



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**2016-26**

**Contact:**  
Robert Martin  
Director of Communications  
800-25-PEACE, ext. 7797  
[Robert.martin@kidspeace.org](mailto:Robert.martin@kidspeace.org)

## **KIDSPACE ANNUAL AWARENESS CONFERENCE SET FOR NOVEMBER 8**

**BETHLEHEM, PA (October 19, 2016)** - Registration is open for the annual KidsPeace Awareness Conference, scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at the organization's Broadway Campus in Bethlehem.

The conference is designed for those serving youth in schools, hospitals, governmental agencies and non-profit organizations, as well as for concerned parents. Attendance is free (but registration is required), and Continuing Education and Act 48 credits are available.

The November 8 event will feature a range of speakers and topics:

- **William Stauffer, LSW**, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance will discuss identifying and treating substance abuse disorders from a recovery perspective in adolescents and young adults - especially in the face of the nationwide opioid addiction epidemic.
- **Jonna Finocchio, LCSW**, will present an overview of the history and best practices in mental health relating to gender identity, and an exploration of transgender-affirmative cognitive behavioral therapy (TA-CBT)
- And **Phyllis Alexander** of the National Coalition Building Institute will present "From Charity to Justice" - an examination of how systems of oppression in place today can harm, demean and marginalize our neighbors, clients, customers, co-workers, family members and ourselves, and what we can do to address the issue in our community.

To register for the conference, contact Katherine Matonis at [Katherine.matonis@kidspeace.org](mailto:Katherine.matonis@kidspeace.org). Email registration ends October 31.

For more information about the conference, visit [www.kidspeace.org/awareness-conference](http://www.kidspeace.org/awareness-conference)

*For 134 years, KidsPeace has been building on its expertise to give hope, help and healing to children, families and communities throughout the United States. Through its comprehensive range of residential treatment programs; accredited educational services; unique psychiatric hospital and foster care and community-based programs, KidsPeace is dedicated to helping people connect, transform and overcome their challenges to ensure a stable future, transition to adulthood and gain independence. Since its doors opened in 1882, more than 200,000 children have participated in one of the multitude of programs KidsPeace offers. For additional resources or more information on how to get involved, become a foster parent or make a donation, please visit [www.kidspeace.org](http://www.kidspeace.org). Follow us at [www.facebook.com/kidspeace.org](http://www.facebook.com/kidspeace.org) or on Twitter @KidsPeace.*

###