# YES Institute Continuing Education Program at Nova Southeastern University, College of Psychology – Davie, FL

# **Questions?**

Contact YES Institute at 305-663-7195 or email@yesinstitute.org

## Title

Addressing the Needs of Transgender and Non-Binary Youth and their Families

# Date & Time

Friday, October 6 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

## **Presenters**

Jamie Joseph, Ph.D. Joseph Zolobczuk, MS Ed.

## **Registration Fee**

\$75.00 payable to YES Institute

# 6 CE Units Available

Florida-licensed Psychologists and School Psychologists; Florida LCSW / LMFT / LMHC

#### Location

\*Specific classroom room number will be emailed to registrants prior to class. Nova Southeastern University, Maltz Psychology Building, 2nd Floor Classroom 3301 College Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314

#### Description

Many psychologists and therapists are observing a notable increase in cases where gender is the presenting or underlying concern. Youth dealing with gender dysphoria are often contending with other psychological challenges such as anxiety, depression, and self-harm ideation, often resulting from parental denial or rejection of the child's experience. Even when parents are empathetic, the child can find themselves in unsafe school environments, navigating uncertainties in peer relationships, unaware faculty and limited support systems. Youth who are on the autism spectrum and diagnosed with gender dysphoria navigate their own host of unique challenges, with very few providers and services addressing both of these dimensions of the child together. This session will review the current state of knowledge on gender transitioning and gender non-binary youth, highlight best practices in gender-affirmative clinical care, and share lessons learned working with children and families impacted by gender. A panel of youth and parent guest speakers who have received psychotherapy will share their personal journeys on gender and engage in Q&A with participants. The importance of linking families with peer support and educational services will also be reviewed. Handouts of vital contacts and resources across South Florida schools and local communities, who are supporting and empowering transgender youth and their families, will be shared.

# **Learning Objectives**

This workshop is designed to help you...

- 1. Critically analyze the distinctions between biological assigned sex, gender, and sexual orientation, and explain the difference between binary vs. continuum theories of biological sex and gender.
- 2. Describe the current terms for gender and orientation youth are using, the importance of using affirmed names and pronouns, and creating revised standardized form options that include sensitivity of gay and transgender clients and their families.
- 3. Experience interviewing a panel of transgender people and family members who received mental health services to critically assess and critique if barriers to care exist at the interpersonal and/or institutional levels.
- 4. Be able to list and explain key recommendations for providing client care from the APA "Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender People" (2015).
- 5. Critique the current state of knowledge on clinical guidelines for co-occurring Autism Spectrum Disorder and Gender Dysphoria (Strang, et al., 2017).
- 6. Assess the differences in psychological and social concerns that typically arise for young children compared to adolescents when they are pursing a gender transition.

# **Presenter Bios**

Dr. Jamie Joseph has received extensive training in working with and counseling individuals struggling with gender, including transgender youth and their families, friends and loved ones. She is a Certified Transgender Therapist and works with children. adolescents and adults dealing with gender and orientation concerns in an affirmative, supportive environment. She is a member of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) and is a Clinical Speaker for YES Institute, a non-profit agency based in Miami, Florida. YES Institute's mission is to prevent suicide and ensure the healthy development of all youth through powerful communication and education on gender and orientation. As an educator, Dr. Joseph has presented to Licensed Psychologists and Doctoral Students on issues related to working with transgender children, adolescents and adults. Dr. Joseph works closely with other treating professionals, community support agencies and personnel involved in the care of management of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals to help those in need of assistance and counseling. She provides individual and group therapy to gay and transgender individuals and their families in coping with difficulties they encounter regarding gender and orientation.

# **Bios (continued)**

Joseph Zolobczuk, MS Ed., is the Director of Education at YES Institute and has served at the organization for over 20 years. Joseph is also a researcher working with public health colleagues at the University of Miami investigating how the social climate on gender and orientation impacts safety and well-being. Joseph conducts continuing education courses for Florida-licensed nursing professionals, mental health therapists, and public school teachers in Miami-Dade and Broward County Public Schools for the past ten years. He is also a national consultant with SAMHSA's Technical Assistance Network, working with systems of care and school districts throughout the country to improve the lives of students and families impacted by gender and orientation. Joseph also trains medical personnel, medical and nursing students, presents at medical conferences, and is a lead trainer and consultant through South Florida Behavioral Health Network.

# References

American Psychological Association. (2015). *Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People.* 

Brill, S., & Pepper, R. (2008). *The Transgender Child: A handbook for families and professionals.* San Francisco: Cleis Press.

Herbst, J.H., Jacobs, E.D., Finlayson, T.J., McKleroy, V.S., Neumann, M.S., & Crepaz, N. (2008). Estimating HIV prevalence and risk behaviors of transgender persons in the United States: A systematic review. *AIDS and Behavior, 12*(1), 1-17.

Klein, A. & Golub S.A. (2016). Family Rejection as a Predictor of Suicide Attempts and Substance Misuse Among Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Adults. *LGBT Health 3*(3). DOI: 10.1089/lgbt.2015.0111

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Greytak, E.A., Kosciw, J.G. & Boesen, M.J. (2013) Putting the "T" in "Resource": The Benefits of LGBT-Related School Resources for Transgender Youth. *Journal of LGBT Youth, 10*(1-2), 45-63.DOI: 10.1080/19361653.2012.718522

Steensma, T.D., Biemond, R., de Boer, F. & Cohen-Kettenis, P.T. (2010). Desisting and persisting gender dysphoria after childhood: A qualitative follow-up study. *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry 16*(4) 499–516.

For any additional questions, please contact YES Institute at: 305-663-7196 email@vesinstitute.org