

20th Annual ADD and Related Concerns Conference – Speaker Bios and Disclosures

Tommie Mabry, PhD – Keynote Speaker – November 2, 2023

Dr. Tommie Mabry grew up in Jackson, Mississippi. Due to a lack of positive role models, Dr. Mabry turned to life in the streets. He was expelled from numerous schools, and by age eleven had been arrested for breaking and entering. Things started to change for Dr. Mabry when he joined an AAU basketball team that traveled around the world. Although he was shot in the foot during his senior year, he received a full basketball scholarship to Missouri State University-West Plains. After completing his undergraduate studies at Tougaloo College, he taught school in the same district where he had been expelled numerous times. Subsequently, Dr. Mabry served as director of enrollment at Tougaloo College before founding the company that bears his name. He earned his Ph.D. from Jackson State University and has published three books, *A Dark Journey to a Light Future*, *If Tommie Can Do It, We Can Do It*, and *Little Tommie's Four B's*. As an advocate for education and student success, Dr. Mabry travels around the country encouraging educators to focus on the whole student and motivating youth to never give up on hope.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Ronald S. Kent, MD – Keynote Speaker – November 3, 2023

Dr. Ronald Kent, now retired, began his practice in 1981 and joined Hattiesburg Clinic in 1997. Dr. Kent received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in Jackson. He completed an internship and residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. He has a special interest in patients with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Dr. Kent and his wife Anne, have three children, Emilie (and Troy), James (and Jessica) and Grace. He is a member of Temple Baptist Church. In his spare time, he enjoys woodworking, gardening, and playing with his grandchildren.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Kim S. Benton, EdD

Dr. Kim S. Benton, with 40 years of service in public education in Mississippi, most recently served as State Superintendent of Education, interim in 2022 and Chief Academic Officer/ Deputy State Superintendent of Education in 2012-2018 and again in 2021 where she led the implementation of hallmark initiatives including the Early Childhood Collaborative Act, Mississippi K-12 College and Career Ready Standards, and the Literacy-Based Promotion Act.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Katy Perkins Boyd, EdS

Katy Perkins Boyd is a project coordinator for Kids First Education, LLC, and a team leader for Social Emotional Learning, as well as K-2 Early Learning Math. She is a support team member for 3-5 Math, MTSS, Early Literacy, and Special Education. She also develops and supports curriculum in both math and social emotional learning. With experience in kindergarten through sixth grade, Katy hopes to impact teachers with knowledge and strategies that will empower their instruction and provide best outcomes for students.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Nicole Briceno, MS

Nicole is the Associate Director at the Mississippi Early Childhood Inclusion Center (MECIC). She coordinates the professional development programming and develops curriculum for credentials, topical training, and technical assistance. In addition, Mrs. Briceno is an adjunct instructor at the University of Southern Mississippi, College of Education and Human Sciences.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Morgan Buerke, MA

I am a doctoral student in Clinical Psychology at Louisiana State University. My research has emphasized education, assessment, and targeted prevention of suicide across psychopathological problems. To this end, I have attended numerous suicide-relevant trainings, presented at and attended suicide-relevant conferences, and published multiple manuscripts on the topic of suicide.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Rachel Burt, MS

Rachel Burt is an Assistant Principal at HCHS in HCSD. During her 19 years in education, she has served as a middle school Teacher, SPED Case Manager, Instructional Coach, and Assistant Director of SPED. She received her Bachelor of Education from USM and Master's in Educational Leadership from WCU.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Representative Larry Byrd

Representative Larry Byrd represents District 104 in the Mississippi House of Representatives and is the author of HB 1031 MS Dyslexia Law (2012).

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Susan Clark, PhD

Dr. Clark is an assistant teaching professor in Child & Family Sciences at The University of Southern Mississippi. Additionally, she is the Training & Curriculum Specialist at the campus-based Child Development Center that serves children ages birth to 5 and it is the primary training facility for early childhood education students.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Cagla Cobek, BS

Cagla Cobek is a 3rd year doctoral student in the University of Southern Mississippi's School Psychology Program.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Ember Dufrene

Ember Dufrene a graduate school programming at Mississippi State University as a non-matriculating student. Immediately began consulting as an independent contractor in private homes and the surrounding school districts, focusing on children with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the school systems. Dufrene also founded three non-profit agencies, serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The intent of services is to provide the behavioral intervention and support necessary to successfully maintain each client in his or her home or community.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Christyl "Cricket" Erickson, MEd

Mrs. Erickson is a devoted educator of 34 years. Providing All children the opportunity to be successful learners is her goal. Over the past 18 years, her focus has been on implementing structured literacy. Mrs. Erickson believes that all educational endeavors should focus solely on how we can support students.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Chancey Fort, EdS, DPC, LPC, RPT, BC-TMH

