

## Registration Information:

There is no cost to attend this training. You can register online at:

<http://njcainc.org/event/abusive-head-trauma-a-multidisciplinary-response/>

**Space is limited.**

New Jersey



Children's  
Alliance



**KEAN UNIVERSITY**  
1075 Morris Avenue  
Union, NJ 07083

JOIN US FOR A CONFERENCE:

## UNDERSTANDING ABUSIVE HEAD TRAUMA

October 30, 2019

8:00am – 4:30pm

## KEAN UNIVERSITY

### *Please Note:*

\* Parking is directly in front of  
the building \*

\* Lunch will be on your own \*

## KEAN UNIVERSITY

**STEM Building**

**6<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**1075 Morris Avenue**

**Union, NJ 07083**

## PRESENTERS

**Cindi Christian, MD**, is an attending physician, holder of the Anthony A. Latini Endowed Chair in the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, and President of the Alumni Organization's Board of Directors at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**Colleen Corbett** currently serves as a Case Practice Liaison for the Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency. Within this position Ms. Corbett implements statewide practice initiatives, focuses on staff and leadership development, and helps to develop program improvement plans for the Camden Area. Ms. Corbett has over 20 years of experience in child protective services within the agency as well as other community agencies in various frontline and leadership positions.

**Chris Freid, JD**, is an Assistant Prosecutor at the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office and supervisor for the Special Victims Unit. He is part of the Passaic County MDT, faculty member of Child First/Finding Words, a board member of the New Jersey Children's Alliance, and adjunct professor at Montclair State University.

**Allysa Gambarella, JD**, is the Section Chief of the Special Victims Unit for the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office who is in charge of overseeing the Special Victims Unit as well as Megan's Law and Domestic Violence Units. She is also a member of the Clergy Abuse Task Force. Allysa has been prosecuting cases since 2004.

**Gladibel Medina, MD, CAP, FAAP** is a bilingual American Board Certified General Pediatrician with a subspecialty in Child Abuse Pediatrics. She is the Medical Director of the Dorothy B. Hersh Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center providing comprehensive medical evaluations in suspected cases of Child Abuse and Neglect and has testified as an Expert Witness.

**Clinton Page, JD**, has served as the Director of Legal Affairs for the Department of Children and Families since February of 2014. In that capacity, he oversees the operations of the Administrative Hearings Unit, the Child Abuse Record Information Unit, and the Department's Litigation Unit. Prior to that, Mr. Page has served as a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Attorney General's Office assigned to the DCF Practice Group.

## AGENDA

**8:00 AM** – Registration

**8:30 AM** – Welcome & Opening  
Remarks

**8:45 AM** – Recognizing Signs of  
Abusive Head Trauma  
Cindi Christian

**10:45 AM** – Break

**11:00 AM** – Approach to AHT Cases:  
Benefits of Collaboration  
Gladibel Medina

**12:00 PM** – Lunch (on your own)

**1:15 PM** – DCP&P's Involvement,  
Response, and Use of Litigation in  
Abusive Head Trauma Cases  
Clinton Page & Colleen Corbett

**2:45 PM** – Break

**3:00 PM** – Investigating Abusive  
Head Trauma  
Chris Freid & Allysa Gambarella

**4:30** - Evaluations

## PRESENTATIONS

**Recognizing Signs of Abusive Head Trauma** – Abusive head trauma (AHT) is the leading cause of mortality and morbidity related to child physical abuse. Injuries related to AHT can be difficult to recognize, and early, subtle injuries to infants may be ignored, with missed opportunities to intervene before serious injuries occur. In order to improve recognition and investigation, the identification of AHT, mechanisms of injury, medical evaluation and treatment, and the medical-legal controversies related to the diagnosis will be reviewed.

**Approach to Abusive Head Trauma Cases:**

**Benefits of Collaboration** – This workshop focuses on the importance of collaboration between medical staff, prosecution, child protective services and law enforcement from the point of referral to the end of the case.

**DCP&P's Involvement, Response, and Use of Litigation in Abusive Head Trauma Cases** - Upon receiving a call to DCF's State Central Registry (child abuse hotline), DCP&P staff immediately take action and initiate an investigation. This presentation will help attendees get a better understanding of the relevant internal policy and procedures for handling abusive head trauma cases. Additional discussion will surround the use of litigation and involvement of the family court in achieving permanency for child victims.

**Investigating Abusive Head Trauma** - This lecture/module will cover the investigation and prosecution of an AHT case from referral through trial. It will cover investigatory steps including witness interviews, crime scene documentation and the gathering of medical evidence. Additionally, the lecture will discuss multidisciplinary team involvement, expert witness issues and trial preparation.