



# • Transforming Trauma • Helping Schools Become Healing Communities

**Presenter: David Melnick, LICSW**

*Target Audience: These workshops are appropriate for PK-12 educators.*

School professionals are increasingly being asked to work with highly complex students who have been exposed to chronic trauma. In these situations, conventional approaches to academics, behavior, and relationship-building can feel frustrating and sometimes counterproductive. This workshop will focus on the impact that chronic trauma has on the developing child, including an in-depth exploration of the neurobiology of stress. Contemporary research, as well as educational and clinical practice, have helped to clarify the expansive effects of chronic trauma. These effects are often referred to as the “Seven Domains of Impairment” (National Child Traumatic Stress Network). We will study these Seven Domains with an eye towards their application in the school system and focus on ways to transform knowledge into action. The interventions and strategies will be compatible with, and build upon, many current initiatives designed to support a positive school culture and climate for all students.

Workshop participants will:

- Increase their knowledge of the impacts of traumatic stress on a child.
- Learn and apply the “Seven Domains of Impairment” to their work setting.
- Increase their understanding of the neurobiology of stress, use dependence, and vicarious trauma.
- Increase their understanding of the unique and innovative strategies necessary to address traumatic stress.
- Study and implement various models of buffering the effects of ongoing stress to help improve a student’s resilience and accountability.

*Dave Melnick, LICSW, has been a clinical social worker for 30 years, working with children, teens, families and adults. Dave has also provided consultation and training to over 50 schools in Vermont over the past decade. He is a highly respected trainer and consultant and is known for providing sound clinical information and practical strategies to professionals and caregivers. Dave is the Director of Outpatient Services at Northeast Family Institute (NFI Vermont). In 2015, the Child Trauma Academy (CTA) acknowledged that Dave had completed NMT Training Certification through the Phase II level, and in April 2017 he was selected as a Fellow at the CTA.*

**Dates:** September 26 and October 29, 2019

**Place:** Kimpton Taconic Hotel  
Manchester Village, VT

**Cost:** \$380 (lunch included)

**Time:** 8:30-3:30

Discounted overnight rates are available the evening before each event. Please contact the Kimpton Taconic Central Reservation Office by calling 877.699.3331 and requesting to stay for the VT-HEC.

In addition to these workshops, VT-HEC and NFI offer graduate course options where participants advance and apply their learning. Contact Wendy Cohen (wendy.cohen@vthec.org) to learn more.



Northeastern Family Institute  
Bringing Vermont Children, Families,  
and Communities Together

Use our [website](#) for registration, and [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for additional news, resources, articles, etc.