

# Marcie Goldhar

## Individual, Child & Family Therapist

### PROFILE

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Clinician & Therapist with over 20 years of experience working with individuals, couples, families and children. Marcie has particular expertise in working with complex family matters including high conflict separation and divorce.

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### EDUCATION

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- **Masters of Social Work**, *McMaster University*, Hamilton, 1997
- **Bachelors of Social Work**, *University of Western Ontario*, London, King's College Dean's List, 1989

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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#### **The Child, Youth and Family Services Act**

- M.S.W. Thesis: "Legislating Emotional Harm: Interpretation and Practice"
- Submitted to the Panel of Experts on Child Protection by His Honour Judge Main of the Ontario Court (Provincial Division)

#### **Primary Investigator of Child Abuse**

- Worked in conjunction with the police and court systems
- Conducted interviewing of children, families, witnesses, and alleged offenders

#### **Extensive Court Experience**

- Drafting of legal documents including: Protection Applications, Motions, and Affidavits
- Provided testimony in numerous Ontario Court Provincial Division trials
- Participation in two appeals in the General Division
- Involvement in custody and access cases
- Supervising access for trial evidence

#### **Full-spectrum case management**

- Clinical counselling, including risk assessment, crisis intervention, advocacy and individualized treatment planning for child protection services

## SKILLS PROFILE

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- Energetic advocate
- Extensive awareness of young person's rights, needs, and interests
- Excellent written and oral communications skills
- Advanced interviewing and analytical skills
- Able to work with sensitivity to the ethnic/racial and religious needs of a particular group

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

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- Dr. Barbara Jo Fidler, Conducting Custody and Access Assessments(2003)
- Linda Chodos, Family Mediation Parenting Plans: A Child Centred Approach (2005)
- Dr. Barbara Jo Fidler, Parenting Coordination (2006)
- Dr. Barbara Jo Fidler and Jacqueline Vanbetlehem, Children Resisting Post Separation Contact: Concepts, Controversies Assessment and Intervention (2011)
- Dr. Barbara Jo Fidler, Parenting Coordination Advanced Applications (2012)
- Children Caught in the Crossfire "Responding Effectively to High Conflict Families (2012)
- Hilary Linton, Basic Family Negotiation and Mediation (40 Hours) (2013)
- Clinical Consultation Group – Dr. Barbara Fidler (September 2011 to present)
- Screening for Power Imbalances (2013)
- AFCC Conference Los Angeles California Riding the Wave of the Future: Global Voices, Expanding Choices. Children Resisting Contact with a Parent Post Separation, Therapeutic Reunification & Family Restructuring Therapy Family (May 29-June 1, 2013)
- Annual AFCC Conference (2014)
- High Conflict Forum (2014)
- AFCC Conference Toronto Ontario Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour. Family Interventions When Children Resist Contact with a Parent. The Parenting Coordinator and Parental Alienation: Restructuring the Resistance When parental alienation is suspected (May 28-31, 2014)
- Hamilton High Conflict Forum (2015)
- Hamilton High Conflict Forum (2016)
- Hamilton High Conflict Forum (2017)
- AFCC Ontario Conference (2017)
- AFCC Annual Conference (2019)
- The Future of Family Justice International Innovations - Toronto Westin Harbour Castle. The Voice of the Alienated Child. Before the Crisis: Recognizing Early Signs of Parent-Child Contact Issues and What to Do Next (May 29-June 1, 2019)
- AFCC Ontario Annual Conference (2020)
- AFCC Webinar "Concepts, Controversies and Conundrums of Parent-Child Contact Problems" (2020)
- AFCC Webinar Providing Effective Testimony for Mental Health Professionals, with Mike Kretzmer, JD, CFLS (2020)

- AFCC Ontario Webinar “Mission Possible: Responses to Difficult Client Positions” (2020)
- AFCC Webinar (2021) Claims and Counterclaims in Parental Alienation Research: What’s a Family Court Professional To Do?
- AFCC Webinar (2021) Apologies in Difficult Family Situations Presented by Robin Deutsch, PhD, ABPP
- Parent-Child Contact Problems: NCJFCJ and AFCC Working Toward Common Ground Presented by the Honorable Ramona Gonzalez & Matthew Sullivan PHD

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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**Private Practice, Toronto, (December 2013 – Present)**  
Specializing in the area of separation & divorce since 2002

Services include: Section 30 assessments, Voice of the Child Reports, coaching, mediation, counselling, therapeutic reunification work, family & individual assessment therapy & parent coordination.

**Ministry of the Attorney General, Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Toronto**  
**Clinical Investigator, Clinical Panel (May 2002 – January 2019)**

- Provide custody and access reports to the courts under section 112
- Provide clinical assistance to Lawyers representing children in Custody/Access Disputes

**Ministry of the Attorney General, Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Toronto**  
**In House Regional Supervisor, (February 2013 – December 2013)**

- Management/Supervision of 27 Clinical Investigators, conducting Custody Evaluations
- Providing Clinical Assistance to Lawyers Representing Children in Custody/Access Disputes
- Development & Delivery of Professional Training to Clinical Panel Members
- Committee Membership

**Ministry of the Attorney General, Toronto Team Lead, Victim Witness Assistance Program Old City Hall Site (January 2011 – March 2011)**

- Provide information, support, and assistance to victim/witnesses of crimes and advocate on their behalf
- Oversee activities of staff, determining work priorities and assigning work to staff,
- Prepare victims/witnesses for court proceedings
- Develop/implement local strategies for public education, community outreach and training

**Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Client Services Branch, Service Review and Compliance Unit, Toronto**  
**Team Lead, Child Welfare Review Unit (September 2000 – January 2011)**

- Integrated File Review Development Committee - development and implementation of Case Monitoring Initiative, including children in care reviews and child protection reviews
- Team lead function to coordinate the day to day operations of unit
- Training of new staff and ongoing training for reviewers in order to acquire a clearer understanding of their role and monitoring individual case reports
- Writing Agency reports on society-wide compliance patterns and annual reports

**Ministry of Community and Social Services, Toronto**  
**Crown Ward Reviewer** (May 1999 – January 2000)

- Conduct on-site administrative/clinical file reviews in the Children's Aid Societies in Ontario
- Interview children upon request who are Crown Wards of Ontario
- Prepare comprehensive case assessments, directives, recommendations, statistical analysis
- Liaise with Child Welfare and Ministry authorities to assess compliance with the Child and Family Services Act

**Jewish Family and Child Service, Toronto**  
**Child Services Worker**, Children's Services (March 1998-April 1999)

**Catholic Children's Aid Society, Toronto**  
**Family Services Worker and Intake Worker** (September 1991 - March 1998)

- Assuming complete case management responsibility for protection case load and children in care
- Child abuse investigations
- Providing protective services, including apprehending children and bringing all related matters to Provincial Court (Family Division)
- Collaborating with other professionals and resources in the community

**Children's Psychiatric Research Institute, London**  
 (October 1988 - April 1989)

- Performed out-patient assessments on a multi-disciplinary team

**Parkwood Hospital - Alzheimer Support Service, London**  
**Assistant Supervisor** (September 1987 - April 1988)

- Supervised day programs for Alzheimer patients and support groups for their families

**Catholic Children's Aid Society, North York Branch**  
**Project Supervisor** (May - September 1987)

- Designed and implemented the summer treatment program for hard-to-serve children under the Government's Challenge 1987 program

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request