

The John J. Allison Jr. Polaris Center has been proudly serving children and adolescents with learning disabilities and emotional, behavioral and/or psychiatric problems since 1976.

The Polaris Center School, accredited by the CT State Department of Education, is a therapeutic, state of the art facility and school program, able to provide alternative educational services, clinical services, diagnostic placements, transition services, work-study options, tutorial services for expelled students and in-district observations and consultations.

Lincoln Academy is a Regional Interdistrict Collaborative that offers a short term educational program for students. It is designed to work with the student, their family, and the school district to identify success strategies that can be utilized in the least restrictive setting possible.

The Outpatient Mental Health Clinic for Children and Families, is licensed by State of CT Department of Children and Families, is available on-campus and provides a wide range of services including individual and family counseling, case management, psychiatric evaluations, psychological evaluations, medication consultation and management and services for hearing impaired individuals. Bilingual services are also available. Clients of the clinic do not need to be affiliated with the Polaris Center School to participate. Clinic staff are licensed in CT and credentialed with most major insurance carriers in the state.

CREC Polaris Center
474 School Street
East Hartford, CT 06108

John J. Allison Jr.
CREC Polaris Center
Presents:

Professional In
-Service and Training
Workshops



**Effective Behavior
Management
in the Classroom**

April 7, 2010
12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Presented By:
Stacy Stefanowich, M. Ed
Tracy Gibbons, LCSW

NO FEE for this workshop!

Our Mission:

To promote learning, growth, and success with children, families, and community groups in need of therapeutic intervention and educational services.

About the Presenters:

Stacy Stefanowich is the Teacher Supervisor of PPTs and Diagnostic Special Education teacher at the John J. Allison, Jr. CREC Polaris Center. She has been a special education teacher for students with behavioral difficulties since 2000. Her work has consisted of educating regular and special education students of all ages in both regular and special education settings. Stacy was the recipient of CREC's Teacher of the Year Award in 2004. In 2004, she was trained in the Collaborative Problem Solving method of behavioral intervention, which is one of Polaris' approaches based on Dr. Ross Greene's The Explosive Child. Stacy has extensive experience regarding the special education identification process and effective strategies to assist students with behavioral difficulties in the classroom. She has a B.A. from Eastern Connecticut State University in Early Childhood Education and Psychology of Children and Youth, a Master's Degree in Special Education from the University of Hartford, and is currently pursuing her Sixth Year Degree in Education Administration at Springfield College.

Tracy Gibbons is a licensed clinical social worker and social work team leader at the John J. Allison, Jr. CREC Polaris Center's Day School Program, where she has worked for the past 4 years. Ms. Gibbons received her MSW from Fordham University in NY and began her career as a residential school social worker at Green Chimneys, in Brewster, NY. From there she moved to Fairfax, Virginia and worked as a clinical team leader in a therapeutic foster care agency for 3 years. Tracy missed working with students in a school setting and so she returned to school social work in Virginia for the next 8 years. She and her family then moved back home to CT, where she joined the CREC team. Ms. Gibbons has particular expertise working with adolescents with social, emotional and behavioral challenges and is highly knowledgeable about special education guidelines and the PPT process. For the past 3 years, Tracy has also served as our program's field placement supervisor for and mentor to graduate student interns enrolled in the University of CT's School of Social Work. Interns are placed at the Polaris Center for the entire school year, where they gain valuable experience and hone their skills in school social work.

APRIL 7, 2010
12:30 pm—2:30 pm

Effective Behavior Management in the Classroom

This workshop will identify what maladaptive behaviors challenge teachers the most, will give teachers insight into what it would be like to function as a student with a disability in the classroom, and will focus on behavior management techniques and strategies. We will cover developmental information regarding students of all ages, especially focusing on common emotional, behavioral, and social milestones. This workshop is interactive and staff will leave with a plethora of activities and ideas that can easily be implemented in their classrooms, to improve behavior, teamwork, and overall student success in the classroom.

This presentation is geared for teachers, school social workers, guidance counselors, paraprofessionals and any staff working directly with students in both regular education and special education classrooms. Our staff welcome questions and examples of student behavior that is currently challenging in the classroom. Together, we will come up with solutions that will make every behavioral situation a "win-win" result!



UPCOMING TOPICS **Late Spring/Summer 2010**

Positive Parenting Strategies

Presented by:
Joe Freeman, LCSW

Parents can discuss behavioral challenges and learn effective, research based methods of communication and discipline. Parents will learn to use positive reinforcement to successfully change behavior while improving their relationship with their child.

Serving Students Who are Hearing Impaired

Presented by:
MaryAnn Dayton-Fitzgerald, M.S., LPC
Melissa Dennis, M. Ed., LPC

In collaboration with the Commission of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, this workshop will help therapists to understand roles in building a system of care for clients with hearing loss. There will be a panel of young adults with hearing loss who will share their experiences and provide insight as to how providers can best work with them.

To Register Please Call:

Mr. Alberto Colon at:
860.289.8131 x3421

- All workshops are **FREE**
- **CEU's** will be awarded for attending each workshop
- Light refreshments included at every workshop