

8:00-8:30	Conference Registration Capitol Room	
8:30-9:00	Welcome, Continental Breakfast, & ILCFR Business Meeting Capitol Room	
TIME	Presentation 1 – Heritage Room	Presentation 2 – Illinois Room
9:00-10:00	<p>Panel Discussion: A Safety Net for the Earliest Years: How Early Childhood Systems Support Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health</p> <p>Northern Illinois University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melissa Clucas Walter, Ph.D. • Kristine Schulz, M.S. <p>4-C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angel Hannah, M.S. <p>Advocate Children's Hospital & NIU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie Lipira, M.S. <p>Basics DeKalb County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtney Hill <p>Chaddock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maggie Mosca, M.S. 	<p>Paper Presentation: <i>From Privacy to Preparation: Disclosure Practices in Divorced Parents' First Conversations About New Romantic Relationships from Stepchildren's Perspectives</i></p> <p>University of Illinois Springfield:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youngjin Kang, Ph.D. <p>Utah State University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weimiao Zhou, Ph.D. <p>Tsinghua University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wenxue Zou, Ph.D. <p>Paper Presentation: <i>Insights from Survivors of Domestic Violence Shelters in Kenya: A Strengths Perspective</i></p> <p>Northern Illinois University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Rose Njue, Ph.D., CFLE • Jessica Lopez, B.S.
10:00-10:05	Drinks available in Capitol Room	

TIME	Presentation 1 – Heritage Room	Presentation 2 – Illinois Room	Presentation 3 – University Suite
10:05-11:05	<p>Workshop: <i>America Needs Anger Management</i></p> <p>Anger Adjusters Anger Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debralee Townsend, A.S. • Kimberly Townsend, B.S. 	<p>Paper Presentations: <i>Investigating Deciding Factors of Commitment through the Transition of Marriage: A Qualitative Inquiry</i></p> <p>Northern Illinois University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Scott Sibley, Ph.D., LMFT, CFLE • KaLilah Cheers • Charlotte Rohn <p>Paper Presentations: <i>A Pathway to Commitment: Exploring the Steps and Stages Preceding Commitment and Marriage</i></p> <p>Northern Illinois University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lexi DeHart • Jordyn Saddler • Pelin Keceli • Julie Abbinante • D. Scott Sibley, Ph.D., LMFT, CFLE 	<p>Workshop: <i>Helping Families Thrive Through Connected Communities-IRIS</i></p> <p>Will County Health Department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca Anderson, B.A. • Arielle Jones, M.P.H.
11:05-11:10	Drinks available in Capitol Room		

TIME	Presentation 1 – Heritage Room	Presentation 2 – Illinois Room	Presentation 3 – University Suite
11:10-12:10	<p>Panel Discussions: Elevating the Voices of Parents: A Collaborative Approach to Supporting Families</p> <p>Birth to Five Illinois:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abby Hoskins, M.S. • Stephanie King, B.S. 	<p>Workshop: Incorporating Civic Engagement into HDFS Curriculum</p> <p>Illinois State University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke Russell, Ph.D. • Chang Su-Russell, Ph.D. 	<p>Panel Discussion: Academic Theory vs Practice in Early Childhood Education: Bridging the Gap</p> <p>Joliet Township Infant Childcare Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasa Howard, MBA, M.Ed. • Emma Lopez, CDA <p>Joliet Junior College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melissa Szymczak, Ph.D. <p>Illinois State Board of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Kestel, M.S. <p>Chicago Public Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackenize Hand, B.S.
12:10-12:45	<p>Lunch & Networking Capitol Room</p>		
12:45-1:30	<p>Poster Session Regency Room *See Page 5-6 for the full list of posters presentations</p>		
1:30-2:30	<p>Keynote Speaker Jessica Calarco, Ph.D. Sociologist and Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Holding it Together: How Women Became America's Safety Net</i> Regency Room</p>		

2:30-2:40	Drinks available in Capitol Room		
TIME	Presentation 1 – Heritage Room	Presentation 2 – Illinois Room	Presentation 3 – University Suite
2:40-3:40	<p><i>Workshop: Navigating the Impact of Climate Change on Families: Community, Health, and Policy Implications</i></p> <p>Adler University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsha J. Vaughn, Ph.D., LMFT 	<p><i>Workshop: Local System of Support to Build Resiliency in Families through Collective Impact</i></p> <p>DeKalb County Regional Office of Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samantha McDavid, B.A. • Hillary Cali, B.A. • Monique Shaw, M.S.W. • Courtney Hill, B.A. 	<p><i>Workshop: Inside the Life of a Teen Parent</i></p> <p>Joliet Township Infant Childcare Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debrah Clark, M.A., CFLE <p>Thornton Township School District 205</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candace Coleman, M.Ed.
3:45-4:15	Awards, Raffle Prizes, Conference Wrap Up Refreshments Capitol Room		

ILCFR 2025 Poster Presentations

1. **Angels on Earth: Supporting Kids After the Loss of a Parent**
Jane Rose Njue, Ph.D., CFLE, Kortney Drake, B.S., & Jessica Lopez, B.S.
2. **Empowering Latino Families to Navigating Mental Health Together: FLE Program**
Jane Rose Njue, Ph.D., CFLE, Michelle Hernandez, B.S., & Jessica Lopez, B.S.
3. **Exploring the Emergence of Resilience in Caregivers**
Srinithi Sridhar, B.S., Hoa Vo, B.S., & Charline X. Xie, Ph.D.

- 4. Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation: The Need for Increased Funding and Helping Childhood Trauma**
Breanna Terry, B.S. & Melissa Clucas Walter, Ph.D.
- 5. Navigating Pediatric Cancer: We Have the Diagnosis, What do We do Now?**
Breanna Terry, B.S. & Charline X. Xie, Ph.D.
- 6. The Use of Digital Technology by Pregnant Women During the COVID-19 Pandemic**
Sarah Knowlton, B.S., Tammy Harpel, Ph.D., Luke Russell, Ph.D., Chang Su-Russell, Ph.D.
- 7. Gendered Experiences of Multiracial Identity and Their Impact on Social Anxiety**
Hoa Vo, B.S.
- 8. Amygdala Damage and Aggression Response in Children**
Hoa Vo, B.S.
- 9. The Lifelong Impact of Parental Mental Health on Children's Mental Health**
Chloe Steffel
- 10. Impact of Parental Relationships in Childhood on Family Relationships and Mental Health Outcomes among Adult Children Caregivers**
Chibuzo Obasi, M.A., Yujun Liu, Ph.D., Jamie Mayer, Ph.D., & Xiaohui Li
- 11. Race, Gender and Culture Differences in the Caregiving Experiences among Family Caregivers of People with Dementia**
Bolanle Olayeni, M.S., Yujun Liu, Ph.D., & Jamie Mayer, Ph.D.
- 12. "Maybe Someday I'll Get Married": Exploring Emerging Adult Beliefs about Commitment and Marriage Postponement**
Maja Keska, Betsy Reyes, Charlotte Rohn, Abby Transon, & D. Scott Sibley, Ph.D., LMFT, CFLE
- 13. Familial Caregivers of Patients with Schizophrenia in Asian American Families**
Leilanis Cancel-Lopez, B.S. & Charline X. Xie, Ph.D.

**Special thanks to the ILCFR 2025 Conference Planning Committee
for their coordination, dedication, and hard work:**

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