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All speaker biographies are available on the RECS mobile app which can be found in the App Store or Google Play by searching for “RECS Conference” or by scanning the QR code below.*

*For all other device types, point your mobile browser to app.core-apps.com/2018recs to be directed to the correct download version for your phone.
May 30, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency (RECS), convened by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and Families of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to discuss employment, well-being, and self-sufficiency among low-income families. It provides a valuable opportunity to present and exchange findings and new ideas from the most recent and rigorous research in the field. To reflect the body of emerging evidence featured over the next few days, our theme for this year’s conference is “Creating Pathways to Work and Well-Being.”

The conference sessions are organized in six thematic tracks:

- TANF Programs, Policies, and Populations
- Employment and Mobility in the Labor Market
- Youth Well-Being and the Transition to Adulthood
- Strengthening Families, Fatherhood, Marriages, and Relationships
- Evaluating Social Programs, Building Evidence, and Using Data
- Approaches to Alleviate Poverty and Expand Opportunity

These broad tracks are meant to encompass major areas of current research and to help you plan your participation in the conference. Each track is associated with a color to guide you through the program.

The Detailed Agenda provides session descriptions (pages 9-36). All of this information is also available on our mobile conference app, which you can download from your app store by searching “RECS Conference.”

I particularly want to highlight the plenaries taking place across all three days of the conference and touching on a wide range of topics, including efforts to reimagine the safety net, ACF’s career pathways portfolio, subsidized employment, and
more. Additionally, our lunch symposium on Thursday, May 31, will give attendees the opportunity to hear from Scott W. Allard about his recent research focused on the differences in opportunity by geography.

We are pleased to host RECS Emerging Scholars and OPRE Family Strengthening Scholars and Behavioral Intervention Scholars at the conference. I encourage you to support them by attending the Emerging Scholars’ Poster Session on Wednesday, May 30, from 2:45-4:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom Foyer. I also encourage the scholars and other conference attendees to attend the Lunchtime Panel Discussion on Careers in Research Related to Poverty, Family Self-Sufficiency, and Social Welfare on May 30 in the Grand Ballroom. The panel will bring together individuals who have experience working in federal and state government, research firms, and nonprofit organizations to discuss their careers, provide insights about career-building, and answer questions.

Several people deserve particular mention for their roles in planning the conference: Mark Fucello, Tiffany McCormack, Amelia Popham, Victoria Kabak, Lauren Deutsch, Gabrielle Newell, Katherine McKinney, Deric Joyner, Elaine Carpenter, Elizabeth Pollock, and Dionna Cheatham of OPRE and Business Strategy Consultants. I thank them all. I would also like to thank the RECS logistics contractor, IMPAQ International, for its work in planning this conference.

This year’s collection of speakers, moderators, and participants reflects a broad diversity of organizations, expertise, and perspectives. In addition to the formal conference sessions, I hope you will also find opportunities for informal exchange of ideas about research, policies, and programs. The wide array of roundtables we have scheduled on Thursday, May 31, will offer an opportunity for informal discussions on topics of interest.

Again, welcome to the conference. I am glad that you are here, and I look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Naomi Goldstein
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning, Research, and Evaluation
About OPRE

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre

The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), studies ACF programs and target populations through rigorous research and evaluation projects. These include evaluations of existing programs, evaluations of innovative approaches to helping low-income children and families, research syntheses and descriptive and exploratory studies. This research is directed to a broad audience, including ACF program offices, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and program providers.

OPRE is comprised of four divisions:

• The Division of Economic Independence focuses on welfare, employment, training, education, and family self-sufficiency.

• The Division of Child and Family Development focuses on early care and education, including subsidized child care, Head Start, Early Head Start, and child abuse and neglect.

• The Division of Family Strengthening focuses on teen pregnancy prevention, youth development, healthy marriage, responsible fatherhood, family violence, runaway and homeless youth, and early childhood home visiting.

• The Division of Data and Improvement focuses on increasing the quality, usefulness, accessibility, and analysis of data to improve ACF programs and program participants’ outcomes.

Examples of current and recent studies include:

• Employment-Related Studies and Demonstrations: These studies address a variety of topics, including alternative welfare-to-work strategies and innovations in education and training. Current projects in this area include:
  – Subsidized and Transitional Employment Demonstration Project
  – Job Search Assistance Strategies Evaluation
  – Employment Strategies for Low-Income Adults Evidence Review
  – Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education
  – Evaluation Portfolio for the Health Profession Opportunity Grants
  – Building Evidence on Employment Strategies for Low-Income Families
  – Overview to Understand TANF-Compatible Outcome Measures of Employment
• **TANF, the Safety Net and Family Economic Stability:** OPRE is currently funding several descriptive studies to further our knowledge of state TANF programs. Beyond studies of TANF, OPRE seeks to understand how TANF clients access other safety net programs funded by ACF and other federal, state, and local entities. Projects in this area include:
  – Employment Sector Analysis for TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Families
  – Intersection Between TANF and Refugee Cash Assistance
  – State TANF Policies Database
  – Homeless Families Research
  – The Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Consortium
  – TANF Data Innovations

• **Child Welfare Projects:** OPRE is investigating the experiences of children and their families who suffer from, or are at risk of, abuse, neglect, and homelessness. Major projects in this area include:
  – Building Capacity to Evaluate Interventions for Youth/Young Adults with Child Welfare Involvement At-Risk of Homelessness: Phase II
  – Design Options for Understanding Child Maltreatment Incidence
  – National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being
  – Study of Coordination of Tribal TANF and Child Welfare Services Grants
  – Permanency Innovations Initiative Evaluation

• **Administrative Data Projects:** OPRE has a number of projects focused on linking administrative data systems, enhancing interoperability among data systems, developing data standards, and facilitating data exchange to enhance program services and efficiency in the field.
  – **Data Linking for Research:**
    » Assessing Options to Evaluate Long-term Outcomes Using Administrative Data
    » Child Maltreatment Incidence Data Linkages Project
    » MIHOPE – Strong Start
    » TANF Data Innovations Needs Assessment and Technical Assistance
    » A Compendium of Administrative and Survey Data Resources in the Administration for Children and Families
  – **Data Interoperability and Data Sharing:**
    » ACF Interoperability Initiative
    » Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)
    » Multi-Program Advance Planning and Data Systems

• **Early Care and Education:** OPRE sponsors cross-cutting studies related to early childhood services and early childhood development, as well as studies that are specific to the Child Care and Development Fund, Head Start, and Early Head Start.
– **Cross-Cutting Studies:**
  » National Survey of Early Care and Education
  » Variations in Implementation of Quality Interventions
  » Study of Coaching Practices in Early Care and Education
  » The American Indian and Alaska Native Early Childhood Needs Assessment
  » Child Care and Early Education Research Connections

– **Child Care Projects:** These studies investigate the impact of child care subsidy policies and practices on parental employment, children’s development, and the effectiveness of quality-enhancing initiatives. Major projects in this area include:
  » Assessing the Implementation and Cost of High Quality Early Care and Education Project
  » Child Care and Early Education Policy and Research Analysis
  » Child Care Policy Research Grants
  » Child Care and Development Fund – Database of State Policies
  » Child Care and Development Block Grant Implementation Research and Evaluation Grants

– **Head Start Studies:** This list of studies includes the first nationally representative experimental evaluation of the Head Start program, as well as other studies that address children’s experiences and outcomes in Head Start and Early Head Start. Major projects in this area include:
  » American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey
  » Early Care and Education Scholars: Head Start Graduate Student Research Program
  » Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey
  » Human Services Research Partnerships: Puerto Rico
  » Early Head Start University Partnership Grants: Buffering Children from Toxic Stress
  » Head Start University Partnership Grants: Dual Generation Programs
  » Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Study
  » Secondary Analysis of Data on Child Care and Early Education

• **Early Childhood Home Visiting Projects:** These projects examine early childhood home visiting for pregnant women and families with young children that aim to support positive outcomes for children and families. Major projects in this area include:
  – Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Evaluation
  – Design Options for Home Visiting Evaluation
  – Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness
  – Tribal Home Visiting Evaluation Institute
• **Strengthening Families Studies:** OPRE has a number of projects examining strategies to strengthen families and support healthy adolescent development, healthy relationships, and father involvement. Major projects in this area include:
  - Parents and Children Together Evaluation
  - Strengthening Marriage and Relationship Education Services
  - Building Bridges and Bonds
  - Fatherhood and Marriage Local Evaluation and Cross-Site Project
  - Self-Regulation Training Approaches and Resources to Improve Staff Capacity for Implementing Healthy Marriage Programs for Youth (SARHM)
  - Youth Education and Relationship Services Project
  - Touchpoints for Addressing Substance Use Issues in Home Visiting
  - Multi-Site Implementation Evaluation for Tribal Home Visiting
  - Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) – Multi-Component Evaluation
  - PREP Studies of Performance Measures and Adult Preparation Subjects
  - Responding to Intimate Violence in Relationship Programs
  - Accomplishments of the Domestic Violence Hotline, Online Connections, and Text
  - National Domestic Violence Hotline Services Assessment Framework based on Theory

• **Cross-Cutting and Other Research** projects include:
  - Behavioral Interventions to Advance Self-Sufficiency (BIAS)
  - BIAS Next Generation
  - Goal-Oriented Adult Learning in Self-Sufficiency
  - Two-Generation Approaches to Improving Self-Sufficiency
  - Center for Research on Hispanic Children and Families
  - Assets for Independence Evaluation and Long-Term Follow-Up Evaluation
  - Homeless Families Research Briefs
  - Scan of the Status of States’ Integration of Human Services and Health Insurance Programs
  - Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Human Services
  - The Way Forward II: Measurement for Human Service Programs in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities
  - Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse
  - Institute for Research on Poverty National Poverty Center Fellows
  - OPRE Methods Inquiries
Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their participation in the OPRE Family Self-Sufficiency Research Technical Working Group. Members of this group have provided invaluable guidance for the development of OPRE’s research agenda. We sincerely appreciate their time and expertise.

