

23RD INTERNATIONAL PERINATAL BEREAVEMENT CONFERENCE



A Conference for Empowering Those Supporting Families Through Pregnancy and Childbirth-Related Challenges

Join us at our biennial conference dedicated to supporting families coping with a range of pregnancy and childbirth-related struggles, such as miscarriage, stillbirth, traumatic childbirth, newborn death, life-limiting conditions, and inadequate pregnancy and birthing care.

IPBC 2024
CHICAGO, IL
THE DRAKE HOTEL



May 15 – 18, 2024

PLIDA.ORG

Join Us...



The 23rd PLIDA-sponsored International Perinatal Bereavement Conference is May 15-18, 2024, in beautiful Chicago, Illinois.

We invite you to attend this one-of-a-kind educational event, specially designed to bring together clinical professionals and bereavement advocates in a relaxed and communal setting. It is the only international conference devoted solely to the understanding of perinatal bereavement, meaning the death of a baby at any stage of pregnancy, birth, or in the first weeks or months of life. In addition, this year we are addressing traumatic birth, traumatic stress and grief following pregnancy loss, health disparities, maternal mental health and much more.

What makes the conference unique? Most notable is our commitment to the model of evidence-based care that includes clinical excellence, research, personal experiences, and bereaved family narratives. The purpose of the biennial International Perinatal Bereavement Conference is to bring new information, share best practices, and engage in educational and networking opportunities for those who support and care for bereaved families.

Additionally, this remarkable conference provides a wide variety of opportunities to engage, learn, and be inspired. Preconference workshops, plenary, concurrent, and poster sessions offer a wide array of opportunities to improve your clinical practice. Outstanding plenary speakers include Betty Davies, RN, BScN, MN, PhD; Cheryl Tatano Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN; Natasha Nurse-Clarke, PhD, RN, FAAN; Kathie Kobler, PhD, APRN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN; Erin Denney Koelsch MD; Natalia Henner MD and Grace Knowles MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CHPPN.

The welcome reception Wednesday evening is open to all attending the conference and is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. As well, the planning committee has arranged several other networking opportunities and casual receptions for you during our time together.

Chicago is the entertainment and cultural capital of the Midwest. With so many wonderful things to see and do in Chicago, there is truly something for everyone. Located on the corner of Michigan Avenue and Lake Shore Drive, the historic Drake Hotel is located on the Magnificent Mile and mere steps away from shopping, dining & entertainment. The city is yours to explore.

Nearby attractions, include the Art Institute of Chicago, Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum, Navy Pier, the Bean and so much more. Take a boat ride down the Chicago River onto Lake Michigan and see the skyline like never before.

We invite you to contact us at members@plida.org with any questions. Our team will be onsite to welcome you, assist with registration, and address your needs.

We look forward to meeting you and wish you an extraordinary conference experience. See you in Chicago!

With gratitude,
Gina Leigh Jones, RN, CPLC
PLIDA President
Conference Chair



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Mission

PLIDA (Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Alliance) is an organization dedicated to being a leader in perinatal and neonatal bereavement care. Our mission is to provide education, advocacy and networking for both healthcare providers and parent advocates, to promote the highest quality of evidence-based care for all families. We express our mission through a variety of ways, including professional continuing education, the establishment of position statements and practice guidelines, responding with a unified voice to issues in the media or legislation, and by creating a network for professionals to share resources, insight, and support.



Conference Contributors



Thank you to the planning committee and conference co-chairs for their dedication to ensuring this conference is an educational and networking experience for all attendees. The conference committee would like to extend a thank you to the contributing members:

Conference Planning

Gina Leigh Jones, RN, CPLC PLIDA President and Conference Chair
Coordinator Bereavement and Supportive Care Services | Houston, TX
Children's Memorial Hermann

Consultants

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Resolve Through Sharing, Co-founder and Director Emerita
Gundersen Medical Foundation | La Crosse, WI
PLIDA Past President

Jill Kottmeier, MS, BSN, RN, CPLC, CBC
Director of Wellbeing & Bereavement Services
Northwest Community Hospital Part of NorthShore-EEH

Kristin James, LCPC
Independence Consultant
Advocate-Educator-Counselor

Contributing Committee Members

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Rose Carlson, BS - Education Specialist

Contributing PLIDA Education Committee Members

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Marianne Hutti, PhD, WHNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN
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Rana Limbo, PhD, RN, CPLC, FAAN
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Rose Carlson - Education Specialist
Lucia Beltre - Business Coordinator
Taylor Montgomery - Marketing Coordinator

Contributing Community Members

Cinnamon Cappel
Pierce A.F. Jones, Esq.

Join hundreds of attendees at the International Perinatal Bereavement Conference presented by PLIDA for a one-of-a-kind experience. The conference is dedicated to evidence-based care, including research, personal experiences, and family narratives of bereavement. The biennial conference provides numerous educational and networking opportunities for those who support families experiencing loss.

OBJECTIVES

- Identify skills for working within an interprofessional team when providing care for bereaved families.
- Examine ways of promoting health equity through health care access and quality in the perinatal population.
- Discuss trauma related to death, unexpected outcomes, and insensitive care during childbearing.
- Explore communication skills appropriate for the perinatal period.
- Describe grief and bereavement in diverse populations.
- Provide opportunities for relationship building.
- List ways of translating research findings into clinical practice to promote a compassionate standard of care for bereaved families.
- Explain principles and practice of self-care.

PURPOSE

To engage in educational and networking opportunities for those who support bereaved families.

AUDIENCE

This conference will appeal to any professional who provides care to families experiencing a perinatal death or engaging in research within the field including

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Obstetricians | • Chaplains |
| • Maternal Fetal Medicine Physicians | • Funeral Directors |
| • Neonatologists | • Childlife Specialists |
| • Palliative Care Physicians | • Lactation Consultants |
| • Advanced Practice Nurses | • Psychologists |
| • Midwives | • Childbirth Educators |
| • Physician Assistants | • Policy Makers |
| • Nurses | • Program Administrators |
| • Social Workers | • Researchers |
| • Genetic Counselors | • Professors |
| • Ultrasonographers | • Parent Advocates |
| | • ... among many others |

In addition, bereaved parents themselves participate in the conference in the role of parent advocates who may work in advocacy, lay support and who may hold a dual role as both patient and researcher or practitioner.

