

# Dr. Michele Liscio, LMFT

Phone: (954) 849-3277      email: liscio@nova.edu

## Education

### **Nova Southeastern University (NSU): Ft. Lauderdale, Florida**

- Doctor of Marriage and Family Therapy      Jul 2007
- Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy      Jun 2003
- Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education      Dec 2000

### **South Florida Montessori Training Center: Boca Raton, Florida**

Certificate in Early Childhood Education      Jun 1995

## Professional Experience

### **U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs Healthcare System**

#### **Marriage and Family Therapist-MFT (Mental Health Clinic)**

#### **Director of Training for MFT Internship Program**

#### **Facilitator/Trainer for the Warrior 2 Soul Mate Retreat/Workshops**

- Provides family program management, clinical assessment/diagnosis/treatment of MH dx (DSM-5), case coordination and brief, systemic, solution-focused therapy, behavior modification treatment for couples and families; psycho-education; crisis intervention, advocacy; Coordination of linkages to other VA or community service providers/agencies as needed by Veteran and/or their family.
- Care Giver (CG) Support Program Eligibility Committee responsible for chart reviews, attendance at weekly committee meetings to review initial applications for approval and/or reevaluation of existing CG for tier adjustments or completion of program participation.
- Member of the Employee Engagement Committee formed to improve moral, work life balance, improve leadership/employee relationship through education on relational skills, which will also enhance Veteran and family experience.
- Assists with administrative duties such as coordinating, triaging appropriate disposition of referrals/consults for general mental health clinic and CBOCs; tracking of Veteran's to ensure appropriate/timely mental health care; update/write MHC MCM/MH Access SOP; as well as various leadership needs when MHC Program Mgr. and/or Coordinator are on leave.
- Provide educational didactics to the Inter-Professional Team interns on best practices of Family Systems, Family Therapy Theory, Solution-Focused Brief Therapy, Systemic Thinking, Military Culture, Self-Care and Stress management, DV/IPV, etc.
- A collaborative member of 3 multidisciplinary treatment teams, also part of the recent rollout of the VA BHIP Team (co-lead), to insure continuity of care and follow up on assessment and intervention. Implementation of systemic practices to create holistic treatment and outcomes.
- Plan and Conduct Warrior to Soul Mate (W2SM) couple retreats with Chaplain Services
- Train the Trainer for future facilitators of the W2SM couple retreats/workshops
- Selected by VA Central Office (VACO) in Washington, DC in 2013 for a National Work Group/SME to further develop the field of MFT/MHC in the VA and educate nationally on the benefits of hiring MFT/LMHC.
- Selected to work with VALU to develop Career Mapping for the My VA Career Tool for MFT/LMHC clinical positions.
- Chosen as the VA MFT SME for OAA to further develop MFT and LMHC internships.

- MFT Subject Matter Expert selected to rewrite Qualification Standards for MFTs in the VA; Traveled to DC to meet with VACO representatives June 2017 (on going project)
- Coordinate/Educate NSU, the Academic Affiliate regarding MFT Internship Training Program joining WPB VA Inter-professional Team with 2 funded positions received from Office of Academic Affiliations Mental Health Expansion beginning Fall 2018.
- Director of Training for the Marriage & Family Therapy Internship program, Fall 2017.
- Graduate: June 2017 Class: VA CDL training for upcoming leaders in the VA

Oct 2012-Present

**Military Family Consultant (M F L C)**

Sep 2008 – Sept 2012

- Provided brief, solution-focused support, psycho-education, and outreach to service members, children, families, command, administration and civilian staff.
- Provided case management when needed.
- Augmented and supported existing military programs; provided community information and referrals to address presenting issues.
- Provided services within the classroom setting, educating/supporting teachers and children of military/civilian parents, as well as conducted family consultations.
- Demonstrated strong, educational presentation skills, from self-help to parenting, to teacher education on child development/military stressors effecting children, etc., from deployment to reintegration.
- Flexibility and commitment in providing services at Navy, Air Force, Army installations and DoDEA schools worldwide. \*Completed rotation at Hickam AFB CDC
- Provider at Operation Purple Camps

**Family Therapy Private Practice**

Apr 2004 - Sep 2008

**Therapist, Certified Family Life Educator, Early Steps, Supreme Court Family Mediator**

- Provided solution-focused brief therapy to children, couples, and families; evaluation, psycho-education, testing and on-going treatment planning.
- Educated adults, children and families' on communication skills, behavior modification, self-help, stress management, finances, human development that promoted healthy family functioning.
- St. Mary's Child Development Center/Children Services Council: Program development, facilitated parent and human development education classes and psychotherapy to groups/children/family.
- Mediated family and civil court disputes for the State of Florida.

**Family Counselor/Program Development/Researcher**

**Children's Home Society – Jumpstart to Permanency: Ft Lauderdale, Florida** Nov 2004 – June 2005

- Program Development and Research; provided solution-focused psychotherapy, evaluation, testing and education to children and families' of mandated dependency cases using systemic interventions for better therapeutic outcomes, dissolve barriers and clarify goals.
- Consulted at stakeholder meetings, developed support and treatment plans and facilitated parent education to resolve conflict and effectuate permanency with long term, extenuating circumstance “stuck” cases. (In system for up to 10 years unresolved).
- Assisted in program development and researcher on the project.

