



ASSOCIATION FOR TRAINING ON TRAUMA AND ATTACHMENT IN CHILDREN

June 12, 2025
8:00am-9:00am Central Time

Attended: Karent Bartling, Tracy Johnson, Kellee Walker, Bea Oaks, Lilli Correll, David Allen, Sue Badeau, Michele Stinnett, Rebecca Knowles, Rita Rojas, Robbie Callis, Mary McGowan, Stacey Notch, Camille Clark, Bonnie Butler, Sarah Bingham

Welcome and Introductions to new committee members

About the 2026 Conference

The 38th annual ATTACH conference will bring together an international network of parents and professionals, including psychologists, counselors, marriage and family therapists, social workers, educators, OTs and more for cutting-edge workshop sessions with leading experts in the field of developmental trauma and attachment.

Useful Links:

Conference Committee Webpage: <https://attach.org/conference-steering-committee-information/>

Sponsors & Exhibitors: <https://attach.regfox.com/2026-conference-sponsors-scholarship-donors-exhibitors-advertising>

Submit a Proposal (RFP): <https://attach.org/2026-conference-rfp/>

Please submit proposals soon! Deadline is July 15. Need experts in the field, schoolteacher focus or military focus. Michele shared that Chaddock will submit proposals – principal at school will speak; another will discuss about working with kids in RTC and dtap model. These will be submitted this week. If we have a teacher/education track or a military track, we can create a specialized track. We will determine this as we review proposals coming in. It is important to keep local community in mind to bring the right workshops in.

Reserve Hotel Room: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1743441139124&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink>

Conference Location and Dates:

San Antonio, TX | Westin North
Thursday, April 9 – Saturday, April 11, 2026

Title & Theme for Conference:

Healing Connections: The Heart of the Matter

How Can the Steering Committee Help

- Review submitted proposals for workshop selection



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- Ask colleagues to sign up to sponsor the conference, sponsor scholarships, and exhibit at the conference.
- Silent Auction (ALL proceeds go toward Parent Scholarships)
 - Reach out to your connections and community to solicit donations for the silent auction.
 - Communicate items received to ATTACH by filling out form.
- Share scholarship availability and information with parents and caregivers.
- Be a monitor for workshops (check in and attend workshops)
- Volunteers (registration discounts to be based on volunteer hours)
 - Set up on Wednesday at hotel
 - Check in and Registration (Thursday and/or Friday)

Subcommittee Roles and Responsibilities

- Parent & Caregiver Committee (4-6 People)
 - Share conference information with local parents and caregivers
 - Develop activities- Committee- Sue Badeau, Sherri Cowan, Bonnie Butler, Rep from NFPA
 - Organize the Thursday box luncheon
 - Parent & Caregiver Night (Friday)
 - Parent & Caregiver room with activities during conference
 - Debriefing
 - Get donations for parent give-a-ways
 - Identify Parent & Caregiver Mentors (later)
 - **NFPA – National Foster Parent Association (Arnie Eby is contact) has voted to partner with us at our conference. They will bring proposals from their crew; they will encourage parents to attend. We may need another track depending on how many parents we get to attend. We have possibility of 3 additional breakout rooms to help accommodate this. We are working on developing the details on collaboration (marketing, RFP, presence, etc). This will not be branded with NFPA at all. Connection is primarily with parents and will be on board with parent events. There is no monetary partnership with NFPA at this conference. Arnie will try to join future conference committee meetings.**
- Auction Committee (2-3 People)- Tracy, Robin, Karen
 - Live Auction:
 - Get live auction donations
 - Silent Auction:
 - Get auction donations and pick them up to bring on Wednesday
 - Assist with Silent Auction set up at conference
 - **Tracy: She is helping to bring people into this group. Tracy has asked what deadlines are and she will coordinate a separate meeting with Mary and others to help plan. Mary has asked all committee members to consider what they can do to support the silent auction.**
- Organize Networking Opportunities (3 People)
 - Brown Bag lunch topics with lead facilitators
 - Picture Booth
 - Meet Ups
 - Other ideas



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- Thursday Welcome Reception Committee (3-4 People)
 - Select Theme
 - Work with ATTACH to select entertainment

- **Community Connections and Partners**
 - Child welfare
 - Military
 - CASA
 - Other

Action Items and updates:

- See minutes from May meeting

Mary discussed the three awards that we present during the conference: Lifetime Achievement, Jane Koomar, and Linda Eisele Award for Advocacy. There is a link on the conference committee webpage for submitting nominations

Bea has the Save the Date cards that she will share with people in surrounding areas as she travels for her work.

Tracy asked for a list of organizations that have been contacted for sponsorships.