

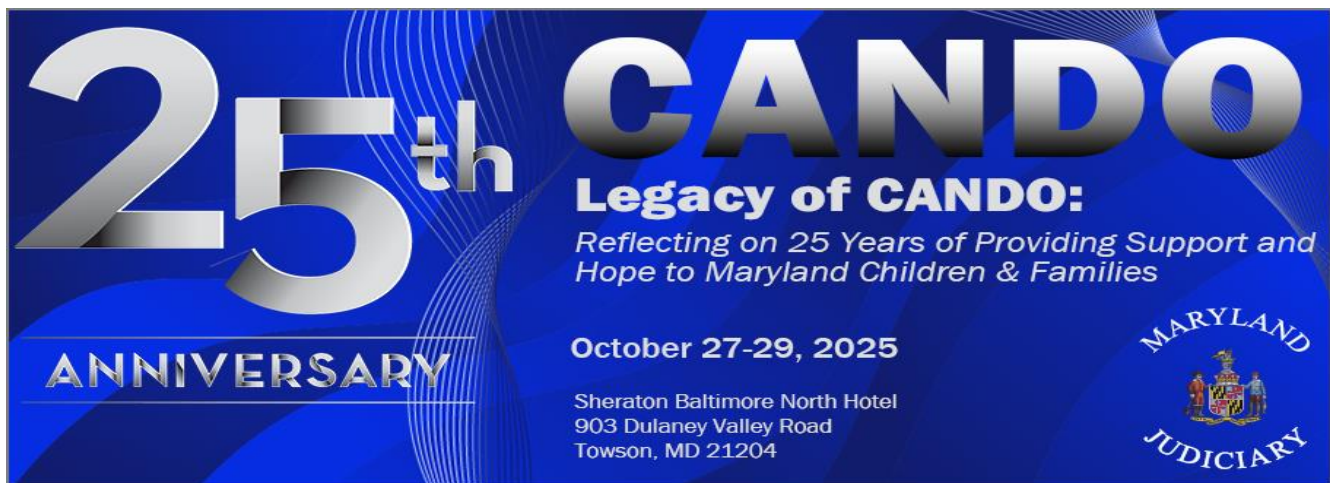


**Monday, October 27, 2025**

**MULTIDISCIPLINARY DAY**

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| 7:00 am – 8:30 am   | <b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Warfields Ballroom                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 7:30 am - 12:00 pm  | <b>REGISTRATION</b><br>Fitzgerald Foyer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 8:30 am - 8:45 am   | <b>WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTION</b><br><i>Honorable William Tucker, Circuit Court for Howard County<br/>Juvenile Law Committee Chair<br/>Honorable Julia Minner, Circuit Court for Frederick County<br/>Foster Care Court Improvement Program (FCCIP) Subcommittee Chair<br/>Honorable Yolanda Tanner, Circuit Court for Baltimore City<br/>Child Welfare Education Workgroup Chair</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b> |
| 8:45 am - 9:00 am   | <b>OPENING REMARKS</b><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 9:00 am – 10:15 am  | <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b><br><b>Connecting Child Welfare Courts to the Science of Hope</b><br><i>Angela B Pharris, PhD, MSW<br/>Hope Research Center, University of Oklahoma</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 10:15 am - 10:30 am | <b>SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTATION</b><br><i>Chief Justice Matthew J. Fader</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 10:30 am – 11:45 am | <b>PLENARY SESSION ONE</b><br><b>TEN-4-On Child Abuse: From Bruising to Biology and Preventing Harm</b><br><i>Mary Clyde Pierce, MD<br/>Ann &amp; Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 11:45 am – 1:00 pm  | <b>LUNCH</b><br>Warfields Ballroom                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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| 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm | <p><b>PLENARY SESSION TWO</b></p> <p><b>How Poverty Became Neglect in Federal and State Law and Policy: A 1961 Magic Trick</b></p> <p><i>Prudence Beidler Carr, Esq.</i><br/> <i>American Bar Association, Center on Children &amp; the Law</i><br/> <i>Joe Jones, President/CEO</i><br/> <i>The Center for Urban Families</i><br/> <i>Zachary Alberts</i><br/> <i>The Center for Urban Families</i><br/> <i>The Annie E. Casey Foundation Sponsored Session</i><br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b></p> |
| 2:30 pm – 2:40 pm | <p><b>REFRESHMENT BREAK</b></p> <p><b>Fitzgerald West Foyer</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2:40 pm – 3:40 pm | <p><b>AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS A</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Session A1        | <p><b>Part I: Creating a Hope Centered Child Welfare System</b></p> <p><i>Angela B. Pharris, PhD, MSW</i><br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Session A2        | <p><b>Debrief: How Poverty Became Neglect in Federal &amp; State Law and Policy: A 1961 Magic Trick</b></p> <p><i>Prudence Beidler Carr, Esq.