



Children's Advocacy Institute

## **Preserving Foster Youth Benefits: State Perspectives on Advancing Reform and Overcoming Obstacles**

**June 12, 2023**

**10:00-11:00 am PT / 1:00-2:00 pm ET**

### **AGENDA**

Welcome / Introductions / Issue Overview & Landscape (Amy Harfeld, National Policy Director, USD School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute) (10 min)

State Perspectives on Reform (30 min)

- Washington: Laurie Lippold, Director of Public Policy, Partners for Our Children, University of Washington
- Massachusetts: Rick Glassman, Director of Advocacy, Disability Law Center
- Illinois: Elise Melrose, Assistant Public Guardian, Office of the Cook County Public Guardian

Question/Answer (All) (10 min)

Advocacy Tips & Tools: Individual Cases and System Reform (10 min)

### **MCLE**

*The University of San Diego School of Law is a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider and this event has been approved for 1 hour of General MCLE credit.*

Record of Attendance: <https://forms.gle/Yj3KvHEbYZqUkZ7H9>

Evaluation Form: <https://forms.gle/cmBQr89rfUMe4yHM9>

**Children's Advocacy Institute**

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## BIOS

**Amy Harfeld** has served as the National Policy Director and Senior Staff Attorney for the Children's Advocacy Institute since 2010. During this time, she has also spent time leading the National Coalition to End Child Abuse Deaths, the Children's Leadership Council, the American Bar Association's Commission on Youth at Risk, and served as pro-bono government affairs liaison for the National Association of Council for Children. Prior to working with CAI, Amy served as the Executive Director of First Star in Washington DC. Amy has been a dedicated and passionate advocate, educator, and public interest attorney for 25 years. Amy brings a uniquely balanced perspective in her work in federal child welfare policy, having represented the state, dependent children, and formerly incarcerated parents seeking reunification with their children. She has published multiple law review articles and op-eds, has appeared on several TV news outlets, and provided testimony to the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Federal Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities. She is a member of the New York State Bar and the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counsel for Children.

**Laurie Lippold** leads efforts to inform and support child welfare policy choices that improve outcomes for children in Washington State through the utilization of scientific research, policy analysis, and national best practices. Laurie earned a master's in social work at the University of Chicago and began her career working with pregnant and parenting teens in inner city Chicago. A longtime advocate for children in Washington State, Laurie worked for Children's Home Society of WA, The Family Policy Council, The Children's Alliance, and Youth Advocate before joining P4C in 2012.

**Rick Glassman** is a 1981 graduate of Colgate University, magna cum laude, and received his J.D. in 1984 from Northeastern University School of Law. He worked in a legal services program from 1985 to 2001 and managed a law school poverty law clinic from 2001 to 2006, before joining DLC. From April 2006 to February 2014 he served as Director of Litigation at the Disability Law Center, when he then assumed his current position as Director of Advocacy. In recent years, Rick has been actively involved in issues such as: housing discrimination and reasonable accommodations; restraint and seclusion of children in schools; eligibility for adult services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; access to public accommodations; rights of prisoners with psychiatric disabilities; rights to live and receive services in an integrated setting in the community; and wage and hour issues on behalf of subminimum wage workers with disabilities.

**Elise Melrose** is the Senior Attorney for Legislative Affairs for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Divisions of the Office of the Cook County Public Guardian. Elise works with the office's legislation unit to identify needed changes in the law to effectively advocate for youth involved in the Illinois child welfare system, in addition to providing direct client representation to children in child protection proceedings. She also facilitates sessions for staff to address secondary trauma.