

FREE VIRTUAL CLE/CEU

# SAFE VS. UNSAFE ASSESSING SAFETY IN CHILD WELFARE

**MARCH 16, 2023**  
**12 - 1 PM**

*Register for Free: <https://bit.ly/CIPMar2023>*

PART ONE OF TWO CIP CAFÉS FOCUSING ON SAFETY

The Child Welfare Assessment and Decision Making Model (CWADM) is a framework that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) uses to assess safety and risk and the needs and strengths of children and families throughout the life of a child welfare case. CWADM ensures that DCFS and courts have the best possible information upon which to make decisions with and for families involved with DCFS. In 2022, the safety language in CWADM was incorporated into the Louisiana Children's Code (Act 272).



Pending Approval for 1 hour CLE/CEU.

For more info contact Team Dynamics at 985-624-3514

Our presenters will unpack the variables that help determine whether a child is safe or unsafe: threats of danger to the child, the child's vulnerability to the identified threats of danger, and the caretaker's protective capacities. They will give practical examples of circumstances that help guide the type of safety plan with the family that is needed, if any. This CIP Café is part one of two; the CIP Café on April 20th will provide information about the ongoing assessment of safety in a Child In a Need of Care case with a focus on conditions for return and conditions for closure.

## Objectives

- Become fluent with the three variables involved in the Department of Children and Family Services' safety assessment.
- Learn the practical application of circumstances to the variables.
- Understand when a safety plan can be utilized to keep the family intact.

## AGENDA & SCHEDULE

- 12:00 - 12:30pm Safety assessment variables: threats of danger, child vulnerability, caretaker protective capacity
- 12:30 - 12:50pm Applying circumstances to the variables to determine whether a child is safe or unsafe and what type of safety plan is needed, if any
- 12:50 - 1:00pm Questions and Discussion



# SPEAKERS



## **LORI MILLER, RSW | CPS Manager, Louisiana Department for Children and Family Services**

Lori Miller is a Registered Social Worker with the Department of Children and Family Services. Lori has 20 years of child welfare experience with 18 of those years being with the Department of Children and Family Services. She has worked in both the Child Protective Services (CPS) and Foster Care programs within the agency. She has served as a worker, supervisor, consultant, and manager. She currently serves in the capacity of the CPS Manager at State Office.



## **SHERRY POWELL, JD | Deputy General Counsel - Child Welfare, Louisiana Department for Children and Family Services, Bureau of General Counsel**

Sherry Ann Powell is a 1990 graduate of LSU with a B.S. in Business Administration and a 1993 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Southern University Law Center. Ms. Powell began her legal career in private practice in the fields of family and juvenile law. In 1997, she joined DCFS as a Regional attorney and was promoted to Attorney Supervisor for the DCFS, Office of Child Welfare. She supervised Regional Attorneys in the Covington and East Baton Rouge Regions and Ascension Parish. In October of 2022, she was promoted to Deputy General Counsel for Child Welfare and in that position supervises Attorney Supervisors throughout the State. She has conducted training DCFS, Capitol Area CASA, Louisiana State Bar Association, and mandatory reporting training for various community partners. She is a trainer for CINC Trial Skills in the American Bar Association developed course Louisiana attorneys. As Deputy General Counsel she serves as a Commissioner for the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf and a Commissioner for the Louisiana Child Representation Commission.



## **ARIANNE ZAUNBRECHER, LCSW-BACS | Child Welfare Consultant-CWADM, Louisiana Department for Children and Family Services**

Arianne Zaunbrecher is a Child Welfare Consultant and is responsible for the Phase 2 roll-out and implementation of the Child Welfare Assessment and Decision Making Model (CWADM) with DCFS. Previously she worked for seven years as a Continuing Education Manager at the Louisiana Child Welfare Training Academy creating, collaborating and reviewing curriculum for social workers at DCFS and partner agencies. She worked as a DCFS Liaison through Empower 225 on the Louisiana Collaborative Intervention Model and an Outpatient Social Worker for People's Health. Arianne has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Social Work, both from LSU.

