

Curriculum Vitae

Leigh Ellen Watts Magness
Growth Therapy
485 Huntington Road
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www.growththerapy.net

Education

Master of Social Work University of Georgia May 2005
Bachelor of Social Work University of Georgia May 2004

Employment History

Growth Therapy, LLC

Owner September 2012-present

Responsibilities consist of assessment and therapeutic services for children, teens, and young adults. Specialties include sexual abuse, trauma, healthy sexual development, life transitions, depression and anxiety. Additional roles include testifying as an expert witness in child mental health and the treatment of child sexual abuse in local and state jurisdictions, as well as providing clinical supervision to therapists at other agencies.

Athens Center for Counseling and Play Therapy, LLC

Founder and Co-owner April 2015-present

Responsibilities include providing office space and professional support to other child therapists in the group practice. Currently there are 9 full-time therapists and 5 part-time therapists involved with ACCPT.

Little Athens Children's Museum, 501(c)3

Founder and executive director 2017-present

Little Athens is a mobile children's museum created to provide recreational and educational play opportunities for children and families in and around Athens, GA. Responsibilities include hosting pop-up play events, creating interactive exhibits, securing funding, recruiting volunteers, and promoting the mission to families and other local organizations.

Family Counseling Service of Athens, Inc.

Victim Assistance Program Coordinator August 2006-August 2012

Responsibilities included assessment, psychoeducation, referral services, crisis counseling and play therapy with children and families who were victims of crime. Responsibilities also included managing appropriate working relationships with area agencies to foster collaboration and referrals.

Student Assistance Program Counselor August 2005-May 2008

Responsibilities included psychoeducation, referral services, and group facilitation for students in a school setting who had been affected by drug or alcohol use or abuse. This position also included facilitation of the court mandated Children in the Middle seminar for divorcing parents.

Licensure

Type	License Number	Effective Date	Issued By
LCSW	CSW004116	04/13/09	State of Georgia
RPT-S	T-1988	07/2012	Assoc of Play Therapy

Professional Qualifications

- Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Victim Assistance Academy Graduate, 2008
- Clarke and Oconee County Domestic Violence Task Force Advocate of the Year, 2011
- Nominee, University of Georgia 40 Under 40, 2018
- Jeanette Rankin Smart Woman Award Recipient, 2018

Volunteer Experience

- Volunteer for Piedmont Rape Crisis Center; Winder, Georgia, September 2004-2011
- Responsibilities included advocacy and hospital accompaniment in sexual assault cases, crisis hotline response, fundraising planning and facilitating.

Community Involvement

- Member of Clarke/Oconee County Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) 2006-2012
- Member of Clarke/Oconee County Child Fatality Review Board 2006-2012
- Member of Clarke County Child Abuse Protocol Committee 2006-2012

- Member of Athens Area Mental Health Providers, 2013-present
- Member of Athens Area Postpartum Professionals, 2016-present
- Leader, Whoa Mama Support Group for Postpartum Depression, May 2014-October 2016
- Elder of Children and Youth, Oconee Presbyterian Church, 2016-present

Professional Affiliations

- Member, National Association of Play Therapy

Trainings

Sep 2004	VISTA Sexual Assault Advocate Training; Winder, GA
Mar 2005	Non-violent Crisis Intervention Training; Winder, GA
April 2005	The Culture of Hip Hop and How It Affects Our Work; AAFC; Athens GA
April 2005	Using Blues Music to Connect With African American Clients; AAAFC, Athens, GA
April 2005	Cultural Sensitivity; African American Families Conference, Athens, GA
Oct 2005	Law Enforcement and Sexual Assault Victims; Winder GA
May 2006	Helping Victims Find Their Voices; CJCC Conference, Atlanta, GA
May 2006	Understanding Sexual Abuse Perpetrators; CJCC Conference, Atlanta GA
May 2006	An Introduction to Drug Endangered Children; CJCC Conference, Atlanta GA
Sep 2006	Working to Protect Drug Endangered Children; Athens GA
Dec 2006	Self-Injury and Internet Safety Counselor's Consortium; RESA
Feb 2007	Methamphetamine Counselor's Consortium; RESA
May 2007	Internet Exploitation of Children; CJCC Conference; Atlanta, GA
May 2007	Working with Elderly Victims of Crime; CJCC Conference; Atlanta, GA
May 2008	Supporting Victims Through the Criminal Justice Process; CJCC Conference; Atlanta, GA
May 2008	Understanding Victim Compensation Part I; CJCC Conference; Atlanta, GA
May 2008	Understanding Victim Compensation Part II; CJCC Conference; Atlanta, GA
Aug 2008	Georgia Victim Assistance Academy; Athens GA
Aug 2008	Law and Ethics in Social Work; www.elitecme.com
Feb 2009	Normal Sexual Development in Children; Clarke /Oconee MDT
April 2009	High Risk Victims; Clarke/ Oconee MDT
April 2009	Piedmont Rape Crisis Center Hotline Training; Winder GA
May 2009	Connecting with Children and Families Through Play; Atlanta GA
June 2009	Healthy Sexual Development in Children; Prevent Child Abuse GA
July 2009	Association of Social Work Boards Practice Analysis, ASWB.org
Sept 2009	The Investigative Window of Opportunity: The Vital Link to Corroboration in Child Sexual Abuse Cases; Clarke/Oconee MDT
Oct 2009	Strengthening functioning for Children with ADHD; Atlanta GA
Oct 2009	Applications for Play Therapy in Abuse and Trauma; Atlanta GA

