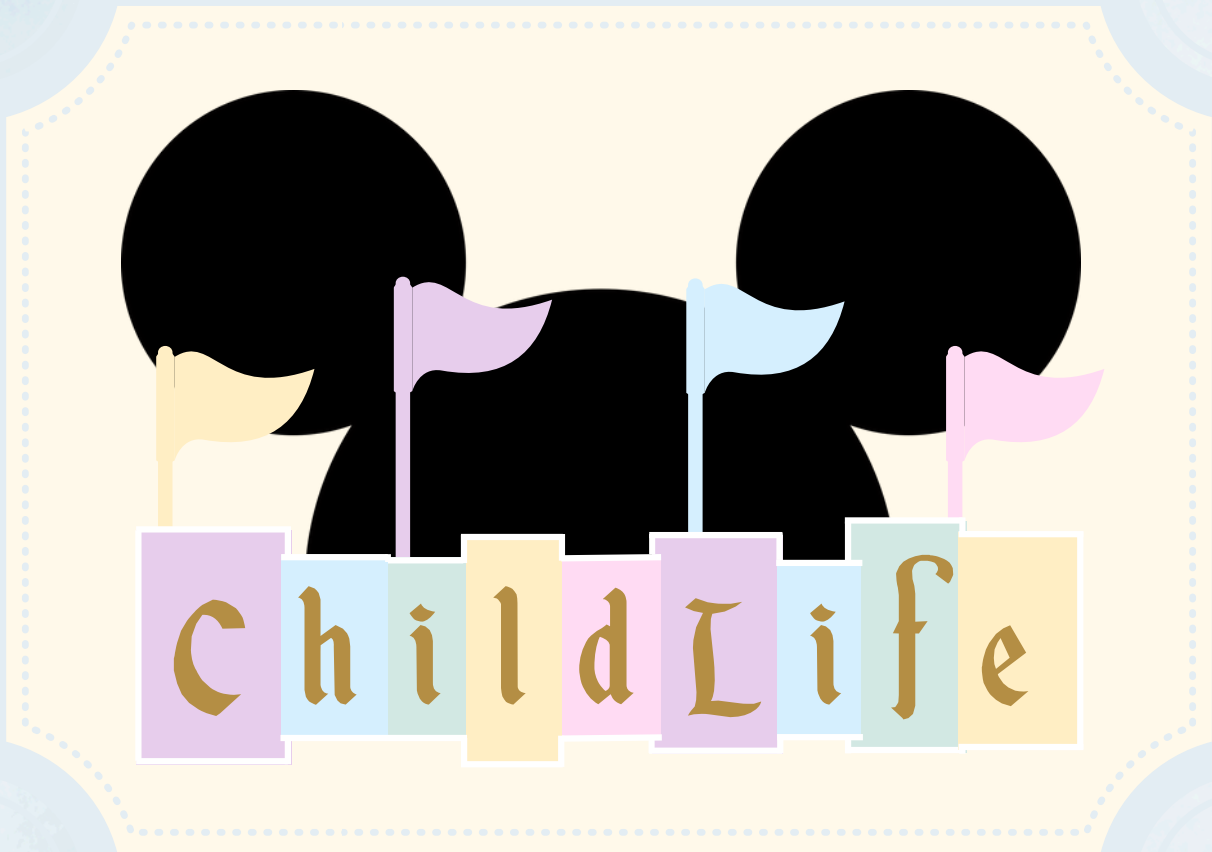


# THE MAGICAL WORLD OF



33rd Annual FACLP Conference  
Orlando Florida  
September 12th-14th 2025

# Friday

## SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>

Intensive: 3:00pm-5:00pm

### **Moving from Trauma-Informed to Trauma-Responsive: Sowing the Soil with Seeds for Change**

The transition from a "trauma-informed" to a "trauma-responsive" system involves planting many seeds for culture change and fostering connections from the ground up. (Cara Calderon, CCLS, Nicole Johnson CCLS) (Domain I, Task I Ethics, Domain I Professional Responsibility, Domain III Intervention)



### **Creating the Pediatric Sickle Cell Child Life and Transition Program: A Model for Expansion of Services**

Explore the building blocks of program development, filling service gaps and expansion through the lens of the Pediatric Sickle Cell Child Life and Transition Program. (Gaby Stern, MS, CCLS, Gretchen Greenlee, MS, CCLS) (Domain I Professional Responsibility)

