Panel: What Parents Wish Schools Knew About Our Traumatized Kids

This panel of veteran parents will explore the challenges of obtaining trauma-informed, attachment-focused educational opportunities for their children. The three panelists are all experienced therapeutic parents of children who have developmental trauma disorder and attachment challenges. Each will share their journey of advocating and getting support for their children. Dana Brown, the Southern CA Regional Community Manager for ACEs Connections will moderate.

Anna Paravano, MS, CID, Education Director of the Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc. (ATN) Anna is an interior designer by degree, with over 34 years of experience, who has taught at the college level for 15 years. She holds a Masters in Family & Environmental Sciences with an emphasis on spirituality/space and human response to environments. At the age of 45, Anna's life focus shifted when she became a mom through adoption to a child with Complex Trauma. She is trained as a therapeutic parent in attachment, regulation therapy and Community Resilience Model (CRM). Anna now educates, develops curriculum, writes, coaches and consults with caregivers and organizations on attachment and trauma related topics.

Marc Deprey, Learning Media Coordinator, Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc. (ATN) as a former U.S. Senate staffer and successful entrepreneur, Deprey has characterized his and his wife's parenting of two adopted children of early trauma as the "most engaging challenge I've ever faced—bar none." Deprey has created several films on attachment trauma and parenting, as well as authored articles and essays. Deprey has successfully obtained special services for his two children. Deprey practices a relationship-based approach to therapeutic parenting and is a frequent presenter on childhood trauma, its effects on the brain, and the intense challenge this affliction poses to parents trying to heal their children in today's society.

Julie Beem, MBA, Executive Director of the Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc. (ATN), has led ATN –the VOICE of traumatized children and their families since 2009. She brings her background in business and heart for helping children and families to this work. But more importantly, she's the mom to four. Her youngest daughter has Developmental Trauma Disorder from the neglect and maltreatment during her first two years in an orphanage. Julie's journey to the right learning environment for her daughter began when she was "kicked out" of their church preschool, included hiring an attorney for a multi-year due process case, and eventually finding the right placement in Georgia's first virtual charter school.

Dana Brown, is a Social Entrepreneur and Co-Founder of Youth Voice and OurSOLES. A youth/community organizer who develops and facilitates Trauma-Informed curriculum, she was the Project Director of TICS: Trauma Informed Community Schools. A Commissioner on the Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention, Dana is presently on the Board of Directors for Youth Empowerment Focus and Youth Empowerment, HHSA's Trauma Informed Systems Integration Champion's Work Group, USD's Character Development Center's Advisory and SDPD's Police Recruiting Advisory Board. Ms. Brown has received numerous Awards over the years including President Obama's USA Volunteer Presidential Award in 2013 (for SDCP), the Joy McAllister Advocacy Award from Mental Health America in 2014 and the City of San Diego's Human Relations Commission Award in 2009.