INTERNATIONAL FJC ONFERENCE 13 and 14 November 2019 Antwerp

One Safe Place for Hope and Empowerment

Strategies, Tools and Products to build and support Family Justice Center and related multidisciplinary approaches of Gender-Based Violence, Domestic Violence and Child Abuse

Biography of the speakers

An is a Flemish actress. She was on stage for the first time with Kindervreugd, an Antwerp association that organizes all kinds of activities for children and young people. Then she started her professional career at the Fakkelteater.

An Nelissen



Annemiek Wolthuizen



Annemieke Wolthuis is researcher and trainer affiliated with Restorative Justice Nederland and the Restorative Justice Academy in Amsterdam. Her specific expertise concerns restorative justice and children's rights and she has participated in different research projects on mediation in case of partner violence. She also works as a mediator, in youth cases, criminal cases and neighborhood conflicts. She is furthermore vice-chair of the European Forum for Restorative Justice.

Bart De Wever has been general chairman of the New Flemish Alliance (N-VA) since 2004. He helped lay the foundations for the young party. He succeeded in his ambition to make the N-VA the ultimate people's party of Flanders, which defends the common interests of all 6.5 million Flemish people.

Since 2004, he has served as a representative in several of the country's parliaments, including the Senate. Since 2013, he has also been mayor of Antwerp, the largest city in Flanders.

Bart De Wever



Bert Groen



Bert Groen is the president of the European Family Justice Center Alliance and the founder of the European FJC-movement. He has 30+ years of professional experience in policing, policymaking and project management with a focus on domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking and child abuse, both as former police inspector and as project team leader of various national and international projects in this field.

Carolien is the President Elect Soroptimist International of Europe. In 1990 she took over a sleeping real estate company, invested, worked very hard and made it to a company specialized in Retail Investment: first only implementing and building supermarkets, later renovation projects in old city centers. Nowadays her job is remodeling Food Supermarkets for e- commerce handling.

Carolien Demey



Chan Hellman



Chan M. Hellman is a professor of social work at the University of Oklahoma and Director of The Hope Research Center. He has written more than 150 scientific publications and has presented at numerous national and international conferences worldwide. Chan's research is focused on the application of hope theory to those impacted by trauma and adversity. He is also interested in the impact of prevention and intervention services on increasing and sustaining client hope. Chan teaches master's and doctoral level students primarily in the areas of positive psychology, research methods, and statistics. He also directs student research in the areas of hope and nonprofit organizations.

Davy Simons (°1996) has a master degree in Criminology and Communication Science. From 1997 he has worked as a criminologist for the City of Antwerp, involved in a range of activities and themes as youth-at-risk, drug abuse and related crime, homelessness, radicalization, etc. Simons set up different innovative projects and partnerships. From 2012 he focused himself in Domestic Violence approaches. Starting as coordinator of the CO3chain-approach-project that developed to the Antwerp Family Justice Center 'Veilig Thuis'. Since June 2019 he is advisor to the alderman of social affairs, poverty reduction, community development, social economy, environment and worship services. Davy is Secretary of the European Family Justice Center Alliance.

Davy Simons



Dorien Jeltema



Dorien Jeltema studied General, Theoretical and Historical Pedagogy at the University of Amsterdam and worked as a policy advisor and project manager at the municipality of Amsterdam. After a train-thetrainer in communication skills and "moral judgment". From 2008 to 214 she worked as a director on shaping G&I Netherlands as an organization consultancy. After that, it has been built to date in the G&I Healthcare sector. She has extensive experience in the broad field of Governance & Integrity at a multitude of organizations, such as defense, various municipalities and youth care institutions, with the emphasis on guiding moral learning processes. In recent years, she has focused more on education and public (youth) healthcare.

Dries is the coordinator of the Family Justice Center Limburg. He is also a member of the Supervisory Board of the European Family Justice Center Alliance and three-time winner of the Belgian Crime Prevention Award (2007, 2008 and 2010). Dries was the initiator '1dagniet.be', a national day of action and a citizens' initiative on the prevention of domestic burglary. Dries started his career in 1999 as a freelance journalist.

Dries Wijckmans



Gael Strack



Gael Strack is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Alliance for HOPE International.
Programs of the Alliance include: National Family
Justice Center Alliance, Training Institute on
Strangulation Prevention, Camp HOPE America,
Justice Legal Network and VOICES Survivor Network.
Prior Gael served as the Founding Director of the San
Diego Family Justice Center, 2002-2007. Former
prosecutor at the San Diego City Attorney's Office.

Gijs Simons is a relationship and family therapist at the Mutsaersstichting. Collaboration in all areas within the broader context is central to Gijs and is, in his view, essential for an integrated approach for the family. From this background, Gijs supervises various projects from the Ministry of Security and Justice and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. Gijs is also trainer and supervisor of the Multifocus intervention to stop domestic violence.

Gijs Simons



Henk Giebels



Henk is a system therapist and trainer Multifocus. He worked as manager until 2007. From 2007 to 2017 intensive case case manager/system therapist for the implementation of Temporary House Prohibitions. From 2007 until now Henk works as a system therapist with multi-stressed families.