### **Tools of the Trade: A Workshop for Aspiring Child Life Students**

*Tools of the Trade* is an interactive workshop guiding aspiring Child Life Specialists through tailored breakout groups on pre-internship, internship, and job readiness, with peer reflection, mock interviews, and expert Q&A. (Jenna Read, MS, CCLS, Susan Simonian, PhD, ABPP, Daniela Oropeza, CCLS)

Networking Social: 5:30pm-7:30pm

Welcome to Speed Dating, Child Life edition: Come ready to get to know other people in our Child Life Community!

# Saturday

## SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

**7:00am-8:00am: Exhibit Hall & Pop Up Shop Open**

**8:00am-8:30am: Welcome Address**



## 8:30am-9:30am: Opening Keynote (1 PDU)

Jordan Thomas, founder of the Jordan Thomas Foundation, shares, "The gift that has been found through loss. By facing adversity and challenges, I've found my purpose and what I'm meant to do on this earth."

## 9:45am-10:45 am: Concurrent Session #1 (1 PDU)

### **Honoring Every Moment: Reflections from Pediatric Palliative Care**

A compassionate dialogue exploring the emotional, ethical, and clinical dimensions of pediatric palliative care, honoring the voices of children, families and care teams. (Jessie Betancourt, CCLS, Owaissa Vanderberg, LMHC, LMFT, CT, NCC, Bentley Stewart, M.Div., Palliative Care Provider) (Domain I, Task I Ethics, Domain I Professional Responsibility, Domain III Intervention)

### **Pawsitive Partnerships: Facility Dogs and Child Life Specialists in Pediatric Surgery**

This presentation discusses how a float facility dog handler model fosters collaboration between facility dogs and child life specialists to enhance pediatric surgical experiences. (Emily Bradley, MA, CCLS) (Domain III Intervention)

## 11:00am-12:30pm: Concurrent Session #2 (1.5 PDU)

### **The Language of Supportive Care: (Un)Learning How to Establish (Mis)Trust With the Words we Say and Write**

Words can have profound impacts on emotional safety. The efficacious use of language facilitates trusting relationships; the misuse of language contributes to a harmful environment. Nicole Johnson, CCLS, CTRP-C, CPMT, CIMT, Cara Calderon, CCLS (Domain I, Task I Ethics, Domain I Professional Responsibility, Domain III Intervention)

### **From Internships to Impact: Essential Insights for Thriving in the Child Life Profession**

This panel of experienced child life professionals will guide students through internship KSAs and share key strategies for navigating clinical challenges and thriving in the field. (Jenna Read, MS, CCLS, Susan Simonian, PhD, ABPP, Daniela Oropeza, CCLS) (Domain I Professional Responsibility)

## 12:30pm-1:30pm: Lunch and Poster Sessions (4 PDU)

### **The Quality Improvement Journey: Evidenced-Based Tools for Better Outcomes:**

This poster introduces a practical, research-based CQI framework to improve child life services through team engagement, data collection, inclusive practices, and actionable tools. (Claire Kimberly Ph. D, CFLE) (Domain I Professional Responsibility)

### **Implementation of Expressive Activities Through a Child Life Lens for In-Hospital Camp Programming**

This poster presents the components and clinical implications of applying child life theory to the implementation of expressive activities for chronically ill patients within an in-hospital camp setting. (Aya Sharp, Kaitlyn Jackson, Caitlin Tunstill, Abigail Altman) (Domain III Intervention)

### **Increasing Undergraduate Student Interest in the Field of Child Life with Videos of Child Life Professionals**

This study at the College of Charleston examines how two types of informational videos affect undergraduate awareness and interest in child life careers. (Jordyn Fisher, Brooke Bogachunas and Olivia Kilton) (Domain I Professional Responsibility)

### **A Collaborative Clinical Model for Pediatric Burn Care: Integrating Child Life and Music Therapy**

This poster will explore effective interdisciplinary collaboration and co-treating between child life specialists and music therapists in pediatric burn care. (Barbara Nunez, MS, CCLS, Stephanie Epstein, MM, MT-BC, NICU-MT) (Domain II Assessment Domain III Intervention)





