**2021 Presentations for Chris Austin Learning Disabilities Conference**

**for LPCs AND PLPCs**

1. Name/Degree/Credentials: Dr. Randall Lemoine, Jane St. Pierre, Linda Holliday, Michelle Clayton, and Jewell Simon

Employment/Title: N/A

Work phone: 225-954-6823

Contact: [janecstpierre@gmail.com](mailto:janecstpierre@gmail.com)

Title/Description of Presentation: School at Home with Licensed Online Schools – Panel Discussion – Attendees will hear from a panel of parents/ educators who have chosen to educate students at home through online schools (public and private). Attendees are encouraged to ask questions of those on the panel.

Bio: Randall Lemoine, Ph.D., is a licensed Psychologist providing evaluation and counseling services for children/adolescents with learning, attention and/or psycho-social adjustment challenges.

Jane St. Pierre has taught in public and private schools for over 20 years. She also served as a “Learning Coach” for 6 years for her two sons with learning differences who successfully graduated from a private online high school – International Connections Academy. She presently serves on the board for the Greater Baton Rouge Learning Disabilities Coalition and Louisiana Connections Academy.

Linda Holliday was a classroom high school teacher for 4 years, an attorney, an administrative judge, and a state district judge. She has been on the board for University View Academy now for 3 years and was elected Board President in August 2019.

Dr. Michelle Clayton earned her undergraduate degree in secondary education from LSU, a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and her Doctor of Philosophy from Southern University. In addition to having taught high school chemistry for 25 years, she is the proud mother of 7 children, one of which was recently crowned 2020 Miss Louisiana! Dr. Michelle Clayton is the Superintendent of University View Academy.

Jewell Simon has 9 years teaching experience in biology, chemistry, digital arts, and computer science. He specializes in the Project-Based Learning curriculum and rubric development and ensures a balance of quantitative and qualitative aspects that align with national and state standards. At University View Academy Jewell provides counselors and therapists with technical resources to support learning. He is also a board member of the Greater Baton Rouge Learning Disabilities Coalition.

2. Name/Degree/Credentials: Bora Sunseri, LCSW-BACS Diagnosis CEU

Employment/Title: NA

Contact: [boraksun@gmail.com](mailto:boraksun@gmail.com) / (225) 205-2031

Title/Description of Presentation: Specific Learning Disorder Diagnosis in the DSM 5– This workshop will focus on the DSM 5 diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorder.  There will be a review of (1) the diagnostic criteria of Specific Learning Disorder, (2) culture & gender related diagnostic issues, as well as (3) functional consequences of Specific Learning Disorder.  Differential diagnosis as well as comorbidity with other diagnosis (such as ADHD, communication disorders, etc.) will also be discussed.

Bio: Bora Sunseri has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for over 27 years. She has served in various Child Welfare field positions and administrative roles with the State of Louisiana’s Department of Children and Family Services. Her clinical experiences include the Department of Corrections, the US Air Force, and a part time private practice.  She has been a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor (LCSW-BACS) for over 22 years.  She has served as a Critical Incident Stress Management/Debriefing (or CISM/CISD) facilitator for over 18 years.  Bora has also served in various positions with the Association of Social Work Boards’ (ASWB) clinical exam process for the past 10 years as a clinical exam passing score panel member, clinical exam item writer, *clinical exam committee* member, and *clinical exam committee* as well as *ad hoc exam committee* chair for North American jurisdictional clinical exams, including Louisiana’s LCSW exam.

3. Name/Degree/Credentials: Kelly Paulk Ray, PhD, MPAP

NOTE: Mallory B. Garza, PhD, assisted with presentation

Employment/Title: Private Practice, Baton Rouge, & Ochsner Medical Complex—The Grove

Contact: Kelly Ray, MPAP; [dr.kellyray@gmail.com](mailto:dr.kellyray@gmail.com); 225-603-8164 (cell)

Title/Description of Presentation: Medications and Treatments for ADHD– Presentation will cover medication treatments for ADHD and the differences between various medications. We will briefly discuss overlap in treating learning disorders/academic problems, reactions of kids/teens to medicine over time, and possible compensatory behaviors for ADHD.

Bio: Kelly is an advanced practice medical psychologist, prescribing medication since 2008. She has been licensed as a psychologist since 2000 and has been in private practice since that time. She has also contracted with various agencies over the years in assessment, interventions, and medication management. She started working with Ochsner Medical Complex—The Grove in January of 2020.

4. Name/Degree/Credentials: William B. Daigle, Ph.D.

Employment/Title: Psychologist

Contact: William B. Daigle, Ph.D.  
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Baton Rouge, LA  70808  
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Title/Description of Presentation: Accommodations: Empowering Students Through Proper Supports - Parents are often concerned that accommodations will allow the student to use a disability as a crutch and/or an excuse. Teachers often believe that certain accommodations are unnecessary or that a particular student does not need a particular accommodation. Dr. Daigle will explain the common misconceptions about accommodations and explain their real value in education for students with learning disabilities

Bio: William Daigle is a psychologist in private practice in Baton Rouge since 1994.  He is on the board of directors of the Greater Baton Rouge Learning Disabilities Coalition.

