



PRESENTER PROFILES

LEW ABRAMS, ACSW, LCSW, CASAC



For the past 34 years, **Lew Abrams** has been treating those afflicted with addictions and mental health challenges including adolescents, adults, couples and families. He has created and directed programs at all levels of care including traditional outpatient, partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient, and residential services throughout New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mr. Abrams was the Clinical Director of Marworth Treatment Center (1990-2001), a nationally recognized system of addiction treatment services located outside of Scranton, Pa. From 2002 through 2007, Lew directed the Yatzkan Center, a not for profit residential long-term rehabilitation program for Jewish adolescents with substance abuse and emotional/behavior problems. As the Executive Director, he developed the program, increased the quality of treatment and assisted in excess of 200 families, from all over the world. In addition to addiction treatment, Mr. Abrams has specialized training in clinical supervision, group therapy, psychodrama, family therapy, and experiential techniques including anger discharge and grief work. Several years ago, Lew also received a certification in sex addiction treatment (CSAT). He is a graduate of the Columbia University School of Social Work (1980). Currently, Mr. Abrams has a full-time private practice serving individuals (adults and adolescents), couples and families. Offices are located in Manhattan and New Jersey. Lew has written numerous articles regarding substance abuse and mental health topics including “Yiddishkeit and Substance Abuse Treatment: Recovery and Renewed Spirituality”. Lew edited the Substance Abuse section of Children in Crisis for Volumes 2 and 3 published by NEFESH International (Orthodox Mental Health Professionals).

MIRIAM ADLER, PHD, CHT



Miriam Adler is a licensed clinical psychologist and the Executive Director of Park Avenue Psychotherapy Associates in Clifton, NJ. She earned her doctorate from Fordham University, where she was honored with a fellowship and conducted research related to life stress. Her undergraduate degree is from Stern College of Yeshiva University, where she graduated magna cum laude. Dr. Adler has presented at professional conferences and has over 10 years of experience helping people overcome a wide range of psychological issues. While she has experience with all ages, her current practice focuses on individual therapy for adults and older adolescents. Her specialties include treating symptoms of stress, anxiety, depression, and adult ADD (very common in creative people and "out of the box" thinkers). As a certified hypnotherapist, she often augments therapy with relaxation exercises, guided imagery and hypnosis. Research shows that these are very effective tools, particularly for reducing anxiety.

SARAH BATEMAN, LCSW



Sarah Bateman, LCSW, has been practicing social work for more than 10 years. As The Renfrew Center's Liaison to the Jewish community, she ensures that individuals with eating disorders in the Jewish community are able to receive culturally sensitive treatment and that their unique religious needs are met. Ms. Bateman has a private practice with offices in New York and New Jersey, provides training for professionals and lectures in schools while working to raise awareness and understanding of eating disorders in the Jewish community.

DR. SHALOM FEINBERG



Shalom Feinberg M.D. is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) /Montefiore Medical Center, of Yeshiva University. Dr. Feinberg attended the NYU School of Medicine, receiving his MD degree in 1980, and completed his internship and residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. On the teaching faculty at AECOM since 1984, he lectures to psychiatry residents on various topics relevant to clinical psychopharmacology and provides clinical supervision within the psychiatry residency.

Dr. Feinberg is a co-founder and a current executive board member of NEFESH International, the International Network of Orthodox Mental Health Professionals. He has written chapters in books, articles in peer reviewed journals, presented at the American Psychiatric Association Annual meeting and at NEFESH Conferences and has been interviewed on the radio. Dr. Feinberg's research interests have focused on issues of treatment resistant depression, the use of MAOIs, and cultural issues related to clinical psychopharmacological practice. He is presently involved with a working group within NEFESH to set up a Shiddach initiative program for participants with stable psychiatric issues. He maintains a private psychiatric practice in Forest Hills New York.

