

For all Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Mental Health Professionals



## Over 23 Years Development

Learn to Play Therapy
has been refined as an
effective therapy to
build a child's joy and
engagement in selfinitiated play

## **ABOUT LEARN TO PLAY**

# **Builds on Basic Workshop**

The Advanced Workshop
builds on the Basic
Workshop. It aims to
equip children for
spontaneous Pretend Play

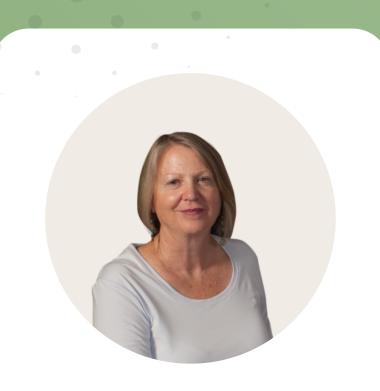
## **Increase in Abilities**

in social competence, narrative language, language, selfregulation, creativity, and problem solving

## **REGISTER NOW**

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www.totalcommunication.com.sg



## **KAREN STAGNITTI**

**Emeritus Professor** 

## **OUR SPEAKERS**

Karen Stagnitti is Emeritus Professor in the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University, Victoria, Australia. She graduated with a Bachelor degree in Occupational Therapy from the University of Queensland and has worked for for over 30 years in community-based and family early childhood intervention teams as part of a specialist pediatric multidisciplinary team.

She has developed several play assessments including: Child- Initiated Pretend Play Assessment 2, the Pretend Play Enjoyment Developmental Checklist and the Animated Movie Test. From these research, Learn to Play Therapy was developed.

Throughout the years, Karen has been invited to present her work in nationally and internationally, including Canada, UK and many more.



### **BELINDA DEAN**

Registered Nurse, Play Therapist, Lecturer in Child Play Therapy Belinda Dean is a qualified Registered Nurse, Play Therapist, Lecturer in Child Play Therapy and PhD Candidate at Deakin University. She has over 20 years of experience with a focus on Child and Adolescent Health & Development, Mental Health, and Community and Family Health.

She also has focused research and presented nationally on Storying Beyond Social Difficulties with Neuro-Diverse Adolescents. Belinda is the co-founder of Light Heart Publishing and Play-Based Learning Pte Ltd. Belinda is passionate about play based models to promote early intervention of biopsychosocial health through play therapy.

Belinda's main areas of research are play-based social skill programs to support neuro-diverse adolescents, integrating therapeutic play into nursing and allied health practice.

## WHAT WILL YOU TAKE AWAY?

- CASE STUDIES
- VIDEO ANALYSIS
- INFORMATION SHARING
- A FUTURE OR TRENDS UPDATE
- LEARN TO PLAY THERAPY PROCESS
- METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES
- GROUP PRACTICE OF THE CORE SKILLS

ORGANIZED BY:





In Conjunction with:



## **Activities**

### DAY1

- A deep analysis of the therapeutic presence of play.
- How to create a feeling of safety for the child.
- Theoretical underpinnings explained from Vygotsky to Porges Polyvagal Theory to the neurobiology of play Assessing a child's play.
- Why the techniques are effective with children.
- Practice the refinement of techniques in therapy.

### DAY 2

- Applying the Animated Movie Test & Therapy Approaches for children aged 7 to 10 years.
- Building play ability in older children as a foundation for learning.
- Analysis of videos of children who are beginning of self-initiate their play
- A therapist's shift in responses to the child in supporting the increasing ability to self-initiate play.
- Discussion on work with children who are rigid or who have experienced trauma.

## **Testimonials**

I had the privilege of attending Karen Stagnitti's Advance Learn to Play last year. Having already completed the Basic level training, I was already familiar with the play hierarchy and competent in conducting play assessment. I found this to be really useful for a wide age range of children and this gave me more confidence in my language therapy. As a Speech and Language Therapist I had also come across more complex cases including children with diagnoses and trauma backgrounds. Attending the Advanced Learn to Play workshops supported me to deal competently and confidently with these cases in a way that I hadn't before. I particularly enjoyed the dynamic mix of videos, discussion, lectures, and case studies which helped solidify my learning.

#### **CHARLOTTE H.**

Speech and Language Therapist

It was very useful to my work as a speech pathologist. It really made it clear how important play can be as a therapeutic tool. It shows the benefits of pretend play across lots of language and social dimensions. It also is very informative for educators to understand how early identification of poor pretend play skills is imperative in terms of social and language development. I think more information linked to neurology and pretend play would be great. Maybe Event Related Potentials or brain imagery scans to show the efficacy/ neuronal activity during pretend play.

#### **BLAKE O**

Speech and Language Therapist

Karen's Advanced Learn To Play course offers a more detailed description of the importance of play, and how trauma impacts on children's ability to engage in this domain. She provides comprehensive case-study examples to illustrate the sensitive nuances of these cases.

#### **GEORGINA K**

Speech and Language Therapist



ORGANIZED BY: TOTAL COMMUNICATION THERAPY, SHADOW ADVANTAGE AND LEARN TO PLAY EVENTS





