



Tree of Healing Conference 2024

Speaker Bios

Danielle Cannon:

Danielle Cannon began working in the behavioral health field in 1998. She has vast experience in working with youth and adults in the behavioral health, justice and child welfare systems as a therapist, mentor, trainer and administrator. She has her Masters in Social Work from Eastern Washington University and is licensed both in Washington and Idaho. She is a champion for behavioral health reform, having sat on many of Washington State's government committees for the advancement of behavioral health services for youth and adults.

Marian Harris:

Marian S. Harris, PhD, LICSW, ACSW, is the Diversity, Equity and Social Justice Program Officer, Washington Association of Child Advocate Programs and Professor Emeritus of Social Work, University of Washington Tacoma, Social Work and Criminal Justice Program. She is a former Adjunct Professor, University of Washington, School of Social Work, and Adjunct Professor and Research Advisor, Smith College School for Social Work. Dr. Harris graduated with a PhD from Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA and completed a two-year NIMH Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Social Work. She received a Master of Social Work degree from Florida State University. Dr. Harris is former Consultant: U.S. Children's Bureau and Casey Family Programs and former Faculty Associate, Chapin Hall Center for Children, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL. Dr. Harris is nationally and internationally known for her work as a child welfare researcher. Appointed by WA State Legislature to serve on WA State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee; elected in 2007 to Co-Chair this committee and Chair the Research Sub-Committee. Dr. Harris was one of the researchers who worked with the WA State Department of Corrections on a five-year longitudinal study "Responsible Fatherhood Opportunities for Reentry and Mobility:" study funded in 2015 by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children, Youth & Families. In 2007 Dr. Harris started a Family Reunification Group at Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women, Belfair, WA. She voluntarily started this trauma group with a colleague for incarcerated mothers who were involved with the child welfare system. She is a member of the Coalition for Children of the Incarcerated in Washington State and proactively advocates for children of incarcerated parents and their parents and is a member of the International Coalition for Children with Incarcerated Parents (NICCIP) and previously served as Chair of the Public Policy Council for the Children's Alliance of Washington.

Dr. Harris serves on the Board of Directors, Clinical Social Work Association and is the Chair of the Racial Equity & Ethics Committee. She is Co-Chair, Washington State DCYF Racial Equity & Impact Citizen Review Panel. Dr. Harris also serves on the Family Law Committee and



Incarceration, Gender and Justice Committee- Washington State Supreme Court, Gender and Justice Commission.

Dr. Harris has written varied journal articles, newspaper articles, book chapters, books, Op Ed's, and reports and has presented her work at national and international conferences. Most recent books are Harris, M. S. (2023). *Children of Incarcerated Parents: Silent Victims*. London: Cambridge Scholars Publishing; Harris, M. S. (2014). *Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare*: New York: Columbia University Press; Harris, M. S., & Eddy, J. M. (2018). *Children of Incarcerated Parents: Challenges and Promise*. London: Routledge, and Harris, M.S. (2019). Recent Op Ed's include: (2018, January 26). When parents commit a crime, it's their kids who do the time. *Huffington Post* and (2017, May 13). For girls with moms in prison, growing up is hard to do, not everyone has much to celebrate on Mother's Day. *The Washington Post*.

Serves on the Editorial Board for the following journals: *Clinical Social Work Journal*, *Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics*, *Journal of Human Behavior and the Social Environment*, *Journal of Health and Social Policy*, and *Asian Social Science*. Recent awards include: 2015 Day Garrett Award- Smith College School for Social Work, 2015 Faculty Advisor of the Year Award- Phi Alpha National Social Work Honor Society, 2016 Educator of the Year Award-Washington State Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, 2017 Distinguished Research Award- University of Washington Tacoma, 2018 Social Worker of the Year, Washington State Chapter-National Association of Social Workers. 2021 Social Justice Award, Washington State Society for Clinical Social Work, and 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award, Professional Organization of Women of Power, Manhasset, NY. Dr. Harris takes great pride in advocating for children, social and racial justice. Her greatest joy in life is being a mother!

Ric Escobedo:

Ric Escobedo is descendant of the Wixárika people from the Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains in what is today known as Mexico. He is a Civil Rights and Climate Change Activist living on p'squosa –Wenatchi Ancestral Lands.

Ric is a Strategy Consultant with a special focus on innovative behavior health programs and Indigenous-lead Conservation. By training, he Licensed Clinical Social Worker in private practice with a focus on healing intergenerational trauma, complex trauma, and addictions. His service is community-centered specifically with migrant agricultural workers, tribal communities, and combat veterans.

Ric trained in search and rescue for natural disaster response, he co-developed a mental health department for Global Support and Development (GSD) an international humanitarian NGO. Ric holds certifications in Individual and Group Crisis, Psychedelic Therapies and Research and Climate Action Planning.

Ric is co-founder of KIERI Healing Sanctuary. The sanctuary offers traditional ways of healing, Ecotherapy and earth-based healing practices integrating sustainable conservation.

Andrew Schreier:

Andrew J. Schreier is an Independent Clinical Supervisor, Clinical Substance Abuse Counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor, and International Certified Gambling Counselor - II. Mr. Schreier graduated from Ottawa University with a Master's Degree in Counseling. He is the Wisconsin Clinical Coordinator for Community Medical Services, providing medicated-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Mr. Schreier also provides individual counseling and



consultation at New Life Resources, Inc. He presents on various topics related to substance use, mental health, gambling, clinical supervision, ethics, and other topics to statewide and national audiences. Mr. Schreier is the host of “Talking Addiction & Recovery” Podcast.

