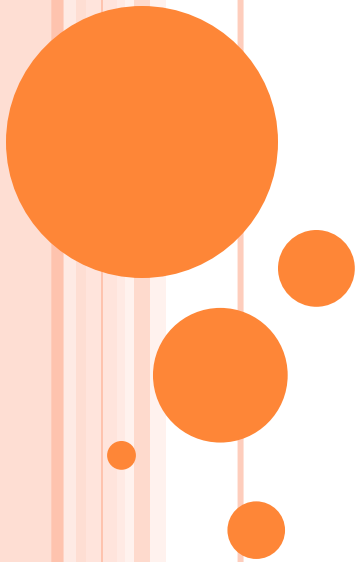


CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Presenter:

Diane Kratt, Florida Gulf Coast University



OBJECTIVES

1. Participants will name community partner prospects for use in their own collaboration projects.
2. Participants will list factors which are essential to consider in organizing a conference.
3. Participants will consider and share relevant topics for future community collaborations.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION'S ANNUAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Rationale:

- 14-20% of children and adolescents experience a mental, emotional, or behavioral disorder each year (National Research Council and Institute of Medicine, 2009).
- Barriers to learning
- Stigma
- Limited resources in our community

Origin:

- A desire to provide education and to create a forum for collaboration of all stakeholders
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) program called Parents and Teachers as Allies
- Fall 2011 was our first conference



It Takes a Village.



The Hunter Institute on Young Children
An Institute of FGCU's College of Education



(WO)MANPOWER

- **Diane Kratt**, College of Education, assumed the primary role of planning the content and securing the presenters.
- **Charity Godfrey**, Salus Care, assumed the role of organizing community vendors and volunteers along with securing community donations.
- **Joanne Hartke**, IOG at FGCU, assumed the role of registering all attendees and the logistical responsibilities.
- All three share responsibility for decorating, promoting, and set up the night before.
- Volunteers assist in all areas leading up to the conference and then also on the day of the event.



COMMUNITY SPONSORS

NAME	ROLE	SPONSORSHIP
SW FL Community Foundation	Provide money for scholarships	\$2,500
Salus Care	Public MH Provider	\$1000
Park Royal Hospital	Psychiatric Hospital	\$1000
Hazelden	Private MH Provider	\$1000
NAMI Lee County	Education and Advocacy	\$1000
FGCU College of Education	Hosting Event	Provide conference bags
Dunkin Donuts and Starbucks	Breakfast	Donate 12 dozen donuts and coffee
Publix	Grocery Store	\$100 Food Donation
Community Businesses	Raffle Prizes	Various donations

STEPS FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING THE CONFERENCE

- Build a team with a common vision
- Find a location to hold the event
- Design a registration system
- Plan the content and secure presenters
- Ask community organizations for sponsorship
- Find a few volunteers
- Invite vendors for the exhibit fair
- Promote and market the conference
- Plan decorations and incidentals
- Secure donations and a photographer
- Print program and establish website for conference materials
- Set up the night before



FINANCES

Revenue	Expenses
Registration fee: \$20, \$40, or \$60	Space
Sponsorship money	Keynote presenter
Donations	Food/drink
	Registration assistance
	Decorations



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

- Keynote
- Breakout Session #1
- Community Vendor Exhibit
- Lunch
- Breakout Session #2
- Breakout Session #3
- Closing- Door Prize Drawings



CONTENT

Keynote Presenters:

- Dr. Demitri Papolos – *The Bipolar Child*
- Ross Szabo – *Behind Happy Faces*
- The Shutup Sisters – *Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid*
- Dr. Ross Greene – *The Explosive Child & Lost at School*

Breakout Sessions:

- 4 tracks
- General, Educators, Parents, Mental Health Providers
- Presenters from various areas

Lived Experience:

- Panel
- College students sharing their story
- Video made by college students living with a mental health condition
- Mother and daughter presenters



EVALUATION RESPONSES

How has this conference increased your knowledge/strategies?

- Loved it, lots of community resources.
- I have learned a lot about how to relate to all the different students in my classroom
- It has educated me in a new perspective, a socio-emotional approach to interacting with children in order to enhance therapeutic interventions in my practice
- View from parent/child perspective
- For me I've learned some information to share with my staff.
Ex: great prevention handout and a new resource in the area of suicide prevention
- I will use some of these approaches with my autistic child
- Networking and referred sources
- Helped to understand infant mental health
- Parent's issues- cause expectation for children.
Experiences → competences → milestones
- I have been provided with tools and resources that will increase my ability to increase the success of my students



ADDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A PARTNER

After having a few key district employees attend the conference, Future Plans Include:

- School district will be involved in all stages of planning
- Seek presentation proposals from teachers
- A school may pay one amount to send as many faculty/staff as interested
- Schools share the conference opportunity with parents as deemed appropriate



CONTACT

- Diane Kratt, Instructor
- Florida Gulf Coast University
College of Education
- dkratt@fgcu.edu
- 239-590-7780