IPBC Hotel - The Drake



Experience the Charm of The Drake Historic Hotel on the Magnificent Mile

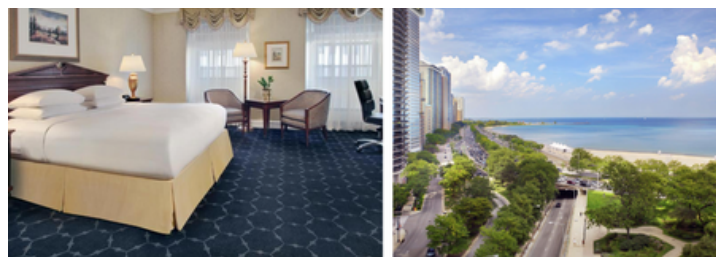
The Drake has been a staple for 100 years, offering an unrivaled location on the Magnificent Mile in the renowned Gold Coast area. Step out of the door and enjoy the vast selection of shops, fine dining, and nightlife. Take a stroll to the nearby Oak Street Beach, Water Tower Place, and 360 Chicago. The Gold Coast Room is a popular choice for weddings, while the iconic Palm Court is perfect for afternoon tea, previously graced by the likes of Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Diana.

The Drake, Chicago, IL

140 East Walton Place, Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 787-2200

Group Room Rate: \$209.00

This discounted rate is available during the conference dates of: 5/10/24 - 5/20/24.



Transportation to and from the Airport

One of the easiest cities to travel from the airport to the downtown, Chicago has inexpensive and quick public transportation options! While this hotel does not offer shuttle service, Chicago's extensive street system and Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) offer many other options for transportation. Check out this resource for more information. <https://www.choosechicago.com/plan-your-trip/getting-around/>

Other options for transportation from the airport include:

- Taxi/Uber/Ride Sharing
- Car rental
 - On-site parking (\$53/night)
 - Spot Hero
 - Parking Garages
- GO Airport Express - 10% off for Drake guests
(https://airportexpress.com/reservations/?_macode=DRAKE)



Registration

All registrations will be conducted online.

REGISTRATION TYPE	EARLY RATE* 10/15/23 - 4/18/24	REGULAR RATE 4/19/24 - 5/12/24
Preconference Half Day	\$150.00	\$200.00
Preconference Full Day	\$250.00	\$350.00
Main Conference PLIDA Member	\$595.00	\$695.00
Main Conference Non PLIDA Member	\$795.00	\$895.00
Single Day PLIDA Member	\$350.00	\$450.00
Single Day Non PLIDA Member	\$450.00	\$550.00

Registration closes on 5/12/24.



Additional Information

Fees include attendance at all conference sessions, admission to the welcome reception, breakfast, and coffee breaks on the days for which you are registered. In addition, preconference fees include breakfast for attendees registered for morning or full-day preconference sessions. Your registration also includes access to conference materials, the conference app, and exhibits and poster presentations. **To receive the early registration rates, your registration must be completed online by 11:59PM CST on April 18, 2024.** This date is firm, with no exceptions.

Payment:
Credit card is the preferred method of payment. Should you have any issues with this method or other registration questions, please contact members@plida.org. **Refunds for payments made with a credit or debit card are subject to a NON-REFUNDABLE \$15 processing fee plus the cancellation fee.**

Cancellation policy:
Full refunds, less a \$200 USD processing fee, are available only before April 1, 2024.

If you are transferring your registration to a colleague, a \$50 USD transfer fee applies. In order to receive a refund or transfer, you must notify conference management in writing by April 1, 2024 by emailing members@plida.org. If you do not cancel or transfer by this date, payment in full is still due, even if you do not attend the conference.

Special Accommodations:
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, PLIDA seeks to make this conference accessible to all. If you have a disability that might require special accommodations, please email your needs to members@plida.org or call her at 888-693-1435.

If you have questions or grievances, please contact members@plida.org.

Sponsors & Exhibitors



Thank you to the IPBC 2024 Sponsors and Exhibitors! Are you interested in learning more about sponsorship and exhibition opportunities? Visit www.plida.org

SPONSORS

MICHIGAN AVENUE SPONSOR: \$2,500



EXHIBITORS

AWHONN
Empty Cradle
Holy Sews
Institute of Reproductive Grief Care
Project Sweet Peas
Return to ZeroHOPE
Sea Glass Parenting
Star Legacy Foundation
Walk to Remember
Walk With Me

Plenary Speakers

PRECONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKER: WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

BALANCING COMPASSION: THE INTERSECTION OF RESPECTFUL MATERNITY CARE AND PERINATAL BEREAVEMENT: NATASHA NURSE-CLARKE, PHD, RN, FAAN



This thought-provoking plenary presentation will delve into the critical aspects of perinatal bereavement care, rooted in the 12 domains of Respectful Maternity Care (RMC) as identified by Shakibazadeh et al. in 2017. This session offers a comprehensive overview of how these domains can be seamlessly integrated to provide compassionate, dignified, and person-centered care for individuals and families navigating the painful journey of perinatal loss. Discover practical examples that showcase successful strategies as well as areas where challenges may arise, deepening your understanding of the profound impact of empathetic care during such sensitive moments. Additionally, we'll delve into the application of Guided Participation theory for teaching and Swanson's caring theory for bedside care, while highlighting exemplary practices grounded in these theories. This presentation promises to provide valuable insights into achieving respectful perinatal bereavement care, offering solace and support to those facing these difficult circumstances.

MAIN CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKER: THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

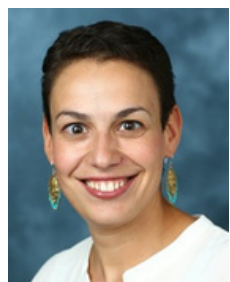
CREATING A MILIEU OF MATTERING: BETTY DAVIES, RN, BSCN, MN, PHD



Betty Davies, BScN, MScN, PhD, is an Adjunct Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria and Professor Emeritus, Family Health Care Nursing, University of California San Francisco. Her nursing career, spanning over 50 years, has focused on palliative/hospice care for adults and children and their families, the impact of palliative care on health care providers, and palliative care education. She is known internationally as a highly successful clinician, teacher, mentor, and researcher. Her research has been supported by an impressive record of extramural funding on both sides of the border – from the Canadian Institute for Health Research and the US National Institute for Nursing Research. Her research is reported in over 100 articles in refereed journals, 50 book chapters, and three books (*Fading Away: The experience of transition in families facing terminal illness* [Amityville, NY: Baywood, 1995]; *Shadows in the Sun: Experiences of sibling bereavement in childhood*. [Philadelphia: Brunner/Mazel, 1999]; and *Pediatric palliative care: A model of exemplary care* (Routledge; 2022). Dr. Davies has contributed to many professional and community organizations and to editorial boards of significant journals. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including four for lifetime achievement of which the most recent is the Association for Death Education and Counselling Lifetime Achievement Award in Recognition of Accomplishments and Dedication to the Field of Thanatology. Betty also Co-Founder of Canuck Place, in Vancouver, the first free-standing children's hospice in North America. With her last book completed, she has now retired for the third time while continuing to write, present her work, and mentor students and clinicians.