**Eloise Anderson**, Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

**Lawrence Berger**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Dan Bloom**, MDRC

**Roderick Bremby**, Connecticut Department of Social Services

**Alexandra Cawthorne**, National Governors Association

**Kerry Desjardins**, American Public Human Services Association

**Jay Fagan**, Temple University

**Mike Fishman**, MEF Associates

**Lina Guzman**, Child Trends

**Carolyn Heinrich**, Vanderbilt University

**Jeanette Hercik**, ICF International

**Harry Holzer**, Georgetown University

**Jacob Klerman**, Abt Associates

**Tamila Lay**, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

**Lawrence Mead**, New York University

**Elizabeth Peters**, Urban Institute

**H. Luke Shaefer**, University of Michigan

**Matthew Stagner**, Mathematica Policy Research

**David Stillman**, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

**Marci Ybarra**, University of Chicago

**Corey Zimmerman**, Harvard University Center on the Developing Child
**Detailed Agenda**

**TRACK KEY**

| TANF Programs, Policies, and Populations (TANF) | Strengthening Families, Fatherhood, Marriages, and Relationships (Families & Fatherhood) |
| Employment and Mobility in the Labor Market (Employment) | Evaluating Social Programs, Building Evidence, and Using Data (Evidence) |
| Youth Well-Being and the Transition to Adulthood (Youth) | Approaches to Alleviate Poverty and Expand Opportunity (Alleviate Poverty) |

=LIVE = Session available via live stream

Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 | 8:30 A.M. TO 5:15 P.M.**

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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| 8:30 a.m. | OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME **LIVE**  
*Grand Ballroom*  
**Naomi Goldstein** *(Administration for Children and Families)*  
**Steven Wagner** *(Administration for Children and Families)* |
| 9:00 a.m. | Plenary: Remaking the Safety Net **LIVE**  
*Grand Ballroom*  
**Clarence H. Carter**, Director of the Office of Family Assistance within ACF, will share a set of ideas to remake the safety net through engaging all sectors to implement a shared vision to grow the capacity of individuals to support themselves and their families, thereby reducing their need for and dependence on public assistance. The panel will respond and offer insights from their respective perspectives of a researcher, state administrator, non-governmental service provider, and customer of social services.  
- **Clarence H. Carter** *(Administration for Children and Families)*  
- **Mike Fishman** *(MEF Associates)*  
- **Cynthia Dungey** *(Ohio Department of Job and Family Services)*  
- **Pastor Corey Brooks** *(Project H.O.O.D.)*  
- **Jennifer Pankey** *(Solutions for Change)*  

10:30 a.m. | BREAK
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 | 8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.**

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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TANF Data Trends and Employment Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Grand North</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>This session approaches TANF from many directions. Moderated by <strong>Gabrielle Newell</strong> (Administration for Children and Families/Business Strategy Consultants), this session explores how states meet work participation rate targets and spend their TANF funds; trends in program entry and exit among TANF recipients; and how states and the federal government measure employment outcomes in TANF. <strong>Michael Wiseman</strong> (Administration for Children and Families/George Washington University) will serve as discussant for this multifaceted exploration of TANF through data.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• <strong>How States Meet the Work Rate and Spend Funds in TANF</strong></td>
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<td>Lauren Frohlich (Administration for Children and Families)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• <strong>An Examination of TANF Caseload Data: Program Entries, Exits, and Families’ Progress Toward Self-Sufficiency</strong></td>
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<td>Robert Goerge (Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Measuring Employment Outcomes in TANF</strong></td>
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<td>Heather Hahn (Urban Institute)</td>
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<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Building the Evidence on Community College-Led Training Strategies: Findings from the TAACCCT Evaluation</strong></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance East</em></td>
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<td>This panel will highlight findings from the U.S. Department of Labor’s <strong>Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grants</strong>. Presenters will share implementation and outcome findings from Los Angeles Valley College’s delivery of the Biotech Bridge Academy and describe three colleges’ efforts to develop competency-based programs in information technology. <strong>Janet Javar</strong> (U.S. Department of Labor) will moderate this session, and <strong>Robin Fernkas</strong> (U.S. Department of Labor) will serve as a discussant.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• <strong>Findings from Third-Party Evaluations: What We’ve Learned from the Rounds 1 and 2 TAACCCT Grants</strong></td>
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<td>Lauren Eyster (Urban Institute)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Lessons from Community College-Employer Partnerships in Developing a Bridge Program Leading to Credentials and Employment</strong></td>
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<td>Judy Alamprese (Abt Associates)</td>
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<td>• <strong>The Promise and Pitfalls of Competency-Based Programs in Community Colleges as a Point of Access</strong></td>
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<td>Ann Person (Mathematica Policy Research)</td>
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Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.
### New Results from Youth Employment Evaluations

**10:45 a.m.**

**Grand South**

Employment rates for disadvantaged youth and young adults were falling even before the Great Recession, but this group was particularly hard-hit by the downturn, and their rates of joblessness remain stubbornly high. This session will present results from three rigorous evaluations of large-scale programs designed to improve employment outcomes for disadvantaged youth. **Girley Wright** (Administration for Children and Families) will moderate the session.

- **An Introduction to the World of Work: Findings from an Evaluation of New York City’s Summer Youth Employment Program**
  Erin Valentine (MDRC)

- **Forging a Path: Thirty-Month Impact Findings from an Evaluation of New York City’s Young Adult Internship Program**
  Danielle Cummings (MDRC)

- **Building a Future: Interim Impact Findings from the YouthBuild Evaluation**
  Megan Millenky (MDRC)

### Engaging Low-Income Men in Workforce Development Programs

**10:45 a.m.**

**Renaissance West A**

Can researchers and practitioners reverse the trend of low labor force participation among working-age men? This panel discussion will highlight a range of policy options, implementation findings from a study on employment services for noncustodial parents, and how the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse supports practitioners to develop workforce development activities in responsible fatherhood programs. **Kenneth Braswell** (Fathers Incorporated) will moderate the session and **Wendy Blackwell** (Center for Urban Families) will serve as the discussant.

- **Getting Men Back to Work: Solutions from the Right and Left**
  Robert Doar (American Enterprise Institute)

- **Employment Services for Noncustodial Parents: Findings from the CSPED Implementation Study**
  Lisa Klein Vogel (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

- **Preparing Fathers for Workforce Success: Research-Based Tips for Practitioners**
  Mindy Scott (Child Trends)
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| 10:45 a.m. | Leveraging Administrative Data: New Data Analytics Tools and Testing Outcomes of Social Service Programs  
*Renaissance West B*  
While data analytics presents new opportunities to test programs for efficacy and efficiencies, they also highlight a need for improved datasets and underscore the importance of research-practitioner partnerships. This session presents experimental research findings from studies in New York City and the state of Illinois that have used new methodologies and unique data sets to link administrative data across agencies, and the value of using predictive analytics to forecast future social outcomes. This panel, moderated by Maryanne Schretzman (*NYC Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence*), will also discuss issues involved in linking administrative data. |
| • Optimizing Self-Sufficiency Goals for SNAP/TANF Using Wage Data  
Chris Pecaut (*Illinois Department of Human Services*)  
| • Effect of First Job Sector After Cash Assistance on Later Earnings  
Andy Martens (*NYC Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence*)  
| • Using Predictive Analytics to Assess Risk and Target and Refine Social Programs  
Richard Hendra (*MDRC*) |
| 10:45 a.m. | New Findings in the Application of Behavioral Insights to Child Support Services  
*LIVE*  
*Grand Central*  
Recent research has rigorously explored the ways in which insights from behavioral sciences can support improved program performance in government services, including in the child support system. This panel will examine three randomized controlled experiments to discuss the design, implementation, findings, and lessons learned for the application of behavioral insights to child support programs. Two of these were funded by ACF’s Office of Child Support Enforcement under the Behavioral Interventions for Child Support Services demonstration. Gretchen Lehman (*Administration for Children and Families*) will moderate this session. |
| • An Evaluation of the Kansas Child Support Savings Initiative  
Peter Baird (*MDRC*)  
| • Improving and Simplifying the Child Support Modification Process in Ohio  
Susan Brown (*Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency*)  
| • Increasing Parental Involvement in Determining Child Support Orders in Vermont  
Roberta Mayers (*Veritas HHS*) |
| 12:00 | LUNCH ON YOUR OWN |

*Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.*
12:30 p.m.  
**Lunchtime Panel: Discussion on Careers in Research Related to Poverty, Family Self-Sufficiency, and Social Welfare**

*Renaissance West A*

This panel discussion is designed for emerging scholars and other conference attendees who are interested in pursuing career paths in poverty, family self-sufficiency, and social welfare research. It will bring together individuals with experience working in federal and state government, research firms, and nonprofit organizations. **Elaine Carpenter** (*Administration for Children and Families/ Business Strategy Consultants*) will moderate as panelists discuss their careers and career pathways, provide insights and advice about career-building in their respective fields, and answer attendee questions. Panelists are:

- **Nina Chien** (*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*)
- **Reginald Covington** (*Mathematica Policy Research*)
- **Chris Pecaut** (*Illinois Department of Human Services*)
- **T‘Pring Westbrook** (*Annie E. Casey Foundation*)

1:30 p.m.  
**Plenary: ACF’s Career Pathways Evaluation Findings: What Have We Learned and Future Directions for the Field**

*Grand Ballroom*

The career pathways approach is gaining attention as a promising strategy to improve postsecondary education and employment outcomes for low-income adults. **Mark Fucello** (*Administration for Children and Families*) will provide an overview of ACF’s career pathways portfolio and moderate this session. Presenters will summarize early results from impact evaluations of career pathways programs. **Molly Irwin** (*U.S. Department of Labor*) will serve as a discussant and reflect on the implications of what has been learned.

- **Taking the First Step: Early Findings from the Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education Evaluation**
  
  David Fein (*Abt Associates*)

- **Implementation and Early Impacts of the Health Profession Opportunity Grants Program**
  
  Laura Peck (*Abt Associates*)
2:45 p.m.  \textbf{EMERGING SCHOLARS POSTER SESSION}

\textit{Grand Ballroom Foyer}

Please visit the Poster Session, which will be an opportunity to mingle with fellow conference attendees and view posters summarizing work by emerging scholars—researchers and scholars early in their careers—who were selected to participate in the conference. Emerging scholars will be on hand to answer questions about their work.

* Theresa Anderson (Urban Institute)  
  \textit{Helping Public Housing Residents Access Jobs: Evaluation Findings from Jobs-Plus Expansion in New York City}

* Kathryn Andrews (Harvard University)  
  \textit{Supporting Families of Infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to Access Supplemental Security Income}

* Flor Avellaneda (University of Houston)  
  \textit{Conducting RCTs in Community Agencies: Challenges and Opportunities}

* Junghee Bae (University of Georgia)  
  \textit{Cumulative Inequality in Teen Parents and Job Achievements: Mediation Effect of Educational Achievement}

* Maura Baldiga (Brandeis University)  
  \textit{Poverty and Public Assistance Prevention: Targeting Low-Income Workers in Paid Family and Medical Leave Programs}

* Jacob Bastian (University of Chicago)  

* Caroline Black (University of Washington)  
  \textit{Relationships that Protect: Parallel Process Growth Curves and Mediated Effects Among Teenage Parents’ Supportive Relationships, Maternal Harsh Parenting Behaviors, and Children’s Mental Health}

* Maria Cole (Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation)  
  \textit{Interviews and Conversations About Leaving Services (iCALS): Formative Evaluation}

* Seth Hartig (Columbia University)  
  \textit{Updating Basic Needs Budgets to Incorporate the Impact of Nontraditional Work, Pre-K, and Afterschool Programs}

* Ania Jaroszewicz (Carnegie Mellon University)  
  \textit{The Psychological Costs of Seeking Help for Financial Hardships}

* Kevin Kelly (Mathematica Policy Research)  
  \textit{A Systematic Review to Support Implementation of Effective Programs to Support Pregnant and Parenting Adolescents}

* Delia Kimbrel (Brandeis University)  
  \textit{Achieving Economic Security: The Experience of Participants in the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency Program}
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<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>• Agustina Laurito (University of Illinois at Chicago)</td>
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<td>Does School Lunch Fill the “SNAP Gap” at the End of the Month?</td>
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<td>• Eleanor Martin (University of Michigan)</td>
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<td>Virtual Mentorship to Support Maternal and Infant Health and Well-Being: Understanding the Participant Experience and Evaluating the Impact of NurturePA</td>
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<td>• Raymond Petren (Penn State Worthington Scranton)</td>
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<td>Relationship Stability Among Mothers of Young Children and New Partners</td>
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<td>• McKenzie Roddy (University of Miami)</td>
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<td>Effects of OurRelationship.com and ePREP on Individual Mental and Physical Health for Low-Income Couples</td>
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<td>• Rhucha Samudra (The College at Brockport, State University of New York)</td>
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<td>To Eat or Not to Eat? An Explorative Analysis of Food Security Among Disconnected Women</td>
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<td>Using Developmental Evaluation to Support Innovation in Social Programs</td>
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<td>• Owen Schochet (Georgetown University)</td>
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<td>Investigating the Two-Generation Impact of the Child Care Subsidy Program: Do Subsidies Support Maternal Education?</td>
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<td>• Megan Schoor (Washington State Department of Social and Health Services)</td>
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<td>An Evaluation of Child Support and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes of DCS Alternative Solutions Participants</td>
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## WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 | 8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

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<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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| | **More Than a Nudge: Engaging TANF Recipients in Welfare-to-Work Programs**  
**Grand South** |
| | Building on the first major effort to bring a behavioral science lens to programs serving poor families in the United States, the Behavioral Interventions to Advance Self-Sufficiency – Next Generation project is testing interventions to increase TANF recipients’ engagement in three sites: Los Angeles County, Monroe County (NY), and Washington State. Moderated by Victoria Kabak (Administration for Children and Families), this presentation will share the diagnostic design model and introduce the interventions. |
| | • **In Their Shoes: Diagnosing Problems of Client Engagement in TANF Programs in Los Angeles**  
Mary Farrell (MEF Associates) |
| | • **Setting the Course: Human-Centered Design to Improve Engagement in TANF WorkFirst Activities in Washington State**  
Sophia Sutcliffe (MDRC) |
| | • **Ready, Set, Launch: Implementing a Behavioral Intervention in Monroe County**  
Peter Baird (MDRC) |
| | **ACF’s Career Pathways Portfolio: A Closer Look at Early Impact Findings and Interpretation**  
**Grand North** |
| | This session will provide a closer look at implementation and impact findings from two rigorous career pathways evaluations: the Health Profession Opportunity Grants Impact Study and the Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education project. This will be followed by a discussion of the broader career pathways literature and context for interpreting findings. Hilary Forster (Administration for Children and Families) will moderate this session. |
| | • **Findings from the Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education (PACE) Implementation Studies**  
Karen Gardiner (Abt Associates) |
| | • **Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) Impact’s Overall and Subgroup Impact Results**  
Eleanor Harvill (Abt Associates) |
| | • **Random Assignment Job Training Evaluations: Looking Backwards, Looking Forwards**  
Jacob Klerman (Abt Associates) |

Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.
### WEDNESDAY, MAY 30  |  8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Impacts of Programs to Avoid Sexual Risk and Prevent Pregnancy</strong>  ❱  ❱  &lt;br&gt; <em>Renaissance West A</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>This panel will highlight three studies funded through the <em>Personal Responsibility Education Program</em> multi-component evaluation and the <em>Federal Evaluation of Selected Programs for Expectant and Parenting Youth</em>. These evaluations document how teen pregnancy prevention initiatives and programs for expectant and parenting teens are implemented in the field and assess selected programs’ effectiveness. <strong>Seth Chamberlain (Administration for Children and Families)</strong> will moderate the session and <strong>Lisa Rue (University of Northern Colorado)</strong> will serve as the discussant.</td>
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<td>- <strong>The Early Impacts of the Wise Guys Male Responsibility Curriculum</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reginald Covington (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- <strong>Adapting an Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Curriculum in a Rural Setting</strong>&lt;br&gt;Brian Goesling (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- <strong>The New Heights Program for Pregnant and Parenting Teens: Impacts and Implementation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Susan Zief (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Healthy Marriage-Relationship Education Programming for Adults as Individuals: Findings from the STREAMS Process Study</strong>  ❱  &lt;br&gt; <em>Renaissance West B</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>This session, moderated by <strong>Charisse Johnson (Administration for Children and Families)</strong>, features findings from the process study of the <em>Strengthening Relationship Education and Marriage Services (STREAMS)</em> evaluation of two <em>Healthy Marriage-Relationship Education (HMRE)</em> programs: Career STREAMS in St. Louis, MO and MotherWise, in Denver, CO. After the presentations, <strong>Scott Roby (Public Strategies)</strong>, a technical assistance provider and trainer on HMRE curricula, and <strong>Scott Stanley (University of Denver)</strong>, a research professor and HMRE curriculum developer, will respond to the study findings.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- <strong>A Process Evaluation of MotherWise: An HMRE Program for Low-Income Expectant and New Mothers</strong>&lt;br&gt;Diane Paulsell (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### You Shall Not Pass: The Use of Evaluation Tollgates in Building Evidence for Social Programs

#### Grand Central

Too often, programs are prematurely evaluated without a planning phase to build a program’s evaluation capacity. However, there is growing consensus that prior to summative evaluation programs should undergo an intermediate step, referred to as “evaluation tollgates,” to determine whether programs are well-implemented and truly ready for rigorous evaluation. This session provides examples from two federal initiatives that used evaluation tollgates to build evidence in child welfare. **Maria Woolverton** *(Administration for Children and Families)* will moderate the session.

- **Permanency Innovations Initiative (PII): Roadmap to Building Evidence in Child Welfare**  
  George Gabel *(Westat)*

- **The Use of Case Study in PII to Understand the Transition from Formative to Summative Evaluation**  
  Heidi Melz *(James Bell Associates)*

- **Learning to Build from the Ground Up: The Youth At-Risk of Homelessness Experience**  
  M.C. Bradley *(Mathematica Policy Research)*

### The Opioid Epidemic: What It Means for TANF Participants and How to Effectively Serve Them

#### Renaissance East

Opioid use disorder disproportionately affects low-income populations and research suggests that it is a significant barrier to employment. This session will provide an introduction to opioid use disorder and effective treatment strategies, present current research on the prevalence of the disorder among TANF recipients, and showcase one state’s efforts to identify TANF recipients and others struggling with the disorder and connect them to treatment. **Clare DiSalvo** *(Administration for Children and Families/Business Strategy Consultants)* will serve as the moderator and **Brent Orrell** *(ICF International)* will serve as the discussant.

- **Overview of Opioid Use Disorder**  
  Wilson Compton *(National Institutes of Health)*

- **Opioid Use Disorder, Treatment, and Barriers to Employment Among TANF Recipients**  
  Justin Germain *(MEF Associates)*

- **Kentucky’s Targeted Assessment Program**  
  Tonya Feese *(Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services)*

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**LIVE Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.**
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 | 8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.**

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>RECS SOCIAL GATHERING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Renaissance Hotel Mixx Lounge</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Join fellow conference attendees for informal networking. Refreshments will be available for purchase.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NAWRS HAPPY HOUR</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Renaissance Hotel Mixx Lounge</em></td>
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<td>Enjoy refreshments provided by the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics (NAWRS) and find out the 2019 NAWRS workshop location.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
THURSDAY, MAY 31  |  8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

TANF  Employment  Youth  Families & Fatherhood  Evidence  Alleviate Poverty

= Session available via live stream

Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.

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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>OPENING REMARKS [LIVE]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mark Fucello</strong> (<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary: Implementing the Recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking [LIVE]</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
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<td>In 2016, the U.S. Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking was charged by the President and Congress to develop a</td>
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<td>strategy for improving the government’s use of data to build evidence and support policymaking. Moderated by</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Nick Hart</strong> (<em>Bipartisan Policy Center</em>), the Commission’s Co-Chairs, <strong>Katharine Abraham</strong> (*University of</td>
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<td>Maryland*) and <strong>Ron Haskins</strong> (<em>Brookings Institution</em>) along with ACF Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning,</td>
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<td>Research, and Evaluation <strong>Naomi Goldstein</strong> (<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>) will discuss next steps</td>
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<td>and progress in implementing the bipartisan Commission’s unanimous recommendations for improving access to data,</td>
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<td>strengthening privacy protections, and ensuring sufficient capacity exists to generate and use evidence.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Katharine Abraham (<em>University of Maryland</em>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Ron Haskins (<em>Brookings Institution</em>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Naomi Goldstein (<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>)</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Impact of Different Approaches to Providing Job Search Services to Low-Income Job Seekers [LIVE]</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Central</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>This panel considers recent developments in job search assistance programs. The first paper suggests several</td>
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<td>possible pathways for such programs and considers the available evidence for each pathway. The next two papers</td>
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<td>present research findings and a practitioner perspective from an impact evaluation of two different approaches</td>
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<td>to providing job search to cash assistance applicants in New York City. <strong>Molly Irwin</strong> (<em>U.S. Department of Labor</em></td>
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<td>will moderate the panel.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Job Search Assistance: Theory and Evidence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jacob Klerman (<em>Abt Associates</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Impact of Different Job Search Approaches on Employment and Public Benefit Receipt for Cash Assistance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Applicants in New York City</td>
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<td>Karin Martinson (<em>Abt Associates</em>)</td>
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<td>• A Program Administrator’s Perspective on Participating in a Rigorous Evaluation of TANF Job Search Services</td>
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<td>Kinsey Dinan (<em>NYC Department of Social Services</em>)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education: Evaluator and Program Leaders Discuss How Evaluation Informed Programs

**Renaissance East**

This session will provide an overview of the Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education (PACE) study and describe the experiences of two Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) programs participating in the PACE evaluation. The program leaders’ experiences in PACE helped them assess what aspects of their programs worked, what needed to change, and what influenced the design of the programs for future funding. Nicole Constance (Administration for Children and Families) will moderate this session, and Kim Stupica Dobbs (Administration for Children and Families) will serve as a discussant.

- **Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education: An Overview**
  Karen Gardiner (Abt Associates)

- **Patient Care Pathway Program: Creating a “Phase 2” Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) Program**
  Amanda Abens (Pima Community College)

- **Health Careers for All: How a Workforce Agency Revised a Program to Address Training Needs**
  Seanna Melchior Ruvkun (Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County)

### New Data on Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

**Grand North**

The transition to adulthood for youth aging out of foster care can be different from the transition experienced by many of their peers. This panel will present new data analysis using studies from the Chafee Phase II demonstration and the National Youth in Transition Database. These analyses identify predictors and determinants of a successful transition and evaluate programs designed to improve outcomes for this population. Catherine Heath (Administration for Children and Families) will moderate the session.

- **Evaluation of the Education and Training Voucher Program**
  Mike Pergamit (Urban Institute)

- **Extended Foster Care**
  Justin Harty (University of Chicago)

- **Independent Living Services and Self-Sufficiency for Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care**
  Tammy White (Administration for Children and Families)
**THURSDAY, MAY 31 | 8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.**

