

Meeting Notes

1. The meeting was not recorded as per guidance from NCFR conference committee.
2. The meeting started with participants briefly introducing themselves, their institutional affiliations, and personal and/or professional interests in adoption and/or foster care. The list of participants above was captured and adapted from the Google sheet meeting attendees were encouraged to complete; (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fd4_LJyI5yFfhfDG7SM9kKvGnh3vXZ37AmgSCPDNhA/edit?usp=sharing). The Chairs, Cheryl Fortner and Rachel Farr, started the introductions briefly mentioning their interests and expertise. Here are some highlights from other participants' areas of interest.
 - a) Reihonna Frost-Clark – Research on siblings, race, the sliding definition of race, and photo listings
 - b) Morgan Cooley – foster families, mental health of foster youth, child advocates and Guardians ad Litem
 - c) Krystal Cashen – emerging adults as parents, new adoptees
 - d) Jennifer Newquist – particularly interested in how people choose adoption and why
 - e) Jacquelyn Mallette – co-parenting, studying foster parents/bio parents and new ways to look at co-parenting relationships
 - f) Kay Simon – LGBTI+ families, adoption communities and racial ethnic identity
 - g) Abbie Goldberg – LGBT parent families; child welfare professionals, how dealing with reunification with birth parents that is delayed because of COVID
 - h) Katie Hrapczynski – transracial adoption processes that influence adolescent development, efficacy of Symbolic Interactionism (SI) as a model for understanding the path to adoptive parenthood
 - i) Bethany Willis-Hepp – multiple adoption research projects in addition to SI project mentioned by Katie; including historical case study of adoptive-married family, 10-year follow-up with adoptees
 - j) Kelly Munly – (was in TCRM), adults in foster care; adult foster care workers; strengths-based approaches to helping in a challenging system, state agencies
3. Many opportunities for collaboration were mentioned during our networking and collaboration brainstorming discussion. Here are a few examples.
 - i) Potential AFC sessions consistent with NCFR's 2021 theme could include strengths-based approaches to understanding and supporting adoptive and foster families as well as reunification with birth families. For example, Matie Gillen (U of FL) was mentioned – she a trainer in trust-based attachment therapy and OT to prevent family dissolution.
 - ii) From Abbie Goldberg (in chat) - Next year's conference theme is Hope, Health, and Happiness > perhaps think around that theme re: child welfare/adoption and resilience, policies that enhance adoptive family outcomes, etc. She also said she'll have child welfare & COVID data by March to submit.
 - iii) Morgan Cooley mentioned a symposium that could include a paper using National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-being data (<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/research/project/national-survey-of-child-and-adolescent-well-being-nscaw>) with which she has been working; Muhammad Riaz asked about the possibility of exploring international relationships in the data
 - iv) Reihonna Frost offered a collaboration opportunity with her photo listing data from across the country
4. Information, resources, and opportunities for collaboration shared through discussion and via Zoom chat (times are ET) include the following

From Rachel Farr

- **Here is an older CNN article about adoptions from the U.S. to Europe, the Netherlands in particular** <https://www.cnn.com/2013/09/16/world/international-adoption-us-children-adopted-abroad> and
- **Here is a FY 2019 Annual Report on Intercountry Adoption from the U.S. State Dept.—see Table 3.** Hal Grotevant (at UMass) noted – “Although this ‘official’ document mentions a fairly small number (56 last year, see Table 3 for details), I have heard demographers say these numbers are severely undercounted. <https://travel.state.gov/content/dam/NEWadoptionassets/pdfs/FY%202019%20Annual%20Report%20.pdf>

Morgan Cooley asked folks to email **their ideas about the following to her** at Cooleym@fau.edu

- **2020 NCFR conference feedback and ideas for 2021 conference**
- **Policy ideas for 2021 for a potential session on child welfare policy in the 21st century**
- **Nominations for a chair elect for family policy section 2021-2023**
- **And, as a collaboration idea, she shared some information about this data set which she has access to** <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/research/project/national-survey-of-child-and-adolescent-well-being-nscaw>

5. Upcoming Conferences and Opportunities

- NCFR 2021 – proposals due March 1, 2021
The Science of Families: Nurturing Hope, Happiness, & Health
November 3, 2021 November 6, 2021 Baltimore, Maryland
- Rudd Adoption Research virtual 2020-21 Conference
<https://www.umass.edu/ruddchair/virtual-conference-2020-2021> <https://www.umass.edu/ruddchair/future>
- ICAR7 - International Conference on Adoption Research –moved from July 2020 to July 6-10, 2021, Milan, Italy
<https://convegno.unicatt.it/icar-about>
- CFLE Network Newsletter – **Family Formation Issue - Deadline for ideas is 12/1/2020**
- NCFR's Family Focus publication – **Bethany Willis-Hepp mentioned this as an excellent opportunity to publish and to gain learn from Editor Dr. Judy Myers-Walls.**

From Me to Everyone: 05:00 PM
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fd4_Ljy15yfEfhfDG7SM9kKvGnh3vXZ37AmgSCPdNhA/edit?usp=sharing

From Amber Jean Seidel to Everyone: 05:01 PM
Sorry, I'm jumping into to focus group rooms, so I can't stay, but I can come back. I'm the chair for Families and Health. We like to partner with focus groups to create symposia for future conferences. For either next year or the year after, do you think your focus group would be interested in putting together a symposium on adoption/foster care and mental and/or physical health outcomes. There are two options. 1) we are open to considering an advanced professional invited symposium (for this one, you'd need the presenters to be tenured faculty or professionally equivalent. A S/NP may chair and organize the symposium. 2) a "flagged" symposium. This can be scholars at any level that focuses on your topic and health outcomes. You let us know that the session was put together through NCFR and we watch for it as it goes through the review process. My email is ajs49@psu.edu.

From Me to Everyone: 05:01 PM
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fd4_Ljy15yfEfhfDG7SM9kKvGnh3vXZ37AmgSCPdNhA/edit?usp=sharing

From NCFR Conference to Everyone: 05:03 PM
To ensure the group this is not a recorded session