MAIN CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKER: THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

HELP US UNDERSTAND...ADVANCE CARE PLANNING BETWEEN FAMILIES, PERINATAL PALLIATIVE CARE, AND NEONATAL CARE TEAMS: NATALIA HENNER, MD AND GRACE KNOWLES, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CHPPN



Natalia Henner, MD, is currently a physician at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago and focuses her practice and research on understanding parental and providers' variability in addressing complex care decisions during prenatal and neonatal course. Dr. Henner is also Section Head, Palliative Care; Attending Physician, Neonatology Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine. She emphasizes various aspects of perinatal palliative care delivery and optimizing care pathways for families expecting infants with complex and/or life-limiting conditions. Finally, Dr. Henner is interested in studying and improving symptom management in infants with complex conditions in the Neonatal ICU. In addition, she works on systems' improvements and medical education, with a focus on communication approaches within teams and between families and providers.



Grace's nursing career started in a large tertiary NICU where she spent eight years as a bedside nurse. It was during this time that she discovered a passion for end of life and bereavement care. During the pursuit of an advanced nursing degree, Grace was able to learn more about the broader discipline of palliative care. Grace knew this would be the focus of the next chapter of her professional career. She feels privileged to be able to focus her work on the support of her prenatal/neonatal patients. Her academic interests include understanding the support desired by those who experience perinatal bereavement and how the medical system can best provide this support to families.

MAIN CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKER: FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS: THE IMPACT OF TRAUMATIC CHILDBIRTH
CHERYL TATANO BECK, DNSC, CNM, FAAN



Dr. Beck is a Distinguished Professor, School of Nursing, University of Connecticut, with a joint appointment in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the School of Medicine. Dr. Beck leads an internationally recognized research program focused on postpartum mood/anxiety disorders. She developed the Postpartum Depression Screening Scale (PDSS) and authored many of the seminal works in the field, from her over 185 journal articles. She also authored numerous books, including the preeminent research methods textbooks for undergraduate and graduate nursing education, that is Essentials of Nursing Research. She was awarded Book of the Year from the American Journal of Nursing multiple times, including for Nursing Research, Generating and Assessing Evidence for Nursing Practice and Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorders. A Clinician's Guide. Her two latest books include Secondary Qualitative Data Analysis in the Health and Social Sciences and Introduction to Phenomenology: Focus on Methodology. She has received many prestigious honors including induction as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, induction into the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, and the Marcé Medal by the International Marcé Society for Perinatal Mental Health for the significant contributions of her research program.

MAIN CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKER: FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

CRADLE TO GRAVE: PERINATAL BEREAVEMENT RITUALS AND PRACTICES ACROSS U.S. CULTURES
ERIN DENNEY-KOELSCH MD



Dr. Erin Denney-Koelsch is the Interim Chief of Palliative Care at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, NY. She is the Director of the URM Perinatal Supportive Care Program which provides longitudinal family-centered care for parents facing life-limiting fetal conditions and through their pregnancy and newborn period. She has many peer-reviewed publications on her research in perinatal palliative care and is the co-editor of Perinatal Palliative Care. A Clinical Guide as well as the sole editor and author of many chapters in her newest book, Perinatal Bereavement Rituals and Practices Across U.S. Cultural Groups. This latest work is a comprehensive ethnographic exploration of perinatal loss practices in all the major cultural and religious groups in the U.S. The parents' stories speak for themselves as they struggled with the social isolation and found meaning and beauty in their babies' short lives.

CLOSING PLENARY SPEAKER: SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON: HONORING OUR PROFESSIONAL JOURNEYS
KATHIE KOBLE, PHD, APRN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN



Dr. Kathie Kobler is an advanced practice nurse with over three decades of clinical experience providing a relationship-based approach to care for infants and children with serious illness, and their families. She currently serves as APRN for the Center for Fetal Care at Advocate Children's Hospital.

Dr. Kobler's commitment to children is reflected through service in national organizations, leading policy, certification, and educational initiatives to advance the fields of perinatal, neonatal, and pediatric palliative and bereavement care. Her scholarship focuses on areas often unnoticed, including the role of ritual in end-of-life care. She is well known for integrating relational and interactive teaching methods to help nurses and interdisciplinary clinicians find their gifts and optimize professional well-being when providing end-of-life care.

Dr. Kobler's clinical expertise has been recognized through awards from national organizations including 2017 Distinguished Career Award from the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA), Fellow Designation by HPNA, and Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar Award from the Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence.

Conference Schedule

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

5:00PM - 7:00PM Registration Opens
5:00PM - 9:00PM Reflection Room

PRECONFERENCE SCHEDULE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

7:00AM - 6:00PM Registration Opens
7:00AM - 9:00PM Reflection Room
7:00AM - 7:45AM Continental Breakfast for Preconference Registrants
7:45AM - 8:00AM Welcome and Opening
8:00AM - 9:15AM Preconference Plenary Session #1: Balancing Compassion: The Intersection of Respectful Maternity Care and Perinatal Bereavement: Natasha Nurse-Clarke, PhD, RN, FAAN
9:15AM - 9:30AM Coffee Break
9:30AM - 12:30PM Preconference Session #1
12:30PM - 2:00PM Lunch (on your own)
2:00PM - 5:00PM Preconference Sessions #2
5:00PM - 9:00PM Exhibits Open
6:30PM - 9:00PM Welcome Reception

MAIN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

6:55AM - 4:30PM Registration Open
7:00AM - 9:00PM Reflection Room
7:30AM - 7:00PM Exhibits Open: *Exhibits will be closed during Plenary and Concurrent Sessions*
7:00AM - 8:00AM Continental Breakfast
8:00AM - 8:15AM Welcome and Opening
8:15AM - 9:30AM Opening Plenary Session #2: Creating a Milieu of Mattering: Betty Davies, RN, BScN, MN, PhD
9:45AM - 11:00AM Poster Presentations and Coffee Break
11:15AM - 12:15PM Concurrent Sessions #1
12:15PM - 1:45PM Lunch (on your own)
1:45PM - 2:00PM Announcements
2:00PM - 3:15PM Plenary Session #3: Help us understand...Advance Care Planning Between Families, Perinatal Palliative Care, and Neonatal Care Teams: Natalia Henner-MD and Grace Knowles, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CHPPN
3:15PM - 3:30PM Break
3:30PM - 4:30PM Concurrent Sessions #2
4:30PM - 5:30PM PLIDA Membership Meeting (open to both PLIDA members and non-members)

