

ROCHELLE RITZI, PHD, LPC-S, NCC, RPT-S, CCPT-S, CPRT-S

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Areas of Interest

Play Therapy/Child Counseling

Adolescent/Activity Therapy

Grief and Group Counseling

Counselor Education & Supervision

Filial Therapy/Parent Training

Crisis, Trauma, and Abuse

Deaf Culture/ASL/SEE

Assessments and Testing

Education

- Ph.D., Counseling, child counseling/play therapy specialization, trained to administer full battery psychoeducational assessments, University of North Texas, Denton, TX, 2011-2015, 3.98 GPA
- M.S., Counseling, child counseling/play therapy specialization, Southern Methodist University, Plano, TX, 2010, 4.0 GPA
- B.A., Psychology, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX, 2008, 3.911 GPA, Suma Cum Laude, Dean's List, Graduated with School of Behavior and Brain Science Honors, Completed Honors Thesis, *Impact of Child Sexual Abuse on Self-Perception and Interpersonal Relationships in Women*
- Behavioral Sciences with a concentration in psychology, Indiana University East, Richmond, IN, 2004-2006, transferred to UTD after 66 graded credit hours, 4.0 GPA, Chancellors List

Professional Work Experience

Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor, Registered Play Therapist Supervisor, Clinical Manager June 2010 - Present

Private Practice, Brandy Schumann, PhD, PLLC, DBA Therapy on the Square & Therapy off the Square McKinney, TX and Frisco, TX (two locations)

- Supervision of post graduate level licensed professional counselor interns
- Assessment, diagnoses and treatment using a variety of treatment modalities to clients, including children, adolescents, adults, couples, and groups
- Facilitate and Co-Facilitate filial groups, including child and pre-adolescent filial
- Client screening, scheduling, billing, and referring clients to outside sources
- Marketing of personal and private practice services
- Serves as Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) officer
- Ethical standards coordinator
- Hiring of new interns and staff
- General maintenance of office functioning, including accounting support

Adjunct Professor

- University of North Texas – Counseling Program **June 2015 – Present**
- Texas A&M Commerce – Counseling Program **Jan 2016 – Present**
- Charles Darwin University (AU) – Psychological & Clinical Sciences **May 2015 – Oct 2017**

Licensed Professional Counselor and Registered Play Therapist

June 2011 – May 2014

Child and Family Resource Center & Counseling, UNT
Denton, TX

- Counseled clients of all ages, including children, adolescents, adults, and groups
- Assessed, diagnosed and treated clients using a variety of treatment modalities
- Conducted intake services for individuals, families, and children
- Facilitated and Co-Facilitated filial groups, including child and pre-adolescent filial
- Administered full battery psychoeducational assessments

Licensed Professional Counselor and Play Therapist

August 2011 – June 2012

Counseling and Human Development Center, UNT
Denton, TX

- Counseled clients of all ages, including children, adolescents, adults, and groups.
- Conducted intakes, assessments, diagnoses and treatment using a variety of treatment modalities
- Facilitated and Co-Facilitated filial groups, including child and pre-adolescent filial

Group Leader, Presenter, and Curriculum Developer

December 2010 – March 2012

Journey of Hope Grief Support Center
Plano, TX

- Led support groups for children, adolescents, and adults
- Trained incoming grief counselors
- Developed curriculum to teach caregivers how to support grieving children

Practicum Student Counselor, Practicum Mentor

January 2009 – June 2010

Center for Family Counseling
Plano, TX

- Conducted intakes and assessments.
- Diagnosed and counseled individuals, families, adults, and children.
- Provided adult and adolescent group therapy, sibling counseling, modified filial and preadolescent social skills training.
- Supported and provided leadership to current practicum students through weekly meetings, role modeling, case conceptualization, and encouragement.
- Documented mentor group process and procedures for future publication.

Counselor Intern

March 2010 – June 2010

Parkland Hospital
Dallas, TX

- Conducted assessments and counseling to patients facing loss, trauma, sickness, and terminal illness, including children, adolescents, adults, and families.

Group Leader

September 2007 – December 2010

North Cities Academy
Garland, TX

- Led weekly group discussions with teenage girls on topics such as peer pressure, relationships, and eating disorders.

- Taught American Sign Language and Signing Exact English classes to 2nd through 5th grade students.

