

Behind the Mask: Understanding and Assessing Trauma in Children

Program Description

Let's face it – understanding and assessing children can be a complex process. It is increasingly clear that reliance on just one type of assessment does not provide the most comprehensive picture that can help facilitate interventions that improve child wellness. This program is designed to facilitate discussion on the importance of assessing trauma in children, with a focus on various types of trauma assessments that can (and should) be weaved into your assessment battery. We will discuss best practices when assessing trauma to get the best information without inadvertently retraumatizing the child. Tips, tools, and resources will be provided that move toward a trauma-informed assessment practices that are easy to use and effective.

Program Objectives

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

- Explain the universal precautions approach to assessing trauma among children.
- Name best practice strategies for assessment.
- Outline current trauma assessment measures.
- Describe science-based tips and tools that allow providers to integrate trauma assessments into practice.

Target Audience

This workshop will be beneficial to human service professionals, including psychologists, social workers, counselors, teachers, social workers, nurses, and administrators.

Program Agenda

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| 10:00 AM | Welcome and Introductions |
| 10:10 | Universal Precautions and Trauma |
| 10:30 | Best Practice Strategies from a Trauma-Informed Perspective |
| 11:00 | An Overview of Trauma Assessments |
| 11:30 | Science-Based Tips and Tools for Integrating Trauma Assessment into Practice |
| 11:50 | Q/A Discussion |
| 12:00 NOON | Adjourn |

Contact Hours

2.0 hours

Faculty

Kelly Graves, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist in the state of North Carolina. After serving as a tenured Associate Professor for a combined almost 16 years at UNCG and North Carolina A&T, Dr. Graves decided to pursue her passion of bridging research and practice by hanging up her academia hat and founding Kellin, PLLC and its non-profit partner the Kellin Foundation. Since that time, the Kellin Foundation has been named a partner with the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) for its expertise in community-based trauma recovery for children and families, which is the second site in the state of North Carolina behind Duke University. Dr. Graves is a consultant with the United States Department of Justice and has been

invited to the White House under the Obama Administration to participate in think tank efforts around building community resiliency. She is also a training consultant with the UNC-CH School of Social Work's AHEC Training Partnership. She has successfully implemented dozens of large-scale grants totaling over \$10 million dollars focused on community change and is an accomplished scholar with dozens of peer-reviewed publications, books, and book chapters. She developed the Greensboro Child Response Initiative, which is nationally recognized as a model by the US Department of Justice for best practices in responding to children exposed to violence. Her awards include the American Psychological Association Division 56 Trauma award, the Triad Business Journal Top 40 Leaders Under 40 award, named as a Top Psychologist award with the International Association of Health Care Professionals, and several others. In her free time, she loves to spend time with her family and friends, cheering on her favorite sports teams, and reading.