

ATTACHMENT Coalition of Michigan

54441 Eight Mile, Suite 104

Livonia, MI 48152

www.attachmentcoalition.org



Healing Trauma and Strengthening Adoptive Relationships

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Julie Kimball-Kubiak, M.A., S.W.

kjkubiak44@yahoo.com

248-345-2410

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 adoption and attachment. Julie has been treating children, adolescents, adoptive families, and adult adoptees for nearly twenty years. She has trained with Dr. Daniel Hughes and utilizes *Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy* (DDP) as her primary treatment philosophy. DDP is a comprehensive treatment approach that honors the dyadic relationship between the parent-child as the primary agent of healing and change. Through playfulness, love, acceptance, curiosity, and empathy (PLACE), parents help their children explore the hurt and trauma of the past in therapy, facilitating healing. Using the PLACE philosophy, Julie teaches therapeutic parenting to support parents in strengthening attachment with their wounded children.

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

Julie founded the *ATTACHMENT Coalition*, a group of clinical social workers, psychologists, and occupational therapists with specialized training and experience in 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 training on issues of attachment. Julie and the *ATTACHMENT Coalition* are registered clinical members of the national organization, ATTACH.