

EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

Presented by:

New York Center for Child Development

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Gilbert M. Foley
Dr. Rebecca Shahmoon-Shanok

Monday, November 29, 2010
9:00 am to 4:30 pm
(Registration at 8:30 am)

HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA
Skytop Ballroom, 18th Floor
401 Seventh Avenue (at 33rd St.)
New York, N.Y. 10001-2062

This conference was made possible at no cost to participants through a grant from the Regional Technical Assistance Teams - Families Together in New York State



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This one day conference seeks to enhance the early childhood mental health knowledge base and skill set of workers across early childhood serving systems in the city and state who work with young children and are in a key position to help promote and enhance their social-emotional development.

Research has shown that social-emotional issues are the foundation for healthy development in young children. In fact brain research has shown that the quality of early childhood relationships shapes the child's brain architecture and has a significant impact on the ability of young children to learn, on their sensory processing, on their ability to regulate themselves and on their ability to form relationships. Between 9.5 and 14.2 percent of children between birth and 5 experience social-emotional problems that negatively impact their functioning, development and school-readiness (Cooper, Masi, & Vick, 2009). Yet, the social-emotional functioning of young children and the status of their mental health are among the most under identified areas of risk and service. In spite of the knowledge and alarming need, less than 1% of young children with social-emotional problems are identified (Conroy, 2004).

Many non-mental health professionals are directly involved with children and families are frequently the gatekeepers to other services. It is critical that non-mental health professionals possess the knowledge and skills targeted in this conference.

For questions or hard copy brochures call Alejandro Perez at (212) 752-7575 extension 327.

CONFERENCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

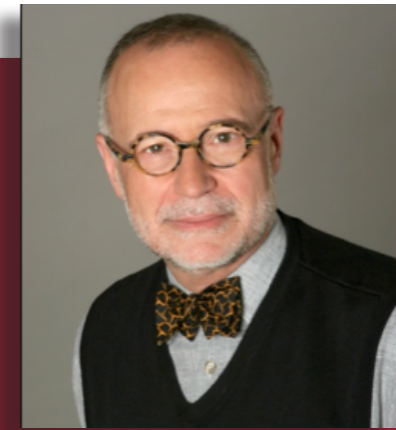
The one day conference, aimed at service coordinators, ACS case managers, head start and early head start personnel and other non-mental health professionals working in child serving systems will aim:

- To educate professionals about the critical and central role of social emotional development in children's ability to learn, symbolize, process sensory data, self-regulate and form meaningful relationships
- To educate cross system providers to recognize the importance and link between social-emotional development and the qualities of relationships in early childhood
- To train professionals working with young children to identify red flags that indicate that young children may have social emotional challenges which imperil their development and suggest the need for evaluation
- To educate professionals about trauma
 - The impact of trauma on young children
 - Red flags that may indicate trauma
 - How to help and support young children exposed to trauma
 - How to care for yourself when caring for young children with trauma
- To train participants to make family-friendly, strategic and effective referrals.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Professionals working with young children including: ACS case managers and preventive and foster care workers, Early Intervention service coordinators, Early Head Start and Head Start teachers, and

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Gil Foley, EdD is an Associate Professor of School Clinical-Child Psychology at Perkauf Graduate School of Psychology of Yeshiva University and Coordinator of its Infancy and Early Childhood Track. He also serves as Consulting Clinical Director of the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and Treatment Program of New York Center for Child Development (NYCCD). Dr. Foley has focused his career as a psychologist and educator primarily in the field of infancy and early childhood. Dr. Foley is co-author of the Cognitive Observation Guide (Psych. Corp), The Supportive Play Model (Teacher's College Press) and, with Dr. Jane Hochman, Mental Health in Early Intervention: Achieving Unity in Principles and Practice (Paul H. Brookes).

SPEAKERS

Rebecca Shahmoon-Shanok, LCSW, PhD, is founding director of the Institute for Infants, Children & Families, JBFCS in New York City. Author of numerous articles and chapters, she has combined degrees and experience in clinical psychology, social work and early childhood education to develop model services which effectively reach underserved, traumatized babies, children and their families and post-degree training programs for all systems and which include all disciplines.

