



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Frank E. Shelp, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner

Division of Mental Health

Two Peachtree Street, NW • Suite 23.415 • Atlanta, Georgia, 30303-3142 • 404-657-2273

Date/Time:

JANUARY 9, 2012

Training starts at 10am; Ends at 3pm;
Sign-in begins at 9am

Location:

ATLANTA, GA

The State Bar of Georgia
3rd Floor, Auditorium
104 Marietta Street,
Atlanta, GA 30303

Directions:

http://gabar.org/public/pdf/Map_to_Building1.pdf

Register Online at:

<http://www.cviog.uga.edu/dbhdd/pss.php>

This registration link is dedicated to the
Critical Issues Facing Special Needs and
At-Risk Children and Youth:
9th Annual Seminar Series

**Registration Deadline:
January 6, 2012**

Audience:

The seminar series is designed to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and to be inclusive of all parties that support children and youth, parents, foster parents and community organizations, local government entities, state departments and their contracted provider organizations.

Cost:

There is no charge to attend.

Questions? Contact

RegistrationMHDDAD@dhr.state.ga.us

TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

9th Annual Professional Seminar Series: **CRITICAL ISSUES FACING SPECIAL NEEDS AND AT-RISK CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

(Seminar Topic 3 of 6)

Domestic Violence II: Children Growing Up in Chaos - Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, PTSD and Resiliency

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' Suicide Prevention Program, in partnership with the Supreme Court of Georgia's Committee on Justice for Children, the Marcus Autism Center at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and the Georgia Alliance to End Homelessness is pleased to announce the 9th Annual Professional Seminar Series. Domestic Violence II: Children Growing Up in Chaos - Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, PTSD and Resiliency will be the third of six seminars within this series.

See attached training description of this seminar and presenter bios for more details.

Presenters:

Alexandra Guzman, LPC is a psychotherapist with the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy.

Michelle Toledo, is Founder and Chair of Georgia Latinos Against Domestic Violence (GLADV).

Beatriz Hegidio, is a Counselor-in-Training at CETPA, Inc and Co-Chair at Georgia Latinos Against Domestic Violence (GLADV).

Maja Hasic designs and provides trainings and outreach to mainstream service providers, law enforcement, and community organizations on human trafficking on a local, state-wide, and national basis.

CEUs:

CEU application submitted to the School of Social Work at UGA - there will be no charge to participants. We are also seeking Continuing Legal Education Units (CLE's). There is a fee for CLE's. CEU's from the Georgia Psychological Association are NOT available for this training.

Parking:

The State Bar of Georgia has an adjacent parking deck; the fee is **\$8.00 per day**.

TRAINING DESCRIPTION AND PRESENTER BIOS

2011-2012: 9th Annual Seminar Series Critical Issues Facing Special Needs and At-risk Children

The purpose of this series is to provide individuals who work with special needs and at-risk children, including professionals and family members, with an understanding of the experiences of at-risk children and associated interventions; these may include pharmacological, behavioral and family interventions. Each seminar topic will reference the risk of suicide in children and provide resources for suicide prevention. There are six seminars offered in this series. Below is a description of the topics that will be presented in the third seminar titled *Domestic Violence II: Children Growing up in Chaos - Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, PTSD and Resiliency*.

Domestic Violence II: Children Growing Up in Chaos - Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, PTSD and Resiliency

January 9, 2012

Topic #1 - Domestic Violence II: Growing Up in Chaos - PTSD and Resiliency

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in children and adolescents occurs as a result of a child's exposure to one or more traumatic events that were life-threatening or perceived to be likely to cause serious injury to self or others. In addition, the child or adolescent must have responded with intense fear, helplessness, or horror. Traumatic events can take many forms, including physical or sexual assaults, natural disasters, traumatic death of a loved one, or emotional abuse or neglect. Severe emotional trauma has widespread effects on children's development. These effects include undermining children's sense of security in a reasonable and safe world in which they can grow and explore, as well as causing a child to not believe that their parents can protect them from harm. The premature destruction of these beliefs can have profound negative consequences on development. Traumatized children and adolescents are frequently preoccupied with danger and vulnerability, sometimes leading to misperceptions of danger, even in situations that are not threatening.

(Presenter - Alexandra Guzman, LPC)

Alexandra Guzman, LPC is a psychotherapist with the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy. She is trained in trauma focused cognitive behavioral therapy and is also as a forensic interviewer. The Center's mission is to champion the needs of sexually and severely physically abused children through prevention, intervention, therapy, and collaboration. The Center provides a safe, friendly place where a child can end their silence by telling a trained therapist about the abuse during a videotaped interview. In addition, children and families are offered long-term psychological treatment to provide healing and hope for the future. The Center coordinates with agencies involved in the investigation of physical and sexual abuse and offers education for professionals and adults in sexual abuse prevention.

Topic #2 - Violence across Culture Lines: Cultural Understanding and Capacity

The need to identify how people respond to traumatic events has become a central issue with both psychological and human service providers. Mental health professionals find themselves with an

increasingly diverse patient pool and must treat trauma in a culturally competent manner. It is important to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate access to services for the many diverse communities and individuals who may need them.

(Presenter - Beatriz Hegidio)

Beatriz Hegidio was born in Colombia and moved to the United States where she completed a degree in Business Administration and Marketing at Kennesaw State University in 2004. She is a counselor in training at CETPA, Inc and will complete her Master in Mental Health from Georgia State University in May 2012.

At CETPA, Inc. Beatriz works with a wide arrange of Hispanic clients facing domestic violence in their past or present and provides counseling services in Spanish and English with a culturally sensitive approach. Beatriz has been part of Georgia Latinos Against Domestic Violence Task Force (GLADV) since its inception in 2009. Beatriz has also worked with the Hispanic community in Georgia in the area of education with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the Georgia Institute of Technology. Overall, Beatriz has over six (6) years of experience working with Latino community in Georgia and currently serves on the board of Georgia Tech Hispanic Alumni Network (GTHAN) and the Georgia Tech Sexual Violence Task Force.

(Presenter - Michelle Toledo Cainas)

Michelle Toledo Cainas is the Founder/Chair of the Georgia Latinos Against Domestic Violence Task Force (GLADV). She formed GLADV with the support of her previous employer, Partnership Against Domestic Violence. Michelle's strengths are evident in her ability to reach the local Latino community by autonomously creating and implementing Spanish support group and domestic violence awareness presentations for Latino faith-based programs (with the assistance of Renovacion Conyugal). Her bilingual skills have proven her to be a valuable resource to the Atlanta Metro area. Michelle has earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminal Justice and has gained a great deal of experience working with victims of domestic violence. Her experience includes organizing the Florida Metropolitan University's first Victim's Rights Symposium, and delivering educational presentations to civic associations, allied professionals and other local organizations. She has also been entered as an expert witness for a domestic violence superior case in Henry County. Michelle's invaluable experience has also made her great addition to the advisory board of Encuentro Latino. She is currently a graduate student at Argosy University studying Forensic Psychology.

Topic #3 - Providing Direct Services for Survivors of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence

A number of studies have identified the serious and often complex mental health needs of victims of human trafficking. The majority of research related to the mental health needs of this population focuses on the significant levels of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) Victims of human trafficking have often experienced, witnessed, or been confronted with an event or events that involved actual or threatened death or serious injury, or a threat to the physical integrity of self or other” and their response to these events frequently involves “intense fear, helplessness, or horror.” This exposure and common reaction are two of the main criteria for PTSD. Children and youth that have been exposed to trauma show an increase in emotional and anxiety disorders, are at increased risk for substance abuse, and will show possible long term physiological effects from trauma exposure.

(Presenter - Maja Hasic)

Maja Hasic has served as the Anti-Human Trafficking Program Coordinator with Tapestri Inc., a non-profit social service agency that works with survivors of violence from the immigrant and refugee

community since March 2008. She provided direct services to survivors of human trafficking until October 2011 when she became the Anti-Human Trafficking Program Director. Ms. Hasic designs and provides trainings and outreach to mainstream service providers, law enforcement, and community organizations on human trafficking on a local, state-wide, and national basis. Ms. Hasic has conducted numerous trainings on human trafficking and counseling its victims. She also facilitated local trainings and trainings at the annual Freedom Network conferences. Currently, Ms. Hasic works to establish collaborative relationships with other nonprofit organizations and law enforcement around the issue of human trafficking. Ms. Hasic has written her non thesis on the impact of immigration policies and tolerance of the sex industry on human trafficking in the European Union. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.