



Center for Early Education and Development

## Online Course: **Bridging Education and Mental Health**

### **Earn a Continuing Education Certificate (24 clock hours [CEUs])**

Note: If you are from a state other than MN, you may want to check with your licensing board to verify that the same measurement standard will be applied in your state for this credit

**Course Description:** The goal of this course is to find common ground between behavioral and therapeutic approaches to supporting children who engage in challenging behavior. The course material expands on both the functional behavioral assessment and relationship-based teaching to explore what causes and sustains maladaptive behavioral patterns in children's actions and interactions and how early childhood professionals can support the healthy social and emotional development of children. A continuum of intervention strategies are offered to address the needs of children with varying needs: typically developing children, children with disabilities, and children with and without disabilities who have experienced trauma, neglect, and other environmental and relationships issues.



### **Course Instructor:**

Leah Hjelseth teaches has taught *Bridging Education and Mental Health* since January of 2005. Leah received her M.A. in Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota in 2002. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Psychology with a thesis examining the effects of intensive coaching on teacher behavior aimed at decreasing challenging behavior in children and facilitating social-emotional development.

### **Modules for this course will include content on:**

- Developing positive relationships with families and professionals
- Developing positive relationships with children
- Environment and experiences that enhance children's development
- Identifying the cause of a child's behavior
- Intervention planning

**Course Requirements:** Completion of required readings, chat and/or discussion board participation, completion of assignments..

**Computer Requirements:** Computer with internet access (preferably other than modem connection).

**Course Format:** Courses will be taught on-line.

**Cost:** \$225 course fee plus required course textbook: Koplow, L. (Ed)(1996). *Unsmiling faces: How preschools can heal*. New York: Teachers College Press.

**To Register:** Complete and mail the registration form and payment. The registration form is available at <http://cehd.umn.edu/ceed/profdev/onlinecourses/beam.htm>.

**Questions?** Contact Karen Anderson at 612-625-6617 or [ander352@umn.edu](mailto:ander352@umn.edu).