</i><br/> <b>Warfield Ballroom</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Session A3        | <p><b>Ten-4-Application Debrief and Practice</b></p> <p><i>Mary Clyde Pierce, MD</i><br/> <b>Duncan Room</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Session A4        | <p><b>Juvenile Justice Introductions to the CINA Crowd-Juvenile Delinquency/CINS Considerations/Peace Orders, Crossover Matters</b></p> <p><i>Mary O'Donnell, Family Law Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Dorchester County</i><br/> <b>Owens Amphitheater</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Session A5        | <p><b>Considerations in CINA and Adult Guardianship Crossover Issues-What are alternatives to guardianships?</b></p> <p><i>Hon. Cathy Hollenberg Serrette (Sr.), Circuit Court for Prince George's County</i><br/> <i>Nisa C. Subasinghe, Esq., Maryland Judiciary</i><br/> <i>Jennifer Sullam, Esq., Department of Human Services</i><br/> <b>Lindsay Ballroom</b></p>                                                                                                                                        |
| Session A6        | <p><b>Science of Addiction/Science of Recovery from Addiction in Juveniles</b></p> <p><i>Cyril M. Scovens, MS, MAC, LCADC,</i><br/> <i>Scovens &amp; Associates, Inc.</i><br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3:40 pm-3:50 pm   | <p><b>NETWORKING BREAK</b></p> <p><b>Fitzgerald West Foyer</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



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| <b>3:55 pm-4:55 pm</b>   | <b>AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS B</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Session B1</b>        | <b>Part II: Strategies to Nurture Hope and Well-being</b><br><i>Angela B. Pharris, PhD, MSW</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Session B3</b>        | <b>Ten-4-Application Debrief and Practice</b><br><i>Mary Clyde Pierce, MD</i><br><b>Duncan Room</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Session B4</b>        | <b>Encore-Juvenile Justice Introductions to the CINA Crowd-Juvenile Delinquency/CINS Considerations/Peace Orders, Crossover Matters</b><br><i>Mary O'Donnell, Family Law Magistrate</i><br><i>Circuit Court for Dorchester County</i><br><b>Owens Amphitheater</b>                                                                                           |
| <b>Session B5</b>        | <b>Encore-Considerations in CINA and Adult Guardianship Crossover Issues-What are alternatives to guardianships?</b><br><i>Hon.Cathy Hollenberg Serrette (Sr.), Circuit Court for Prince George's County</i><br><i>Nisa C. Subasinghe, Esq., Maryland Judiciary</i><br><i>Jennifer Sullam, Esq., Department of Human Services</i><br><b>Lindsay Ballroom</b> |
| <b>Session B6</b>        | <b>Encore-Science of Addiction/Science of Recovery from Addiction in Juveniles</b><br><i>Cyril M. Scovens</i><br><i>Scovens &amp; Associates, Inc.</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>4:45 pm - 7:00 pm</b> | <b>LEGACY RECEPTION</b><br><b>Fitzgerald Foyer</b><br><b>Dinner</b><br><b>Served at 5:30 pm</b><br><b>Warfield Ballroom</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

