

Helping Children Overcome Selective Mutism: A Skills-Training Workshop

Date: Friday, October 27th, 2006
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: Springfield Golf & Country Club
2054 Gordon Street
Guelph, ON N1L 1G6

For directions, please call the venue directly at (519) 821-4655.

Fee: \$ 165.00* (GST included)
(* includes all workshop materials, morning & afternoon refreshments, and lunch)

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Registration Information:

1. Please email Dr. McHolm to reserve your spot at dr_mcholm@sympatico.ca. Provide your name, agency affiliation (if relevant), and contact information when making your email reservation.

2. Fill out the information below:

[Please Print]

Name: _____

Address _____

Email: _____

3. Mail this registration form & cheque, payable to Dr. Angela McHolm, to the address below [Receipts will be issued at the workshop.]:

Selective Mutism Workshop Registration
c/o 120 Cork Street West
Guelph, Ontario N1H 2X5

Please Note: Registrations will only be accepted until Friday, October 20th, 2006

Helping Children Overcome Selective Mutism: A Training Workshop

What is Selective Mutism?

As a parent or professional, are you trying to assist a child who ...

- Appears extremely shy and anxious within public settings like school?
- Restricts his/her speaking in certain situations (e.g., limited speaking at school to children/adults) and yet speaks to the best of his/her ability in other settings (e.g., speaks freely to family members at home)?
- Has remained hesitant to speak beyond the first couple of months of school?

Although some children are shy and hesitant to speak at the beginning of school, persistent speaking inhibition is less common and can be termed “**selective mutism**”. In the absence of effective intervention, selective mutism can persist through primary, middle, and in some cases, the secondary school years.

What Will I Learn?

Through participation in this one-day workshop, attendees will be provided:

- An overview of the available literature on selective mutism, with information regarding its prevalence, etiology, course, comorbid conditions, prognosis, and approaches to intervention
- Information regarding the assessment process and other relevant issues/conditions (e.g., other mental health issues; speech & language issues)
- An opportunity to explore school-related issues including obstacles to academic evaluation
- An introduction to a school-based collaborative intervention that approaches selective mutism as an anxiety-based condition and places an emphasis on behavioural principles (e.g., exposure training)
- A step-by-step intervention guide detailing the steps to setting up an intervention for the child with selective mutism, and general information regarding the management of related anxiety

Who Should Attend?

Mental Health Professionals
(e.g., Psychologists; Social Workers)
Teachers & School Personnel
Speech & Language Pathologists
Early Childhood Educators
Other Interested Professionals
Parents

Helping Children Overcome Selective Mutism

In response to a significant increase in community interest, this full-day training workshop for parents and professionals is intended to answer commonly held questions about selective mutism and how to help a child overcome this condition. Workshop attendees will be provided with a general overview of this special population, school-related issues (e.g., evaluation; social relations), and effective intervention strategies for supporting the child with selective mutism.



Illustration by Ray Cruz (1987)

Questions?

Please contact:
Dr. Angela McHolm

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Website: www.angelamcholm.com

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A Skills-Training Workshop

Friday, October 27, 2006

Workshop Leader:

Angela McHolm, Ph.D., C. Psych.

Registered Psychologist & Director,
Selective Mutism Service
McMaster Children's Hospital, Ontario
&

Author of the book:
*Helping Your Child with Selective Mutism:
Practical Steps to Overcome a Fear of Speaking.*
New Harbinger Publications Inc.