Dr. Chancey Fort, LPC, RPT, NCC, NCSC, BC-TMH is currently in private practice. She is the former Director of Counseling and Support Services at the Mississippi Department of Education and an Adjunct Professor. Dr. Fort has over 17 years of experience as a school counselor, director of counseling, and school-based mental health therapist. Dr. Fort's focus is on strengthening the school's internal mental health support system and ensuring all students have access to a school counselor.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Brittany Garza, MEd, BCBA

Brittany Garza is a 1st year doctoral student in the University of Southern Mississippi's School Psychology Program.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Mandy Gay, MS, MEd, CCC-SLP, CALT

Mandy Gay is a speech-language pathologist and dyslexia therapist at Hattiesburg Clinic Connections. Gay received her Master of Science in speech-language pathology from The University of Southern Mississippi and her Master of Education in Dyslexia Therapy from William Carey University. Mandy and her husband, Russell, live in Moselle with their son, Ethan, and two dogs.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Meghan Goldbeck, BA

Meghan Goldbeck is the Executive Director of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Louisiana and Mississippi Chapters.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Melanie Hamm, BSN, MSN, PMHS

Melanie Hamm has been in the nursing field for 18 years. She has been a NP at Hattiesburg Clinic Connections for the past 14 years. She obtained her bachelors of nursing degree at the University of Southern Mississippi and her masters of nursing degree at the University of South Alabama. She is experienced in the area of pediatrics and mental health and diagnoses and treats a wide range of disorders including ADHD, Anxiety, OCD, Depression, Tic disorders, Developmental disorders, and more. She enjoys helping children, teens, and young adults navigate their mental health and reach their fullest potential.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Lisa Hand, MEd, CALT

Lisa Hand is currently part of the Instructional Staff at Neuhaus Education Center in Houston Texas. She holds certification as a Certified Academic Language Therapist. She has more than 20 years of teaching, Lisa taught preschool through elementary education and served as a private dyslexia therapist for 4

years. Lisa holds a Master's of Education in Dyslexia Therapy from William Carey University and a Bachelor's of Science in Early Childhood Education from Auburn University.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Lisa Hasenkampf, LCSW

Lisa Hasenkampf is an experienced LCSW who has worked in both Louisiana and Mississippi school districts. Currently she is serving as a behavior specialist in a K-12 school district on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Monique Henderson, EdD

Monique Henderson is author of 31 Things Your English Learners Want You to Know: Lessons from the Classroom. She is founder of English Learners Engage and was Director of Special Populations for the Mississippi Department of Education. She co-authored three books about education leadership and holds a doctorate from the University of Redlands in Southern California.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Holli Hinton, EdS, CALT-QI, C-SLDS

Holli Hinton, Ed.S., CALT-QI, C-SLDS is the Vice President of Certification Programs at Neuhaus Education Center in Houston, Texas. She holds certifications as a Certified Academic Language Therapist-Qualified Instructor, and a Certified Structured Literacy Dyslexia Specialist per the International Dyslexia Association. In her 20-year tenure as a classroom teacher, she taught pre-school and elementary education in private schools and worked in a special purpose school with children with dyslexia. She served as an adjunct instructor at William Carey University for 5 years while continuing to serve as the dyslexia therapist to numerous students. She has a B.S. in Elementary Education, a M.Ed. in Dyslexia Therapy, and an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership. Holli is passionate about literacy and reading success for all.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Cena Holifield, PhD, CALT-QI

Dr. Cena Holifield has served children with dyslexia for the past twenty years. Dr. Holifield has held the position of Associate Professor at William Carey University where she has served since 2015 as program coordinator and instructor of the Master's Degree and in Dyslexia Therapy. In 2008, she co-founded Dynamic Dyslexia Design; The 3-D School located in Petal, Mississippi where she currently serves as executive director. She holds a Ph. D. in Educational Leadership and Administration and Master's of Education Degrees in Dyslexia Therapy and Elementary Education. She is a nationally Certified Academic

Language Therapist and Qualified Instructor. Dr. Holifield is the founder and president of the Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Association where she also serves as the legislative liaison. Dr. Holifield received the Hugh I. Peck Research Award in 2023 for her work with legislators in dyslexia education.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Donna Joachim, MS, RBT

Retiring from public education after 32 years, Donna Joachim continued her love to serve those affected by autism at the MS Center for Autism and Related Developmental Disabilities. Joining the team at MCARDD just as the state was mandating insurance coverage of ABA Therapy, allowed for input of the program from the beginning. Opportunities to learn the business side of ABA as well as the therapy side, the most important aspect of being the Director of Education Outreach is providing resources to the many families that call in their attempt to navigate services for disabilities.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Tracy Jones, BS