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

6:55AM - 5:00PM Registration Open
7:00AM - 7:00PM Reflection Room
7:00AM - 8:00AM Continental Breakfast
7:30AM - 7:00PM Exhibits Open: *Exhibits will be closed during Plenary and Concurrent Sessions*
8:00AM - 8:15AM Welcome and Opening
8:15AM - 9:30AM Plenary Session #4: When the Bough Breaks: The Impact of Traumatic Childbirth: Cheryl Tatano Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN
9:30AM - 10:30AM Concurrent Sessions #3
10:45AM - 11:45AM Concurrent Sessions #4
11:45AM - 1:15PM Lunch (on your own)
1:15PM - 1:30PM Announcements
1:30PM - 2:45PM Plenary Session #5: Cradle to Grave: Perinatal Bereavement Rituals and Practices across U.S. Cultures: Erin Denney-Koelsch MD
2:45PM - 3:00PM Break
3:00PM - 4:00PM Concurrent Sessions #5
4:00PM - 4:00PM Exhibits and PLIDA Place Close
6:00PM - 8:00PM President's Reception (by invitation only)

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

7:00AM - 8:00AM Registration Opens
8:00AM - 9:00AM Continental Breakfast
9:00AM - 10:15AM Plenary Session #6: To Everything There is a Season: Honoring our Professional Journeys
Kathie Kobler, PhD, APRN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN
10:15AM - 10:30AM Conference Closing

Continuing Education Credits



PLIDA is making application for continuing education credit to include physicians, nurses, social workers, mental health professionals, genetic counselors and more.

Preconference Sessions



PRECONFERENCE SCHEDULE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

8:00AM - 9:15AM: MORNING OPENING PLenary SESSION

BALANCING COMPASSION: THE INTERSECTION OF RESPECTFUL MATERNITY CARE AND PERINATAL BEREAVEMENT: NATASHA NURSE-CLARKE, PHD, RN, FAAN

This thought-provoking plenary presentation will delve into the critical aspects of perinatal bereavement care, rooted in the 12 domains of Respectful Maternity Care (RMC) as identified by Shakibazadeh et al. in 2017. This session offers a comprehensive overview of how these domains can be seamlessly integrated to provide compassionate, dignified, and person-centered care for individuals and families navigating the painful journey of perinatal loss. Discover practical examples that showcase successful strategies as well as areas where challenges may arise, deepening your understanding of the profound impact of empathetic care during such sensitive moments. Additionally, we'll delve into the application of Guided Participation theory for teaching and Swanson's caring theory for bedside care, while highlighting exemplary practices grounded in these theories. This presentation promises to provide valuable insights into achieving respectful perinatal bereavement care, offering solace and support to those facing these difficult circumstances.

9:30AM -12:30PM: PRECONFERENCE SESSIONS #1

MEMORY MAKING AND PLANNING GROUP ACTIVITIES: ROSEMARY CARLSON, BS

This preconference presentation focuses on creative ways to honor and memorialize babies at the time of the loss, no matter the gestation of the pregnancy. Attendees will learn how to create keepsakes not only for the parents, but also grandparents and siblings. Carlson and King will share ideas for hosting meaningful memorial events as well as provide an opportunity to participate in a hands on activity you can take back to the families you serve.

LIVING IN A SNOW GLOBE OF REALITY - EXPLORING ISOLATION AND GROUNDING IN TIMES OF DEEP GRIEF- (WRITING/JOURNALING) ALANNA KNOBBEN, B.MGT.

Participants will gain a deeper awareness of isolation in grief and improved communication skills when working across teams supporting perinatal loss. Knobben will offer insights and skills for discussing experiences of isolation and reconnection after a terminal diagnosis or loss of a child.

SUPPORTING BEREAVED PARENTS EXPERIENCING PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS: SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH UPDATES, AND CARING FOR THE BEREAVED: KATHLEEN MASSMAN, PHD, LPCC

Very little is conveyed to providers in the specialty area of perinatal loss psychology which requires specific and unique training and education. This presentation will introduce these skills and allow attendees to better understand the challenges that face parents experiencing pregnancy and infant loss. Participants will gain a change in skillset, networking ability and resources identification.

THE JOURNEY PROGRAM: TRAUMA, GRIEF, AND LOSS. SUPPORTIVE CARE ACROSS SERVICE LINES AND INSTITUTIONS. BUILDING HOPE AND RESILIENCE THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY WELLNESS THERAPIES: MARQIN COOK MA-ATR, TORI CHARLES MA, ATR-P, SANDRA URIBE RN, BSN, TAMARA THRASHER, MS, ALEXANDRA PATCH RN, BSN

The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step... Lao Tzo

The Journey Program provides support across service lines to women with an unexpected and or unanticipated pregnancy course. The interdisciplinary Journey Program aims to foster hope, resilience and coping skills for the Fetal Center, antepartum and NICU populations. The program model incorporates evidence-based modalities including art therapy, music therapy, mind-body interventions and informal peer support that help attenuate trauma, grief and loss, stress, anxiety, and isolation. Building community with each other and forming trusting relationships with the healthcare team.

REMEMBRANCE PHOTOGRAPHY AS A BEST PRACTICE IN PERINATAL LOSS COMMUNITIES:

MACKENZIE MAHON, MDIV, MNA

Bereavement photography is increasingly becoming proven as a best practice for healthcare providers that deal with perinatal loss, but many providers are unsure how to offer photography and are uncomfortable and/or unskilled in carrying out the task of taking photos. This preconference session will address those issues.

CARING FOR THE FAMILY AFTER MATERNAL DEATH-ENDURING LOSS BEYOND THE WOMB:

TERRI MAJOR-KINCADE MD, MPH, FAAP

The COVID-19 Pandemic illuminated several pre-existing disparities. One of the most sobering statistics to emerge from the COVID-19 Pandemic was that of maternal mortality and morbidity. There has been little attention given to the unique bereavement needs of families experiencing maternal loss which may be further complicated by simultaneous neonatal loss. In this session the speaker aims to summarize trends related to maternal loss and highlight the unique bereavement needs of families impacted by maternal loss.

Preconference Sessions (continued)



PRECONFERENCE SCHEDULE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

2:00PM - 5:00PM: PRECONFERENCE SESSIONS #2

CONTINUING THE CONNECTIONS: STORYTELLING AND WRITING TO STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF ATTACHMENT AFTER PREGNANCY LOSS OR INFANT DEATH: LINDSEY HENKE MSW, LICSW

This preconference session discusses and teaches participants how combining the continued bonds theory with writing and storytelling narrative therapy techniques can increase the connection and attachment bereaved parents have to their deceased baby, resulting in a decrease in negative grief experiences while increasing self-care activities to build positive grieving experiences.

THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES TO WORKING WITH PERINATAL LOSS CLIENTS: A GROUNDED THEORY STUDY HEATHER OLIVIER, PH.D., LPC, PMH-C, CCTP, NCC

Due to the life-long impact of losing a child, bereaved parents incur isolation for prolonged grief responses that fall outside the bounds of cultural grief norms. Therapeutic interventions that do not address the multifaceted impact of perinatal loss pose the risk of reenacting cultural norming processes and could possibly cause more harm to the client. Participants of this session will learn how to implement multidisciplinary, relational model for perinatal loss developed to address both trauma and grief.

STORIES AND THEMES OF CULTURE AND RELIGIOUS BEREAVEMENT RITUALS AND PRACTICES: ERIN DENNEY-KOELSCH MD, BRYAN JAN MD, KATHIE KOBLER, PHD, APRN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN, DARRYL OWENS, M.DIV., BCC, CT, CPLC, ANNA CALIX

HEALING IN COMMUNITY: CREATING TRAUMA-INFORMED SUPPORT GROUP ENVIRONMENTS: CAROL MCMURRICH, MA; VICKI CULLING, PHD

It is important that new support group facilitators are aware of trauma-informed, inclusive care for parents who have experienced the loss of a baby or child. Participants in this preconference workshop will learn about trauma-informed care, experience an interactive support group environment and have an opportunity to try different approaches to support group facilitation.

HELPFUL AND HEALING PERINATAL LOSS COMMUNICATION TOOLS FROM A PARENT-CLINICIAN PERSPECTIVE: CLAIRE CRAWFORD, PHD, LMSW, APHSW-C

In this presentation, Dr. Crawford will first share her personal interactions with providers following two pregnancy losses to provide an in-depth patient perspective. She will then combine her loss experiences with her expertise as a palliative care social worker, researcher, and expert communicator to provide practical communication tools for providers to use when serving parents who are experiencing or have experienced perinatal loss. These tools will include managing expectations as parents navigate their next steps after loss, examples of language to use and avoid, detailed information to include when offering treatment options. At the end of this session, participants will feel empowered to offer helpful and healing communication as they care for patients.

MAIN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

8:30AM - 9:45AM: MORNING OPENING PLENARY SESSION

CREATING A MILIEU OF MATTERING: BETTY DAVIES, RN, BSCN, MN, PHD

Betty Davies says we learn best—and change—from hearing stories that strike a chord within us and that stories are the creative conversion of life itself into a more powerful, clearer, more meaningful experience. What has sustained her through the years is to make a terrible experience for ill children and their families as good as it can be or at least, not to make it any worse. During this plenary presentation, she will recount the evolution of her work with families and children of all cultures and her experiences with palliative care.

11:15AM - 12:15PM: CONCURRENT SESSION #1

FINDING THEIR VOICE: BUILDING COMPETENCY IN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT PERINATAL LOSS WITH CHILDREN THROUGH SCRIPTING: CATHERINE PELLETIER - MS, CCLS

Child development experts are often not available in the areas of the healthcare setting where perinatal loss care is provided. To address the problem and improve practice, this presentation focuses on a unique strategy called "scripting." Created by a child life specialist, the scripts include developmental factors for the appropriate age group as well as common questions from children. Through the availability and practicing of scripting, learners will be able to better support families experiencing perinatal loss.

THE INTERSECTION OF PERINATAL PALLIATIVE CARE AND REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE: NATALIA HENNER - MD; JESSICA FRY, MD

Perinatal palliative care broadly addresses the needs of families coping with life-limiting fetal diagnoses. Palliative care supports decision-making across the spectrum of pre- and post-natal parental choices, which we argue includes decisions around continuation of pregnancy. Perinatal palliative care specialists play an important supportive role in framing that decision, advocating for abortion access in line with evolving legal standards, and caring for families through the birth of their infants when abortion restrictions preclude that preferred choice.

Main Conference Sessions



11:15AM - 12:15PM: CONCURRENT SESSION #1 (CONTINUED)

A FRAMEWORK FOR TRAUMA INFORMED CARE THROUGHOUT THE PERINATAL LOSS EXPERIENCE:

SHANDEIGH BERRY - PH.D, MSN, RN

The adverse biopsychosocial outcomes associated with perinatal loss include a host of chronic conditions which burden not only the individual, but families, communities, and the healthcare system. Such adverse outcomes may be preventable with early and intentional trauma informed care interventions, yet healthcare professionals are often ill equipped to provide the holistic care parents require throughout the perinatal loss experience. This workshop will provide a framework with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to provide trauma informed care interventions to those experiencing perinatal loss.

FOSTERING INCLUSIVITY: CREATING SAFE SPACES FOR DIVERSE FAMILIES IN THE NICU: NATASHA NURSE-CLARKE, PHD, RN, FAAN

This concurrent presentation will focus on the essential principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). In this session, we will explore the core components of perinatal bereavement care that embrace sensitivity, respect, and support for families experiencing the profound loss of their newborns. Learn how to recognize and honor diverse cultural and religious beliefs, address language barriers, promote equity in care, create a safe and inclusive NICU environment, offer personalized support, collaborate with community organizations, and ensure staff education in cultural sensitivity. This session will empower attendees to create a more compassionate, culturally sensitive, and inclusive environment for diverse families during their most challenging moments in the NICU.

IN THE TRENCHES: WHAT TO SAY WHEN THE REPRODUCTIVE STORY GOES AWRY: KENDRA SCHAA - SCM, LGC;

JANET JAFFE - PHD

The overarching aim of this session is to introduce the concept of the reproductive story, a theoretical model that can be used by healthcare providers as a psychoeducational tool in supporting patients and families who receive unexpected news during pregnancy. Attendees will be able to utilize the concept of the reproductive story to promote post-traumatic growth.

2:00PM - 3:15PM: AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

HELP US UNDERSTAND...ADVANCE CARE PLANNING BETWEEN FAMILIES, PERINATAL PALLIATIVE CARE, AND NEONATAL CARE TEAMS: NATALIA HENNER, MD AND GRACE KNOWLES, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CHPPN

This plenary session will discuss communication of nuanced birth plans for both maternal and neonatal care teams in the case of a life-limiting diagnosis when parents want more than hospice but some limits on medical care. Henner and Knowles will describe the full scope of perinatal palliative care support so the attendees will develop competence in drafting birth plans to support infants both in hospice and concurrent care pathways.

3:30PM - 4:30PM: CONCURRENT SESSIONS #2

GRIEF AND CHILDREN: SHADOWS IN THE SUN: BETTY DAVIES, RN, BSCN, MN, PHD

Many adults, including health care professionals, are uncertain about how children grieve. As a result, adults are often at a loss as to how to be most helpful. This presentation draws on an extended program of research with siblings and families following a child's death, and on clinical experiences and personal history, to present five lessons learned about sibling bereavement that can be used in supporting grieving children, with emphasis on the conclusion that, as individual clinicians and researchers, we benefit from reflecting on our own histories and how the "end is the beginning" for each of us.

