

The Latino Experience: Dynamics of working with child survivors of sexual abuse and their families

The workshop will begin by briefly reviewing the common symptoms and reactions to trauma seen in children and caregivers; presenters will focus on child sexual abuse. The goal of this portion will be to bring awareness to how culture influences symptomology. Throughout the workshop presenters will use case examples to illustrate discussion points.

The next part of the workshop will familiarize participants on culture-specific competencies and Latino cultural values. During this portion of the workshop presenters will also discuss the *Secondary Victims*, which are the victim's non-offending significant others that are impacted. Presenters will provide information and engage participants in a discussion around stressors and challenges faced by Latino families in the United States. Factors such as language, immigration status, discrimination, and generational trauma will be explored, as it pertains to supporting Latino families.

Finally, presenters will assist participants in examining the level of cultural competency within their agencies. Throughout the workshop, participants will obtain culturally specific tools to take back to their agencies to better serve their clients. Presenters will discuss how cultural competency results from the on-going commitment of an agency, organization, program or individual to maintain up-to-date knowledge of the developing Latino community.

Presenter Bios

Daniela Bueno holds a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Northwestern University and is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. Prior to graduate school, Daniela received her bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago. Since she graduated, she has been providing counseling services for children and families impacted by sexual abuse. Daniela also has general mental health experience providing counseling to individuals, families, and couples.

Daniela has been working for the YWCA RISE Children's Center since September 2010. Daniela specializes in providing counseling services in English and Spanish to child survivors of sexual abuse and to their non-offending significant others. Daniela became interested in the intersection of culture, class, and language during her internship experience at The Family Institute at Northwestern University. Daniela is passionate about providing services to the Latino community and working with Latino families in therapy. She continues to work on being a culturally competent therapist in order to better serve clients.

Daniela believes in the importance of developing a collaborative relationship with her clients. Daniela understands that developing trust and safety are the first goals in the therapeutic process. Daniela is primarily client-centered and uses varying forms of Expressive Art Therapies to help her clients build upon their strengths and begin their healing journey. Daniela hopes to share her knowledge and experience with others, in order to improve services for the Latino community in the Chicago area.

Nicole du Mont is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 8 years of experience working with immigrant families in various settings in the United States and abroad. She received a Master of Social Work from Loyola University Chicago, in 2008. Nicole has always had a passion for working with Latino families, and made it a focus of her studies at Loyola. Since she graduated she has been providing individual counseling to children and families experiencing domestic violence, and sexual abuse. Nicole began working for YWCA RISE Children's Center in January of 2011. She specializes in providing individual, family and group counseling services in English and Spanish to Latino families impacted by sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation.