

PROFESSIONAL VITÆ

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Licensed Psychologist

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EDUCATION

Fall 1998

to

Fall 2004

Georgia School of Professional Psychology, Atlanta, GA

Obtained Masters & Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology

Track: **Child and Family Clinical Psychology**

Fall 1995

to

Spring 1997

University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio

Completed course work for Masters of Arts

Track: **Adult, Couples, and Family Clinical Psychology**

Fall 1991

to

Spring 1995

Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

Bachelor of Arts, 1995. Summa Cum Laude

Major: Psychology, Psi Chi Member: International Honors Society in Psychology

Other areas of concentration: Sociology and Social Work

LICENSING & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

License from the State of Georgia in Psychology, Full License Granted 2005, Provisional License 2004

Georgia Psychological Association Member (GPA) and Past Board Member

Chair of the Clinical Child and Adolescent Committee: 2024 to Current

Coordination of meetings and outreach for the CCAC committee, including facilitation of a clinical presentation series to the American Academy of Pediatrics-Georgia Chapter

Chair of Insurance and Managed Care Committee: 2017 to 2021

Facilitation of communication between GPA members and the various managed care companies to ensure ethical and appropriate client care related to the delivery of psychological services across Georgia

American Psychological Association Member (APA), 2004 to Current

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & HONORS

Award for Outstanding Service to the Georgia Psychological Association, 2019 and 2020

Awarded for extensive work assisting psychologists in the state with the transition to the new psychological testing codes and ensuring codes were instituted and compensated correctly by managed care companies.

Awarded Fellowship Status by Georgia Psychological Association, 2018

For significant contributions to the GPA and the overall profession of psychology

Excellence in Documentation, Magellan Health Services, 2013

Received after a routine practice audit, and Magellan also utilized my paperwork as a documentation example for other providers in their network.

CLINICAL WORK HISTORY:

December 2006

to

Current

West Georgia Psychological Services (WGPS), Douglasville, GA

Private Practice Owner and Individual Practitioner

Current and Ongoing Work through WGPS: Specializing in children and families and also serving adults. Areas of clinical focus include autism, trauma and abuse, anxiety/depression, developmental disabilities, and other behavioral and emotional issues. Conducting comprehensive psychological evaluations from young childhood through adulthood.

Extensive experience with psychological testing services throughout the lifespan, especially the autism spectrum, anxiety and panic, developmental disabilities, effective parenting practice, and the impact of complex trauma.

-Also working to develop brief parent-friendly brochures summarizing information about a variety of topics based on known research and clinical experience, which include: effective discipline practices, healthy family habits, understanding and managing autism-related meltdowns, understanding IEP's and the Response to Intervention (RTI) process, overlap between trauma and ADHD symptoms, the impact of media exposure on children, causes rather than symptoms in acting out children, differential presentation of females with ASD, and understanding the roles of various mental health professionals. These brochures are used to assist parents in testing feedback sessions. Publication may be sought in the future.

Previous and Ongoing Work through West Georgia Psychological Services:

- Providing ongoing pro-bono education and resources to various area agencies and referral sources regarding aspects of the autism spectrum throughout the lifespan to increase identification and treatment. Particular emphasis on females and atypical presentation of autism in individuals without significant language and cognitive deficits. (2023-Current).
- Contracted with Douglas County Juvenile Programs: Psychological testing for at-risk youth & parents, specifically to address underlying mental health concerns, guide treatment services, and assist in preventing long-term court involvement. Experience working directly with the juvenile court judges, probation officers, and juvenile programs staff. (2006-2020)
- In addition to psychological testing services, carried a full-time load of therapy clients including children, teenagers, and adults, as well as provided family therapy services. Therapy included a broad array of diagnoses and utilized cognitive-behavioral, interpersonal, child-parent psychotherapy, and family systems models of treatment. (2006-2015)
- Conducted long-term weekly therapy groups including: elementary age females who have been sexually abused (two years), high functioning autism in teenagers (three years), and social skills training for elementary age children with pervasive developmental delays (one year). (2009-2013)
- Supervision of doctoral-level graduate students for diagnostic practicum, advanced practicum, and post-doctorate fellowships in advanced/integrative psychological assessment (12 students in total, year-long placements). Focused on trauma, parenting evaluations, autism spectrum, developmental disabilities, and emotional/behavioral issues in children and teenagers. Also provided extensive training in assessment of young children (birth to age 3), as well as some adults. Also supervised 3 students for therapy practicums. (2007-2017)
- Acquired and sustained contracts through multiple counties for the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Contracts included assessment of children and parents involved with the DFCS, including trauma evaluations, fitness for parenting, bonding assessments, autism evaluations, and other diagnoses for treatment and case planning. (2009-2016)
- Conducted a number of trainings to various agencies and populations (court staff, foster parents, DFCS case managers, schools & special needs foster care agencies) on complex trauma, attachment disorders, emotional intelligence, conflict management, & understanding the autism spectrum. (2010-2018)
- Served on the Douglas County court committee for the treatment of mistreated infants and toddlers. Met regularly with the team to discuss various complex cases and determine needed services. Conducted psychological evaluations for the team, as well as trained other providers in child-parent psychotherapy services. (2012-2015)
- Provided expert testimony as a licensed psychologist specializing in children, trauma, and/or the autism spectrum over forty times for local attorneys, Department of Juvenile Programs, and the Department of Family and Children Services.