GRIEF UNPACKED: PROCESSING LOSS AND MEMORY MAKING THROUGH ART THERAPY TECHNIQUES

TORI CHARLES - MA-ATR

Therapeutic art techniques can promote healthy grieving and healing for those who experience the traumatic loss of their baby. In this presentation, participants will learn how art therapy techniques can be used to facilitate coping and offer opportunities for memory making.

SOCIAL SUPPORT AND TRAUMA SYMPTOMS REDUCTION: A MIXED - METHODS STUDY:

AGATA FREEDLE, PHD, LPC, NCC, PMH-C

Social support is considered one of the main factors contributing to positive adjustment following a traumatic event. However, receiving supportive responses after a perinatal loss may be challenging. This presentation will focus on increasing participants' understanding of evidence-based practices by discussing the latest research findings to increase participants' competence to work with diverse families experiencing perinatal loss.

SILENT SORROW: THE DOUBLE DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF FATHERS IN PREGNANCY LOSS: IRENA MILENTIJEVIC, PSY.D

Pregnancy loss is a traumatic experience that affects both mothers and fathers, however, father's grief experiences are often marginalized and unrecognized by society and healthcare providers. This session aims to shed light on the challenges faced by fathers in the aftermath of pregnancy loss and offer strategies for healthcare providers to better support fathers in their grief journey. Additionally, the session will explore the impact of pregnancy loss on couples' relationships.

THE UNSTEADY ROCK: NON-GESTATIONAL PARTNERS IN LOSS: JULIE BINDEMAN - PSY-D

When a pregnancy loss occurs in a heterosexual relationship, the focus, almost exclusively is on the person who carried the pregnancy. This holds true for those in the LGBTQ+ community, however, partners don't express loss in the same way that non-gestational parents in heterosexual relationships often do, and are often even more ignored. While there is a continuing need for research in this area, this presentation will speak to the nuances of loss within the LGBTQ+ community and what often tends to be overlooked by care providers and supporters.

MAIN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

8:15AM - 9:30AM: MORNING PLENARY SESSION

WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS: THE IMPACT OF TRAUMATIC CHILDBIRTH: CHERYL TATANO BECK, DNSC, CNM, FAAN

Up to 44% of women have experienced a traumatic childbirth. When specifically focusing on posttraumatic stress in women with a pregnancy loss as the traumatic birth, up to 45% of women reported experiencing moderate to severe posttraumatic stress symptoms. In this workshop the essential components of a traumatic birth, risk factors for developing PTSD, and the long-term impact of a traumatic childbirth on women and their families are covered. The presentation ends on a positive note with a discussion of posttraumatic growth in women who have experienced birth trauma and pregnancy loss.

9:30AM - 10:30AM: CONCURRENT SESSIONS #3

PERINATAL PALLIATIVE CARE: USEFUL LESSONS FOR PRACTICE FROM TELEHEALTH PARENT SUPPORT PILOT STUDY:

ERIN DENNEY-KOELSCH - MD, FAAH, PM; DENISE CÔTÉ-ARSENAULT, PHD, RN, CPLC, FNAP, FAAN

Much of the care provided to parents who continue their pregnancy with a life-limiting fetal diagnosis focuses on decision-making for the labor, delivery, and immediate care for the newborn. However, parent's needs extend far beyond planning for birth and neonatal intervention care. This workshop will present the guiding frameworks and principles to train care providers to support parents during pregnancy and beyond.

STORY TELLING IN THE SAND TRAY: USING SAND TRAY THERAPY TO COPE WITH PERINATAL TRAUMA AND LOSS:

LACEY FISHER, LPC-S, RPT-S, PMH-C

Mental health clinicians in the perinatal mental health community often need more modalities to use in therapy services for perinatal bereavement that supplement or extend beyond cognitive therapies or traditional talk therapy. This presentation will explore how sandtray therapy can be used to supplement other therapies that facilitate healing from trauma and loss.

WHEN THE EXPECTED IS LOST: SUPPORTIVE CARE FOLLOWING FETAL DIAGNOSIS: ELIZABETH MOORHOUSE, LCSW, PMH-C AND EMILIE LAMBERG JONES, BSW, RN, C-EFM

Individuals face a multitude of potential losses, as well as complicated decision making, following the diagnosis of a fetal health concern. Even if the pregnancy continues and the baby is expected to survive, there is the loss of the "expected" or "anticipated" pregnancy, birth experience, and health trajectory for which one may have hoped. This session will highlight the role of the social worker and nurse in providing supportive, individualized care and resources.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COLLABORATION ON THE PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS CONTINUUM: ONE HOSPITAL'S EFFORT TO PROVIDE PARALLEL CARE: MEGAN HALEY- MSN; AMY CROCHET - RN, BSN, RN-CPLC

Parallel, collaborative care across multiple units, including memory making and education, is often lacking in the hospital setting. Participants of this session will be educated on the benefits of interdepartmental collaboration as well as learn the process involved in building a collaborative pregnancy loss program.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN THEIR DECISION TO DONATE ORGANS AND TISSUE AFTER A NEWBORN DEATH

TERRI WEINMAN, D.O., F.A.A.P

This workshop encompasses how many families (in specific circumstances) who are expecting their newborn to have a shortened life expectancy can pursue donation of tissue and or organs following the death of their newborn. These discussions begin in the prenatal period and serve to support families who are already experiencing grief.

10:45AM - 11:45AM: CONCURRENT SESSIONS #4

HIDDEN HEARTACHE: USING EXPRESSIVE ARTS TO PROCESS TRAUMATIC PERINATAL GRIEF AND LOSS: HAYLEY WILDS - LPC

While grief is a natural response to loss, research indicates that traumatic loss can lead to complicated or prolonged grief. When it comes to perinatal loss, societal stigma and discomfort around the subject can influence the natural grieving process. In this session, participants will discover how expressive arts can provide a unique channel through which grieving individuals can share, process, and heal from their traumatic grief experiences.

THE IMPORTANCE OF HOW WE SUPPORT: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN PERINATAL LOSS AND BEREAVEMENT

JESSICA T. FRY, MD

The trauma inherent in perinatal loss can be complex and imbued with nuance, which may lead to ethical concerns. In this session, we will explore a variety of ethical issues that can arise during the experience of perinatal loss. Through discussion of prenatal decision-making, advance care birth planning, post-mortem support for families, and approaches to bereavement for health care professionals, we will aim to identify core ethical principles that can guide our support.

