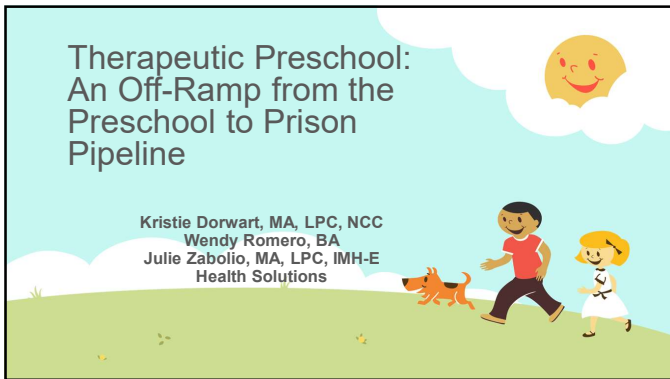


# Therapeutic Preschool: An Off-Ramp from the Preschool to Prison Pipeline

Kristie Dorwart, MA, LPC, NCC  
Wendy Romero, BA  
Julie Zabolio, MA, LPC, IMH-E  
Health Solutions



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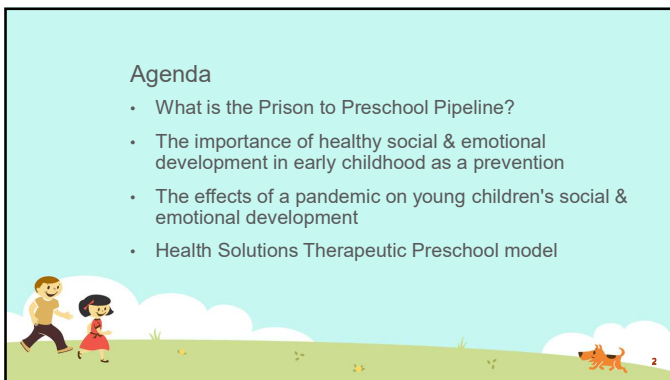
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## Agenda

- What is the Prison to Preschool Pipeline?
- The importance of healthy social & emotional development in early childhood as a prevention
- The effects of a pandemic on young children's social & emotional development
- Health Solutions Therapeutic Preschool model



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## School Suspensions Are an Adult Behavior

Rosemarie Allen | TEDxMileHigh



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### Early Childhood Brain Development

- 85% of brain development happens between ages 0-3; 95 % by age 5.
- Brain development is use-dependent - neurons that fire together, wire together.
- Trauma and stress in early childhood have a greater impact on brain development due to the rapid growth and change happening in this time period.
- The lower regions of the brain responsible for emotional regulation and relationship building skills are the areas that can be most impacted by stress and trauma in early childhood.

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### A Global Pandemic

- In the interest of physical safety, during the COVID 19 pandemic, many infants and toddlers stayed home for a significant portion of their first 2 years of life.
- These children are now 3 & 4 year-olds, struggling in the areas of social and emotional development.
- Referrals for Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) to prevent suspensions are at an all-time high.
- Suspensions continue to happen, in spite of our ECMHC team's best efforts to provide in-classroom & in-home supports.



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### From a Learning Pod to Therapeutic Preschool



- In 2020, when the world was forced to shut down due to COVID 19, Health Solutions found itself facing the dilemma of how to support employees in keeping their children safe at home while continuing to provide medical and behavioral health services to our community.
- Our Rise to Success Learning Pod (licensed childcare for school-aged children) was created to allow children of employees to be cared for in a safe environment while participating in online school and other enrichment activities (creative arts, physical recreation, etc.).
- That laid the foundation for later expanding childcare services to include ages 6 weeks to 15, and opening our newly licensed Childcare Center, The Learning Tree - A Center for Child Development.



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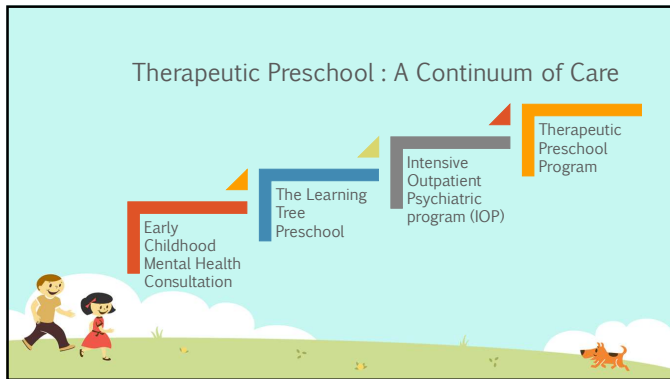
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- Evidence-based Treatment Interventions**
- Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics
  - Neurosequential Model of Education
  - Filial Play Therapy
  - Conscious Discipline
  - Circle of Security Parenting
  - The Mandt System
  - Reflective Supervision

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- Assessment & Outcome Measures**
- Ages & Stages (ASQ-3 & ASQ SE2) Developmental Screening Tools
  - DECA-C
  - Child Behavior Checklist
  - NMT Brain Maps & NME Mini Maps

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Preliminary Outcomes

- Successes
- Challenges
- Moving forward



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Questions?

[gwendolynr@health.solutions](mailto:gwendolynr@health.solutions)  
[juliez@health.solutions](mailto:juliez@health.solutions)  
[kristied@health.solutions](mailto:kristied@health.solutions)



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