ADOLESCENT SYMPOSIUM OF TEXAS 2016
Speaker Biography

Shira Abramovitz, LMSW, DBT Therapist, The Excel Center of Fort Worth
Shira Abramovitz is the lead therapist for the Excel Center of Fort Worth’s newly launched Dialectical Behavior Therapy (“DBT”) program, where she focuses her practice on treating adolescents experiencing treatment resistant suicidal ideation, mood instability and self-injury. Since joining the Excel Center’s partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient program in 2013, Shira has also presented CEUs to area practitioners on topics including motivational interviewing, substance abuse trends and applying DBT techniques with chronically suicidal adolescents.

Orie Achonwa, Healthcare Consultant, Her Health Associates
Dr. Orie Achonwa is an adolescent health consultant, award winning healthcare innovator, youth motivational speaker, social entrepreneur, and author of What’s Getting Into Our Children: Seven groundbreaking methods for raising healthier more resilient girls in today’s toxic world. Her interests include preconception healthy, positive youth development, and socio-environmental factors contributing to disparities in girls’ health.

Rudy Acosta, Deputy Director of Probation Services, Dallas County Juvenile Department
Rudy Acosta is currently the Deputy Director of Probation Services for the Dallas County Juvenile Department. Mr. Acosta began working for the Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections Department in 1989 where he worked for 18 years. He has served both the Dallas County Juvenile and Adult Justice Professions in various capacities for the past twenty five years and continues his commitment to making a positive impact in the Juvenile Justice system.

Stacie Allphin, MS, LCDC, Director of Adolescent Services, Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center
Stacie Allphin is Director of Adolescent Programs for Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center in Houston, Texas. She has been a speaker at the American Society of Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama, the National Association of Social Workers and the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapist and has also been a guest speaker on LA Talk Radio’s Family Solutions program, Fox News, AM 740 KTRH news radio, and ABC news. Stacie has served on the Houston Chapter of the Texas Association of Addiction Professionals Board of Directors. In 2011 she received the Texas State Counselor of the year award.

Janet Anselmo-Henson, MA, LCDC, LPC-Intern, Clinical Therapist, Jewish Family Service
Janet Anselmo-Henson is a therapeutic clinician with Jewish Family Service. A 20 year veteran in the substance abuse field, she has experience in private practice, social service and full time ministry. As a Master Trainer in Motivational Enhancement Therapy she has conducted trainings for probation staff as well as therapeutic venues in the Dallas area. As a therapeutic program developer she co-developed the continuum of care for the Dallas County Juvenile Probation Department’s Substance Abuse Unit and managed 6 chemical dependency programs for adolescents involved in the probation system.

Ashley Arial, LPC, CEDS, Children’s Health: Children’s Medical Center Plano
Ashley Arial is a clinical therapist in the Eating Disorder program at Children’s Medical Center- Legacy in Plano, Texas. She provides family therapy for child and adolescent patients, leads groups, and works with

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the treatment team to support eating disorder recovery. Ashley has experience working with adolescents and families in private practice and both inpatient programs at Children’s Dallas and Children’s Legacy.

**Julie Ballinger, PhD. LPC, RPT, BCN, Guiding Compass Counseling**
Dr. Ballinger is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Registered Play Therapist, Board Certified Neurotherapist and Certified HeathMath Practitioner. She is the co-owner of Guiding Compass Counseling in Flower Mound, Texas. Her advanced training has prepared her to help people across the life-span enrich their lives through self-discovery and interpersonal connection.

**Matt Bellace, PhD, Speaker, Psychologist and Comedian**
For over 20 years, Dr. Matt Bellace has been traveling the country as a professional speaker and stand-up comedian. He is the author of the book, *A Better High*, contributing author for the National Geographic Kids Series, *This or That* and was a regular on truTV’s, *World’s Dumbest*. During his speaking career, Dr. Bellace has encouraged over a million students and adults to pursue natural highs and make healthy choices. He also partnered with a foundation called *Natural High*, to help bring their free natural high video series into over 20,000 classrooms worldwide.

