

Biography

Dr. Donna Gaffney

Donna A. Gaffney, RN, DNSc, FAAN Dr. Gaffney is on the faculty of the International Trauma Studies Program at New York University. Prior to her position at NYU she was a member of the graduate faculty and Director of The Center for Women and Children at Risk at Columbia University. She holds an undergraduate degree from Hunter College and Masters degrees from both Teachers College and Rutgers University. Dr. Gaffney earned her doctorate in child cognitive development at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1997 she was awarded the Prudential Fellowship for Children and The News at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. As a member of the Advisory Committee for the Children's Health-A-Thon for Channel Thirteen, she was part of the first public television broadcast on children's health issues. Dr. Gaffney has long addressed the issues of trauma in children's lives. After the Challenger explosion she worked with schools on how best to help grieving children. She has also worked with families following the Pan Am 103 crash in Scotland. Dr. Gaffney developed and appeared in public service announcements for children by WOR during the Gulf War. She is currently working with families affected by the World Trade Center Terrorist Attacks through the New Jersey Family Assistance Center. As a consultant to the NJ Department of Mental Health, the University of Medicine and Dentistry, and Atlantic Health Systems, Dr. Gaffney is also providing training for schools, communities and professionals in the aftermath of the events of September 11th. In September she collaborated with one of the first responders to the terrorist attack, Liberty Science Center in New Jersey, providing staff and administrative support and helping to create "The Science Center as Sanctuary." In addition to numerous academic publications, Dr. Gaffney is the author of *The Seasons of Grief, Helping Children Grow Through Loss*. Dr. Gaffney consults with schools and communities on issues related to children, trauma and interpersonal violence.