

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

in CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

ENROLLMENT
STARTS 2006

Announcing the first-ever distance learning graduate certificate program in systems of care for children's mental health!

"One of the most vexing challenges facing the children's mental health field has been how to prepare future generations of professionals to develop, establish, and evaluate effective systems of care. Through combining the expertise of our faculty with the contributions of other universities, and using distance learning technologies, we hope that we can help produce the children's mental health leaders of the future."

— Robert M. Friedman, Ph.D.,
Director, Research and Training Center
for Children's Mental Health

Systems of Care graduate studies on-line!

The University of South Florida is pleased to announce plans to offer a graduate certificate in children's mental health to help prepare leaders in Systems of Care.

In August 2006, the first web-based/distance learning courses will be offered. This graduate certificate is designed to provide a rigorous, systems-of-care values infused, and empirically-based education to individuals in the behavioral health care services field.

The certificate's course content brings current knowledge about effective service delivery to graduate students seeking specialized training in children's mental health and professionals in need of retooling in order to keep pace with the fundamental changes that have taken place in the field.

A variety of distance learning methods will be used to deliver course content. Distance learning will extend the certificate's reach beyond the boundaries of campus. Students' experiences will be enriched by the multi-disciplinary perspectives of the faculty recruited for this innovative new academic program.

The graduate certificate is sponsored by the Department of Child and Family Studies, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, USF, home to the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health. Through the work of the Center, and its Systems of Care Professional Training Consortium, we have amassed expertise both within USF and external to the university.

Hallmarks of the Program

- **Systems-of-Care (SOC) focus.** These Curricula equip professionals with competencies and skills based upon systems-of-care values and principles, and the best available research, thereby enhancing the nation's children's mental health workforce.
- **Promoting cultural competency.** Training will reach a broad and culturally diverse student and workforce population, leading to increased diversity in human service providers.
- **Increasing access to knowledge.** Distance learning methods address the issues of rural areas, where training is often inaccessible and the recruitment and retention of child mental health workers especially problematic.
- **Partnerships.** One of the hallmarks of the program is promoting partnerships between professionals and families, and professionals from different service sectors.
- **Innovations in course delivery.** The variety of distance learning approaches will enrich students' learning experiences as they encounter diverse perspectives of faculty, as well as those of national experts recruited to address special topics through seminars and electronic discussions.
- **Electronic reading room.** In addition to contemporary course software, the Consortium will employ the System of Care Curriculum Initiative Listserv, a hybrid bulletin board and e-mail tool designed to promote discussion and serve as a clearinghouse for university curricula that incorporates key concepts from systems-of-care approaches.
- **First national certification for children's mental health.** The Association for Behavioral Healthcare Management and the Systems of Care Professional Training Consortium are planning the first-ever professional certification in children's mental health services delivery, available to those completing the course work, as well as professionals in the field who demonstrate mastery of key knowledge and practices.



**Certificate in
Children's Mental Health:
Courses offered Fall 2006**

Children's Mental Health Services

(3 credit hours)

Robert M. Friedman, Ph.D.

**Family-Centered Interdisciplinary
Practice: Systems of Care**

(3 credit hours)

Terri Shelton, Ph.D.

**Cultural Competency in
Children's Mental Health**

(3 credit hours)

Mario Hernandez, Ph.D.

Sample Electives

**Financing of Children's Mental
Health Services**

(3 credit hours)

Mary Armstrong, Ph.D.

Leadership within Systems of Care

(3 credit hours)

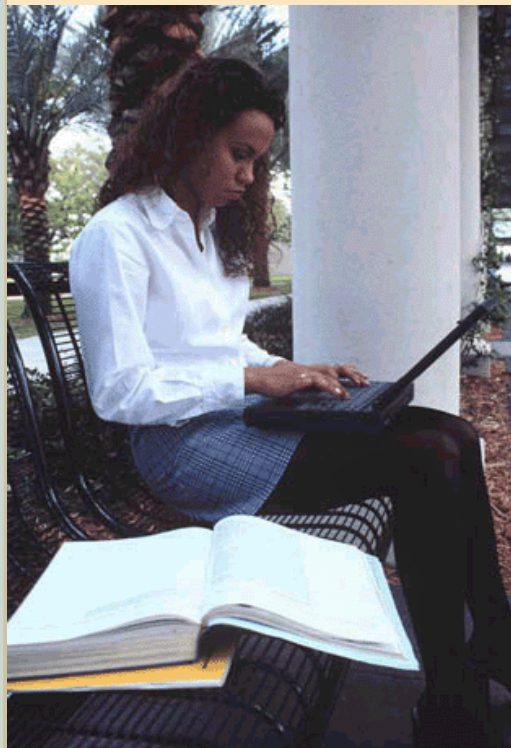
Robert Friedman, Ph.D. &

Allison Pinto, Ph.D.

**Program Development &
Implementation in Children's
Mental Health**

(3 credit hours)

Karen Blase, Ph.D.



*"The hallmark of the
System of Care Professional
Training Consortium has
been the rapid nature at
which universities from all
parts of the country have
coalesced to develop this
program, which speaks
to the need that exists for
workforce education and
training in the children's
mental health field."*

– Carol MacKinnon-Lewis, Ph.D.

Director, System of Care
Professional Training Consortium

Course Content from the Experts in the Field

The System of Care Professional Training Consortium is a training program organized by the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health to bridge the gap between University education and current and future systems of care practice. The Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health at the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida was initiated in 1984 to address the need for improved services and outcomes for children with serious emotional/behavioral disabilities and their families. The Center is jointly funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S Department of Education and the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under grant number H133B040024.

For details about the certificate program and registration, visit
<http://www.outreach.usf.edu/gradcerts/certinfo.asp?ccode=XCH>

For more information about the
System of Care Professional Training Consortium, contact:



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