**Meredith Chapman, MD, Associate Professor, Medical Director, Consult Liaison Services, UT Southwestern Medical Center and Children’s Medical Center Dallas**
Dr. Chapman, a native of Kentucky, attended medical school at the University of Louisville. She completed a triple board residency in pediatrics, psychiatry, and child and adolescent psychiatry, at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic. Since its inception, Dr. Chapman has served as the primary psychiatrist for the GENder Education and Care Interdisciplinary Support (GENECIS) program at Children’s and is a passionate advocate for gender diverse youth.

**Lester Clowes, EdD, Head of School, Fusion Academy**
Dr. Lester Clowes has been working in education for 14 years. He joined Fusion Academy in January 2010 and since then has played various roles on five different campuses in California and Texas. After battling depression and anxiety throughout his own life, Lester is proud to dedicate his energy and passions into a school that embraces the emotional and social aspects of a child’s being.

**Alexis Clyde, PhD, Psychologist, Children’s Medical Center Dallas**
Dr. Clyde is a licensed psychologist at the outpatient Center for Pediatric Psychiatry at Children’s Medical Center/Children’s Health and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry through UT Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Clyde provides comprehensive evaluations for children zero to five through the Early Childhood Mental Health Clinic, as well as general psychological evaluations for school-aged children. She also leads a teen Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) group for adolescents with emotional regulation difficulties. Dr. Clyde is currently the administrative primary supervisor for the Outpatient Concentration of the psychology postdoctoral fellowship position at Children’s Health.

**LaToya Davis, Educator, The Family Place**
LaToya Davis attended the University of Wisconsin Whitewater and graduated with Bachelors of Letters and Science in Psychology. She is an Educator with The Family Place Be Project.

**Judy DeKuehn, M.Ed., LPC, Counselor, Fresh Perspectives Counseling**
Judy DeKuehn is a Licensed Professional Counselor who specializes in working with adults and children dealing with trichotillomania (TTM), eating disorders, obsessive compulsive disorders, and anxiety disorders. Judy offers individual therapy for both adults and adolescents. Currently, Judy offers support
groups for those dealing with OCD and trichotillomania. In her private practice at Fresh Perspectives Counseling she offers cognitive-behavioral therapy in a comfortable, safe environment.

**Bridget Redondo-Doan, LMFT, Clinical Therapist, Children’s Health Children’s Medical Center**

Bridget Redondo-Doan, is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who has been providing counseling services to individuals, couples, and families for nearly 10 years in various settings including schools, non-profit organizations, MHMR, and hospitals. For 5 years, she has worked extensively with children and their families dealing with both chronic and acute illnesses and/or mental health issues in which she provides bilingual services through outpatient and inpatient consultation, assessment, individual, family and group therapies at Children’s Health: Children’s Medical Center Dallas.

**Vincent Duran, MSW, LCCA, Executive Director, Arms of Hope Boles Campus**

Vincent Duran serves as the Executive Director of the Boles Campus, a residential care ministry of Arms of Hope. Mr. Duran has worked with families for more than 20 years as a minister and social worker. He began extensive work with incarcerated fathers while serving as the Clinical Chaplain for the Central New Mexico Correctional Facility. His current interest involves working with military fathers as they return home from service.

**Amanda Esquivel, LPC, LCDC, Private Practice**

Counselor Amanda has a private practice in North Garland, where she specializes in treating teens and young adults. She has worked with clients at various levels of care, from inpatient psychiatric stabilization to residential rehab and crisis care services. In addition to working with clients directly, she also enjoys advocacy and assisting new professionals in the field. Since 2008, Amanda has been a part of Camp El Tesoro de la Vida, a grief camp for children ages 6-17. She believes this is the most rewarding adventure she has taken a part in, other than becoming a mother to her beautiful and spunky daughter- Avery.

