

TRAINERS: HELPING BABIES FROM THE BENCH

AMY BUNNELL

Amy Bunnell received a Bachelor's degree with honors in Criminal Justice from University of NE at Kearney. She has 4 years experience as a Case Manager in Corrections in both Kansas and at the Work Ethic Camp in Nebraska. She has also worked for over 11 years in Nebraska Child Protective Services, 5 of those years as a supervisor in Lincoln. Amy is currently employed with NE Department of Health and Human Services as the Early Development Network Program Coordinator for the state. She provides consultation/training/technical assistance to Services Coordinators, Educators, and family members regarding Early Intervention regulations/policy/procedures. Amy is involved with many state projects, committees, and task forces in a variety of areas that promote healthy families, community involvement and best outcomes for infants/toddlers with disabilities. She and her husband, Will, reside in Lincoln and are the parents of four children.

DR. MARK HALD

Dr. Mark Hald has an extensive background working with children, adolescents, and families in a variety of settings over the last 25 years, including residential treatment centers and psychiatric hospitals. He has focused much of his training in the areas of infant-toddler-preschool mental health.

Dr. Hald has experience as a school psychologist since 1991 in both rural itinerant and larger single school facilitator models. While working on his doctorate at the University of North Colorado worked as a school psychologist for the public schools and as a disability access specialist for students with disabilities at the University. Since 1986, Dr. Hald has also taught at the college and university level and has given numerous presentations and workshops locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. He has been a consultant to the Seoul Foreign School in Seoul, Korea. He currently provides psychological consultation to the Panhandle Community Services Head Start programs, the CAPSTONE - Child Advocacy Center, regional psychotherapists, other pediatric professionals, and the HHS Western Service area Integrated Care Coordination Unit.

He is active in the local infant-toddler mental health group and is a state board member on the newly formed Nebraska Association of Infant Mental Health. Dr. Hald's professional interests include assessment and intervention from infants/toddlers to pre-adolescent children, adolescents, and families; neuropsychology; and interventions for behaviors disorders, learning disorders, and brain injuries, depression and anxiety, Asperger's Syndrome (Autism Spectrum Disorders), Attention Deficit Disorders, trauma, and other childhood disorders. Dr. Hald utilizes a variety of intervention strategies including play therapy interventions for children and families. He has completed the requirements for a Registered Play Therapist – Supervisor and is waiting

for certification.

JUDGE DOUGLAS F. JOHNSON

Judge Johnson is a graduate of Creighton University Law School and has been a judge of the Separate Juvenile Court of Douglas County, Nebraska, for 15 years. He is on the teaching faculty and is the Vice President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ). He is the founding Lead Judge of the Omaha Model Court. He is a 2005 Zero to Three Fellow graduate. Judge Johnson presides over Nebraska's first Family Drug Treatment Court, the "Zero to Five Family Drug Treatment Court" (est. May, 2005). He serves on numerous national, regional and local commissions, committees, and Boards, and is co-Chair of the Nebraska Supreme Court Commission on Children in the Courts. Judge Johnson's greatest delights are his wife, Mary, daughters, Anne and Kate, and ever-faithful standard poodle Murphy (who is not a sissy dog)!