

SESSION B (Workshops 10 to 18)

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

10. "On The Road To Becoming A Family". This workshop addresses the nuts and bolts of the initial evaluation of a newly arrived child from abroad, including health and developmental issues, eating, sleeping, behavior, self-regulation, language and developmental delays. *Jane E. Aronson, D.O., Director, International Pediatric Health Services, PLLC, Founder and CEO, Worldwide Orphans Foundation (WWO) (1 CEH)*

11. "Memoirs of A Baby Airlift Adoptee - What have we learned about multiracial adoption?". Amy Mai Hope Tierney was airlifted out of Vietnam in 1975. She will share her personal perspective on being raised by her adoptive German Irish American family in the suburbs of New Jersey as well as her choice to research her family history. Insights into cultural identity development and healthy racial identity in trans-racial adoptees will be discussed. *Tiffany Taylor Smith, MS.Ed and Amy Mai Hope Tierney (1 CEH)*

12. "Of Course and However: Adopting the Older Child". Of course adopting, taking a child home forever, is wonderful. However, adopting an older child is brilliant. Learn about options for older child adoption through DYFS or through the public adoption system and support services that are available for parents and adoptees. *Carol Pierce MSW, DYFS (1 CEH)*

13. "Parenting Skills Partnership Program". The Parenting Skills Partnership Program provides support and training to families with foster or adopted children. Through in-home visits, highly trained counselors help parents cope with their children's unique behavioral problems, and work with the children to reinforce socially acceptable behaviors, and help them make a successful transition to family living. The Parenting Skills Partnership Program follows "Common Sense Parenting," a curriculum that encourages foster and adoptive families to remain intact and to function optimally. *Maureen Brogan, Parenting Skills Partnership Program, Volunteers of America (1 CEH)*

14. "Embryo Placement Programs". This workshop is about embryo placement and current trends and issues within that field. As embryo placement is relatively new to adoptive parents, we will discuss innovative developments in this exciting new program. This workshop will also feature a guest speaker, a family who went through embryo placement successfully. *Jennifer Miller, BA, Adoptions From The Heart (1 CEH)*

15. "The Impact of Early Adverse Experience on Development". This workshop discusses the role of early influences (prenatal and postnatal experiences) on brain development and developmental outcomes. Topics discussed include impact of prenatal substances of abuse/alcohol, malnutrition, suboptimal care, trauma, as well as the impact of prolonged deprivation in the older child. Examples will be drawn from foster care and private adoptions in the U.S. as well as children adopted from orphanages abroad. *Lisa Nalven, MD, MA, FAAP, Director, Developmental Pediatrics and the Adoption Screening and Evaluation Program, Kireker Center for Child Development at Valley Hospital (1 CEH)*

16. "Men's Discussion Group". An open discussion forum for pre-adoptive, post-adoptive, foster and birth fathers and male adult adoptees. FOR MEN ONLY. *Moderated by John Walz (1 CEH)*.

17. "Open Adoption From a Birthmother's Point of View". Learn about the fears and concerns that birthmothers experience when they consider making an adoption plan. Learn about characteristics of birthmothers and why women may choose to make an adoption plan. Discussion will address some of the fears potential adoptive parents have about birthparents and openness in adoption. *Kristie Daku, MSW, Adoptions From The Heart (1 CEH)*

18. "Adoption and Foster Care in the School". This workshop will focus on the various issues that affect the adopted or foster child in the school setting; adoption related assignments (family tree, genetics, family structure), who to tell in the school, teacher understanding of adoption issues, plus other delicate issues. Included will be discussion and website references and handouts. *Barbara A. Rall, LCSW, NJ Adoption Resource Clearing House (NJ ARCH), A Program of Children's Aid and Family Services (1 CEH)*