

## ATTACHMENT Coalition of Michigan

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Healing Trauma and Strengthening Adoptive Relationships

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Julie is a clinical social worker who has a private practice in Livonia, Michigan specializing in therapy that is uniquely sensitive to the issues of trauma, attachment, and adoption. Julie has been treating children, adolescents, adoptive families, and adult adoptees for twenty years. She has trained with Dr. Daniel Hughes and utilizes *Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP)* as her primary treatment philosophy. DDP is a comprehensive family based approach that honors the dyadic relationship between the parent-child as the primary agent of change. Through playfulness, love, acceptance, curiosity, and empathy, parents help their children explore the hurt and trauma of the past in therapy. Using the *Beyond Consequences* paradigm, Julie teaches therapeutic parenting to support parents in strengthening attachment to their wounded children.

Julie founded The Attachment COALITION of Michigan, a group of clinical social workers, counselors, and psychologists with specialized training and experience in trauma, attachment, and adoption. The COALITION is committed to strengthening professional development of its members, to providing a comprehensive team approach to serving families, and to offering local and national trainings on issues of trauma and attachment. Julie and the COALITION are registered members of the national organization, ATTACH.

Julie's passion for her work in adoption and attachment comes from her own experience of being adopted. As an adoptee herself, Julie enters the therapeutic relationship with wisdom, insight, and empathy in assessing and treating core issues of adoption the effect children, adolescents, families, and adult adoptees on varying levels.

On a personal note, Julie and her husband have been married twenty five years. They have three college and high school age sons that enrich their lives and have taught them more about life and parenting than the college classroom ever could.