

Susan Heffner Rhema, MSW, LCSW
www.susanrhema.com

212 West Ormsby Avenue
Louisville KY 40203

502.550.0576
susan@susanrhema.com

Education

University of Louisville, Kent School of Social Work, Doctoral Program 2010 Cohort.

Masters in Social Work from the University of Maryland at Baltimore, School of Social Work and Community Planning, 1983.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, LCSW, in the state of Kentucky since 2004 and in the state of Arizona since 1993.

Current Work

Private Practice specializing in trauma therapy recovery, cross cultural psychological assessment and cross cultural competency training since 1996.

Contracts include:

Mental Health Consultant for the Kentucky Office of Refugees
Catholic Charities of Louisville Kentucky, Human Trafficking Program
Mental Health Advisor for the Presbyterian Church USA, Mission Division.

Adjunct Instructor, University of Louisville, Kent School of Social Work.

International Experience

Lived in East Africa, South America, and Mexico working in Community Organizing and Development.

Traveled throughout Europe, Central America, South America, the Middle East, Central Asia, and East Asia working with international agencies, evaluating programs and personnel.

Publications

Author of "These Kids Are Ours, A Guide to Educating Refugee Students".

Author of "Journey to a New Life", A six session therapeutic program for the Healthy Transition and Acculturation of Adult Refugees.

Research Experience

Consultant to a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant, (2010), Seattle, Washington for the development and testing of the Refugee Health Screen Version -1

Recent Presentations

“Working with Refugee Clients: Best Clinical Practices and Treatment of Refugee Mental Health Issues” presented May 17 and 18, 2011, Louisville, Kentucky

“Trauma Spectrum Disorders, Best Clinical Practices”, a five part series presented to clinical staff of Seven Counties Services, Louisville KY, May through September 2010.

Series repeated March-July 2011

“ These Kids are Ours”, Kentucky Teaching English as a Second Language Association Conference, September 2009.

“Finding the Human Connection in the Journey of Acculturation”, Society for Intercultural Education, Training and Research, Raleigh, NC, April 2009.

“Supporting Refugee Students”, National Refugee Conference, Chicago IL, September 2008.

“Facing the Challenges of Acculturation”, National Somali Bantu Conference, Louisville KY, August 2008.

“Treating Refugee Trauma”, Church World Service, Albuquerque NM, August 2008.

Continuing Education

Trauma, Memory and The Body, Bessel Van der Kolk, M.D., May 2009

Practices for Treating Survivors of Trauma, National Partnership, April 2008

Advanced Professional Training, Center for Mind Body Medicine, March 2008.

Working with Victims of Human Trafficking, Spalding University, September 2007.

Trauma Debriefing and Structured Sensory Interventions, National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children, February 2007.

Energy Psychology and Thought Field Therapy, Kilgore Samaritan Counseling Center, October 2004

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing, Level Two Training, EMDR Institute, Inc., April 2004