FIFTH ANNUAL LEBEN PLAY THERAPY SYMPOSIUM
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2016
Joe C. Thompson Conference Center, UT-Austin

Fee: $70; $85 after 6/17/16
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
6.0 CEUs Social Work, LPC, LMFT; CEUs for RPT pending approval from the Association for Play Therapy
http://www.utexas.edu/ssw/ceu/leben-play-therapy-symposium/

The Annual Play Therapy Symposia are possible thanks to support from
The Norma and Clay Leben Endowment for Excellence in Play Therapy Methods

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

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<td>8:00 – 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration (Continental Breakfast Provided)</td>
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<td>8:30 – Noon</td>
<td>Morning Session</td>
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<td>Noon – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch included</td>
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<td>1:00 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon breakout sessions</td>
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SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE DETAILS

MORNING SESSION

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Lauren Gaspar, Symposium Chair
Welcome, Acknowledgements, Introductions

9:00 – Noon Keynote – Teri Krull, LCSW, RPT-S, DCSW,
Director, The Center for Positive Regard, Mesa, AZ
Play Therapy with Children Whose Parents or Caretakers are in Relationship Transition (PCRT)

Teri V. Krull is the Director of the Center for Positive Regard, a center for professional education. She also has a 30-year private practice in Arizona, specializing in the treatment of children and families. A member of the national Association for Play Therapy (APT) since 1985, she was a co-founder and first president of the Arizona APT; served 6 years on the APT Board and chaired the APT board of directors (2000). She is an international presenter in play therapy, parent coach, play therapy adjunct faculty to child psychiatric residents and has produced four educational play therapy films for long distance learning. Most recently she was honored with the Arizona District and State NASW 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Keynote Description: Play therapy with children impacted by parent/caretaker relationship transition requires professional sensitivity to the child’s culture, their developmental level, as well as a professional understanding of grief and loss as it relates to the child’s experience. Ms. Krull will cover the above, plus review the merits of play therapy and specific play techniques with children of this special population. She will also review her play therapy translation tool for use in the translation of the child’s play to others.

Objectives
Attendees will be able to:
• Identify cultural issues that can influence the play therapy child client’s experience of PCRT or divorce
• Review child development as it relates to the play therapy child client experiencing PCRT or divorce
• Describe specific play therapy techniques/interventions for use in the treatment of these child clients
• Describe a play therapy professional tool to assist of the translation of the child’s play to parents, educators, attorneys and others

Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch – Provided
A. Teri Krull, LCSW, RPT-S, DCSW, Director, The Center for Positive Regard, Mesa, AZ

Play Therapy with Children Affected by Suicide and Loss

This breakout is designed to encourage discussion among established professionals in the field of play therapy around the unique challenges in the treatment of child survivors of suicide. Specific instruction will include special considerations with complicated grief, the child’s developmental level and the child’s system/cultural support at the time of loss. Some population-specific play techniques will be reviewed as a part of this presentation. While instruction will be a part of this session, the professional exchange will be equally important.

Objectives: Attendees will be able to:

- Describe facts and characteristics of child survivors as a treatment population in play therapy
- Discuss implications of childhood complicated grief as it relates to play therapy treatment
- Help children impacted by suicide through informed play therapy interventions
- Review play therapy specific techniques suited for children impacted by suicide
- Increase efforts to educate the play therapy community regarding the treatment of children impacted by suicide and loss

B. Mary Morrison Bennett, Ph.D., LPC-S, RPT-S, Texas State University- San Marcos

Lessons learned from an orphanage: Play Therapy with internationally adoptive families

Bio: Mary Morrison Bennett is an Associate Professor in the Professional Counseling Program at Texas State University- San Marcos. Dr. Bennett is the Director of the Texas State Institute for Play Therapy. She has presented on play therapy across the United States and in England, Ireland and Russia. Dr. Bennett provides play therapy and serves as the mental health consultant for children at an orphanage in Port Au Prince, Haiti. Her research interests include International adoption, trauma and Child Parent Relationship Therapy.

Session Description: This interactive workshop with focus on aspects of working with internationally adopting families. Dr. Bennett will share her experiences working with children in an orphanage in Haiti, describing the impact living in an orphanage can have on all aspects of a child’s development. This presentation will focus on working with parents as well as children in play therapy. Challenges many adoptive parents face in understanding their child will also be discussed. There will be a focus on play therapy approaches that facilitate the child’s expression, as well as how Child Parent Relationship Therapy can be used to facilitate attachment between parents and children.

Objectives: Attendees will be able to:

- List important aspects of the culture of an orphanage and how that impacts all areas of development including play, attachment, etc.
- Describe unique aspects of play therapy in working with internationally adopted children
- List important issues to discuss with parents to understand their child better
- Discuss the benefits of using Child Parent Relationship Therapy with adoptive families

C. Marshall Lyles, LMFT-S, LPC-S, RPT-S, Center for Relational Care, Austin, TX

Attachment-Informed Play Therapy in the Sand: Engaging Families in Relational Healing

Bio: Marshall Lyles serves as the Director of Training at the Center for Relational Care in Austin, Texas. Most of Mr. Lyles’ clinical practice has focused on attachment trauma and its effect on family relationships. He also conducts supervision and consultation sessions with counseling professionals and leads trainings in both parenting and professional settings; much of his consultation and training focuses on the use of sandtray therapy within a trauma-informed context. As Mr. Lyles is nearing the completion of his Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy, more writing opportunities are emerging which have become a passionate point of interest for him.

Session Description: This workshop will overview the necessary basics of play therapy and sandtray therapy protocols and practices, while giving participants the opportunity to observe and participate in experiential exercises. Advanced techniques that target issues specific to attachment-wounded children will be discussed and this includes addressing how to integrate caregivers into sandtray-based play sessions. Case studies illustrating what progress looks like in sandtray work will be highlighted throughout the workshop.

Objectives: Attendees will be able to:

- Describe the basics of play and sandtray therapy methodology and protocols
- Practice conducting play therapy sessions in the sand
- Apply attachment-informed concepts to play therapy treatment planning using sandtray
- Explain possible methods for integrating caregivers into sandtray-based play therapy work with attachment-wounded children
D. Diana Garza-Louis, LPC, LMFT, RPT, Rio Grande Counseling Center, Austin, TX

**Filial Therapy with Latino Families**

**Bio:** Diana Garza-Louis has provided counseling services to adults, children, and families for over 30 years. She has published numerous articles on sexual abuse, treatment of incest families and play therapy in the United States and Mexico. She has presented numerous workshops on, sexual abuse treatment, play therapy, and cultural competence, both nationally and internationally.

**Session Description:** Hispanics accessing community mental health services have to deal with cultural differences, language barriers, financial restraints and difficulty sharing personal and family issues. Filial play therapy is an excellent choice as an intervention that addresses classic family values of “familismo” (family interdependence), respect, personal relationships, and trust according to Garza and Watts (2010). Filial play therapy is an intervention where parents are placed in a therapeutic role through parent training of basic child centered play therapy techniques. This approach fits Hispanic’s expectations of a more directive approach that includes psychoeducation and provides tools to increase the parent’s emotional relationship with their child.

**Objectives**

- Attendees will be able to:
  - Increase their knowledge about filial play therapy
  - Discuss barriers that Hispanic families encounter in seeking mental health treatment
  - Determine if Filial Play Therapy is the best option for a particular Hispanic family
  - Describe advantages and cultural nuances in using Filial Play Therapy with Hispanic families

E. Norma Leben, LCSW-S, ACSW, RPT-S, CPT-P, Morning Glory Treatment Center, Pflugerville, TX

**Motivating Children Diagnosed with ADHD, ODD and ASD, using Directive Group Play Therapy Games**

**Bio:** Norma Leben is the founder of Morning Glory Treatment Center for Children. She has over thirty years of experience working as a youth worker, program supervisor, CPS supervisor, school drop-out team leader, psychotherapist, and foster parent. She has been an international trainer since 1984, presenting in Hong Kong annually, and at conferences in Ireland, Toronto, Hawaii, Oregon and Beijing. Her book, *Directive Group Play Therapy* (eighth printing) offers practical and effective ways in working with ADHD, traumatized and low self-esteem children. Her Feelings Wheel Game, and other educational materials are used by therapists, teachers and parents to help children express feelings as well as manage misbehavior. She has produced 43 CDs / DVDs in Chinese on various issues of parenting. In 2003 and 2013, Norma and her husband Clay Leben, Ph.D., established endowments, one in Play Therapy Excellence, as well as a professorship in child and family behavioral health, at The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work.

**Session Description:** Children diagnosed with ADD, ODD, ASD are often referred with multiple issues to address, including academic, social, emotional and problem-solving skills. The child’s motivation to address these issues is critical. Directive Group Play Therapy is an effective method applying three kinds of reinforcement techniques, as well as peer dynamics, to push for greater change in pro-social behavior. Ms. Leben will demonstrate structured games specifically designed to improve attention span, social, emotional and problem-solving skills which can lead to greater academic success. Games are adaptable for different ages, grades and learning needs.

**Objectives**

- Attendees will be able to:
  - Understand the eight characteristics of ADHD children, and the five conditions which are needed to gain their attention
  - Use the Feelings Wheel Game to help clients access and express both positive and negative emotions
  - Observe and participate in structured games specifically designed to benefit academic, social, emotional problem-solving skills