



Supervised
Visitation
Network



The Work of *Trust*

Creating Safety. Building Connection.

SVN ANNUAL CONFERENCE



June 9–11, 2027



Embassy Suites
Downtown Minneapolis

Minneapolis, MN & HYBRID



SVNANNUALCONFERENCE.COM

SVN 2027 • THE WORK OF TRUST • SVNANNUALCONFERENCE.COM



Welcome to Minneapolis!

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am excited to welcome you to the 2027 Supervised Visitation Network Annual Conference, June 9–11, in Minneapolis, Minnesota! This year's theme, *The Work of Trust: Creating Safety. Building Connection.*, reflects the heart of what we do every day.

Trust is built through intentional actions, meaningful relationships, and a shared commitment to safety. Minneapolis, with its bridges connecting communities across the Mississippi River, provides a fitting backdrop as we explore how to strengthen connections with children, families, courts, and one another.

One of the greatest strengths of SVN is the opportunity to bring together professionals from across the globe. This conference is a chance to share knowledge, exchange ideas, build relationships, and learn from one another.

Whether you are joining us in person or virtually, I look forward to the conversations, connections, and opportunities that await us.

See you in Minneapolis, where we will continue *Doing the Work of Trust—Creating Safety. Building Connection.*

Warm regards, Joe Nullet, Executive Director, Supervised Visitation Network

SVN Board of Directors

President: Kate Blair (Savannah, GA) • Vice President: Chrystal Fischer (Buffalo, MN) • Treasurer: Kelly Agee (South Bend, IN) • Secretary: Samantha Alvarez-Benowitz (New York, NY)

Hera McLeod (Washington, DC); Melody Robinson (Roanoke, VA); Hon. Judge Victor Reyes (Pueblo, CO); Michon Trent (Mobile, AL); Emilyn Wahl (Fergus Falls, MN); Dr. Michael Saini (Toronto, ON); Marcie Smith (Canton, GA); Valya Roberts (Brantford, ON); Yvonne Draxler (Sterling, CO); Emmy Lita (Jefferson, WI).

SVN Staff

Joe Nullet, Executive Director; Jen Garst, Director of Training & Development; Tami Matthews, Membership & Outreach; Syri Gerstner, SVN Faculty; Elexia Coleman-Moss, Nurturing Parenting Faculty.

Conference Agenda

Three days of learning, connection, and practical ideas.

WEDNESDAY • JUNE 9

8:00 AM–4:00 PM	Check In Opens
8:30–11:30 AM	Pre-Conference Institute: When Tempers Flare
1:00–2:30 PM	Opening Plenary: Dr. Michael Saini
2:30–3:00 PM	Networking Break
3:00–4:30 PM	Workshop Session A
5:00–7:00 PM	Welcome Reception

THURSDAY • JUNE 10

6:30–7:30 AM	Yoga & Meditation
7:00 AM–4:45 PM	Check In / Information Desk
7:30–8:30 AM	Hosted SVN Breakfast for Hotel Guests
8:30–10:00 AM	Workshop Session B
10:00–10:30 AM	Networking Break
10:30 AM–12:00 PM	Workshop Session C
12:00–1:30 PM	Networking Lunch
1:30–3:00 PM	Plenary: Tad Hoeschen
3:00–3:30 PM	Networking Break
3:30–5:00 PM	Workshop Session D

FRIDAY • JUNE 11

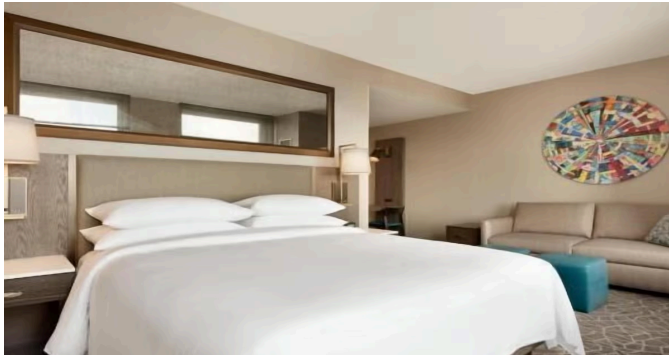
6:00–7:00 AM	Yoga & Meditation
7:30–8:30 AM	Hosted SVN Breakfast for Hotel Guests
8:30–10:15 AM	Plenary: A Conversation with Those We Serve
10:15–10:30 AM	Morning Coffee Break
10:30 AM–12:00 PM	Workshop Session E
12:00–12:30 PM	Conference Closing & Raffle

Creating Safety. Building Connection.

