

✂ *Deanna Walsh-Bender, M.S.Ed., L.M.S.W.* ✂

The Saint James School House
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CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & Training

- 2016 Garden City, NY
A Day with Dr. Tony Attwood: Emotional Regulation in Children, Early Adolescents & Adults on the Autism Spectrum
Tony Attwood, Ph.D.
- 2016 Northampton, MA
Doing Dialectical Behavior Therapy (herein DBT): An Advanced Intensive Four-Day Training
Charles Swenson, M.D. & Kelly Koerner, Ph.D.
- 2015 Northampton, MA
2016 **Ten Day DBT Intensive Training**
Charles Swenson, M.D.
- 2013 Manhattan, NY
Thich Nhat Hanh: Wisdom for Global Peace & Happiness Event
Thich Nhat Hanh
- 2013 Stony Brook, NY
Eight-Week Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Course
Cheryl Kurash, Ph.D.
- 2013 Adelphi University, NY
Dissociative Identity Disorder
Karen Hoppenwasser, M.D. & Olga Trujillo
- 2012 East Meadow, NY
2014 **Eye Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing (herein EMDR) Bi-Weekly Private Consultation**
Mark Dworkin, LCSW

- 2012 Amityville, NY
EMDR Training Certificate Part I & Part II
Mark Dworkin, LCSW

- 2010 Online Training
DBT: Validation Principles & Strategies
Behavioral Tech, LLC

- 2010 Online Training
DBT: Chain Analysis Training
Behavioral Tech, LLC

- 2010 Westborough, MA
Beyond the Basics: DBT Skills Essentials in Action
Charles Swenson, M.D. & Elizabeth Dexter-Mazza, Psy.D., Behavioral Tech, LLC

- 2010 Northampton, MA
Beyond the Basics: DBT Individual Therapy in Action
Charles Swenson, M.D. & Elizabeth Dexter-Mazza, Psy.D., Behavioral Tech, LLC

- 2010 Holyoke, MA
DBT Five-Day Foundational Training
Charles Swenson, M.D. & Shireen Rizvi, Ph.D., Behavioral Tech, LLC

- 2010 Needham, MA
DBT: Updates to Emotion Regulation & Crisis Survival Skills
Marsha M. Linehan, Ph.D., ABPP

- 2009 Wrightslaw Boot Camp, Plainview, NY
Intensive Special Education Law & Advocacy Training

- 2008 State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York
Master of Social Work

- 1994 Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus, New York
Master of Science in Special Education/Autism

- 1991 Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island
Bachelor of Arts in Elementary & Special Education

Licenses & Certifications

- 2013 Trained Opioid Overdose Responder Certification
- 2010 Licensed and Credentialed Social Worker
- 1994 Permanently Licensed and Credentialed Special Education Teacher
- 1994 Permanently Licensed and Credentialed Elementary School Teacher
- 1991 New York State Certification in Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse

Professional Experience

1999 - **Child Advocacy & Parent Empowerment Services (CAPES), Saint James, NY**

Present **Private Practice**

Providing individual and/or group cognitive and dialectical behavior therapy, family intervention, educational consultation, client school/court advocacy, curriculum/IEP evaluation, varied seminars, and service provider resource referrals. Clientele includes children, adolescents and young adults with various disorders, their families who love them, the professionals who serve them, and the community at large.

2013- **Westbrook Preparatory School, SCO Family Services, Westbury, NY**

2014 **Autism Spectrum Disorder DBT School Consultant**

Formed a consultative alliance with the 1st New York State approved residential secondary school for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and related conditions who require intensive support in a 12-month boarding school setting. Created and delivered a school wide Modified Dialectical Behavior Therapy approach specifically suited to the unique needs and learning styles of the adolescent students. Developed the building curriculum, led student skills groups, instructed clinical staff, presented family seminars and provided facility wide educational staff development trainings.