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Integrated Approaches to Supporting Child Development and Improving Family Economic Security</strong></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance West A</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>The purpose of this breakout session is to bring together practitioners, funders, and policymakers to discuss ongoing efforts and future opportunities for research and evaluation of two-generation programs. <strong>Duane Yoder</strong> <em>(Garrett County Community Action)</em> will serve as a discussant and <strong>Carli Wulff</strong> <em>(Administration for Children and Families)</em> will moderate this session.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Achieving Family Economic Security and Promoting Child Well-Being: Currently Operating Programs and Options for Research</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scott Baumgartner <em>(Mathematica Policy Research)</em></td>
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<td>• Making Tomorrow Better Together: An Outcomes Framework for Two-Generation Programs</td>
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<td>Marjorie Sims <em>(Ascend at the Aspen Institute)</em></td>
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<td>• Strategic Evidence Building for Two-Generation Approaches</td>
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<td>T’Pring Westbrook <em>(Annie E. Casey Foundation)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>The Family Self-Sufficiency Data Center: Addressing the Challenges of Evidence-Based Policymaking</strong></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance West B</em></td>
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<td>The Family Self Sufficiency Research Data Center (FSSDC) was established to support states to better use data and to increase the amount and quality of data available for research related to family self-sufficiency. This session will provide an overview of FSSDC, describe administrative data partnerships, offer insight into the use of administrative data in programmatic and policy decision making, and articulate the elements necessary to have a successful partnership between research and academic institutions and state agencies. <strong>Brian Campbell</strong> <em>(D.C. Department of Human Services)</em> will moderate this session.</td>
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<td>• Fostering Stronger Two-Way Research-State Partnerships Around Administrative Data</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scott W. Allard <em>(University of Washington)</em></td>
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<td>• Engaging State and Local Agencies Around Improving Data Use and Evidence-Building</td>
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<td>Robert Goerge <em>(Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)</em></td>
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<td>• Tools and Methods for Cross-State Knowledge-Sharing and Collaboration in Using Data</td>
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<td>Emily Wiegand <em>(Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)</em></td>
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### THURSDAY, MAY 31  |  8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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| 10:15 a.m. | **Child Care as a Critical Work Support: How Do Variations in Local Community Context, Family Work Needs, and Racial/Ethnic Differences Shape Access to Child Care Assistance?**<br>Grand North<br><br>Publicly funded child care represents a critical work support for families, and is a key mechanism for supporting low-income families with a path to economic self-sufficiency. This session will look at how variations in community context (such as the availability of care, responsiveness to nonstandard work hours, and the unique experiences of Latino immigrants) might affect child care access. **Michael López** (National Research Center on Hispanic Children and Families) will moderate this session.  
  • **Child Care Deserts Mapping: Using Data Visualization to Address Child Care Supply and Demand**
    Dionne Dobbins (Child Care Aware® of America)  
  • **Nonstandard Parental Work and Decreased Odds of Receiving Subsidized Child Care**
    Peter Hepburn (University of California at Berkeley)  
  • **Latino Immigrant Families’ Experiences with Child Care Subsidies: Implications for Parental Employment and Family Economic Stability**
    Heather Sandstrom (Urban Institute) |
<p>| 11:30 a.m. | <strong>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</strong>                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12:00 p.m. | <strong>LUNCH SYMPOSIUM</strong>                                                                                                                                                                               |
|            | <strong>The Responsiveness of the Safety Net to the Changing Geography of Poverty</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>LIVE</strong>&lt;br&gt;Grand Ballroom&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;How has the spatial distribution of poverty shifted in America since 1990? How has the antipoverty safety net responded to changes in the geography of poverty? Drawing on findings from his book, <em>Places in Need: The Changing Geography of Poverty in America</em>, <strong>Scott W. Allard</strong> (University of Washington) will describe spatial trends in poverty across America, discuss which safety net programs have been most and least responsive to the geographic shifts in poverty, and reflect on implications for state and local policy and practice. |</p>
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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<td><em>Coaching in Employment Programs: Reflections from Three Practitioners</em></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance West A</em></td>
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<td>This session explores goal-oriented, employment-focused coaching programs that serve low-income individuals. Facilitated by Sheena McConnell (Mathematica Policy Research), this session will open with an explanation of the conceptual and evidence-based underpinnings of coaching, and then feature presentations from three practitioners overseeing coaching programs in San Francisco, CA; Southeast Michigan; and Ramsey County, MN.</td>
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<td>• Implementing Coaching and Goal Achievement Strategies: Lessons from San Francisco’s Project 500 Initiative</td>
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<td>Noelle Simmons (San Francisco Human Services Agency)</td>
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<td>• Implementing a Goal-Oriented Coaching Approach for Cash Assistance Applicants and Recipients in Two Michigan Counties</td>
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<td>Dan Martinez (Southeast Michigan Community Alliance)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Executive Skills-Informed Coaching: Lessons in Ramsey County, MN</td>
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<td>Larry Timmerman (Ramsey County Workforce Solutions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Building and Using Evidence for Workforce Development Programming Decision-Makers: New Findings from the Field</strong></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance West B</em></td>
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<td>More information on the longer-term impacts and return on investment (ROI) of workforce strategies can help inform policymakers who must make difficult decisions with constrained resources. This panel will focus on how program performance data, coupled with longer term cost and impact findings, can inform and support policymakers making difficult decisions about workforce strategies and programs. Terri Zhu (Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership) will moderate this session and serve as a discussant.</td>
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<td>• Can Sector Strategies Promote Upward Mobility in the Longer Term? Three-Year Impacts from the WorkAdvance Demonstration</td>
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<td>Kelsey Schaberg (MDRC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• ROI Analysis of NYC Job Training Programs Using Program and Administrative Data: Findings and Lessons</td>
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<td>Joseph Gasper (Westat)</td>
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<td>• Is This Working? Using Evidence to Inform Difficult Local Policy Decisions in Employment Programming</td>
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<td>David Berman (NYC Mayor’s Office for Economic Opportunity)</td>
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Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.
### Proven Strategies to Accelerate Educational Achievement and/or Labor Market Success

**Grand South**

Improving low-income students’ college completion rates is one critical means to increasing economic mobility and reducing inequality. This panel will present findings from four randomized trials demonstrating that it is possible to achieve large gains in college completion rates. The presentations also highlight the value of combining multiple sources of high-quality data with strong research designs for causal analysis. **Amelia Popham** (*Administration for Children and Families*) will moderate this session, and **Harry Holzer** (*Georgetown University*) will serve as a discussant.

- **Six-Year Impacts from a Randomized Control Trial of Project QUEST**
  Mark Elliott (*Economic Mobility Corporation*)

- **Short-Term Impacts from a Randomized Trial of Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement (VIDA)**
  Howard Rolston (*Independent Consultant*)

- **Effects of CUNY ASAP on Educational Attainment After Six Years**
  Michael Weiss (*MDRC*)

### Promoting Healthy Relationships Among Youth Through Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education

**Grand Central**

While a large proportion of youth (i.e., participants ages 14 to 24) are served through federally funded healthy marriage and relationship education (HMRE) programming, we have relatively little information about these programs and their effectiveness. To address this knowledge gap, OPRE and OFA are conducting several research projects focused on healthy marriage and relationship education for youth. This panel discussion will highlight three of those studies. **Samantha Illangasekare** (*Administration for Children and Families*) will moderate the session.

- **Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Programs for Youth: A Study of Federally Funded Programs**
  Mindy Scott (*Child Trends*)

- **Promoting Healthy Relationships in High Schools: Implementation Findings from the STREAMS Evaluation**
  Julia Alamillo (*Mathematica Policy Research*)

- **Designing Staff Training Approaches and Resources for Supporting Adolescents’ Self-Regulation Development**
  Diane Paulsell (*Mathematica Policy Research*)
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Integrated Intake and Case Management – The Power of Integrated</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Data Systems</strong></td>
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<td><em>Renaissance East</em></td>
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<td>Individuals and families in need often access services from a number</td>
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<td>of programs and providers. While the field is shifting toward a more</td>
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<td>holistic approach to service delivery, the technologies used to</td>
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<td>manage data often lags behind. This session, moderated by <strong>Kathleen</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moore</strong> (<em>Administration for Children and Families/Institute for</em>*</td>
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<td>*<em>Research on Poverty</em>), will explore the value of integrated data</td>
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<td>systems to improve service delivery and program outcomes and discuss</td>
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<td>examples of states engaged in such efforts. <strong>Nicole Deterding</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>(<em>Administration for Children and Families/Business Strategy</em>*</td>
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<td><em><em>Consultants</em>) will serve as a discussant.</em>*</td>
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<td>• <strong>Status of State Efforts to Integrate Health and Human Services</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Systems and Data</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sam Elkin (<em>MEF Associates</em>)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Using Integrated Administrative Data to Evaluate Social Programs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A Quasi-Experimental Evaluation of the ECLIPSE Program</strong></td>
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<td>Deleena Patton (<em>Washington Department of Social and Health Services</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Building the Next Generation of Child Support Policy Research</strong></td>
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<td><em>Grand North</em></td>
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<td>In October 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>hosted a roundtable to bring together child support policymakers,</td>
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<td>practitioners, and researchers to help build a research agenda to</td>
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<td>inform child support policy and practice. Featuring the Commissioner</td>
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<td>of the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, <strong>Scott Lekan</strong></td>
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<td>(<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>), this panel will provide</td>
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<td>an overview of the key themes, research agenda, and next steps for</td>
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<td>continuing to develop the child support policy research field. In addition to presenting, <strong>Asaph Glosser</strong> (<em>MEF Associates</em>) will moderate this session.</td>
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<td>• <strong>Scott Lekan</strong> (<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Asaph Glosser</strong> (<em>MEF Associates</em>)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Lauren Antelo</strong> (<em>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</em>)</td>
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<td>• <strong>Nicole Constance</strong> (<em>Administration for Children and Families</em>)</td>
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<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>FACILITATED ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS</strong></td>
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<td>These facilitated, interactive discussions will provide an opportunity</td>
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<td>for attendees to gather and discuss each of the following topics. One</td>
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<td>or more facilitators will be on hand for each roundtable to introduce</td>
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<td>the topic and guide the discussion.</td>
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### Thursday, May 31  |  8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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</table>
| 2:30 p.m. | A Focus on User Experience: Parents’ Perspectives on Efforts to Improve Social Service Programs 🌱 🌱  
(Roundtable Discussions continued)  
*Renaissance West B*  
- Heather Hahn (*Urban Institute*)  
- Michael Katz (*Urban Institute*)  

