

# **Robert Edelman, M.Ed., Ed.S.**

## **Licensed Mental Health Counselor**

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Village Counseling Center  
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### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Interviewed numerous times in the National News by the Associated Press on issues related to child sexual abuse
  - State and National Presenter/Trainer in the area of Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse as well as Evaluation and Treatment Issues related to Children and Adolescents with Sexual Abuse and/or Behavior Problems
  - Invited Member of the Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse and Children with Sexual Behavior Problems Strategic Planning Committee, State of Florida, Department of Children and Families, Office of Family Safety
  - Appointed Member of the Gabriel Myers Florida Work Group related to Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse established by Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary George H. Sheldon
  - Responsible for the evaluation (forensic and clinical) and treatment for over a thousand children and adolescents with sexual behavior problems
  - Current CEO/President of the Village Counseling Center of Gainesville and the Clinical Director of the Sexual Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Program
  - Founder and Co-Chair of the Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force – North Florida
  - Over 25 years' experience in the mental health field and 16 years treating children and adolescents with sexual behavior/abuse issues
  - Since 2001, Primary Mental Health Treatment Provider for the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in the provision of treatment and evaluation services for juveniles with sexual behavior problems (Current Circuits – 3, 4 & 8)
  - Former Clinical Director of a 24-slot day treatment program for Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems
  - Former Director of Clinical Services of an 80-Bed residential treatment program for children and adolescent with general psychiatric problems which included 21-beds dedicated to adolescent boys with sexual behavior problems
  - Clinical Member of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) and Florida Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (FATSA)
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**NOTED  
PRESENTATIONS**

**Stop Sexualizing Our Children! How the Media Impacts Children's Sexual Development and Ways to Intervene!**

The Child Center - Annual Conference. April 26, 2012. St Charles, MO. (Scheduled)

**Child on Child Sexual Abuse: What is it and How to Respond?**

DCF Family Accountability Summit – State Conference. September 7-9, 2011. Orlando, FL.

**Stop Sexualizing Our Children! How the Media Impacts Children's Sexual Development and Ways to Intervene!**

National Child Advocacy Center - National/Annual Conference. August 23-25, 2011. New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Establishing a Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force**

Co-Presentation with Brandi Rhoden, LMHC. National Child Advocacy Center - National/Annual Conference. August 23-25, 2011. New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Compassion Fatigue and Debriefing.**

Series of Trainings for The Department of Children and Families Protective Investigators, Supervisors and CWLS Attorneys – Circuits 3 & 8. May & June, 2011. Lake City & Gainesville, FL.

**Psychosexual Assessment and Treatment of Children and Adolescents. (7 hours)**

Sexual Abuse Intervention Network (S.A.I.N.) December 17, 2010. Tampa, FL.

**The Psychology of Adoption.**

Alachua County Child Advocacy Center – Annual Conference. November 2010. Gainesville, FL.

**Psychosexual Assessment and Treatment of Children.**

Florida Coalition for Children 2010 Annual Conference. October 18-20, 2010. Jacksonville, FL.

**Psychosexual Assessment and Treatment of Juveniles & Stop Sexualizing Our Children.**

Polk County Task Force on Sexual Abuse Prevention. September, 2010. Polk County, FL.

**Recognizing and Treating Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse.**

Presentation with Robin Rosenberg. 2010 Dependency Summit for Florida's Child Protection Communities. October 23-26, 2010. Orlando, FL.

**Stop Sexualizing Our Children!**

Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Multidisciplinary Conference on Child Abuse. August 4-6, 2010. Orlando, FL.

**Establishing a Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force**

DCF Office of Family Safety Dependency Summit 2009 State Conference. Co-Presenter: Shawn Salamida, CEO, Partnership for Strong Families. August 26-28, 2009. Orlando, FL.

**Stop Sexualizing Our Children!**

National Adolescent Perpetrator Network (NAPN) 24<sup>th</sup> Annual/National Conference. Countering the Counterproductive. May 17, 18 & 19, 2009. Tampa, FL.

**Preventing Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse**

Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) 27<sup>th</sup> Annual/National Conference. Teamwork in Trying Times: Improving Our Response to Sexual Abuse. October 22-25, 2008. Atlanta, GA.

**Intervention and Treatment Strategies to Prevent Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse**

State of Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. August 2008. Lakeland, FL.

