

## **Mellicent O'Brien Blythe, LCSW**

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### **Professional Licensure**

N.C. Social Work License #C005201

### **Education**

1996 M.S.W. New York University, New York, NY

1992 B.A. with Honors University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

### **Professional Experience**

Feb. 2016- Present **Implementation Specialist**, North Carolina Child Treatment Program  
Center for Child and Family Health, Durham, NC

2012-Present **Clinical Assistant Professor**, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

2008-2011 **Clinical Instructor**, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

2006-2008 **Lecturer**, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

2004-2005 **Service Coordinator Supervisor**, Personal Touch Early Intervention Program  
White Plains, NY

2003 **Ongoing Service Coordinator**, Personal Touch Early Intervention Program,  
White Plains, NY

2002 **Lead Therapist**, Charlottesville League of Therapists, Charlottesville, VA

1999-2001 **Clinical Social Worker**, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, University of Virginia  
Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, VA

1998-1999 **Juvenile Corrections Clinician**, District 19 Community Services Board  
Petersburg, VA

1996-1998 **Social Worker**, Pediatric AIDS Day Care Program and Children's Health  
Services, Jacobi Medical Center, Bronx, NY

### **Implementation Facilitation**

Trauma-Focused CBT Learning Collaborative Cohorts 14-19. February 2016-Present. Provide eight days of face-to-face training and monthly consultation calls during a year-long program to approximately 40 agency senior leaders per year. This "senior leader track" includes a mixture of didactic, experiential, and coaching interventions to support implementation and sustainability of this evidence-based treatment in community mental health, residential, school, and DJJ settings across NC.

- SPARCS (Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress) Learning Collaborative Cohorts 4-5. February 2016-Present. Provide seven days of face-to-face training and monthly consultation calls over a 12-month Collaborative to approximately 10 agency senior leaders per year.
- Durham DSS Safety-Focused Practice Model. 2014-2016. Provided quarterly staff training and monthly coaching to supervisors and managers at Durham DSS on implementation of a new practice model for child welfare.
- The Partnership & Performance Toolkit*. 2012-2016. Co-wrote toolkit for public agencies to select and partner with private agency partners based on quality standards and outcomes. Provided training, coaching, and technical assistance for two rounds of a learning community to implement the toolkit with selected teams of public and private child placing agencies.
- Reaching for Excellence and Accountability in Practice (REAP). 2011-2016. Provided curriculum development, training, coaching, and technical assistance to state and county staff on the development and implementation of a Continuous Quality Improvement model.

### **Curriculum Development**

- Blythe, M., Payne-Siefert, H., Maid, R. & Glienke, B. (2018). *NC Child Treatment Program Senior Leader Track Curriculum*. Durham, NC: NC Child Treatment Program.
- Phipps, L., Blythe, M., Chambers, M., Coble, C., & Levine, A. (2017). *Child Welfare Online Certificate Courses: Parenting and Adult Development, Advanced Practice Skills with Child-Welfare Involved Families, and Collaborative Case Planning*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Deese, T., Phipps, L., Little, R., McMahon, J., and Blythe, M.. (2016). *Understanding Secondary Traumatic Stress and Promoting Resilience*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., & Balke, K. (2015). *Fostering Connections: Partnering to Improve the Health and Well-being of Children in Foster Care*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M. & Phipps, L. (2015). *Qualitative Data Skills*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Phipps, L. & Blythe, M. (2014). *Child Development and the Effects of Trauma*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., Williams, A., & Little, R. (2014). *Assessing and Strengthening Attachment*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Phipps, L. & Blythe, M. (2013). *Becoming Achievement-Focused I: Readiness & Implementation*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Phipps, L. & Blythe, M. (2013). *Becoming Achievement-Focused II: Using Data Effectively*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Balke, K., Armfield, P., Little, R., & Burbank, B. (2012). *Reasonable Efforts: What Supervisors Need to Know*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Hensley, B., Ammons, R., Jensen, N., Balke, K., Armfield, P. & Burbank, B. (2011). *Foster Home Licensing: The Keys To Success*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.

- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Hensley, B., Spencer, A., Waite, L., Balke, K., Armfield, P. & Burbank, B. (2010). *Train-the-trainer for Becoming a Therapeutic Foster Parent*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Bumgarner, T., Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Balke, K., Armfield, P. & Burbank, B. (2010). *Money Matters: Foster Care Funding Basics*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M. & McMahon, J. (2009). *Introduction to The Monthly Foster Care Contact Record*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Little, R. & Blythe, M. (2008). *The Effect Of Separation And Loss On Attachment (Revised)*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M. & McMahon, J. (2007). *Enhancing Foster Home Visits In North Carolina*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.

## **Publications**

### ***Manuals and Guides***

- Treat Them Like Gold: A Best Practice Guide to Partnering with Resource Families*. (2009). Raleigh: NC Division of Social Services.  
[http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/publications/docs/Partnering\\_with\\_Resource\\_Families.pdf](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/publications/docs/Partnering_with_Resource_Families.pdf)
- A Supplemental Guide to Foster Home Licensing*. (2007). Raleigh: NC Division of Social Services. <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/licensing/docs/Supplemental%20Guide%2010-10.pdf>

### ***Reports***

- Hagele, D., White, D., Maid, R., & Blythe, M. (2019). *Development of a Treatment Program to Address Problematic Sexual Behaviors (PSB) Among Children Ages 3-18 Across North Carolina*. Durham, NC: NC Child Treatment Program/Center for Child and Family Health.
- Painter, J., Gimenez, V., McMahon, J., Blythe, M., & Phipps, L. (2015). *Evaluation of the Course Child Development and the Effects of Trauma*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Painter, J., Gimenez, V., McMahon, J., Blythe, M., & Phipps, L. (2014). *Evaluation of the Course Staying Power! A Supervisor's Guide to Coaching and Developing Child Welfare Staff*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (2013). *Recommendations for Building a Resource Parent Learning System for North Carolina: NC Resource Parent Assessment and Training Workgroup Report*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Salmon, MA, Stewart, J., Oran, G., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (2011). *Examining Racial Disproportionality in CPS Reporting in Pitt County, NC: Preliminary Report*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., & Gimenez, V. (2011). *Developing Regional Collaboration Models for Resource Family Recruitment and Retention: Final Report*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.
- McMahon, J., Blythe, M., Gimenez, V., and Price, T. (2011). *An Assessment of Foster Parent Training in North Carolina*. Raleigh: NC Division of Social Services.  
<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/licensing/docs/An%20Assessment%20of%20Foster%20Parent%20Training%20in%20NC%20Feb%202011.pdf>
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (2008) *Update on North Carolina's Statewide Campaign to Recruit and Retain Foster Parents*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work.

McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (2008). *The Development and Pilot Testing of the Monthly Foster Care Contact Record: Final Report*. Raleigh: NC Division of Social Services.

### **Newsletters**

From 2008-2016 I served as Assistant Editor and written articles for *Children's Services Practice Notes* and *Fostering Perspectives*, which are produced by the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work under contract to the NC Division of Social Services.

<http://www.practicenotes.org>

<http://www.fosteringperspectives.org>

### **Webinars**

From 2008-2016 I produced over 30 webinars for social workers, resource parents, and court partners. Topics have included the following:

- Sullivan, K., Preisler, J., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (June 3, 2015). *Staff Performance and Retention: Using a Trauma Lens*.
- Williams, C., Blythe, M., Kearney, C., & McMahon, J. (Feb. 24, 2014). *Engaging Families Affected by Domestic Violence*.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Kelley, K., Eller, J., Hardin, P., Sprouse, K., & Turk, K. (May 22, 2013). *Getting Ready for CQI: A Webinar for Directors and Program Managers*.
- McKee, J., Blythe, M., McMahon, J., Kelley, K., & Sampson, C. (Jan. 29, 2013). *Monitoring and Oversight of Psychotropic Medications for Children in Foster Care in NC: The Role of DSS*.
- Jenkins, R., Blythe, M., Mays, J., & Chavoya, R. (June 19, 2012). *Strengthening Our Capacity to Engage Fathers*.
- Alston, R., Dildy-Goings, S. Goins, T., Porter, C., Blythe, M., Little, R., & McMahon, J. (August 24, 2011). *Maintaining Sibling Connections*.
- Douglas, W., Little, R., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (June 21, 2011). *Rewards and Challenges of Parent-Child Visits and the Role of the Foster Parent*.
- Earls, M., Mattson, G., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (April 29, 2010). *Using Medical Homes to Meet the Needs of Children Involved with Child Welfare*
- Weems, M., Lee, B., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (January 21, 2010) *Forum for Supervisors: Working with Substance Abusing Families*.
- Jones, N., Richardson, G., Warren, K., Blythe, M., & McMahon, J. (October 21, 2009). *Working with American Indian Families and Tribes*.

