# "We Didn't Wait": A decade of progress, a future of hope

Jeffrey Rowe, MD 2019

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## Keynote Presenters over the years:

- Gene Nathan
- Kristin Gist
- Mark Chenven
- Chris Walsh (2x)
- Mary McKay
- Jeff Rowe (2x)
- Ira Chasnoff
- Tina Chambers
- Pat Levitt
- Katie Hirst
- Ali Freedman (2x)

- James Garbarino
- Mark Katz (2x)
- Pradeep Gidwani (2x)
- Bruce Perry (2x)
- Tina Payne Bryce
- Jane Nelson
- Ruth Newton
- Chandra Ghosh Ippen (2x)
- Kristi Brandt
- Gretchen Mallios
- Renee Sievert

## We have covered some very important issues

- Attachment
- Engagement
- Development
- Behavioral management
- In utero exposure to drugs
- Neurological development and self regulation
- Impact of trauma on the developing child
- Role of early trauma in later violent behavior

- Importance of earliest relationships
- Developmental psychopathology
- Cultural perspectives and issues for families seeking care in the US
- Accessing services in our complicated systems
- Clinical professionals and Early Care and Education professionals working together
- The role Equine Therapy can have in working with trauma survivors

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#### Wonderful attendees!

- 170 in the first year
- >750 last year
  - ½ of whom were first time attenders
- High levels of
  - Enthusiasm
  - Intellectual curiosity
  - Cultural and clinical expertise

## This year is our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

- When we started, we had no idea of what we were getting into.
  - Everyone was so excited after that conference, it led to the development of 2 additional committees and the commitment of financial support from the County of San Diego, First 5 Commission, and the AAP CA3
  - It also resulted in an expanded Program Planning Committee that met monthly (with the support of their agency) to prepare the next conferences.
- Our theme of "We Can't Wait" has turned into "We Didn't Wait"!
  - ECMH system of care has been seeping into the fabric of training (SDSU, UCSD, Alliant University), clinical care (Healthy Developmental Services, KidSTART Center and Clinic, many clinical programs)

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## **Advocacy Efforts**

- - Last year, we engaged the audience in legislative activities with a letter writing campaign
- This year....

#### So, clearly, something was started in 2010

- We, as an ECMH community, are proud that we didn't wait
- We are humbled that there is an audience for what we are able to present that hungers to learn and do more for young children and their caregivers
- Are excited that so many people have taken it upon themselves to get involved, educated, and provide care for this population

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## Mark Katz, Ph.D.

Keynote presenter in 2014 and 2017

# Chandra Ghosh Ippen, Ph.D.

Keynote presenter 2015 and 2018

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# Bruce Perry, MD, Ph.D.

Keynote presenter 2014 and 2015

#### Summary #1

- So, we haven't waited
  - Many trained clinicians in multiple areas of ECMH
  - Many clinical programs available in San Diego area
  - A vibrant conference
  - Committees that meet year round to continue the work
  - Support from institutions
    - County of San Diego
    - First 5 San Diego
    - SDSU
    - UCSD
    - · Alliant University

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## Summary #2

- Many children have been helped, many families supported
- Trauma has been faced, people have gotten better
- Developmental problems have been detected and rehabilitated
- For me, learning about development, what can go wrong, the ways to set it right or support difficulties, has been invigorating and exciting
  - Some of the lessons I learned in training have been revised
  - New learning keeps happening, new discoveries for me (and I hope you)

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Childhood Mental Health Conference, San Diego, CA

## Summary #3

- We have developed a clinical community that is something to be proud of- and we want to improve our knowledge, our skills, and the access to good clinical care for young children and their families
- Please enjoy the next 3 days of this conference.
- In a way, this conference, our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is a celebration of the work, commitment, and creativity of our community