

EVERYDAY HEROES CONFERENCE

December 3-4, 2025

Trinity Health Hospital, Prairie Rose Conference Center, Minot, ND



Northern Plains
Children's Advocacy Center

AGENDA

Day 1 – December 3

9:50 – 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Overview of the day's agenda and objectives.

10:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Ethical Considerations for Trauma-Informed Care

Presenter: Benjamin Parker, LCSW & Kaycee Verlinde, LMSW

Much like bleach poured on dark fabric, trauma works itself into the very fibers of our lives and causes fundamental changes. Well-meaning professionals may find themselves unsure how to navigate helping those impacted by traumatic experiences, especially when multiple systems are involved with competing interests. In this presentation, trauma and trauma-informed care will be defined, and special ethical considerations will be explored. Participants will apply ethical decision-making models to complex case examples involving trauma to enhance their competency and confidence in following their ethical code, workplace policies, and personal values.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Small Injuries, Big Implications

Presenter: Hannah Pavek, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, SANE-P

This session will equip attendees with the knowledge and skills to recognize sentinel injuries indicative of child physical abuse (CPA), understand the mechanisms of these injuries, conduct appropriate screenings, and fulfill mandatory reporting obligations to protect vulnerable children.

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 – 5:15 p.m.

Managing Concerns for Child Sexual Abuse

Presenter: Hannah Pavek, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, SANE-P

This session will help MDT members better understand medical findings related to child sexual abuse. Participants will review normal anatomy, learn why most exams appear normal even after abuse, and recognize common conditions that can be mistaken for abuse. The session will also provide practical tools and strategies to support prevention efforts in our community.

AGENDA

Day 2 – December 4

9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Keeping Children Safe Online: Understanding Cyberbullying, Grooming, and Exploitation

Part I

Presenter: *Cassidy Halseth, ND BCI, Taylor Schiller, ND BCI, Jared Olson, ND BCI and Analena Lunde, ND BCI*

How are kids really experiencing the online world, and how are offenders using those same spaces to exploit them? This session gives MDT members a clearer picture through real case examples, including the Shaun Graham investigation. We will explore the digital behaviors, platforms, and red flags we are seeing, and share practical ways teams can identify concerns, preserve evidence, and support victims. The focus is on early communication across schools, law enforcement, child protection, prosecutors, and victim services so we can respond quickly, protect kids, and walk alongside families with care.

11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

Part II

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: *Cassidy Halseth, ND BCI, Taylor Schiller, ND BCI, Jared Olson, ND BCI and Analena Lunde, ND BCI*

3:30 – 3:45 p.m. Closing Remarks and Evaluation

Thank you for being part of the 2025 Everyday Heroes Conference

The work you do to support and protect children and families matters every day. We are honored to share this time with you, learning, connecting, and standing together to create safer communities and help every child find hope, healing, and the chance to thrive.



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PRESENTER BIOS



Hannah Pavek, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, SANE-P
Pediatric SANE since 2017. Earned her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the University of Minnesota. Board-certified pediatric nurse practitioner and certified pediatric SANE at Sanford Children's CARE Clinic in Fargo, providing care for children with concerns of sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect.



Benjamin Parker, LCSW

Supervisor of Clinical Services at NPCAC since 2021. Holds an MSW from Florida State University and a BSW from Minot State University. Previous experience in skills training, domestic violence, and group counseling.



Kaycee Verlinde, LMSW

Child & Family Therapist at NPCAC since 2024. Holds an MSW from the University of South Dakota and a BSW from Minot State University. Previous experience in crisis intervention and working with adults with disabilities.



PRESENTER BIOS



Cassidy Halseth, ND BCI

Cassidy Halseth is a Special Agent with the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation's Cyber Crime Unit. He has worked in law enforcement since 2002, including 15 years with the Minot Police Department as a patrol officer and detective. Cassidy joined the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in 2012, which shaped his focus on investigating child exploitation and digital evidence. He is a Certified Forensic Computer Examiner and currently serves as North Dakota's ICAC Commander, supporting more than 100 task force members statewide. Cassidy is also a certified Electronic Detection K-9 handler and works alongside K-9 Special Agent Jab to help locate critical electronic evidence in child exploitation cases.



Taylor Schiller, ND BCI

Taylor Schiller began his law enforcement career in 2012 and has served in patrol and investigative roles with agencies in Harvey, Pierce County, and Ward County. He has experience as a field training officer and was recognized as the Ward County Sheriff's Department Employee of the Year in 2020. In 2020, Taylor moved into investigations and was assigned to both the ND Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Human Trafficking Task Force, receiving specialized training in child abuse and cybertip investigations. He joined the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation in 2024 and continues his work focused on protecting children and supporting complex digital investigations.



PRESENTER BIOS



Dr. Analena Lunde, ND BCI

Dr. Analena Lunde is a Victim Witness Specialist with the North Dakota BCI Victim Services Unit, bringing more than 25 years of experience in critical care nursing, forensics, public health, and victim advocacy. She has extensive training in human trafficking, child exploitation, and victim assistance, and works closely with multidisciplinary partners across state, federal, tribal, and local agencies. Dr. Lunde is a Forensic Nurse Examiner who has provided expert testimony in both adult and pediatric cases, and she continues to teach public health and leadership courses for nursing programs nationwide. She also serves on several boards and task forces, including the Western Region Child Abduction Response Team, and delivers prevention and resiliency programming for at-risk youth and trafficking survivors. Dr. Lunde is a recipient of multiple awards, including the 2022 NDBCI Civilian of the Year and the 2021 Health Equity Champion Award.

Jared Olson, ND BCI

Jared Olson is a Special Agent with the North Dakota BCI Cyber Crime Unit. He began his law enforcement career with the Ward County Sheriff's Department in 2013, later serving as Sergeant of the Investigations Division. At NDBCI, Jared conducts digital forensic examinations on mobile devices, computers, and other electronic media, and is a member of the North Dakota Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Throughout his career, he has investigated numerous child sexual abuse and exploitation cases and has helped identify multiple victims through his forensic work.

