

7:30 – 8: 25 a.m. **REGISTRATON**  
 8:30 – 8:40 a.m. **Welcome/Opening Remarks**  
 8:45 – 9:15 a.m. **Keynote**

<i>Best Practices Track</i>	<i>Skills Development Track</i>	<i>Sustainability Track</i>	<i>Outreach Track</i>	<i>Basics in Programming Track</i>
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<p><b>(9:30 – 10:45)</b>  <b>Mentor Retention</b></p> <p><i>Susan Thomas, Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership</i></p> <p>If you have spent a considerable investment of time, energy, and resources on mentor recruitment, you know that volunteer retention is crucial to your program. That said, as many as half of mentoring relationships terminate within the first few months of the match because the volunteer was dissatisfied in some way with their experience. Join us for an interactive workshop, and learn how to keep your mentors coming back for more!</p>	<p><b>Achieving Better Outcomes with Culturally Competent Programs</b></p> <p><i>Gregory Owens, NYS Office of Children and Family Services</i></p> <p>This workshop will explore the need for culturally competent services in organizations and will present a perspective on the importance of cultural competence in mentoring relationships and for mentoring programs. Definitions of culture and cultural competence will be offered, 2 models of cultural competence will be offered as well as activities designed to help the group begin to consider the importance of being cultural competence in their work as mentors or in running a mentoring program.</p>	<p><b>Mentor Training Exercises</b></p> <p><i>Judy Strother-Taylor, Mentoring Resource Center</i></p> <p>A critical responsibility of all Mentoring Programs is to equip Mentors for the Mentor/Mentee relationship before they are matched. Mentor training is usually the central component in this process. This session will provide information that can be used by programs to prepare their volunteers for the mentoring relationship. We will explore which subjects are important to cover during Initial Mentor Training and some effective training techniques, resources, and activities that help mentors communicate effectively, establish trust, and navigate the stages of the mentoring relationship.</p>	<p><b>Role of Business</b></p> <p><i>Laurance Selnick, Webster Bank Dr. Susan G. Weinberger, Mentor Consulting Group</i></p> <p>This presentation will outline how a business can be involved as a committed partner with their mentoring program. Webster Bank’s comprehensive role includes: creating an internal database to track their mentors; recruitment and training strategies; work release expectations; partnering with schools for effective results and internal recognition programs.</p>	<p><b>Elements of Effective Practice</b></p> <p><i>Jean Lahage Cohen, Mentoring Partnerships of New York and Long Island</i></p> <p>We will review the basic elements that make for successful and safe mentoring programs. This is designed to give direction and focus for future work on the part of attendees. It will be most instructive for those wanting to start a mentoring program.</p>
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**(11:00 – 12:15)**

**Evaluation & Program Sustainability: A Hand in Glove Match**

*Janet Forbush, Mentor Consulting Group*

Learn meaningful and practical tips for using evaluation results to foster program sustainability. This workshop features case studies of school, community and faith-based mentoring program evaluations that have used process and outcome evaluation findings to creatively garner funding. Participants will also be introduced to online resources to enhance accountability and enrich evaluation reporting.

**Mentoring Children of Prisoners**

*Andrea L. Torello, Mobius, The Mentoring Movement; Jaimie DeSisto, The Champions Mentoring Program; Kate Schineller, MENTOR*

Our workshop will take a look at the current national initiative to mentor children of prisoners from three perspectives: that of an HHS grantee administering a 300K grant with 15 statewide partners, that of an on-the-ground program coordinator administering the daily tasks of making and supporting these matches, and that of MENTOR, the national organization that administers Caregivers Choice.

**Marketing and Working With the Media**

*Dr. Susan G. Weinberger, Mentor Consulting Group*

Marketing is a key component of strategic planning, implementation and management of mentoring programs. The time to launch a marketing plan is not as a solution to a crisis, when funding is drying up or mentors cannot be found. Marketing leads to mentor recruitment, retention and funding opportunities for program sustainability. This workshop will provide low cost and no-cost ways to create a comprehensive marketing plan to reach key constituents. Susan Rather of NBC news will also be on-hand for a very brief interview on how to nurture the media!

**Reaching More Mentors and Mentees Through Technology**

*Anne Gribbon, Bridgeport Public Schools; Wi-Mentor; Dana Saxton, iMentor Interactive;* Using innovative technology, Wi-mentor pairs hundreds of high school youth with mentors every year. Through email exchanges and in-person events, mentors help students grow personally and academically. Learn about the technology; how and why this approach to mentoring works; how to implement the program in your area; and what is involved in managing Wi-mentor.

**Screening Mentors**

*Linda L. Peterson, Mass Mentoring Partnership*

This interactive training draws on the most up-to-date research on the qualities and characteristics that can be sought and nurtured in volunteer adults to help them to build successful mentoring relationships. Participants will learn current screening practices and tools, and monitoring processes to maximize safety for youth as recommended by the *Elements for Effective Practice*. A handbook will be distributed to all participants.

**(12:30 – 1:45) – LUNCH**

**Welcome – Robert Twomey, Webster Bank**

**Keynote – Charlie Appelstein, M.S.W.** is a nationally prominent youth care specialist and author whose primary focus is on working with children and youth with serious emotional and behavioral problems. President of Appelstein Training Resources. Strength-based practice is an emerging approach to helping at-risk children and youth that is exceptionally positive and inspiring. Its focus is on strength-building rather than flaw-fixing. This presentation will highlight many of the key principles and techniques of this inspiring approach to guiding high-risk young people.

<p><b>(2:00 – 3:15)</b>  <b>College Community Mentoring</b></p> <p><i>Debbie Bechard, Jobs for Maine’s Graduates; Michael Loner, DREAM, Vermont</i></p> <p>Exciting things can happen when college students link the power of mentoring to communities. DREAM of Vermont pairs students from nine colleges with children from thirteen affordable housing communities, while the College Community Mentoring Program of Maine has mentored over 600 elementary/middle school youth through 6 college and university campuses.</p>	<p><b>Bridges out of Poverty</b></p> <p><i>Franca Floro, Mentoring Partnership of Long Island</i></p> <p>This session explores how economic realities can affect a young person’s ability to learn and form a relationship of trust. Participants will discuss the role mentors can play as resource builders; how they can indirectly teach the hidden rules that are required for success in the school environment; and how they can influence cognitive development.</p>	<p><b>Fundraising Strategies: Show Me the Money!</b></p> <p><i>Liz Britt and Elena Sokolow-Kaufman Mass Mentoring Partnership; Arlene McNulty, Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership</i></p> <p>Find funding for YOUR mentoring program. Learn strategies for writing winning federal and state grants, how to partner with companies to attain grants and sponsorships; how to develop relationships that will increase your donor base and increase individual gifts; and get tips from the experts on planning an exciting and profitable fundraiser.</p>	<p><b>Building Influence: One Organization’s Approach</b></p> <p><i>Bruce MacDonald, BB/BS of Canada</i></p> <p>This session will look at the emerging advocacy and government relations program of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (BBBSC). Working within a federated model, BBBSC is creating a strong building influence program – one that links in the private sector as well as government.</p>	<p><b>Preparing Mentees for the Relationship</b></p> <p><i>Judy Strother-Taylor, Mentoring Resource Center</i></p> <p>Mentee training is still less common than mentor training but it can make an enormous difference in what a child gets from the mentoring experience. It also offers another level of protection for your kids and your programs. In this session we will explore Mentee training issues, resources and exercises</p>
<p><b>(3:30 – 4:30)</b>  <b>Panel Presentation by State Mentoring Partnerships</b></p>				