Frances & Willene.

**Joanna “JoJo” Delany, J.D.**, is a Juvenile Justice Resource Attorney for the Children’s Law Center at the USC School of Law. In this position, she assists professionals in South Carolina working with youth who are or may become involved with the juvenile justice system. She provides training, resources, and technical assistance to child-serving professionals in educational, clinical, and legal fields. Prior to her employment at the Center, she was a defense attorney at the Richland County Public Defender’s Office where she represented over 2,000 children and adults charged with crimes and offenses in family and
criminal courts. She holds a B.F.A. in studio art from Augusta State University, and completed her J.D. at the USC School of Law. She is a member of the South Carolina Bar, the Children’s Law Committee, the Columbia Museum of Art, and is an avid sculptor.

Keith A. Frazier, the County Director for the Greenville County Department of Social Services, has served as a public servant for the past 25 years in the State of South Carolina’s Government. A 1988 graduate of Winthrop College with a BA in Political Science and a Minor in History, he started his career at Probation and Parole in York County and Greenville County. In 1996, Keith began as a Work Force Consultant at Greenville DSS and served in that position for two years.

In 1998, Keith accepted the position of the Business Manager for Greenville DSS and served for approximately 10 years. During that time period, he was given a multitude of special projects for the County office and Statewide. In 2007, Keith was asked to serve as the Interim Director at Pickens County DSS and stayed for 5 years. In August 2011, Keith was asked to return to the Greenville office as the Director and he accepted without hesitation.

During the past 25 years, Keith has served on a variety of boards and councils in Pickens and Greenville Counties. Currently, he serves on the First Steps Board (2015 Chairman of Board), the Children Come First Development Council, the Work Force Investment Board in Greenville County and the Greenville County Safe Sleep Coalition, Safe Kids Upstate, Greenville Child Abuse Task Force, Greenville Tech Human Services Advisory Committee, Greenville Hospital System Development Council of Children for the Children’s Hospital, United Way Public Policy Committee, Man Upstate, Pendleton Place, and Greenville County Transportation Committee 2015.

Keith does not view his position with DSS as a job but as a mission for his life. He loves to ensure children and families are succeeding in life and wants to make sure everyone has the opportunities that are available to them. One major strive that Keith focuses on every day is to ensure he leaves DSS in better standing than when he became Director. It is important for his staff to know he is always pushing them to strive for excellence, not just for the citizens we serve, but also for themselves. Our legacy is the only thing we own after we leave this world, so let’s make it the strongest legacy ever.

Daniel Gibbs, M.S.W., J.D., is the Child Law Fellow at the Children’s Law Center at the USC School of Law. As the Child Law Fellow, Daniel conducts research on issues related to child welfare and juvenile justice. He also supports a number of ongoing Children’s Law Center projects, working primarily in the topic areas of foster youth permanency and child welfare policy. Prior to working at the Children’s Law Center, Daniel participated in internships at the Council for Children’s Rights, the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services, the Western Judicial Circuit Public Defender’s Office, the Piedmont Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem’s Office, and the Newton County Juvenile Court. He holds a Masters in Social Work and a Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of South Carolina in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy.

Kenneth R. “Ken” Harris, J.D., has served as a Juvenile Defense Attorney with the Council for Children's Rights in Charlotte, NC since 2009. In this position, he represents children (ages six to sixteen) in criminal delinquency proceedings. Prior to joining the Council for Children’s Rights, he was an attorney with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein, LLP in Charlotte and clerked for United States District Court Judge Frank W. Bullock, Jr., M.D.N.C., in Greensboro, NC. Ken graduated from Duke University and earned his Juris Doctor from Duke University School of Law, where he graduated Cum Laude and served on the Moot Court Executive Board. He is a member of the Mecklenburg County Bar, the Legal Volunteer Recruitment Committee, Mecklenburg County Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee, and the Charlotte Rotary Club.
Celita B.P. Hastie, LISW-CP, is a clinical social worker who is currently employed by the Children’s Law Center as a juvenile justice project coordinator. As a juvenile justice specialist, Celita engages in research and advocacy related to youth who become involved with the juvenile justice system and provides training to professionals who serve these youth. After receiving a B.A. from Roanoke College (2003; Salem, VA) and a Master of Social Work from the University of South Carolina (2005; Columbia, SC), she began a career as a direct practice social worker, previously with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and the South Carolina Department of Mental Health. Additionally, Celita has practiced clinical social work with both adults and children through private practice counseling. She has experience providing clinical trainings to a variety of groups on professional development and clinical skills. She currently serves on the South Carolina Joint Council on Children and Adolescents Workforce/Training Collaborative Committee, the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee for child-serving agencies, and is a committee chair for the AMIkids South Carolina State Board. She can be contacted at celitahastie@sc.edu.