Full session details and virtual access: SVNANNUALCONFERENCE.COM

YOUR MINNEAPOLIS HOME BASE

Embassy Suites Downtown Minneapolis



SVN GROUP RATE

\$169 / NIGHT

RESERVE EARLY

The SVN room block frequently sells out.

Set in the historic Plymouth Building, the hotel offers spacious suites, made-to-order breakfast, an evening reception, an indoor pool, and direct access to the Minneapolis Skyway System.

GETTING HERE

Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) is approximately 14 miles from the hotel. Taxis, Uber, and Lyft are available. The hotel does not offer an airport shuttle.

Meet Minneapolis

BIG CITY ENERGY. MINNESOTA CHARM!

From world-class attractions to unforgettable arts and outdoor adventures, make time to discover Minneapolis beyond the conference.

DISCOVER THE CITY



MALL OF AMERICA

Shopping, entertainment & attractions



PAISLEY PARK

Prince's home and recording studio



MINNESOTA TWINS

Catch a game at Target Field



TARGET FLAGSHIP STORE

Shop the two-story Nicollet Mall store



MINNEHAHA FALLS

Explore a spectacular 53-foot waterfall



GUTHRIE THEATER

Discover celebrated live theater

Come for the conference. Stay for the adventure.

Explore more at svnworldwide.org/hotel-and-location

Pre-Conference Institute

Build skills. Practice together. Take them home.



COME READY TO LEARN. LEAVE READY TO RESPOND.

When Tempers Flare: A Guide to De-Escalation

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9 | 8:30–11:30 AM | SEPARATE TICKET: \$75

Sergeant Tad Hoeschen • St. Cloud Police Department, Community Engagement Division & Community Crisis Intervention Team

This three-hour session takes a deep dive into interpersonal interactions and the barriers that can obstruct our ability to communicate, especially when confronted by someone whose temperament is elevated. The session explores how people communicate, how lived experiences affect interactions, and how trauma relates to crisis communication.

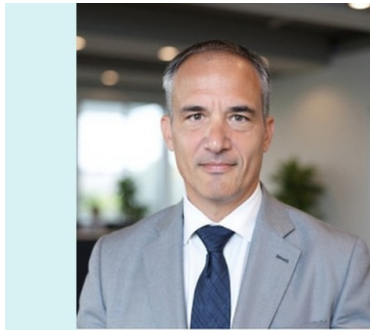
Throughout the session, participants will explore approaches to conflict and what happens physically and psychologically when we are scared, nervous, or angry—reactions that can become barriers to de-escalation. The course uses lived experiences and stories to highlight which communication concepts can be effective during crises and which may be less effective.

Tad Hoeschen has 28 years of law enforcement experience in Kansas and Minnesota, serving as a patrol officer, investigator, school resource officer, community engagement officer, and instructor. He served on a SWAT team for 10 years. As a sergeant, he has led patrol response and community engagement teams, including mental health response, threat liaison, and crime prevention units. He holds a bachelor's degree in communication studies from South Dakota State University and a master's degree in Criminal Justice Leadership from Concordia University–St. Paul.



Conference Plenaries

Big conversations. Fresh perspectives.



BIG CONVERSATIONS. FRESH PERSPECTIVES.

Dr. Michael Saini

Dr. Michael Saini is a professor and holds the endowed Chair of Law and Social Work at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. He co-directs the combined JD and MSW program with the Faculty of Law. His publications focus on high conflict, strained parent-child relationships, supervised visitation, virtual parenting time, and parent competencies after separation and divorce.

Sergeant Tad Hoeschen

Sgt. Tad Hoeschen has 28 years of law enforcement experience in Kansas and Minnesota and has worked with the St. Cloud Police Department since 2000. He supervises the Community Crisis Intervention Team, comprising the Crime Prevention Unit, Housing and Redevelopment Authority Officer, Threat Liaison Unit, and Mental Health Response Unit.

The Work of Trust: A Conversation with Those We Serve

What does trust look like from the perspective of those who have experienced supervised visitation firsthand?

In this special plenary session, we turn our attention to the voices of individuals who have personally navigated supervised visitation services. Through a facilitated conversation, panelists will share their experiences, perspectives, and reflections on safety, trust, connection, and the realities of supervised visitation.

Conference Workshops

Explore the full session descriptions and presenter information.

Under a Watchful Eye: Child Abuse Prevention in Youth-Serving Organizations

Alison Feigh | Zero Abuse Project (Jacob Wetterling Resource Center)

Youth Serving Organizations can provide quality experiences for youth to grow and thrive under the care of staff and volunteers with the best interests of the youth.

