

FAMILY INTERVENTION SERVICES

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

WHAT & WHO ARE WE?

Cara M. Thompson
(803) 462-7073

Dr. Justin C. Muller
(803) 462-7070

Karla Castro Briseño
(803) 462-7085

Regena "Gena"
Lindsey
(803) 462-7071

Jennifer Wilson
(803) 462-7075

Robin Morgan
(803) 462-7072

FAX (803) 699-2581

MAILING ADDRESS
6831 Brookfield Rd.
Columbia, SC
29206

RICHLAND TWO is committed to the goal of helping students reach their maximum potential in the classroom while promoting optimal mental health and family functioning.

The Family Intervention Program, serving this school district since 2005, is staffed by licensed clinicians trained in family systems counseling. Their services are provided to students and families grades K-12 who have experienced discipline or other social/ emotional or educational challenges. School related problems are often exacerbated by family stressors that include death, separation/divorce, substance abuse, abandonment, homelessness, violence, depression, anxiety, or other mental health issues.

Parents and students consistently report satisfaction with the services they have been provided and feel that they are functioning more effectively in school and at home. Some of the goals of counseling are improved family communication, stress management, parenting skills, empowerment, self-esteem, and interpersonal relationships.

We have collected data over the past 10 years that supports the positive outcomes that the program has consistently achieved. Overall, an average of 96% of students who have received our services have remained in school.

Family Intervention Services Team

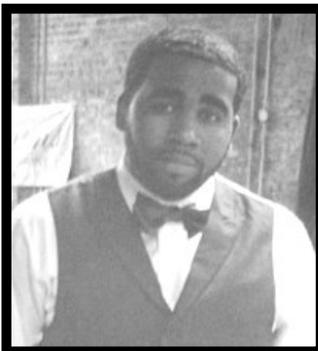


Cara M. Thompson, M.A., LMFT, LMFT/S Candidate is the Coordinator of Family Intervention Services. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from St. Andrews University and a Master's degree in Clinical Counseling from Columbia International University (CIU). Cara's background is in community mental health working with children, adolescents, and their families on a variety of issues including school performance, severe behavior problems, severe and persistent mental health diagnoses, substance abuse, and healing from a history of abuse and trauma. Cara serves as Adjunct Faculty in the Graduate Counseling Program at CIU. Cara is an Authorized Facilitator for Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training and is an outspoken advocate for preventing child sexual abuse. Cara began working at Family Intervention Services in July 2016 and if you ask her about it, she will likely smile ear to ear and tell you about how much respect she has for the families that walk through our doors and how much talent and inspiration the FIS staff brings to our district.



Regena "Gena" Lindsey, MA, LPC-I, was an intern and extern in our program while a student at Columbia International University. She joined FIS as a staff therapist in July of 2016. Gena earned her undergraduate degree in psychology from Tennessee Temple University. She completed her masters from CIU in 2014 and also her post graduate certificate in marriage and family therapy in 2015. Gena's experience includes working with adolescents in school-based mental health counseling and is trained in issues related to divorce, blended family issues, trauma related issues, depression, and anxiety. She believes that her own life experiences and love of families is a driving force in her therapy. Her current interests include research on the effects of trauma on children and the use of art in treatment.

Karla Castro Briseño, LMFT, LMFT/S Candidate, was an intern in our program while a student in the EdS MFT program at USC, joined us as a staff member in September of 2012. Karla earned her undergraduate degree from UTEP in Psychology & Spanish and prior to coming to SC in 2006, worked extensively in Mexico with women & children's programs dealing with domestic violence, child abuse & families of female victims of sexual homicide. She is working primarily with the many Latino families in our district and uses her language, her culture and her understanding of life as an immigrant to join with our students and families. She also facilitates a women's group for parents in our district who have experienced domestic violence. She believes that we must embrace the experiences of the parents and to facilitate their healing in order to help the children.



Dr. Justin C. Muller, LMFT-I, joined FIS in August 2015 and serves as the coordinator of the Building Bridges to Success Program. Justin graduated from the University of South Carolina with his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the Darla Moore School of Business in 2011. He received his Masters of Science degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Valdosta State University in 2013. He received his PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of South Carolina in 2016. While working on his master's degree, he interned at the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, where he had the opportunity to counsel a number of at risk teens. He has been a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapy Intern since January 2015. Justin has worked in a variety of settings including a teen probation office, a college counseling center, and a family therapy clinic. Justin is the coordinator of the Building Bridges to Success program.

Jennifer Wilson, LPC, LPCS, LMFT-I, joined FIS in February 2013. She is a 2001 graduate from the EdS Marriage & Family Therapy Program at The University of South Carolina. Before coming to Family Intervention Services she worked 13 years for the Department of Mental Health with children ages 3-18 and their families. She has done In-Home Therapy; Substance Abuse Treatment with Adolescents diagnosed with Anxiety and/or Depression, and obtained statewide certification to provide Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Her current interests include mindfulness, self-care, supervision theory and application, and the use of expressive techniques in treatment with families & individuals



Robin Morgan, FIS secretary, comes to the program with experience working in admissions at a major university, and in testing and guidance at the high school level. She also has 20 plus years of customer service experience in the airline industry. Robin helps keep everyone here organized and welcomes our families with kindness and enthusiasm, helping to put families at ease.