### **Classroom In-Service Training**

- 2015 *Qualitative Data Skills*
- 2014 *Assessing and Strengthening Attachment*
- 2013-2014 *Becoming Achievement-Focused I: Readiness & Implementation and Becoming Achievement-Focused II: Using Data Effectively*.
- 2012 *Introduction to Focus Groups*
- 2006-2009 *Child Development in Families at Risk*.
- 2008 *Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention Clinics*
- 2007-2008 *The Effects of Separation and Loss on Attachment*
- 2007 *Enhancing Foster Home Visits*.
- 2007 *Understanding Child Mental Health*
- 2006-2007 *Introduction to Child Sexual Abuse*
- 2006-2007 *Responding to Families and Communities Impacted by Methamphetamine*.

## **Grants/Service Agreements**

- 2015-2017 The Duke Endowment. *The Partnership and Performance Toolkit: Implementing a Guide for Public Child Welfare Agencies to Build Effective Partnerships with Private Child-Placing Agencies*. \$140,613. Project Coordinator, curriculum developer, and implementation coach.
- 2014-2015 NC Pediatric Society. \$18,500. Development of On-Line Training Modules for Fostering Health NC Implementation. Project Coordinator and curriculum developer.
- 2014-2015 Durham County (NC) Department of Social Services. Training and Implementation of a Safety-Focused Practice Model. \$66,696. Curriculum developer and implementation coach.
- 2011-2012 Pitt County (NC) Department of Social Services. *Examining Disproportionality in CPS Reporting*. \$50,000. Project Coordinator.
- 2010-2012 Atlantic Coast Child Welfare Implementation Center (ACCWIC). North Carolina Division of Social Services Technical Assistance On-line Gateway and Users' Manual. \$86,000. Project team member.
- 2010-2012 Wisconsin Southern Child Welfare Training Partnership. Training and Technical Assistance Agreements. \$111,000. Curriculum developer and trainer.
- 2010-2011 Pitt County (NC) Department of Social Services. Training and Technical Assistance Agreement. \$10,000. Project Coordinator.

## **Presentations**

- White, D., Maid, R., Hagele, D., & Blythe, M. (May 3, 2018). *Statewide Leadership Summit on Problematic Sexual Behaviors in Children Ages 3 – 18*. Raleigh, NC.
- Blythe, M. (Nov. 21, 2016 & Nov. 27, 2017). *Evidence-Based Treatment: Successes and Lessons in NC*. Presented at UNC School of Social Work Class 860: Child Welfare Perspectives. Chapel Hill, NC.
- Blythe, M., Wise, M., & White, D. (Oct. 11, 2017). *Evidence-Based Trauma Treatments for Children*. Presented at NC DHHS State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee. Raleigh, NC.
- White, D., Maid, R., Hagele, D., & Blythe, M. (Sept. 13, 2017). *Clinical Consensus Panel Meeting on Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Treatments for Problematic Sexual Behaviors in Children Ages 3 – 18*. Raleigh, NC.
- Blythe, M. & Phipps, L. (Aug. 28, 2014 & Aug. 5, 2016). *Child Development for Judges*. Presented at the NC Judicial College. Chapel Hill, NC.
- Blythe, M. & Salmon, MA. (June 20, 2012). *Conducting Focus Groups*. Presented at the Mediation Center of Eastern Carolina. Greenville, NC.
- Blythe, M. (April 16, 2011). *Peace, Love, and Visitation: Making the Most of Birth Family Visits*. Presented at the NC Foster and Adoptive Parent Association Annual Conference. Charlotte, NC.
- Blythe, M. (August 20, 2010). *North Carolina Indian Child Welfare Task Force Update*. Presented to the House Study Sub-Committee on Preserving the Culture and Customs of Indian Children. Raleigh, NC.
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (April 25, 2010). *How Teens and the Families Who Care for Them Can Be Positively Changed by Foster Care*. Presented at the NC Foster and Adoptive Parent Association Annual Conference. Charlotte, NC.

