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Barrie Alexander, Ph.D.

Dr. Alexander received a B.A. from Kenyon College in Ohio, with honors in psychology, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude. In 1982, she received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Florida. Her family systems perspective solidified during her post-doctoral year, which was spent managing an inpatient behavioral unit for children and their families struggling with diabetes. She has practiced as a licensed psychologist in Atlanta since 1983. Dr. Alexander is the managing partner of Cliff Valley Psychologists, P.A., which she co-founded in 1985. Her practice focuses on work with children and their families in both forensic and non-forensic cases.

Dr. Alexander works therapeutically with children who are trying to survive their parents' divorce or who have experienced trauma. Most of her adult therapy patients are seen for parenting issues, adjustment to divorce, or trauma recovery. She also sees couples for marital therapy and parent co-therapy. One of her specialties is reunification therapy with children and parents who are estranged or alienated.

Her assessment expertise is employed conducting court-ordered custody evaluations of families and psychological evaluations of individuals regarding forensic issues. Often, these involve complex issues such as allegations of abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse, or parental alienation. Her goal is always to work toward settlement of legal cases through giving feedback for mediation or consultation with the attorneys or guardian ad litem. She is an experienced and effective courtroom witness on issues related to children, parenting, and families in transition.

Trained in mediation and in collaborative divorce, she works in a consultative role with attorneys and their clients toward achieving agreement on developmentally appropriate parenting plans. Her perspective involves working toward resolution through education about child development in the context of divorce. After divorce finalization, she serves as a court-appointed parent coordinator for parents who are continuing to experience conflict.

She is active in the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, the Collaborative Law Institute of Georgia, and the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. In addition to membership in the American Psychological Association, Dr. Alexander is actively involved as a fellow in the Georgia Psychological Association. She currently serves on the Georgia Psychological Association's Professional Ethics Committee and is a past president of the Division of Child, Family and School Psychologists. She serves the Atlanta community by educating legal professionals and other psychologists regarding child development, attachment, alienation and estrangement, and child interviewing. She helps train guardians ad litem for the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation. She is honored to serve on the board of trustees of Hillside, Inc., one of Atlanta's oldest non-profit organizations serving children and their families.