

Interstate FACTS, LLC





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Interstate FACTS, LLC, is dedicated to providing Forensic Assessment, Consultation, Training & Supervision to professionals and consumers of the addictions, mental health and legal systems services. We are committed to the enrichment and continued development of interdisciplinary integrated treatment services and professional growth opportunities.

Description of Services

Interstate FACTS, LLC offers specialized clinical expert services for practitioners in the addictions, mental health and criminal justice fields throughout Northern New Jersey and the New York Metropolitan Area. Interstate FACTS provides *Forensic Assessment, Consultation, Training & Supervision.*

FORENSIC ASSESSMENT: Finding an expert to perform clinical evaluations for the court can be difficult. Many clinicians are reluctant to perform evaluations that attorneys need to serve the best interest of their client. In addition, many clinicians may not be familiar or comfortable with court testimony and procedure. Interstate FACTS is providing a new approach to forensic evaluations for the Court. Our specialists are skilled in addiction and mental health, as well as parenting, child custody and divorce mediation. Interstate FACTS' foremost consideration in all evaluations is to appraise the individual and family factors that have a bearing on the best psycho-social interests of the client, and any children who may be impacted. The clinical team has extensive knowledge of the court system and superior experience in court procedures.

CONSULTATION/COUNSELING: Interstate FACTS operates from a recovery perspective and a multi-problem viewpoint. Our clinical team will develop recommendations consistent with a phased approach to treatment, and suggest an integrated plan for the client's overall functional improvement utilizing family and community support systems to maintain and extend treatment effectiveness. Our specialists may review potentially relevant reports (e.g., from employers, probation, schools, health care providers, child care providers, and other agencies and institutions), and may also interview extended family, friends, and other individuals in order to provide assistance in treatment, discharge and aftercare planning.

TRAINING: There is continued evidence demonstrating a growing need for cross-trained staff in the fields of Mental Health, Addiction, Co-occurring Disorders, Child Welfare and the Criminal Justice systems. Interstate FACTS, LLC was created to meet those needs. All training courses are performed by highly trained clinicians with over 30 years of combined experience across the above practice areas. Please review our biographical sketches and course descriptions or call for more detailed information.

SUPERVISION: Professional growth through quality Clinical Supervision is a necessity for all clinicians. Our staff provides individual and group clinical supervision to licensed addictions counselors and social workers. Clinicians employed in private practice, schools, courts and other service and treatment organizations need access to comprehensive clinical supervision, support and guidance regarding integrated services for their clients. Call about specialty area groups forming in Northern NJ.

Interstate FACTS, LLC services are provided by:

Kathryn Dixon, MSW, LCSW, LMSW, DABFC ~ Executive Director

And

Samantha Guber, MA, LCADC, ICADC, CJC, CSW- Chief Clinical Consultant



Interstate FACTS, LLC

FORENSIC ASSESSMENT, CONSULTATION, TRAINING & SUPERVISION



KATHRYN DIXON, MSW, LCSW, LMSW, DABFC formerly held the position of New Jersey Statewide Drug Court Coordinator, and served as T.A.S.C. Coordinator (Treatment Assessment Services for the Court) for the Bergen County Family Court. Her additional prior experience in direct social work practice includes NYC child welfare family reunification, high school student assistance counselor (SAC), relief staff for a domestic violence shelter, and primary therapist at both an adolescent outpatient substance abuse program, and an adult & adolescent intensive outpatient substance abuse program. Kathryn received a Bachelor of Social Work, at the Univ. of New Hampshire (1988) and a Master of Social Work, from Fordham Univ. (1991). Ms. Dixon is a New York Licensed Master Social Worker (1991) and New Jersey Licensed Clinical Social Worker (1994). Kathryn teaches as an adjunct professor of Sociology at Bergen Community College. She has completed post–Master's training in social work graduate student supervision, Seminar in Field Instruction at NYU Graduate School of Social Work (1996), and in educating parents on child development during divorce/ separation, Certificate Program in Parent Education (2001) and Divorce Mediation (2007) at Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work. Kathryn is recognized as a Diplomat of the American Board of Forensic Counselors (DABFC), by the American College of Forensic Examiners International (1999). She has been included in the Marquis Who's Who of American Women (2000) and Medicine and Healthcare (2002). Ms. Dixon currently serves on the Continuing Education and Membership Committees for the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