December 2006 **Yes-U-Can, Douglasville, GA**
 to **Clinical Director of Therapeutic Services**
August 2007 **Program Development Coordinator**

Accepted a part-time position to develop and implement a treatment program for children and adolescents. Responsible for initial program development, supervision of Masters level employees, and development of a protocol for intake through specialized psychological evaluations.

February, 2005
to
December 2006 **The Psychology Center, Douglasville, GA**
Post Doctorate Fellowship & Employment
Supervisor: Dennis Herendeen, Ph.D.

Finished Post Doctorate experience providing testing and therapy services for primarily children and adolescents, with some adult clients. Also conducted ongoing family therapy services. Joined the practice as first employment experience after obtaining full licensure. Specializing in child clinical assessment, primarily in the areas of autism, posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, and adjustment disorders. Also providing child and family services utilizing play therapy and therapeutic use of art.

September, 2001
to
August, 2005 **Clayton County Child & Adolescent Services, Jonesboro, GA**
Therapy Practicum, Pre-Doctoral Internship & Post Doctorate Placement
Supervisor: Ann Brock, Psy.D.

Responsible for individual, family, and group therapy at a community mental health center, with most clients being of low socioeconomic status. Focused on treatment of young children and trauma-focused therapy. Also responsible for intakes and chart maintenance. Caseload of approximately 10 to 15 clients per week.

September, 2002 Hired directly after practicum to conduct intakes and assessment for an afterschool program designed to assist low-income teenage parents with a history of trauma. Also conducted psychological evaluations weekly for the center with a focus on trauma, autism, developmental disabilities, and childhood emotional difficulties.

September, 2003 Gained full time Pre-Doctoral Internship placement designed around supervision of all assessment services. This position was specifically created by the agency to utilize my areas of focus. Responsible for individual therapy, intakes, and supervision of diagnostic students and all psychological evaluations for children. Gained a caseload of child, adolescent, and adult (parents) clients as well throughout this year. Obtained highest ratings for chart maintenance and documentation.

September, 2004 Hired to continue working as part of my Post Doctorate Fellowship supervising all diagnostic and therapy students. Also responsible for conducting groups with children/teens including anger management, sexual abuse victims, high functioning autism, & self-esteem. Carried a small individual/family therapy load.

January, 2004
to
February, 2006 **Integrated Therapies, Atlanta, Georgia**
Employment and Post Doctorate Fellowship
Supervisors: Dea Montgomery, Ph.D. & Shirley Boone-Sanford, Ph.D.

Responsible for conducting psychological evaluations from birth to adulthood. Focus was on the assessment of trauma, developmental disabilities, autism, and emotional dysregulation in children and teenagers for this private practice, as well as contracted work through several other agencies.

Contracted Work through Integrated Therapies

- Babies Can't Wait Program**, Assessments of special needs children ages birth to 3-years-old
- Department of Family and Children Services**, Psychological assessment of foster children
- Georgia State Disability Evaluations (SSI)**, Psychological assessments of children and adults applying for social security disability benefits.

