



EMDR Consultant Day – March 24th, 2023

IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access) Panel Bios:

Layla Asamarai, Cheryl Kenn, Mark Nickerson, and Yunetta Smith

Layla Asamarai, PSy.D, LP

Layla Asamarai, Psy.D., LP is a licensed Clinical Psychologist based in Minnesota. She has practiced EMDR therapy since 2006. Dr. Layla has extensive experience working with trauma survivors including refugees and survivors of torture, as well as individuals with complex trauma and dissociation. In addition to her work in the Twin Cities, she has over 8 years of clinical experience in Dubai UAE where she led a psychology department for nearly 5 years and was in private practice for over 3 years. She provides direct service to clients and also enjoys teaching and providing training and consultation to mental health professionals. She is an EMDRIA Certified Therapist and Approved Consultant and is an affiliate faculty member with the Institute for Creative Mindfulness.

Kriss Jarecki, LCSWR

Kriss Jarecki is a licensed clinical social worker who lives in the Western New York region and has a virtual private practice serving teens through adults. She is an EMDRIA approved consultant, basic trainer and an advanced credit provider. Kriss is a member of the EMDRIA Board of Directors and is a member of the community of folks with a disability as she is legally blind. She presented *The Journey from Trauma to Triumph: Resiliency in the Community of People with a Disability* at the 2022 EMDR Canada and EMDRIA conferences and will be providing a longer workshop at the 2023 EMDR Canada conference.

Cheryl Kenn, LCSW

Cheryl Kenn, LCSW is interested in brain-informed and culturally-based therapy approaches to trauma, such as EMDR Therapy. She is the director of Inspired EMDR, providing Basic Training and advance training in EMDR. She has been a trainer for Trauma Recovery HAP since 2017, and was on the faculty of the EMDR Institute for several years. She currently serves on the EMDRIA Training Council. She is active EMDR Consultant and is an advocate for EMDR in Connecticut. She is the author of "Considerations when working with Asian Americans in EMDR Therapy" in Mark Nickerson's book: *Cultural Competence and Healing Culturally-Based Trauma with EMDR Therapy: Innovative Strategies and Protocols, 2nd Edition, 2022*. She is also trained in Clinical Hypnosis and Deep Brain Reorienting.

Mark Nickerson, LICSW

Mark Nickerson, LICSW is an EMDR trainer for the EMDR Institute Faculty and past EMDRIA Board President. He is editor/author of *Cultural Competence and Healing Culturally Based Trauma with EMDR Therapy: Insights, Strategies and Protocols* (2nd ed., Springer, 2023) and *The Wounds Within* (Skyhorse, 2015). He is the Director of EMDR Advanced Training and Distance



Learning, LLC: EMDRadvancedtrainings.com. Mark has developed award winning innovative programs designed to reduce and resolve interpersonal conflict and he conducts a range of advanced EMDR trainings nationally and internationally on topics including cultural competence and addressing culturally based trauma and adversity in EMDR therapy.

Yunetta Smith, LPC-MHSP, NCC

Yunetta Smith is a thriving Therapreneur (Therapist + Entrepreneur) CEO and founder of Spring Forth Counseling, Ground Breakers Coaching and Consulting, and the Ground Breakers BIPOC EMDR Directory. Yunetta is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor as well as a Nationally Certified Counselor, Clinical Trauma Professional, Certified EMDR Therapist, Approved Consultant and Trainer.

She works diligently to spread awareness and break barriers through various media platforms including the weekly “Talk it out Tuesday” segment on the Rickey Smiley Morning Show, and self-publishing her self-care workbook, “Take the Struggle out of Self Care”. Yunetta is a groundbreaker, a stigma breaker, and a cycle breaker who cultivates spaces for healing, wholeness, compassion, and change. It is her hope that you will EMBRACE taking off your mask, EMBODY standing in your truth, and EXPERIENCE loving what you see.

Guiding Consultees through Case Conceptualization and Clinical Decision Making

Ana Gomez, MC, LPC

Ana M Gómez, MC, LPC is the founder and director of the AGATE Institute in Phoenix, Arizona. She is a psychotherapist, author, and an international speaker on the use of EMDR therapy with children and adolescents with complex and developmental trauma as well as generational wounds and dissociation. Ana is the author of EMDR Therapy and Adjunct Approaches with Children: Complex Trauma, Attachment and Dissociation and several book chapters and articles on the use of EMDR therapy with children and adolescents. In addition, she is the author of multiple children’s books. Ana has developed numerous intensive training programs and protocols. She is a fellow of the International Society of Trauma and Dissociation, ISTD.

Dilemmas and Challenging Situations for Consultants - Panel Bios:

Karen Alter-Reid, Bill Brislin, Mary French, Marlene Kenney, and Sharon Rollins

Karen Alter-Reid, Ph.D.

Karen Alter-Reid, Ph.D. is a clinical psychologist with specialties in trans-generational trauma and first responder treatment. Karen is a Regional EMDR Institute Trainer, an EMDRIA-Approved Consultant, Specialty Presenter and Senior EMDR Consultant for the Integrative Trauma Program at the National Institute for the Psychotherapies in NYC. She presented at the EMDRIA conference on Healing Trans-generational Trauma, her “co-developed Therapy for Therapists” program, and her clinical work following the Sandy Hook shooting. She co-authored a chapter on The Trans-Generational Impact of Anti-Semitism in Nickerson’s *Cultural Competence and Healing Culturally Based Trauma with EMDR Therapy*. Karen received



EMDRIA's 2014 Outstanding Contribution & Service Award and the 2016 Outstanding Regional Coordinator Award. She is in practice in Stamford, CT.

