CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY CONSORITUM

Lessons from the Field Presenter Biographies

UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE TRAUMA
JANUARY 17, 2013

Dr. Carolyn Garcia

Dr. Carolyn Garcia is an Associate Professor in the Population Health and Systems Cooperative in the School of Nursing at the University of Minnesota, and adjunct associate professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health of the School of Public Health. Her clinical expertise includes adolescent health, public health nursing, and forensic nursing; she has been a sexual assault nurse examiner since 1996. Dr. Garcia is a mixed method researcher with emphasis on development and testing of preventive mental health, stress, and coping interventions tailored to the needs and preferences of adolescents and their families. Use of innovative technologies characterizes her work, including ecological momentary assessments via text messaging, mobile health applications, and photovoice. Dr. Garcia teaches and conducts research that emphasizes physical and mental health promotion in the context of broader community and society, particularly for underserved and under resourced populations. She is currently involved in collaborative research across North America and Africa, addressing threats to health that range from uninsurance and social stigmas to migration and zoonotic diseases.

Amirthini Keefe

Amirthini Keefe holds a Master of Social Work degree from the College of St. Catherine and the University of St. Thomas and is licensed by the Minnesota Board of Social Work as an Independent Clinical Social Worker. In addition, Ms. Keefe has completed a two-year post-graduate program in psychodynamic psychotherapy at the Institute of Psychodynamic Psychotherapy and is entering her final year in a three-year certificate program in psychoanalysis through the Minnesota Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. Ms. Keefe currently works as a psychotherapist at the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) in St. Paul, MN. Prior to this, she has worked with homeless youth, youth and families in foster care and adoption communities, and homeless veterans. Ms. Keefe also chairs the MN chapter of the International Association for Social Work with Groups.
Dr. Andrea Northwood

Dr. Andrea Northwood has worked at the Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) since 1995, where she has served as a clinical psychologist providing psychological evaluation and psychotherapy to survivors of politically motivated torture and their family members, including children and adolescents. Since 2006, she has been responsible for supervising client services staff in program work; providing overall management of the clinic; directing and implementing the development, delivery, and evaluation of services to clients and overseeing the performance and functioning of the client services program. She has conducted research and has clinical experience in the assessment of post-traumatic stress disorder, cross-cultural issues in assessment, and adolescent identity issues in trauma survivors. She has also been responsible for providing discipline-specific expertise and leadership in client services and in organizational decision-making where clinical expertise in torture rehabilitation is needed. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Child Development from the University of Minnesota.