Seventh Annual Conference

Trauma, Children and Families

Practical Ways to Help

Friday, May 2, 2003
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Victor E. Clarke Education Center
South Miami Hospital
U.S. 1 and SW 62 Avenue
Daily events in our society underscore the potential impact of trauma on children and their families. We are all bombarded by the haunting specter of September 11, 2001, widespread violence in our society, anxiety associated with the volatile events of the Middle East and exposure to natural disasters such as Hurricane Andrew. There is increasing evidence that for a growing number of children such trauma exposure can have a significant, enduring impact that interferes with their current and future psychosocial adjustment. Who is most “at risk” and what can be done to help?

This conference brings together international and local experts who work with traumatized children and their families. This distinguished group of presenters will examine the incidence, nature and impact of trauma, as well as the implications for assessment, treatment and preventative interventions. They will evaluate “state of the art” methodologies and highlight techniques to avoid that may inadvertently exacerbate distress. The presentations will also consider practical ways to nurture resilience and bolster “strengths” and protective actions. Child-focused, family-focused and community-focused interventions that can be employed in both treatment and preventative interventions will be considered.

The conference will feature practical ways to help children and families in the aftermath of natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and urban and domestic violence. Strategies to treat children with persistent anxiety disorders, children who have been victims of child abuse and those who are grieving a significant loss will be examined. The central question of what school teachers, principals, the media, parents and clinicians can do to identify and help children who are “at risk” will be addressed.

The program will include question-and-answer periods with the experts, detailed handouts and videotape demonstrations. Participants will also receive guidebooks on how to help children cope with the aftermath of terrorist attacks, and how to help keep children safe.

Please join us in this timely and critically important topic as the threat of violence and the uncertainty of the future confronts children and their families.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Dailly events in our society underscore the potential impact of trauma on children and their families. We are all bombarded by the haunting specter of September 11, 2001, widespread violence in our society, anxiety associated with the volatile events of the Middle East and exposure to natural disasters such as Hurricane Andrew. There is increasing evidence that for a growing number of children such trauma exposure can have a significant, enduring impact that interferes with their current and future psychosocial adjustment. Who is most “at risk” and what can be done to help?

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CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Plenary sessions, keynote address, panel discussions and a question-and-answer period.
- Description of local violence prevention initiatives.
- Videotaped case demonstrations, training films and handout materials.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Educators, guidance counselors, school psychologists, psychologists, social workers, mental health workers, marriage and family therapists, social agency personnel, judges, police personnel, pediatricians, family physicians and psychiatrists.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this conference, participants should be able to:

- Screen and assess for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and associated disorders.
- Provide child, family, school and community-based interventions for traumatized children and their families.
- Bolster resilience and nurture strengths in children and families.
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Continental Breakfast</td>
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Registration fee:
For information, call 786-662-5210

The Melissa Institute
Mail to:
NAME _______________________________________________________________________   TITLE_____________________________________________________________________

Specialty professional credits required:

❑ Friday, May 2, 2003
REGISTRATION

Work ADDRESS ______________________________________________________________  CITY/STATE/ZIP___________________________________________________________

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Schedule:

Robert J. Cavanagh, Ph.D., is a Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and a member of the Melissa Institute. He has published over 200 articles and book chapters on the treatment of cancers and trauma reactions. He was voted “one of the 10 most influential psychotherapists of the century.” He is Research Director of The Melissa Institute.

Annette M. La Greca, Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics and Director of Clinical Training at the University of Miami. She has authored over 150 journal articles, books and book chapters related to children’s and adolescents’ adjustment to trauma, including Helping America Cope: A Guide to Help Parents and Children Cope with the September 11th Terrorist Attacks. (See www.sevendippity.com and www.psy.miami.edu/faculty/alaGreca) Over one million copies of the Guide have been disseminated, including a special edition for the NYFD. Dr. La Greca is now working on a project on children’s exposure to violence (Keeping Children Safe). She is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Clinical and Adolescent Psychology.

Annette La Greca. Dr. Silverman is a member of the scientific advisory board for Child and Adolescent Trauma Treatment in New York and Editor of the Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology.

Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Child and Family Psychosocial Research Center at Florida International University. She has authored/co-edited four books including Helping Children Cope with Disasters and Terrorism with Dr. Annette La Greca. Dr. Silverman is a member of the Melissa Institute.

Mindy Cassel, Ph.D., has worked as a psychologist in private practice in the Miami community more than 20 years. She is the Executive Director of the Children’s Bereavement Center. (See www.childbereavement.org)

Carol Berns, Ph.D., has worked more than 20 years as a bereavement specialist and is Program Director for the Children’s Bereavement Center. She is Adjunct Professor at the University of Miami and co-author of the instructional guide, “Last Dance: Encountering Death and Dying.”

Candice L. Maze, J.D., is the Director of the Dependency Court Intervention Program for Family Violence (DCIPFV) in Miami. (See www.miamidcip.org) Prior to heading DCIPFV, she was Director of Lawyers for Children America and a legal advocate for maltreated children and families.

Islem Pardinas, MSW, has been the Advocate Supervisor for DCIPFV since 2001. She also has served as the Advocate Supervisor for the Preventing Abuse in Intimate Relationships (PAIRS) program and a therapist in the PREVENT Program for abused children and mothers.

LOCAL FACULTY

Carol Berns, Ph.D., has worked as a psychologist in private practice in the Miami community more than 20 years. She is the Executive Director of the Children’s Bereavement Center. (See www.childbereavement.org)

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REGISTRATION

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Friday, May 2, 2003 ■ Victor E. Clarke Education Center, South Miami Hospital

Registration fee:  $60  $30 (Student)  Conference proceeds will benefit The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment.

Payment method:

❑ Check enclosed (Make payable to The Melissa Institute.)
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Mail to:  The Melissa Institute
6200 SW 73 Street, Miami, FL 33143
For information, call 786-662-5210

Cancellation: Cancellations must be sent in writing and postmarked by April 18, 2003, to receive a refund of the registration fee, less a $10 administrative fee. Cancellations postmarked after April 18 will forfeit the registration fee.
CREDITS

Baptist Hospital of Miami is approved as a provider of Continuing Psychological Education by the Florida Board of Psychological Examiners, provider #PCE-7. This continuing education activity has been approved for 6.5 hours of Continuing Psychological Education credit.

This activity has been approved for 6.5 contact hours by Florida State Board of Nursing provider #FBN2321, Baptist Health South Florida Department of Education Services.

Baptist Hospital of Miami, Department of Social Work is approved as a continuing education provider for the Florida Board of Clinical Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling. Provider #BAP53, expiration 3/05. This continuing education activity has been approved for 6.5 contact hours.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools will award 6 master plan points (TEC credits).

FOR INFORMATION

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For Violence Prevention and Treatment
786-662-5210
www.melissainstitute.com

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The Institute's mission is to bridge the gap between research and direct application to reduce violence and to help victims and their families.

Education • Community Service • Research Support • Consultation