AAP Bio Doc

**Robert Lee, D.O., M.S., F.A.A.P.** has an MS in nutrition and completed pediatric residency and chief residency at the Children’s Medical Center at Winthrop-University Hospital. Dr. Lee joined Winthrop’s division of Ambulatory Pediatrics in 2007 and completed the Leaders in Medical Education certificate program from Stony Brook University School of Medicine in 2013 prior to his promotion to Associate Program Director for the Pediatric Residency.  He is the past president of the Nassau Pediatric Society of New York Chapter 2 of AAP and past executive committee member of the Section on Osteopathic Pediatricians for the AAP.  In addition, he was past Contributing Section Editor of Osteopathic Pediatrics for AAP Grand Rounds and is currently a member of the Bright Futures Middle Childhood Expert Panel for the upcoming 4th edition of Bright Futures Guidelines.  He has had numerous posters and oral presentation at various national conferences and has published in journals such as Clinical Pediatrics.

**Jack Levine, M.D., F.A.A.P.** is a general pediatrician with subspecialty certification in developmental behavioral pediatrics. He has been a general pediatrician for over 25 years in Queens, New York.  He is a member of the Department of Pediatrics at Nassau University Medical Center and the Director of the Center for Autism. Dr. Levine is the chair of NY State Chapter 2 Committee on Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, a member of the State Early Childhood Development Committee and a member of the executive committee of the National AAP Section on Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. Dr. Levine is a member of the advisory board for the Postpartum Resource Center of New York and a member of the Nassau County Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorder (PMAD) Task Force.

**Maria Lauria, M.S.W.** has been the Director of Children's Services at the Nassau County Department of Social Services for over 9 years and has been doing child welfare at DSS for 28 years. She has played a key leadership role in the development and implementation of the "Babies Can’t Wait" project creating a unique dedicated “baby unit” within her foster care staff. As Children's Services Director, she is in charge of foster care, adoption services, home finding, and PINS placement.

**Richard Honigman, M.D., F.A.A.P** is a general pediatrician in Levittown N.Y. Additionally he is the Advisory Board Chair of **Reachwithin**, a NYC based NGO which works with vulnerable at-risk children in Grenada. Recently, Dr. Honigman graduated in 2013 from the University of Massachusetts (Boston) Infant-Parent Mental Health Post-Graduate Certificate Program, completed the 2014-2015 certificate program in Traumatic Stress Studies given by the Trauma Center at JRI and is presently completing his Phase 1 Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics Individual Certification training given by the Child Trauma Academy. He has collaborated with UMass Boston, St. George's University and UNICEF in presenting three conferences on early childhood development.

**Marcy Safyer, Ph.D., L.C.S.W.-R, IMH-E ® (IV-C)** is a developmental psychologist, social worker and director of the Adelphi University Institute for Parenting. She is committed to building the capacity of clinicians and interdisciplinary professionals to provide Infant Mental Health Services to very young children and their caregivers- particularly those who have developmental challenges and have experienced interpersonal trauma— through training programs, clinical internships and research opportunities. Dr. Safyer has led the charge for several systems and culture change initiatives such as the Nassau County Babies Can’t Wait Court Team Project and more recently the Closer to the Crib Project a collaborative intervention with the Nassau County District Attorney’s office. She is Co-Director of a new Infant Mental Health and Developmental Practice training program at Adelphi funded by the Federal Department of Education OSEP. She has helped to spearhead the creation of the New York State Association for Infant Mental Health (NYS-AIMH) and the implementation of the NYS Endorsement ® and system of standards and competencies for multidisciplinary professionals who work with 0-5 year olds and their families. She is the Founding President or the NYS-AIMH.

**Dina Lieser, M.D., F.A.A.P.** is Director of Community and Ambulatory Pediatrics at Nassau University Medical Center and Co-Director of Docs for Tots, a national non-profit focused on engaging children’s doctors in Early Childhood advocacy and highlighting the importance of early childhood to healthy development and life success at the practice and policy levels. She is Chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics National Council on Early Childhood. She is a member of the New York State Early Childhood Advisory Committee where leads the focus area around early screening for Promoting Healthy Development Workgroup. She has written multiple issue briefs and led many projects on the health benefits of early childhood initiatives, the early childhood medical home and has spoken in major national and state conferences and webinars around these issues.

**Susan Chinitz, Psy.D.** is a psychologist with specialties in the areas of infant mental health and developmental disabilities. She is the former Director of the Early Childhood Center, the Center for Babies, Toddlers and Families, and the Parent Infant Family Court project, all therapeutic programs for children birth to five years of age at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she was a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and the Patricia T. and Charles S. Raizen Distinguished Scholar in Pediatrics. She is currently affiliated with the Center for Court Innovation spearheading the Strong Starts Court Initiative, an effort to integrate developmental science into Family Court practice for infants and toddlers. She is also a consultant to the New York Center for Child Development, with a focus on the Training and Technical Assistance Center for the NYC Early Childhood Mental Health Network and the Babies First Program. Dr. Chinitz is on the Board of the New York Zero to Three Network, the Community Advisory Board of the NYC Nurse Family Partnership, the faculty of the Parent Infant Psychotherapy Program at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, and has been a member of the Frontiers of Innovation initiative of the Harvard Center on the Developing Child. She has received the ACS Commissioner’s Child Advocacy Award, Women of Achievement Award from the Bronx Women’s Bar Association, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University.

**Trista L. Borra, J.D., M.S.W.**, serves as the Training Manager for the Child Welfare Court Improvement Project (CWCIP), in New York State, a federally-funded initiative that supports the family court’s mandate to promote the safety, permanence and well-being of abused and neglected children.  In recognition of the integral role courts play in charting the course for children who are the subject of abuse, neglect, foster care, termination of parental rights and adoption proceedings, the project provides resources and technical assistance to promote continuous quality improvement at the intersection of the legal/judicial and child welfare systems.