Monday, October 19th

PARENTAL RESILIENCE - MENTAL WELL-BEING

Reverend Jessica Stokes

The Rev. Jessica Stokes is the Associate Director of Partners in Health and Wholeness leading the organization’s state-wide mental health advocacy efforts. Jessica earned her Master of Divinity from Wake Forest University and BS in Clinical Psychology from Averett University. She is an ordained Baptist minister and joined the NC Council of Churches’ staff in 2016 after directing an interfaith non-profit in Washington State.

Kylie Foley

Rural Faith Communities Program Manager, Institute for Emerging Issues

Kylie Foley is the Rural Faith Communities Program Manager at NC State’s Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI). IEI resources and guides rural faith leaders with their ReCONNECT program by inviting clergy and laity from all faiths to their Emerging Issues Forums, annual RFCAI conference on rural faith community development, and Peer Networks (small learning groups around topics faith leaders decide on). To get involved, go to www.emergingissues.org/faith

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Sharon Hirsch
President & CEO, Prevent Child Abuse NC

Sharon Hirsch joined Prevent Child Abuse NC in the fall of 2015 with over 25 years’ experience in health and human services, nonprofit and government agency leadership. Her career has been built on strong relationships and connections with partner agencies, recognizing that moving the needle on better outcomes for children and families requires all of us. Since joining PCANC, she has led an expansion of the agency’s intermediary supports for proven parenting and family strengthening programs, has spearheaded local engagement to educate community leaders and child-serving organizations to focus on preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences, has grown public awareness of prevention through traditional and social media channels and has helped to raise more than $1 million in new investments in PCANC’s work to support and strengthen the capacity of prevention professionals across NC.

www.preventchildabusenc.org

Taylor McDonald
Partnership Engagement Manager, Prevent Child Abuse NC

Taylor McDonald serves as the Partnership Engagement Manager for Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina. While focusing on connecting with stakeholders and surrounding communities, Taylor collaborates with counties in North Carolina to provide evidence-based knowledge on protective factors, ACEs awareness, and the implementation of Community Child Abuse Prevention Plans. Taylor enjoys working with diverse groups throughout the state to assist in executing important stepping stones needed to gain awareness about child abuse prevention.

Outside of her career, Taylor engages in philanthropic work that focuses on the inclusivity of children and families in low SES communities.

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Tracey O’Neal
Faith-Based Partnership Engagement Manager, Prevent Child Abuse NC

Tracey O’Neal serves Prevent Child Abuse NC by connecting with faith communities and statewide organizations to increase awareness of the significant role they play in building safe, stable, nurturing families and communities. Tracey collaborates with North Carolina’s faith communities to provide awareness and training on ACEs, Protective Factors, and Connections Matter NC. She enjoys working with diverse groups throughout our state and gains inspiration from the dedication and commitment of our communities to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Tracey’s shared passion for faith, child advocacy and community service motivate her both professionally and personally. Outside of her career, Tracey enjoys being a Guardian ad Litem, where she is a voice for abused and neglected children, and hopes to assist in building a stronger more resilient community through her role on the New Hanover County Resiliency Task Force.

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