DR. EZRA FEUER



Dr. Ezra Feuer is an adult and adolescent psychiatrist practicing in Great Neck, NY and Englewood, NJ. He is a graduate of Yeshiva College and New York Medical College. Dr. Feuer completed his psychiatry residency at The Payne Whitney Clinic of Cornell Medical School. He then completed a year fellowship as Chief Resident at The Payne Whitney Clinic. Following his residency, he served as Director of Inpatient Psychiatry at Northshore University Hospital. Dr. Feuer is currently in a private practice and an adjunct assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at Hofstra Medical School.

RABBI YAAKOV GLASSER



Rabbi Yaakov Glasser is the David Mitzner Dean of Yeshiva University Center for the Jewish Future, and the Rabbi of Young Israel of Passaic-Clifton. In addition to his broad Torah knowledge, he brings an incredible energy and enthusiasm to his work, as is attested by the hundreds who attend his explanatory Kinot on Tisha B'av and his Shabbos Hagadol and Shabbos Shuva lectures. He possesses extensive experience in youth work and informal Jewish education, having served as founding director of the Orthodox Union's Jewish Student Union in New Jersey – a network of public school clubs for Jewish teens. Rabbi Glasser has Yoreh Yoreh Smicha from Yeshiva University, as well as an M.S. in Jewish Education from the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration. He is also a member of Yeshiva University's Kollel LeHoraah. He and his wife, Ruth, have four children.

RABBI KENNETH HAIN



Since 1988 **Rabbi Kenneth Hain** has served as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom in Lawrence, New York. Prior to that he served in congregations in New York City and Houston, Texas. A native of Danville, Virginia, Rabbi Hain was educated and ordained at Yeshiva University – Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He has taught Judaic Studies at Stern College – YU and served as a director of YU's Division of Communal Services. From 1999-2001, Rabbi Hain served as President of the Rabbinical Council of America and has also served as President of RIETS Rabbinical Alumni. In 2008 he was named among the Top 25 Rabbis in America by Newsweek Magazine.

DR. RONEN HIZAMI



Dr. Ronen Hizami is a child and adult psychiatrist with a private practice in New City, Brooklyn and Lakewood. Previously, he was an attending physician of child psychiatry at Schneider children's hospital, a psychiatrist at Ohel Children's Home and Family services and Psychiatric Director of the Working Organization for Retarded Children and Adults.

RABBI DR. BARRY HOLZER



Rabbi Dr. Barry Holzer is a child and adult psychiatrist practicing in Queens, Brooklyn and Long Island. He is founder and director of the Center for Attention-Deficit & Behavior Disorders, which besides its treatment focus, has done clinical research in ADHD. He is the psychiatrist for Astor Day treatment, a program for children ages 8-12, in Bronx, NY. Dr. Holzer is co-founder of Nefesh, the International Network of Orthodox Jewish Mental Health Professionals. He is an active member of the board and a regular presenter at the annual conference. Rabbi Dr. Holzer received his semikha from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University.

DR. HINDIE M. KLEIN



Dr. Hindie M. Klein is a Psychologist/Psychoanalyst who maintains a private practice specializing in the treatment of adolescents, adults and couples. She is also Senior Clinical Consultant at OHEL Children's Home and Family Services, a multi-service social and mental health agency serving individuals in New York, New Jersey, Florida and California. Dr. Klein is the former Director of Tikvah at OHEL, OHEL's New York State licensed out-patient mental health centers. Dr. Klein received her Master's Degree in School Psychology from Brooklyn College, her Doctorate in School/Clinical/Community Psychology from Pace University and her Post-doctorate in Psychoanalysis from New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. Dr. Klein is on the Executive Committee of the United Task Force, a coalition of agencies that address issues pertaining to children and families at risk in the Orthodox Jewish Community. Dr. Klein serves on the Board of Nefesh, the International Network of Orthodox Mental Health Professionals, and is a frequent presenter at their annual conferences. Dr. Klein serves on the Board of COJO Flatbush, the Council of Orthodox Jewish Organizations. Dr. Klein is the recipient of several community service awards. Her devotion to community mental health, specifically within the Orthodox Jewish community, has inspired her to lecture, write and provide treatment to and for the Jewish community.