For over 25 years, Tracy Jones has dedicated her career to helping students develop a love of learning while creating a firm foundation in literacy. She believes all children deserve educators who are committed to providing evidenced-based best practices in the classroom to ensure growth of every student.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Carva King, EdS

Carva King is a 23-year veteran educator and adolescent reading specialist. She currently teaches at Hancock High School, providing reading intervention for both general education students and special education students (including those with learning disabilities, ADHD, and ASD). She also conducts reading intervention through her company, The Literacy Lady, LLC.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Zachary C. LaBrot, PhD

Dr. Zachary LaBrot is an Assistant Professor of School Psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi and a licensed psychologist in the state of Mississippi. Dr. LaBrot's clinical and research interests involve strategies to help children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental disorders.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Abigail Lawson, BS

Abigail Lawson is a 3rd year doctoral student in the University of Southern Mississippi's School Psychology Program.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Beth Mayeaux, MEd

Beth Mayeaux is the Regional Sales Director at Move This World, a PK - 12 SEL curriculum. She works with schools and districts throughout the Southeast and helps them create a strong SEL culture in their schools and communities. A former middle and high school ELA teacher in Mississippi and Louisiana, she now makes her home in the hills of north Mississippi and is the proud mother of one some and BeBe to two darling grandsons. She is also an avid rescuer of every stray dog and cat in Yalobusha county.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Kristin McKee, MS, BCBA, LBA

Kristin McKee joined the MS Center for Autism and Related Developmental Disabilities with 6 years' experience as a behavioral specialist. She was one of the original members of the team designing a program for children affected by Autism as MS mandated insurances cover the cost of ABA Therapy. Her involvement in insurance requirements, coding, and ABA program development continued as she completed her master's program. Securing the position of BCBA, Kristin leads a center committed to serving families affected by Autism. Kristin has a younger brother with Autism and that experience enriches her approach and understanding from the family's point of view.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Kayla McVay

Kayla McVay is a 2nd year doctoral student in the University of Southern Mississippi's School Psychology Program.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Carrie Morgan, PhD

Carrie Morgan, PhD, joined Hattiesburg Clinic in 2013. She received her PhD in School Psychology from USM in 2007. Dr. Morgan specializes in academic and behavioral assessment and intervention of childhood psychological disorders including ADHD and autism. She is licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Psychology and recognized as an ADHD Certified Clinical Services Provider.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Alison Patroliia, CVT, SDC

Alison Patroliia is a Certified Veterinary Technician and has been working in the veterinary field for 26 years. She has served as Training Director for Hub City Service Dogs since 2017. In 2019, she received her Certification as a Service Dog coach through Cooperative Paws. In addition, Mrs. Patroliia is a Licensed Family Paws Parent Educator. She also serves the community with her therapy dog, Bulleit, as they are registered through Pet Partners.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Alison Peck, PhD, CALT-QI, LDT, SL

Allison Peck, PhD is currently the Chief Academic Officer at Neuhaus Education Center in Houston, Texas. She holds certifications as a Certified Academic Language Therapist-Qualified Instructor, Licensed Dyslexia Therapist for the state of Texas, and a Structured Literacy Dyslexia Specialist per the International Dyslexia Association. She is a special education, general education, and reading specialist teacher, with her experience being in the public school (middle school) and private school (elementary) realms for the last 20 years. She started her journey in the field of education after her oldest child was diagnosed with dyslexia. Allison has a BA in Political Science, an MLA in History, and an MEd in Curriculum and Instruction. She completed her Ph.D. in Literacy at St. John's University in New York.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Stephanie Schepens, EdS

Stephanie Schepens is the Gifted Coordinator, Federal Programs Specialist, and Private School Liaison for Harrison County School District in Gulfport, Mississippi. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Education from The University of Southern Mississippi, a Master's in Elementary Education with a gifted endorsement from William Carey University, and a Specialist in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Jonathan W. Shook, MD

Dr. Jonathan Shook is a graduate of Mississippi State University with a degree in Biological Engineering. His medical degree is from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, and he completed pediatric residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. From 2006 to 2022, he practiced general pediatrics in Hattiesburg, MS, at The Pediatric Clinic, a service of Hattiesburg Clinic. Through his experience as a pediatrician, as well a father of four children of his own, Dr. Shook has developed a passion for helping children with learning and attention challenges. In 2017, he joined Hattiesburg Clinic Connections. Dr. Shook has a special interest in caring for children and teens with ADHD and related conditions and is a dedicated advocate for children's health by being a part of multiple professional and

community organizations. He served as President of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2016.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Maggie Shorter, MEd, BCBA

