Creating a Brain-Friendly School with Karen Williams, MSSW

Register Today!

Thursday, October 22
4:00 – 7:00pm
7th Floor Glickman Library
USM Portland Campus
Registration: $40

Understanding brain development and what makes the young brain and the rest of the body thrive.

The rapid increase in the numbers of highly distressed children coming to school is a challenge for our school based educators and support staff. Many professionals feel overwhelmed by the impact this has on our schools, classrooms and students.

Hosted by the USM School of Education and Human Development Advisory Council, the three hour program features an informative look at the impact of unaddressed distress, anxiety, and trauma on a student’s developing brain and the affect this has on their ability to learn. Karen will examine how to build/repair young brains to support brain development. Using the Center for Disease Control Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study she will help us examine how to build environments and systems to help our students grow and stay resilient, confident and happy, and avoid the pitfalls that can limit their future. Time is also built in for reflection on how working with an increasing population of distressed students affects teachers, and support staff; and what we can do to lessen those effects to strengthen/restore our confidence and hopefulness.

About Karen Williams, MSSW

Karen Williams, MSSW, is a writer and speaker known for her ability to explain the latest neuroscience and apply it to real life. Her focus is on three areas: brain development and behavior; the impact of substances, stress, and trauma on development and behavior; and the developmental readiness of youth to protect themselves. Her presentation and workshops are based on the research of many leaders in the field of brain and youth studies. She is the developer of the brain-based SAMHAS Model of Program curriculum Protecting You/Protecting Me.

Space is Limited! To Register: usm.maine.edu/sehd/

Net proceeds benefit the endowed USM School of Education and Human Development Community Scholarship Fund for student scholarships.