



For Immediate Release

Institute for Human Services

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Release Date: August 26, 2021

Institute for Human Services' International Expert Dr. Maria Herczog Presents at Conference on Child in a Kinship Care

Columbus, OH – August 25, 2021 - The Institute for Human Services' International Expert, Dr. Maria Herczog presented on the topic of *Kinship Care Around the World* at the [Parent Resources for Information, Development, and Education \(PRIDE-CZ\) International Conference: Child in a Kinship Care](#) on August 25.

The conference provided an opportunity to explore examples of good practice in the field of training and accompanying kinship caregivers and gain further development of the PRIDE model. Dr. Herczog discussed, at the global level, the variety of kinship care in different regions and countries. She explored the advantages and challenges of both informal and formal kinship care, the need for support for them and the children in their care. Participants were able to share their own experiences and discuss how to develop child welfare and protection systems to prevent traumatic separation from their families while providing safe, nurturing and permanent living arrangements in a family setting for at risk children.

[PRIDE](#) is a model for training and support for foster, adoptive and kinship resource families in 22 countries outside the US. Their competency-based curriculum trains and supports families in five categories: protecting and nurturing children, meeting children's developmental needs and addressing developmental delays, supporting children's relationships with their birth families, connecting children to safe, nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime, and working as a member of a professional team.

Dr. Maria Herczog Ph.D., sociologist, has been a senior policy analyst at Institute for Human Services, in Columbus, Ohio since June 2018. Find out more about [Dr. Herczog](#) by visiting our website.

The core work of the Institute for Human Services involves assessing organizational and system practice; building capacity to achieve best practices through education, training, coaching and technical support; and helping organizations navigate through every step of the organizational developmental process to better protect and serve children, and strengthen their families.

If you would like to find out more about the Institute for Human Services and how they might help your organization, contact us.

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