

# Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

**Kathryn Page , Ph.D.**, has been working with FASD for over 20 years. She directed the FASD clinic at Valley Medical Center in 2001. Her dissertation was on adult children of alcoholics with prenatal damage. She presents on the subject across the US and Mexico. She published in judicial, social work and lay publications and served as an expert witness. Dr. Page brought FASD to the Juvenile Drug Court Team in Santa Clara County. She was a consultant on the Governor's Prevention Action Counsel and served on the federal inter-agency coordination committee on FASD. She is currently the President of FASD NorCal, a parent-professional advocacy and support group affiliated with PHP—Parents Helping Parents.

**Target Audience:** Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services staff and contract agencies.



**September 21, 2017**

**9:00 am - 4:30 pm**

**Registration starts at 8:30 am**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The field of mental health is rarely smooth and clean, especially community mental health. Layers of influences from past trauma, socioeconomic status, gender issues and racism--to name a few--complicate the healing of a disordered mind and heart. One of these layers often goes unrecognized, and it does enormous damage through the lifespan. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are now estimated to affect roughly 5% of us, but is usually misdiagnosed as AD/HD, Bipolar Disorder, personality disorders or just a really bad attitude. Other states are recognizing and adapting treatment to better support people on this spectrum; California lags way behind. This presentation will begin to raise Santa Clara County's ability to deal with FASD, present in approximately 85,000 current residents and costing at least \$2 million over each person's lifetime unless properly identified and supported.

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## COURSE OBJECTIVES:

### Participants will:

- Discuss the prevalence, symptoms and range of FASDs
- Describe the relationship of FASD to other mental health disorders
- Compare the neurobehavioral effects of FASD with academic, legal, social, and other difficulties
- Identify signs of FASD in individual clients
- Use DSM-5/ICD-10 diagnostic codes for FASD
- Demonstrate adaptation of treatment to the particular needs of individuals with FASD
- Use specific online resources for more information about this disorder

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