



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20 23



MAY 11 - 13, 2023 • SHOCCO SPRINGS

1314 Shocco Springs Road, Talladega, AL 35160

WELCOME!

2023 CONFERENCE

On behalf of the entire AFAPA Board of Directors', we would like to welcome you to our 2023 Annual Conference. We hope that you are able to connect with others during this time and head back home with more "tools" in your "toolbelt" to better support children in your care.

We've been planning all year in hopes that this conference will be the best one yet! As always, let us know if we can better serve you throughout your time here. Thank you for all that you do for the children of Alabama!



**BUDDY HOOPER,
AFAPA PRESIDENT**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

Time	Location	Topic	Speaker
7:00-8:00 AM	Dining Hall	BREAKFAST	
8:00-8:30 AM	Chapel	Welcome / AFAPA Elections	Buddy Hooper, AFAPA President
8:30-10:00 AM	Chapel	Legal rights of birth parents, children & foster parents	Felicia Brooks, State DHR Attorney
10:00-10:15 AM		BREAK	
10:15-11:45 AM	Chapel	Life after adoption	Leslie Hales
	Bagley 300	Workshop: Teamwork (ISP, Visits, etc.)	Martha Hooper
	Bagley 1206	Workshop: Independent Living	Bill Benson, State DHR
12:00-1:00 PM	Dining Hall	LUNCH	
1:15-2:45 PM	Chapel	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) & Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)	Karen Poteet
	Bagley 300	Beyond the Labels	Jamie Sellers, Glenwood

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 11 - FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

Time	Location	Topic	Speaker
1:15-2:45 PM	Bagley 1206	Workshop: Ethnic Hair & Skin Care	Sonji Patterson, Songee'z Station Hair Salon
2:45-3:00 PM		Break	
3:00-4:30 PM	Chapel	Foster Parents Bill of Rights	Buddy Hooper & Becky Bevis, State DHR
	Bagley 1206	Workshop: Ethnic Hair & Skin Care	Sonji Patterson, Songee'z Station Hair Salon
	Bagley 300	Kinship Updates	Keith Lowhorne & Heather Branam
5:00-6:00 PM	Dining Hall	DINNER	
6:15-7:30 PM	Chapel	Foster Parent Trivia & The "OldieWed" Game	
Friday Sessions			
7:00-8:00 AM	Dining Hall	BREAKFAST	
8:30-10:00 AM	Chapel	Welcome Ceremony & Special Recognitions	Buddy Hooper & Nancy Buckner, State Commissioner

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

Time	Location	Topic	Speaker
10:00-10:15 AM		BREAK	
10:15-11:45 AM	Chapel	Keynote Speaker	Antonio Grate
12:00-1:00 PM		LUNCH* (Lunch for local County Reps with AFAPA in Board Room 223)	
1:15-2:45 PM	Chapel	All Things IEP	Corrie Merchant, Alabama Parent Education Center
	Bagley 300	Workshop: "Face to File"	Samantha Whitley & Torre McDonald, Children's Aid Society
	Bagley 1206	Workshop: "Trash - A Foster Care Journey"	Keisha Jackson, Author
2:45-3:00 PM		BREAK	
3:00-4:30 PM	Chapel	Road Map to Adoption	Carla Easterling, State DHR
	Bagley 300	Workshop: Prudent Parenting	Buddy Hooper & Becky Bevis, State DHR

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MAY 12 - SATURDAY, MAY 13 2023

Time	Location	Topic	Speaker
	Bagley 1206	Workshop: Advantages & Disadvantages of Kinship	Heather Branam, Keith Lowhorne, & Keisha Jackson
5:00-6:00 PM	Dining Hall	DINNER	
6:30-8:00 PM	Chapel	Scholarship Awards Ceremony	Karen Poteet
Saturday Sessions			
Time	Location	Topic	Speaker
7:00-8:00 AM	Dining Hall	BREAKFAST	
8:00-10:00 AM	Chapel	Closing Ceremony	Buddy Hooper, AFAPA President

The AFAPA Board of Directors' would like to thank you for joining us this year!
Safe travels back home!

2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations!