# Visit the Court Resource Tables

Fitzgerald Foyer Plaza Level

## **Access to Justice**

*Kimberly Alvarez, Maggie Cao, Kristin Cravath, Brittany West*

## **Better Together Program**

*Natasha Khalfani, Amber Dortch, Mallory Branham*

## **Center for Adoption Support and Education (CASE)**

*Avi Burstein and Rachel Wegner*

## **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**

*Erica B. Byrne*

## **Juvenile Data/Tech Table**

*Brittany Clark, Danielle Fox, Hasashi Yamagata, Mark Vitale*

## **Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO)**

*Monica Villareal and Judy Muller*

## **Office of Problem-Solving Courts (OPSC)**

*Sabrina Papps*

## **TPR Proceedings Project (University of Maryland, School of Social Work)**

*Linda-Jeanne M. Mack*

***Special Thank You***

***to***

***Maryland Department of Human Services***

***and***

***The Annie E. Casey Foundation***



Tuesday, October 28, 2025

## JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES' DAY

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00am – 8:30 am    | <b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Warfields Ballroom, Plaza Level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 8:15 am - 8:30 am   | <b>WELCOME REMARKS</b><br><i>Honorable Lara Weathersbee, Circuit Court for Howard County<br/>Juvenile Justice Subcommittee Chair</i><br><i>Honorable Yolanda Tanner, Circuit Court for Baltimore City<br/>Child Welfare Education Workgroup Chair</i><br>Fitzgerald Ballroom B & C                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8:30 am – 9:30 am   | <b>PLENARY SESSION THREE</b><br><b>Crossing State Lines: Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ)</b><br><i>Honorable Charles Blomquist, Circuit Court of Baltimore City</i><br><i>Honorable Stephanie Porter, Circuit Court of Howard County</i><br><i>MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director, Interstate Commission for Juveniles</i><br><i>Sherry Jones, ICJ Commissioner, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services</i><br>Fitzgerald Ballroom B & C |
| 9:30 am-10:00 am    | <b>JURISDICTIONAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT</b><br><b>Anne Arundel County Circuit Court Dog Program</b><br><i>Kim Klein, Director of Court Operations</i><br><b>Handler and Dog Teams</b><br><i>Jovone Brady and K9 Pippa</i><br><i>Pat Eller and K9 Cassidy</i><br><i>Bob Riera and K9 Aggie</i><br>Fitzgerald Ballroom B & C                                                                                                                               |
| 10:05 am – 10:30 am | <b>PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT</b><br><b>Center for Adoptions Support and Education (C.A.S.E.)</b><br><i>Avi Burstein, LCPC</i><br><i>Chief Operating Officer</i><br>Fitzgerald Ballroom B & C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 10:30 am-10:45 am   | <b>CONFERENCE BREAK AND NETWORKING</b><br>Fitzgerald West Foyer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| 10:45 am 12:00 pm  | <b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Session C1         | <p><b>Nuts and Bolts of CINA</b><br/> <i>Neeta Kataria, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Baltimore City</i><br/> <b>Duncan Room</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Session C2         | <p><b>Resourceful Solutions for Maryland Families in Juvenile Court</b><br/> <i>Richard “Gray” Barton, Director</i><br/> <i>Office of Problem Solving Courts</i><br/> <i>Maryland Judiciary</i><br/> <b>Session Facilitator</b></p> <p><b>Family Recovery Courts</b><br/> <i>Kristin Peacock, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Baltimore City</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Jocelyn Gainer, Executive Director</i><br/> <i>The Family Recovery Program, Inc.</i></p> <p><b>CINA/TPR Mediation Programs</b><br/> <i>Vicki Wolfson, Esq.</i><br/> <i>Attorney at Law and Mediator</i></p> <p><b>Truancy Court</b><br/> <i>Bruce Edwards, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Prince George’s County</i><br/> <b>Lindsay Ballroom</b></p> |
| Session C3         | <p><b>Nuts and Bolts of Delinquency</b><br/> <i>Lena Kim, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Montgomery County</i></p> <p><i>James T. Speis, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Allegany County</i><br/> <b>Owens Amphitheatre</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Session C4         | <p><b>Getting to Permanency for Older Youth</b><br/> <i>Dr. Alger Studstill, Executive Director</i><br/> <i>Social Services Administration</i><br/> <i>Department of Human Services</i><br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm | <b>LEGACY LUNCHEON</b><br><b>Warfields Ballroom</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm  | <b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS D</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Session D5         | <p><b>Nuts and Bolts of TPR</b><br/> <i>Honorable Troy Hill</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Baltimore City</i><br/> <b>Duncan Room</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |



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| Session D2        | <p><b>Resourceful Solutions for Maryland Families in Juvenile Court</b><br/> <i>Richard “Gray” Barton, Director</i><br/> <i>Office of Problem Solving Courts</i><br/> <i>Maryland Judiciary</i><br/> <b>Session Facilitator</b></p> <p><b>Family Recovery Courts</b><br/> <i>Kristin Peacock, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Baltimore City</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Jocelyn Gainer, Executive Director</i><br/> <i>The Family Recovery Program, Inc.</i></p> <p><b>CINA/TPR Mediation Programs</b><br/> <i>Vicki Wolfson, Esq.</i><br/> <i>Attorney at Law and Mediator</i></p> <p><b>Truancy Court</b><br/> <i>Bruce Edwards, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Prince George’s County</i><br/> <i>Lindsay Ballroom</i></p> |
| Session D3        | <p><b>Encore-Nuts and Bolts of Delinquency</b><br/> <i>Lena Kim, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Montgomery County</i></p> <p><i>James T. Speis, Family Magistrate</i><br/> <i>Circuit Court for Allegany County</i><br/> <b>Owens Amphitheatre</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Session D6        | <p><b>SSA Conversation with Judges and Magistrates</b><br/> <i>Dr. Alger Studstill, Executive Director</i><br/> <i>Social Services Administration</i><br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm | <p><b>CONFERENCE SNACK BREAK</b><br/> <i>Fitzgerald West Foyer</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| 3:15 pm-3:30 pm | <p><b>JURISDICTIONAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT</b></p> <p><b>Juvenile Data Dashboard</b></p> <p><i>Jamie Lynn Walter, Ph.D., Program Director</i></p> <p><i>Research and Analysis</i></p> <p><i>Maryland Judiciary</i></p> <p><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b></p>                                                |
| 3:30 pm-4:45 pm | <p><b>PLENARY SESSION FIVE</b></p> <p><b>“No Such Thing As A Bad Kid!”-Reshaping the Lives of At-Risk Youth Using a Positive, Trauma-Informed, Strength-Based Approach”</b></p> <p><i>Charles Appelstein, MSW</i></p> <p><i>Appelstein Training Resources</i></p> <p><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b></p> |
| 5:30 pm-6:45 pm | <p><b>LEGACY DINNER</b></p> <p><b>Special Performance</b></p> <p><i>Morgan Brown, Contemporary Violist</i></p> <p><b>Warfields Ballroom</b></p>                                                                                                                                                               |





**Wednesday, October 29, 2025**  
**JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES' DAY**

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| 8:00 am – 9:00 am   | <b>BREAKFAST</b><br>Warfields Ballroom                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 9:00 am – 9:05 am   | <b>WELCOME REMARKS</b><br><i>Honorable William Tucker, Juvenile Law Committee Chair</i><br><i>Circuit Court for Howard County</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 9:05 am -10:15 am   | <b>PLENARY SESSION SIX</b><br><b>Maryland Legislative and Case Law Update -Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice</b><br><i>Senior Judge Theresa Adams</i><br><i>Circuit for Frederick County</i><br><i>Ann Sheridan, Office the Attorney General</i><br><i>Department of Human Services</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10:15 am – 10:45 am | <b>JURISDICTIONAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT</b><br><b>Baltimore City Adolescent Resource Fair &amp; Links Programs</b><br><i>Renée Myrie, MSW, LCSW-C, LPN</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 10:45 am-11:00 am   | <b>PLENARY SESSION SEVEN</b><br><b>DJS Highlights and Updates</b><br><i>Secretary Betsy Tolentino</i><br><i>Maryland Department of Juvenile Services</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 11:00 am – 11:15am  | <b>JURISDICTIONAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT</b><br><b>Jurisdictional Permanency Planning Liaisons</b><br><i>Honorable Julia Minner, Circuit Court for Frederick County</i><br><i>Natalie Tupta, Maryland Judiciary</i><br><i>Staci Cook, Second Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Wendy Hawkins, Third Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Laurie Baker, Fourth Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Tiffany Lens, Fifth Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Kelly Uhas, Sixth Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Davida Sylvain, Seventh Judicial Circuit</i><br><i>Mark Vitale, Eight Judicial Circuit</i><br><b>Fitzgerald Ballroom B &amp; C</b> |