**Children's Home Society - Focus on Promise Program: Boynton Beach, Florida** Aug 2002 - Jun 2003

- Psychosocial Therapist, Psycho-education and Support Group Facilitator for children/families.
- Identify, evaluate, conduct testing to assess child and family needs, develop treatment plan, coordinate and ensure necessary services and treatments were provided; solution-focused therapy with children and families by using such activities as delineating alternatives, helping to articulate goals and provide information and referral to coordinate services effectively.
- Assisted children/parents with psycho-education for individual/child/family needs.

**Psychosocial Counselor**

Mar 2004 – Jul 2006

Hospice by the Sea: Boca Raton, Florida

- Per Diem grief counseling/psychosocial/treatment planning for patients and families.
- Community information/referral to elder patients, families’ to insure continuity of care.
- Consulted as a collaborative member of a multidisciplinary team of Doctors, Nurses, Social Workers, and Staff to deliver systemic services and provide continuity of patient care.

**Program Developer/Counselor/Trainer/Coach**

Sep 2004 – 2008

Working on What Works (WOWW), Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

- In coordination with Insoo Kim Berg, Steve deShazer and Lee Shilts, implemented a Solution-Focused Classroom Management Program in a middle-school setting; coached students and teachers in building relationships, improving performance/attendance and helped develop and achieve classroom goals; implemented successfully in classrooms with gifted, special needs and dropout prevention populations.
- Program Developer/Coordinator; Educational consultant/coach for students, teachers, staff, school/district leadership and parents.
- Completed quantitative research on the Efficacy of the WOWW Program in 2007.
- Presenter at the Educator & Parent Forum-University of North Carolina “WOWW Trainer” Spring 2008
- Presenter at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific SFA Conference, Singapore “WOWW Trainer” Jun 2008

**Mental Health Clinic Graduate Assistant**

Brief Therapy Institute: Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Sep 2003 – Jul 2006

Provided clinical and clerical duties including new client intakes, crisis intervention, assistance of day-to-day office management, training, orientation and mentorship/supervision to masters and doctoral student therapists.

**Marriage & Family Therapist**

Brief Therapy Institute: Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Jan 2002 – Jul 2006

- Provided individual, couple, and family psychotherapy utilizing brief solution-focused counseling and systemic family therapy, and psycho-education.
- Assisted families to identify strengths, therapeutic goals, solutions and resources.
- Worked as a collaborative member on multiple clinical teams consisting of Master/Doctoral level therapists and AAMFT supervisors.

**Supervisory Experience**

**The Brief Therapy Institute**

Sep 2003 – Jul 2006

Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale

- Worked as a collaborative member on a team of therapists and AAMFT supervisors.
- Provided mentorship and direct clinical supervision of Master & Doctoral level therapists.

**Working on What Works**

Sep 2004 - 2007

New River Middle School, Ft. Lauderdale

- Provided clinical and program supervision of Master level interns who were assisting with the implementation of the WOWW Program within the classroom setting.

**Approved Supervisor for the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy (AAMFT) & the State of Florida**

- Obtained the educational, experiential and supervisory training required for the competent supervision of marriage and family therapists and trainees.
- Earned the designation to serve as a mentor to support and nurture supervisees' strengths and resources, and provide a learning environment that ensures thorough marriage and family therapy (MFT) training and education leading toward state licensure acquisition.
- Completed a breadth and depth of MFT clinical and supervisory experience, and involved in the professional MFT community. ]
- Committed to refining their clinical and supervisory skills, and participate in ongoing professional development through their affiliation with the AAMFT with recertification requirements every 5 yrs.
- Work from a systemic orientation, using a variety of MFT theoretical approaches and supervision is guided by the Responsibilities and Guidelines for AAMFT Approved Supervisor.

**Research Experience**

**Research Assistant**

Apr 2004 – Mar 2005

Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Assistant to Dr. Christopher Burnett on two-phase research project for the Children's Home Society program, Jumpstart to Permanency. Validated effectiveness in treating extreme dependency cases.

- Assisted in collection of data, organized results, presented research findings.
- Resulted in the program's renewal of funding for the 2004-2005 & 2005-2006 fiscal yrs. For Child Net state funding agent.

**Working on What Works**

Apr 2007

New River Middle School, Ft. Lauderdale

- Conducted a quantitative study on the efficacy of the WOWW program in a middle school (a solution-focused classroom management tool under the direction of Insoo Kim Berg, Co-Founder of Solution-Focused Brief Therapy). Findings submitted to Broward School Board
- Resulting in program implementation positively affecting student/teacher relationships, test scores, suspensions and attendance.

