



## The 53rd SC Counseling Association Conference Wild Dunes Island Resort-Charleston, SC



### SCCA Play Therapy Preconference Workshop

**Co-Sponsor: SC Association for Play Therapy**

**Thursday, February 23, 2017**

**9:00am-Noon**

*This workshop is approved by APT and is scheduled as a preconference session on Thursday, February 23, 2017. You can register for this workshop **without** attending the SCCA Conference. To register check out SCCA website ([www.sccounselor.org](http://www.sccounselor.org)).*

### **Integrating Emotionally Focused Therapy With Play Therapy: Applications for the Strengthening Family Connectedness**



**Presenter:** Dawn White, LPC, RPT

In 2007, after 23 years as a science teacher in middle and high school classrooms in Chesterfield County, Ms. White embarked on a new professional path and started a second Masters degree at Columbia International University, completing a dual degree in clinical counseling and marriage and family therapy in 2010. It was during the second Child and Adolescent Therapy course in early 2010, that she attended her first SCAPT Conference and recognized how her experience as a teacher was being uniquely merged with her new career as a Licensed Professional Counselor.

She began a small private practice in Chesterfield County in November 2010. Within two months she realized the value of the extra training in play therapy as over half her clientele were children and families. While she presently continues to practice privately, Ms. White joined PFM Counseling in January 2013, as an in-house therapist at Palmetto Family Medicine in Cheraw, SC. In February 2015, she became a Registered Play Therapist, and is in the final phase of certification as an Emotionally Focused Therapist. Ms. White is the 2017-2019 SC Association of Play Therapy President-Elect.

**Overview:** Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) provides a framework for understanding relationships in terms of attachment needs of comfort and support. When working with children, however, play therapy is often developmentally preferred over talk therapy. By integrating play therapy techniques within an Emotionally Focused Therapy theoretical framework, therapists can help parents understand and meet their child's needs for affection and comfort. Using a selection of strategies, this three-hour presentation will give participants the opportunity to explore how play therapy techniques can be integrated with an Emotionally Focused Family Therapy (EFFT) theoretical framework to help families feel greater security and connection.

## Learning Objectives:

Participants will be able to:

1. Define love within a family as an attachment bond and a felt sense of safety and security.
2. Track negative cycles of interaction between family members that set up anxious situations in which there is withdrawal or confrontation.
3. Identify the theoretical perspective of play therapy and the motivation for using play therapy with children and families.
4. Incorporate specific play therapy strategies to help stop the negative cycles of interaction while giving families more positive experiences of interaction and connection.

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## Continuing Education Information:

SC Counseling Association (SCCA) is an NBCC Continuing Education Provider (**ACEP #2041**) and may offer NBCC approved Clock Hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP (SCCA) is solely responsible for all aspects of the program.

Note to Counselors, Therapists and/or Psycho-Educational Specialists. SCCA is a permanent provider for the SC Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation, Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing, SC Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists to offer continuing education. Clock Hours may be used for renewal for LPCs, MFTs, and Psycho-Educational Specialists (**Provider #SNP.69**) and may qualify for SDE teacher re-certification ([www.scteasers.org](http://www.scteasers.org)). The records are filed with the SCCA Professional Development Chairperson for **five years** for members' audits. **Permanent Provider # SNP.069**



This play therapy preconference workshop carries **3 continuing education clock hours** specific to Play Therapy provided by the South Carolina Association for Play Therapy (**APT Approved Provider #99061**). The South Carolina Association for Play Therapy (SCAPT) is approved to offer continuing education clock hours specific to play therapy. This event adheres to the guidelines of APT and SCAPT is responsible for the program content. (Contact Norma Kimrey Colwell-email: [SCCABusiness@yahoo.com](mailto:SCCABusiness@yahoo.com) for questions relating to continuing education.).