



The Melissa Institute  
For Violence Prevention and Treatment

**Seventh Annual Conference**

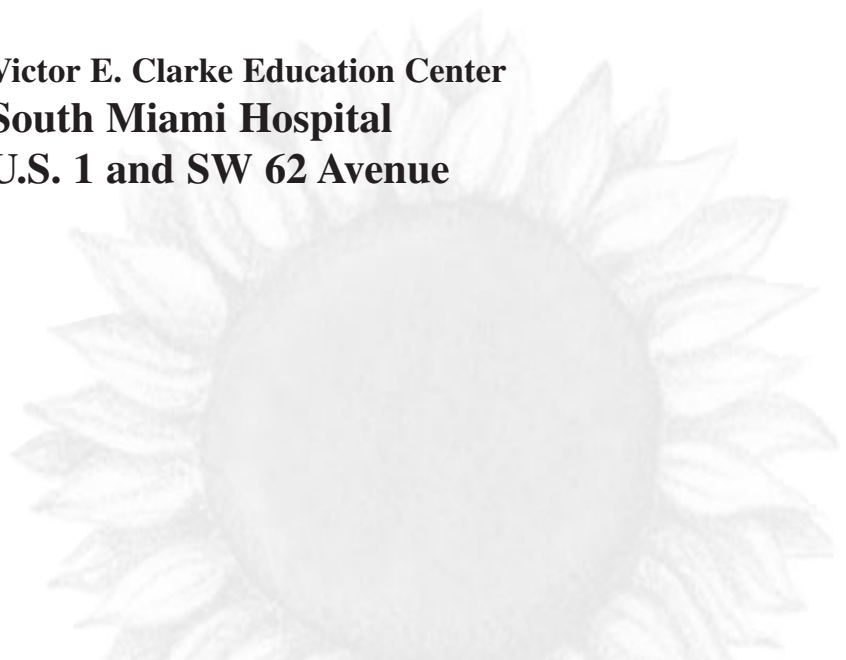
# Trauma, Children and Families

**Practical Ways to Help**

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**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**



Seventh Annual Conference

# Trauma, Children and Families: Practical Ways to Help

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## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

**D**aily 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.

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

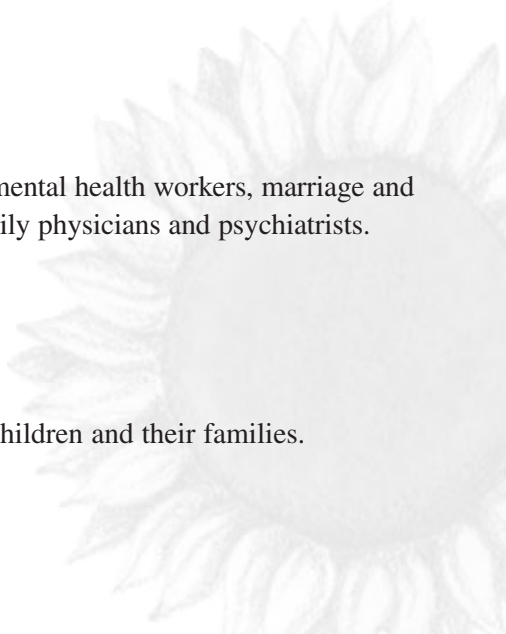
- Plenary sessions, keynote address, panel discussions and a question-and-answer period.
- Description of local violence prevention initiatives.
- Videotaped case demonstrations, training films and handout materials.

## 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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## **SCHEDULE**

**Friday, May 2**

- 8 a.m.           **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m.       **Opening Remarks and Welcome**  
Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D., President of The Melissa Institute
- 8:45 a.m.       **Trauma and Resilience: Implications for Assessment, Prevention and Treatment**  
Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.  
*(To review risk and protective factors in the aftermath of trauma and to examine the implications for assessment, treatment, and preventative interventions.)*
- 9:15 a.m.       **Children’s Reactions to Disasters and Terrorism: Implications for Treatment and Prevention**  
Annette M. La Greca, Ph.D.  
*(To developmentally examine the impact of trauma on children and their families and the factors that promote resilience, as well as consider the development and dissemination of a guide to help children cope.)*
- 10:15 a.m.      **Break**
- 10:30 a.m.      **When Problems Persist: Treating Anxiety and Traumatic Reactions in Children and Families**  
Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D.  
*(To examine the factors that contribute to the persistence of reactions to trauma and the implications for treatment and preventative interventions.)*
- 11:30 a.m.      **Question-and-Answer Period**  
Moderator: Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D.  
Panel: Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.; Annette M. La Greca, Ph.D.; and Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D.  
*(To critically examine the “state of the art” in providing interventions: How not to make things worse.)*
- 12:15 p.m.     **Buffet Lunch**
- 1 p.m.           **LOCAL INITIATIVE PROGRAMS**  
Moderator: Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.
- Children’s Exposure to Violence: Keeping Children Safe**  
Annette M. La Greca, Ph.D.
- Treating Anxiety Disorders in Children: The Child Anxiety and Phobia Program at F.I.U.**  
Wendy K. Silverman, Ph.D.
- The Children’s Bereavement Center: A Peer Support Model of Healing After the Loss of a Loved One**  
Mindy Cassel, Ph.D., and Carol Berns, Ph.D.
- Juvenile Court’s Response to the Co-occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment: The Dependency Court Intervention Program for Family Violence**  
Candice Maze, J.D., and Islem Pardinias, MSW
- Panel Discussion with Question-and-Answer Period**
- 3 p.m.           **Break**
- 3:15 p.m.       **Trauma and Children: Multiple Effects and Possible Interventions**  
Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.  
*(To examine the psychological and psychosocial effects of various forms of victimization, highlighting the treatment of child sexual abuse. Also, examples of what schools can do in the aftermath of trauma.)*
- 4 p.m.           **Adjournment**

