

# ADHD Does my child have it?

October 2016

### What's new at

We would like to welcome Anna Durbin to our agency. Anna graduated from the University of Evansville with a Bachelor in Psychology and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College with a Master of Art in Art Therapy. Anna got her license as a Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) in August 2016. Anna has experience working with children, adolescents. adults, and families. We are very excited to have Anna join our team of

WELCOME ANNA!!!

energetic professionals!

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#### What is ADHD?

- ADHD used to be known as Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)
- In 1994 it was renamed Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and broken down into three categories
  - Inattention Type
  - Hyperactive-Impulsive Type
  - Combined Type

#### What are the symptoms?

#### Inattention Type:

- Trouble paying attention to details or making careless mistakes
- · Difficulty staying focused
- · Listening problems
- Difficulty following directions
- · Difficulty with organization
- Loses things easily
- Forgetful

Hyperactive-Impulsive Type:

- Fidgeting
- Difficulty remaining seated
- Excessive running or climbing
- · Difficulty playing quietly
- Excessive talking
- · Blurts out answers
- · Difficulty waiting in line
- Problems with interrupting others

Combined type would include symptoms from both categories.

#### ~ VERY IMPORTANT ~

Many children are misdiagnosed with ADHD...WHY?
These symptoms may exist for many different reasons including:

- Age appropriate behaviors many of these symptoms are typical of school aged children and children starting kindergarten.
- Inconsistent parenting styles children who are a product of divorce and moving back and forth constantly, parents are inconsistent with discipline, inadequate discipline, etc.
- Learning disorder a child may be having problems with hearing, unable to process basic commands, may have difficulty with receiving information verbally, etc.
- Anxiety a child may be worried about a sick parent, parents that were fighting before school, issues with peers in the school setting, bullying, etc.
- Depression a child may be bullied at school and lack focus due to concerns about being made fun of or picked on by their peers, low selfesteem, etc.

## A CHILD MUST COMPLETE A PSYCHOLOIGCAL EVALUATION TO DETERMINE IF THEY HAVE ADHD.

Additional info can be found at:

http://childmind.org/article/the-most-common-misdiagnoses-in-children/

Please stay tuned for next month's newsletter which will provide helpful tips for parenting a child diagnosed with ADHD!