INCORPORATING ELEMENTS OF RESPECT WHEN CARING FOR PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

EXPERIENCING LOSS: SARAH COPPLE - MSN, RNC-MNN, C-ONQS; CATHERINE HILL - DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

When poor outcomes are anticipated or occur, helping to prepare parents for the birth and/or loss of their newborn should be supported by awareness, dignity, parent autonomy, shared decision-making, and informed consent. This workshop will prepare participants to formulate an individualized plan of care that supports the unique traditions and cultures of each family experiencing a loss. Additionally, strategies to integrate the elements of respect throughout bereavement and palliative care programs will be presented.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LACTATION SUPPORT AND DONATION OF MOTHER'S BREAST MILK DURING BEREAVEMENT:

DANIEL ROBINSON - MSC, MD; GRACE KNOWLES- MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, CHPPN

There is often a lack of information given to bereaved mothers about lactation and options for breast care or donation of expressed milk. This concurrent workshop will provide guidance and support for healthcare workers so they will be better able to support bereaved, lactating mothers.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND STAFF EXPERIENCING PERINATAL LOSS ONE CONVERSATION AT A TIME: AMANDA REICHERT, PHD, MS(HCA), MS(NED), RN, PT-CSP; KAREN HOYT

Nursing and chaplaincy can collaborate to provide comprehensive bereavement and family support. This presentation will discuss how this collaboration can work as well as discuss the spiritual distress of grieving parents as an essential component of the healing process. Additionally, Jean Watson's Caritas Processes will be discussed as to how they relate to providing staff support.

1:30PM - 2:45PM: PLENARY SESSION #5**CRADLE TO GRAVE: PERINATAL BEREAVEMENT RITUALS AND PRACTICES ACROSS U.S. CULTURES:****ERIN DENNEY-KOELSCH MD**

Death rituals are a universal feature of every human culture but fetal and infant death is often underestimated or ignored. In an ethnographic study of perinatal bereavement rituals across U.S. cultures, we will explore how parents from many cultural and religious backgrounds understand, grieve and process perinatal loss through stories and photos. We will offer guidance for interdisciplinary care team members in co-creating rituals and keepsakes with families surrounding perinatal loss.

**3:00PM - 4:00PM: CONCURRENT SESSIONS #5****TRAUMATIC STRESS IN CARE PROVIDERS: CHERYL TATANO BECK, DNSC, CNM, FAAN**

An occupational hazard exists for clinicians who care for persons who have been traumatized. Figley called this cost of caring secondary traumatic stress which is a syndrome of symptoms similar to PTSD that results from healthcare providers indirectly exposed to traumatic events through caring for patients who have been traumatized. It is stress that can result from helping or wanting to help a traumatized or suffering. In this workshop prevalence rates and symptom severity of secondary traumatic stress in clinicians are discussed. Specific experiences of secondary traumatic stress in labor and delivery nurses, certified nurse-midwives, and NICU nurses are detailed to illustrate the quantitative rates. Programs designed to help healthcare providers with secondary traumatic stress are identified. The workshop will end on a positive note as the possibility of posttraumatic growth in clinicians is explained.

SUPPORT WITHOUT SHAME: HONORING THE LOSS EXPERIENCED BY PREGNANCY TERMINATION: JULIE BINDEMAN - PSY-D

For the first time in nearly 50 years, abortion is illegal in a variety of states, and the landscape around providing this type of medical care is in constant flux. This learning activity will assist learners in navigating the complex maze of restrictions for all types of healthcare providers, as well as strategies to work with patients that are trying to access or have accessed abortion care.

NOT A MOMENT SPENT APART: NEWBORN COMFORT CARE PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY OF IOWA HOSPITALS & CLINICS:**SHEILA FRASCHT - RN, BSN, CHPPN, CPLC; REBECCA BENSON - MD, PH.D., FAAP**

All newborns with serious medical conditions have traditionally been admitted to NICU to allow the medical team to evaluate the baby. This created separation between the baby and parents at the most essential time of life, immediately after delivery. Recognizing the need for a change in this practice to ensure babies with brief lives would be allowed to live out every moment in the presence of their families, Frascht and Benson will identify the process of creating a new model of care for families whose babies would benefit from living out their lives in the presence of their families.

CENTRALIZING RESOURCES AND CREATING A FRAMEWORK FOR EARLY REFERRAL AND INTERVENTION WHEN A BABY DIES:**KELLY PULFORD - CCLS; LINDSEY WIMMER - RN, MSN, CPNP, CPLC**

There are many barriers for families to accessing bereavement services after their baby dies. These include limited availability, lack of appropriate support, discomfort asking for help, distrust in systems, and not knowing to access services. Creating a statewide program to provide equitable access to support services after a baby has died helps to negate these barriers; this concurrent workshop will outline the development and implementation of a community perinatal bereavement program.

MAKING FAMILY CONNECTS CHICAGO TRULY UNIVERSAL: INCLUDING BEREAVED FAMILIES IN A UNIVERSAL POSTPARTUM HOME VISITING INITIATIVE: ANNA CALIX - MPH(C)

Pregnancy loss is a known risk factor for postpartum depression (PPD). Studies show that women with low levels of social support and pregnancy loss were found to be 10 times more likely to develop PPD than women with high levels of social support. However, despite this alarming statistic and a clear need for added support, women who have experienced pregnancy loss are often excluded from postpartum initiatives. This workshop will describe a successful community program as well as identify mechanisms by which caregivers interacting with families in their community can meet their needs.

MAIN CONFERENCE CLOSING: SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024**9:00AM - 10:15AM: PLENARY CLOSING SESSION****TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON: HONORING OUR PROFESSIONAL JOURNEYS****KATHIE KOBLER, PHD, APRN, PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN**

Our work of caring for others unfolds in an ongoing rhythm of giving forth and drawing in, of holding close and letting go, mirroring the ever-shifting seasons. This experiential closing session will provide participants the opportunity to pause, regroup, and connect on their professional journeys using season-focused reflection and ritual.

Poster Presenters



Interconception Care in the Perinatal Loss Population

Barbara A. Julion DNP MSN RN

The Benefits of Retreats and Self-Care Activities for Grieving Parents

Carrie Hay and MaryBess Gordon

Asian-American Parent Responses to Pregnancy and Infant Loss

Bryan Jan, M.D., M.S. and Erin Denney-Koelsch, M.D., FAAHPM

The Rainbow Clinic: Specialized Care for Families Expecting Again after Perinatal Loss

Samantha Banerjee, Fernanda Sheridan, Elizabeth O'Donnell

Experiences of Pregnancy after Perinatal Death: A metasynthesis

Hamdi Abdi, MPH; Khadijat Adeleye, RN, MSN; Joanne O'Leary, PhD, MPH, MS, IM-ER(IV)

"S.O.S." Support Our Staff: A Coordinated Response for Staff Distress

Judy B. Friedrichs DNP, RN, Kimberly Sangster, PhD, MDiv, LCSW, Cynthia Hays, PhD

'We can't play with them, but we can play for them.' Perinatal bereavement support for fathers.'