Nephi Craig:

Chef Nephi Craig has 24 years culinary experience in America and around the world. Chef Craig worked at *The Country Club at DC Ranch* and *Mary Elaine’s at the Phoenician*, among many other renowned restaurants and hotels. Nephi Craig is an enrolled member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and is half Navajo.

Chef Craig is the founder of the *Native American Culinary Association or NACA*, an organization/network that is dedicated to the research, refinement, and development of Native American Cuisine. *NACA Chef and Founder Nephi Craig* provides training, workshops and lecture sessions on Native American Cuisine to schools, restaurants and tribal entities from across America and abroad. An early highlight of his work with NACA is when Nephi was able to help prepare a Native American themed menu for the renowned *James Beard Foundation* at the *James Beard House in New York City*.

Chef Craig has been recognized in numerous publications such as the *Huffington Post*, *Newsweek Magazine*, the *Forbes Magazine A-List for Native American Cuisine at Sunrise Park Resort* and *Food and Wine Magazine* in the August 2014 ‘Best of Summer’ issue and in 2015 in *Art Culinaire Magazine* and *Plate Magazine* to name a few. Craig was featured in the James Beard Award winning film ‘Gather’, which is on Netflix.

Chef Craig served as Executive Chef of the Sunrise Park Resort Hotel. During Chef Craig’s nine-year tenure at Sunrise Park resort, Craig and his White Mountain Apache culinary team achieved many national and international benchmarks in establishing a culinary culture of Indigenous Foods and practitioners across the Americas.

Craig is a pioneer in *Restorative Indigenous Food Practices*, which is a place-based social science technique that integrates developments from a variety of disciplines and fields—including nutrition, education, psychology, social work, criminology, sociology, organizational development, industrial psychology, Indigenous leadership and recovery principles—in order to build healthy communities, decrease crime and antisocial behavior, and restore relationships. *Restorative Indigenous Food Practices* utilizes place-based Indigenous food and agriculture methodology as an axis for therapeutic learning, teaching and healthy communication while revitalizing culture and wellness.

Chef Nephi Craig lives with his daughter and two sons in their ancestral landscape, the White Mountain Apache Tribe in northeastern Arizona

Kami Kerby:

Larry and Kami Kerby are trained, Independent Facilitators of the Love and Logic Curricula. They have helped tens of thousands of parents and teachers thrive with the kids they have been blessed with. They are sought-after engaging and entertaining speakers. Larry and Kami teach parents how to bond and connect with their children while effectively setting and enforcing boundaries. They teach the “lead with empathy” approach to helping kids to solve their problems, develop social and emotional skills, and frustration control tolerance skills. Larry and Kami are the authors of the “Emotional Ownership for Parents and Educators” seminar series. This workshop is designed to help lower parents and teachers emotional



reactivity. It also teaches how to feel big feelings without reacting to those big feelings. Together, they are raising three amazing kids.

Katie Merwick, Second Chance Ranch:

Katie Merwick is the Founder and Executive Director of Second Chance Ranch, formed in 1999. SCR holds the record for the largest and longest standing animal welfare nonprofit of its kind in the PNW. While she is the visionary for the organization's direction of growth and program development, Katie also manages the herd and stables on a daily basis. In addition to providing nonprofit leadership to SCR for 25 years, she has enjoyed more than four decades (Since 1983) as a professional animal trainer / animal actor trainer for film, behaviorist, and author. Throughout her career Katie has had a unique and inclusive opportunity to study herd and pack behavior. She has pioneered many of today's industry standards in animal welfare, and presents education on human and animal partnering.

SCR operates as a mental health platform for licensed professionals to incorporate Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) into their existing treatment program as an alternative to conventional talk therapy. This program currently collaborates and partners with Excelsior Wellness, the Reardon School District, and Jennifer Hammond of Wild Sky Healing, a certified Gestalt Equine Coach,. The herd of horses used in the EAP program are all retired sport horses, mostly those that Katie trained, rehomed, and accepted back for retirement or rehabilitation.

Jennifer Hammond, Second Chance Ranch

<https://www.wildskyhealing.com>

Jennifer is trained and certified in the Equine Gestalt Coaching Method® and currently partnering with the Second Chance Ranch sanctuary for retired sport horses to offer this unique form of therapy. Equine Gestalt is a therapeutic modality that utilizes somatic experiences to assist the client in releasing trauma from the body, and the horse coach assists in processing the experience. The two-year program includes trauma-informed training. Her training also includes healing energy work as a Certified Karuna Reiki Master®.

Jennifer's background includes a career working with several non-profit agencies in leadership positions, including a domestic violence shelter, a Habitat for Humanity affiliate, and a conservation group. Her current position in the Spokane Police Department (SPD) has given her invaluable insight into the lives and struggles of First Responders. She also met and married her true life partner, and "street-cred" public relations partner, Sergeant Dave who has worked in law enforcement for almost 30 years.

Kalispel Cultural Department

The main goal of the Kalispel Tribe's Culture Department is to teach and share our Kalispel Tribal Heritage, History, and Culture with our Kalispel Tribal Membership, Descendants, and Community.

We teach and learn from our elders and each other by attending and hosting cultural gatherings and classes.

During these times of the current popular social media culture, we reach out through our Facebook group with teachings.



We encourage participation in events through different fun drawings in which people can win cool prizes such as ribbon skirts, shirts, moccasins, free nights and dinners at our casinos, etc. It is our hope to gain the interest of our future generations, to learn and teach our Kalispel history, heritage and traditions. We hope people will keep our culture alive and use it as a means of healing and living healthy lifestyles.