Maggie Shorter attended William Carey University obtaining her undergraduate degree in elementary education in 2013 and her graduate degree in special education in 2014. After serving as a special education and first grade teacher, she became a BCBA in 2018 and is currently a behavior specialist in the school district setting.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Caroline Smith, MA, LPC, CSAT-S, CMAT, CIP, EMDR

Caroline Smith is the Director of Pine Grove's Addiction Services and Intensive Workshops. Smith frequently speaks at professional conferences throughout the United States and Internationally. She also had the honor of providing a plenary session during Ireland's first Neuroscience and Addiction Conference, and she authored a chapter in the published book, *Mending A Shattered Heart: A Guide for Partners of Sex Addicts*, 2nd edition. Caroline Smith holds two Master's degrees in Professional Counseling and Traumatic Abuse from Ottawa University. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Certified Sexual Addiction Therapist-Supervisor, and a Certified Interventionist Professional. She is EMDR II trained and holds clinical expertise in the areas of trauma resolution, relationship attachment patterns, and addiction interaction disorders.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Kenley Smith, MOTR/L, BCP

Kenley Smith has been a pediatric occupational therapist for 11 years. She has worked in outpatient pediatrics with Beyond Therapy for Kids for ten years and is now the clinical director at the newest Beyond Therapy location in Brandon, Ms. Kenley resides in Brandon with her husband and twin daughters.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Alicia Swann, MCD, CCC-A, F/AAA

Alicia Swann, M.C.D, CCC-A, is a board-certified audiologist and owner of Auditory Processing Center, LLC specializing in assessment and treatment of auditory processing disorder (APD). She has 29 years of experience working with individuals with APD, has co-authored research articles on APD diagnosis and treatment, and presents nationally on auditory processing and related concerns.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Michael Stempkovski, MA, LPC/MHSP, NCC

Mike Stempkovski is the Clinical Services Director for Youth Villages Clinical Training, Therapeutic Foster Care, and Crisis Services. He has worked at Youth Villages for over 20 years primarily working in the TFC program as a behavior specialist, clinical supervisor, and a clinical consultant before becoming the clinical program manager.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Zachary Taylor, PhD

Zachary Z.W. (Zach) Taylor is an assistant professor at The University of Southern Mississippi. He teaches educational research courses to graduate students studying educational administration and higher education. His research focuses on the readability of higher education materials meant for student audiences.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Danyella Terrell, LCSW

Danyella Terrell, LCSW is a native of Pearl, MS that moved to Hattiesburg in 2003 where she became a 2-time graduate from The University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work. Danyella currently works as both an entrepreneur and adjunct social work instructor. Her determination to teach with integrity and compassion is conveyed to her students. She began her social work career as a licensed social work intern at Ellisville State School. Her 1st post undergraduate job was with Forrest County DHS where she assisted in decreasing the custody count from 400 to 76 children over a five-year time span. Her social work experience includes supervision, front line and regional case management, hospice, as well as navigation with the Medicaid Bridge to Independence program, currently known as Community Transition Services and Clinical therapy. Danyella is also the owner of Beyond Brokenness Mental Wellness Solutions and is certified to provide independent mental health services.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Alicia Westbrook, PhD

Alicia directs the Mississippi Early Childhood Inclusion Center (MECIC) by ensuring the vision of the program. She serves as the Inclusion Classroom Profile Assessor and Teaching Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale for MECIC. She is an Adjunct Professor at The University of Southern Mississippi, College of Education and Human Sciences.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Ryan Wexelblatt, LCSW

Ryan Wexelblatt, LCSW, is the Director of ADHD Dude. Based in Arizona, Ryan is a licensed clinical social worker, former school social worker, ADHD-certified clinical services provider, and father to a (now adult) son with ADHD and behavior challenges. ADHD Dude provides parent training, in-person school-year programs, and a summer camp for boys. Ryan creates content for the ADHD Dude YouTube channel and regularly contributes to ADDitude Magazine. You can find ADHD Dude on your preferred social media.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.

Adrienne Whittington, MS, CCC-SLP

Adrienne Whittington is a speech-language pathologist at Hattiesburg Clinic Connections. Whittington received her Master of Science in speech-language pathology from The University of Southern Mississippi. Adrienne and her husband, Cory, live in Hattiesburg with their 3 children.

Rachel Wooten, MEd, LDT

Rachel Wooten is currently an MTSS and dyslexia specialist as well as an ELA and special education instructional coach with Kids First Education, LLC. She holds a masters in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Dyslexia Therapy and is a licensed dyslexia therapist. She has served not only as an educator at the elementary and secondary levels, but also has coordinated and implemented a successful schoolwide MTSS program for grades K-8th grade. Her son, who is on the autistic spectrum, moves her to ensure that teachers receive a toolbox complete with strategies to meet the needs of all students.

Disclosure Statement: No financial or non-financial relationships exist.