



Symposium Organizing Committee

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
ALLAN SHEDLIN, FOUNDING DADvocate
President, DADvocacy Consulting Group
Monday, December 13, 2021
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Guided Child-Centered Networking Activities (small groups)

- ✚ Your name/title-position
- ✚ Identify/introduce a child/youth who touches, or has touched your heart
- ✚ Identify types of support children need
- ✚ Identify at least one key quality of an involved dad/father figure
- ✚ Single question POP quiz

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Program Award Honorees & Introduction of Honored Guests

- ✚ Opening Prayer – The Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr.
- ✚ A Father's Devotion & A Daughter's Love – VeRita Amelia Barnette Lynch, Chair Commission Volunteers.
- ✚ Presentation of **THE COMMISSION's Inaugural FATHERIST® Award** to Pennsylvania State Representative Lori A. Mizgorski – Pennsylvania State Senator Anthony Hardy Williams & Brother Melvin Hubbard El, Chief of Staff for Representative Edward C. Gainey.
- ✚ Remarks by **The Honorable Bryon Dean Cutler, Speaker, Pennsylvania House of Representatives.**
- ✚ Presentation of **SOC's Distinguished Public Service Award**, to Robert C. Patrick, Jr., Director, Pennsylvania Eligibility Programs for Children & Families, Department of Human Services, **in honor of The Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr.** – Jeffrey Scott Steiner, Executive Director, Dad's Resource Center & Dr. Rufus Sylvester Lynch, Chair, The Strong Families Commission, Incorporated.
- ✚ Presentation of **SOC's Chair Emeritus Award** to The Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Chair, Pennsylvania Symposium Organizing Committee (SOC) – David A. Wyher, President/CEO, Delta Community Supports, & Dr. Rufus Sylvester Lynch, Chair, The Strong Families Commission, Incorporated.
- ✚ Program Closing Remarks – Allan Shedlin

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Informal Networking, & Group reading of Daddy's (Parent's) Prayer –
led by Allan Shedlin



***Allan Shedlin** has devoted his life's work to improving the odds for children and families. He has three daughters, and five grandchildren, as well as numerous "bonus" sons/daughters and grandchildren.*

Trained as an educator, Allan has alternated between classroom service, school leadership, parenting coaching, policy development, and advising at the local, state, and national levels.

After eight years as an elementary school principal, Allan founded and headed the National Elementary School Center for 10 years. In the 1980s, he began writing about education and parenting for major news outlets and education trade publications, as well as appearing on radio and TV.

*In 2008, he was honored as a "**Living Treasure**" by **Mothering Magazine** and founded REEL Fathers in Santa Fe, NM, where he now serves as president emeritus. In 2017, he founded the DADvocacy Consulting Group. In 2018, he launched the **DADDY Wishes Fund** and **Daddy Appleseed Fund**. In 2019 he co-created and began co-facilitating the **Armor Down/Daddy Up!** and **Mommy Up!** programs.*

He earned his elementary and high school diplomas from NYC's Ethical Culture Schools, BA at Colgate University, MA at Columbia University's Teachers College, and an ABD at Fordham University. But he considers his D-A-D the most important "degree" of all.