



**American Humane's**

**2006 Conference  
on Differential  
Response in  
Child Welfare**

November 12-14, 2006  
Marriott Mission Valley  
San Diego, CA



**[www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org)**

## **Background on Differential Response in Child Welfare**

Since the mid-1990s, an increasing number of states have been implementing differential response in their child protective services systems. Differential response, also referred to as “dual track,” “multiple track,” or “alternative response,” is an approach that allows child protective services to respond differently to accepted reports of child abuse and neglect, based on such factors as the type and severity of the alleged maltreatment, the number of previous reports, the source of the report and the willingness of the parents to participate in services. While there is great variation among the states’ implementation of differential response, it generally is applied to low- and moderate-risk cases with no immediate safety concerns. Those cases are provided a family assessment and offered timely, strengths-based services without a formal determination or substantiation of child abuse and neglect. The child protection investigative response is reserved for accepted reports that are high-risk and may involve egregious harm to children. While the ability to offer choices in how agencies respond to reports of child maltreatment intuitively makes sense, implementing such a child protective services system is a complex and intricate proposition.

This conference aims to build knowledge, disseminate ongoing practices and provide a platform for cross-fertilization and exchange across states and counties on a range of topics related to implementing differential response in child welfare.

### **Target Areas**

- Community Partnerships
- Practice with Children and Families
- Workforce Issues
- Policy Issues
- Sustainability
- Research and Evaluation Issues

### **Certificates of Attendance and Continuing Education Credits**

Continuing education credits are available for professionals engaged in the field of social work. Only one certificate will be awarded reflecting the total number of continuing education credits acquired. Individual conference sessions that are approved for credit and attended in their entirety will garner one continuing education unit for each hour of presentation. Partial units will be given in quarter of an hour increments.

To sign up in advance, please check the appropriate box on the registration form. This will ensure that complete instructions and sign-in and sign-out sheets will be included in your registration packet.

### **Co-Sponsors and Collaborators**

We thank more than 10 prominent local, state, and national child- and family- serving organizations who are supporting this conference.

## 2006 Conference on Differential Response in Child Welfare

### Sunday, November 12

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#### **5:00 – 6:30 PM      Pre-Conference Session**

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Breakthrough Series Collaborative: A Promising Approach to Differential Response Implementation

*Kate Welty, Child and Family Policy Institute of California, San Jose, CA*

### Monday, November 13

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#### **7:00 AM              Registration Opens**

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#### **7:00 – 8:30 AM      Breakfast Buffet**

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#### **8:30 – 8:45 AM      Welcome and Introductions**

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*Sonia Velazquez, Vice President, Children's Services, American Humane*

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#### **8:45 – 9:45 AM      Keynote Address**

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#### **Differential Response: Reclaiming the Roots of Child Protection?**

*Patricia Schene, Ph.D., Independent Consultant, Littleton CO*

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#### **10:00 – 11:45 AM    Workshops**

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#### **Streamlining Practice to Avoid Silos, Politics, and Turf Wars**

*Lori Clarke Balzano, Convergent Horizons in Child Welfare and Family Support, San Diego, CA*

#### **New Times Call for New Measures: California's Innovative Approach to Differential Response Implementation**

*Nancy R. Goodman, Child Welfare Policy and Program Development Bureau, Sacramento, CA; Miryam Choca, Casey Family Programs, San Diego, CA; Kate Welty, Child and Family Policy Institute of California, San Jose, CA; Marian Kubiak, Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Sacramento, CA; and Karen Parker, Sacramento County Children's Services, Sacramento, CA*

**Family Poverty, Chronic Neglect and Differential Response**

*L. Anthony Loman, Institute of Applied Research, St. Louis, MO*

**Trends in Differential Response in Child Welfare:  
Results from the 2006 National Survey**

*Lisa Merkel-Holguin, American Humane Association, Englewood, CO; and  
Caren Kaplan, Child Welfare League of America, Washington, DC*

**Sustaining the Reform:  
How to Keep a Good Idea from Going Bad**

*Erin Sullivan Sutton, David Thompson, and Carole Johnson, Child Safety  
and Permanency – Minnesota Department of Human Services, St. Paul, MN*

**Community Partnerships with Family Resource Centers**

*Christine Soeth and Janette Mondon, Stanislaus County Community  
Services Agency, Modesto, CA; and Tammy Felix, Ceres Partnership for  
Healthy Children, Ceres, CA*

