

SESSION C (Workshops 19 to 27)

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

19. "Options in International Adoption". Inter-country adoption is changing almost daily as countries work on compliance with the Hague Treaty and adoption agencies are certified. This workshop will provide information on which countries are active with details on rules/restrictions, what children are available, and how to proceed with an adoption in the context of Hague requirements. *Kay Baumbach, MSW, Holt International (1 CEH)*

20. "Straight Talk With Kids". Successful adoption includes not only giving parents complete information about their child's history, but also preparing parents to speak to their children at different stages throughout their lives in ways that will ensure that children hear and understand even the most difficult information. Learn to share the truth about difficult information with your child in a way that can only be described as "straight talk." Please bring your own challenging situations for discussion. *Barry Chaffkin, LCSW, CEO Changing The World One Child At a Time (1 CEH)*

21. "The 'Eccentric' Child: Sensory Processing Disorders". This workshop explains how seemingly bizarre behavior may have a sensory explanation. What we see, feel, hear, taste, move & smell affects our behavior, and that behavior can be 'unusual' when these senses are incorrectly interpreted. This workshop also addresses what we can do to develop more appropriate behaviors in children with sensory processing disorders. *F. Anne Cahl, OTR, SIPT-Certified (1 CEH)*

22. "Can I Afford to Parent? Tips and Tools for Making Adoption Affordable". This workshop is designed to educate families about the financial aspects of adoption. Typical fee schedules and relevant expenses standard to adoption will be reviewed, as well as financial pitfalls and costs to be wary of. In summary, workshop attendees will be offered creative tips and tools for how to make adoption an affordable experience. *Dina Vecchione, MSW, LSW; Lynette Leming, BA; Kim Hanbury, MSW, Family Options (1 CEH)*

23. "The Significance of the Adoptive and Birth Father on the Attachment and Identity Development of Adoptees". Traditionally, the roles of the adoptive and birth mother have been given prime importance in understanding an individual's psychological experience of adoption. However, an adoptee's actual relationship with his adopted father and his often fantasized relationship with his birth father have a significant impact on his emotional development. This workshop will discuss the importance of both the known adoptive father and the unknown birth father on the attachment and identity development of adoptees. *Jeannine Zoppi, Ph.D. (1 CEH)*

24. "Conversations We Might Have Had: Adult Adoptees' Reflections Session 1: Conversations you wish you had with your adoptive parents". As adults, we think of things we wish we'd discussed with our parents, but didn't. These workshops will explore the unspoken conversations we wish we'd had with our adoptive parents and birth parents, especially about adoption. Session 1 touches on conversation starters for adoptive parents, personal experiences from the panel on being adopted, issues of race and personal identity, and questions from the audience. Please send questions you'd like discussed to Kim & Bronwyn (kimchichiking@yahoo.com), (jbchartier@yahoo.com) by November 1. Participants can sign up for one or both of the sessions. *Kim King and Bronwyn Chartier moderators, with panelists Jeremy Robbi, Leah Goetter, Larry Newman (1 CEH)*

25. "Transitioning Children in Care, With Care: Getting from Grief to the Gift". This workshop addresses the risk factors and possible impact of moves and changes on children and their caretakers. An outline for a peaceful path of transition to minimize trauma include suggested activities as well as resources. Personal experience as resource parent and case worker is shared. The process of being in the present, preparing to let go, transitioning, grieving and healing is reviewed. *Darah Walther, M.Ed. (1 CEH)*

26. "Creating an Adoption Lifebook". This workshop is for parents in all stages of adoption: from pre-adopt to post-adopt, and is equally applicable to domestic, international and foster care/adoption. You will learn the basics about creating an adoption lifebook, how to get started, what to include and mistakes to avoid. An adoption lifebook begins with the child's birth and can serve as a tool to discuss the specific circumstances surrounding your child's birth and adoption. *Sasha Martone, MSW, LCSW (1 CEH)*

27. "Being Gay and Lesbian Adoptive Parents". This is a panel discussion with gay and lesbian parents who will speak about their experiences, challenges, joys and resources during the adoption process and as adoptive parents. *Moderated by Donald Pauselius (1 CEH)*