



# News Release

**Alachua County Sheriff's Office**

**Sadie Darnell, Sheriff**

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Today's Date: November 4, 2016**

**Prepared by: Lt. Brandon Kutner**

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**Media Advisory: Sheriff Sadie Darnell and Dr. Nancy Hardt Present at Mental Health Symposium**

On Thursday, November 17, 2016, Sheriff Sadie Darnell and Dr. Nancy Hardt will speak and make a presentation on *Mapping Childhood Trauma as a Root Cause* at the Thirty-Second Annual Rosalyn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy in Atlanta, Georgia. The symposium, entitled "Widening the Circle of Health & Wellness: The Central Role of Behavioral Health" is part of the Carter Center's ongoing commitment to promote awareness about mental health issues, inform public policy, achieve equity for mental health care comparable to other health care, and reduce stigma and discrimination against those with mental illnesses. Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter will also be on hand to speak.

Sheriff Darnell and Dr. Hardt first teamed up in 2008 when Dr. Hardt's research regarding birth density in a 1-square-mile area of SW Gainesville corresponded with instances of child abuse, neglect, and domestic violence being tracked by Sheriff Darnell. The two joined forces and forged partnerships with community, public and private partners in an effort to head off bad health outcomes and reduce victimization of the most vulnerable children in the area. Their efforts, along with the support and hard work of other local groups and grass-roots organizers from the community, led to the creation of the Southwest Advocacy Group (SWAG), and the development of their Family Resource Center in the Linton Oaks Neighborhood.

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