

# **THE MANOR SCHOOL POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT PROGRAM AND PEER MEDIATION**

**2008-2009**

With

Dr. Catherine Giraud and Dr. Ronald Herron

## **I. BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Dr. Catherine Giraud, Ph.D., CC-AASP**

Catherine Giraud holds a Ph.D. in Psychology since 2006. In 2007, as a certified consultant in sport psychology, she was asked to become a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee registry. She completed her Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling in 1999 at the University of the Virgin Islands.

Dr. Giraud's experience with St. Croix school system and specifically the Manor School started in 1988 when she joined the staff as a French and Art teacher. In 1999, she started a new area in her career as a part-time school counselor and University professor in psychology. She collaborated with the Manor School until 2006. She is now a therapist at the Virgin Islands Behavioral Services and a private provider.

Dr. Giraud has conducted numerous seminars and workshops within topics including parental training, parents/teachers trainings, performance strategies, behavioral disorders, peer mediation and positive behavioral support (PBS) programs. Catherine is well traveled and has lived in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.

She feels confident to share her multifaceted knowledge and experience with the Manor School community in conducting the Peer Mediation and PBS programs for the school year 2008-2009 and rejoices to team up with Dr. Ronald Herron, her colleague at the Virgin Islands Behavioral Services.

Dr. Giraud is a member of the American Psychologists Association, the Association of Virgin Islands Psychologists, and the Association for Applied Sport Psychology.

### **Dr. Ronald Herron, Ph.D., PA-C**

Ronald Herron started a career in health care in 1968 as a U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman. He graduated with a BS as a Physician Assistant in 1980 with a minor in education. Additionally, he holds two doctorates; one in Clinical Psychology and another combined PhD in Human Development and social Policy. Dr. Herron served worldwide in the fields of mental health and education and served on review boards for the Department of Defense.

During his forty years in the health care field, Dr. Herron also taught numerous adult self-help classes and educational workshops (mostly directed toward teachers). He also taught seventh and eight grade science and substance abuse education.

Dr. Herron is a Vietnam Veteran and retired in 1988 from active duty after twenty years with the Navy and Marine Corps. He is presently the Assistant Director of Psychiatric Services and the Associate Clinical Director for VIBS (i.e., The Diagnostic and Crisis Stabilization Center, The Girls Group Home, The Boys Group Home, and The Cottage) and the Youth Rehabilitation Center (YRC), and he is the Treatment Plan coordinator.

Dr. Herron has a private practice since 2003. He performs Psychological Evaluations and Psycho-Educational Assessments upon referral from the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, The Department of Justice, as well as several local schools, and private parties. Dr. Herron has held workshops for the Department of Defense, The State Department, and locally for the Department of Human Services, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Education.

Dr. Herron is a member of the Association of Virgin Islands Psychologists and the Association of Psychiatric Physician Assistants.

## **II. DEFINITIONS**

### **Summary of Positive Behavioral Support (PBS) Program**

PBS is an approach to helping students improve their difficult behavior. When involved in PBS, teachers pledge to:

1. **Understand** that people do not control others, but seek to support others in their own behavior change process
2. **Believe** that there is a reason behind most difficult behavior and that people with difficult behavior should be treated with compassion and respect.
3. **Apply** a large and growing body of knowledge to better understand people and make human changes in their lives.
4. **Practice** the conviction to continually move away from coercion – the use of unpleasant events to manage behavior

### **Summary of Peer Mediation Program**

Peer Mediation is a process involving student mediators and students mediated. Mediators practice problem-solving strategies with their peers. Peer mediation helps students to:

1. **Understand** that conflict presents a unique opportunity to grow, change and communicate.
2. **Apply** mediation as one of the ways to deal with stressful and conflict-laden situations.
3. **Practice** the confidential nature of the peer mediation process.
4. **Learn** the steps of a mediation process and see that it is just a more formalized way of doing the basic steps of problems solving.

### III. THE MANOR SCHOOL POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

1. **Parent Positive Behavioral Support**
2. **Staff Positive Behavioral Support**
3. **Student Peer Mediation**

The program will start with individual meetings at the beginning of the school year with teaching and administrative staff to address the school needs and insure that behavioral interventions are customized to meet the need of all concerned. These plans will be monitored during the school year as needed.

#### **PBS Parent's Program**

1. Parent Positive Behavioral Support series consists of eight 1 ½ hour training session, individual parent session as needed, formulation of Individual Behavioral Plans with input from teaching staff and monitoring of these plans during the year as needed.
2. Individual meetings at the beginning of the school year with teacher, parent, and Dr. Herron to follow up on last year Individual Behavioral Plans (IBP). These plans will be monitored during the school year as needed.

#### **PBS Staff's Program**

1. Staff Positive Behavioral Support series consists of eight 1 ½ hour training sessions with individual or group sessions as needed. During these sessions, the teachers will:
  - a. Develop Individual Behavioral Plans with input from parents for proposed case studies and monitor proposed strategies during the school year as needed.
  - b. Participate in Conflict Resolution and Anger Management.

#### **Peer Mediation Program**

1. The Peer Mediation program consists of two student Peer Mediation series of six 1 ½ hour training sessions each. One series will consist of high school students and one of middle school.
2. During the year 2007-2008, Dr. Giraud and Dr. Herron trained two teams of student mediators. This year, they will:
  - a. Assist the mediator teams in real life situations.
  - b. Provide additional training for those students who did not have the opportunity to finish their Peer Mediation program.
  - c. Train new students in the Peer Mediation process.
3. These series leads to a Certification in Peer Mediation.