

# North Carolina Association for Specialists in Group Work

## Virtual Conference At-a-Glance

*Group Work 2020: Dynamic and Diverse*

June 19, 2020

8:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Time	Presentation
8:00 - 8:45 AM	Login
8:45 - 9:00 AM	Welcome About the Conference
9:00 - 9:50 AM	<b>Group Counseling with Clients in Severe Psychiatric Distress</b>  <b>Presenter:</b> Brittany Wake, LCMHCA, NCC  <b>Abstract:</b> Clients experiencing severe and/or persistent mental health challenges endure significant obstacles related to marginalization, in addition to those posed by psychiatric crises themselves. This experience of marginalization is often compounded by intersectional dynamics related to other minoritized identities including race, gender, and class evidenced by disparities in diagnoses and health outcomes. Despite the professional commitment and obligation of counselors to engage in practice that centers equity, diversity, and inclusion, many of us participate in the oppression of this demographic through (un)conscious preferences for clients traditionally perceived to be socially desirable, or so-called YAVIS clients. The concept of ideal counseling clients being those who are perceived to be Young, Attractive, Verbal, Intelligent/Insightful, and Successful is easy to reject on principal, though this pro-oppressive ideology and others like it become visible in practice, particularly in the context of group work. This session will dismantle narratives suggesting that those in active crisis are not viable candidates for group counseling and provide strategies for process orientation.
10:00 - 10:50 AM	<b>Boyz n the Hood: A Group Counseling Approach</b>  <b>Presenters:</b> Dr. Paige Dunlap and Dr. Glacia Ethridge  <b>Abstract:</b> Fear and negative stereotypes of various populations pervade beliefs, understanding, and expectancies daily. Perpetuated by lack of information and uncertainty, counselors may find themselves combating

	<p>biases while serving clients who trigger these fears. This primer explores the origin of fear of crime and how it manifests in the group counseling process. Stereotypes based on race and ethnicity are vastly researched and are an influential determinant of out-group perception which can lead to fear of various groups. The media has played a large role in the general public's opinion of crime, victims, and law enforcement. Research has shown that general knowledge about crime was gained through the media coverage. It is this consistent portrayal of negative images of crime that have been thought to shape the sense of fear of crime in the general public. So how might these stereotypes influence a counselor's ability to maintain group cohesion in a group counseling session? This presentation will include case studies and discuss strategies for success in both open groups and groups of criminal populations only.</p>
<p><b>11:00 - 11:50 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Interdisciplinary Group Work Focused on Social Justice</b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> Jeff D. Wolfgang, Ph.D., Valerie Jarvis McMillan, Ph.D., Deana McQuitty, Ph.D., Sharita Williams-Crossen, Ed.D., Deja' Moses, and Imani Carter</p> <p><b>Abstract:</b> A discussion on interdisciplinary group use of task and process while achieving a social justice approach to community research and service delivery (Lockhart, 2017). A team of early childhood educators, speech language pathologists, and counseling professionals collaborated in order to develop treatment practices that were socially just and culturally responsive (Aldaronado, 2007). Utilizing a strong humanistic theoretical perspective, the task and process groups facilitated the meeting of organizational, children, families, and community needs (Corey, M. S., Corey, G., &amp; Corey, C., 2018). This model invited dialogue which enhanced our here-and-now factors and interpersonal contexts of the researchers to facilitate a collaborative, productive, and successful research group. We will discuss how the research group moved through stages of the group process to achieve success (excitement, resistance, sharing, development of new knowledge, and awareness). We will discuss how our work with the community has fostered culturally responsive practices to overcome oppressive and dehumanizing social conditions within the early childhood delivery system. We will discuss our interdisciplinary work focused on the greatest levels of equity, access, participation, action, and harmony (Wolfgang, 2018). We will discuss lessons learned for our process and goals we have to continue this group task and process work.</p>
<p><b>12:00 - 12:50 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Culturally Inclusive Child-Centered Group Play Therapy</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Lauren Chase, LMHCA, MS, NCC and Rebecca Blanchard</p> <p><b>Abstract:</b> Generally, the diversity in the United States is increasing. Between 2000 and 2010, the Hispanic population grew by 43% (US Census, 2011). Presently, the Non-Hispanic White population of children is</p>

	<p>at 50% and anticipated to decrease in the following years (US Census Bureau, 2019).</p> <p>Child-centered play therapists are challenged to meet the changes in the racial makeup of children in the United States. These changes cite the needs for play therapists to be mindful of social justice, advocacy, and to be able to acknowledge multicultural strengths and weaknesses of their counseling approach. This presentation will discuss the basics of Child-Centered Group Play Therapy (CCGPT) and the needs of diverse cultures regarding CCGPT. This presentation makes the case that CCGPT is culturally inclusive and will provide techniques to increase multicultural competence for clinicians and help advocate for their clients from diverse cultural backgrounds.</p>
<b>12:50 - 1:00 PM</b>	<b>Conference Wrap-Up</b>