Inge is since 2018n the President Soroptimist International Belgium. Inge worked for years as a Human Resources Consultant. She used this experience at Soroptimist and used it mainly when she was jointly responsible for the expansion of the NGO on a national level. Attracting new members and ensuring that existing members are satisfied motivated her time and again to look at what this required. Since Inge joined club Knokke-Oostkust in 1999, she has held various positions, including chairman and PR manager. Internationally, Inge has participated and continues to participate in numerous meetings

Inge Scholte



Ingrid Bellander



Ingrid Bellander-Todino is Acting Head of the Gender Equality unit of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. She is leading the unit's work on promoting actions to achieve gender equality in the European Union, including closing the gender pay gap, increasing female labour market participation representation in decision-making positions and combating violence against women and girls. She has previously worked in the area of security and criminal procedural law, and in particular victims' rights. Before joining the European Commission in 2004, Ingrid worked as legal counsel for the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a UN agency based in Rome. She has also practiced EU law in an international law firm in Brussels. Ingrid has a law degree from Uppsala University in Sweden and a

Master's degree in EU Law from Université Libre de

James Henderson is currently the Director of Offender Accountability for the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention and a private consultant. From 2002-2019 he has provided technical assistance for the US Department of Justice to federally funded grantees through The Domestic Abuse Intervention Project and/or the Battered Women's Justice Project. He has partnered with several national and international training organizations on a multitude of projects around violence, abuse, collaboration and intervention. He is also the clinical director of Accountable Choices, a Batterer Intervention and Fatherhood Program within the Detroit metropolitan area since 1995.

James Henderson

Bruxelles in Belgium



Luk Lemmens



Luk Lemmens has been active as a politician since 1975. He was, among other things, a municipal councilor and a vice-chairman of the CPAS of the city of Antwerp. Since 2012, Luk Lemmens is the first representative of the province of Antwerp, responsible for spatial planning, mobility, heritage and education. Until the decline of the provinces in 2018, he was also responsible for culture. Luk Lemmens nevertheless plays an active role in the museum landscape in Antwerp as chairman of De Museumstichting (Fashion Museum, Photo Museum, DIVA) and the KMSKA.

Karen Moykens is since 2014 the Secretary-General of the Department of Welfare, Public Health and Family of the Government of Flanders. From 2009-2013 she was the head of Cabinet of Mr. Jo Vandeurzen, Minister of Welfare, Public Health and Family and from 2009-2015 member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Holding and Investment Company N.V

. Karine Moykens



Karen Slembrouck



Professional Bachelor of Legal Practice and employed at FOD Justice. Since 2014 in contact with CO3, for two years actively involved in the growth of the FJC Antwerp as a voice / ambassador and the start-up of fellow survivors.

Katrien Lauwaert is policy coordinator of the non-governmental organisation Moderator Forum for restorative justice and mediation. Moderator offers victim-offender mediation for adult offenders and their victims in Flanders, acts as a forum for public discussion about the development of more participatory and democratic ways of doing justice and initiates innovative practices in this field. Katrien is also Bianchi professor for restorative justice at VU University Amsterdam and senior affiliated researcher at the University of Leuven. She is a founding member of the European Forum for Restorative Justice.

Katrien Lauwaerts



Lienja van Eijkern



Lienja van Eijkern, social worker and sociologist, works for the Mutsaersstichting. She has been working in the field of domestic violence and child abuse as social worker, child protective services worker, researcher and innovator. Until 2009 she was manager of the Advice and Support Center for Domestic Violence in Groningen. Later she developed and implanted interventions to stop domestic violence and child abuse for various municipalities.

Monika Queisser is Senior Counsellor to the Director of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs
Directorate and the Head of Social Policy Division at the OECD, where she supervises and coordinates the work on social protection, social indicators, pensions, affordable housing and family policies. Furthermore, she also manages the OECD Gender Initiative which examines gender inequalities in education, employment and entrepreneurship. As a champion of gender-related issues she frequently intervenes in expert groups, forums and panels worldwide.

Monika Queisser



Nancy Van Eynde



Nancy Van Eynde is a trained social nurse, criminologist and Gestalt therapist. She started her professional career in victim support at the Department of Justice. Since 2001 she has gained a wealth of experience as mediator for the nongovernmental organisation Moderator Forum for restorative justice and mediation, working with victims, offenders and their environments.

Pascale Franck, criminologist and orthopedagogue, is the vice-president of the European Family Justice Center Alliance and the co-director of the Family Justice Center Antwerp. She works for the Flemish government in enrolling the multidisciplinary approach of gender-based and domestic violence and child abuse.

Pascale Franck



Ruud Meij



Ruud Meij is a philosopher and partner in Governance & Integrity bv. He studied cultural work, followed the supervisor training and studied philosophy in Nijmegen and Amsterdam. He has extensive experience in the broad field of Governance & Integrity at a multitude of organizations, with the emphasis on guiding moral learning processes. In recent years he has focused more on education and public health care. Ruud Meij earned his spurs in education and in training and consultancy work and cherished as an important mission to bring philosophy back to its birthplace: the market. This ambition has been completed with the establishment and success of Governance & Integrity. He works as a trainer and advisor on major integrity programs in the government, in education and in healthcare, and does so in the Netherlands, Belgium and the Ukraine.

Tom Meeuws is an Antwerp politician for the sp.a party. He studied Pedagogy at the Catholic University of Leuven. Between 2001 and 2003 Meeuws was active as head of cabinet for Chantal Pauwels, alderman for community development. After that he worked as director of the community development department of the city of Antwerp for ten years. Between 2013 and 2015 Meeuws was regional director for De Lijn in Antwerp, and after that he became active as an independent social entrepreneur. In 2016 Meeuws was elected chairman for sp.a Antwerp. After the municipal elections of 2018 he was elected member of the city council. Since January of 2019 he has been active as alderman for social affairs, poverty reduction, community development, social economy, environment and worship services. In addition, Meeuws is currently president of the Social Services Special Committee.

Tom Meeuws

