

# Mental Health in the Schools: Policies and Practices

Friday, April 3, 2009, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
in the Georgian Court University Casino Auditorium

This conference is for school psychologists, school counselors, school social workers, directors of special services, parents, and anyone interested in the mental health needs of children. After the keynote address, participants will attend two breakout sessions chosen from five different sessions, each focusing on a specific evidence-based mental health practice in the schools.

The conference will

- Teach participants about current federal legislation and its impact on the provision of mental health services to children in schools;
- Offer participants different techniques and strategies for providing mental health services to children in schools; and
- Update participants on recent and upcoming developments in the field

## SCHEDULE

8:00 AM	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:00 AM	Keynote Address: Stacy Skalski, Ph.D.
10:15 AM	Break
10:30 AM	Session I Workshops
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Session II Workshops

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

### Mental Health in the Schools: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?

#### Stacy Skalski, Ph.D.

*Director of Public Policy for the National Association of School Psychologists*

Dr. Skalski is at the forefront in advocating for mental health services for children in the schools and will discuss the Mental Health in the Schools Act of 2007 as well as other pertinent federal legislation as it pertains to children's mental health needs.

## WORKSHOPS

### Workshop A: The Role of the Mental Health Professional in School Crisis Intervention

Presenters: Terry Molony, Psy.D., school psychologist and president of the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists

*In the aftermath of a crisis event that resonates throughout a school community, what must be done? Who is to do it? What works best in these situations? The presenters will answer these questions and more as they pertain to working with children and adolescents affected by crisis.*

### Workshop B: Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions for Children in the School Setting

Presenters: Rosemary Mennuti, Ed.D., Professor and Director of School Psychology Programs at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine; Ray Christner, Psy.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of School Psychology at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

*Both presenters have recently co-authored their second textbook on cognitive-behavioral interventions that work with children and adolescents in need. The evidence strongly suggests that this approach holds promise for use by school-based mental health professionals.*

### Workshop C: Brief Solution-Focused Counseling in the Schools

Presenter: Kathleen Minke, Ph.D., President of the National Association of School Psychologists

*Solution-focused counseling stresses understanding the child's view of the problem and moving quickly to generate possible solutions; it is a research-supported, culturally sensitive approach designed for the practical realities of schools and school problems. Based on a large body of research on "what works" in helping people change, this approach builds solutions from the strengths, resources, and feedback of students and others.*

### Workshop D: Play Therapy in the Schools

Presenter: Jay Cerio, Ph.D., Professor of Counseling and School Psychology at Alfred University and author of numerous practice and research articles on play therapy

*This workshop will present a practical approach to the skills and knowledge necessary for using play therapy with children. Topics include toy selection, play room set-up, therapeutic responding, limit setting, use of games, and cultural issues. Its use within the school setting also will be explored.*

### Workshop E: Response to Intervention (RTI): The Role of the Mental Health Professional in the Process (offered Session 1 only)

Presenter: Stacy Skalski, Ph.D., Director of Public Policy for the National Association of School Psychologists

*Response to Intervention (RTI) is receiving increased attention as an evidence-based model for addressing the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of children and adolescents. Dr. Skalski will lay out a plan for school psychologists and school counselors in particular to collaborate and contribute to this process for the benefit of all children.*

### REGISTRATION

Complete, detach, and return with payment to: Georgian Court University, Department of Psychology, 900 Lakewood Ave., Lakewood, New Jersey 08701. Contact Department of Psychology Secretary Uta McQuade with any questions at 732.987.2636.

**Fee:** \$100 per person; includes continental breakfast, luncheon, and training materials. The fee for current graduate students is \$50 with adviser's signature.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a graduate student, please list the program in which you are enrolled \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of graduate adviser \_\_\_\_\_

Special accommodations needed \_\_\_\_\_

*GCU is a New Jersey Department of Education Registered Professional Development Provider #5911 and an NASP Provider of Continuing Professional Development #1027.*

### Workshop Selections (Please number the day's workshops from 1 to 5 in order of preference.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop A: The Role of the Mental Health Professional in School Crisis Intervention

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop B: Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions for Children in the School Setting

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop C: Brief Solution-Focused Counseling in the Schools

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop D: Play Therapy in the Schools

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop E: Response to Intervention (RTI) (offered Session 1 only)

### Payment Options

Check or money order payable to Georgian Court University enclosed

Purchase order (If you make payment with a purchase order from your school district, please bring a copy of it when you check in at the registration table.)

Visa  MasterCard  American Express *Credit card registration may also be completed by phone at 732.987.2636.*

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Authorized signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

*Cancellation policy: To receive a refund, you must e-mail colfordj@georgian.edu by March 27, 2009.*