

CT-AIMH News for Members

Special points of interest:

- On April 28, 2008 CT-AIMH officially became a CT non-profit organization. Our 501C3 status is in progress.
- We welcome to the Board of Directors: **Marianne Barton** from UCONN and **Aileen McKenna** from DDS Birth to Three System.
- We are pleased to have CHDI as a co-sponsor for our Fall 2008 conference.
- Please see our website for up to date information re: our Fall Conference and current information regarding young children's mental health.
www.ct-aimh.org

Competencies in Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health

CT-AIMH is working to promote and build the workforce for infant/early childhood mental health. To that end the Association will purchase from Michigan their Competency Guidelines that can lead to an endorsement for culturally sensitive, relationship-focused practice promoting infant/early childhood mental health. Seven other states have purchased the guidelines and license for endorsement from MI-AIMH and have formed a "league of states" that CT-AIMH has been invited to join.

The eight core competencies are: Theoretical Foundations, Laws and Regulations, Systems Expertise, Direct Service Skills, Working with Others, Communi-



Making mental health a priority for families in CT

cating, Thinking, and Reflection.

MI-AIMH has identified four levels of competency that made the model attractive to Connecticut: Infant Family Associate, Infant Family Specialist, Infant Mental Health Specialist, and Infant Mental Health Mentor.

The competencies are multidisciplinary. They help to define best practice with infants, toddlers,

young children and families.

Our partners in purchasing the Competency Guidelines are:

Building Blocks, a system of care for young children in Southeastern CT through their SAM-HSA work,

The Children's Fund through Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI),

Early Childhood Consultation Partnership, and

CT Head Start State Collaboration Office.

We are excited about the work of this collaboration. We will keep you posted as we move forward.

Save the Date November 20, 2008, Woodbridge Country Club

CT-AIMH Fall 2008 full day conference will feature **Dr. Serena Wieder**. Dr. Wieder is perhaps best known for her work with Dr. Stanley Greenspan in developing the Floortime Model for meeting the needs of children with

autism and other developmental disorders.

Dr. Wieder is a clinical psychologist who has pioneered important approaches to diagnosing and treating infants and toddlers with mental health

and developmental disorders.

CT-AIMH is delighted to have Dr. Wieder speak about the importance of relationships when working with families and children with special needs.

Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health

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www.ct-aimh.org



Concerned with the
healthy social and
emotional development of
infants and young children

Our Mission

The Connecticut Association for Infant Mental Health provides state-wide opportunities to enhance knowledge and to promote a positive influence on the social-emotional health and development of infants, young children and their families.

For more information contact:

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