

## Speaker Profile

# George Thompson

MD, FAPA; Chief Medical Officer, KidsTLC; Treasurer, DDPI Board of Directors; Conference Chair

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Dr. George, as the staff and kids call him, is a board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist with a long history of successful treatment of children with complex mental illnesses. He earned his medical degree from the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, and studied child, adolescent and adult psychiatry at the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry in Topeka. He was the Director of Residency Training at Menninger when the clinic moved to Texas. He is an associate professor of psychiatry and medical education at the UMKC School of Medicine, where he teaches medical communication skills to future doctors. Dr. George is an innovator when it comes to guiding adolescents and children to exploring their own behaviors and giving them and their families the tools to modify the behaviors they want to change.

## Session Topics

### Session Topic (Wed., 1 hr.):

#### *Creating Space Within for Listening: Developing the DDP State of Mind*

##### Description:

This talk explores the challenges participants face in listening deeply to children who have experienced trauma. We will look at the role that compassion and attention play in our ability to listen deeply. We will also engage in exercises designed to increase compassion and attention and reflect on the benefit that such exercises provide in doing dyadic developmental psychotherapy and practice. Finally, we will explore the relationship between listening deeply and the resilience of the therapist, parent and others.

##### Objectives:

Upon the completion of this live presentation, physicians and other participants will be able to:

1. List the four ways that traumatized children try to make adults feel, in order to avoid the pain of rejection.
2. Describe the role that compassion and attention play in our ability to listen deeply.
3. Discuss how engaging in exercises designed to increase compassion and attention enhance our ability to employ the principles of dyadic developmental psychotherapy and practice.

KidsTLC, in collaboration with the DDP Institute, presents:



*The Power of Deep Listening to  
Heal, Connect and Transform:  
Insights from DDP and Beyond*



Session order tbd