2009- **Suffolk DBT Psychological Services, East Setauket, NY**

2011 **Affiliated Clinician & Consultant**

Provided individual DBT treatment sessions, co-lead DBT skills groups, and engaged in weekly DBT consultation team meetings. Consultation services were made available to clients in need of ancillary school advocacy.

2007- **Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY**

2008 **Social Work Intern**

Provided individual, marital, and family therapy in the Counseling Center as well as advocacy and support group facilitation for the men at the Pax Christi Men's Hospitality Center - an emergency homeless shelter.

2007 **Lobbying Session at Senator Hillary R. Clinton's Office, NY
Mental Health Advocate**

Advocated for mental health parity before Ms. Hanley, the Senator's Special Assistant for Government and Community Relations and Ms. Burns, the Senator's Constituent Liaison. The specific objective of the session was to inform the Senator and staffers of the effects that a lack of mental health parity has on Long Island constituents and encourage support of The Paul Wellstone Mental Health & Addiction Equity Act (H.R. 1424).

2006- **Mather Memorial Hospital, Adolescent Psychiatric Unit, Port Jefferson, NY**
2007 **Psychiatric Social Work Intern**

Responsibilities included completion of psychosocial assessments, participation at treatment team meetings, implementation of individual, group and family therapy, arrangement of discharge planning including referral and follow up services as well as family contracting.

1999- **Stony Brook Resource Center for Autism & Developmental Disabilities**
2001 **(Currently the Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities)**
Seminar Presenter & Consultant

Created, organized, and routinely presented a series of ongoing seminars designed to educate parents and professionals with a clear working knowledge of various issues related to ASD. The series grew out of a professional consultative alliance with the newly developed Autism Resource Center.

1991- **Eastern Suffolk BOCES, North Country Learning Center, Stony Brook, NY**
2003 **Special Education Teacher**

Educated adolescent students challenged by moderate to profound intellectual disabilities who most often presented with dual diagnoses (autism spectrum disorders, learning disorders, communication disorders, attention deficit and disruptive behavior disorders, tic disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, epilepsy, visual and hearing impairments, as well as sensory integration disorders). Functional academics, social and life skills, community education, transition to adult outcome readiness and vocational training were the core daily teaching components of the program that adhered to the NY State Standards. Vast experience with IEP creation, implementation and CSE attendance all in collaboration with the multidisciplinary team: parents, administrators, district personnel, paraeducators, speech therapists, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, vision and hearing teachers, as well as agency case managers.

Voluntary Educational Service

- 2001-2003 Assessment Committee Member: In Response to the "No Child Left Behind Act"
- 2001-2003 Autism Spectrum Disorders Committee Member
- 1992-2003 School Wide Newsday Work Simulation Project Developer and Facilitator
- 1992-2003 School Wide Recycling Program Developer and Facilitator
- 1999-2002 Annual Student Profile Teacher Representative and Building Trainer
- 1998-2001 Building Token Economy Committee Member
- 1999-2001 School Store Committee Member
- 1993-2000 Supervisory Cooperating Teacher of Undergraduate/Graduate Student Teachers from Suffolk Community College, Dowling College, St. Joseph's College and Old Westbury College
- 1995-2000 School Environmental Fund Raiser Coordinator
- 1991-2000 Home Program Development and Home Based Parent Trainer
- 1999 Student/Staff Handbook Committee Member
- 1997-1999 Safe Schools Committee Member
- 1997-1999 Shared Decision Making Committee Member
- 1998 Behavior Management System Facilitator for School Wide Programming
- 1996 Building Earth Day Fair Developer and Coordinator
- 1992-1996 Peer Tutoring Program Developer and Coordinator with a Neighboring College Preparatory Junior/Senior High School
- 1993-1994 Community Education Curriculum Committee Member

Voluntary Community Service

- 2010- **Executive Board Member**
- 2011 Open Doors Worldwide

- 2009 **Support Group Supervisor & Leader of Emergency Men's Homeless Center**
Pax Christi of Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY

- 2006 **Counselor**
Hope House Ministries, Children and Family Center: A not-for-profit organization "committed to young people and families in crisis who are seen as abandoned and neglected," Port Jefferson, NY

- 2005 **Parent Advocate & CSE Participant**
Represented parents at Student Committee on Special Education Annual Review Meetings, Suffolk County, NY

- 2004 **Team Fundraiser Coordinator**
Alliance for Lupus Research Walk with Us to Cure Lupus, East Meadow, NY

2001- **Consultant**

Present Providing parent/professional consultation services, Long Island, NY

2000 **Invited Advocate**

The Awareness Committee of the Subcommittee for the Autism Coalition of the Empire State (ACES): A unified statewide group that, at the legislative level, addressed the unprecedented growth in ASD diagnosis and the shortage of effective educational programs, appropriate placements, and trained professionals in New York State, Albany, NY

1997 - **Board Member & Educational Liaison**

2000 Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger Syndrome & other Pervasive Developmental Disorders (herein AHA/AS/PDD while currently renamed AHANY: Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Association of New York) A not-for-profit parent and professional support, education, and advocacy group, NY

1995 - **Children's Support Group Facilitator**

1996 Rainbows: "An international, not for profit organization that fosters emotional healing among children and adults grieving a loss created by a life-altering crisis," St. James, NY

Awards

2007 - **AmeriCorps Member**

2008 AmeriCorps Education Scholarship Recipient, Stony Brook University AmeriCorps Volunteers for Community Service.

1992 - **Competencies in Autism for Special Educators (CASE) Scholarship Recipient**

1994 The CASE grant, funded by the Office of Special Education Programs of the US Department of Education, awarded full tuition reimbursement to obtain a M.S.Ed. in Special Education and ASD. The goal of this grant was to address the critical need to train qualified, specialized professionals to facilitate effective educational services for youth with autism spectrum disorder, a nationally recognized, under-represented population.

1993 **Mid East Suffolk Teacher Center Mini Grant**

Funds obtained enabled the development and implementation of a yearlong community education inclusion program in the least restrictive environment for adolescents challenged with various developmental disabilities.

Presentations

- 2016 **DBT® - A+: An Adapted DBT Therapy Approach for Individuals with High Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) & Related Neurological Conditions**
International Society for the Improvement and Teaching of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (ISITDBT) Annual Conference, New York, NY
- 2015 **Modified DBT Skills: A Weekend Seminar for Private Practice Clinicians**
CAPES, St. James, NY
- 2014 **Introduction to a Modified DBT Program at the Westbrook Preparatory School: A Seminar for Families**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2014 **Westbrook Clinical Staff Training on DBT Emotion Regulation Skills**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2014 **Westbrook Clinical Staff Training on DBT Distress Tolerance Skills**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2013 **DBT Mindfulness Student & Clinician Experiential Practice Workshop**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2013 **Introduction to a Modified DBT Program at the Westbrook Preparatory School: A Seminar for the Instructional Staff**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2013 **Westbrook Clinical Staff Training on DBT Mindfulness Skills**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2013 **DBT & Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) for Westbrook Clinicians**
CAPES, St. James, NY
- 2013 **Westbrook Clinical Staff Training on DBT Foundations & Therapy Delivery**
Westbrook Preparatory School, Westbury, NY
- 2013 **Understanding DBT Emotion Regulation Skills: Family Training**
CAPES, St. James, NY
- 2013 **Understanding DBT Distress Tolerance Skills: Family Training**
CAPES, St. James, NY

