

2010 Spring Lecture Series

Improving Outcomes for Older Youth in Care

April 8, 2010 in Lincoln, 8:30-12:00

Embassy Suites

1040 P Street

April 9, 2010 in Hastings, 8:30-12:00

Holiday Inn

3605 Cimarron Plaza

Description: Older children in foster care face enormous challenges as they make the transition to independence. Further, courts and child welfare agencies face ongoing challenges in meeting the needs of these youth and this work is likely to be impacted by recent federal Fostering Connections legislation. This training will provide practitioners with tools and tips to best support older youth in care. The critical importance of youth involvement in case planning and court hearings will also be highlighted.

Trainer: Kristin Kelly, J.D., is an attorney at the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law. She focuses primarily on the education needs of children in foster care and the needs of youth transitioning from care, including the importance of youth involvement in their court hearings and case planning. She has authored a number of articles and publications, including *Hearing Your Voice: A Dependency Guide for Youth and Collaboration around Education and Child Welfare Transition Plans*. Prior to joining the ABA, Ms. Kelly served as a guardian ad litem as well as a certified legal mediator in domestic relations cases. Ms. Kelly served as a legal intern at the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, DC, in both the Government Relations and Child Welfare and Mental Health Divisions. Ms. Kelly obtained her J.D. from Indiana University School of Law, and her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame. She is a member of the Illinois Bar.

MCLE credit available!

This event is sponsored by the Nebraska Court Improvement Project. For more information on the Nebraska Court Improvement Project, the Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative, or this training, please visit our website at www.throughtheeyes.org.

Questions? Please contact Melissa Townsend (mtownsend3@unl.edu, 402.472.3292) or Vicky Weisz (vweisz1@unl.edu, 402.472.9814).

All individuals with a stake in the child welfare court system are invited to attend, including judges, attorneys, caseworkers, clerks, school personnel, law enforcement, medical and service providers, foster families, treatment providers, CASA, FCRB, and court facilitators.

You must register to attend. Registration and more information will be available by February 5 at www.throughtheeyes.org. There is no cost to attend but registration will close when limits are reached. You must register in advance to receive MCLE credits. There will be a \$15 fee for 3 credits.

If you are unable to attend, this session will become available through video streaming at www.throughtheeyes.org.

