

INTRODUCTION:

9:00-9:05AM

Dean Wortham is an award-winning teacher, scholar, and documentary film producer, Stanton E. F. Wortham, Ph.D., is the Lynch School's inaugural Charles F. Donovan, S.J., Dean A. linguistic anthropologist and educational ethnographer with a particular expertise in how identities develop in human interactions, Wortham has conducted research spanning education, anthropology, linguistics, psychology, sociology, and philosophy. He is the author or editor of nine books and more than 80 articles and chapters that cover a range of topics including linguistic anthropology, discourse analysis, "learning identity," and education in the new Latino diaspora.

9:05-9:45AM

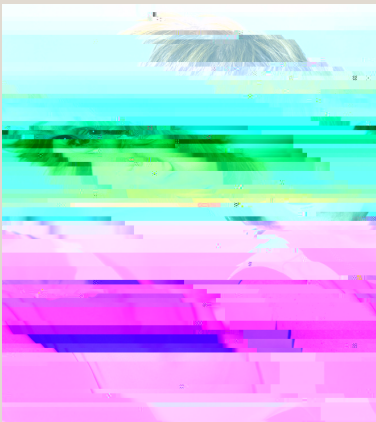
Parenting is hard, period. And parenting a medically-complex child is especially difficult, with decisional fatigue, relentless need for advocacy with the health system, working with the medical team, competing demands from family members, work, and social isolation. Courageous Parents Network's Blyth Lord will share research and resources that orient, ground and validate you in the many ways that you are being a good parent to your child.

Blyth Lord founded Courageous Parents Network in 2014, 13 years after the death of her daughter and nephew from infantile Tay-Sachs. Building on her career in television production and distance learning, she conceived of CPN as a way to bring the voices and lived experience of parents and clinicians to families actively caring for children with illness. She has worked with leaders in pediatric palliative care—doctors, nurses and nurse practitioners, social workers, patient advocacy groups, palliative and hospice care providers—as well as with families. She serves on the board of National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association, where she helps oversee NTSAD's family support services, and in CPN's liaison role to the American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Hospice and Palliative Medicine. In 2021, Blyth received the Presidential Citation for Palliative Care Advocacy from AAHPM. Blyth received her BA in History from Yale College and a Masters in Education from Harvard University.

10:35-11:15AM

Founder of Special Needs Law Group and Special Needs Family Services, Annette Hines brings personal experience to her work as the mother of two daughters, one of whom passed away from mitochondrial disease in November, 2013. This deep personal understanding of raising a child with disabilities fuels her passion for quality special needs planning. Annette knows firsthand just how complex and overwhelming the legal systems and processes are for parents of children with special needs. Amidst the grief of losing her beloved Elizabeth, Annette realized that life was giving her a "second chance" to use her extensive legal expertise to help families who are going through the same challenges she faced.

PRESENTER:



Annette M. Hines is a founding partner of Special Needs Law Group of Massachusetts, PC, in Framingham, and founder of Special Needs Family Services, Inc. She has practiced in the areas of special needs law, elder law, and estate planning for more than twenty-five years. She received her B.A. from the University of Vermont, her M.B.A. from Suffolk University, and her J.D. from Howard University School of Law. Ms. Hines has been recognized as a "Distinguished Citizen" by The Arc of Massachusetts, cited for public service by the Massachusetts State Senate and House of Representatives, and named to the Massachusetts "Super Lawyers" list every year since 2014. She was president of the Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers from 2008 to 2009, was selected for the 2016 Top Women of Law by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly and is a contributing member of many organizations that serve the disability community. Ms. Hines is sought after to speak on topics of disability trusts, planning and benefits. She authored the Amazon bestselling memoir *Butterflies and Second Chances* in 2018 and is the host of the popular podcast "Parenting Impossible: The Special Needs Survival Podcast". In 2021, Ms. Hines was honored to be chosen by her peers to receive the Theresa Award for outstanding advocacy in the disability community. Most recently she was on the advisory board committee for the "1st edition of *Elder and Disability Law in Massachusetts*" published in September.