Kerry Jones, PhD; Martin Robb, PhD; Samantha Murphy, PhD

Innovative Grief Navigation and Social Determinate of Health Support Program Following Perinatal Loss

Susan Rizzato, MSW, LCSW; Kristin James, LCPC; Kelly Michelson, MD, MPH ; Kimberly Downing, RN, JD

Creating Space to Heal: Supporting Staff Grief Through a Time of Remembrance and Reflection

Kim Sangster, PhD, MDiv, LCSW; Mackenzie Mahon, MDiv

Pregnancy After Loss App - Week-by-Week Support for PAL Parents in Their Pockets

Lindsey M. Henke, MSW, LICSW

Miscarriage Care Across an Interprofessional Team

Angelica Quezada, LCSW

Building Relationships to Improve Perinatal Outcomes

Lindsey Wimmer, RN, MSN, CPNP, CPLC

Occupational Impact of Experiencing a Perinatal Loss: A Qualitative Descriptive Study

Kiley Hanish, OTD, OTR/L; Amanda O'Donnell, OTD

Supporting Families on Their Perinatal Palliative Care and Bereavement Journey: Lessons Learned from the Angel Watch Home-Visitation Program

Amelia Hopkin, LCSW, PMH-C; Jaylynn Olson, LCSW

Stay Connected with the IPBC App

The IPBC app gives you access to all of the must-have details right at your fingertips!

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AVAILABLE SOON!



Welcome Reception



For the first time in IPBC history, the Welcome Reception will be included with each main conference registration! All registered conference attendees are invited to join us the evening of Wednesday, May 15th at the IPBC host Drake Hotel to meet, engage and mingle with fellow attendees. This is the perfect opportunity for attendees to network, reconnect, and get acquainted in the beautiful hotel with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

**Should you wish to invite guests tickets are available for purchase through conference registration. Exhibitors are welcome to attend and can purchase tickets through their exhibitor application.*



Network . Reconnect . Community .

May 15, 2024
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

President's Reception

We are pleased to bring back an opportunity to attend a special President's Reception at IPBC 2024 in Chicago, IL honoring four well known perinatal bereavement pioneers:



**Betty Davies, RN,
BScN, MN, PhD**



**Cheryl Tatano Beck,
DNSc, CNM, FAAN**



**Terri Major-Kincade MD,
MPH, FAAP**



**Kathie Kobler, PhD, APRN,
PCNS-BC, CHPPN, FPCN, FAAN**



**Marianne Hutti, PhD,
WHNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN**

This special event is an intimate gathering designed to provide a time and space in a relaxed environment to honor these pioneers who have helped make traumatic grief, health equity, ethics, perinatal and neonatal palliative care essential to the understanding of perinatal bereavement, founded internationally recognized education and services for the bereaved and those who care for them, established significant programs of research, and worked within national organizations to create innovations to credentialing. All have made significant contributions to the literature and clinical practice.

Those who register early for IPBC 2024 will be entered into a random drawing for the opportunity to attend this special event!

Chicago Attractions

The options are endless in Chicago! If you're going for the first time, you'll want to hit up all the classics. Or, if you're a local or frequent Chicago visitor, you still have plenty to see and do!

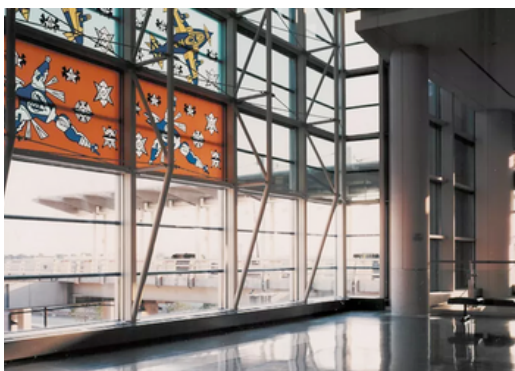
UNION STATION



MUSEUMS AND AQUARIUM



AIRPORTS



SHOPPING AND NIGHTLIFE



RESTAURANTS



THEATER



SIGHT SEEING



SPORTS



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost of parking at The Drake?

Overnight Valet Parking is \$75 with 24 hour access available. Overnight Self- Parking is available at our parking partner's covered garage across the street at the 900 N. Michigan shops. Cost is \$53 per night with in and out privileges and validated for up until 2pm day of check-out with validation of your self-parking ticket at the front desk.

What is the International Perinatal Bereavement Conference?

Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Alliance (PLIDA) offers this international conference biennially as an opportunity for networking and gaining education for those who support bereaved families.

Who can earn continuing education?

CE credits are available for physicians, nurses, social workers, mental health professionals, genetic counselors and more.

Who is the conference audience?

This conference will appeal to any professional who provides care to families experiencing a perinatal death or who engages in research in the field including obstetricians, maternal fetal medicine physicians, neonatologists, palliative care physicians, advanced practice nurses, midwives, physician assistants, nurses, social workers, genetic counselors, ultrasonographers, chaplains, funeral directors, childlife specialists, lactation consultants, psychologists, childbirth educators, policy makers, program administrators, researchers, professors, and parent advocates, among many others. In addition, bereaved parents, themselves, participate in the conference in the role of parent advocates who may work in advocacy, lay support and who may hold a dual role as both patient and researcher or practitioner.

Where do attendees pick-up their badge and convention materials?

All conference activities will be held onsite at The Drake Hotel Chicago. Look for the registration table!

This is my first conference. Will there be an opportunity to meet others?

Yes! We are excited you're here. We will have designated tables at breakfast and lunch that allow for "newbies" to connect with other first time attendees, and veteran attendees.

Does full conference registration rate include the preconference options?

No, the preconference options are selected on the registration form and paid for according to the amount listed.

What does registration include?

- Admission to the Welcome Reception
- Access to all plenary and concurrent presentations. Please note that Wednesday preconference sessions are an additional fee.
- Access to exhibit hall, poster presentations, and quiet reflection room
- Access to written materials provided by the presenters
- Free Wi-Fi throughout the conference space
- Continental breakfast and coffee breaks

What type of experience can an attendee expect at the conference?

The conference provides enriching presentations combined with networking, visiting with old friends, making new friends and connections, and enjoying the attractions in Denver. Centrally located with an international airport, there truly is something for everyone.

What is the dress code?

Business casual. You may want to consider dressing in layers to account for the transition from air-conditioned meeting rooms to the outdoor areas of The Drake Chicago.

What is the contact information for PLIDA?

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www.plida.org