Advancing Racial and Economic Equity for Domestic Violence Survivors: Demonstration Sites and National Impact Agenda 🌱  
*Grand North*  
- Sara Wee (*Center for Survivor Agency and Justice*)  
- Erika Sussman (*Center for Survivor Agency and Justice*)  

Behavioral Design in Poverty Alleviation Programs 🌱 🌱  
*Grand Central*  
- Julie Chambers (*ideas42*)  

Bridging the Digital Divide: Exploring Implications for Economic and Educational Opportunity 🌱  
*Grand South*  
- Brittany McGill (*Insight Policy Research*)  

Bringing Behavioral Science and Innovative Tools to Social Service Programs: Opportunities and Challenges in Child Welfare 🌱  
*Renaissance East*  
- Rekha Balu (*MDRC*)  
- Felicia Curcuru (*Binti*)  

Building Knowledge on Employment Programs for Low-Income Families: Where Do We Go From Here? 🌱 🌱  
*Grand Central*  
- Dan Bloom (*MDRC*)  
- Mike Fishman (*MEF Associates*)  

Developing Partnerships in Justice-Involved Programs 🌱 🌱  
*Grand North*  
- Robyn Cenizal (*National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families*)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
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| 2:30 p.m.  | The Future of Work and Financial Security  
Grand South  
- Signe-Mary McKernan (Urban Institute)  
- Caleb Quakenbush (Urban Institute)  

The Power of Microsimulation – Using TRIM to Estimate the Effects of Social Policy  
Renaissance West A  
- Lauren Antelo (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)  
- Nina Chien (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)  
- Gene Falk (Congressional Research Service)  
- Suzanne Macartney (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)  

Reducing Child Poverty in California: A Look at Housing Costs, Wages, and the Safety Net  
Grand North  
- Caroline Danielson (Public Policy Institute of California)  
- Sarah Bohn (Public Policy Institute of California)  

Roadmap to Evidence-Based Decision-Making: Developing ACF Office of Refugee Resettlement’s First Learning Agenda  
Grand South  
- Sarah Dunning (Administration for Children and Families)  
- Jennifer Schmalz (Administration for Children and Families)  

Self-Regulation, Goals, and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes: A Conceptual Framework and Applications in the Field  
Renaissance East  
- Michelle Derr (Mathematica Policy Research)  
- Charisse Johnson (Administration for Children and Families)  
- Lisa Washington-Thomas (Administration for Children and Families)  

Taking a Data-Driven Approach to Dissemination: The Case of an Online Research and Evaluation Clearinghouse  
Renaissance West B  
- Miriam Jacobson (ICF International)
### THURSDAY, MAY 31  |  8:30 A.M. – 5:15 P.M.

<table>
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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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| 4:00 p.m. | **Plenary: Serving the Hardest to Employ: Evidence from Evaluations of Subsidized Employment Programs**  
*Grand Ballroom*

This plenary will discuss evidence from two large-scale evaluations of subsidized employment programs focusing on a range of hard-to-serve clients, including noncustodial parents, re-entering populations, low-income adults, and other populations. The discussion of these findings, placed into context with prior evidence from previous research, will serve as a platform to discuss how to move hard-to-employ individuals, like those who were formerly incarcerated or noncustodial parents, into employment and economic self-sufficiency. **Erica Zielewski** (Office of Management and Budget) will moderate this session. **Clarence H. Carter** (Administration for Children and Families), **Harry Holzer** (Georgetown University), and **Grant Collins** (Fedcap) will serve as discussants.

- **Subsidized Employment as a Strategy for Increasing Employment and Earnings**  
  Dan Bloom (MDRC)

- **Evidence from Subsidized Employment Programs for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals**  
  Cindy Redcross (MDRC)

| 5:15 p.m. | **YOUNG PROFESSIONALS HAPPY HOUR**  
*Marrriott Marquis High Velocity Bar*

Mix and mingle with the RECS Emerging Scholars and other young professionals on Thursday after the conference day has ended. Refreshments will be available for purchase.
**FRIDAY, JUNE 1 | 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
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| **TANF: Transitional Jobs and Policy Change**  
*Renaissance East* |
| **Improving TANF and Employment Services for Refugees and Survivors of Trauma**  
*Renaissance West A* |

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**8:30 a.m.**  
**CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

<table>
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<th>EVENT</th>
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| **TANF: Transitional Jobs and Policy Change**  
*Renaissance East* |
| **Improving TANF and Employment Services for Refugees and Survivors of Trauma**  
*Renaissance West A* |

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**TANF: Transitional Jobs and Policy Change**  
*Renaissance East*

Drawing on research from California, Colorado, and Washington, D.C., this session explores many facets of TANF. Three researchers will share findings from recent evaluations of a significant policy change in California’s TANF agency; a subsidized employment program in Washington, D.C.; and a transitional jobs program in Colorado. This session will be moderated by the director of Washington, D.C.’s TANF agency, *Anthea Seymour* (*D.C. Department of Human Services*).

- **An Evaluation of ReHire Colorado: Early Estimates from a Randomized Control Trial**  
  Brian Cadena (*University of Colorado Boulder*)

- **Engaging Clients by Increasing Flexibility: The Impact of a Major TANF Policy Change in California**  
  Johannes Bos (*American Institutes for Research*)

- **D.C.’s Learn and Earn Programs – Pathways to Self-Sufficiency**  
  Karen Armstrong (*IMPAQ International*)

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**Improving TANF and Employment Services for Refugees and Survivors of Trauma**  
*Renaissance West A*

This session will discuss how TANF and employment services programs can serve special populations. Presenters will share strategies that state and local systems use to provide financial support and related employment services to newly arrived refugees, the feasibility and benefits of providing enhanced employment services to foreign trafficking victims, and a risk assessment tool for domestic violence survivors applying for services and waivers under the Family Violence Options. *Damon Waters* (*Administration for Children and Families*) will moderate this session.

- **Serving Refugee Families Through TANF: Lessons from the Field**  
  Angela Gaffney (*MEF Associates*)

- **Dignity of Work: Enhanced Employment Services for Victims of Human Trafficking**  
  Hilary Chester (*U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*)

- **Creating a Tool for Assessing Domestic Violence Risk and Impact Among TANF Clients**  
  Andrea Hetling (*Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*)
### Building the Evidence Base on Programs for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

**Grand South**

Youth transitioning out of foster care often need significant support to prepare for adulthood. This session will highlight three OPRE-funded studies as part of the *Chafee Phase II* demonstration which evaluates programs that aim to improve the educational and employment outcomes of youth aging out of foster care. Brett Brown *(Administration for Children and Families)* will moderate the session.

- **Characteristics of College Success Programs**  
  Amy Dworsky *(Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)*

- **Models to Support Success in Employment for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care**  
  Jiffy Lansing *(Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)*

- **Housing for Youth in Extended Foster Care**  
  Denali Dasgupta *(Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago)*

### Multi-Use Management Information Systems: Strategies for Development, Use, and Data-Driven Learning

**Grand North**

Management Information Systems (MISs) offer data collection, analysis, and reporting functionalities to inform program management. Recently, OPRE supported development of two MISs to support ACF grant programs. Moderated by Seth Chamberlain *(Administration for Children and Families)*, this session will include an interactive demonstration of each MIS and panelists will share strategies for system development, implementation considerations, and efforts to promote continuous quality improvement. Two practitioner discussants, Rina Randriamanantena *(Phoenix Houses of New York)* and Seanna Melchior Ruvkun *(Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County)*, will share their experiences in using each system.