SAMANTHA S. GUBER, MA, LCADC, ICADC, CJC, CSW was formerly the T.A.S.C. Evaluator (Treatment Assessment Services for the Court) for the Sussex County Superior Court and Drug Court, she has additional experience as a New Jersey State Certified Screener, mental health professional, program coordinator and primary therapist for adults and adolescents. Samantha received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 1992 and a Master of Arts in Educational Psychology in 1996. Samantha teaches as an adjunct professor of Psychology at Sussex County Community College and as an adjunct professor of Criminal Justice at University of Phoenix Online. Samantha is Licensed as a Clinical Drug and Alcohol Counselor in New Jersey, and is a Certified Criminal Justice Counselor and Certified Social Worker. She is also a member of the American College of Forensic Examiners International.

Forensic Assessment

Interstate FACTS, LLC provides expert **FORENSIC ASSESSMENT** services, which include interviews & court reports, and testimony when indicated, in the following areas:

- Addiction
- Mental Health
- ► Co-Occurring Disorders
- ▶ Administering various screening tools for substance abuse
 - ► Pre-/Post- Parenting-Time Drug Testing
 - ▶ Divorce Mediation
 - ▶ Parenting / Custody Plan Mediation
- Evaluations, reports and testimony to provide recommendations about issues, such as diagnosis, mental health status, addiction and recovery treatment and after-care planning.
- Expert services are available for Judges, Prosecution, Plaintiff and Defense initiated evaluations in New Jersey and New York Criminal and Family Court matters.
- Consultation services for clients regarding defense or plaintiff issues, in such areas as level of care and treatment placement, discharge planning, mental health, community resources, academic, behavioral and vocational needs.
- We will also provide community resource contacts and basic literature references relevant to particular case issues, diagnoses and recommendations regarding treatment needs.
- Public Speaking Topics include: All areas relating to Drug Abuse/Addiction, Treatment and Recovery, Child Welfare, Co-Occurring Disorders, Basics of Therapeutic Drug Testing, and more

Counseling & Psychotherapy

Interstate FACTS clinicians approach **COUNSELING** based on the belief that our thoughts are directly connected to how we feel. We will work with clients to solve present day problems by helping them to identify distorted thinking that causes emotional discomfort. Since much human learning comes from experience, the initial concern in therapy is to help the client analyze behavior, define problems, and select goals. Sessions may include homework, behavioral experiments, role-playing, assertiveness training, and self management training.

Interstate FACTS can provide comprehensive and focused assessments to assist families, adults and adolescents with addiction and/or mental health conditions. Our clinicians strive to increase our clients involvement in their treatment planning and the integration of services.

Areas of specialty include:

- Addiction Recovery
- Co-occurring disorders
- Mental Health Wellness
- Relapse prevention and symptom management
 - Criminal justice and child welfare issues
 - ◆ LGBT issues

Services include:

- Assessment and diagnosis
- Individual Adult and Adolescent Therapy
- Pre- and Post- Parenting Time Drug Testing/Screening
 - Parent-Child Therapy
 - ♦ Bio-Psycho-Social Education

Clinical Consultation & Supervision

Effective clinical **CONSULTATION** and **SUPERVISION** include ongoing risk-reduction and depends upon open communication and clearly articulated policies. Careful, knowledgeable oversight is needed to ensure appropriate standards of care are met. Since one staff's omissions or commissions can impact the entire team—and the entire organization— understanding and adhering to common-sense risk reduction practices is essential. With Interstate FACTS you can ensure you have supervisors with appropriate qualifications and experience. Our team practices with an eye toward our respective license regulations and professional Codes of Ethics. Interstate FACTS provides a unique approach to consultation and clinical supervision.

