**Presentation Topic:** “Understanding and Responding to Traumatized Children in the School Setting”

**Length of Presentation:** 2.0 Hours

**Presentation Outline:**

1. Prevalence and Types of Childhood Trauma
   - Simple vs. Complex Psychological Trauma

2. Understanding the Effects of Trauma on Children
   - Myths
   - Signs and Symptoms
   - Triggers

3. The Impact of Trauma on the Family System
   - Denial, Avoidance, and Minimization
   - Traumatized Caregivers

4. Managing Traumatized Children in the Classroom Setting
   - Misdiagnosis
   - Understanding and Managing a Child’s Triggers
   - School/Classroom Interventions
   - Dealing with One’s Own Reactions to Students’ Trauma
   - Vignettes/Exercises

5. Making Appropriate Referrals
   - When and Where to Refer Children for Additional Services
Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Identify prevalence rates and types of childhood trauma.
2. Understand the common effects of trauma on children.
3. Recognize the impact of trauma on the family system.
4. Understand the effects of trauma on a child’s school functioning.
5. Utilize simple interventions with traumatized children in the classroom.
6. Make appropriate referrals for additional services for children when indicated.
Presentation Topic: “Overcoming Barriers to West African Parental Involvement and Engaging Families in their Children’s School Experience”

Length of Presentation: 2.0 Hours

Presentation Outline:

1. Definition of Parental Involvement
2. The Importance of Parental Involvement
3. Types of Parental Involvement
4. General Barriers
5. Strategies/Activities to Overcome Barriers
6. Barriers Specific to West African Refugee Families
7. Strategies/Activities to Overcome Barriers to West African Parental Involvement (including educating parents about expectations for involvement)

Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Define types of parental involvement.
2. Identify general barriers to parental involvement.
3. Identify barriers to parental involvement, which are specific to West African immigrant/refugee families.
4. Identify strategies for overcoming general barriers to parental involvement.
5. Identify strategies for overcoming barriers specific to West African parental involvement.
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**Presentation Topic**: “Understanding the West African Refugee Experience and its Impact on School and Family Life in the United States” **Part I**

**Length of Presentation**: 2.0 Hours

**Presentation Outline:**

1. Historical Background of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone  
   - Description and History of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone (history of each country’s conflict, cultural issues among warring factions, issues of geography and natural resources, religious issues, political issues)

2. The Impact of History on Current Relationships Among West African Refugees in the United States

3. Understanding the Refugee Experience  
   - What it Means to Be a Refugee (vs. an immigrant or asylee)  
   - Life in a Refugee Camp  
   - Coming to the United States (reasons for coming, the process of immigration)  
   - Acculturation Issues (including family dynamics, living in nontraditional families)

4. Working with Refugee Children Who Have Experienced War-Related Trauma  
   - Types of Traumatic Experiences That Refugee Children Have Been Exposed to in Their Homelands, Refugee Camps, and Their Host Communities (loss, separation, displacement, violence, deprivation, etc.)  
   - The Effects of War-Related Trauma on Children  
   - Common Symptoms of War-Related Trauma (trust issues, etc.)  
   - Misunderstood Behaviors and Coping Skills  
   - Acculturative Stress  
   - Strengths of Refugee Children (importance of education)
Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the historical, cultural, and geopolitical factors involved in West African civil conflicts.

2. Recognize the impact of West Africa’s history on current relationships among refugees in the United States.

3. Differentiate between the terms refugee, asylee, and immigrant.

4. Understand the refugee camp experience.

5. Recognize common acculturation issues faced by West African refugees in the United States.

6. Identify types of traumatic events that West African refugee children have been exposed to in their homelands, refugee camps, and host communities.

7. Identify the impact of war-related trauma on children.

8. Recognize strengths of refugee children.
Presentation Topic: “Understanding the West African Refugee Experience and its Impact on School and Family Life in the United States” Part II

Length of Presentation: 2.0 Hours

Presentation Outline:

2. Historical Background of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone
   • Description and History of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone (history of each country’s conflict, cultural issues among warring factions, issues of geography and natural resources, religious issues, political issues)

4. The Impact of History on Current Relationships Among West African Refugees in the United States

5. Understanding the Refugee Experience
   • What it Means to Be a Refugee (vs. an immigrant or asylee)
   • Life in a Refugee Camp
   • Coming to the United States (reasons for coming, the process of immigration)
   • Acculturation Issues (including family dynamics, living in nontraditional families)

4. Working with Refugee Children Who Have Experienced War-Related Trauma
   • Types of Traumatic Experiences That Refugee Children Have Been Exposed to in Their Homelands, Refugee Camps, and Their Host Communities (loss, separation, displacement, violence, deprivation, etc.)
   • The Effects of War-Related Trauma on Children
   • Common Symptoms of War-Related Trauma (trust issues, etc.)
   • Misunderstood Behaviors and Coping Skills
   • Acculturative Stress
   • Strengths of Refugee Children (importance of education)
**Learning Objectives:**

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the historical, cultural, and geopolitical factors involved in West African civil conflicts.

9. Recognize the impact of West Africa’s history on current relationships among refugees in the United States.

10. Differentiate between the terms refugee, asylee, and immigrant.

11. Understand the refugee camp experience.


13. Identify types of traumatic events that West African refugee children have been exposed to in their homelands, refugee camps, and host communities.

14. Identify the impact of war-related trauma on children.

15. Recognize strengths of refugee children.
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**Presentation Topic:** “Responding to West African Refugee Children and Other Children with Different Learning Styles and Learning Backgrounds in the Classroom”

**Length of Presentation:** 2.0 Hours

**Presentation Outline:**

1. Understanding the Different Learning Backgrounds of Children
   - How Sociocultural Differences Affect Learning Styles (culture, socioeconomic status, family expectations/roles, etc.)
   - The Effect of Gender on Learning
   - Learning Style Research (visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners)

2. Understanding the Impact of Trauma on Learning

3. The Impact of the West African Refugee Experience on Learning
   - How West African Cultural Issues and Expectations May Affect a Child’s Learning Style (gender issues, family expectations, cooperative vs. competitive cultures)
   - School Experiences in West Africa
   - School Experiences in Refugee Camps
   - Gaps in Education Caused by the Refugee Experience
   - Culturally Sensitive Approaches to Understanding a Child’s Academic Performance and Learning Potential
   - Acknowledging Language Issues in the Classroom

(Handouts will be provided)

**Learning Objectives:**

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize how different sociocultural backgrounds affect learning styles.
2. Understand different learning styles.
3. Recognize the impact of trauma on learning.
4. Identify how West African refugee children’s backgrounds and experiences may impact their learning and school performance.
Presentation Topic: “Managing Conflict and Diversity Related Challenges that Arise in the School Setting” Part I

Length of Presentation: 2.0 Hours

Presentation Outline:

1. Brief Overview of Services Provided by Good Shepard Mediation Program

2. Definition of Conflict and Conflict Resolution

3. Managing Conflict Based on Differences in the Classroom
   - Conflicts Based on Differences (ethnicity, culture, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, physical/emotional disability, etc.)
   - Techniques for De-escalating Conflicts (verbal and physical) in School

4. Harassment
   - Defining Types (sexual, racial, age, etc.)
   - Techniques for Managing Harassment in Classroom

5. Conflict Prevention
   - Proactive Interventions
   - Dealing with the Perception of Favoritism

Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe basic conflict resolution.

2. Identify techniques that can be used in the classroom to resolve conflict based on differences.

3. Describe basic harassment issues.

4. Identify techniques for addressing harassment in the classroom.

5. Identify ways to prevent conflict in the classroom.
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**Presentation Topic:** “Managing Conflict and Diversity Related Challenges that Arise in the School Setting” **Part II**

**Length of Presentation:** 2.0 Hours

**Presentation Outline:**

1. Brief Overview of Services Provided by Good Shepard Mediation Program

2. Definition of Conflict and Conflict Resolution

3. Managing Conflict Based on Differences in the Classroom
   - Conflicts Based on Differences (ethnicity, culture, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, physical/emotional disability, etc.)
   - Techniques for De-escalating Conflicts (verbal and physical) in School

4. Harassment
   - Defining Types (sexual, racial, age, etc.)
   - Techniques for Managing Harassment in Classroom

5. Conflict Prevention
   - Proactive Interventions
   - Dealing with the Perception of Favoritism

**Learning Objectives:**

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe basic conflict resolution.

2. Identify techniques that can be used in the classroom to resolve conflict based on differences.

3. Describe basic harassment issues.

4. Identify techniques for addressing harassment in the classroom.

5. Identify ways to prevent conflict in the classroom.
Presentation Topic: “Understanding and Managing Sexually Reactive Children in the School Setting”

Length of Presentation: 2.0 Hours

Presentation Outline:

1. Normative vs. Non-Normative Sexual Behaviors in Children
   • Developmental Factors
   • Cultural Factors

2. Possible Causes of Children’s Non-Normative Sexual Behavior
   • Exposure
   • Child Sexual Abuse

3. Managing Children Who Act Out Sexually in School
   • How to Effectively Handle Sexual Remarks and Behaviors When They Occur in the Classroom/School
   • How to Talk to Parents About Their Children's Sexual Comments and Behaviors
   • Ways to Handle Your Own Feelings About and Responses to Children’s Sexual Comments and Behaviors
   • Prevention Strategies

4. Making Appropriate Referrals
   • Mandated Reporting
   • How to Know When a Child May Need Additional Services
   • Where to Refer Children for Additional Services

Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the difference between normative and non-normative sexual behaviors in children.

2. Understand the role that development and culture play in normative vs. non-normative sexual behaviors.
3. Identify potential causes of children’s inappropriate sexual behavior.

4. Identify and utilize simple strategies to respond to and prevent inappropriate sexual comments and behaviors in the school/classroom setting.

5. Recognize how children’s sexual comments and behaviors affect others and identify ways teachers can respond in a healthy and productive manner.

6. Identify effective ways to talk to parents about their children’s inappropriate sexual language and/or behavior.

7. Make appropriate referrals for additional services for children when indicated.
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Teacher Educational Seminars: Topic 9

Presentation Topic:

“Survival Strategies: Managing Stress and Ways to Take Care of Yourself in the Challenging Work Environment of an Inner-City School”

Length of Presentation: 2.0 Hours

Presentation Outline:

1. Day-To-Day Stressors Encountered by the Inner-City Teacher
   • Exercises
   • Vignettes

2. Vicarious Traumatization: Taking on Others’ Pain
   • The Impact of School and Community Violence on the Teacher
   • How Students’ Histories of Violence, Trauma, and Child Abuse Affect Their Teachers

3. Signs and Symptoms of Professional Burnout

4. Strategies for Addressing and Preventing Burnout

5. Maintaining Hope and Enthusiasm in the Face of Ongoing Stressors, Barriers, and Other Professional Challenges
   (Handouts will be provided)

Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the major stressors of their job.

2. Recognize how stress factors impact functioning on the job and beyond.

3. Identify the signs of professional burnout.
4. Identify and implement some simple strategies to manage stress, prevent burnout, and maintain hope and enthusiasm about their job.