- **nFORM: An Innovative Approach to Performance Management and Continuous Quality Improvement**  
  Seth Chamberlain *(Administration for Children and Families)*

- **The HPOG 2.0 PAGES System: Meeting Performance Management and Evaluation**  
  Hilary Forster *(Administration for Children and Families)* and Nathan Sick *(Urban Institute)*
### FRIDAY, JUNE 1  |  8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
**TANF Employment Youth Families & Fatherhood Evidence Alleviate Poverty**

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| 8:30 a.m. | **Why Contextual Rigor is Necessary for Scientific Rigor: Examples from the Field**  
*Renaissance West B*  
A scientifically rigorous study increases the confidence with which conclusions can be drawn and alternative explanations ruled out. Recently there has been a focus on context as a necessary component of rigor often overlooked when internal validity is emphasized. Contextual rigor can be defined as consideration and respect for the local culture or context as foundational to evaluation design and implementation. Moderated by **Aleta Meyer** (*Administration for Children and Families*), this panel discussion highlights three OPRE funded studies that are more scientifically rigorous because of their contextual rigor.  
- **Tribal Participatory Research in a National Study of Head Start**  
  Meryl Barofsky (*Administration for Children and Families*)  
- **Stakeholder Engagement and Mixed Methods to Examine Implementation of Home Visiting in Tribal Communities**  
  Tess Abrahamson-Richards (*James Bell Associates*)  
- **Working to Validate Measures for Tribal Early Childhood Programs: A Community of Learning Approach**  
  Michelle Sarche (*University of Colorado Denver*) |
| 8:30 a.m. | **Deepening Our Understanding of Racial and Ethnic Differences and Disparities**  
*Grand Central*  
On many measures of economic well-being, African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, and Hispanic and Latino children and families appear to be worse off than white children and families. This panel will draw linkages among data, conceptual, and practical work to help us develop a better understanding of factors that may contribute to the persistence of these racial and ethnic disparities, to their identification, and to their amelioration. **Kim Clum** (*Administration for Children and Families*) will moderate this session.  
- **Children’s Experience with Cross-Domain Instability: Race-Ethnicity and Household Education**  
  Pamela Winston (*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*)  
- **The Relationship Between Youth Disconnection, Race/Ethnicity, and Later Life Employment and Earnings**  
  Nikolas Pharris-Ciurej (*U.S. Census Bureau*)  
- **Identifying Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Human Services**  
  Marla McDaniel (*Urban Institute*)  
- **Evaluation of Culturally Specific Services and Disparity Reduction**  
  Larry Timmerman (*Ramsey County Workforce Solutions*)

LIVE Email RECS@impaqint.com to request PowerPoint presentations from the conference.
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<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks [LIVE]</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<td>• Emily Schmitt ([Administration for Children and Families])</td>
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<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Plenary: Parents and Children Together: Findings from an Experimental Evaluation of Six Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Programs [LIVE]</strong></td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<td>Established in 2005, ACF’s Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood (HMRF) programs provide services to promote strong, healthy family formation and marriage, responsible fatherhood and parenting, and economic stability. This plenary session will present impact findings from Parents and Children Together, a multi-year, rigorous evaluation of a subset of HMRF programs. Robin McDonald ([Administration for Children and Families]) will moderate the panel and former ACF Assistant Secretary Wade Horn ([Deloitte Consulting]) will serve as a discussant.</td>
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<td>• Impact Findings from an Evaluation of Four Responsible Fatherhood Programs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sarah Avellar ([Mathematica Policy Research])</td>
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<td>• Practitioner Perspective: Lessons from the Fathers’ Support Center in St. Louis, MO</td>
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<td>Halbert Sullivan ([Fathers’ Support Center])</td>
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<td>• Practitioner Perspective: Lessons from University Behavioral Associates in the Bronx, NY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scott Wetzler ([Montefiore Medical Center])</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
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### FRIDAY, JUNE 1 | 8:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS</td>
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<td><strong>Learn, Innovate, Improve (LI²): An Analytic Approach to Using Evidence for Continuous Program Improvement</strong></td>
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<td><em>Grand North</em></td>
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<td>This session describes <em>Learn, Innovate, Improve (LI²)</em>, a systematic approach to managing</td>
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<td>human services program change and continuous quality improvement. LI² involves assessing</td>
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<td>the environment and motivation for change (Learn); designing evidence-informed solutions</td>
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<td>(Innovate); and conducting iterative pilots (“road tests”) and other analytic techniques to</td>
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<td>refine implementation (Improve). Moderated by <em>Victoria Kabak (Administration for Children and</em></td>
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<td><em>Families)</em>, this session will provide an overview of LI² and illustrate how LI² has been used.</td>
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<td>• Learn, Innovate, Improve (LI²): An Overview</td>
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<td>Michelle Derr (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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<td>• LI² for Project IMPROVE: Building Research Capacity in County TANF Programs</td>
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<td>Annalisa Mastri (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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<td>• The Colorado Works Innovation Initiative: An Evidence-Informed, Participatory Process to</td>
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<td>Improve TANF Program Engagement</td>
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<td>Jonathan McCay (<em>Mathematica Policy Research</em>)</td>
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| 11:45 a.m. | Job Characteristics and the Well-Being of Low-Income Adults and Families                      |
|            | *Renaissance West A*                                                                          |
|            | This session will look at the relationship between job characteristics and well-being. The    |
|            | presentations will describe variations in the employment characteristic of low-income families |
|            | across racial and ethnic groups, findings from a literature review on the relationship between |
|            | the psychosocial conditions of work and health or well-being, and potential impacts of        |
|            | employment on health and well-being in a context in which individuals were randomly assigned   |
|            | to work or non-work. *Michelle Blocklin (Abt Associates)* will moderate this session.          |
|            | • Job Characteristics of Low-Income Hispanic Parents                                           |
|            | Marta Alvira-Hammond (*Child Trends*)                                                          |
|            | • Impacts on Subsidized Employment on Personal Well-Being                                       |
|            | Richard Hendra (*MDRC*)                                                                        |
|            | • Psychosocial Working Conditions and the Health and Well-Being of Low-Income Adults and Their|
|            | Children                                                                                      |
|            | Rebecca Kleinman (*Mathematica Policy Research*)                                               |
11:45 a.m.  Using Research to Better Understand and Close the Opportunity Gap for Low-Income Youth  

**Grand Central**

The session will begin with an overview of the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) population-level data and how analysis of new education-employment variables can help promote young adults’ self-sufficiency. Then, two presentations will feature Year Up, one of the nation’s foremost programs for low-income youth. Evaluation findings from both Year Up’s core model and its Professional Training Corps model will be presented. **Marsha Silverberg** (U.S. Department of Education) will serve as the moderator. **Raphael Rosenblatt** (Year Up) will serve as the discussant.

- **Analyzing U.S. Young Adults’ Skills by Student and Employment Status Using PIAAC Data**  
  Stephen Provasnik (U.S. Department of Education)

- **Short-Term Impacts of the Year Up Core Program: Findings from a Randomized Controlled Trial**  
  David Fein (Abt Associates)

- **Building Rigorous Evidence on Multiple Generations of a Promising Program: Studying Year Up’s Professional Training**  
  Rebecca Maynard (University of Pennsylvania)

11:45 a.m.  Fatherhood Program Effects on Low-Income Fathers and Families

**Grand South**

There is a growing interest in policies and programs that assist low-income fathers to stay involved with their children. Numerous programs have been developed to serve low-income fathers and their families, yet few of these programs have been rigorously evaluated. This panel will examine the interventions and findings for a selection of rigorous evaluations to determine program effects. **Anna Solmeyer** (Administration for Children and Families) will moderate this session.

- **Innovative Responsible Fatherhood Activities: Early Implementation Findings from the Building Bridges and Bonds Evaluation**  
  Michelle S. Manno (MDRC)

- **Preliminary Findings from a Randomized Controlled Trial of the Dads Matter Intervention**  
  Jennifer L. Bellamy (University of Denver)

- **Caring for Their Children: Meta-Analysis of Father Education Programs for Nonresident, Unmarried, and Low-Income Fathers**  
  Erin Kramer Holmes (Brigham Young University)
### Emerging Research from the Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Consortium

**Renaissance West B**

In 2013, OPRE launched the Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Consortium (FSSRC), which included grants to a network of university-based researchers to investigate critical issues in improving family self-sufficiency and stability. The FSSRC Scholars Network supports scholars to work independently and collectively on systematic, multidisciplinary examinations of the current gaps in family self-sufficiency and stability research. This session, moderated by Nicole Deterding (Administration for Children and Families/Business Strategy Consultants), will showcase research from three FSSRC scholars.

- **An Evaluation of Occupational Behavior in Individuals With and Without Executive Functioning Deficits**
  - Greg Fabiano (University of Buffalo)

- **Analyzing SNAP Benefits and Pregnancy-Related ER Visits to Inform Decision-Making**
  - Colleen Heflin (Syracuse University)

- **Design-Based Implementation Research to Inform Innovation in Human Services**
  - Jodi Sandfort (University of Minnesota)

### Homeless Families’ Experiences with Public Benefit Programs, Employment, and Family Transitions

**Renaissance East**

The Homeless Families Research Briefs project uses data from a large randomized controlled trial, the Family Options Study, to answer questions that are of interest to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This panel includes presentations on three aspects of homeless families that may help HHS ensure that the agency’s programs and policies are used to assist families that have experienced homelessness in becoming self-sufficient. Amanda Benton (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) will moderate this session.

- **Employment Experiences of Homeless Families**
  - Jill Khadduri (Abt Associates)

- **Are Homeless Families Participating in Public Benefit Programs?**
  - Lauren Dunton (Abt Associates)

- **Child and Partner Transitions Among Families Experiencing Homelessness**
  - Douglas Walton (Abt Associates)

### Conference Adjourns
Networking Opportunities & Special Events

Lunchtime Panel Discussion on Careers in Research Related to Poverty, Family Self-Sufficiency, and Social Welfare
Wednesday, May 30, 12:30–1:30 p.m.
Renaissance West A
This discussion—which is open to all conference attendees—will feature panelists with experience working in federal and state government, research firms, and nonprofit organizations. They will provide insights and advice about career building in their respective fields and answer attendee questions.

