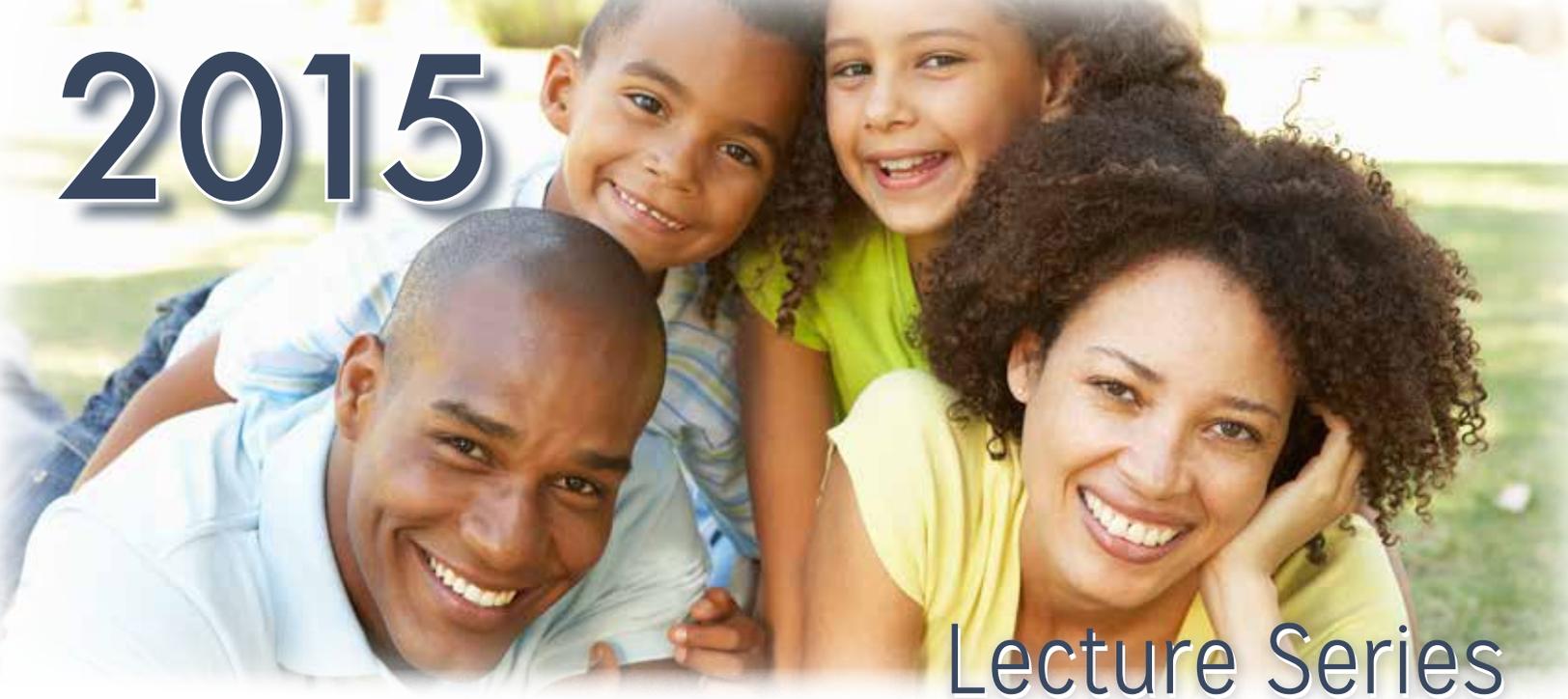


# 2015



## Lecture Series

Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative • [www.throughtheyes.org](http://www.throughtheyes.org)

### Making Adoption a Priority: The Role of Courts and Court Professionals in Meeting the Needs of Nebraska's Adoptive Families

#### DATES/LOCATIONS

**April 22, 2015**

Thompson Alumni House  
6705 Dodge St.  
Omaha, NE

8:45 am to 12:00 pm

**April 28, 2015**

Quality Inn & Suites  
7838 Hwy 281  
Grand Island, NE

8:45 am to 12:00 pm

**April 29, 2015**

Holiday Inn Express  
920 S. 20th  
Norfolk, NE

8:45 am to 12:00 pm

#### DESCRIPTION

Adoption is often misunderstood and is an area of specialty. Adoptive families are minority families and the community as a whole must take the time, care and attention to become educated about this population. From language, to assumptions and stereotypes, adoptive families regularly face additional challenges based on how their family was formed.

In work with families, the need for the various systems to be adoption competent is evident. Professionals from the court system play an imperative role in nurturing adoptive families both pre and post legal finalization. This presentation will explore how post-adoption challenges inform pre-adoption practices and the added complications families face when they again become court-involved after the finalization of their adoption or guardianship. The top Right Turn® priorities for improving adoption practices will be explored in detail along with practical applications to the legal profession. Judges and attorneys are powerful members of the adoption community and play an important role in advocating for necessary changes.

As Nebraska's post-adoption and guardianship support program, Right Turn® is on the cutting edge of best practice in post-adoption nationwide. Following the challenges presented after the 2008 original Safe Have Law – including 36 children left at safe sites, 75% of whom were in guardianship or adoptive homes – Right Turn® went to work to improve the circumstances for Nebraska's adoption community.

#### TRAINERS

- Courtney Schlueter, LMHP, LADC, Right Turn® Program Director
- Brenna Poindexter, B.A., Parent2Parent and Outreach Coordinator