Shelter Intern

January 2008 – May 2008

New Beginnings Women's Domestic Violence Shelter
Garland, TX

- Intake and discharge services, psycho-educational group facilitation and case management with individuals and families experiencing crises; answered crisis hotline

Counseling Center Volunteer

December 2007 – December 2008

CITY House
Plano, TX

- Follow up services of recent clients who received counseling services to discuss effectiveness of services provided

Appraisal and Research Experience

Psychoeducational Assessment Team Member

August 2012 – June 2013

Administered protocols in the following areas:

- Ability and Achievement Assessments
- Behavioral Assessments
- Learning Assessments
- Parenting Assessments
- Self-Concept Assessments
- Subjective Assessments
- Visual-Motor Assessments
- Career Assessments
- Screening Assessments (e.g., ADD/ADHD, Depression, Anxiety)

Instruments Used

- WISC-IV
- VMI
- TIPS
- CDI-2
- HARTER
- RCMAS-2
- MBTI
- CBCL 1.5-5, 6-18 (all versions-TRF, ASR, YSR)
- PSI
- Brown

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Appraisal & Assessment in Coun, Pala Alto Univ, ASMT 603 **Summer 2018**

Community Mental Health & CBT, Pala Alto Univ CLIN 650	Summer 2018
Diagnosis and Treatment Planning I, Pala Alto Univ ASMT 600	Spring 2018
Group Therapy, Texas A&M Commerce, COUN 528	Fall 2017
Intro to Play Therapy, University of North Texas, COUN 5700	Summer 2017
Advanced Play Therapy, University of North Texas	Spring 2017
Filial Therapy, Charles Darwin University, Australia, FUN 505	Spring 2017
Internship I&II, Texas A&M Commerce, COUN 552	Fall 2016
Intro to Play Therapy, University of North Texas, COUN 5700	Summer 2016
Basic Skills, Texas A&M Commerce, COUN 516	Spring 2016
Internship I&II, Texas A&M Commerce, COUN 552	Spring 2016
Counseling Culturally Diverse Clients, UNT, COUN 5790	Fall 2015
Therapeutic Play, University of North Texas, COUN 3600	Fall 2013

Co-Instructor

Group Play Therapy, COUN 5640	Fall 2014
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Supervision Experience – Research

Doctoral Dissertation Committee

One student	Summer 2016 – 2018
One student	Summer 2017 – current

Master’s by Research Thesis Supervisor, Charles Darwin University, Australia

Three Students (one current)	Fall 2016 – Current
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Research Committee Associate, Charles Darwin University, Australia

Two Students	Summer 2016 – February 2018
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Supervision Experience - Clinical

Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor & Registered Play Therapy Supervisor

Private Practice	
Nine supervisees (three current)	Fall 2015 – current
National, Florida	
One Supervisee	Summer 2015 – Summer 2017
International, Australia	
Two Supervisees	Summer 2015 – Spring 2018
International, New Zealand	
One Supervisee	Summer 2016 – December 2017

Supervisor

Child Center Play Therapy	Spring 2018 - Current
Two Supervisees, Texas	

Supervisor

Fall 2014

Group Play Therapy, 5640
Department of Counseling and Higher Education, UNT
Provided triadic and individual clinical supervision to three master's student. Sixteen sessions.

Filial Therapy, COUN 5000
Department of Counseling and Higher Education, UNT
Provided individual clinical supervision to one master's student. Eleven sessions.

Supervisor

Spring 2013, Fall 2012

Practicum, COUN 6090
Department of Counseling and Higher Education, UNT
Provided triadic and individual clinical supervision to seven master's practicum students. Sixty-four sessions.

Supervisor

Spring 2012

Advanced Skills Counseling, COUN 5660
Department of Counseling and Higher Education, UNT
Provided triadic clinical supervision to 2 master's students. Fifteen sessions.

Supervisor, Micro-practicums

August 2011 - May 2016

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN, 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Six sessions

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN, 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Three students, Six sessions

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN, 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Individual Counseling Methods, HDCN 6302
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Individual Counseling Methods, HDCN 6302
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Three students, Six sessions

Play Therapy, HDCN 6343
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN, 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Play Therapy, HDCN 6343
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Adolescent Counseling, HDCN, 6323
School of Education and Human Development, SMU
Four students, Eight sessions

Professional Associations

Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Member

American Counseling Association, Member

Association for Counseling Adolescents and Children, Member

Association for Humanistic Counseling, Member

Association for Play Therapy, Member

Chi Sigma Iota, International Academic and Professional Counseling Honor Society

North Texas Association for Play Therapy, Member and Officer on the Board, 2012-2014

Rho Kappa Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, Member

Texas Association for Play Therapy, Member/Executive Board Member (Past President 2017/2018, President 2016/2017, President Elect 2015/2016), Conference Chair Assistant, April 2014, April 2015, April 2016, Conference Chair April 2017, Continuing Education Coordinator 2015-2017

Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision

Texas Counseling Association, Member

Awards and Honors

University of North Texas Research Grant, February, 2015

Dan E. Homeyer Research Grant, November, 2014

University of North Texas, Academic Excellence Scholarship for Continuing Education, Spring 2015, Fall 2014, Spring 2014, Fall 2013, Spring, 2013, Fall, 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2011

Major Honors - School of Behavior and Brain Science, May, 2008

Suma Cum Laude, University of Texas at Dallas
Dean's List, University of Texas at Dallas, 2009, 2010
Chancellor's List, Indiana University East, 2007, 2008
Mom Approved Doctor, *Dallas Magazine*, 2015, 2016

Scholarly Work

Publications

- Ritzi, R. (in press). *Child counselor testimony: Fact or expert*. American Child & Adolescent Counseling Newsletter.
- Cheng, Y., Yaites, L., **Ritzi, R.**, Wagner, T., & Pertuit, T. (in press). Counselor preparation in working with African American adolescents in group counseling. *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*.
- Ritzi, R. (2017). Intensive short term child centered play therapy and externalizing behaviors in children. *International Journal of Play Therapy*, 26(1), 33-46. doi:10.1037/pla0000035
- Ritzi, R. (2015). Intensive short term child centered play therapy and externalizing behaviors in children. (Published doctoral dissertation). University of North Texas, Denton.
- Ritzi, R. (2011). My first experience using play therapy. *Play Therapy*, 5(1) 20-22

Book Chapter

- Ritzi, R. Operation Safe Zone. (2014). In K. Fineran, B. Houlberg, A. Nitza, J. McCoy, & S. Roberts (Eds.), *Group work experts share their favorite activities: A guide to choosing, planning, conducting, and processing volume 2* (pp.xx-xx). Alexandria, VA: Association for Specialists in Group Work.

Presentations

Keynote

- Ritzi, R. (August, 2013). *Success stories: Not all child abuse presentations have to be a downer*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2012). *The educator's role in preventing child abuse*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.

International

- Ritzi, R. (November, 2017). *The therapeutic powers of connection: Tools for enhancing child-teacher relationships and fostering learning environments*. Palmerston Primary School Two-Part Teacher Workshop Sponsored by Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Australia
- Ritzi, R. (November, 2017). *The therapeutic powers of connection: Tools for enhancing the child-parent relationship*. Palmerston Primary School Workshop for Parents Sponsored by Charles Darwin

University, Darwin, Australia

Ritzi, R. (October, 2014). *Effectiveness of child centered play therapy in an intensive structure*. Northern Territory Early Childhood and School Aged Education and Care Conference: Big Dreams Big People. Darwin, Australia.

National

Ritzi, R. & Yurkovich, C. (October, 2017). *Educating master level counseling students in the clinical supervision selection process*. Association for Counselor Education and Supervision National Conference, Chicago, IL.

State

Ritzi, R. (April, 2018). *Got stress, get self-care: Self-care for the play therapist*. Texas Association for Play Therapy Annual Conference.

Ritzi, R., Chen, Y, Wagner, T., & Yaites, L. (January, 2016). *What's missing from research: Counselor educator and student experiences with qualitative and quantitative research*. Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision

Ritzi, R. & Chen, S. (April, 2013). *Integrating child development in parent consultations: Practical answers to the question, "Is my child normal?"*. Texas Association for Play Therapy Annual Conference.

Ritzi, R., & Krizan, M. (September, 2012). *How to talk about the hard stuff: Effectively delivering difficult information to staff and parents*. Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervisors Directors of Guidance Conference.

Feng, C. Paz., M. **Ritzi, R.** (November, 2011). *Preventing non-suicidal self-injury: What elementary school counselors need to know*. Texas Counseling Association Fall Conference.

McAlister, G., **Ritzi, R.**, & Scott, A. (December, 2009). *How to talk to parents about test results so parents will listen*. 24th Annual Texas Assessment Conference & 21st Annual Texas Association of Collegiate Testing Personnel Conference.

Local

Ritzi, R. (March, 2018). *Play therapists do not have time for self care*. North Texas Chapter of Texas Association for Play Therapy. Continuing Education Workshop. Grapevine, Texas.

Ritzi, R. (February, 2018). *Child abuse prevention, detection, and reporting*. Crossroads School, In Service. McKinney, Texas.

