## Diana Polak, MSW, RSW. Acc.FM (associate) 202-10149 Yonge St. Richmond Hill, ON L4C 1T5

dianapolak@outlook.com

phone: 289.475.2143 (c) 647-889-4708

## EDUCATION

#### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

• Wurzweiler, School of Social work, Yeshiva University, New York, United States.

## **BACHELOR DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY**

• University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 1989

## TITLE OF PSYCHOLOGIST

• University of the Republic of Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay, 1981

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers
- Ontario Association of Social Workers
- Ontario Association for Family Mediators (associate level)
- Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

## **CHILD WELFARE 2003 TO AUGUST 2016**

## **Investigation and Assessment / Ongoing Services**

- Conducted clinical investigations and assessed allegations of children in need of protection
- Provided protective services to children and families, including apprehending children and bringing the matter before the Ontario Court of Justice.
- Collaborated with families and community agencies to identify appropriate services and interventions in addressing the needs of the child and family.
- Collection, synthesis and analysis of the information received by the interviews with parents, children, school principals, teachers, day care supervisors, police services, physicians and other relevant collaterals.
- Made decisions guided by clinical tools, clinical skills and ongoing supervision.
- Case documentation reflecting the gathered information.

PRIVATE PRACTICE 2009 - PRESENT

- Counseling for couples, and individuals
- Reunification therapy
- Parenting Coordination
- Family Mediation
- Parent education relating the impact of separation and domestic violence on children
- Employee assistance program referrals: mental health, couples, individuals, separation and family issues, victims of abuse.
- Custody and access assessments
- Voice of the Child

#### WOOD GREEN AND RED DOOR SHELTER

1999 - 2003

## **Abused Women Counselor**

- Intakes, screening, advocacy, referrals, escorts, and situational assessments.
- Crisis Intervention and supportive counseling to victims of domestic violence
- Case Management
- Education and coaching relating the impact of separation and domestic violence on children

## PAIN MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

1995 - 1999

## **Therapist**

- Private Therapist/ Psychologist for referring consultants to the Canadian insurance industry.
- Assessment of the impact of motor vehicle injury on victim
- Reporting to the insurer
- Appraisal of distress associated with injury
- Assessment of the impact of symptoms on patient's life

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (URUGUAY)

1982 - 1988

## **Educational Psychologist**

- Assessment of intellectually handicapped school age children
- Testing for visual, perceptual and motor coordination deficits
- Assessing Psychiatric and emotional disorders
- Testing and assessing intellectual abilities
- Referring and recommending students for remedial classes
- Write reports for the ministry of education and school board

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION QUALIFICATIONS

- Child Protection Mediation, February 2017
- Family Arbitration Law, Riverdale Mediation, January 2017
- Basic Family Mediation, Mediation Centre October 2016
- Family Law Training, Mediation Centre, September 2016
- Domestic Abuse Training, for Family Mediators and Arbitrators, November 2016
- Advanced Family Mediation, November 2016
- Relational Life Therapy: Couples Experiential Workshop Observation, May 2& 3, 2015
- Relational Life Therapy: Couples Experiential Workshop Observation, February 23 & 24, 2013
- Counseling Transgender Clients, May 2013
- Pediatric Death Review, November 2012
- Supervision, Dynamics and Essential Skills, November 2012
- Substance Abuse in Adolescents, September 21, 2012
- Foundations for Conducting Custody Evaluations, July 2012
- Relational Life Therapy Approach to Couples and Couples Therapy Level 1 November 2011
- Facilitating Groups, July 2011
- Engaging and Working with Hard to Reach Client in the Child Welfare Contact, March 2011
- Family Centered Conferencing, June 2009
- Assessing Parenting Capacity, April 2009
- Street Gangs & Front-Line Worker Safety, October 2008
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, October 2006
- Child Abuse Protocol, October 2006
- Community Safety, April 2006
- Importance of Past History, March 2006
- Protection Investigation Within the Context of a Custody and Access, May 2005
- Violence against Women, April 2005
- Forensic Interviewing, April 2005
- Working with Adolescents, March 2005
- Advanced Child Protection Assessment/Critical Decision Making, March 2005
- Youth Suicide, Identification & Risk, October 2004
- Infants at Risk, March 2004
- Child Abuse Investigations, February 2004
- Drug Identification, November 2003
- Pedophiles, Pornography and the internet, October 2003
- Interviewing Children, May 2003
- Attachment Separation and Placement, May 2003
- Children in Care, May 2003

# • MISCELLANEOUS

- Bilingual in English and Spanish.
- Volunteer: Group Facilitator/ Counselor. West Detention Center (Toronto) Crisis and supportive counseling to female inmates in protective custody