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| 11:15 am-11:45 am  | <b>SNACK BREAK</b><br><b>Fitzgerald West Foyer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 11:45pm 12:45pm    | <b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND E</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Session E1         | <p><b>Waiver Transfer</b><br/> Honorable Matthew Maciarello<br/> Circuit Court of Wicomico<br/> Michael A. Kwitkowski, Psy.D.<br/> Maryland Department of Public Safety &amp; Correctional Services<br/> Sgt. Athena R. Brown,<br/> Talbot County Department of Corrections<br/> Shelby Schestag, NCC, CAC-AD, CSOTP, CCTP, LCPC<br/> Chesapeake Treatment Center / Maryland Treatment Centers<br/> William Johnson<br/> Department of Juvenile Services, Court and Investigative Services<br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b></p>        |
| Session E2         | <p><b>Motivational Interviewing in the Legal Setting</b><br/> University of Maryland School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry<br/> Christopher M. Wilk, MD<br/> Margaret Woodbury, MD<br/> <b>Duncan Room</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Session E3         | <p><b>Trauma Informed Care vs. Healing Centered Engagement</b><br/> Dr. Niani Smith, LICSW, LCSWC, CCTP<br/> <b>Owens Amphitheatre</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm | <b>LUNCH</b><br>Warfields Ballroom                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm  | <b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND F</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Session F1         | <p><b>Encore-Waiver Transfer</b><br/> Honorable Matthew Maciarello<br/> Circuit Court of Wicomico<br/> Michael A. Kwitkowski, Psy.D.<br/> Maryland Department of Public Safety &amp; Correctional Services<br/> Sgt. Athena R. Brown,<br/> Talbot County Department of Corrections<br/> Shelby Schestag, NCC, CAC-AD, CSOTP, CCTP, LCPC<br/> Chesapeake Treatment Center / Maryland Treatment Centers<br/> William Johnson<br/> Department of Juvenile Services, Court and Investigative Services<br/> <b>Fitzgerald Ballroom A</b></p> |
| Session F2         | <p><b>Encore-Motivational Interviewing in the Legal Setting</b><br/> University of Maryland School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry<br/> Christopher M. Wilk, MD<br/> Margaret Woodbury, MD<br/> <b>Duncan Room</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Session F3         | <p><b>Encore-Trauma Informed Care vs. Healing Centered Engagement</b><br/> Dr. Niani Smith, LICSW, LCSWC, CCTP<br/> <b>Owens Amphitheatre</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

