

Laurie Massey serves as the Deputy Director of the Missouri Office of Child Advocate, where she completes complex case reviews, identifies systemic concerns, and supports statewide improvements in child welfare practice. In her role, she analyzes statewide trends, reviews patterns that impact child safety and permanency, and helps guide recommendations that strengthen Missouri's child protection system. Laurie also oversees the process through which the Office of Child Advocate receives and evaluates complaints from parents, caregivers, providers, and stakeholders seeking an independent review of concerns within the child welfare system.

Before joining OCA, Laurie served as a Supervising Deputy Juvenile Officer, overseeing court-involved youth cases, abuse and neglect cases and collaborated closely with families, attorneys, service providers, and the courts. Her earlier experience as an elementary school counselor provided a strong foundation in child development, trauma-informed care, and family engagement. These combined experiences give her a unique, well-rounded perspective on the child welfare system—from the courtroom to the classroom to state-level oversight.

Laurie is known for her ability to translate detailed case information into clear, actionable recommendations and for her commitment to creating learning opportunities across the system. At this conference, she will share insights from OCA case reviews, statewide trends, and common practice challenges, along with strategies to improve consistency, communication, and policy adherence in child welfare investigations.