

**WI FACETS**

*Presents*

**REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

**For Parents and Professionals**

***SUPPORTING CHILDREN WHO HAVE  
EXPERIENCED TRAUMA  
(TRAUMA INFORMED CARE)***

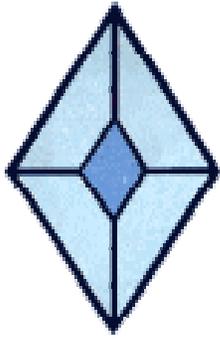
**WINTERGREEN RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER  
WI DELLS, WISCONSIN**

**OCTOBER 19, 2013  
8:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m.**

**EVENT PROGRAM**

**WI FACETS  
600 W. Virginia Street , Suite 501  
Milwaukee, WI 53202**

Workshops are funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (PTIC – H328M110014). Views expressed are not necessarily those of the U.S. Department of Education.



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## Regional Special Education Conference

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED TRAUMA

### AGENDA

**8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:00-9:15 Welcome - *Bonnie Vander Meulen* - Training Coordinator WI FACETS**

**9:15-10:15 Keynote Session: Understanding the Biological Repercussions of Trauma  
Dr. Mary Hess, Licensed Clinical Psychologist**

The effects of trauma are biological as well as behavioral and emotional. The brain develops and changes in response to a person's experiences. When experiences are healthy, the brain grows healthy neurological connections. When the experiences are traumatic, it changes the lens through which a person sees the world and his/herself, and it actually changes the way the brain works.

**10:15-10:25 Break**

**10:30-11:30**

**Resources and Strategies for Schools to Support Students Affected By Trauma**

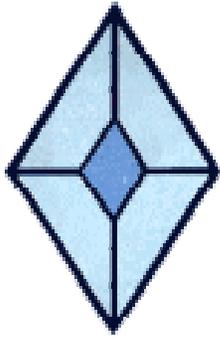
**Nic Dibble, State Consultant for the School Social Work at the Wisconsin DPI**

This presentation will share Wisconsin's efforts to help schools better support students who have been affected by trauma, which were recognized earlier this year with an invitation to present on a national webinar. Wisconsin is unique among states in that it is encouraging school districts to build trauma-sensitive practices and strategies into their efforts to establish Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Current and future activities will be discussed and links to resources will be shared.

**11:30-12:00 Luncheon Speaker**

**Everybody Has a Personal and Powerful Story– Marlea Linse, WI FACETS**

Learn to use your personal story to create understanding, change minds, open hearts, influence policies, affect legislative decisions, and impact the future. Examples, templates, and outlines will be shared to empower families to begin writing their story using various formats for different audiences and specific purposes.



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### **AGENDA**

**12:00-12:50**

**The Biologically Respectful Approach to Traumatized Individuals - Dr. Mary Hess**

This session will focus on what healthy neurological functioning consists of and how “caring others” can assist children and adults to move from unhealthy reactions to more thoughtful mindfulness that can help put the traumas into the past so the present can be healthier and more balanced.

**12:50-1:00 Break**

**1:00-1:55**

**Understanding & Addressing Challenging Behaviors of Traumatized Learners Using Brain Based Interventions - Dr. Nomsa Gwalla-Ogisi, Professor, U.W.-Whitewater**

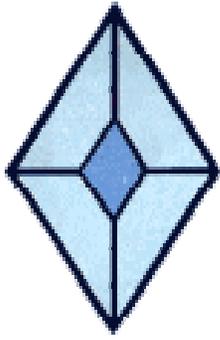
Participants will discuss trauma based challenging behaviors in children and how to use healing brain based interventions that are responsive to the diverse needs of learners to address the challenging behaviors.

**2:00-2:55**

**Families and Trauma Sensitive Schools: Working Together for All Children - Colleen Mulder, CESA #4**

This session will discuss how school districts can help parents who have children who would benefit from the strategies that schools implementing PBIS and Trauma Sensitive Schools offer. Information will include how emotional, physical, mental, social, environmental, sexual trauma affects brain development and offer strategies that parents and educators can use that are based on the following: a safe environment, trusting relationships and student choice and empowerment.