**Practice and Partnership with Children  
and Families During Multiple Response**

*Richard Paige Wright, Guilford County Department of Social Services, High  
Point, NC*

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**12:00 – 1:30 PM      Lunch On Your Own**

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**1:45 – 2:30 PM      General Session**

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**2:45 – 4:30 PM      Workshops**

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**Implementing the Comprehensive Assessment Tool and  
Differential Response in California: Impacts on Child Safety,  
Family Strength, and Worker Effectiveness**

*Ursula Bischoff and Jonathan Wilwerding, The SPHERE Institute,  
Burlingame, CA; and Patrick Harrington, Vallejo, CA*

**Law, Policy, and the Implementation Results  
of Differential Response**

*Myles Edwards and Kathleen Tinworth, American Humane Association,  
Englewood, CO*

**Building Partnerships for Differential Response**

*Lori Jones and Michelle Love, Alameda County Social Services Agency,  
Hayward and Oakland, CA*

**The Point of Engagement Service Model**

*Eric Marts, Blanca Vega, and Marilynne Garrison, Department of Children and Family Services, Los Angeles County, Los Angeles and Compton, CA*

**Using Differential Response to Achieve System Reform in Child Welfare**

*Sara Anderson Mims and Holly Link McNeill, NC Division of Social Services, Raleigh, NC; and Betty Kelly, Guilford County Department of Social Services, Greensboro, NC*

**Integrating Domestic Violence Intervention into Child Welfare Practice**

*Rob Sawyer and Sue Lohrbach, Olmsted County Community Services, Rochester, MN*

**Early Intervention Services: Strengthening Families Through Voluntary Child Welfare Services**

*Russell Stouffer, Jean Broadnax, and Julie R. Morales, Jefferson County Division of Children Youth and Families, Golden, CO*

**5:30 PM Reception**

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**Tuesday, November 14**

**8:00 AM Registration Opens**

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**9:15 – 11:00 AM Workshops**

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**Implementation of California’s Differential Response Model in Small Counties**

*Walter Furman, Todd Franke, Sofya Bagdasaryan, and Khush Cooper, UCLA Department of Social Welfare, Los Angeles, CA*

**Applying a Differential Response Model to Teens and Parents in Critical Need of Assistance**

*Jessica R. Kendall, ABA Center on Children and the Law, Washington, DC*

**Beyond the Rhetoric: Developing a High Performance Partnership Between Family Support and Child Welfare Agencies**

*Annette Marcus, Strategies, Region 2, Interface Children Family Services, Camarillo, CA; and Judi Sherman, Strategies, Region 2, Interface Children Family Services, Ben Lomond, CA*

**Partnership for Safety's Sake**

*Lisa Pollack, Min-no-aya-win Human Services, Fond du Lac Band of the Chippeway, Cloquet, MN; Sue Wojciehowski, Rural Women's Advocates of Carlton County, Carlton, MN; and Russell Rowenhorst, Carlton County Public Health and Human Services, Cloquet, MN*

**A New Assessment Tool for Differential Response**

*Ray Kirk, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill; and Priscilla Martens, National Family Preservation Network, Buhl, ID*

**Sex, Drugs, Domestic Violence:**

**Bringing Them All to the Table**

*Katie Swanson and Jennifer Miller, Catawba County Department of Social Services, Newton, NC*

**The Six Principles of Partnership:**

**North Carolina's Foundation for Differential Response**

*Patricia White, Dan Comer, and Courtney Smith, Appalachian Family Innovations, Morganton, NC*

**Engaging Community Partners from Intake to Path 3**

*Phyllis Braiotta, David Platt, Carmen Saldivar and Debby Jeter, San Luis Obispo County, San Luis Obispo, CA*

**11:15 – 1:15 PM      Lunch**

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**Panel Presentation: Lessons from the States  
on the Implementation of Differential Response**

*David Thompson, Program Manager, Child Safety and Permanency Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services; Walter Fahr, Child Welfare Specialist V, Office of Community Services, State of Louisiana; and Mary Ault, Deputy Director, Children and Family Services Division, California Department of Social Services*

**1:30 – 3:00 PM      Workshops**

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**Florida Re-Examines Alternative Response  
in a Privatized System**

*Maria B. Leon, Office of Family Safety, Florida Department of Children and Families, Tallahassee, FL; and Barry Salovitz, Child Welfare Institute, Glenmont, NY*