5. Name/Degree/Credentials: Tanya Stuart, LCSW-BACS

Employment/Title: LAC of Genesis/Holistic Solutions Center of Baton Rouge

Contact: [tanstuart@gmail.com](mailto:tanstuart@gmail.com)   225-771-9980

Title/Description of Presentation: Developing a Treatment Plan for Mental Health Issues associated with Learning Disabilities - Learn how to identify a “problem list“ of mental health issues associated with learning disabilities such as depression, anxiety, substance use and behavioral issues.  Setting goals and determining the most effective interventions for each issue.

Bio: Tanya Stuart, LCSW-BACS,LAC is a mental health and substance abuse professional. She began her journey working with troubled adolescents in the criminal justice system. That began a lifelong search to give children, adolescents, and adults comprehensive and individualized mental health and substance abuse care. She obtained her Master of Social Work from Southern University at New Orleans in 2002 and then began working in the Child and Adolescent Unit of the New Orleans Adolescent Hospital. Along with being personally impacted by Hurricane Katrina’s devastation, Tanya wanted to give back to her city. She was a first responder with the National Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration to the mental health crisis that ensued. She worked with students who were displaced after the storm in the East Baton Rouge Parish School District and provided relief to the community in crisis. After becoming a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Addiction Counselor, Tanya added working in the Substance Abuse field as a priority. This led to her administering a major substance abuse facility in 2014 in addition to growing her private practice. Now the owner of Genesis/Holistic Solutions Center of Baton Rouge, LLC and owner of Tanya Stuart, Inc., she has specialized in providing assistance for co-occurring diagnosis, addictions, depression, PTSD, anxiety, anger management, and other behavioral disorders. In addition to her personal work, Tanya is giving back to the mental health treatment community by becoming a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor in 2009. She provides supervision for psychiatric residents for Our Lady of the Lake, LMSW's and CIT's, and serves as a liaison for LSU master level students and adjunct faculty.

6. Name/Degree/Credentials: Katie Jenkins, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA

Employment/Title: Behavioral Intervention Group

Contact: Katie Jenkins (225) 757-8002

Title/Description of Presentation: Function Based Interventions: Using the Science of Behavior to Motivate Your Child - This presentation will include information on the functions of behavior. Through the identification and analysis of the function, parents and educators can effectively implement tactics to set their children up for success across all environments.

Bio: Katie Jenkins, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA  is the Clinical Director at Behavioral Intervention Group (BIG).

7. Name/Degree/Credentials: Mary Feduccia, Ph.D., LPC

Employment/Title: CareerWorks360

Contact: mary@careerworks360.com, 225-939-0360

Title/Description of Presentation: Helping LD Students Create Their Next Move After High School - This presentation focuses on the importance of career exploration for LD students. A process for effective career decision making will be discussed, including free or low-cost assessments that teachers, counselors, and parents can use to build students' self-awareness and promote choosing post-secondary education or training in light of their disabilities.

Bio: Dr. Mary Feduccia retired as the Director of the Olinde Career Center at LSU in 2015 and launched her career coaching practice CareerWorks360. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor and holds an undergraduate degree in Education, a master’s degree in Counseling, and a Ph.D. degree in Vocational Education. She has been involved in educational settings at the secondary and higher education levels for the past 35 years, most of which have been spent in counseling high school and college students in their career development.

8. Name/Degree/Credentials: Darlyne G. Nemeth., Ph. D., M.P., M.P.A.P., Clinical, Medical, & Neuropsychologist and Olesia Palamar

Employment/Title: The Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, LLC.

Contact: Darlyne G. Nemeth: Phone – 225-926-7500; Email: [dgnemeth@gmail.com](mailto:dgnemeth@gmail.com)

Title/Description of Presentation: How COVID-19 has affected ADHD children and their families: a psychological perspective

- Self-isolation is difficult for families with children. But it is even more difficult if children have special needs that require immediate help. Now parents find themselves on the frontlines to deal with these issues.

With COVID-19, there has been a disruption in daily routine involving both family and school changes. Both parents and children are often online for work and school. What particular difficulties do families face now versus pre-COVID-19 days?

Children need movement and communication. These needs have been severely disrupted by COVID-19. Even those children who have been able to return to school, have found their movements to be restricted. Playtime, sports activities, art, music, etc. have all been disrupted. This is especially problematic for special needs children. Many children are bothering their parents, demanding their attention. Consequently, it interferes with parents’ ability to work; thus, resulting in increased negative interactions.

Children with ADHD may not be able to study independently as they may have executive dysfunctions, such as self-regulation, planning, and cognitive flexibility problems. Their working memory skills, which involves the capacity to monitor and modulate incoming information may often require adult supervision. Without such assistance, ADHD children may not be able to remember their homework in a timely fashion and may not sit down to do their homework when needed. In school, peer pressure helps, but that may not be available online.

Planning difficulties are very common for ADHD children. The essence of planning consists of attaining a goal through a series of intermediate steps. There are two different ways to teach planning: one that is planning-focused and the other that is solution-focused. Teaching mindfulness, emotional and attentional skills, and thinking styles can help.

