

Guest Speaker and Panelist Biographies

Jeanne Ferguson, MSSW, LISW, joined American Humane in 2009 as Project Manager for the NYS Family Assessment Response (FAR) initiative. Before joining American Humane, Ms. Ferguson spent 34 years in Child Protective Services with the Dane County Department of Human Services, Madison, Wisconsin; 26 of those years were as direct services supervisor. She was a front line social worker, specializing in services to families experiencing intrafamilial sexual abuse.

David Jolly began his career in the field of social work as an advocate for at-risk children in the City of Newburgh. His work with Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. took him from the position of Youth Advocate to Vice President of New York Programs. Mr. Jolly consulted in both the United Kingdom and Ireland working in the field of juvenile justice reform, transitioning children from residential facilities into the community. In 2003, Jolly accepted a position as Deputy Commissioner of Social Services in Orange County and was promoted to the position of Commissioner of Social Services in July of 2005.

Christine Manning has provided services and supports to Tompkins County families for the past 20 years. She is currently lead supervisor for Family Assessment Response. In 2006, Ms. Manning successfully implemented a custody initiative program in Tompkins County Family Court, which focuses on child-centered assessments, mediation and collaborative law practices. As Program Coordinator of the Teen Pregnancy/Parenting Program, she launched a fatherhood initiative.

Brian McKee, MSW, devoted 15 years working in Child Welfare in two Central New York State counties, most recently in Onondaga, where he has served as Deputy Commissioner for Children's Services for the past seven years.



SCAA wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to the Office of Children and Family Services for their support and collaboration in all they have done to promote Family Assessment Response implementation in New York State and for helping make today's forum possible.

How Far Can We Go with FAR? May 6, 2010

- 10:30 **Welcome and Introductions**
Karen Schimke, President/CEO
SCAA
- 10:40 **FAR in a Child Welfare Context**
Commissioner Gladys Carrion
OCFS
- 10:50 **FAR Evolution in New York State**
Sheila Poole, Associate Commissioner
OCFS
- 11:05 **National Overview**
Jeanne Ferguson, Project Manager, FAR
American Humane Association
- 11:45 **Panel Discussion:**
NYS Implementation
Commissioner David Jolly
Orange County DSS

Christine Manning, FAR Supervisor
Tompkins County DSS

Brian McKee, Deputy Commissioner
Onondaga County Children's Services
- 12:30 **Questions for Speakers**
- 12:45 **Wrap up**
Karen Schimke