Cross-training is the simultaneous provision of material and learning more than one discipline at a time (e.g., substance abuse and social work counselors; substance abuse counselors and corrections officers). Counselors who have primary expertise in either substance abuse or mental health will be able to work far more effectively with clients who have Co-Occurring Disorders if they have some degree of cross-training in the other fields. It has been recommended that counselors of either field receive at least basic level cross-training in the other fields to better assess, refer, understand, and work effectively with the large number of clients with Co-Occurring Disorders involved in multiple systems. Cross-trained individuals who know their primary field well and have an appreciation for other fields, provide a richness of capacity that cannot be attained using any combination of personnel familiar with one system alone. When clinical supervision and case consultation are offered in this manner, interaction and communication between the counselors from each discipline is facilitated. This helps to remove barriers, increase understanding, and promote integrated work, ultimately benefiting the client.

Cross-training in supervision is particularly valuable for multi-disciplinary staff members who will work together in the same program. Research has found cross-training very valuable across multiple settings, especially mental health, substance abuse, and criminal justice. Interstate FACTS foremost consideration in providing consultation and supervision is to take into account the needs of the agency, the staff and their clients. In addition, customizing sessions to suit an agency's needs is of the highest priority. Our team will focus on your staff and will take into account many factors:

- ◆ Agency goals and objectives
- ♦ Staff goals and objectives
- ◆ Graduate / Undergraduate requirements
- ◆ Audience education and experience
- ◆ Knowledge and skill level of participants

In addition, the team utilizes evidence based practices that are based on professional standards and age-appropriate learning theories. Our staff are qualified to provide an enhanced clinical supervision session by focusing on improving understanding and skills when working with clients with cooccurring disorders. Interstate FACTS has additional expertise with the legal system client to enhance the case consultation and/ or clinical supervision.

Training & Professional Development

All **TRAINING** and continuing education courses provided by Interstate FACTS, LLC, will include a variety of the following objectives and criteria. Each course will have materials and content applied according to licensure and certification regulations, as well as specific agency audience needs and requests:

- ▶ Learn how to create a therapeutic alliance with the client by incorporating listening, processing, and feedback; role playing strategies will be used to demonstrate attending, reflecting and other critical skills, including appropriate use of disclosure.
- ▶ Understand the various stages of addiction and recovery, as well as the models of addiction; clinicians will develop their knowledge of the DSM criteria for SUD s.
- ▶ Learn to gather and evaluate information utilizing client consented interviews, and collateral information in order to assess their treatment needs; methods and tools for developing a diagnostic assessment will be utilized.
- ▶ Learn how to present the main psychological features often associated with Substance Use Disorders, including information about mental health/illness and wellness models.
- ▶ Define counseling per IC & RC definition, and define various helping professions involved in the treatment of persons with COD; relevance of therapeutic approaches including Reality Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Client-Centered Therapy.
- ▶ Understand various characteristics of the major cultural groups represented in the addicted client population, including populations such as sexual orientation, disabilities, youth and gangs.
- ▶ Understand, explain, and identify the purpose of various counseling skills essential to interviewing; application of the six stages of counseling by stage will be presented.
- ▶ Understand the guidelines for the process of ethical decision making, and acquire an understanding of ethics as related to major issues in addiction-recovery counseling and integrated COD services, as well as collaboration with the legal system.
- ▶ Define evidenced based modalities of alcohol and drug treatment, and treatment goals of recovery / relapse prevention counseling; treatment issues in early, middle and late stages of recovery will be explored.
- ▶ Understand Federal and State regulations related to alcohol and drug counseling. Federal confidentiality, HIPAA and scope of professional practice will be discussed.

Interstate FACTS Instructors are members of the ACFEI Commission on Forensic Education. The Commission promotes the growth and emphasizes the importance of forensic science programs in education. The Commission, which has no fees or dues to join, offers guidance on instruction, provides help to those who teach or study forensic science, and reviews professional certification programs. The Commission is an effective and essential network that helps educators and students stay informed of the latest innovations, breakthroughs, and important research in the field.