### 1:30PM-3:00pm: Concurrent Session #3 (1.5 PDU)

#### **Empowering Emotional Regulation: Integrating the Zones of Regulation Framework into Child Life Practice**

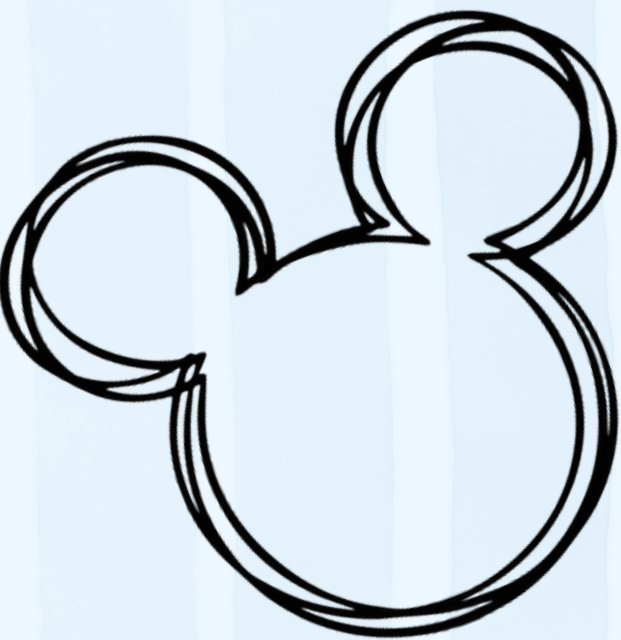
This session explores how child life specialists can integrate the Zones of Regulation framework to enhance emotional self-regulation, improve well-being, and support social-emotional learning in various settings. (Taylor Parks, MA, CCLS, ITFC) (Domain II Assessment, Domain III Intervention)

#### **"No Limb-its"- Developing a Comprehensive Child Life Sarcoma Program Across a Large Children's Hospital**

CLS's on separate campuses discuss collaboration involved to develop robust programming for patients and families affected by sarcoma cancer- from coping to amputation and beyond.

(Michelle Preston, CCLS, Kristen Holsten) (Domain II Assessment, Domain III Intervention)

### 3:15pm-4:15pm: Concurrent Session #4 (1 PDU)



#### **Utilizing Self-Determination Theory to Optimize Emotional Regulation During Psychologically Challenging Moments with Chronic Pediatric Oncology Patients**

An in-depth exploration of 3 individual cases that Self Determination Theoretical framework to guide Child Life interventions during hair loss chronic pediatric oncology patients.

(Madie Moore, MS, CCLS, Alex Figureiras B.A. and Mike Van den Abbeel) (Domain III Intervention)

#### **From Hospital to Home: Enhancing Pediatric Medication Compliance with Child Life Innovation**

An innovative tool supporting children's medication adherence, offering tips and strategies to empower parents in improving compliance at home and in hospital settings. (Elizabeth Fitzgibbons, BS, CCLS, Grisell Canizales, MS, CCLS, Alyssa Lendic, MS, CCLS, Melanie Orama, MS, CCLS) (Domain III Intervention)

## 4:30pm-5:30pm: Concurrent Session #5 (1 PDU)

### **Patient and Family Centered Care: Supporting the Autistic Adult Patient**

It is not uncommon for child life professionals to find themselves contacted to support the autistic adult patient. This presentation will explore ways that we can better support the needs of this patient population. (Jennifer Fieten, MA, CCLS,) Domain I, Task I Ethics, Domain I Professional Responsibility, Domain II Assessment, Domain III Intervention)

### **The Charming Power of Play: building Connections Through Child Life and Nursing Collaboration**

Learn about a play-based charm-trading pilot program that empowers pediatric patients to cope, connect, and normalize the hospital experience through joyful, meaningful interactions with medical staff. (Brian Burkhardt, Grisell Canizales, MS, CCLS) (Domain I Professional Responsibility, Domain III Intervention)

## 6-8:00pm: Social Event

It's going to be a magical night! Join us for fun, games, photo ops and dancing! Disney costumes are optional, but encouraged!