September, 1999
to
February, 2005 **Marcus Institute-Affiliate of Kennedy Krieger at Emory University**
Atlanta, Georgia (Now called the Marcus Autism Center)
Diagnostic Practicum, Employment, & Post Doctorate Fellowship
Supervisors: Connie Smith, Ph.D, Lisa Guy, Ph.D, Dea Montgomery, Ph.D.,
and Alcuin Johnson, Ph.D.

Responsible for administering psychological and psychoeducational batteries to children from infancy to adolescence with a broad range of medical, developmental, cognitive, academic, and emotional/behavioral difficulties. Responsibilities also included test interpretation, report writing, and chart maintenance with a specific focus on developmental disabilities and autism spectrum.

- August 2000** Hired to continue assessment responsibilities under four different psychologists. Continued to conduct approximately 2-4 assessments per week and remained in this position throughout graduate school.
- September 2005** Gained an additional contract as part of Post Doctorate Fellowship experience to conduct several evaluations monthly with a focus on developmental disabilities and the autism spectrum.

September, 2000 **Rainbow Connection Child Advocacy and Assessment Center**
to Jonesboro, Georgia
January, 2001 Therapy Practicum Supervisor: Michelle Green, Ph.D.

Provided individual, family, and group therapy for children who were sexually or physically abused and neglected. Continued contact with Department of Children's Services (DFCS) and the juvenile court system. Gained additional experience and training in play and art therapy, as well as training in forensic interviewing for trauma victims with the local police department.

June, 1997 **Miami Valley Hospital, Employee Assistance Program, Dayton, Ohio**
to Master's Therapy Practicum
December, 1997 Supervisor: Thomas Shroyer, Ph.D.

Provided individual, family, and marital therapy to a culturally diverse population of adults, adolescents, and children. Duties included case planning, chart preparation, and treatment summaries.

October, 1995 **Young Women Christian Association. Dayton, Ohio**
to Crisis Intervention Specialist & Group Development
June, 1997 Master's Therapy Practicum & Employment
Supervisor: Bernadine Parks, M.A., L.P.C.C.

Provided emergency crisis counseling for domestic violence victims and their families by phone and in person. Duties as Group Development Coordinator included the development, implementation, and evaluation of psychoeducational groups on daily living skills, substance abuse, anger/stress management, and parenting skills. Prepared treatment manuals for all groups and assisted in training new staff members.
-Hired after practicum experience to continue conducting and developing new groups. Also carried caseload of 10 clients for case management and life skills counseling.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

January, 2001 **Spectrum Psychological Associates. Atlanta, GA**
to Contract Psychological Assessments
February, 2005 Supervisor: Dea Montgomery Ph.D.

Administer psychological and psychoeducational batteries to children from infancy to adolescence with a broad range of medical, developmental, cognitive, academic, and emotional/behavioral difficulties. Responsibilities included test interpretation, report writing, and chart maintenance. Focus on developmental disabilities, learning disorders, and the autism spectrum.

March 2000 **Georgia School of Professional Psychology, Atlanta, GA**
to Teaching Assistant for a Graduate Rorschach Course
June 2001 Supervisor: Tim Chomyn, Ed.D.

Responsible for teaching and assisting students enrolled in the Rorschach course. Conducted tutoring sessions for class of up to 30 students. Gained extensive knowledge and practice with the Exner Scoring System and Rorschach interpretation.

December, 1997 **Pathways Adolescent Substance Abuse Center. Dayton, Ohio**
to Adolescent, Family, and Group Counselor
September, 1998 Supervisor: Mary Melton, Ph.D.

Provided assessment, individual/group therapy, art therapy, family therapy, and substance abuse treatment to a caseload of up to 30 adolescents and their families. Other duties included report writing and chart preparation. Focus teens with dual diagnoses with substance abuse issues.

September, 1992 to June, 1995 **Ohio University Counseling Center.** Athens, Ohio
Student Development Assistants (SDA), Founding Member
President, and Training Coordinator.
Supervisors: Jeanne Heaton, Ph.D., Fred Weiner, Ph.D.