Lanorian Hicks, Barbour County
*Elementary School Principal or Social
Worker*

Lani Formby, Randolph County
Cardiologist

William Matthew King
Travel Nurse

Catherine Ann Conaway
Nursing

Abbi V. Cooley, Tuscaloosa County
Lawyer

Sarah Hendrix, Lawrence County
Nursing

**Joann & Nathaniel Burch Memorial
Scholarship**
John M. Agee, Baldwin County
Veterinarian

Zola Marie Spence, St. Clair County
Aerospace Engineering

Heavynn Raye, Marion County
Nurse

**TaAlliyah M. Walker, Montgomery
County**
Undecided

Sean D. McMullen, Tuscaloosa County
Undecided

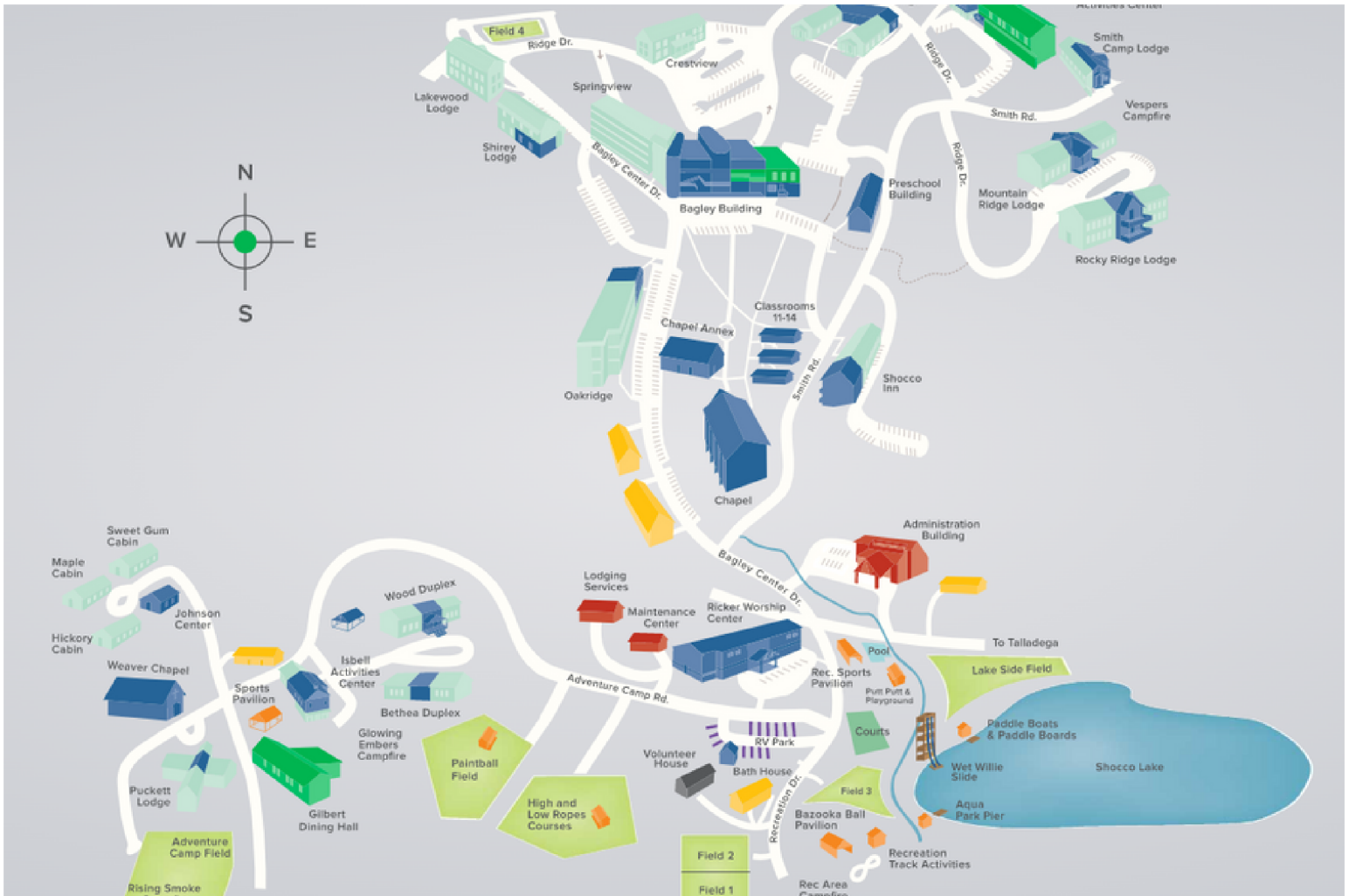
**Kaytlyn M. Cook, Tuscaloosa/Walker
County**
Service Animal Trainer

Doug Hayes Memorial Scholarship
**Chrislyn K. DeMorse, Lauderdale
County**
Nurse anesthetist

Martha & Buddy Hooper Legacy Scholarship
Jazmine M. Mullinax, Dekalb County
Respiratory Therapist

SHOCCO SPRINGS MAP

2023 CONFERENCE



The AFAPA store will be available to all attendees in the Annex Building next to the Chapel. There will many free items as well as items available for a small donation.

Silent Auction Baskets will be available for bidding or a Buy it Now option. Many of our baskets have a Mother's Day theme so you can have a gift ready for Mom after the conference.

Checks, Cash, or Credit Cards accepted. All money donated to our store and silent auction will go to support the AFAPA Scholarship Fund.

Help us improve future conferences by taking a quick survey.
Scan the QR Code or go to <https://bit.ly/3VnzmSX?r=qr>