CONFERENCE DIRECTOR

Suzanne L. Keeley, Ph.D., is President of The Melissa Institute and a psychologist in private practice. She is also affiliated with Baptist Health South Florida. She has had extensive clinical experience treating victims and perpetrators of violence.

PRESENTERS

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D., is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and one of the founders of cognitive-behavior therapy. He has consulted and lectured worldwide on the impact of trauma and has published major clinical handbooks, Treating Adults with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and Treatment of Individuals with Anger-Control Problems and Aggressive Behaviors (which often co-occur with trauma reactions). In a survey reported in the American Psychologist, he was voted "one of the 10 most influential psychotherapists of the century." He is Research Director of The Melissa Institute.



Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.

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 M. La Greca, Ph.D.

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 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.

LOCAL FACULTY

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 Pardinias, 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.

Registration deadline is April 18, 2003. Space is limited; register early!

REGISTRATION

Seventh Annual Conference - Trauma, Children and Families: Practical Ways to Help

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.)
Purchase Order number (Please mail copy of registration to guarantee reservation.)
Credit Card: American Express, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, Diners Club

Card Holder Name Account No.

Exp. Signature

Specialty professional credits required: LICENSE #

- Florida Board of Psychological Examiners
Florida State Board of Nursing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Florida Board of CSW, MFT and MHC

NAME TITLE

INSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATION

WORK ADDRESS CITY/STATE/ZIP

WORK TELEPHONE E-MAIL

Mail to: The Melissa Institute
6200 SW 73 Street, Miami, FL 33143

For information, call 786-662-5210

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

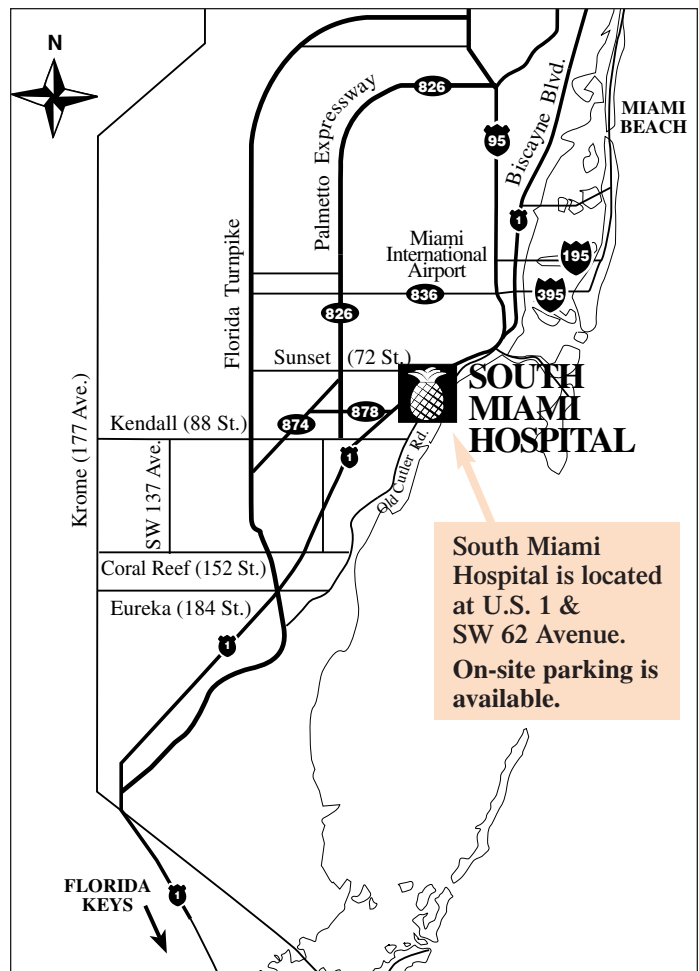


# The Melissa Institute

For Violence Prevention and Treatment

786-662-5210

[www.melissainstitute.com](http://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**



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For Violence Prevention and Treatment

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