Angela M. Killian, LL.M, J.D., is a Senior Resource Attorney for the Children’s Law Center where she is responsible for the oversight and development of the delivery of training programs related to child protection. She also serves as Chief Municipal Judge for the City of Chester, a part-time position she has held since November 2013. She was recently appointed an Associate Municipal Judge for the City of Great Falls in June 2015. Ms. Killian is an Associate Professor at Clinton College where she teaches Freshman Seminar and Honors Leadership Seminar and she is faculty adviser of the Alpha Eta Chapter of Alpha Beta Gamma. In addition, Ms. Killian is an Adjunct Instructor for York Technical College where she teaches Business Law, Wills, Trusts & Probate, Family Law, Property Law, and Introduction to the Legal System. Ms. Killian is also a certified family court mediator. Prior to coming to the Children’s Law Center, Ms. Killian served as a Managing Attorney for the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the Sixth Judicial Circuit. Ms. Killian holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law and a Master of Laws from American University, Washington College of Law. Ms. Killian has been licensed to practice law in South Carolina since November 2001 and she has been licensed to practice law in United States District of South Carolina since April 2003.

Tom Leclair, J.D., is a member of the South Carolina Bar and, prior to his retirement in 2012, was a Senior Resource Attorney at the Children’s Law Center, School of Law, University of South Carolina. Prior to joining the Children’s Law Center in 2006, Mr. Leclair served on active duty and was in private practice with Burnette & Leclair, PA, in Columbia. Mr. Leclair served on active duty in the Army for more than twenty years. Mr. Leclair’s military service included working as a JAG. His military legal experience included prosecuting felonies at the trial level, representing the United States in appeals of criminal convictions, and training military lawyers in criminal law. Mr. Leclair’s twelve years of private civilian law practice included substantial family court trial proceedings, including abuse and neglect proceedings and representing children as their guardian ad litem. Mr. Leclair also represented children in public school disciplinary proceedings and in proceedings related to the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

During his seven years working for Children’s Law Center, Mr. Leclair coordinated the ChildFirst South Carolina forensic interview training and made numerous presentations on subjects including prosecution of child abuse, domestic violence and child abuse, mandated reporter obligations, and children’s issues in special education. Mr. Leclair also served as an adjunct instructor at the school of law where he taught a course on children and the courts and coordinated the externship in children’s law. Mr. Leclair has been a member and is a former president of the South Carolina Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and was also a member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. Mr. Leclair also served on the Board of the National Child Protection Training Center from
2010 to 2012. Mr. Leclair currently serves on the board of the Friends of the Assessment and Resource Center.

Mr. Leclair graduated from Wofford College in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts in English and from Duke University School of Law in 1979 with a Juris Doctor.

Patsy Lightle received her Bachelor’s degree from Columbia College in Biology, certification in Medical Technology from the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, Class 1 Police Officer Certification from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and post graduate hours in Forensic Science from the University of Virginia while attending the FBI in Quantico, Virginia. She has served over 35 years in law enforcement and forensic science to include crime scene, forensic serology and DNA analysis, child abuse, elder abuse, and vulnerable adult abuse investigations. She researched and developed the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division’s (SLED’s) Adult and Child Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits used for collecting adult and child physical and sexual abuse evidence which the FBI adopted as their training kit. She designed and implemented the Forensic DNA laboratory, SLED’s Department of Child Fatalities and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Investigations Units. She was the supervisor over the SLED’s Special Victims Unit which investigates suspicious child deaths and vulnerable adult abuse, neglect and exploitation. She joined the Children’s Law Center in 2014 where she lectures on child death investigations to various law enforcement agencies, medical personnel, social workers, coroners, victim advocates and academic institutions. She has testified in over 300 homicide and sexual assault cases.

