

Provider Information Form



Contact Information

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Service(s) Provided

- Medical Professional, please specify:
- Counseling/Therapy
- Educational Testing/Assessment
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Consulting/Coaching
- Tutoring
- Other, please specify:

Do you have experience working with gifted individuals? Do you typically work with children, teens, adults, and/or families?

My psychotherapy practice has specialized in working with gifted and twice exceptional children, teens, adults and families for the past 12 years. In addition to my therapy practice, I train teachers and school psychologists in local gifted educational programs on the social and emotional side of giftedness. I also run parent support groups and workshops for parents of gifted and for parents of twice-exceptional children. I regularly present at national SENG conferences on the subject of giftedness, especially in how it relates to family dynamics.

Do you have a specialty or preferred area of expertise? Do you have additional certifications or training that may be of interest to families with gifted children?

My expertise is in the social and emotional side of giftedness and also in the complexities of parenting the twice-exceptional child. I have been trained and certified by SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted) as both a SENG model parent support group facilitator, and a psychotherapist listed on their national website as being specially trained in working with gifted individuals and families.

Have you worked with twice-exceptional children/teens and their families?

Most of the gifted children and teens I work with are twice-exceptional. The ‘second half’ of the 2e might be behavioral, a learning deficit, a processing disorder or a variety of other complex challenges. My colleague Gloria Sandford and I have created our own curriculum for a 2e parent support group. We provide this 2e parenting support group in conjunction with Wally’s Play Groups – a social skills group for children which has been operating in the Seattle area for over 35 years. The children are learning social skills in one room while the parents are in our support group next door.

Briefly state how your understanding of the needs of gifted/2e individuals and families inform your approach?

Since the focus of my psychotherapy practice is almost exclusively on gifted and 2e individuals and families, my understanding of their unique social and emotional needs inform every aspect of my work. A thorough understanding of the core gifted concepts of Asynchronous Development and Dabrowski’s Theory of Overexcitabilities are where I begin the therapy process – I ask all parents to review a 70 minute video that Gloria & I have created explaining these concepts (posted on my website). We then use the lens of these two theories to better understand what “core needs” are driving the behaviors which have resulted in this individual showing up in therapy. We must understand and address the Asynchronous Development and Overexcitabilities in ways that help parents learn when to “accommodate” the special needs of their gifted or 2e child, and when to use “behavioral interventions” to encourage the child to change their behaviors.

Please list any professional organizations in which you are affiliated.

Certified and trained by SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted: sengifted.org)
Clinical Member of AAMFT (American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists)

About NWGCA

The Northwest Gifted Child Association (NWGCA) is a support and advocacy organization for parents of gifted children. Organized in 1963, NWGCA provides support and information to parents of gifted children. It continues to help parents enhance and hone their parenting skills and gives them tools to speak out for an appropriate gifted education and deal with this learning difference we call giftedness. NWGCA works with individual families, talking with them by phone and through emails, providing appropriate referrals and resources through our website. Thank you for completing this application form and for supporting the gifted and talented families of Washington State. Please email completed form to providers@nwgca.org.