



# The Office of the Child’s Representative

## *Youth Have a Voice, Youth Have a Choice*

### AGENDA

August 13, 2021	9:00—10:30 a.m.	<p><b>Welcome</b> <i>Chris Henderson, OCR Executive Director</i></p> <p><b>Engaging and Empowering Youth Panel: Meaningful Contact, Youth Court Attendance and Participation, and GAL/Counsel Representation</b> <i>Lindsay Saunders-Velez   OCR’s Lived Experts Action Panel</i> <i>Elizabeth Arrieta   OCR’s Lived Experts Action Panel</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Cara Nord, OCR Staff Attorney</i></p>
	10:30—11:00 a.m.	■ <i>Break</i>
	11:00—12:00 p.m.	<p><b>A Call to Action to End Unjust, Unnecessary, and Disproportionate Removal of Black Children from Their Families (EDI credit)</b> <i>Shereen A. White, Senior Staff Attorney   Children’s Rights, Inc.</i></p>
	12:00—1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch &amp; Awards Ceremony   Awards: 12:20pm-1:10pm</b>
	1:30—2:45 p.m.	<p><b>Breakout A:</b> <b>Foster Youth Transition Program (Ethics credit)</b> <i>Sheri Danz, OCR Deputy Director</i> <i>Ashley Chase, OCR Staff Attorney &amp; Legislative Liaison</i></p> <p><b>Breakout B:</b> <b>Engaging with Parents through Relational Advocacy</b> <i>Rick Barinbaum, LMSW   Child Advocacy Law Clinic, University of Michigan</i> <i>Melissa Jensen, Esq., Guardian ad litem</i></p> <p><b>Breakout C:</b> <b>Appellate Hot Topics: Jurisdictional Issues, Current Trends &amp; Tips for Avoiding Appellate Pitfalls</b> <i>Josi McCauley, Esq., Guardian ad litem   OCR Appellate Litigation Support</i> <i>Gina Bischofs, Esq., Guardian ad litem   OCR Appellate Litigation Support</i></p>
	2:45—3:15 p.m.	■ <i>Break</i>



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August 13, 2021	3:15 —4:30 p.m.	<p><b>Breakout D:</b> <b>LGBTQ IA+ Youth....What You Need to Know</b> <i>Meryl Franklin, MA, LCSW, Youth Services Director   Center on Colfax-Rainbow Alley</i> <i>Em Moratto, Manager of Youth Services   Center on Colfax-Rainbow Alley</i></p> <p><b>Breakout E:</b> <b>Families Over Facilities: Ending the Use of Harmful and Unnecessary Institutions and Other Group Facilities in Child Welfare Systems</b> <i>Ira Lustbader, Chief Program Officer   Children's Rights, Inc.</i></p> <p><b>Breakout F:</b> <b>2021 Case Law &amp; Legislative Update</b> <i>Sheri Danz, OCR Deputy Director</i> <i>Ashley Chase, OCR Staff Attorney &amp; Legislative Liaison</i></p>
		<p><b>Thank You For Joining Us!</b></p>