

# National Board of Forensic Evaluators, Inc. 595 West Granada Blvd., Suite H

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# Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Mediator Florida Qualified Parenting Coordinator

# NBFE's MISSION STATEMENT

NBFE's certification is the nation's only acclaimed training and certification program recognized and endorsed by the American Mental Health Counselors Association (SMHCA), Florida Mental Health Counselors Association (FMHCA), Washington Mental Health Counselors Association (WMHCA), Utah Mental Health Counselors Association (UMHCA) and the Licensed Professional Counselors Association-Georgia. Our trainers are recognized scholars who have over 1000.s hours of proven forensic mental health experience.

NBFE has two primary missions. The first one being to promote and serve the continuing education needs of mental health professional. This is accomplished by educational seminars, workshops, publications, via a highly specialized team of trained forensic mental health professionals. NBFE trains and certifies eligible licensed professional counselors to become certified forensic mental health evaluators by a rigorous process involving training, mentoring and a written and oral examination protocol to tests the candidates understanding of the forensic mental health arena.

The second mission is to serve at-risk families by providing specialized assessments, educational materials and treatment plans. This is accomplished through a professional team approach used to assess and diagnose attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, disruptive behaviors, oppositional defiant disorders and various other problematic child/family behavioral issues.

#### HISTORY OF NBFE

Forensic mental health evaluations have historically been under the dominion of psychiatrists and psychologists. The American Board of Forensic Psychology, established in 1978, restricts its membership candidates to doctoral degrees in psychology accredited by APA, CPA, or doctoral programs meeting designated criteria specific to psychologists.

Similarly, in order to become a forensic psychiatrist, one must first be a board certified psychiatrist, successfully graduate from medical school, perform an internship of one-year, and meet other closely related regulations that are designated criteria specific to psychiatry.

With only two mental health professions, psychiatry and psychology, with peer trust and recognition as the standard in the forensic certification process, and considered by the legal and mental health field, qualified to perform forensic mental health evaluations, there remains little room for licensed mental health professionals to be considered qualified in the forensic mental health arena.

There are over two-hundred thousand, licensed, (non-psychiatrists --psychologists) mental health

professionals in the United States. Many of whom are looking towards obtaining specialized certification training and stature in providing forensic mental health evaluations, and expert court testimony. Therefore, it becomes necessary to develop a credible, and professionally recognized training/certification process for the other allied licensed mental health professionals.

NBFE originated, in 2005, from a specialty certification training program developed by licensed mental health professionals, physicians, and practicing family attorneys. NBFE was established in 2005 to enhance skills of licensed mental health professionals, otherwise not effectively trained, or recognized by the public or private sector, as well as by the legal or mental health field. You will be professionally recognized and nationally credentialed with NBFE certification.

National Board of Forensic Evaluators, Inc, has two primary missions. The first one being to promote and serve the continuing education needs of licensed mental health professionals. The second is to serve families by providing specialized treatment plans. This is accomplished through a professional team approach used to assess and diagnose attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, autism, disruptive behaviors, oppositional defiant disorders, and various other problematic child behavioral issues.

Because of the omnipresent threat of expert testimony being declared inadmissible, it is essential that the forensic evaluator look closely into the certification/credentialing body that he/she choose. The forensic evaluator's credentialing body must be credible, professionally recognized, and demonstrate a rigorous and verifiable credentialing process in accord with the established professional standards of evidentiary reliability.

<u>NBFE</u> meets the established standards of evidentiary reliability with regard to the advisory board's highly prominent and distinguished members, as well as insuring the continued rigorous high-quality standard of the credentialing process itself.

As a profession the licensed professional counselor is often considered ancillary to psychologist with regard to assessments and/testing in general. NBFE adds credibility to our efforts in Tallahassee and professional licensing boards nationally. Whenever there are issues about who can conduct assessments or testing. LPC's have to prove to their respective boards, the States statue, or statement from the licensure board that there is a formal accrediting processes like those offered by the National Board of Forensic Evaluators (NBFE). Florida has a small, when compared to psychologists, but significant number of LMHCs that do custody evaluations, social investigation, parenting plans and/or related forensic work. Florida's NBFE is a viable way to obtain the experience and supervision necessary to do forensic mental health work.

# Mutual Benefit between SMHCA/NBFE

National Board of Forensic Evaluators, Inc, hereinafter referred to as "NBFE" and the Suncoast Mental Health Counselors Association hereinafter referred to as "SMHCA"

The parties agree as follows:

Whereas, SMHCA wishes to enter into an agreement with NBFE for their mutual benefit; and whereas NBFE agrees as follows:

# The National Board of Forensic Evaluators shall provide the following:

- 15% discount of NBFE homestudy, workshops and educational programs to the SMHCA members.
- 15% discount to all SMHCA members toward the NBFE Certified Forensic Mental Health Evaluators Credentialing process.
- NBFE shall provide the 8-hour mandatory training for CFMHE credential candidates in the Tampa Bay Area. The same discounted certification of \$500 for AMHCA and FMHCA members will be extended to SMHCA members. In addition, SMHCA shall receive \$100 of that \$500 fee.
- A Link from the NBFE website to the SMHCA website
- NBFE endorsement, recognition and recommendation of the membership to SMHCA
- Free workshop at the SMHCA training events (when locations are deemed appropriate)
- FREE Webinars to all SMHCA members

## The SMHCA shall provide:

- SMHCA will provide a meeting space for the CFMHE 8-hour training in the Tampa Bay Area and will send an announcement for the training out to its membership
- A link from the SMHCA website to the NBFE.net website
- SMHCA endorsement, recognition and recommendation of the NBFE's credential for its members
- SMHCA endorsement, recognition and recommendation of the NBFE's homestudies for SMHCA members
- Free exhibit booth or display at SMHCA training events (when locations are deemed appropriate)

Waived registration fee for NBFE exhibitor/speakers at SMHCA training events

4/23/16

Ana Aluisy, LMHC, LMFT

Date

Norman Hoffman, LMHC, LMFT

Date

SMHCA President

NBFE President

**NBFE Non-profit Public Charity Status** 

(Attached in Email)