**Sunday**  
**SEPTEMBER 14TH**

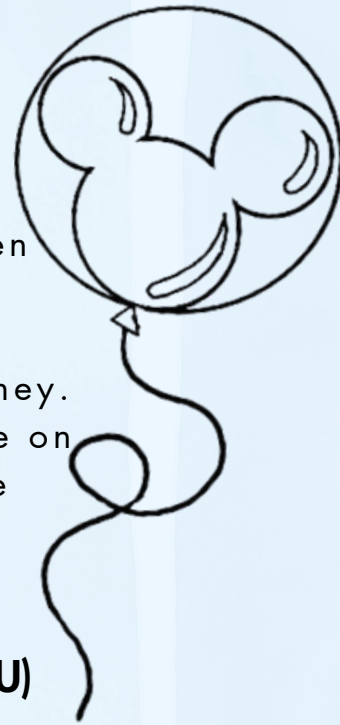
**7:00am-8:00am: Exhibit Hall & Pop Up Shop Open**  
**8:00am-8:30am: FACLP Town Hall**



## 8:30am-9:30am: Closing Keynote (1 PDU)

### **Transforming Lives, One Wish at a Time**

In this keynote presentation, Make-A-Wish invites attendees to explore the transformative power of granting wishes to children with critical illnesses. A wish offers a child the joy of imagination, the hope that comes with anticipation, and the strength found in a community united to support the wish journey. This talk will shine a light on the profound impact wishes have on children and families, while also showcasing the collaborative efforts that bring these life-changing experiences to life.



## 9:45am-11:15am: Concurrent Session #6 (1.5 PDU)

### **Cover, Tug, Belly Rubs: A Tail of Three Hospital Facility Dog Programs**

Participants will examine task-driven facility dog programs at three different hospitals, discussing their creation, implementation and interventions used within the pediatric healthcare populations. (Kimberly Burbage, CCLS, Leah Frohnerhath, MS, CCLS, CEIM, Hannah Murray, CCLS) (Domain II Assessment)

### **Where the Magic of Connection Happens: AV1 and the Power of Presence Creating Moments of Togetherness through Virtual Presence and Psychosocial Care**

Explore how AV1 technology creates moments of togetherness for hospitalized children, promoting psychosocial well-being through virtual presence and Child Life interventions. (Barbara Nunez, MS, CCLS, Kate Pechacek, M. Ed, C&I) (Domain II Assessment, Domain III Intervention)

## 11:30am-12:30pm: Concurrent Session #7 (1 PDU)

### **Behind the Vest: The Realities and Rewards of Handling a Facility Dog in Pediatric Care**

This presentation highlights the daily realities, challenges, and profound rewards of working with a facility dog to support and enhance care for pediatric patients and families. (Talía Mor, CCLS) (Domain III Intervention)

### **Building the Future: Enhancing Child Life Career Development and Recruitment**

Recruiting Child Life Specialists is difficult, especially in South Miami, due to limited local programs and widespread lack of awareness about certification requirements and career pathways. (Elizabeth Fitzgibbons, BS, CCLS, Alyssa Lendic, MS, CCLS, Rebecca Pickard, MS, CCLS and Regine Duret, BS, CCLS) (Domain I Professional Responsibility)

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Registration Fees

### Early Registration Fees (Before 8/1/2025)

Student Members: \$155

Student Non-Member: \$205

Professional Member: \$205

Professional Non-Member: \$235

One Day Saturday: \$150

One Day Sunday: \$100

Intensive: \$50

Student Intensive: \$30

### Regular Registration Fees (After 8/2/2025)

Student Members: \$185

Student Non-Member: \$230

Professional Member: \$255

Professional Non-Member: \$285

One Day Saturday: \$190

One Day Sunday: \$165

Intensive: \$60

Student Intensive: \$40

### Full Admission Pricing Includes

(7) Breakout Sessions (8.5 PDUs)

Opening and Closing Keynotes (2 PDUs)

Poster Session (4 PDUs)

Hot Breakfasts (mickey mouse waffles, made-to-order omelets) - Included if Hotel Guest, fee for non-hotel guests (1)

Hot Lunch Buffet

Friday Networking Social with Drinks and Appetizers

Saturday Social Reception with Dinner and Drinks

Exhibit Hall (List TBD)

Job Posting Board

### Additional Admission Item (Optional)

Intensive (2 PDUs)



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