Bill Brislin, LMHC

Originally from Pennsylvania, Bill has been a therapist in Orlando, Florida for over thirty years. He is an EMDRIA Approved Consultant, an EMDR Basic Trainer, an approved EMDR R-TEP/G-TEP trainer – having provided the Orlando training in response to the Pulse nightclub shooting. Since the onset of war in Ukraine, Bill has been active in supporting Ukrainian therapists delivering G-REP, G-TEP, as well as providing training and consultation. He recently spoke on *Harmonizing EMDR Therapy and Clinical Hypnosis* at the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis annual conference.

Mary French, BSN, MSW, LCSW-C

Mary French, BSN, MSW, LCSW-C is an EMDRIA Consultant, Trainer and Therapist. Mary is both a nurse and licensed clinical social worker with more than 30 years' experience, operating a private practice in Baltimore County, MD working with adults and adolescents. Mary integrates traditional and holistic approaches to treat the whole individual—mind, body and spirit. Mary has trained extensively with Deany Lalot for over 15 years and specializes in Relational EMDR TherapySM. Mary has trained and assisted in Sensorimotor Psychotherapy level 1 and 2. She is also a Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) instructor having trained under the direction of Jon Kabat-Zinn at the University of Massachusetts. Mary is the past president of Pain Connection, Inc., a nonprofit group helping those coping with chronic pain, where she co-developed *Filling in the Gaps in Pain Care*, mind-body program, and co-authored *Making the Invisible Visible*, a training manual for health care providers.

Marlene Kenney, MA, LICSW

Marlene Kenney, MA, LICSW holds a Master's Degree in Anthropology from Northeastern University where she wrote her master's thesis and did Doctoral work on the Blackfeet's experience in reservation based, Catholic boarding schools and the legacy of gendered and intergenerational violence. She is a first descendant Blackfeet and thesis ethnographic research led her to pursue clinical social work where her career has been focused on understanding and healing trauma. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker she responds to critical incidents, and larger scale disasters as part of various groups and teams using Psychological First Aid, Post Traumatic Stress Management, Skills for Psychological Recovery and EMDR Early Intervention. Most recently, Marlene has partnered with Ukrainian providers to train them in Psychological First Aid and EMDR based approaches to support frontline providers. She has worked with the MA Department of Public Health, Boston Resilience Center, Federal Emergency Management (FEMA/Mass Support) and local Massachusetts Critical Incident teams as well as the EMDR Humanitarian Assistance Program. Her expertise in EMDR and trauma focused and informed care is extended in private practice, caring for workers and clinicians exposed to high doses of work-related stress, and training on a wide variety of topics. Marlene enjoys collaborating with



clinicians in training as a Psychological First Aid, PTSM, Skills for Psychological Recovery and EMDR basic training facilitator. She is currently working with the EMDR International Association's Council of Scholars to develop clinical guidelines for the practice of EMDR.

Sharon Rollins, MS, LPC-S, NCC

Sharon Rollins directs Waco Family Medicine Counseling where she provides EMDR therapy to underserved populations. She completed Dr. Shapiro's 2000 EMDR basic training, Certification (2002), and Approved Consultant (2004). She trains with Rick Levinson and teaches EMDR therapy at Baylor University. She served EMDRIA as Heart of Texas Regional Coordinator and Standards & Training Committee volunteer. She served two EMDRIA Board terms (2007-2010, President 2009, 2018-2020). As Co-chair (2019)/Chair (2020) of the Virtual Training and Therapy Task Force, she helped develop Virtual EMDR Therapy Guidelines just prior to the onset of the Pandemic. And, she was instrumental in developing the Virtual Training Standards which allowed EMDR training to continue amidst the Pandemic. She was awarded Outstanding Contribution and Service to EMDRIA in 2015.

Assessing Fidelity during EMDR Consultation

Andrew Leeds, Ph.D.

Andrew M. Leeds, Ph.D. is Director of Training for Sonoma Psychotherapy Training Institute, offering basic and advanced EMDR training internationally. He is author of *A Guide to the Standard EMDR Therapy Protocols*, journal articles and book chapters. He completed EMDR training in 1991 and served on the EMDRIA Board 2003-2005. He is an inaugural member of the Journal of EMDR Editorial Board. He was awarded the 1999 Ronald Martinez Memorial Award from Francine Shapiro, the 1999 EMDRIA award for creative innovation and the 2013 EMDRIA Francine Shapiro Award. He maintains a private practice in Santa Rosa, California.

Jennifer Madere, MA, LPC-Supervisor

Jennifer Madere, MA, LPC-Supervisor practices Cedar Park, Texas, and is the co-founder of Intuitus Group. She has provided EMDR consultation since 2011 and became an EMDRIA approved trainer in 2019. Jennifer also helped develop and now co-teaches the EMDR therapy training offered by the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation (ISSTD). She collaborates with D. Michael Coy and Paul Dell to maintain and teach practitioners how to use the Multidimensional Inventory of Dissociation (MID). Jennifer has authored numerous presentations and publications related to assessment and treatment of complex trauma and dissociative disorders, and consultation and accreditation in EMDR therapy.