



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

FINDING WORDS/CHILD FIRST NEW JERSEY FORENSIC INTERVIEW TRAINING PROGRAM

June 7, 2021, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *
June 8, 2021, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. *
June 9, 2021, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. *
June 10, 2021, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **
June 11, 2021, 8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. **

*June 7, 8 & 9 - Montclair State University, Felicano School of Business, 1 E. Normal Ave, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

**June 10 & 11 – Montclair State University, Center for Clinical Services, 147 Clove Road, Little Falls NJ, 07424

Program Summary

Finding Words/ChildFirst® New Jersey is an intensive five-day training course in which students learn the skills required to conduct a competent investigative interview of a child abuse victim using the ChildFirst forensic interview process. The interactive course combines lectures with demonstrations and hands-on practice. Students will interview a child about a non-abuse event and an actor playing the role of an abused child and receive feedback from an expert forensic interviewer. FW/CF NJ will provide prosecutors, law enforcement officers, mental health clinicians and child welfare investigators with skills that enhance their ability to speak to and for abused children.

Eligibility

This program is open to assistant prosecutors, deputy attorneys general in the Division of Criminal Justice and the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group and law enforcement officers employed by county prosecutors' offices and municipal police departments who have been invited to attend. Students will receive the materials on the day of the program.

Faculty

Anthony V. D'Urso, Psy.D. is a graduate professor of psychology at Montclair State University and the Director of Child First/Finding Words – New Jersey. Dr. D'Urso is also the supervising psychologist at The Audrey Hepburn Children's House, the Northern Regional Diagnostic Center for Child Abuse and Neglect located at Hackensack University Medical Center. For over twenty years, Dr. D'Urso has directed mental health programs for maltreated children at three major New Jersey hospital systems. Dr. D'Urso is the former chairman of the New Jersey Child Fatality/Near Fatality Review Board, which reviews all New Jersey child fatalities and recommends preventative measures. Dr. D'Urso has been a longtime member of the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect and co-founded the New Jersey Child Sexual Abuse Training Institute, a funded initiative of the Task Force, for training and development of multi-disciplinary practices in the investigation and management of criminal and civil child abuse cases. Dr. D'Urso's professional expertise includes forensic psychology and the evaluation of child abuse within familial settings, as well as the assessment and risk propensity for sexual offenders. He received a doctorate in psychology from The Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology at Rutgers University.

Joseph A. Del Russo is a Visiting Lecturer and a member of the adjunct faculty at the Montclair State University Graduate School's Center for Child Advocacy. He teaches courses relating to prevention, identification and prosecution of child abuse. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work. Mr. Del Russo helped develop and is Co-Director of the Finding Words—New Jersey Forensic Interview Training Project. Established in 2002 in collaboration with the National District Attorneys Association and Minnesota's CornerHouse Child Abuse Evaluation and Training Center – the Project has trained scores of New Jersey child welfare professionals on forensic interviewing. Mr. DelRusso retired as a Chief Assistant Prosecutor after 26 years with the Passaic County Prosecutor's office, where he supervised a team of attorneys, investigators, social workers and paralegals in the Prosecutor's Special Victims and Megan's Law Units. He is a graduate of Rutgers University School of Law and served as a law clerk in Family Court for the Honorable Sylvan G. Rothenberg, JSC. He was also a Board Member and Past-President of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children – New Jersey (APSAC-NJ).

Brett A. Biller, Psy.D. is the Mental Health Director at the Audrey Hepburn Children's House at Hackensack University Medical Center. The AHCH is one of four legislatively designated Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Centers and provides mental health and medical services for five northern New Jersey counties. Dr. Biller has worked in three of New Jersey's RDTCs, including serving as the Training Director at the Dorothy B. Hirsh RDTC. In addition to his clinical responsibilities, Dr. Biller served on the Executive Board and was Chair of the Committee on Legislative Affairs of the New Jersey Psychological Association. He also served as President of New Jersey's chapter of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. Dr. Biller holds an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and graduate degrees from Pace University.

Dr. Julia A. DeBellis, MD, FAAP is a child abuse pediatrician at the Dorothy B. Hersh Regional Child Protection Center at Saint Peter's University Children's Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She is board certified in pediatrics and child abuse pediatrics and has contributed to the field of child abuse medicine through research, education, and advocacy. Dr. DeBellis is a member

of the Helfer Society and the American Academy of Pediatrics. She served on the boards of the American Professional Society for Abused Children in both New Jersey and Illinois and as a member and co-chairperson on the New Jersey Governor's Task Force, Protection Subcommittee. She has lectured to a wide variety of professionals in the field of child abuse and has is qualified as an expert in child abuse in both criminal and family courts in several jurisdictions. She previously served as Medical Director of the Audrey Hepburn Children's House/Northern Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center. Dr. DeBellis earned a medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine, completed her pediatrics internship and residency at Montefiore Medical Center/ Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and her child abuse fellowship at Cornell University/ New York Hospital.

Melissa Cullen is a detective in the Special Victims Unit of the Bergen County Prosecutors Office, where she conducts forensic interviews and investigates crimes against children. She previously served as an undercover detective with the Narcotics Task Force and was certified as narcotics expert by the Superior Court of New Jersey. She also worked in the BCPO's trial section. Prior to her career in law enforcement, Detective Cullen was a victim-witness advocate and worked with the families of homicide and fatal accident victims. She is an active participant in the New Jersey Sex Crimes Officers Association (NJSCOA) and a member of the Child Abduction Response Team (CART). Detective Cullen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from Seton Hall University.

Giselle Henriquez is the Director of the Passaic County Child Advocacy Center for the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. She is also a Bilingual Child Interview Specialist, conducting forensic interviews of potential child abuse victims. Ms. Henriquez is a member of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, the Passaic County Special Commission on Missing and Abused Children, and the Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council. She holds a certification as a child interviewer from the American Prosecutor's Research Institute. Ms. Henriquez received a Bachelor's in Social Work degree from Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Lieutenant Linda McNulty has over twenty years of law enforcement experience. She serves in the Special Victim's Unit of the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office, where she uses Finding Words techniques in interviewing children and teenagers. She previously worked in the BCPO's Narcotics Division. Before joining the BCPO, Lt. McNulty was a member of the New Milford Police Department, where she served in the Patrol Division and taught DARE programs. She received a bachelor's degree from Rider University.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 36.8 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Child First/Finding Words NJ - Northern MDT Training

June 7th-11th, 2021

Agenda

Date	Time	Topic
Monday June 7th	7:30am - 8:15am	Registration & Pre-Test
	8:15am - 9:00am	Welcome & Overview of Training
	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Effective Interviewing
	10:00 am - 10:10 am	Break
	10:10 am - 12:00pm	How Children Experience Sexual Abuse
	12:00 pm - 1pm	Lunch
	1:00 pm - 2:20 pm	Child Development
	2:20 pm - 2:30 pm	Break
	2:30 pm - 3:05 pm	Process of Disclosure
	3:05 pm - 3:15 pm	Break
	3:15 pm - 4:55 pm	Questioning Children
	4:55 pm - 5 pm	Daily Evaluations & Announcements
Tuesday June 8th	8am - 9:30 am	ChildFirst Forensic Interview Protocol
	9:30am - 9:40am	Break
	9:40am - 11am	ChildFirst Forensic Interview Protocol
	11 am - 11:15am	Break
	11:15am - 12pm	ChildFirst Forensic Interview Protocol
	12 pm - 1 pm	Lunch
	1 pm - 2:00 pm	Review of the Process
	2:00 pm - 2:10 pm	Break
	2:10 pm - 3:30 pm	Anatomical Dolls
	3:30 pm - 3:40 pm	Break
	3:40 pm - 4:55 pm	Blocks & Block Removal in the Interview Process
	4:55 pm - 5pm	Daily Evaluations & Announcements
Wednesday June 9th	8am - 9:30am	Corroboration
	9:30am - 9:40am	Break
	9:40am - 11:00 am	Testifying in court
	11:00 am - 11:15 am	Break
	11:15 am - 12:15am	Hearsay & The Child Victim: Getting Out-of-Court Statements into Court
	12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch
	1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	Preparing the Child Witness for Court
	2:15pm - 2:30 pm	Break
	2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Medical Evaluations
	3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Daily Evaluations & Announcements

Date	Time	Topic
Thursday June 10th	8am - 10 am	Potential Sources of Error in Children's Eyewitness Testimony
	10 am - 10:15am	Break
	10:15 am - 10:30am	Skill Building Exercise: Crossword Puzzle
	10:30 am - 11am	Course Review
	11am	Break into Small Groups
	11am - 11:10am	Actor Interview instructions
	11:10am - 11:55am	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #1
	11:55am - 12:40 pm	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #2
	12:40 pm - 1:40 pm	Lunch
	1:40pm - 2:25pm	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #3
	2:25pm - 3:10pm	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #4
	3:10pm - 3:20pm	Break
	3:20pm - 4:05pm	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #5
	4:05pm - 4:50pm	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #6
	4:55pm - 5pm	Daily Evaluations & Announcements
Friday June 11th	8:15am - 9am	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #7
	9am - 9:45am	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #8
	9:45am - 10am	Break
	10am - 10:45am	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #9
	10:45am - 11:30am	Exercise: Student Interview # Feedback #10
	11:30am - 1:00 pm	Lunch/Study
	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Final Exam
	2:00pm - 2:30pm	Closing Ceremony & Awarding of Certificates
	2:30pm - 3pm	Overall Evaluations