

NAEHCY Conference to Feature Child Welfare Track

The ABA Center on Children and the Law, the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY), and Casey Family Programs are pleased to announce a track devoted to the education of children in foster care at NAEHCY's 19th annual conference, to be held November 10-13 in Portland, OR. This year's conference theme is "Blazing Trails and Moving Mountains: Educating All Our Children and Youth."

This track is tailored for both child welfare staff (attorneys, social workers, service providers, advocates, GALs, CASAs) and homeless education program staff (state coordinators, local liaisons, school counselors, educators, service providers) who want to increase their effectiveness in advocating for the best educational interests of children in care.

Through partnership with Casey Family Programs, the child welfare track will include a pre-conference session on children in foster care and education needs; a curriculum for school personnel on the needs of children in foster care; "education 101 – what child welfare personnel need to know;" "child welfare 101 – what school personnel need to know;" examples of successful child welfare-education collaborations from across the country; research findings and their implications; Head Start; Special Education; early learning, and a youth panel. The sessions will be presented by child welfare and education experts from across the country and are designed to help connect the worlds of child welfare and education.

The NAEHCY conference also offers a wide range of sessions for anyone interested in the education of at-risk and highly mobile children and youth, including assessment and placement strategies, transportation, community collaborations, after-school programs, housing, effective teachers, disaster planning, professional development, mental health, literacy and math programs, local program fund-raising, and policy and advocacy. The conference provides an opportunity to network with peers to identify common challenges and generate strategies for working with highly mobile children and for cross-agency collaboration.

We hope that you will consider attending the conference for the unique professional development opportunity it offers, and we urge you to spread the word among your colleagues and community.

Conference registration information is available at <http://www.naehcy.org/conf/conf.html>