# 25<sup>th</sup>

## ANNIVERSARY

# CANDO

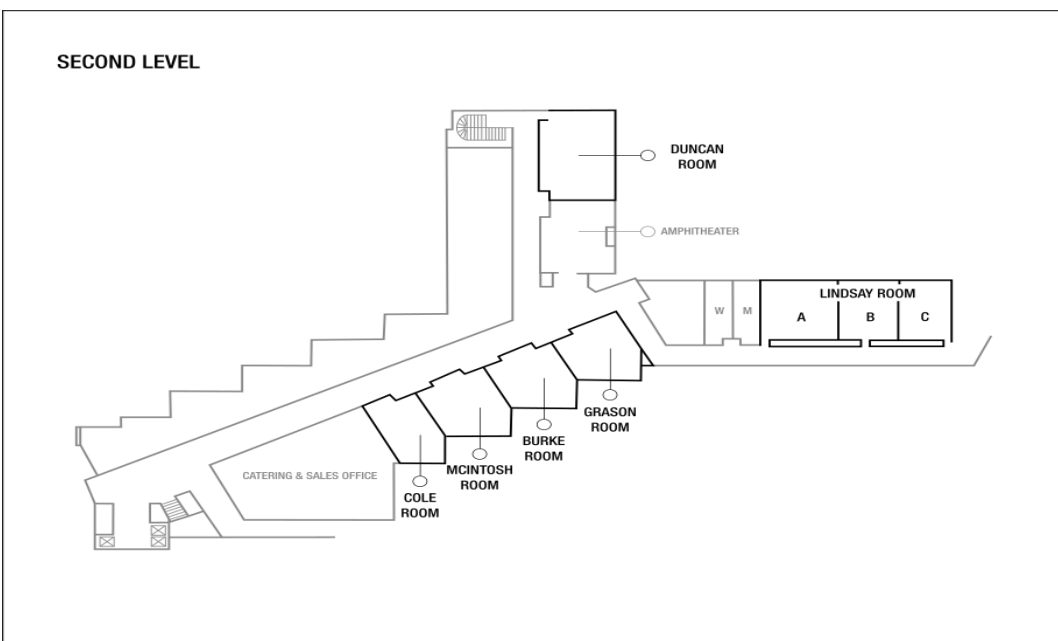
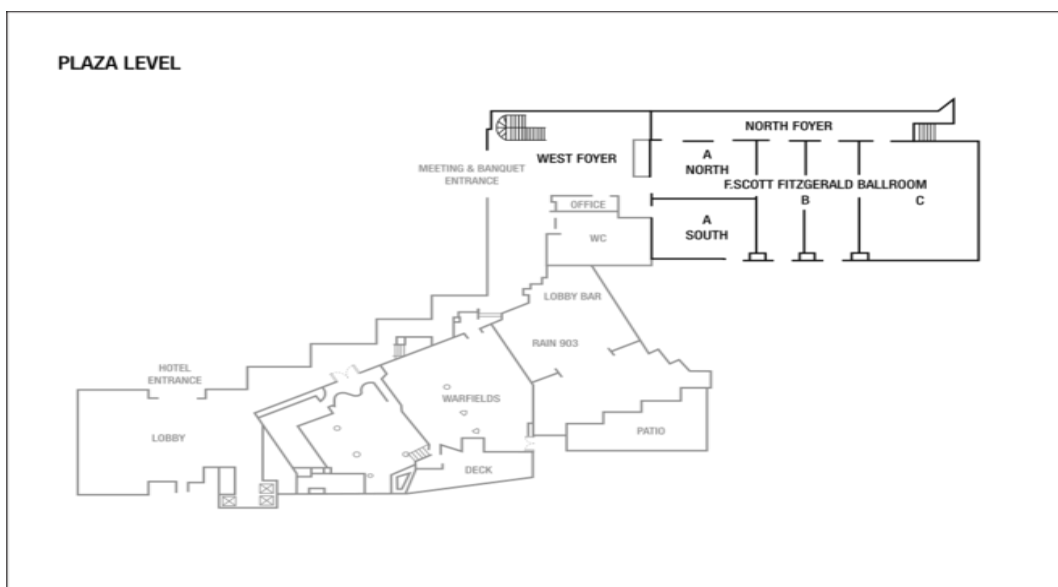
### Legacy of CANDO:

Reflecting on 25 Years of Providing Support and Hope to Maryland Children & Families

**October 27-29, 2025**

Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel  
903 Dulany Valley Road  
Towson, MD 21204





# Thank You for Continuing the Legacy of CANDO

## **2025 CANDO PLANNING COMMITTEE**

*Child Welfare Education Workgroup Members*

*Juvenile Justice Subcommittee Members*

*Foster Care Court Improvement Program Staff*

*Juvenile & Family Services Staff*

*Court Resources Table Representatives*

*Permanency Planning Liasons*



Funding for this conference was provided in part by the Maryland Judiciary's Foster Care Court Improvement Program (CIP) Grant bestowed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau.