**UNDERSTANDING SEXUALIZED BEHAVIOR**

**IN YOUTH**

**AND**

**THE ROLE OF**

**NEUROBIOLOGY IN THE TREATMENT OF COMPLEX TRAUMA**

**With Geraldine Crisci M.S.W.
International Speaker and Expert in Trauma Treatment**

**October 26, 2017**

**Embassy Suites**

**86 Congress St.**

**Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

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| ***Registration:*** ***(Includes light continental breakfast and lunch)*** |  |  | ***Price*** |
|  | Early bird by 10/5/17 |  |  | $120.00 |
|  | Regular (after 10/5/17) |  |  | $150.00 |
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Monica D’Agostino, LCSW

Saratoga County Department of Mental Health and Addictions

135 South Broadway

Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

**Cancellation Policy: Refunds minus $15 processing fee will be granted if notified within 72 hours of conference. No refunds possible without this notification.**

**Questions? Call 518-584-9030 or e-mail us at scmhyouthconference@saratogacountyny.gov**

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**SCCCMH-YOUTH CONFERENCE**

**PO BOX 820**

**SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866**

**Please join us and learn what you can do to help the children in our communities**

**Conference Overview**

***Sexual Development Birth through Puberty: "What is Normative? Sexualized Behavior Problems in Prepubescent Children-When is clinical intervention necessary?"***

Understanding inappropriate sexual behavior presentations is impossible without having a clear understanding of normative sexual behavior. This workshop will review normative sexual development – birth through puberty. Developmental expectations for each phase of *sexual development* will be clearly outlined. This workshop will also address the confusing issues surrounding sexualized behavior presentation by the pre-school and school aged child. Discussion will include the influence of culture and media on “acceptable” behavior. Criteria will be outlined to assist in determining the necessity of clinical intervention. The role of parents, educators, health care personnel and mental health practitioners in identifying problems will be defined.

***Translating Neurobiology for Clinical Practice in the Treatment of Complex Trauma***

Achievements in the science of neurobiology over the past decade hold profound implications for the treatment of complex trauma. Breakthroughs have also assisted in the understanding of why some kids get “stuck”; leaving caregivers and therapists frustrated and perplexed as to “where to go from here?”  Changes in the lens through which we view children, the expectations we have of their behavior, and the approach we use, all allow for effective, growth-producing intervention.  The veil of mystery regarding “what works and why” is lifted.  While many practitioners have been exposed to the language, few have had opportunity to think through and learn the specific strategies which result in change for children. The presenter will teach approaches to working with children who have been raised in chaotic, unpredictable and violent homes.

Issues to be explored and addressed:
-Affect regulation or anger management?
-Aggression or intense manifestation of anxiety?
-Attention seeking or connection/attachment seeking?
-Rewarding bad behavior or recognizing developmental need?

**About the Speaker**



**Geraldine Crisci**, M.S.W. is a mental health professional with over 30 years’ experience in the field of trauma. She is a private practitioner who provides assessment and treatment to children, youth and their families. She is also a professional trainer providing educational programs to mental health, protective services, law enforcement, medical and other helping profession. Geraldine developed and teaches the six day Trauma Assessment and Treatment Program for Safeguards which has reached 1500 professionals in the past 10 years. Geraldine has developed protocols for the assessment and treatment of trauma, sexualized behavior problems and sibling sexual abuse.  Geraldine also developed reunification protocol for families.  She has provided support to agencies and families in successful adoption of children from the Child Protection system. She has worked extensively with residential *treatment programs* for children and youth for the past 20 years. She specializes in addressing the impact of trauma on the behavior of children and youth.  To this end she develops clinical programs to provide children, youth and their families with corrective effective therapeutic intervention. Geraldine is a member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC). She co-authored [Paper Dolls and Paper Airplanes: Therapeutic Exercises for Sexually Traumatized Children](http://www.geraldinecrisci.com/paper-dolls-and-paper-airplanes/)**,** which is currently in its 18th year of printing.

**Conference Organized and Presented by:**

**The Youth & Family Services Team of**

**Saratoga County Department of Mental Health & Addictions**

**The Saratoga County Citizens Committee for Mental Health**

**Conference Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Topic** |
| 8:00-8:30 | Registration |
| 8:30-10:00  | Sexual Development Birth through Puberty: “What is Normative?”  |
| 10:00-10:15 | Break |
| 10:15-12:00 | Sexualized Behavior Problems in Prepubescent Children- What is Clinical Intervention Necessary? |
| 12:00-1:00 | Lunch |
| 1:00-2:30 | Translating Neurobiology for Clinical Practice in the Treatment of Complex Trauma |
| 2:30-2:45 | Break |
| 2:45-4:00 | Continuation of Translating Neurobiology for Clinical Practice in the Treatment of Complex Trauma |
| 4:00-4:30 | Question and Answers  |

**DIRECTIONS:**

**From I87 North or South:** Take exit 14 for Rt 9P; right off of ramp. Rt 9P is Union Avenue. Continue 2 miles to end of 9P, take right onto Circular Street. 1-block take left at light onto Spring Street. Take 1st left onto Broadway; merge to the right. Take first right onto Congress Street. Embassy Suites is ahead on left

**Following Rt 29 from the East or West:** Continue to Broadway; Rt9S. Take right on Congress Street and Embassy Suites is ahead on left.