Candice Lively, J.D., is the Prosecution and Law Enforcement Senior Resource Attorney for the Children’s Law Center, with the U.S.C. School of Law. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of South Carolina, School of Law in 1996. She currently trains and provides resources to prosecutors and law enforcement in S.C. on investigating and prosecuting child maltreatment cases. She also teaches a course at the U.S.C. School of Law, Children in the Courts. She is the state coordinator for the ChildFirst forensic interview training program, which has trained hundreds of professionals in S.C. on how to interview child victims of suspected abuse. She serves as the state leader for the S.C. Alliance for Drug Endangered Children and received the Collaborative Leadership Award as a result of her work facilitating the implementation of the new Drug Endangered Children Guidelines. As of April 2014, S.C. became the 26th state inducted into the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children.

Prior to joining the Children’s Law Center in 2013, she was a Senior Assistant Solicitor with the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor’s Office in Conway, South Carolina. As a prosecutor, she ran the Child Abuse and Sexual Assault special victim’s team. She prosecuted sexual assaults and cases involving severe child abuse and fatalities. She attended multiple intensive advanced trainings with the NDAA on the issues of child homicide and abusive head trauma. She was certified by the NCPTC as a forensic interviewer in 2009 through the ChildFirst program in Columbia, S.C.

Monique B. Mitchell, PhD, CT, is a research assistant professor at the Center for Child and Family Studies in the College of Social Work at the University of South Carolina. She is the South Carolina Research Director for the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD), a federal data collection which examines the outcomes of youth transitioning out of foster care, as well as the program director of the two state youth advisory boards for the South Carolina Department of Social Services. Dr. Mitchell’s research specialties include the lived experience of children and youth in foster care, life transitions, grief and loss, spirituality, meaning-making, and youth empowerment. Her specific expertise involves informing policy and practice using child-centered research, consulting invested parties in the child welfare system, and developing programs and curriculum to empower children and youth in foster care. Dr. Mitchell is also certified in thanatology, specializing in grief and bereavement counseling.
**Benjamin Motley, MA CCFC, CCSOTS,** is owner of Three Trees Center for Change, a forensic counseling company in Rock Hill, South Carolina focused on reducing offender recidivism and increasing community safety. He is a Clinically Certified Forensic Counselor, and a Clinically Certified Sex Offender Treatment Specialist. In addition to working with adults, Three Trees provides clinical services to the local Juvenile Drug Court, and works with juveniles and their families involved with all aspects of the criminal justice system. Ben is the co-author of six Stop Drop Think forensic counseling workbooks that utilize a mindful, cognitive behavioral approach to forensic counseling issues. In addition to his clinical practice, Ben also leads free weekly mindfulness sessions to help local professionals and clients. In recognition of his efforts, Ben was awarded the Linda J. Allen Community Service Award for significant contributions that have brought honor and credit to the field of Criminal Justice.

**Sylvia Murray,** has served as the director of the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) since her appointment in January of 2015. As the agency director, she oversees over 1,400 employees and an average daily population of over 800 juveniles who’ve been placed in the care of DJJ, along with a yearly rate of over 16,000 juvenile referrals and a probation/parole caseload of about 3,400 supervised youth. She is responsible for ensuring that the agency meets its core mission of providing treatment, educational services, custodial care, and supervision to referred juveniles in the community and to juveniles in DJJ custody throughout South Carolina. She and her executive management team also oversee all agency facilities—including a long-term incarceration campus, three regional evaluation centers, a pre-trial detention center, and 43 county offices.

In her tenure as director, Director Murray has focused her efforts on providing young people under DJJ supervision with the tools needed to improve their lives after leaving supervision. Most notable among these efforts has been her extensive focus on job training for young people. DJJ currently operates a Job Readiness Training Center in Columbia and eight regional job readiness training sites throughout the state, working directly with local businesses to provide job training and employment for DJJ youth. Prior to her appointment as agency director, Director Murray served as the Deputy Director of Administrative Services at DJJ, where she oversaw the agency’s offices of fiscal affairs, maintenance, information technology, human resources, medicaid administration, and staff development and training. She has also previously worked as an accounting manager for DJJ’s Education Division and as a grants administrator for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

Director Murray has a bachelor’s degree in public affairs from Columbia College and a master’s degree in management from Webster University. She currently serves as a captain in the Civil Affairs Detachment of the South Carolina State Guard. She also serves on the Bench Bar Committee, the Coordinated School Health Advisory Council, the Governor’s Juvenile Justice Advisory Council, the South Carolina Joint Council on Adolescents, and the Palmetto Coordinated Systems of Care Leadership Team.