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**Intervention and Treatment Strategies to Prevent  
Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse**

Preventing Sexual Abuse: Advances in the Evaluation and Treatment of Youthful and Adult Sexual Abusers. Hillsborough County Sexual Abuse Intervention Network (SAIN) and the Florida Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (FATSA). March 2008. Tampa, FL.

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**LICENSURE &  
CERTIFICATIONS**

**Licensed Mental Health Counselor – State of Florida**

Issued December, 1997 (MH 4473)

**Certified Juvenile Sex Offender Therapist – State of Florida**

All requirements met - July, 1998

**Forensic Examiner, State of Florida**

All requirements met - May, 2006

**Qualified Mental Health Supervisor – Florida**

All requirements met - February, 2000

**Qualified Marriage and Family Therapy Supervisor – Florida**

Approved - February, 2012

**CEU Provider – State of Florida**

Approved February, 2005

**Certified Adoption Counselor – State of Florida**

All requirements met – 2010

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**CURRENT  
PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATIONS**

**Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA)**

1999 - 2002, 2007 – Present Date Clinical Member

**Florida Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers**

December, 2007 – Present Date Clinical Member

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**FORMAL EDUCATION**

**Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) & Master of Education (M.Ed.)**

December, 1994 University of Florida Gainesville, FL

Department: Counselor Education Area: Marriage and Family Therapy

**Bachelor of Arts**

April, 1989 University of South Florida Tampa, FL

Major: Psychology

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**CURRENT  
CONTRACTS**

**Florida Department of Juvenile Justice**

2001 – Present Date Current Circuits - 3, 4 & 8

Services: Psychosexual Evaluations; Juvenile Sexual Offender Therapy, (Individual, Family & Group Therapy); Substance Abuse and Mental Health Assessments (SAMH-3); Anger Management/Conflict Resolution; Consultation; and Clinical Training.

**Partnership for Strong Families**

2007 – Present Date Judicial Circuits 3 & 8

Services: Comprehensive Behavioral Assessments, Psychosexual Evaluations, Sexual Behavior Assessments, Specialized Individual, Family & Group Therapy for Children with Sexual Behavior Problems.

**AHCA/Medicaid & Magellan Health Services**

2006 – Present Date State of Florida

Services: Comprehensive Behavioral Assessments.

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**BOARD  
MEMBERSHIP &  
VOLUNTEER  
EXPERIENCE**

- Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force** July 2008 - 2011  
Founder and Co-Chair
- Adoption Review Committee** Oct. 2007 – Present  
Partnership for Strong Families, DCF Circuits 3 & 8
- Alachua County Children's Alliance** May 2007 – 2009  
Volunteer Member
- Alachua County Crisis Center** 2007 - 2008  
Board Member, Friends of the Crisis Center
- Child Advocacy Center of Gainesville, FL** Feb. 2006 – Oct. 2006  
Member, Training Committee
- Association for Sexual Offender Providers (ASOP) - Florida**  
President 1999 -2000
- Alachua County Child Advocacy Center** 1999 -2001  
Board Member - Attended Board Meetings, Case Reviews and Planning Meetings
- Alachua County Crisis Center** 1992 - 1997  
Volunteer Consultant, Trainer and Phone Counselor

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**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE**

July, 2001 – Present Date Village Counseling Center (VCC)  
**CEO/Clinical Director**

- CEO & Clinical Director of the Village Counseling Center which is a for-profit and contracted mental health provider with several state, non-profit and private agencies to provide mental health assessments, treatment and consultation in seventeen (17) counties of North Florida
- Direct all agency staff and services related to substance abuse & mental health assessments; psychosexual/amenability and comprehensive behavioral assessments; sexual abuse treatment; juvenile sex offender treatment; case management; clinical training and consultation; and adult, child, couples and family psychotherapy (outpatient program)
- Clinical Director, Sexual Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Program, which provides intensive treatment to both children and adolescents who have demonstrated sexually reactive or offending behaviors and/or who have been sexually abused
- Provide clinical supervision to supervisors and staff as well as mental health counselors seeking state licensure
- Direct all contract negotiations and monitoring such as current contracts with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and Florida Department of Children and Families
- Provide on-going training and consultation for VCC, outside agencies and within the community in a number of areas including: sexual abuse assessment and treatment, juvenile sexual offender treatment, group counseling, program and staff development, and clinical supervision.
- Direct CEU & Training Program and supervise all Interns seeking licensure.