Emerging Scholars Poster Session
Wednesday, May 30, 2:45–4:00 p.m.
Grand Ballroom Foyer
The Emerging Scholars Poster Session is an opportunity to mingle with fellow conference attendees while viewing posters summarizing work by the emerging scholars selected to participate in the conference. The scholars will be on hand to answer questions about their work.

RECS Social Gathering
Wednesday, May 30, 5:15 p.m.
Renaissance Hotel Mixx Lounge
Join us after the first day of the conference for informal networking. Refreshments will be available for purchase.

NAWRS Happy Hour
Wednesday, May 30, 5:15 p.m.
Renaissance Hotel Mixx Lounge
Enjoy refreshments provided by NAWRS and find out the 2019 NAWRS workshop location.

Lunch Symposium: The Responsiveness of the Safety Net to the Changing Geography of Poverty
Thursday, May 31, 12:00–1:00 p.m.
Grand Ballroom
During the 2018 RECS Lunch Symposium, Scott W. Allard (University of Washington) will highlight current spatial trends in poverty across America, discuss which safety net programs have been most and least responsive to the geographic shifts in poverty, and reflect on implications for state and local policy and practice.

Facilitated Roundtable Discussions
Thursday, May 31, 2:30–3:45 p.m.
In rooms as listed on pages 26–28
The roundtables will provide an opportunity for attendees to engage in interactive discussions of family self-sufficiency and related topics.

Young Professionals Happy Hour
Thursday, May 31, 5:15 p.m.
Marriott Marquis High Velocity Bar
Mix and mingle with the RECS Emerging Scholars and other young professionals on Thursday after the conference day has ended. Refreshments will be available for purchase.
Hotel and Area Restaurant Information

Located in the Renaissance Hotel Lobby

**FIFTEEN SQUARES RESTAURANT**
Fifteen Squares offers a relaxed bistro atmosphere with à la carte specialties and an expansive breakfast buffet.
*Open for Breakfast*

**LIBERTY MARKET**
Liberty Market features sandwiches and salads, as well as tasty snacks for people on the go.
*Open for Lunch and Dinner*

**MIXX LOUNGE**
Mixx Lounge provides a lounge atmosphere with delicious cocktails and a restaurant menu, which focuses on flavorful small plates.
*Open for Dinner*

**PRESIDENTS SPORTS BAR & GRILLE**
Presidents Sports Bar & Grille boasts flat-screen TVs, a selection of food and beverages and a warm, welcoming atmosphere.
*Open for Lunch and Dinner*

**Nearby Options** *(All Within 3 Blocks)*

- **&PIZZA**
  705 H Street, NW

- **ATRIUM CAFÉ**
  750 9th Street, NW #104

- **CAVA**
  707 H Street, NW

- **CHIPOTLE**
  601 F Street, NW

- **CHOP’T**
  730 7th Street, NW

- **DEVON & BLAKELY**
  601 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

- **FIVE GUYS**
  808 H Street, NW

- **FRUITIVE**
  1094 Palmer Alley, NW

- **HIP CITY VEG**
  712 7th Street, NW

- **NANDO’S PERI-PERI**
  819 7th Street, NW

- **NEW WORLD CAFÉ**
  720 I Street, NW

- **POKE PAPA**
  806 H Street, NW

- **POTBELLY SANDWICH SHOP**
  709 H Street, NW

- **STARBUCKS**
  901 New York Avenue, NW

- **TACO BAMBA**
  777 I Street, NW

- **WEST WING CAFÉ**
  920 Massachusetts Ave, NW

**Specials**

*Available in Liberty Market, Mixx Lounge, and Fifteen Squares Daily*

**LUNCH SPECIAL - $12**
Sandwich or Salad + Chips or Whole Fruit + Bottled Water or Soda

**SNACK SPECIAL - $4**

*Choice of 1:*
Small Chips | Whole Fruit | Cliff Bar | Kind Bar | Breakfast Pastry | House Baked Cookies
and
*Choice of 1:*
Bottled Soda | Bottled Water | Bottled Juice

**Local Area Attractions**

- **INTERNATIONAL SPY MUSEUM**
  (0.3 miles from hotel)

- **THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES**
  (0.6 miles from hotel)

- **NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY**
  (0.2 miles from hotel)

- **THE NEWSEUM**
  (0.8 miles from hotel)

- **WASHINGTON MONUMENT**
  (0.9 miles from hotel)
Rigorous evidence for improving child and family well-being

About OPRE
The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) studies Administration for Children and Families (ACF) programs and the populations they serve through rigorous research and evaluation projects. These include evaluations of existing programs, evaluations of innovative approaches to helping low-income children and families, research syntheses, and descriptive and exploratory studies. We also work to improve the analysis of data and coordinate performance management for ACF.

What We Do
OPRE is a unit within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. We conduct rigorous research and evaluation focused on improving child and family well-being. Our core issue areas include Head Start, welfare, employment and self-sufficiency, child abuse and neglect, child care, responsible fatherhood and healthy marriage, maternal and infant home visiting, and youth services. We collaborate with ACF program offices and human service organizations to share research and demonstration findings that inform policy, practice, and research. OPRE includes four divisions:
- Division of Economic Independence
- Division of Child and Family Development
- Division of Family Strengthening
- Division of Data and Improvement

For more information on OPRE, visit acf.hhs.gov/opre.

Stay connected to OPRE research
OPRE invites you to get the latest news and updates through our e-newsletter and social media.

Visit the Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse (SSRC)
Funded by OPRE, the Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse (SSRC) is an ever-growing one-stop portal of research related to self-sufficiency. The SSRC aims to improve policy and practice in such areas as employment, education and training, and family stability by providing access to high-quality research and by hosting engaging and innovative webinars that convene researchers, policymakers, and practitioners.

Visit our Exhibit Booth to:
- Take a virtual tour of the SSRC.
- Learn how you can use the SSRC to inform research projects and program decisions.
- Submit your research to the SSRC Library.
- Sign up for the SSRC Newsletter.
- Register for upcoming SSRC webinars and access webinar archives.

www.opressrc.org

OPRE
The Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20201
Phone: 202-401-9220

ACF OPRE
News
E-Newsletter
NAWRS is a non-profit association whose purpose is to promote the exchange of ideas on how research and statistical analysis can contribute to the development and administration of effective human services programs.

**Mark Your Calendar – Upcoming Events**

**NAWRS is at RECS!** Enjoy refreshments & find out the 2019 NAWRS workshop location

**Wednesday, May 30, 5:15 PM | The Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC**

This event is in the same location and at the same time as the RECS social gathering. NAWRS is providing refreshments; no federal funds are being used to purchase refreshments.

**2018 Virtual Workshop Webinar Series**

June: Communicating with Data
July: Human Centered Design for Social Programs
TBA: The Changing World of Work

**2019 In-Person Workshop**

July: Three days of sharing research & best practice on critical human services issues

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**What’s the latest employment buzz?**

Join the roundtable

**Building Knowledge on Employment Programs for Low-Income Families: Where Do We Go From Here?**

Thursday, May 31, 2018, 2:30-3:45pm
Location: Grand Central Room, The Renaissance Hotel

Hear about prior and emerging research on employment strategies, discuss gaps in the knowledge base, and learn about opportunities to get involved in OPRE employment projects.

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**BEES**

A project to evaluate the effectiveness of innovative programs designed to boost employment and earnings.

Find out how you can:

- Participate in rigorous evaluation
- Build evidence on employment strategies
- Learn about your program’s impact
- Receive technical expertise to improve your program model

Visit [www.mdrc.org/BEES](http://www.mdrc.org/BEES) or email [bees@mdrc.org](mailto:bees@mdrc.org)
Stay Connected

We invite you to use the tools displayed here to engage with OPRE, conference participants, and others interested in well-being and self-sufficiency among low-income families during the conference and throughout the year.

Follow RECS on Twitter @RECS_OPRE
Sign up for RECS email updates

Join the RECS LinkedIn group
Join the OPRE listserv

Download the RECS Mobile App

Search the App Store or Google Play for “RECS Conference.” Access the full conference agenda and session descriptions, speaker biographies, session handouts and presentations, receive conference alerts, and interact with attendees.

Go to the RECS website at recsconference.net

ABOUT THE RECS: RECS is a leading forum for researchers, practitioners, program operators, state and local administrators, federal officials, and policymakers to discuss cutting-edge research on family self-sufficiency and social welfare programs and policies.