



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance



NRFC Webinar Series

Working with Child Support – Continuing the Conversation

Presenter Bios

April 15, 2015

Nicolette Bennett, Attorney II, Kansas Department for Children and Families, Child Support Services, Topeka, KS.

Nicolette Bennett is in her 17th year working for the State of Kansas, Child Support Services of the Department for Children and Families. She has experience as case worker, attorney, and supervising attorney. She presently works in the Central Office in Topeka, overseeing a Fatherhood Grant Program and units that garnish bank accounts or file liens on insurance claims to pay child support. Her law degree comes from the University of Arkansas School of Law. Prior to law school she worked for IBM as a Systems Engineer. She and her husband are blessed with 3 teenage boys.

Patty Hunt, Child Support Specialist III, Contra Costa County Department of Child Support Services.

Patty has worked within the Title IV-D program for 27 years, primarily acting in a lead capacity. Patty's extensive knowledge and long history with the department has made her a subject matter expert in the field of child support services. She is currently assigned to the Public Service Unit where she assists customers with some of the more complex child support issues. She also provides assistance to the Family Law Facilitator and is the main contact for employers concerning questions about Wage Withholding and the National Medical Support Notice. Patty is the liaison for the Rubicon and PAPAS Program, working with both the program staff and clients. She also works on special projects in the office, currently assisting the supervising attorney with Qualified Domestic Relation Orders (QDROs) on non-custodial parent's retirement accounts. Patty is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area with a juris doctor degree from John F Kennedy University.

Barbara Lacina, Acting Director, Division of Program Innovation, Office of Child Support Enforcement.

Barbara has served the public as a child support professional since 1992. First, as a frontline caseworker in a state program, directly serving parents and partnering with program stakeholders. Then in various management and administration roles, always with a focus on improving outcomes for children and providing balanced service to both parents, including implementing local partnerships between child support and fatherhood services. Barbara has been with the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement for five years, and is currently the Acting Director for the Division of Program Innovation. She was previously the Regional Program Manager for OCSE Region VII in Kansas City where she worked closely with State and Tribal child support programs on performance improvement and family-centered services.

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Brad Lambert, Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer, Connections to Success.

Brad and his wife Kathy co-founded Connections to Success, a Missouri nonprofit organization, when they left the corporate world in 1998 with a passion to help underserved families achieve a higher quality of life. Through their leadership, a holistic rehabilitative approach has been developed to provide a structured transition from poverty to economic stability. Thousands of families have benefitted from this life transformation model with results including home ownership, career employment with living wages, and children finishing school, going to college and breaking the generational poverty cycle. Brad's responsibilities include financial oversight, grants management, strategic planning, social enterprises, and business development. Prior to Connections to Success, Brad worked over 20 years in the engineering and construction industry including serving as Vice President of Business Development for an international general contractor. Brad has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois. Brad and Kathy have one son, Dylan, age 23, who works in graphic design in St. Louis.

Rhody McCoy, Director of Economic Empowerment, Contra Costa County, Rubicon Programs Inc.

Rhody has been with Rubicon Programs Inc. since March 2010. His initial position with Rubicon was as Re-Entry Program Manager. Currently he is responsible for program management and development, which includes evaluating existing programs; creating new initiatives to increase opportunities for underserved populations; compliance, safety and risk mitigation; and management and achievement of contract goals and objectives. Prior to Rubicon Programs Inc., Rhody worked with The National Trust, where he facilitated transformational health and wellness programs in San Quentin Prison. Prior to working with The National Trust, Rhody worked in San Francisco with the Private Industry Council as a Contracts Specialist and Asian Neighborhood Design as Manager of their Employment Training Program. Additionally Rhody has over 15 years' experience in real estate development, and project management experience. Rhody attended the University of San Francisco majoring in Biology and studied Urban Planning at San Francisco State University.