Ritzi, R. (June, 2016). *What counselors show know about trauma and detection and prevention of child*

- abuse*. Southern Methodist University, Adolescent Counseling, Guest Lecturer.
- Ritzi, R. (Jan, 2016). *Children and technology: A technology panel for parents*. Vanderventer Middle School. Fisco, Texas.
- Ritzi, R. (Dec, 2015). *Families navigating change: Working through grief associated with divorce and other forms of loss*. Frisco Independent School District.
- Ritzi, R. (June, 2015). *What beginning counselors should know about detection and prevention of abuse Prevention*. Southern Methodist University, Adolescent Counseling, Guest Lecturer.
- Ritzi, R. (May, 2014). *Doc students tell all: SMU alumni panel of doctoral students present their experiences*. Southern Methodist University Association for Student Counselors.
- Ritzi, R. (March, 2014). *Play therapy for all. Serving children with deafness, disabilities, and other medical difficulties*. North Texas Chapter of the Texas Association for Play Therapy.
- Ritzi, R. (October, 2013). *You can't escape 'em so embrace 'em: How to write an awesome essay*. Student Training. North Cities Christian Academy.
- Ritzi, R. (April, 2013). *The difficulty with teaching difficult children*. Staff Development. First Baptist Learning Center.
- Schumann, B. & **Ritzi, R.** (October, 2012). *Cancer's impact on a child's world*. Cancer Support Community North Texas, Texas Health Presbyterian.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2012). *The educator's role in child abuse prevention*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.
- Ritzi, R. & Mettica, M. (April, 2012). *Child abuse detection and prevention*. Southern Methodist University, Child Counseling, Guest Speaker.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2012). *Equipping teachers to empower students*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.
- Ritzi, R. (February, 2012) *Understanding a child's language: Even when they aren't using words to express grief, they are still trying to "talk" about it*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (February, 2012). *Developmental traits of grieving children*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (January, 2012). *What everybody should know about child abuse*. Crossroads School, In Service. McKinney, TX.
- Ritzi, R. & Krizan, M. (January, 2012). *Choice-giving*. Wesley Preschool, Parenting Training. McKinney, TX.
- Schumann, B. & **Ritzi, R.** (October, 2011). *Effects of domestic violence on children*. Head Start of Greater Dallas, Special Service Provider Training, Dallas, TX.

- Ritzi, R. (September, 2011). *A counselor's role in detecting and reporting child abuse*. Southern Methodist University, Child Counseling, Guest Speaker.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *How to talk to parents about the hard stuff*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *Stop it! How to detect and prevent child abuse*. Early Childhood Development Network Conference.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *Parenting grieving children: How to help a child grieve*. Journey of Hope New Curriculum Training.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *Misguided behavior: Why they do what they do, and what to do when they do it*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *Developmental traits of grieving children*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2011). *Understanding a child's language: Even when they aren't using words to express grief, they are still trying to "talk" about it*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (April, 2011). *Child abuse detection: Why it matters*. North Cities Church Children's Ministry Training.
- Ritzi, R. (April, 2011). *Child abuse: What it looks like in session and what you should do about it*. Southern Methodist University, Child Counseling, Guest Speaker.
- Ritzi, R. (February, 2011). *Parenting grieving children: How to help a child grieve*. Journey of Hope New Curriculum Training.
- Ritzi, R. (January, 2011). *Misguided behavior: Why they do what they do, and what to do when they do it*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (January, 2011). *Developmental traits of grieving children*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (January, 2011). *Understanding a child's language: Even when they aren't using words to express grief, they are still trying to "talk" about it*. Journey of Hope New Facilitator Training.
- Ritzi, R. (January, 2011). *So you have some stats: Understanding test results*. North Cities Christian Academy.
- Ritzi, R. (September, 2010). *Using positive discipline in the classroom*. North Cities Christian Academy, In Service Training.
- Ritzi, R. (August, 2009). *Stop it! How to detect and prevent child abuse*. North Cities Church Children's Ministry and Staff Training.

Languages

- English
- American Sign Language

Selected Trainings Attended

- *Red Cross* – Disaster Mental Health Fundamentals (November 10, 2015)
- *Red Cross* – Psychological First Aid. (April 2013, May, 2015)
- *Red Cross* – Disaster Action Team Fundamentals. Online Training. (May, 2015)
- *Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center* – Keeping your child safe from harm. Online Training. (December, 2012)
- *Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center* – Recognizing and reporting abuse. Online Training. (December, 2012)
- *Gottman Level 1* – Bridging the Couple Chasm (April, 2012)
- *Camp C.O.P.E.* – Training to help children with transitions and/or trauma they face in response to the deployment or injuries sustained by a family member in the military (September, 2010)
- *Journey of Hope Grief Training* – 25 hours of training to lead support groups for children, teens, young adults and their families as they mourn the death or impending death of a loved one, (August, 2010)
- *Psychodrama* – 2.5 hours of “Psychodrama Basics” (August, 2010)
- *Center of Play Therapy Summer Institute* – Key Note, Terry Kottman (Aug, 2010)

Professional References

Dee Ray, Ph.D., LPC-S, NCC, RPT-S

University of North Texas

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Therapy on the Square

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