## 2-Day Intensive Training

## Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) Certificate Course for Treating Adolescent Conduct Disorders and Substance-Abuse

The challenges and frustrations of treating teenagers with severe behavioral problems can feel overwhelming. Often, they are reluctant participants in therapy, having been mandated to a treatment program by a parent or caregiver, school, or juvenile justice authorities. When they are active drug users, therapists can become intimidated, disorganized, and unable to do their best work. Moreover, the clinical issues presented by adolescents can be difficult to sort out—co-occurring problems are the norm, and systems issues, parent and family functioning, peer, and social environment influences are in play as well. Addressing these connected issues requires an up-to-date knowledge base, a comprehensive, well-organized but flexible therapeutic approach and clinical expertise.

This intensive skills-based two-day certificate training provides concrete strategies that offers solutions to the formidable difficulties of treating adolescent oppositional behaviors, conduct disorders and substance abuse. You will develop core competencies and transform your skills to achieve better therapeutic outcomes, even with your most challenging clients.

Join Dr. Howard Liddle, the developer of Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT), as he teaches you how to apply the MDFT framework to create practical case formulations, and how to specify case-specific and individualized treatment goals. Through extensive video illustrations, use of case write-up guidelines, checklists, practical treatment protocols, and interactive discussions, you will take away concrete therapeutic strategies to use immediately with your clients. Leave this course with new actionable knowledge and tools you can use in your very next session!

"MDFT treatment outcomes are among the best there are for adolescents. Not only does it work, but it joins the category of behavioral interventions whose effects seems to endure after treatment ends."

—Dr. Lisa Onk

Chief of the Behavioral and Integrative Branch NIDA

## Objectives

- 1 Differentiate the myths vs. clinically-useful, science-based realities of today's adolescents.
- 2 Connect and describe the relationship of the knowledge-base about adolescents and families to the MDFT treatment principles.
- **3** Apply key content from the knowledge-base on adolescent development and problem formation and the MDFT treatment principles to create an MDFT case conceptualization.
- 4 Utilize the MDFT case conceptualization to formulate weekly case notes that emphasize goal formulation and individual, family, and systemic interventions.
- 5 Analyze and describe the clinical logic of the MDFT core sessions for the 3 stages of treatment.
- 6 Design individual and family interventions that derive from the MDFT conceptual framework and change theory.
- 7 Design individual and family interventions that increase adolescent and parent(s) treatment engagement and retention.
- **8** Analyze and differentiate MDFT intervention intentions, components, implementation, and therapeutic processes using an integrative framework of emotion, thinking, behavior and context.
- 9 Design multi-component interventions that begin and extend adolescent, parent, and family change processes within and between sessions.
- 10 Design multi-component interventions that enhance the youth's and parents' interactions with school and juvenile justice professionals.
- 11 Analyze why interventions succeed or fail, and learn how to adjust interventions according to in-session and between-session events.
- 12 Create a personal blueprint for therapist development using MDFT materials and other available resources.

## Meet Your Speaker

Howard Liddle, EdD, ABPP, is an internationally known expert in the family therapy of adolescent substance abuse and delinquency and his published clinical DVDs and writings are used in therapist training programs around the world. He is the developer of Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT), an evidence-based adolescent treatment that is practiced at clinics around the United States and eight European countries. Dr. Liddle is professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. A board-certified psychologist, he is a Diplomate in Family Psychology in the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Founding editor of the Journal of Family Psychology in 1985, Dr. Liddle has over 225 publications. His three-decade therapy research program focuses on the development, testing, implementation and dissemination of family-based treatment for adolescent substance abuse and delinquency. This work has been recognized with awards from the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Family Therapy Association, the Hazelden Foundation, and the American Psychological Association. Dr. Liddle is an inspirational clinical teacher and has trained family therapists in how to treat adolescents for over 40 years.

Speaker Disclosure

Financial: Dr. Howard Liddle is Chairman of the Board of MDFT International, a 5013c not for profit entity that conducts training in and certifier clinicians in MDFT, Multidimensional Family Therapy. He receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.

Non-financial: Howard Liddle is a Diplomate in Family Psychology in the American Board of Professional psychology (ABPP).

