

September 27, 2023 – The 2023 CFCC Symposium, held on Sept. 27, focused on “The Harm of Removal to Children, Parents, and Communities.” The keynote speaker was Sixto Cancel, the founder and CEO of Think of Us, Think of You (TOU), a research and design lab driving systematic change in child welfare policy and practice. Cancel has been named to Forbes list of Top 30 Under 30 Social Entrepreneurs and recognized as a White House Champion of Change. He has served as a Young Fellow at Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative since 2010, where he has played a key role in the initiative’s work of extending foster care permanency for older youth. Cancel’s tireless advocacy is informed by his own experience of the foster care system.

September 26, 2023 – The Pre-Symposium Book Talk, held on Sept. 26, featured three symposium panelists discussing critical issues and perspectives informing this year’s symposium through the lens of their books: *Confronting the Racist Legacy of the American Child Welfare System: The Case for Abolition* (Oxford University Press 2023) by Alan J. Dettlaff, professor and former dean of the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work; *The End of Family Court: How Abolishing the Court Brings Justice to Children and Families* (NYU Press 2023) by Jane Spinak, the Edward Ross Aranow Clinical Professor of Law Emerita at Columbia Law School; and *A Child of the Indian Race: A Story of Return* (Minnesota Historical Society Press 2022) by Sandy White Hawk, director of healing programs at the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

July 21, 2023 – CFCC executive director Aubrey Edwards-Luce joined her colleagues on National Hidden Foster Care Work Group at the Library of Congress for a briefing breakfast, along with CFCC staff. The event was honorarily co-hosted by leadership from the bipartisan congressional caucus on foster youth. Chairwoman Representative Gwen Moore provided opening remarks as did Co-Chair Representative Mary Gay Scanlon. Aubrey Edwards-Luce, detailed her experience with hidden foster care as a caregiver for her goddaughter and her sister. She also recommended that federal legislation include an opportunity for you to have a voice in creation the arrangements and the services they might need.

June 21, 2023 - CFCC hosted a TCP Judges’ Luncheon to celebrate the end of the school year, and awarded the Anthony “Bubba” Green Star Player Award to the Hon. Miriam Hutchins (ret.).

May 4, June 7, and June 14, 2023 - Members of CFCC and the TCP team gave virtual presentations on how to operate the Truancy Court Program for judges and providers from Pima County, Arizona; for the Truancy Reduction Program: Show Up, Stand out (SUSO) with the District of Columbia Government, Executive Office of the Mayor; and to Pupil Personnel Workers (PPWs) from Carroll County, Maryland.

June 14–15, 2023 - Shanta Trivedi presented her paper, “Am I Still a Parent? The Harms to Parents when their Children Are Removed,” at the 2023 Family Law Scholars & Teachers Conference (FLSTC) at Boston College Law School. Shanta is currently co-chairing the FLSTC with Professor Meghan Boone (Wake Forest University).

June 1 and 2, 2023 - CFCC Faculty Director Shanta Trivedi participated in the Annual Meeting on Law and Society in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

*On June 1, she served as a reader in an Author Meets Reader Session for the books *Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families "and" How Abolition Can Build a Better World* by Dorothy Roberts (University of Pennsylvania) and *Prosecuting Poverty, Criminalizing Care*, by Wendy A. Bach (University of Tennessee) chaired by Professor Emerita Nancy Polikoff (American University). Other readers included:*

Amna Akbar (The Ohio State University)

Kelley Fong (University of California, Irvine)

Tina Lee (University of Wisconsin-Stout)

Priscilla Ocen, (Loyola Law School, Los Angeles)

Jane Spinak (Columbia Law School)

*On June 2, she participated in a roundtable entitled *Focusing on Families: Centering Lived Experience in Teaching Family Policing*, with Joyce McMillan of JMac for Families and Professors Dorothy Roberts (University of Pennsylvania), Sarah Katz (Temple University) and Sarah Lorr (Brooklyn Law School).*

May 2023 - TCP held pizza and donut parties for spring graduates at our five schools this term. Graduates either (1) decreased their absences/tardies by at least 65% or (2) improved their grades to at least passing in two or more core classes. TCP's graduation rate for the spring session was 79%. Read TCP Coordinator Rohina Zavala's full end-of-year TCP wrapup article on [CFCC's blog](#).

April 24, 2023 - TCP partnered with Global Gardens to present a workshop led by four Baltimore City Public School high school students for 20 Park Heights Academy students (grades 3 through 5) on the effects of global warming and how kids can help. Students were given a pot, soil, and herb seeds to plant as part of the workshop. This event was a collaboration with My Box, which provides educational gifts to hospitalized children, children home with Covid, and chronically absent children.

April, 2023 - CFCC collected approximately 100 books from the community to donate to TCP students who were interested in improving their reading skills. Per the request of the students, the majority of the donations were for the Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Goosebumps series.

March 29 – April 4, 2023 - Thanks to the generous support of CFCC friends, the Truancy Court Program (TCP) team was able to distribute 27 spring break food baskets to 23 families, including one family of 11 people who received 3 baskets and another multi-generational household that received 2 baskets. Each basket included approximately \$40 of groceries and an assortment of age-appropriate games for the student(s) to help support families during spring break. The groceries consisted of easy-to-make meals, non-perishable goods, fresh fruit, and plenty of snacks. Age-appropriate activities ranged from playing cards to board games and activity books.

March 30, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi presented at a University of Connecticut School of Law symposium entitled “Are Parental Rights Always in the Best Interest of Children? Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Conflict over Parental Rights.”

March 23, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi conducted a virtual training for the Judicial Council of California on the harm of removal.

March 21, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi participated in a judicial training coordinated by Hon. Cathy Serrette entitled “Cultural Considerations in Family Law,” with Maria Nenutzka Villamar, Dr. Denise McCain, and Nolanda Kirby.

March 10, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi presented her paper “The Adoption and Safe Families Act Should Not Be Salvaged: The Case for Repeal” at the Poverty Law Conference at University of California Berkeley School of Law.

March 7, 2023 – CFCC Faculty Director Shanta Trivedi participated in a discussion of Daniel L. Hatcher’s book *Injustice, Inc.: How America’s Justice System Commodifies Children and the Poor*” (University of California Press), at Red Emma’s in Baltimore. The C-Span video of that event is available [here](#).

February 9, 2023 – Rebecca Stahl presented the training “Trauma-Informed Practices for Legal Professionals” at the Pro Bono Resource Center in Baltimore.

February 7, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi moderated a webinar for the UB Law in Focus Series, “[Is the Indian Child Welfare Act Unconstitutional?](#)”

January 27, 2023 – CFCC Executive Director Rebecca Stahl presented the webinar “Vicarious Trauma and Judges’ Self Care” at the Administrative Office of the Courts.

January 20, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi presented her paper “How Asking for Help Harms Survivors” at the Centering Family Violence Roundtable at the University of Virginia School of Law.

January 17, 2023 – CFCC and the Center for Criminal Justice Reform co-hosted a discussion of Kristin Henning’s new book *The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth*. Henning is the Blume Professor of Law and director of the Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative at Georgetown Law.

January 12, 2023 – Shanta Trivedi conducted a custody training for the Office of the Public Defender, Parent Defense Division.