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For Immediate Release:

Claritycon2023 Children's Mental Health Conference to occur July 20-21, 2023 *CEUs and CNEs offered*

Founded in 1886, [Clarity Child Guidance Center](#) is the only nonprofit in South Texas providing a continuum of mental health services for children ages 3-17 and their families to manage mental health conditions ranging from depression and anxiety to suicidal ideation, bipolar disorder and/or schizophrenia. Clarity CGC offers a stand-alone mental health hospital and specialized inpatient/outpatient treatment for children, with the region's largest concentration of child and adolescent psychiatrists.

In keeping with its mission to heal young minds and hearts, for the past nine years—even during the “Covid years”—Clarity CGC has underwritten and sponsored [Claritycon](#), its annual children's mental health conference with presentations by 30+ renowned experts that provide professional education and CEUs/CNEs to 350+ educators, therapists, nurses, physicians, social workers, childcare workers and community members from the region.

Claritycon2023 will occur July 20-21 at the [JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa](#) in San Antonio. Registration opens at 7 a.m. both days. Conference starts at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. on July 20; conference opens at 8 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. on July 21.

Admission is \$300/pp and includes:

- 12 hours of professional development (CEUs and CNEs available) with presentations by 30+ renowned experts
 - Continuing education certificates to nurses for the first time, administered by the Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Nursing
 - CEUs are administered by Texas Psychological Association (TPA)
- Breakfast and lunch keynote presentations
- Four meals plus snacks, including breakfast and lunch keynote addresses
- Conference syllabus
- Exhibitors from agencies offering services/programs including community resources, therapy resources, school/tutoring assistance
- Free admission to Friday's celebratory luncheon with keynote speaker [David Ambroz](#), Head of External Affairs & Community Engagement at Amazon, who will share his personal story of resilience as he navigated a parent with mental illness, homelessness, and the foster care system. Named by President Barack Obama as an “American Champion of Change” and a leading advocate for child welfare, his recent book, *A Place Called Home*, depicts his personal account of childhood poverty and homelessness experienced by so many young people who have been systematically overlooked and unprotected. A Porchlight bestseller and Zibby Owens 2022 Book of the Year, it's at once a gripping personal account of deprivation—how one boy survived it, and ultimately thrived—and a resounding call for readers to move from empathy to action. Tickets can be purchased solely for the Friday luncheon; see details below.

Presentations explore the numerous internal and external factors that impact the emotional, psychological and social well-being of young people. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Human trafficking
- Adolescent Sexuality in Age of Technology
- Juvenile Justice System
- Ethics
- Eating Disorders and Diet Culture
- Autism and Aggression
- Child Welfare and Foster Care
- Responding with CARE (Child Assistance, Remediation, and Evaluation)
- School Refusal – “I’m Not Going!”
- Domestic violence
- Trauma informed care
- PTSD
- Health Disparities
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
- Medication management
- Nutrition’s impact on mental health
- Immigrant youth
- Psychotropics for children

[Online registration](#) is open; for additional information, email events@claritycgc.org or call 210-616-0300.

Tickets can be purchased solely for the Friday fundraising luncheon featuring keynote address by David Ambroz on Friday, July 21 in the Grand Oaks Ballroom from noon to 1 followed by book signing by Ambroz of his book “A Place Called Home.” Price is \$150/pp; proceeds directly contribute to increasing bed capacity at Clarity, enabling it to provide crucial services to over 700 additional children per year to receive the specialized care and treatment they deserve. Register [here](#); seating is limited.

“In 2023 we are celebrating our 10th year of sponsoring Claritycon and I am extremely proud to be CEO of an organization that is so dedicated to educating professionals and helping our community’s children,” says Jessica Knudsen, LCSW, FACHE, CEO, and President of Clarity Child Guidance Center since February 2019. “Through Claritycon, it is not only our goal to educate, but to foster robust conversations about mental health so children get the services they need.”

Clarity serves all children in need of care, regardless of their family’s ability to pay. Clarity CGC accepts most insurance and accommodates families by billing them on a sliding scale based on their income.

Those wanting more information about [Clarity Child Guidance Center](#) can visit www.claritycgc.org or contact 210-616-0300 or info@claritycgc.org. Those wanting to donate can visit www.claritycgc.org/give-now/.

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MORE ON CLARITY:

- Clarity CGC is a leading non-profit hospital providing pediatric mental health treatment and prevention services to more than 8,000 children each year.
- Clarity houses the region's largest concentration of child and adolescent psychiatrists, with its onsite affiliations with Southwest Psychiatric Physicians and UT Health San Antonio
- For 135+ years, Clarity CGC has provided transformative services to children regardless of their families’ ability to pay. Our eight-acre, kid-friendly campus offers six crisis observation beds; a 66-bed, four-unit inpatient hospital; day treatment facilities; a therapeutic recreation facility with gym, art, yoga, and music therapy rooms; an outdoor swimming pool and playscape; a dining hall; and an outpatient therapy building with pharmacy
- Our Crisis Services department is open 24/7 and available for walk-ins. Emergencies happen at inconvenient times and Clarity is here whenever families need us. Taking a child to an ER during a

mental health crisis is unpredictable, since you are not sure who will be available for psychiatric services. By going directly to Clarity instead, families can save time and feel safe in the knowledge they are surrounded by experts in children's mental health.

What sets us apart:

- Clarity CGC is the only nonprofit mental health treatment center for kids ages 3 to 17 in San Antonio and South Texas.
- Clarity CGC is the only nonprofit center specialized in inpatient and outpatient mental health treatment for children in San Antonio and South Texas.
- Clarity has been in existence since 1886.
- Clarity provides mental health services to children, regardless of their family's ability to pay. The majority of our patients are disproportionately low-income.
- We are a stand-alone children's mental health teaching hospital.
- When you hear "mental health hospital," most people have a VERY intimidating, unfriendly image that pops up. Clarity has an open, warm, inviting and child-friendly campus.