- 2013 **Understanding DBT Mindfulness Skills: A Family Training**
CAPES, St. James, NY
- 2012 **DBT Social/Emotional Skills for Families: A Family Training**
CAPES, St. James, NY
- 2010 **Understanding ASD: Diagnosis, Symptom Presentation, & Sensory Modulation**
Camp DeWolfe, Wading River, NY
- 2001 & **Behavior Intervention in the Home: A One-Month Series**
2000 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook,
Stony Brook, NY
- 2001 **Understanding Your Child's Sensory Processing Challenges**
2000 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook,
Stony Brook, NY
- 05-2000 **Understanding Diagnosis & Symptom Presentation of Autism Spectrum Disorder**
01-2000 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook,
Stony Brook, NY
- 2000 **Advocating on Behalf of Your Child in the School Setting**
The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony
Brook, NY
- 2000 **What's Next? Dealing with the Overwhelming Monster Named Transition**
The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony
Brook, NY

Invited Lectures

- 2016 **DBT Foundations: Individual & Skills Therapy Overview**
Mid Island Clinical Connection, Amityville, NY
- 2015 **Introduction to DBT for Mental Health Providers**
Mid Island Clinical Connection, Amityville, NY
- 2015 **DBT Foundations & Modifications**
National Association of Social Workers, Private Practice Group, East Northport, NY
- 2015 **DBT & EMDR: Treatment Overviews**
V & W Networking Group, Port Jefferson Station, NY

- 05-2008 **ASD: Diagnosis, Symptom Presentation, Sensory Integration & Behavioral**
04-2008 **Intervention**
Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Graduate Psychopathology Course,
SUNY Stony Brook, M.S.W. Program, Stony Brook, NY
- 2008 **ASD: Diagnosis, Symptom Presentation, Sensory Integration & Behavioral**
Intervention
Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY
- 1999 **Understanding Your Child's Sensory Processing Challenges**
North Shore Special Education Parent Teacher Association (SEPTA), Miller Place, NY
- 1998 **Teaching Methodologies & Strategies for Educating Students with Autism Spectrum**
Disorder
Educating Children with Special Needs, Graduate Special Education Course, Long
Island University CW Post, M.S.Ed. Program, Brookville, NY
- 1994 **Behavioral Intervention Strategies for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum**
Disorder
Annual Conference of the New York State Federation of Chapters of the Council for
Exceptional Children (CEC) - Poster Presentation, Westbury, NY
- 1994 **In Cahoots with the Community**
Mid East Suffolk Teacher Center: Mini-Grant Exhibiter, Dowling College, NY
(Invited)

Publications

- Walsh-Bender, D. (2016). *DBT-A+ Skills Manual*, Unpublished Document Under Revision
- Walsh-Bender, D. (2015). The Empowered Parent Column. *Nissequogue Village Living Magazine*,
1+ (January - June).
- Walsh-Bender, D. (2008). The sensory detective. In *The Voices of Autism*. New York: La-Chance
Publishing.
- Walsh, D. (2000). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism,
Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 18(August).
- Walsh, D. (1999). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism,
Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 17(December),
16(June), 15(January).

Walsh, D. (1998). Dealing with problem behavior in the home, school & community. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 13(March).

Walsh, D., Davi, M., Stone, V., & Cunniff, S. (1994). *Transition Area Curricula of the North Country Learning Center*. Patchogue, NY: Eastern Suffolk B.O.C.E.S.

Walsh, D., Kennedy, P., & Shweers, C. (1994). Behavioral intervention strategies for parents of children with autism. *The Forum*, 20.

Current Professional Memberships

Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR)
American Federation of Teachers (AFT)
Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Association - Lifetime Member (AHA)
Autism Society of America (ASA)
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
Dialectical Behavior Therapy Invited List-Serv
Eye-Movement Desensitization & Reprocessing International Association (EMDRIA)
Human Right's Campaign
Lupus Foundation of America (LFA)
Mental Health America (MHA)
Mid Island Clinical Connection (MICC)
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
National Association of Social Workers Private Practice Group
New York State Society for Clinical Social Work (NYSSCSW)
PFLAG
V & W Networking Group