

**Dr. Joanne F. Vizzini**

2 Hamill Road, Suite 355, Baltimore, MD 21210

10715 Charter Drive, Ste. 270, Columbia, MD 21044

443-831-1948; [jvizzini@puppettherapy.com](mailto:jvizzini@puppettherapy.com),

[www.puppettherapy.com](http://www.puppettherapy.com),

[www.freedomthroughtherapy.com](http://www.freedomthroughtherapy.com)

**SUMMARY**

Over twenty-five years of dynamic, diversified employment in creating, managing, coordinating, and implementing programs for children, youth, and adults. Excellent counseling skills and teaching experience, creative abilities as a puppeteer, storyteller, and musician.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

COUNSELING 1995 – present/SUPERVISION 2000 - present

- \* Counsel 20-25 clients weekly; adults, youth and children; mood disorders, anxiety disorders addictions, co-dependency, within private practice.
- \* Supervise two to three Master's or Doctoral level interns each semester.
- \* Supervise Licensed Graduate Professional Counselors and Licensed Counselors.
- \* Counseled 10-18 individual adult and/or youth clients weekly, 10-15 adult group clients weekly, and families or couples for substance abuse and general mental health issues.
- \* Responsible for clients' interventions and placements in rehabilitation, 8 – 10 clients weekly.
- \* Coordinated and managed caseload regarding parole/probation, shelter, and referral for psychiatric evaluation, 8 -10 clients weekly.
- \* Pioneered puppet program for substance abuse prevention for adults, teens, and children, group experience.
- \* Taught coping skills course to clients in early recovery.
- \* Developed puppet therapy for individuals and groups
- \* Design and implement Pastoral Counseling (PC) Supervision Group for Master's, Doctoral interns, and graduates of PC program

TEACHING 1983 – present

- \* Adjunct faculty teaching Clinical Case Conference (I&II), (III& IV); Substance Abuse, Group Counseling in Schools, Diagnosis of Mental & Emotional Disorders, Doctoral Individual Supervision, Graduate level.
- \* Co-taught doctoral level Advanced Treatment of Psychopathology
- \* Teaching assistant for graduate level course entitled Helping Relationships, taught two semesters.
- \* Teaching Ethics for Yama Studio/Yama Therapeutics.
- \* Tutored learning disabled children. Successfully prepared them for re-entry into next grade level.
- \* Taught first and second grade classes of 23 - 37 children.
- \* Directed youth choir; performed music and dance.
- \* Planned and directed Specialized Programs for 75 youth.
- \* Developed and executed parent meetings.

SOCIAL SERVICE 1986 - 1991

- \* Live-in caregiver for severely emotionally disturbed girls.

- \* Established behavior management programs and assisted with daily care of girls in temporary care (ages 3 - 10).
- \* Provided crisis intervention day/night shift at Shelter.

#### ADMINISTRATION 1986 -1991

- \* Supervised and coordinated education programs for 100 - 300 youth (ages 4-15).
- \* Trained, motivated, and directed 15 - 40 teachers.
- \* Increased enrollment in city setting 200%.
- \* Networked as a parish staff member with parish organizations.
- \* Created and taught parent sessions; parenting, childhood development.

#### PUPPETEER 1980 - present

- \* Designed and implemented Vizzini Puppet Therapy Model ©2001. Used Model for research at Hazelden Foundation and documented results in Dissertation.
- \* Developed and marketed puppetry programs and workshops.
- \* Wrote scripts and presented puppet programs on self-esteem, bullying, accepting others, handicapping conditions, abuse, addiction, grief, loss, personal safety and spirituality.
- \* Trained adults and teens in puppetry techniques.
- \* Designed and implemented the Puppet Therapy Institute, offering training *in vivo* and through web conferencing.

#### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY 1981 to Present

**Counselor**, Private practice, Mt Washington, MD and Columbia, MD; Metro Maryland Counseling Center, Baltimore, MD; Epoch Counseling Center, Lansdowne, MD; Breakthrough Staff for Ann Smith Counseling and Training, Baltimore, MD; Co-therapist with Nancy Michaelson, CCDC, Baltimore, MD; Cathedral House Re-entry Program, Baltimore, MD, Epoch Counseling Center, Essex, MD (Intern).

**Tutor/Special Education**, Baltimore area, MD

**Musician/Cantor**, St. Mary's Church Govans, Baltimore, MD

**Teacher, Supervisor**, Loyola University, Columbia & Timonium, MD, St. Michael's Overlea, MD, St. Clare's, Essex, MD, St. John the Baptist, Yonkers, NY

**Puppeteer**, Self-employed freelancing, Baltimore, MD

**Director of Religious Education**, St. Mary's Church Govans, Baltimore, MD (Part-time), St. Agnes Church (Full-time), Baltimore, MD

**Child Caregiver**, Iosogan Group Shelter Home, Baltimore, MD

#### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Pastoral Counseling, Loyola College, MD, (2003), GPA 3.93

M.S. Pastoral Counseling, Loyola College, Columbia, MD (1997), GPA 3.94

Courses in Theology, Catholic University, Washington, DC, St. Michael's, Vermont (1988, 1989, 1994)

B.A. Early Childhood Education, Minor/Special Education, summa cum laude, Towson State University, Towson, MD (1982).

## **CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE**

Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor  
Nationally Certified Counselor  
Maryland State Teaching Certificate (until 2009)  
The Use and Interpretation of the Revised NEO Personality Inventory  
Approved Clinical Supervisor for the State of Maryland

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Spirituality Speaker, Salisbury Workshop, April 2013  
Presenter Division 36 American Psychological Association Religious Research Conference 2003, 2006  
Presenter at the American Counseling Association World Conference 1999, 2000, 2001  
Presenter Maryland Association for Counseling and Development Conference 2008  
Presenter SWORD Conference 2008  
Presenter Counseling Across the Culture's Conference "Drugs In Our Culture," 2006  
Presenter Puppeteer's of America's National Day for the  
Teaching Artist and Therapist 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011  
Presenter at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual National Puppetry Festival, 2011  
Presenter Puppet Therapy Institute "Tools for Healing Hearts that Hurt" and "More Tools for Healing the  
Heart that Hurts: Intensive," National, 2007 – present; International, 2009 – 2012  
Presenter Puppet Therapy Institute "Creative Arts for Sensitive Topics", 2012  
Presenter Puppet Therapy Institute, "Laughter and Learning", "Helping Youth Deal with Tragedy" and  
"Youth Decision Making and Social Media," 2013  
Presenter/Instructor Yama Ethics/Therapeutic Yoga Ethics 2010 to present  
Presenter at Bereavement Camps for youth: Camp Me Too, Maryland and Point of Hope Camp, Virginia,  
2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016  
Retreat Leader/Presenter: Bon Secours Spiritual Center 2004, 2005; Loyola College, MA Students, 2007;  
Called and Chosen Ministries, 2008; Trinitarian Retreat House 2006, 2007;  
Washington Retreat House, 2008; Dominican Retreat House 2013

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Interviewed for "How Puppet Therapy Can Help a Child Recover from Sexual Abuse," Yahoo! Articles  
Published in Making Marriage a Success: Pearls of Wisdom from Experts Across the Nation, by Jaleh  
Donaldson

## **AWARDS and HONORS**

Maryland State Student Research Grant, 1980  
Named in Who's Who Among American College Students, 1982  
Chi Sigma Iota  
Alpha Sigma Nu  
Psi Chi  
Kappa Delta Pi

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES**

My Sister's Place, Homeless Drop-in Shelter, Baltimore, MD

Bedford Hills Maximum Security Women's Prison, New York  
Maryland State Special Olympics, Towson, MD  
Women Helping Women, Bon Secours Spiritual Center, Marriottsville, MD