

**Curriculum Vitae**

**Education**

**1992-1995**

Bachelor of Social Work (hons) degree

York University, Toronto, Ontario

**1988-1992**

Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and English

University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario

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**MISSION:**

Catherine Reid is dedicated to the welfare and best interests of the child. She is committed to helping parents and caregivers understand the needs of their child after separation and divorce. She is devoted to conducting a thorough assessment of the child’s family situation and needs and providing recommendations and assistance to help parents meet their child’s needs. She assists adults to come to a dignified resolution to their ongoing conflict and to move from considering their own interests to those of their child. www.chealyreid.com

**PROFILE:**

* 25+ years clinical experience working with parents and children dealing in separation/divorce, domestic violence, bereavement, complex medical needs and child protection;
* Continuing education training in conducting Child Custody Evaluations with emphasis on: the purpose and roles of the child custody evaluator; differences between the forensic role and clinical role; legal system, court orders, AFCC Model Standards, best interest factors, rules of evidence, and caselaw on evidentiary standards;  strategies for interviewing children and adults forensically;  screening for intimate partner violence (IPV) and the impact of IPV on families and the child custody evaluation process; current research literature on the effects of divorce on children, issues with high conflict parents, and gatekeeping; current research literature on young children, parental mental health, and substance misuse within the context of child custody; current research literature on young children, parental mental health, and substance misuse within the context of child custody; ethnic, cultural, and diversity issues.
* Conducted over 65+ court ordered Custody/Access assessments; 10+ Legal Assists for the Office of the Children’s Lawyer; 10+ Voice of the Child Assessments for the Office of the Children’s Lawyer;
* Utilizing the Family Systems Theory, Structural Theory, Child Development Theory and Attachment Theory in interventions;
* Knowledgeable of the impact of separation and divorce on families and children;
* Aware and sensitive to the dynamics of high conflict families and the impact of conflict on children;
* Highly skilled in interview techniques appropriate to children and families;
* Working knowledge of Solution Focused Therapy and Collaborative Problem Solving;
* Trained to conduct Ontario Domestic Violence Assault Risk Assessment;
* Completion of all high-level Ontario Child Protection training modules;
* Employs a systemic and holistic approach;
* Incorporates a flexible approach to all situations;
* Promotes client and family centered interactions;
* Values a team approach as a way to best serve the client;
* Demonstrates compassion and sensitivity to the client’s diverse needs and the impact of various diversities;
* Maintains professional neutrality and objectivity when conducting assessments;
* Possesses working knowledge of relevant case laws and legislation;
* Member in good standing with the Ontario College Social Workers and Social Service Workers;
* Member of the Canadian Association of Social Workers;
* Member of the Ontario Association of Social Workers;
* Member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts;

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Clinical Panel Member, Office of the Children’s Lawyer**

**Ministry of the Attorney General**

2017-present

Self-Employed, Full Time

Ottawa, Ontario

* Appointed to the Clinical Panel, a body of select clinicians deemed specialists in family and parent-child dynamics with particular expertise in the investigation of child custody and access matters;
* Provides consultation to individuals and families who are dealing with custody and access matters and other related issues such as separation and divorce;
* Responsible for conducting full and focused investigations and reports pursuant to s. 112 of the Courts of Justice Act for proceedings before the court in custody/access cases;
* Provides assistance to counsel representing children pursuant to s. 89(3.1);
* Responsible for assessing and advocating for the best interest of the child;
* Assesses capacity of parents to meet the child’s needs and interests and refers for professional evaluations, as required;
* Provides recommendations on all matters concerning custody and access;
* Assists parties to resolve their dispute where applicable with disclosure and settlement initiative;
* Completes and provides to the Court, Voice of the Child Reports and Focused Reports;
* Provides testimony for custody and access proceedings in Family Court.

**Private sec. 30 CLRA Assessments**

2017 to present

Self-Employed

Ottawa, Ontario

* Pursuant to a S. 30 CLRA endorsement or by private agreement between the parties, conducting comprehensive assessments and gives opinion evidence on the best interests of children in custody and access proceedings;
* Assesses and reports to the Court on the needs of the child and ability and willingness of the parties to satisfy the needs of the child;
* Voice of the Child Reports: Pursuant to private retainer and/or Court Order, conduct and submit focused reports on the views of the child involved in custody and access matters.

**Clinical Hospital Social Worker**

**2007-2017**

**Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario**

Ottawa, Ontario

* In various capacities including Child and Youth Protection, Emergency Department, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and Inpatient Medicine;
* Provided supportive, bereavement counselling to children, individuals and families as part of a brief, short-term intensive counselling model;
* Completed problem identification and intervention plan that was tailored to each case;
* Consulted with other mental health professionals and clinical managers for discharge planning;
* Provided crisis counseling and support for patients with substance abuse issues, domestic and sexual assault incidents, trauma accidents, and prenatal loss;
* Assessed family situations and reported cases to Child Protective Services;
* Performed psychosocial assessments;
* Identified barriers to medical care as well as social determinants of health;
* Communicated with external organizations in the community, as well as on-site providers to facilitate adherence to the care plan (e.g. transportation, legal, housing);
* Educated patients/caregivers on how to navigate the health system, connecting them to resources, and empowering them to use these resources.

**Child Protection Worker**

1995 – 2007

Children’s Aid Society of Toronto

Ottawa Children’s Aid Society

* Wide breadth and depth of child advocacy and community service experience;
* Excellent familiarity with child rights and protection principles and procedures;
* Superior expertise in child protection investigative processes and protocols;
* Exceptional experience in the court system pertaining to child protection;
* Strong independent decision-making and critical thinking abilities;
* High skills in providing community service referrals to families as appropriate;
* Committed to maintaining a structural therapy approach with clients;
* Adept at assessing children and families in crisis;
* Agile at managing multiple workplace demands with ongoing projects;
* Active listener and a critical thinker in both assessment and therapy environments;
* Effective at managing the demands of a documentation workload;
* Provided supervision to an Intake team for a period of one year.

**Membership/Other**

* Member in good standing with the College of Social Workers and Social Services Workers since 2007;
* Member of the Canadian Association of Social Workers;
* Member of the Ontario Association of Social Workers;
* Member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

**Additional Training:**

* Fundamentals of Conducting Child Custody Evaluations, March 16-18 & March 22-24, 2021; continuing education credits;
* Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Virtual Interview training, July 2020;
* Office of the Children’s Lawyer, PPE and Critical Supply Usage in the Workplace During COVID-19, November 2020;
* Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Virtual Town Hall and COVID-19 Safety Seminar; June 2020;
* Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Spring Engagement Sessions, Voice of the Child and Focused Reports, 2018;
* The Phenomena of Violent Extremism, the RCMP Terrorism Prevention Program and Intervention Team, 2016
* Collaborative Problem Solving, 2012
* Ontario Domestic Violence Risk Assessment training, 2011
* Solution Focused Therapy, Motivational Interviewing and Strength Based Interventions with Families, 2011
* Ontario Pediatric Sexual Assault/Abuse training, 2010
* Eastern Ontario Trauma Conference, 2010
* Bereavement Therapy training, 2009
* Child and Youth Maltreatment conference, San Diego, California 2008 & 2010
* Palliative Care 2-day seminar, 2008
* Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Sexual Exploitation on the Internet, 2007
* Drug Endangered Children: Equating Drug Activity to Child Abuse, 2006
* Domestic Violence & Infants: Traumatic Effects & Community Response, 2006
* Dr. Diane Benoit, Attachment Workshop, 2002
* Ontario Child Welfare training series, 1995-2007, including forensic interviewing of children.