- Blythe, M. (April 23, 2010). *Jordan Institute for Families Community Dialogue Process*. Presented to the House Study Sub-Committee on Preserving the Culture and Customs of Indian Children. Raleigh, NC.
- Blythe, M. (March 11, 2009). *Update on the Pilot of the Foster Home Contact Record*. Presented to the NC Association of County Directors of Social Services, Children's Services Committee. Raleigh, NC.
- Blythe, M. (January 26, 2009). *Enhancing Visits with Children in Foster Care: Policy and Practice Issues*. Presented to Family Policy Class (SOWO 832), UNC-CH School of Social Work.
- Blythe, M., McMahon, J., & Little, R. (December 8-9, 2008). *Curriculum Development: A Practice Model*. Presented at NC DSS Staff Development Professional Development Training. Greensboro, NC and on-line.
- Blythe, M. (August 29, 2008). *Child Development for Judges*. Presented at the NC Judicial College. Chapel Hill, NC.
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (August 18, 2008). *Making the Most Out of Foster Family Contacts*. Presented at the MRS Institute. Greensboro, NC.
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (August 18, 2008). *The Connection Between Permanency, Shared Parenting, and Retention of Resource Families*. Presented at the MRS Institute. Greensboro, NC.
- Blythe, M. & McMahon, J. (May 16, 2008). *Making the Most Out of Agency Visits*. Presented at the National Foster Parent Association Annual Education Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- McMahon, J. & Blythe, M. (April 2008). *Understanding Concurrent Planning*. NC Foster and Adoptive Parent Association Annual Conference. Charlotte, NC.
- Blythe, M. (January 9, 2008). *The Foster Home Contact Record and Statewide Resource Family Recruitment and Retention Project*. Presented at the NC Association of County Directors of Social Services, Children's Services Committee. Raleigh, NC.
- Blythe, M. (Sept. 21, 2007). *Child Development for Judges*. Presented at the NC Judicial College. Chapel Hill, NC.
- Dickinson, S., Blythe, M. & McMahon, J. (October 26, 2006). *Supporting Foster Home Licensing Workers*. Presented at the Social Services Institute. New Bern, NC.
- Mangum, R. & Blythe, M. (August 21, 2006) *Case Management with Substance Abusing Clients*. Presented at the MRS Institute. New Bern, NC.

### **Professional Associations**

- 2017-Present Society for Implementation Research Collaboration
- 2012-Present Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups
- 2006-2012 North Carolina Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
- 1996-Present National Association of Social Workers

### **Professional Service**

- March 2019-Present Intermediary Network for the Society for Implementation Research Collaboration (SIRC)
- July 2017-Present National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) Implementation Sub-Committee  
Implementation Learning Community, Veteran's Administration Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI).

Blythe  
March 2019

May 2016-Present      Mental Health Liaison, Chapel Hill High School PTSA, Chapel Hill, NC  
Aug. 2015-Sept. 2017 Faculty Advisor, Beyond Clinic Walls/Student Health Action Committee,  
UNC-Chapel Hill  
July 2015-Present      Support Group Facilitator, Compass Center for Women and Children,  
Chapel Hill, NC  
2014-2016              Steering Committee Member, Child Well-being Task Force, NC  
DHHS/Benchmarks/The Duke Endowment  
2012-Present          Mental Health Task Force, University Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill,  
NC  
2010-2016              Standing Committee on Indian Child Welfare, NC Commission of Indian  
Affairs