**Sarah Feuerbacher, Ph.D., LCSW-S, SMU Center for Family Counseling**

Dr. Sarah Feuerbacher is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker Supervisor, Practical Parent Education Certified Parent Educator, and State of Texas Parent Mediator/Facilitator. Dr. Feuerbacher is currently employed by Southern Methodist University as Clinic Director of the Family Counseling Center and teaches in the Graduate Department of Dispute Resolution and Counseling. Dr. Feuerbacher’s clinical focus and public speaking specialization is in the area of using holistic approaches in working with diverse individuals who have experienced multifaceted themes of abuse in order to identify and empower strengths in intrapersonal and environmental systems that can create personal goals, positive relationships, and healthy lifestyles.

**Shawnetta Gantt-Wilkins, MA., LPC-S, LCDC, Program Manager, Dallas County Juvenile Department**

Shawnetta Gantt-Wilkins is the Program Manager for the Dallas County Juvenile Department; Substance Abuse Unit. She has experience in the areas of suicide prevention and intervention, substance use treatment, sex offender treatment, crisis management and intervention, anger management, adjustment, grief, trauma, Mood Disorders/psychotic features, coping skills, social skills, goal setting, communication, and family dynamics.

**Mandy Golman, PhD, MS, MCHES, Assistant Professor, Texas Womans’ University**

Dr. Mandy Golman is an Assistant Professor in the Health Studies Department of the College of Health Sciences at TWU. She has over 20 years’ experience as a health educator and is a Master Certified Health Education Specialist. Her areas of expertise include youth program planning and evaluation, female
adolescent development and parental perspectives of teen pregnancy. Dr. Golman is the founder and former Executive Director of Girls In Motion.

**Terry Greenberg, J.D., CEO, North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy**
Terry Greenberg is the CEO of North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy or in a smaller mouthful: NTARuPT. NTARuPT is an alliance of organizations with a focus on reducing teen pregnancy in Dallas. As a volunteer, Terry lead a coalition called S.A.Y. What? (Sound Advice for Youth) which advocated for comprehensive sex education for the National Council of Jewish Women. Deciding to leave law practice after 25 years she worked for Our Friends Place before the call from the Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy which ultimately lead to her founding of NTARuPT in 2013.

**Vanita Halliburton, B.A., President, Grant Halliburton Foundation**
Vanita Halliburton is President of the Grant Halliburton Foundation which was established in 2006 following the suicide death of her son Grant Halliburton. The mission of the Foundation is to help prevent suicide, promote better mental health and strengthen the network of mental health resources for teens and young adults. She speaks from the heart about her son’s battle with depression and bipolar disorder, his suicide at the age of 19, and the need for a collaborative approach to suicide prevention.

**Nicole Head, MLS, Educator, The Family Place**
Nicole is an Educator with The Family Place Be Project. Nicole specializes in sexual assault and serves on the board of a transitional housing ministry for women, Emily’s Place. She is an opinion voices columnist for the Dallas Morning News.

**Michele Horn, LMFT-S, Clinical Therapist, Children’s Health Children’s Medical Center**
Michele Horn is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who has provided counseling services to individuals, couples, and families nearly 14 years in multiple settings that include private practice, an advocacy center, schools, and hospital settings. Michele is currently a clinical therapist at Children’s Health: Children’s Medical Center in which she has worked with both Inpatient Psychiatry and Eating Disorder programs and is currently working within the Department of Pain Management.

**David Huffman, PhD, LPC, RPT, MDiv**
David Huffman is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Registered Play Therapist. David is co-owner and counselor at Guiding Compass Counseling in Flower Mound, Texas, and Adjunct Professor at UNT. His specialty areas include co-parent consultation for parents in relationship transition, experiential and activity based therapy with teens and preteens, play therapy with children, parent-child relationship development, dream work, and transpersonal experiences.

**Shawn Jeffries, PhD and CSAT-S, Clinical Psychologist, Center for Motivation and Recovery**
Dr. Jeffries licensed clinical psychologist with specialty training in behavioral medicine and addictive behaviors. He work with both substance and process addictions, i.e. sex, food, gambling, work, etc. and is a Certified Sex Addiction Therapist - Supervisor (CSAT-S) trained by the International Institute for Trauma and Addiction Therapists. Dr. Jeffries also specializes in the area of trauma processing, anxiety disorders, and depression.

**Jordan Lee Knape, Author of Best Body Memoir, Writer, Best Body: Pretty, Miserable, Perfectness**
Jordan is the author of Best Body: Pretty, Miserable, Perfectness, and a memoir about her battle with, and ultimate recovery from, an eating disorder that landed her in a locked-down adolescent psychiatric unit just days before Christmas at the age of thirteen. She wrote Best Body to give voice not only to eating
disorders, but also to the countless other ways young women make themselves "smaller" in order to fit into society's prescribed roles. She is an advocate for young women and strives to remove the secrecy and shame often associated with eating disorders, depression and anxiety.

**Jordyn Lawson, LPC, Women and Children's Therapist, Genesis Women's Shelter and Support**

Jordyn Lawson works as a women and children's counselor at Genesis Women’s Shelter and Support. Jordyn has worked in the field of domestic violence recovery for over eight years. During that time Jordyn has provided individual and group counseling services to women, adolescent, and children victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and childhood trauma. Jordyn has a passion for speaking in the community regarding dynamics of abuse, dynamics power and control, and dispelling the myths of domestic violence and teen dating violence.

**Fred Lines, MS, LPC-S, Director of Child and Adolescent Therapy, Momentous Institute**

Fred Lines is the Director of Child and Adolescent Therapy at Momentous Institute. He has worked in the mental health field for 28 years and with the Momentous Institute for 25. Fred is family systems oriented and works from a strength based perspective. Along with family therapy, Fred is a strong professional development trainer focusing on social and emotional health and its intersection with education, team building, experiential learning, and trauma.

**Ruth Long, LPC-S. SRT, Professional Counselor, Center for Motivation and Recovery**

Ruth Long is a Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor and a Sexual Recovery Therapist who is certified in Trauma Model Therapy and is a certified Clinical EFT Practitioner. Her specialties are Addiction and Trauma Recovery which includes childhood trauma recovery, trauma history roots in addiction and partner care for those who have been deeply impacted by the addiction of others. She is a published author of a trauma recovery workbook entitled "Fred's Story" published through the Colin Ross Institute for Psychological Trauma and Manitou Communications.

**Marland May, LPCI, Counselor, Grace Counseling**

Marland May has been an educator, coach, and counselor for adolescence to college students for the past decade. He has traveled around the globe bring positive message to students from Kenya to Mexico. He motivates teens through impactful messages while using words they can relate to. He current works with teens at Grace Counseling center as they battle their way out of addiction.

**Jennifer Perla, LPC-S, RN, Therapist, Perla Counseling**

Ms. Perla has worked in various agencies throughout Dallas with the focus on children, adolescents and their family. Currently, she has a private practice in Addison which she began in 2012.

**Jim Savage, LCDC, OWNER, DALLAS RECOVERY CENTER**

Jim Savage is a licensed chemical dependency counselor who has specialized in adolescent substance abuse treatment since 1984. Jim is owner of the Dallas Recovery Center, where he currently maintains a private practice specializing in assessment, intervention, drug awareness education, and supporting parents in managing treatment for teens and young adults. Jim uses his rock musical “The Journey” to help young people examine how substance abuse and other self-defeating behaviors prevent them from achieving fulfillment in their lives as they transition into adulthood. He is also the author of Rehab Works! A Parent’s Guide to Drug Treatment, which was published in March, 2015.

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Dr. Stephanie C. Setliff, MD, Medical Director, Eating Recovery Center of Dallas
Dr. Setliff has specialized in the treatment of eating disorders for 20 years. Dr. Setliff completed her adult psychiatry residency at UT Southwestern Medical and served as Chief Resident of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry while in her child fellowship. From 2000–November 2013, she was an Assistant Professor at UT Southwestern and the Medical Director of the Center for Pediatric Eating Disorders at Children’s Medical Center. She was a pivotal force behind the move of the Pediatric Eating Disorders Program to their new facility at Children’s Legacy Campus in November 2011.

Terry Smith, PhD, Executive Director and Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Dallas County Juvenile Department
Dr. Terry S. Smith joined the Dallas County Juvenile Department in 2011 where she currently serves as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Dallas County and Executive Director of the Dallas County Juvenile Department. Dr. Smith is committed to assisting youth to meet their individual potential through family focused, strength based intervention while continuing to always be mindful of community safety and victim restoration. Dr. Smith has been involved with the Juvenile Justice system for over 30 years, having previously served 25 years with Harris County Juvenile Probation (in Houston, Texas).

Ervin Taylor, Deputy Director of Institutions, Dallas County Juvenile Department
Currently, Ervin L. Taylor serves as the Deputy Director of Institutional Services for the Dallas County Juvenile Department where he oversees the operations for six juvenile facilities. Prior to coming to Dallas, Mr. Taylor devoted 13 years to the youth of Harris County in various capacities within the Harris County Juvenile Probation Department. This included tenure as the Assistant Superintendent of Burnet-Bayland Home and the Juvenile Detention Center.

Peter Thomas, PhD, Psychologist, The Holiner Psychiatric Group
Dr. Thomas is a long time resident of Texas and has been practicing therapy in the DFW area since 1995. He is well known for his work with adolescents and sees individuals in both outpatient and inpatient settings. He practices Interpersonal and Relational Psychotherapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Transactional Analysis. In addition to his individual therapy, Dr. Thomas is also well known for his workshops and training around topics of Diversity in therapy, Suicide, Self-Injury, Bullying, Transgender and LGBT issues.

Beth Valentine, LMFT-S, LPC-S, CEDS, Children’s Health: Children’s Medical Center Plano
Beth Valentine is a clinical therapist at Children’s Health: Children’s Medical Center Plano, where she provides family therapy for child and adolescent patients admitted into the eating disorder program, leads process and psychoeducational groups, and works with the treatment team to support eating disorder recovery. She provides training and education about family therapy, family systems, and eating disorders to fellow professionals and the community.

Nicholas Westers, PsyD, Psychologist, Children’s Medical Center Dallas
Dr. Westers is a licensed psychologist in the outpatient Depression Clinic at the Center for Pediatric Psychiatry at Children’s Medical Center/Children’s Health and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He completed a two year postdoctoral fellowship in Adolescent Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital as part of its Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) program, where he trained in the outpatient and inpatient eating disorders program. His clinical and research interests focus on adolescents and include non-suicidal self-injury, mood disorders, and high risk behavior.

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Karen Williams, M.S.S.W., Consultant in Private Practice, Williamsgroup
Karen Williams is an independent consultant in private practice specializing in child and adolescent development and behavior. Her current focus is on: the impact of distress, anxiety and trauma on brain development and behavior; the developmental approach to juvenile justice; the trauma-informed schools movement; and the neuroscience of mindfulness and stress-management. She is a regular contributor to the Trans4m Center, a consultant to the American Institutes of Research (AIR), State Training and Technical Assistance Center (STTAC), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency and Prevention (OJJDP), and a consultant to the Maine Department of Corrections.

Susie Wolbe, EdD, owner, Dr Susie Wolbe Educational Services
Susie Wolbe is the owner of Dr. Susie Wolbe Educational Services as well as an educator with over 30 years of experience as a teacher, principal, tutor, and therapist. Dr. Wolbe teaches strategies to improve social-emotional interactions through mindfulness meditation, a secular form of meditation. Dr. Wolbe also emphasizes study-organization skills, brain research, and creating balanced lifestyles. TEA has designated that CPE hours are offered for Dr. Wolbe’s classes for Texas educators (#902209).

Alisha Woodall, LPC-S, Psychotherapist, Finding the Foundation
Alisha Woodall is a psychotherapist specializing in emotional awareness who believes in a holistic approach to mental health, recognizing the importance of both physical and emotional wellness. Her experience ranges from residential substance abuse treatment for adolescents, to family and adult individual counsel at her private practice, Finding the Foundation in Dallas, Texas. She is passionate about her work with teenagers and family systems; helping parents better understand their teenagers, while assisting in the repair of torn relationships.