Daily routines can also help to reduce anxiety and maintain a sense of security and stability in ADHD children. Yet with COVID-19, things are different; daily routines are dismantled. Online education can be problematic for ADHD children. Expanding rest/or play breaks can help. These children, however, have too much time alone. This may result in loneliness and emotional disconnection. The focus of this presentation will be to increase emotional resilience and relatedness during these difficult times.

Bio: Darlyne G. Nemeth, Ph.D., M.P. M.P.A.P.

Clinical, Medical, & Neuropsychologist

*Dr. Nemeth is currently in practice at the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, where she has a broad spectrum practice in the areas of Clinical, Medical, & Neuropsychology. Her practice interests, specifically in the area of neuropsychology, include working with children and adults who have brain-behavior dysfunction including attention deficit disordered, learning disabled, and other special needs individuals. She is co-editor of “Evaluation and Treatment of Neuropsychologically Compromised Children: Understanding Clinical Applications Post Luria and Reitan,” which was published by Elsevier’s Academic Press in May 2020.*

9. Name/Degree/Credentials: Alisha Diggs, LPC and LaCrystal McCoy, LPC

Employment/Title: Baton Rouge Community College

Contact: Alisha contact:  225 - 571-6998  email [diggsa@mybrcc.edu](mailto:diggsa@mybrcc.edu)

LaCrystal contact:  225268-7207  email [mccoyl@mybrcc.edu](mailto:mccoyl@mybrcc.edu)

Title/Description of Presentation: LD Students in Higher Education - Learn about college accommodations and ways students with learning disabilities can access them effectively. In addition, presenters will share their experiences while serving as mental health providers to college students and suggest therapeutic interventions to enhance successful transition.

Bio: LaCrystal is a Licensed Professional Counselor – Supervisor and has extensive experience working within the community, mental health agencies, and higher education. She received her Bachelor's in Psychology in 2009 and a Master's in Mental Health Counseling in 2012 from Southern University and A&M College. She combines traditional therapy with alternative treatments to achieve client goals based on individual needs. LaCrystal works with individuals, couples, and families and is committed to providing the highest quality of care to promote healing and growth.

Alisha is a Licensed Professional Counselor - Supervisor and has extensive experience in the mental health field as a counselor at Baton Rouge Community College and as their Disability Services counselor.  Before she worked at BRCC she was a school counselor.  She received a Bachelor's degree from Southern University and also a Master's in Menta Health Counseling from Southern.  She is currently a doctoral candidate in Marriage and Family Counseling at University of Louisiana at Monroe focusing on ADHD

10. Name/Degree/Credentials: Kim Haynes, MA, CCC-SLP Anne Hindrichs, LCSW-BACS

Employment/Title: McMains Children’s Developmental Center

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Anne Hindrichs- [ahindrichs@mcmainscdc.org](mailto:ahindrichs@mcmainscdc.org)  225.772.6163

Title/Description of Presentation: Writing with Assistive Technology - The use of assistive technology (AT) is an effective approach for many children with learning disabilities. There are a wide range of tools to help students who struggle with writing. This presentation will discuss the psychological impacts that difficulty with writing can cause and how to handle them. It will also identify some of the AT tools available to help struggling writers.

Bio: Kim Haynes received her master’s degree in speech pathology in 1991. She has been working with children for 29 years specializing in assistive technology. She has been working at McMains Children’s Developmental Center as a speech pathologist and was promoted to the Clinical & Operations Director.

Anne Hindrichs tutored and later taught children with learning disabilities. She received her undergraduate degree in special education and her master’s degree in social work. She started as a social worker at McMains Children’s Developmental Center in 1988. She became the Executive Director of the Center in 2017.

11. Name/Degree/Credentials: Darlyne G. Nemeth., Ph. D., M.P., M.P.A.P., Clinical, Medical, and Neuropsychologist, Cody Capps, B.S., Clinical Assistant,

Olesia Palamar, Research Assistant

Employment/Title: The Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, LLC

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Title/Description of Presentation: The Relationship Between Executive Functions and Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Effectiveness in ADHD Children - We will define executive functions and highlight their impact on ADHD children’s emotional and social behaviors. Problems with self-recognition, working memory, and cognitive flexibility will be addressed as well as their impact on social rejection.

Bio: Dr. Nemeth is the founder of the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana (NCLA). She is a Clinical, Medical, and Neuropsychologist specializing in children with neuropsychological difficulties. Her most recent book, April 2020, edited with Janna M Glozman, Ph.D., Dr. Sc. is titled “Evaluation and Treatment of Neuropsychologically Compromised Children”. Cody Capps is a Clinical Assistant at the Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana (NCLA). He is a recent graduate from Louisiana State University (LSU) with a B.S. in psychology. Olesia Palamar is a senior majoring in Psychology at Louisiana State University (LSU) and a Positive Psychotherapy counselor in Ukraine. She attended Bogomolets National Medical University in Kyiv, Ukraine for two years before transferring to LSU.