August, 1996 – May, 2001 The ITM Group & Ted Shaw, Ph.D.  
**Associate Practitioner/Clinician**

- Provided outpatient treatment to sexually reactive children and adolescent sexual offenders in individual, group and family therapy
- SAMH Program Coordinator & Supervisor- Coordinated the completion of all Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH) assessments in a 4 county area

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**Professional Experience**

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March, 2000 – July, 2000

The Brown Schools of Florida

**Director of Clinical Services, Beverly Hills Residential Program**

- Assisted in the planning, development and licensure of a DCF state contracted 80-bed residential facility for males and females
- Clinically directed all mental health related services that included specialized treatment for sexually reactive children, adolescent sexual offenders and youth having general psychiatric problems
- Directly responsible for the supervision of approximately 40 staff including the Clinical Coordinator, Educational Coordinator, Activity/Recreational Director, Therapists, Teachers, Nursing Staff, Case Managers, Lead Counselors, Direct Care Workers, Support Staff, Drivers and Interns
- Developed all clinical policies and procedures, forms and programming
- Resigned from position to pursue private practice

February, 1997 – March, 2000

The Brown Schools of Florida

**Founding & Executive Director, Alachua Threshold Program**

- Directed all program operations for a 24-slot day treatment and after school/outpatient juvenile sex offender program
- Achieved "Deemed Status," one of the highest ratings by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Quality Assurance Board for two (2) consecutive years
- Supervised program staff of 15 including the Clinical Coordinator/ Therapist, Educational Coordinator, Teacher, Case Manager, Lead Counselor, Direct Care Counselors, Support Staff, Drivers and Interns
- Developed and successfully maintained an annual operating budget of approximately \$700,000.00
- Developed all program policies, procedures, and school contracts and operations forms.
- Formed and supervised an Advisory Board that included representatives from numerous community agencies including: the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Alachua County School Board, North Central Florida AIDS Network, State Attorney's Office, Public Defenders Office, Gainesville Police Department, Alachua County Crisis Center, Victim's Advocate Program and the Alachua Family Psychiatry Center
- Primary participant in the development of all program contracts and proposals with the Department of Juvenile Justice, Alachua School Board, Alachua Family Psychiatry Center and other local agencies
- Coordinator of the local Brown School Adopt-a-Park Program and other community service projects

June, 1998 – October, 1999

The Brown Schools of Florida

**Interim Director, Volusia Threshold Program**

- Interim Director of all program operations for a 24-slot day treatment and after school/outpatient juvenile sex offender program located in Daytona, Florida
- Supervised program staff of 12 including the Clinical Coordinator/ Therapist, Teacher, Case Manager, Lead Counselor, Direct Care Counselors, Support Staff, Drivers and Interns
- Completed a 360 degree evaluation of the program which included implementing program and staff changes at all levels
- Directed the revision and development of all program policies, procedures, and school contracts and operations forms
- Primary participant in the development of all program and educational contracts
- Assisted in the hiring and training of a new Program Director as well as other staff

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August, 1996 to February, 1997      Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

**Lead Clinician, The Recovery Center**

- Lead Therapist for a 14-bed, substance abuse program for male adolescents under contract with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Florida Department of Children and Families
- Supervised program staff of 15 including the House Manager, Lead Counselor, Direct Care Workers, Drivers and Interns
- Responsible for coordinating and providing all counseling services and treatment programming for youth

August, 1995 to April, 1996;

Dr. Paul Wheeler

August, 1996 to November, 1996

Private Practice

**Domestic Violence Counselor,  
Certified Batterer's Intervention Program**

- Led and co-facilitated weekly counseling groups for men charged with domestic violence offenses
- Clinically trained and supervised by Dr. Paul Wheeler

January, 1996 to August, 1996      Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

**Coordinator, Adolescents Who Sexually Offend Program**

- Clinically trained and supervised by Dr. Ted Shaw, Former President of the Florida Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers
- Coordinated outpatient services for youth admitted into the Adolescent Who Sexually Offend Program
- Liaison between Meridian, Dr. Shaw and the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

January, 1995 to August, 1996      Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

**Therapist, Child and Adult Brief Therapy Program**

- Provided assessments and outpatient treatment to adults and children with primary issues on ADHD, depression, family conflict and sexual abuse

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**RECENT  
TRAININGS  
ATTENDED**

Information Available Upon Request

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**FORMAL TEACHING  
POSITIONS &  
REFERENCES**

Information Available Upon Request

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Updated: FEB 2012