

B2 - I Like This Child, But What About Those Behaviors?

Parents and professionals who work or live with foster/adopt children understand the importance of interventions that are unique to these exceptional children. These children may have impaired learning, social and emotional delays, multiple losses, attachment wounds and/ or prenatal exposure to drugs and alcohol. As these are not typical children, they often do not respond to typical parenting strategies. This workshop will discuss some of the unique behavioral challenges these children live with. It will address the underlying reasons for the behaviors and then offer a multitude of practical ideas for addressing these behaviors. This includes understanding effective ways to communicate and work with a traumatized child, identifying signs and symptoms of trauma, learning how to provide a safe relationship, and what treatment models are most effective and why. Specific strategies will be discussed. *Trainer: Deena McMahon (Approved for CEUs)*



About Deena McMahon, MSW, LISW

Deena McMahon is a family and attachment therapist in private practice. After working as clinical supervisor and director for in-home services for 20 years, she established her private practice working with children and families. She has been working with families and children for over 30 years and has developed expertise in the areas of childhood trauma, childhood sexual abuse, grief and loss, family violence, transracial placements, ICWA cases, adoption and attachment. Ms. McMahon has presented trainings for the Children's Justice Initiative, sponsored by the MN Supreme Court; has been hired by the Department of Human Services to do state-wide trainings; and has her own client caseload. She has provided training for state judges, public defenders, social service supervisors, parents, Guardians adLitem, early childhood and special education teachers, foster care providers, daycare providers, personal care attendants and mental health professionals. She is known for her passion in working with children and her strong advocacy skills.