**The Nuts and Bolts of Working Together: Preparation Meets Opportunity – A Semi Rural County Perspective**

*Mike McIver, Patti Morelli, and Maureen Laney, Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services (Children's Services), Oroville, CA; George Siler, Youth for Change, Paradise, CA; Bob Michels, Northern Valley Catholic Social Service, Chico, CA; Lee Wood, Butte County Office of Education, Oroville, CA; and Anastacia L. Snyder, Catalyst Domestic Violence Services, Chico, CA*

**Building Community Capacity**

*Deborah Moss, Contra Costa County Children & Family Services (CFS), Martinez, CA*

**Alternative Responses to Traditional Investigations: Findings from NCANDS**

*Mary Jo Ortiz and Gila R. Shusterman, Walter R. McDonald & Associates, Inc., Sacramento, CA and Rockville, MD, respectively*

**A Minnesota Experience with Partnership-Based Collaborative Practice**

*Rob Sawyer and Sue Lohrbach, Olmsted County Community Services, Rochester, MN*

**Massachusetts Department of Social Services – Working with Families Right from the Start: Massachusetts Using an Alternative Approach to Design Policy**

*Isa Woldegiorguis, Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Boston, MA*

**3:15 – 4:30 PM Federal Policy Forum and Closing**

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*Representatives of the Children's Bureau, DHHS, Washington, D.C.*

## Registration Information

If paying by credit card or purchase order, fax your registration to American Humane (Attn: Candy Larue) at 303-858-0871. If paying by check, fax your registration form to American Humane, Attn: Candy Larue (303-858-0871) and mail the original form, along with payment, to:

### **American Humane**

Attn: Differential Response Conference  
Dept. Number 1108  
Denver, CO 80256-1108

### **Questions**

Questions about registration or hotel should be directed to Candy Larue at 303-925-9440. For program related questions, please contact Lisa Merkel-Holguin at [lisa@americanhumane.org](mailto:lisa@americanhumane.org).

### **Cancellations**

Request for refunds must be received in writing no later than November 1, 2006. A service fee of \$75 will be charged for all cancellations received before November 1. Cancellations after this date will be charged one-half the conference registration fee.

## General Information

### **Conference Site and Accommodations**

The Marriott Mission Valley is located at 8757 Rio San Diego Drive. Located 8 miles from the San Diego airport and near three major interstate highways, the Marriott is easily accessible to participants.

American Humane is offering a conference rate of \$141 for single/double; \$151 for triple; and \$161 for quad occupancy. Call 1-800-842-5329 by Oct. 13, 2006, to make your reservations directly with the hotel and guarantee this conference room rate. Be sure to identify yourself as being with the American Humane conference to ensure receiving this rate. Reservations may also be made online by going directly to the hotel's website, [www.marriott.com/sanmv](http://www.marriott.com/sanmv). Enter the arrival and departure dates and then type "ahsahsa" into the Group Code box.

### **Air Travel**

San Diego International Airport is located 8 miles from the Marriott Mission Valley and is served by over 20 airlines. Please make your reservations directly with your preferred carrier.

## **Shuttle, Car Rentals and Taxi Cabs**

You have a number of transportation options to reach the conference site:

### **Shuttle**

Shuttle vans and buses operated by off-airport companies are a popular and convenient transportation option. Shuttle service is available at the Transportation Plazas across from Terminals 1 and 2, and curbside at the Commuter Terminal. From Terminal 1 you must cross the skybridge, and take either the escalators or the elevators to street level. From Terminal 2, cross the Terminal 2 skybridge and take either the escalators or the elevators to street level, or use the pedestrian crosswalk conveniently located outside the Terminal 2 Baggage Claim Area to access the Transportation Plaza. A Transportation Coordinator will place you with the first available shuttle, unless you specify a particular shuttle company.

### **Car Rentals**

The San Diego area is one of the most beautiful in Southern California. If you want to explore the surrounding area, consider renting a car. Advantage, Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty all have car rentals available from the San Diego airport. Car rental reservation boards are located near the baggage claim areas of Terminals 1 and 2. Use the courtesy phones provided to request shuttle transport to the car rental company of your choice. Please note that using a reservation board is not always necessary. Car rental shuttles regularly operate at the Terminal 1 center traffic aisle and at the traffic island at the far west end of Terminal 2. If you follow the signs to any of these areas, it is likely that a shuttle will be waiting.

### **Taxi Cabs**

Many companies provide taxicab service at San Diego International Airport. If you need a taxi, simply follow the signs leading to the Transportation Plazas. A Transportation Coordinator will place you with the first available taxi, unless you specify a particular taxicab company. The cost from the airport to the hotel is approximately \$22 each way.

