



2017 National Adoption Conference Workshop Abstract

Presenter(s): Ja-Neen Jones, MSOL

Presentation Title: Reverse Teen Matching Event

Topic Area: Effective new methods for recruiting foster, adoptive, and kinship families;

Description:

Do you struggle with finding homes for older children? Are you tired of the same old matching events, if so try the Reverse Teen Matching Event. The Reverse Teen Matching Event is a unique and engaging way for teens to be proactive in finding their forever families. Traditional matching events host approved families looking at available children. However, TRAC Reverse Matching events bring teens together to look for available families. This creative event allows foster care youth to have a true voice in their permanency.

Format: Lecture presentation with Q & A

Presenter(s) Biography:

Ja-Neen Jones has been the Adoption Resources Supervisor at Three Rivers Adoption Council (TRAC) since 2005. In this position she is responsible for all the recruiting and marketing efforts. She also is the Dave Thomas Wendy's Wonderful Kids Supervisor for Western PA. Ms. Jones is the adoption subsidy representative for Western Pennsylvania and takes great pride in being known as the "Resource Person" by helping individuals work through all types of adoption/foster care issues. In addition, Ms. Jones is an adjunct professor at Allegheny County Community College (CCAC). At CCAC she teaches students how to transition from high school to college. Ms. Jones has over 25 years of professional experience working in the field of social service and with diverse populations. She earned her BS in Sociology from Wilberforce University and holds a Masters in Organizational Leadership from Geneva College. Ms. Jones currently serves on the Board of Directors for The GLIDE Project – Girls Leading in Divine Excellence. She was recognized for her outstanding service in the community by Classic Events in 2014. She is an active member of Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh and is the mother of one son and one daughter.