**3:00-3:15 Closing Remarks and Door Prize Drawing - Bonnie Vander Meulen, WI FACETS**



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#### **NIC DIBBLE, LSSW, CISW, State Consultant for School Social Work for the Wisconsin DPI**

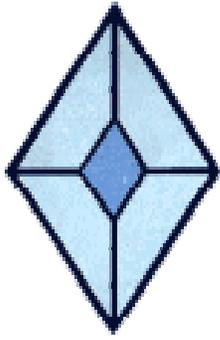
Nic's areas of responsibility at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction include mental health, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), school discipline, homebound instruction, child welfare and maltreatment, attendance and truancy, student records, and teen parents. His work with schools involves technical assistance, resource and professional development, and interagency collaboration. Nic worked 12 years as a school social worker before joining the DPI and served as the Program Manager for the Families and Schools Together (FAST) Program. Other experiences include serving as President of his local school board and Chair of the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund Board.

#### **MARY HESS - Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Family Service of Waukesha**

Dr. Mary Hess is a family and child therapist who supervises therapists at Family Service of Waukesha both in Oconomowoc and in Waukesha, as well as at Northland Counseling in Hayward and Hurley, Wisconsin. Dr. Hess is certified in Bioenergetics, Narrative Attachment Therapy and general family therapy. She is married and has five children all of whom are grown and on their own. She is working towards retirement but enjoys sharing her vast experience with others.

#### **MARLEA LINSE - Early Childhood Advocacy Specialist, WI FACETS**

Marlea joined WI FACETS as a staff member in September of 2009. Currently she divides a full time position among three assignments. She is the liaison for the Parent Leadership Hub of the State Personnel Development Grant, Zone 1 Information and Referral Specialist, and Early Childhood Advocacy Specialist. Marlea and her husband adopted a sibling group of children seven years ago. Each of the children has special needs including mild learning disabilities, varying degrees of reactive attachment disorder, and complicated mental health issues. Marlea will tell you that although she earned her Bachelor's degree in elementary education and has a Master's Degree in school administration, it is her own children, the families she works with, and their children who have taught her what is most important in the work she does.



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**COLLEEN MULDER - Consultant CESA #4; Wisconsin Statewide Parent/Educator Initiative (WSPEI) Family Engagement Coordinator**

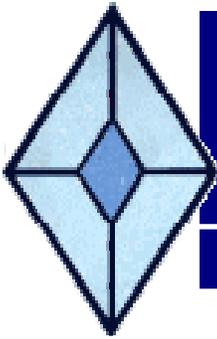
Colleen has been working with families for over 34 years as a school nurse and as a K -12 educator and is the parent of three adult children. Employed at CESA #4 for over 15 years as WSPEI Coordinator and actively involved with PBIS/RTI, Colleen currently works with families and schools to improve communication and outcomes for students who have exceptional learning and behavior needs.

**NOMSA GWALL-OGISI - Professor, Department of Special Education, UW-Whitewater**

Nomsa, a Ph.D. graduate of Southern Illinois University, is a teacher educator in the Department of Special Education at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She has taught in higher education and public schools in general and special education in several countries over the past thirty five years. Nomsa has started and run her own child education center for preschoolers for disenfranchised Blacks in South Africa. She consults with schools and education organizations/agencies internationally, nationally, regionally and locally. She has published many articles in refereed journals, published book chapters, served as a keynote speaker at international conferences and for some regional institutions' graduation. Nomsa has presented at over 150 conferences internationally, nationally and throughout the region.

**BONNIE VANDER MEULEN - WI FACETS Training Coordinator**

Bonnie is a licensed professional counselor with more than 43 years of counseling experience. She has worked extensively with students and families on all levels of the educational spectrum. She served as a member of the DPI's State Special Education Continuous Improvement Focused Monitoring System Stakeholders group. Previously she worked as the technical advisor for a MIG grant and as primary facilitator for a Department of Education grant at UW-Whitewater in supported education for students with pervasive and persistent mental illness. Bonnie is a certified CHADD Parent to Parent Trainer, and has previously served as the Co-Director of CHADD of Walworth County. The mother of an adult child with multiples disabilities, Bonnie currently serves as the Parent Training Specialist for WI FACETS. She is responsible for coordinating and implementing WI FACETS trainings for parents and professionals throughout the state.



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**Thank you for joining us today!**

Remember, WI FACETS offers in-person and telephone workshops each month on a variety of topics. For the most current list of offerings, please visit our website at:  
[www.wifacets.org](http://www.wifacets.org)

This conference would not have been possible without the generous support of several individuals and groups. We would like to extend a very special thank you to:

Presenters for sharing their time & expertise

Sandra McFarland - WI FACETS

Marlea Linse, WI FACETS Early Childhood Specialist

WI FACETS Staff

Wintergreen Resort & Conference Center

Cindy Hirsch & Judy Braun