

Keynote:

Trauma-Sensitive Schools: Teaming Up to Move Along

The keynote will build the capacity of conference attendees to engage in trauma-sensitive educational practices. It will discuss how teachers and administrators can help students move beyond the paralyzing effects of early adversity. Strategies to create a climate of acceptance and safety will be explored. The goal is to help listeners understand how the consistent use of brain-based instructional techniques offers traumatized children and youth new opportunities to achieve academic and social mastery. The important role schools play in helping students imagine a meaningful and productive future for themselves will be underscored.

Susan E. Craig, Ph.D. is a lifelong student of early trauma and its effects on children's learning. Her teaching experience, as well as years of on-site training to school districts throughout the country, provides the context for her advocacy for trauma-sensitive schools. In 2013, Dr. Craig was among those selected for the Safe Start National Resource Center series profiling women who have made an impact on the issue of children's exposure to violence. She is the author of *Reaching and Teaching Children Who Hurt: Strategies for Your Classroom* (2008), and *Trauma-Sensitive Schools: Learning Communities Transforming Children's Lives, K-5* (2015).