Founded a student organization designed to train psychology students to research various mental health topics in order to develop, implement, and evaluate presentations to life skills college courses, student organizations, dormitories, and college orientation meetings. Responsible for recruiting, training new members, running weekly meetings, and administrative duties. As a member, conducted over 100 presentations on topics including stress, anger, and time management, depression, anxiety, assertiveness, relationship issues (e.g. roommate conflict), and trauma/abuse. Researched and created manuals for all topics for use by other student members.

-Also hired to review material written for college counseling center clients in order to improve usefulness and appropriateness for this specific clientele.

FOCUS AREAS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION (CEU EXPERIENCES)

Psychological Testing Peer Consultation: monthly to quarterly meetings with various licensed psychologists throughout the state of Georgia, (2020 to Current)

-Focus on complex psychological testing cases, ethics, and differential diagnoses

WGPS Peer Consultation: monthly meetings ongoing with WGPS clinical staff, (2016 to 2020)

-Focus on complex cases, ethical conduct, and ensuring highest standard of care

Georgia Psychological Association (GPA) Annual Meetings (Yearly-Ongoing)

-Workshops include: Ethics in Psychology, Vineland Adaptive Scales 3rd Edition, Assessment of Autism, Understanding Posttraumatic Growth, Forensic Assessment Practices, Treatment with Juvenile Delinquency, Diagnoses of Bipolar Disorder in Youth, Differential Diagnostics, and many others.

Self-Study, and Literature Review: Autism in Females (2016-Present, ongoing)

Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, Dr. Tony Attwood, Autism Speaks, Child-Mind Institute, etc.

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-Second Edition (2015-2019)

-Training modules and workbook for all age ranges, 30 hours, ongoing refresher training as needed

Supervision Workshops for Georgia School of Professional Psychology (2009-2017)

-Yearly ethics and cultural diversity workshops by various psychologists specifically for supervisors of graduate level doctorate students in therapy and psychological evaluation

Professional Therapy Supervision for complex cases, Dr. David Morgan, Ph.D. (2008)

-Participated monthly for approximately 10 months with a focus on understanding boundaries in Axis II disorders

American Academy of Forensic Psychologists Training Series (2011-2013)

-Various trainings related to forensic assessment and expert testimony

-Introduction series to forensic psychology and child maltreatment forensic involvement

Year-long training through National Child Traumatic Stress Network (2012-2013)

-Assessment & Child-Parent Psychotherapy for young children, conducted by Joy Osofsky, Ph.D.

LSU Health & Science Center, New Orleans LA., Funded by Douglas County Juvenile Court

Presentation to Georgia Department of Health, Early Childhood Social-Emotional Awareness (2013)

-Provided for the Douglas County Family Court Team and presented with Judge Peggy Walker

Workshops and extensive self-study on the changes to DSM-V, (2013)

-Specific focus on autism spectrum, childhood emotional/behavioral disorders, & trauma

-Extensive review of adult diagnostics to guide psychological testing

HIPAA Certification Trainings: Trust Sponsored (2013-2014)

-Utilized trainings to update and revise the HIPAA policies and manual of WGPS

**Exhaustive list of all continuing education coursework, workshops, and study available on request*

PAST RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2002 to 2004 **Georgia School of Professional Psychology.** Atlanta, GA
Clinical Research Project to complete doctorate degree
Advisor: Nick DeFilippis, Ph.D.
Review of all child self-report checklists for children 10 and under
Focus on effective assessment tools and interviewing practices for children of all diagnoses
- 1997 **University of Dayton, Psychology Dept.** Dayton, OH
Researcher. Advisor: Elizabeth Corbitt, Ph.D.
Conducted a study on psychologists' knowledge of domestic violence and the practical use of this knowledge with their clients. Created a questionnaire that was sent to psychologists practicing in Ohio regarding trauma experiences.
- 1995 **Ohio University, Psychology Department.** Athens, Ohio
Research Assistant, Supervisor: Kenneth Greatz, Ph.D.
Assisted in investigating the pattern of migraine headaches through the use of electrical stimulation to various facial muscles.
- 1994 **Ohio University, Psychology Department.** Athens, Ohio
Research Assistant, Supervisor: Kenneth Greatz, Ph.D.
Assisted in investigating the effects of AIDS peer presentations on safe sex practices among college students. Responsible for peer presentations and the collection of data.