



## Safe and Together Certified Trainers



**Kari Akins** is the Community Response and Outreach Manager at Fairfield County Protective Services and was previously a Screening Supervisor with Franklin County Children Services. While in Franklin County, she provided direct oversight of the Domestic Violence Liaison housed at the Columbus City Attorney's Office. She has worked in the field of Child Welfare for 13 years serving in the capacity of a caseworker, supervisor, administrator, and trainer.

Ms. Akins is also a trainer for the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program. Kari received her Bachelors Degree in Human Development and Family Science and her Master's Degree in Social Work from The Ohio State University.



**Ashley Bowers** is a current Intake Supervisor at Franklin County Children Services. She has been a supervisor since 2012 and has worked in the child protection field for over nine years. Ashley has her Masters of Social Work degree from The Ohio State University. Early in her career, she served on the Intimate Partner Violence unit within the Alternative Response teams. The unit was trained in the Safe and Together Model through Franklin County. Ashley has

had hand- on experience as she utilized the model directly with families as the majority of her cases as an Intake Caseworker involved IPV. She is one of the six IPV experts at Franklin County Children Services and commonly assists with coaching workers and consulting on IPV cases. Ashley became a trainer of the Safe and Together Model in 2012. She became passionate for this model and the work with children and families, which inspired her to become a trainer for the expansion of the model. Ashley has been committed to the positive changes that are taking place with the Safe and Together model throughout Ohio.



**Kristi Burre**, MA, is the Deputy Director of Protective Services at Fairfield County Job & Family Services in Lancaster, Ohio. Previously, she was an Associate Director at Franklin County Children Services in Columbus, Ohio. She has worked in the field of child protection for over 15 years in the capacities of caseworker, supervisor, administrator, trainer and director. Additionally, she is a trainer for the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program and David Mandel & Associates. Kristie has provided coaching and consultation services throughout Ohio and other states in the areas of differential response, domestic violence, engagement, permanency,

family-centered practice, group supervision, and organizational and change management. Over the years, she has served on various advisory councils and leadership boards including the design and implementation of Ohio's Differential Response model, the statewide training of the Safe & Together Model as part of the Ohio Intimate Partner Violence Collaborative and the implementation of Youth Centered Permanency Roundtables throughout the state. Appointed by the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services to represent Ohio's public children service agencies, she is currently serving as a member of the Partners for Ohio's Families Advisory Board. She holds a BA from Capital University and MA from Ohio University. Her administrative leadership, advocacy and commitment to protect children and elderly by strengthening families and promoting collaborative community-based interventions are the foundation of her practice.



**Lisa Fleischer**, MSW, LSW, graduated from the University of Dayton in 2002 with an undergraduate degree in Sociology and a minor in Social Work. She began her career as a Child Welfare Caseworker in an Ongoing Unit with Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) in January 2003 and was promoted to Child Welfare Casework Supervisor in 2008 in the Ongoing Department. In 2010, Lisa transferred to the Intake Department to supervise an Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)/Alternative Response (AR) Unit. She is currently supervising Intake Mentors who partner with staff beginning their career with FCCS. She also works

as a *Safe and Together* Certified Trainer for the State of Ohio IPV Collaborative and a trainer for the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program. While employed, Lisa attended The Ohio State University and obtained a Masters of Social Work in 2007 and became a licensed Social Worker shortly after. She had previously worked as a contingent Social Worker at Mount Carmel East Hospital and a Community Instructor at The Ohio State University College of Social Work.



**Lesley Keown**, MSW, LISW-S, received her undergraduate degrees in Social Work and Criminology from Ohio University and an MSW from The Ohio State University. She is a Manager at Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services/Children Services Division. Lesley has over 28 years of social work experience in direct child welfare practice and mental health/education services to children and families. She is actively involved in program

development at her agency and in the community to improve safety and wellbeing outcomes for families involved with the child welfare system. It is through her co-leadership of the county's implementation of Alternative Response that she began her involvement with the Safe and Together model. She coordinated extensive training for her agency and has continued this commitment to best practice by becoming a certified trainer. Lesley values the opportunity to provide training in the Safe and Together model to staff in other counties and supporting their efforts to improve the quality of services they provide.



**Lynne Rodriguez** graduated from Bowling Green State University in 1999 with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and obtained her LSW. Upon graduation, Lynne re-located to Columbus and began employment with Franklin County Children Services (FCCS) in May 2000 as a Regional Caseworker. She later earned her Master's Degree in Social Work from The Ohio State University. Lynne has been a child welfare Casework Supervisor at FCCS since 2008. She has experience supervising in both Regional and Intake Units, including both

Alternative Response and Traditional Response. Lynne recently accepted a supervisory position in a sexual abuse unit located at the Center for Family Safety & Healing in Columbus, Ohio. She resides in central Ohio with her husband and two sons.



**Teandra Smith**, MBA, LSW, is an ongoing alternative response child welfare casework supervisor at Franklin County Children Services. Teandra has a Master's in Business Administration from University of Phoenix and Bachelors of Science in Social Work from The Ohio State University. She has over 10 years of experience in the child welfare field. Teandra is a recipient of the Nancy Fitzgivens child protection award. She appreciates that the Safe and Together model holistic

teachings in understanding domestic violence.



**Casie Stanton**, MEd, PC, is the Visitation Services Supervisor of Fairfield County Child Protective Services, overseeing Visitation, Parent Education, and Transportation Services. She has over 11 years of experience in child protection, working as a Parent Educator and as a Caseworker in both Traditional and Alternative Response Units. Casie holds a BA from Capital University and an MEd from the University of Dayton. She is also licensed by the state of Ohio as a Professional Counselor. In addition to training the *Safe and Together* model throughout the state of Ohio, she also is a national adjunct trainer for David Mandel & Associates. Casie is a certified trainer for the Parent Project and the Nurturing Parenting Program. In addition to her work in child protection, she has over 15 years of experience working with children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.



**Dorothy Striker** has more than nineteen years of professional experience in the field of child welfare. Her experience includes direct casework practice, supervisory experience, and policy development within the child protective services section of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. In her current position, Dorothy formulates child protection policy, provides technical assistance and/or rule interpretations, participates in the child and family service review and Differential Response Leadership Council, and conducts trainings for public children service agencies. Additionally, Dorothy has two years of experience as a Victim Service Coordinator within a Family Violence Unit. In this capacity, her primary responsibilities included the coordination of services for victims of violence when criminal charges were pending or requested.



**Amy Wood** has been employed at Franklin County Children Services for 18 years. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton and her Masters of Social Work degree from The Ohio State University. Amy has held various jobs at the agency, to include Ongoing Child Welfare Caseworker, Court Liaison, Intake Supervisor, Screening Supervisor, and Supervisor of a Mentor Unit. She has had the unique opportunity to be part of the design and implementation of the agency's endeavor with Differential Response (DR). As a result, she has presented at the National Conference on Differential Response, as well as trained and consulted with other Ohio counties and other state CPS agencies as they implement DR. Amy's favorite part of being a supervisor is the opportunity to mentor and coach caseworkers. Amy has a real passion for training. She has graciously accepted invitations to present about various child welfare topics to community partners and in academic settings. Amy is a certified trainer for David Mandel's *Safe and Together* model.