The sad reality is that any organization that provides access, time, and the ability to build relationships with youth are targeted by offenders as places to find possible targets. Most people are in youth work for the right reasons, but one person engaging in a group to look for targets can destroy the legacy of a program and, even worse, have detrimental effects to the lives of youth involved.

There is no room for denial or minimization when the health of children and youth are at stake. This presentation will provide resources to both adults working within youth serving organizations who are diligently trying to keep their programs safe and community members wanting to learn more about warning signs and prevention.

From Escalation to Regulation: Practical Strategies for Supervised Visitation Professionals

Lyndi Bradley & Merina Cameron | Florida State University: Institute for Trauma and Resilience Studies

This session explores the idea of stress contagion: how emotions and stress can spread between people, sometimes without us even realizing it's happening. It covers how our nervous systems come into the room with us and how things like our tone, body language, communication, and reactions can either add to stress in a situation or help bring it down.

The presentation also explores co-regulation and what that actually means in supervised visitation, focusing on how a professional's presence and responses can help create stability without taking responsibility for someone else's emotions. It also looks at how stress can spread across teams, especially after difficult visits or during high-stress periods.

Professionals will leave with practical ways to recognize stress contagion, notice their own reactions, and respond while still maintaining boundaries, safety, and accountability.

Conference Workshops | Continued

Fund the Visit: A Hands-On Funding Lab for Supervised Visitation Programs

Emily McKee & Madeline Kiger | Kymari House, Inc.

Funding Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange is complicated—and no single funding source fits every program. This hands-on workshop moves beyond talking about funding and gets participants actively looking for it.

Bring your laptop and your program's funding challenges as we explore public, private, and community funding opportunities, practice framing supervised visitation for different funder priorities, and collaborate with providers from across the field to identify creative solutions.

Participants will leave with potential funding leads, new strategies, and concrete next steps for strengthening their program's financial sustainability.

It's not EEEasy: Exercising, Enduring, and Expanding Our Ethical Bandwidth

Lindsey Dula | National Forensic Interviewing Network

Ethics could be about choosing between right and wrong, but it is often about navigating the gray areas where two "rights" conflict. This highly interactive training moves beyond dry recitations of code and dives into the complex ethical dilemmas today's social service professionals face.

Participants will engage with evidence-based frameworks to sharpen their professional judgment, manage boundaries in the digital age, and ensure their practice remains rooted in integrity, even under pressure.

More Than a Visit: Creating Safe Connections That Change Children's Lives

Emilyn Wahl, Someplace Safe | Chrystal Fischer, Parenting with Grace

Supervised parenting time is about far more than observing visits. Every interaction, transition, and decision shapes a child's experience of safety, stability, and connection. What if supervised parenting time wasn't viewed as simply monitoring visits, but as one of the most meaningful opportunities to create emotional and physical safety for children and families during one of the most difficult seasons of their lives?

Through real-world examples, trauma-informed principles, and practical strategies, this session explores how intentional communication, thoughtful program design, and child-centered practice can transform supervised parenting time into an opportunity for healing, resilience, and hope. Participants will leave inspired by the impact of their work and equipped with practical ideas they can immediately implement to strengthen safety, professionalism, and positive outcomes within their own programs.

Conference Workshops | Continued

From the Courthouse to Connection: Building a Continuum of Care for Families in Transition

Tiffini Thrower | YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester

Before a family ever reaches a supervised visitation center, they've often already spent an anxious morning in a courthouse hallway—juice boxes, coloring books, and headphones in hand, doing whatever it takes to get two small children through a custody hearing. At the YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester, two programs that look very different on paper—Children's Centers in the Courthouse and Supervised Visitation & Safe Exchange—actually serve the same families at different points in the same journey.

This interactive workshop follows one family's path from the courthouse waiting room to the visitation room, showing how a true continuum of care keeps children at the center of services without placing them in the middle of adult conflict.

Participants will examine their own programs' relationships with courts and community partners, identify the gaps between the systems surrounding the families they serve, and leave with the start of their own Family Connection Map—a practical tool for building stronger partnerships between courts, providers, and community organizations back home.

Holding Boundaries Under Pressure: Child-Focused Decisions in Supervised Visitation and Exchanges

Tara McKillips-Ohlemacher | The Kinship House

Holding Boundaries Under Pressure: Child-Focused Decisions in Supervised Visitation and Exchanges is an interactive, real-world session focused on handling difficult situations while maintaining professionalism, neutrality, and a child-centered approach. Participants will work through practical scenarios involving parent complaints, attorney requests, staff redirection, documentation, and safety concerns.