Conference Target Audience:
Licensed Clinical/Mental Health Counselors • Social Workers • Marriage & Family Theray

Licensed Clinical/Mental Health Counselors • Social Workers • Marriage & Family Therapists
Addiction Professionals • Psychologists • Certified Case Managers • School-Based Mental Health Professionals
Other helping professionals who work with adolescents 9-26 years of age



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**MULTIDIMENSIONAL FAMILY THERAPY** 

# MDFT

## **CERTIFICATE COURSE**

for Treating Adolescent Oppositional Behaviors, Conduct Disorders and Substance-Abuse

Featuring the Developer of MDFT Howard Liddle, EdD, ABPP



Dedham, MA Monday & Tuesday, March 5 & 6, 2018 — 2-DAY INTENSIVE TRAINING —

MULTIDIMENSIONAL FAMILY THERAPY

# MDFT

## **CERTIFICATE COURSE**

for Treating Adolescent Oppositional Behaviors, Conduct Disorders and Substance-Abuse

Featuring the Developer of MDFT **Howard Liddle, EdD, ABPP** 

- Master engagement methods to retain adolescents and parents in treatment
- Treat co-occurring adolescent behavioral disorders, depression, and anxiety
- Design customized interventions at individual youth, parent, family and systems levels

Recognized as an Empirically-Supported Treatment by:
SAMSHA
NIDA

Dedham, MA Monday & Tuesday March 5 & 6, 2018

A Non-Profit Organization Connecting Knowledge with Need Since 1979



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#### A Foundation for Adolescent **Treatment: Orientation and Knowledge** Base

Social ecological theory

Vulnerability, risk and protection Determinants of substance use, behavioral

disorders, depression and anxiety Clinically referred adolescents: Co-occurring

problems are the norm A developmental systems framework: Logic

and practicality

#### **MULTIDIMENSIONAL FAMILY THERAPY** (MDFT) IN-ACTION

#### Orientation

Developmental tasks in life and in therapy MDFT change theory

- Determine therapeutic targets
- Design and tailor interventions to individuals and settings
- Facilitate therapeutic individual and interactional processes
- Adjust interventions throughout treatment

#### Framework: A Top-Down View

Relationships and development - First, last,

Referral information and dynamics as keys to current circumstances

Meet, greet, listen, evoke stories, assess with a checklist

Motivate and engage

Understanding, meaning, history, and contexts of behaviors

Prioritize per need and access

Define targets

Design interventions from a systemic functional behavioral analysis

Interventions

Read results Refine and adapt

Link to other priority targets and interventions

#### **Treatment Stages: Organization and Milestones of Therapeutic Progress**

Stage 1: Build alliances and foundation for change

Stage 2: Facilitate individual and family change

Stage 3: Solidify change and exit

#### **Intervention Domains: Components** and Methods Within Each Stage

Adolescent-Focused Interventions

- Psychoeducational aspects of treatment
- Treatment engagement within mandated therapy
- Life story methods and defining oneself
- Determine what's important to the teenager and why
- Personal development as treatment's "North Star"
- Foster a sense of agency
- Experience and interpret day-to-day events
- Journaling and personal narratives
- Emotion regulation, reading and reacting to others
- Burdens of trauma, victimization, and loss

#### Parent-Focused Interventions

- Assess stress and burden
- Psychoeducational aspects of treatment
- Emotion and motivation focused techniques to address avoidance and blaming of youth
- Foster teamwork and collaboration
- Single parents, the influence of grandparents and other adults and multiple households
- Need and role of parenting practices
- Parent's mental health, substance use, medical health

#### Family-Interaction Focused Interventions

- The unique and critical role of family sessions
- Enactment as technique and change theory
- How family sessions target and change parent-youth relationships
- Family sessions step-by-step

#### Community-Focused Interventions

- Conflictual relationships with school personnel
- Compliance with juvenile justice requirements
- Neighborhood influences

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Community supports and resources

#### **Implementation Keys**

#### From Case Conceptualization to **Intervention Development and** Implementation

Develop a case conceptualization using MDFT outlines, case vignettes and video Plan a session using the case conceptualization

Perform intervention analysis by watching clinical videos

Plan next session using the specified analysis

#### **Techniques to Overcome Common Treatment Obstacles**

Motivation and engagement Parental avoidance and blame of the youth Mandated treatment

Overwhelmed caregivers Parents with alcohol, drug, or mental health

residential treatment)

impairments Treatment transitions (to outpatient or

#### **Special Topics**

Guidelines for in-home sessions and parkbench therapy

Evoke content that matters

Focus on and use distress, suffering, crises, anger, resentment, history, remorse and legal issues

Drug test results in therapy

Link mental health and substance abuse treatment to overall adolescent health Available instruments on parenting, substance use, problem behaviors, family functioning

#### Therapist Development

Create a realistic blueprint The interdependence of personal and professional functioning Prompt supervisor effectiveness Self-supervision: Journaling to build complexity and repertoire Signs of and tips to overcome burnout Communities of clinician development Access information on adolescents, parenting, families and treatment guidelines

#### Live Seminar Schedule (both days):

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**8:00** Program begins

**4:00** Program ends

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