Feb 2010 Sand Therapy: An Introduction; www.a4pt.com

Mar 2010 Using Research Based Theme Patterns to Enhance Play Assessment and Therapy; Atlanta GA

Mar 2010 An Integrated Model of Play Therapy for Attachment and Trauma in Children; Atlanta GA

Mar 2010 Mental Health Intervention in Disasters; NC Center for Public Health Preparedness

Mar 2010 Bio-Psycho-Social Responses to Disaster; NC Center for Public Health Preparedness

Mar 2010 Types and Phases of Disasters; NC Center for Public Health Preparedness

Mar 2010 Introduction to Georgia Disaster Mental Health Response Team Training; NC Center for Public Health Preparedness

Mar 2010 Resiliency in Disasters; NC Center for Public Health Preparedness

Apr 2010 Ethics: A Musical Comedy; Atlanta, GA

June 2010 Basic Concepts for Play Therapy with Families; www.a4pt.org

July 2010 Eating Disorders in Children and Adults; www.elitecme.com

July 2010 Ethics and Boundaries; www.elitecme.com

Aug 2010 Sexting, Cyberbullying and Online Peer Harassment: How the Face of Internet Safety is Changing; New Orleans, LA

Aug 2010 How Child Abuse Impacts Latino Families and What That Means to Prevention Strategies; New Orleans, LA

Aug 2010 Why Some Bounce Back and Some Never Do –Resilience in Those Who Experience Childhood Abuse; New Orleans

Aug 2010 Childhood Sexual Development: What’s Healthy, What’s Not; New Orleans, LA

Aug 2010 Interrupting the Cycle: Preventing Sexual Revictimization in Children; New Orleans

Sep 2010 The History of Play Therapy; online through www.a4pt.org

Oct 2010 Filling Your Tool Box: What Every Beginning Play Therapist Should Know; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Anger Management; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 The Best and Worst: Learning from Our Mistakes; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Developmental and Experiential Play Therapy in the Treatment of Attachment and Trauma; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Somatic Expressions of Trauma in Experiential Play Therapy; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Honoring Symbols and Depth in Play Therapy: Contemporary Psychodynamic/Jungian Approaches; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Play Therapy: Art or Science?; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Too Cool To Play: An Interactive Approach to Working with Adolescents; Louisville, KY

Oct 2010 Fundamentals of Working with Children Who Have Experienced Trauma and Loss; online through www.a4pt.org

Nov 2010 Play Therapy in the Courtroom; online through www.a4pt.org

Nov 2010 International Journal of Play Therapy Volume 19, Number 4; online through www.a4pt.org

Jan 2011 Creative Play Therapy Interventions for Problems of Dysregulation; Atlanta, GA

Mar 2011 Play Therapy for Anxiety Disorders; Atlanta, GA

Mar 2011 International Journal of Play Therapy Volume 20, Number 1; online through www.a4pt.org

Mar 2011 Play Therapy and Beyond: Treatment Techniques and Strategies with Children and Pre-Adolescents; Atlanta, GA

April 2011 Clinical Interventions with Traumatically Bereaved Children; Atlanta, GA

April 2011 EAP Services for Military Personnel online at ceubynet.com

April 2011 Animal Assisted Play Therapy for Distressed Children, Sacramento, CA

April 2011 Integrating Play Therapy with Abused and Traumatized Children, Marietta, GA

Oct 2011 Interpreting Children's Play, Sacramento, CA

Oct 2011 Mom is a Stripper Crackhead: Group Play Therapy with Traumatized Children; Sacramento, CA

Oct 2011 Child Sexual Behavior Problems: Play Based Techniques that Effect Change; Sacramento, CA

Oct 2011 Play Time=A+: Applying Play Therapy to Enhance Academic Achievement; Sacramento, CA