The session will provide clear strategies and usable language to help providers set boundaries, support staff, make sound decisions under pressure, and keep the child at the center of every response.

Conference Workshops | Continued

Drug Endangered Children: Often the Forgotten Ones

Nikki Romer & Carrie Jensen | National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

This session will help participants understand who drug-endangered children are, along with the risks and long-term impacts associated with parental and caregiver substance misuse and drug activity. Trainers will share the importance of early identification and intervention, opportunities for both, and the need for multidisciplinary collaboration to identify and help these children.

Trainers will provide relatable examples for all disciplines and activities to assist in applying this challenging topic. Trainers will help attendees identify opportunities to change the trajectories of drug-endangered children's lives and break multigenerational cycles.

Moving on, What's Next? Supporting the Transition Process from Supervised Parent-Child Contact

Howard Yaffe, Riverside Community Care - Meeting Place | Lori Wymore-Kirkland, Stronger Together - JDRDC Supervised Visitation & Exchange Program

Holding Boundaries Under Pressure: Child-Focused Decisions in Supervised Visitation and Exchanges is an interactive, real-world session focused on handling difficult situations while maintaining professionalism, neutrality, and a child-centered approach. Participants will work through practical scenarios involving parent complaints, attorney requests, staff redirection, documentation, and safety concerns.

The session will provide clear strategies and usable language to help providers set boundaries, support staff, make sound decisions under pressure, and keep the child at the center of every response.

Understanding Trauma: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children & Families

Marissa Orzechowski & Amy Kinney | First Step Fostoria

This session will provide advanced understanding of domestic violence, its impact on survivors and children, and trauma-informed strategies for responding to concerns and disclosures. Participants will take part in an interactive survivor-based scenario designed to build empathy and experience firsthand some of the barriers survivors face when navigating the system.

Conference Workshops | Continued

Trauma Informed Doesn't Mean Lower Standards: Building Cultures of Safety, Trust, and Accountability

Tamela Rystrom | MillarRich LLC

Many organizations claim to be trauma-informed, yet few have successfully integrated trauma-informed principles into hiring practices, leadership development, supervision, accountability systems, policies, and workplace culture.

This presentation provides a practical roadmap for moving beyond awareness and creating a sustainable trauma-informed workplace. Drawing from MillarRich's organizational journey, attendees will learn concrete strategies for building psychological safety while maintaining accountability, improving employee engagement, reducing workplace stress, and developing resilient teams.

Living Your Truth in the Professional World: Aligning Your Personal and Work Values

Hon. Judge Victor Reyes (ret.) | Mahakaruna Holistic Foundation

During this session, participants will identify their most important personal values, how they developed them, and whether they actually live by them. We will then discuss the parallel lanes of lived values and organizational values and reflect on what it feels like to work in alignment with those values.

Finally, the group will discuss how we can enhance both our lives and the lives of those we serve by identifying where our organizations can become more aligned with the needs of their constituents through the authentic application of a system of values.

Intent vs Impact: From Helping to Empowering

Shannon Wegner | Arrows Family Services

Good intentions do not always create positive impact. In supervised visitation, even well-intended interventions can unintentionally undermine parental confidence, reinforce power imbalances, or create dependence on providers. This interactive workshop challenges professionals to examine the difference between helping, directing, coaching, and empowering.

Through real-world scenarios, participants will explore how professional power, culture, trauma, cognitive abilities, and personal assumptions influence their interactions with families. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for using intentional, individualized interventions that maintain safety while building parental capacity, confidence, and lasting change.

Conference Workshops | Continued

The Trust Factor in Supervised Parenting Plans: Incremental Steps from Safety to Relationship Repair

Dr. Michael Saini | University of Toronto

Supervised parenting plans are often framed as a way to manage risk, monitor behaviour, and preserve parent-child contact when concerns have been raised about safety, emotional harm, or strained relationships. Yet supervision also raises a central question: what kind of trust has been damaged, and what incremental steps are needed before parenting time can safely become less restrictive?

This presentation introduces the trust factor as a practical framework for designing supervised parenting plans. Trust is not treated as a single feeling or a binary judgment. Instead, the presentation distinguishes among different forms of trust that may need to be assessed and rebuilt over time. Calculus-based trust develops when a parent demonstrates compliance with expectations, follows rules, respects boundaries, and shows that predictable, safe behaviour can be relied upon. Knowledge-based trust emerges through repeated experiences that allow the child, supervisor, and other parent to better understand how the parent responds to stress, limits, disappointment, and the child's emotional cues. Identification-based trust reflects a deeper level of relational repair, where the child experiences the parent as emotionally attuned, accountable, respectful, and able to hold the child's needs in mind.