### **Directions to the Marriott Mission Valley from the Airport**

Take Harbor Drive to Hwy 5 North. Take Hwy 8 East, and exit on the left on Qualcomm Way. Turn right on Rio San Diego Drive. The hotel is on your right.

### **Parking Rates**

**Daily Self Parking:** \$3 for the first hour; \$2 every hour after up to a maximum of \$13; overnight Guest Self Parking is \$13 per day.

### **Weather and Attire**

San Diego enjoys beautiful weather year-round with an average daily temperature of 70.5 degrees (21.4 degrees Celsius). Average temperatures in November range from daytime highs around 70 degrees and evening lows of 54. American Humane recommends business casual attire for this event. Please dress comfortably and in layers.

## About San Diego

San Diego is renowned for its idyllic climate, 70 miles of pristine beaches and a dazzling array of world-class family attractions. Popular attractions include the world-famous San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, Sea World San Diego and LEGOLAND California. San Diego offers an expansive variety of things to see and do, appealing to guests of all ages from around the world.

San Diego's arts, culture and culinary arts are booming. The hottest, new culinary arts talents prepare award-winning meals throughout the region's 6,400 eating establishments. Balboa Park, the largest urban cultural park in the U.S., is home to 15 museums, numerous art galleries, beautiful gardens and the Tony Award-winning Globe Theatre.

The most difficult decision to make regarding a vacation to San Diego is determining what to do and see among the region's vast and diverse offerings. To learn more about San Diego and its many attractions, visit [www.sandiego.org](http://www.sandiego.org).



## About the American Humane Association

The American Humane Association is a 129-year-old national nonprofit 501(c)3 organization with the unique mission of protecting both children and animals from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

American Humane is dedicated to creating an aware and caring society and to supporting the systems, agencies, communities and individuals that care about vulnerable children and families.

Headquartered in Denver, with regional offices in Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, the American Humane Association has decades of recognized leadership in child welfare that has advanced and strengthened practice and policy nationally. American Humane's Children's Services is guided by four key objectives: increasing the abilities, knowledge and effectiveness of child- and family-serving professionals and agencies; enhancing the community's capacity to respond effectively to the needs of vulnerable children and families; improving the information and programmatic capacities of public and private child- and family-serving agencies to enable them to respond effectively to child abuse and neglect; and facilitating a concerted national response to the problem of child maltreatment.

Over the last 20 years, American Humane has provided technical assistance domestically in all 50 states, and has lent assistance internationally in numerous countries in areas related to child welfare policy and practice, strengths-based and culturally competent practice, training and staff development, research and evaluation, child welfare system advancements, and organizational improvement.

## Differential Response Conference Registration Form

A separate registration form is required for each person attending. (Please print or type)

Dr.    Mr.    Mrs.    Miss    Ms.

Name (for name tag): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If you need special accommodations or meals, please indicate here how we might accommodate you: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees:** Your registration fee covers conference materials, all sessions, and breakfast Monday, lunch Tuesday and a Monday evening reception.

**American Humane Member Discount:** American Humane members receive about a 15% discount on registration for American Humane's conferences. (Discount applies to a maximum of FOUR staff members per event for agencies.) Visit [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org) to join or simply add it to this registration.

<b>Registration Type</b>	<b>Member Fee</b>	<b>Non-Member</b>
<i>Please circle the fee amount you are including in your registration purchase.</i>		
<b>Early Registration</b> <i>(received by Sept. 15, 2006)</i> .....	\$ 290 .....	\$ 330
<b>Advance Registration</b> <i>(received between Sept. 16 &amp; Nov. 1, 2006)</i> .....	\$ 335 .....	\$ 380
<b>On-Site Conference Registration</b> <i>(received on or after Nov. 2, 2006)</i> .....	\$ 365 .....	\$ 430
<b>I would like to become a member of American Humane</b> .....	Individual - \$59 .....	Agency - \$119

**TOTAL FEE:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like Continuing Education Units** (you will be notified of any charge) **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Pay by credit card or include your check or purchase order when submitting this form. Make checks payable to American Humane.

Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_ Do you require an invoice sent? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card:  Visa    MasterCard    Discover    AMEX

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address for credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on the card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Fax or mail your completed registration form, along with your conference registration payment to: 303-858-0871 or American Humane Association, Attn: Conference on Differential Response, Dept. Number 1108, Denver, CO 80256-1108



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Englewood, CO 80112

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