**Teaching Experience**

**Adjunct Professor**

Sep 2007 – Present

NSU, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

- Teach internal practicum, mentor and provided direct clinical supervision to Masters and

- Doctoral level graduate students for the Marriage and Family Therapy Department.
- Teach on-line course entitled “Military Families” for Master and Doctoral level students. Educating on military culture challenges of military families, deployment/reintegration, DSM 5 dx and treatment options, etc.

**Early Childhood Educator - Kindergarten Teacher** Sept 1994 - June 2003  
Summit Private School: Boca Raton, Florida

- Created and implemented lesson plans for 2 ½ to 6-year-old children.
- Assisted parents with parent education, stress management, self-care and implementation of learning techniques in the home.
- Provided feedback to students and parents regarding progress (verbal/written progress reports).
- Chair of the Teacher’s Association/Fund Raising
- Coordinator of the Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony
- Art Supply Manager (inventory/purchasing)

**Retail & Office Management Experience**

New Jersey & Florida: Managed Retail Establishments Sep 1978 – July 1994  
Florida: Office Staff/Manager Pediatric Practice

**Volunteer Experience**

**Red Cross – Disaster Mental Health Relief Team** (Supported Parkland Rec Center-2/2018)  
**Coral Springs Medical Center –Provided age appropriate activities and parenting assistance**  
(Pediatric Wing-Received 750 Volunteer Hour)

**State of Florida Emergency Responders**  
(Registered, but not active at this time)

**Grief Camp Counselor**

Hospice by the Sea - Camp Good Grief, Boca Raton, Florida  
Hospice of Broward - Camp Coral, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Grief camps for children ages 5-15, who have lost a loved one. Provided and planned a combination of therapeutic and fun activities, to assist grieving children to learn expression of feelings and coping skills to address loss of parent, sibling or extended family member.

**Licensure and Certifications**

Florida Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT)  
Florida Supreme Court Family Mediator (Not Current)  
AAMFT Approved Supervisor & Clinical Member  
Florida Approved MFT Licensure Supervisor  
Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE-Not Current)  
*National Council on Family Relations: Minneapolis, Minnesota*  
Early Steps Program Provider (Not Current)  
*Florida Department of Health: Tallahassee, Florida*  
Professional Certificate: Pre-kindergarten/Primary Education (Age 3 - Grade 3)  
*Florida Department of Education: Tallahassee, Florida* (Not Current)  
Professional Certificate: Early Childhood Credential (Age 3 - Age 6)

*American Montessori Society: New York, New York*

### **Professional and Social Affiliation**

The Florida Behavioral Health Alliance (FLBHA)	Nov 2013 - Present
National Council on Family Relations	Jul 2004 – Present
Solution Focus Brief Therapy Association	Aug 2003 - Present
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy	Nov 2001 - Present
Florida Association for Marriage and Family Therapy	Nov 2001 - Present
American Montessori Society	Jun 1994 - 2005

### **Publications**

Editorial Review Board Member: Therapeutic Speakeasy Quarterly  
[www.therapeuticspeakeasy.com](http://www.therapeuticspeakeasy.com) Mar 2017 - Present

Liscio, M. (2016) About military settings. In Ann Rambo *The marriage and family therapy career guide: doing well while doing good* (1<sup>st</sup> edition; Chapter 9) New York, NY: Routledge

Kelly, M. S., Liscio, M., Bluestone-Miller, R. & Shilts, L. (2011). *Making classrooms more solution-focused for teachers and students*. In C. Franklin, T. S. Trepper, W. J. Gingerich & E. E. McCollum, *Solution-focused brief therapy a handbook of evidence-based practice* (pp. 354-370). New York: Oxford University Press.

Flemons, D., Liscio, M., Gordon, A.B., Hibel, J., Gutierrez-Hersh, A., & Rebholz, C.L. (2010). Fostering solutions: Bringing brief therapy principles and practices to the child welfare system. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, Vol. 36, No.1, 80-95.*

Alexander, S., Shilts, L., Liscio, M., & Rambo, A. (2008). Return to sender: Letter writing to bring hope to both client and team. *Journal of Systemic Therapies, Vol. 27, No.1, 59-66.*

Chenail, R.J., Spong, J.L., Chenail, J., Liscio, M., McLean, L.G., Cox, H.G., Shepherd, B. & Mowzoon, N.C. (2006). Creating and using learning objectives in qualitative research education. *The Qualitative Report, 11 (3), 450-473.*

### **Honors and Awards**

2 Performance Awards at WPB VAMC 2014 & 2015  
2 Cash "On The Spot" Rewards for Excellent Service at WPB VAMC 2013 & 2014  
Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award - Nova Southeastern University 2013  
School Appreciation Framed Children's Collage NAS OCEANA 2012  
Airman and Family Readiness Coin – Tyndall AFB 2012  
Chaplain Coin – Patrick Air Force Base 2011  
Certificate of Appreciation – Yokota AFB, Japan 2010  
AF Appreciation Bear – CDC Hickam AFB, Hawaii 2009  
Certificate of Appreciation - Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SC 2009  
Certificate of Appreciation – Ft Sill, OK 2008  
SHSS Student of the Year, Nova Southeastern University 2006