Disclosure and Recantation: A Journey To Be Understood

Michelle Harris | CornerHouse

Children who experience abuse or neglect may describe what happened to them in many ways. When a child talks about abuse, it is called disclosure. Disclosures can be purposeful or accidental.

Disclosing abuse or neglect is a process or a journey not a destination. Part of the journey often includes recantation or taking back the disclosure. Understanding the dynamics of the process a child may go through when disclosing, including recantation, can help us understand how to better serve victims of crimes and therefore help in the healing journey. Additionally, we need to understand this process, including what the research tells us is "normal" to speak effectively on the subject in the courtroom.

This training will help learners better understand the disclosure process, including recantation. Learners will gain knowledge and resources- including the most updated research- along with practical solutions on incorporating the information into practice.

Conference Information

Everything you need to know before you go.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Health & Safety

The Supervised Visitation Network will follow the WHO, CDC, and State of Minnesota guidelines regarding all safety protocols.

Video / Photography

No personal audio, video, AI recording, transcribing, or photographing of sessions is permitted. SVN or its contractors may photograph or videotape sessions and events. By attending, attendees agree that their images may be used by SVN in publications, on the website, and in marketing or promotional materials, and waive SVN from liability resulting from these uses. If accompanying a minor who cannot be photographed, notify the registration desk at check-in.

Workshop Sessions and Presenters

SVN reserves the right to change the conference program at any time if unforeseen circumstances arise. SVN does not necessarily endorse or support the views of conference presenters.

Continuing Education Credits

Due to varying requirements among jurisdictions and disciplines, SVN is not seeking prior accreditation of educational programs for CEU credits. A certificate of attendance will be provided upon completion of the program for submission to a certifying agency. Consult your jurisdiction's rules for receiving continuing education credits.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written cancellation received by May 1, 2027 will receive a full refund minus a \$100 processing fee. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations after May 1, 2027. Attendees who register but do not pay or attend will be invoiced for the full registration fee. Register by May 1, 2027 to ensure your name appears on the attendee list and other conference materials.

Registration

Save your seat. Join the connection.

SAVE YOUR SEAT. JOIN THE CONNECTION.

SVNANNUALCONFERENCE.COM

In-Person Tuition Includes

- Attendance at all plenary sessions and workshops
- Access to session recordings following the event
- Conference Hub with handouts and materials
- Networking opportunities with up to 300 supervised visitation providers
- Meet leading experts in the field
- Discounted overnight rate at Embassy Suites Downtown Minneapolis

Virtual Tuition Includes

- Live, real-time virtual attendance for ALL sessions
- Unlimited access to all session recordings following the event
- Networking with up to 300 providers via the conference hub
- Meet leading experts in the field

Conference Registration Rates

Registration type	Early Bird SVN Member	Early Bird Non-Member	After Jan 1 SVN Member	After Jan 1 Non-Member
In-person attendee	\$449	\$549	\$499	\$599
1 virtual attendee	\$249	\$299	\$299	\$399
Up to 5 virtual attendees (same agency)	\$499	\$599	\$599	\$699

Register and reserve your hotel at svnannualconference.com.

PARTNER WITH PURPOSE

2027 SVN ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS

Support the work. Strengthen the connections.

Sponsoring the SVN Annual Conference supports the professionals working to protect children, strengthen families, and advance safe, trauma-informed practices. Your partnership helps expand education, collaboration, and resources while connecting your organization with an engaged hybrid audience.

WHO YOU WILL REACH

200–250 professionals nationwide, including supervised visitation providers, program directors, agency leaders, child welfare professionals, attorneys, judges, advocates, and system partners. Visibility extends to in-person and virtual attendees.

\$2,500

CONFERENCE HOST

- Premium conference hub space
- 2 complimentary registrations
- Logo on all marketing and at venue
- 3-month SVN webpage advertisement
- Marketing item in conference bag

\$1,500

- 30-second event spotlight
- Conference hub space
- 2 complimentary registrations
- Exhibit table
- Logo on marketing and at venue
- Marketing item in conference bag

\$1,000

- Logo on all marketing materials
- 1 complimentary registration
- Exhibit table
- Marketing item in conference bag

\$600

- Logo on all marketing materials
- 1 complimentary registration
- Exhibit table

MORE WAYS TO PARTNER

Additional opportunities include hosting a workshop, plenary session, or snack break. Custom opportunities may also be available.

READY TO PARTNER?

Joe Nullet | 904-419-7861 | joe@svnworldwide.org | svnworldwide.org/sponsorship-opportunities