



Do you work in the Early Childhood Education Sector or in Early Intervention?

Are you interested in improving the emotional and social wellbeing of infants and young children?

Want to improve your skills in working relationally with infants, young children, families and colleagues?

This Conference is for you! We highly recommend you come along to hear Associate Professor Sherryl Scott Heller - one of our three international keynotes.

Sherryl Scott Heller, Ph.D, is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine and a member of the Tulane Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health. One of Dr Heller's areas of focus is providing, researching and training in early childhood mental health consultation to childcare.

Sherryl's Keynote Plenary is titled, *Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation in Child Care: What it looks like and what we know.*

Many young children in childcare settings present with challenges regulating their emotions and behaviour, particularly those with early life adversity. Left unaddressed, these social-emotional difficulties often persist and worsen (National Scientific Council on the Developing Child, 2012).

One successful approach is providing infant and early childhood mental health consultants who can partner with staff to build their capacity to foster responsive caregiver-child relationships and to promote healthy social-emotional development (SAMHSA, 2014).

The RAINE group, committed to advancing infant early childhood mental health practice, policy and research, consists of a group of infant and early childhood mental health consultation (IECMHC) program leaders from around the United States. Dr Heller will highlight the similarities and differences across these program models and present some of this groups most recent research findings.

During the conference Dr. Heller will also be delivering two Keynote Workshops titled, *Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation: Training and Practice.*

In this session, Dr Heller will expand on her Keynote Plenary presentation to discuss methods being used to support and train IECMHC. This will include description of several large programs adaptation of the FAN (Facilitating Attuned Interactions) for use in IECMHC.

The Consultation FAN provides a structure for the consultation, called the ARC of Engagement, and a conceptual framework and practical tool for attunement to the consultee's primary concerns and preferred ways of engaging in the consultation interaction.

Dr Heller will also give a brief review of the work being done by the newly established Center of Excellence on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to create and disseminate an IECMHC Toolkit to drive and support adoption, implementation, and infrastructure-building within states, Tribal Nations and communities.

Dr. Heller is the co-author of *A Practical Guide to Reflective Supervision* and will be running a Pre-Conference Workshop on 23 October 1-5pm titled, **An Essential Feature of Reflective Practice – Reflective Supervision.**

Reflective Supervision is recommended practice for those working with families and young children across IMH consultation and services, home visiting programmes, early childhood education services and where relationship based practice and trauma-informed care is in place. 'The aim of reflective supervision is to improve practice and thereby increase the quality of services for children and families.' (Gilkerson and Shahmoon-Shanok, 2000.) This workshop is recommended for practitioners in services seeing infants/young children and their families where consideration is being given to implementing and/or building skills in Reflective Supervision. Those who have clinical or mixed clinical/administrative supervision roles will find it especially useful.

The IMHAANZ Conference has plenty to interest and support those working with infants and young children in the early intervention and early childhood education sectors.

Visit www.imhaanz.org.nz/conference to view the full conference programme.

Register online @ imhaanzconf2018.lilregie.com.