Mar 2011 Creative Play Therapy Interventions/ Problems of Dysregulation; Atlanta

Mar 2012 Adults and Children with Bipolar Disorder

Mar 2012 PTSD in Children & Adults; www.psychceu.com

Mar 2012 Adults and Children with Bipolar Disorder; www.psychceu.com

Mar 2012 International Journal of Play Therapy Volume 21, # 1; www.a4pt.org

Mar 2012 A Field Guide to Disaster Mental Health; www.psychceu.com

May 2012 Freak Out/Chill Out: Normal Sexual Development (facilitator) Athens, GA

May 2012 Protecting our Children: Advanced MDT Approaches to Recognizing, Investigating, and Prosecuting

Apr 2012 Stop Child Abuse; www.psychceu.com

Apr 2012 The History of Play Therapy; www.a4pt.org

Jun 2012 Psyche and Soma Sandtray Therapy; www.psychceu.com

Jun 2012 Sandplay: The Symbolic Process; www.psychceu.com

Jan 2013 How to Talk to Parents About Talking to Children about Sex (facilitator) Athens, GA

Feb 2013 Psychotherapy Codes: Major Changes in for 2013, online via ASWB.org

Oct 2013 Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology in Play, Palm Springs, CA

Oct 2013 Assessment/Treatment of children on Autism Spectrum, Palm Springs, CA

Oct 2013 Understanding Sensory Processing Disorder, Palm Springs, CA

Oct 2013 Using the Sandtray in Supervision, Palm Springs, CA

Mar 2014 Incorporating Therapeutic Artwork in the Play Therapy Assessment and Treatment of Families and Children in Crisis , Atlanta, GA

Nov 2014 How To Talk To Kids About Sex and Safety (facilitator), Athens, GA

Apr 2015 The Birds and The Bees (facilitator) Athens Academy, Athens GA

Sep 2015 Intro To Play Therapy (facilitator), Oconee Co Civitan Club

Oct 2015 Taking Play Therapy Supervision to a Deeper Level, Atlanta, GA

Oct 2015 Baby Brains: Promoting Resilience and Relationships Using Theraplay, Atlanta GA

Oct 2015 iSupervise 2.0, Atlanta GA

Oct 2015 Using Drawings Ethically in Assessment and Practice, Atlanta, GA

Oct 2015 You're Kind of a Big Deal: Minimizing Professional Burn Out, Atlanta, GA

Oct 2015 Engaging in Difficult Dialogues in Play Therapy Supervision, Atlanta, GA

Oct 2015 What's Going On? An Innovative Model for Assessing Children and Families, Atlanta, GA

Oct 2015 The Wounded Healer: Strategies to Help Supervisors Help Play Therapists Avoid Empathy Overload, Atlanta, GA

Jan 2016 How To Talk To Kids About Sex (facilitator), Athens GA

Jan 2016 Intro To Play Therapy (facilitator) Jackson County Schools, Jefferson, GA

Feb 2016 Ethics of Telemental Health, Athens GA

Feb 2016 Ethics of Telemental Health and Supervision, Athens GA

July 2016 Supervision of School Based Play Therapists: Developing Advocates Who Meet Children Where They Are, a4pt.org

July 2016 Supervision: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals, Revised. ce4less.com

July 2016 Playing It Straight In Supervision: Dealing with Countertransference Issues in Play Therapy, a4pt.org

Oct 2017 Playful Parenting, Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 What Makes Supervising Play Therapists Different? a4pt.org

Oct 2017 Kids and Teens in Court, Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 Being Fully Ourselves in the Playroom, Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 Little Office in The Big Woods, Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 Exploring Diversity, Deepening Conversations, Minneapolis, MN

Oct 2017 The Transformative Power of Play: The Intersection of Neurobiology and Trauma, Minneapolis, MN

Mar 2018 The Four Cs of Cultural Competency, Youth Behavioral Health Summit Bethlehem, GA

Mar 2018 Early Childhood Experiences on The Developing Mind: Ways to Support Children & Families, Youth Behavioral Health Summit, Bethlehem, GA

Mar 2018 Trust Based Relational Intervention, Youth Behavioral Health Summit, Bethlehem, GA

Mar 2018 Mindfulness: A DBT Informed Understanding, Youth Behavioral Health Summit, Bethlehem, GA

Mar 2019 SAFE approach to EMDR I; Athens GA

Apr 2019 SAFE approach to EMDR I, part two; Athens GA

Aug 2019 Simplifying EMDR with kids, Nashville TN
Sep 2019 Supervision, allceus.com
Sep 2019 Ethics, skill development and self care in supervision, allceus.com