RABBI NAPHTALI LAVENDA



Rabbi Naphtali Lavenda is currently Director of Online Rabbinic Programming at Yeshiva University Center for the Jewish Future. He has been working in Jewish non-profit for over 10 years, first at the Orthodox Union and currently at YU, coordinating programs and resources for rabbis, including several online continuing education courses for rabbis. Naphtali graduated from Yeshiva University's Sy Syms School of Business, received rabbinic ordination from its Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, and completed studies at the Bar Ilan International MBA program. Originally from Cincinnati, OH, Naphtali spent a number of years in New York until he made Aliyah in 2009. Naphtali currently lives in Yad Binyamin with his wife and four children.

RABBI YAAKOV NEUBURGER



Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger is a rosh yeshiva at the Yeshiva Program/Mazer School of Talmudic Studies of Yeshiva University. Rabbi Neuburger is also the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Abraham in Bergenfield, N.J.

Rabbi Neuburger is an authority on issues related to marital relationships and the purity of the Jewish home. He offers his services to help young men train for married life and prepare to build a proper Jewish home built on Jewish law and spirit. From 1986 to 1990, Rabbi Neuburger was spiritual leader of the Jewish community at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the Jack D. Weiler Hospital. Rabbi Neuburger received semikha from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University in

1979. He is a graduate of Yeshiva College, and earned an MA in psychology from Columbia University.

DR. DAVID PELCOVITZ



Dr. David Pelcovitz holds the Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus Chair in Psychology and Jewish Education at Yeshiva University's Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration where he is also the Special Assistant to the President. For over two decades he was Director of Psychology at North Shore University Hospital-NYU School of Medicine, and Clinical Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry, at NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Pelcovitz has published and lectured extensively on a wide range of issues facing children and adolescents including child mental health, family violence, the impact of domestic violence, stress management,

parenting, transmitting values to children and adolescents and coping with trauma and loss. His most recent publication is a book in collaboration with his father entitled, "Life in the Balance; Torah Perspectives on Positive Psychology" which follows their previous joint books, "Balanced Parenting" on parenting from a Jewish perspective and "Balanced Living: Torah Perspectives on Positive Psychology."

RABBI MENACHEM PENNER



Rabbi Menachem Penner is the Max and Marion Grill Dean of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary at Yeshiva University and the Men's Undergraduate Torah Studies programs at Yeshiva University. Rabbi Penner holds the title of Rabbi Emeritus of the Young Israel of Holliswood in Queens, where he served as the spiritual leader proudly from 1996 – 2015. Rabbi Penner received his semikha from RIETS in 1994 and his BA from Yeshiva College in 1991. The parent of a child with special needs, he speaks across the country on issues of children with disabilities.

TALLI ROSENBAUM, MSC, AASECT



Talli Rosenbaum earned a Masters in Clinical Sociology and Counseling and a certificate in Mental Health Studies from the University of North Texas in Neve Yerushalayim. She also has a bachelors degree in Physical Therapy from Northwestern University and before training in psychotherapy, treated patients as a physical therapist for 25 years. Talli is the only AASECT certified sex therapist who is an individual and couple's therapist and a former pelvic floor physical therapist and is an internationally recognized expert on the the treatment of sexual pain disorders. She has authored over 30 peer reviewed journal articles and several book chapters on sexual health, unconsummated marriage, and sexuality and Judaism.

Together with Dr. Anna Padoa, she has edited the Springer textbook entitled "The Overactive Pelvic Floor." She is a member of several sexual health and sexual medicine organizations and is an associate editor of the Sexual Medicine Reviews. She has also been awarded status of ISSWSH Fellow. In addition to maintaining an active private practice, Talli is the academic advisor for Yahel: The Center for Jewish Intimacy, which trains community leaders in sexual guidance counseling. She lectures in the Bar-Ilan Sex Therapy Program, the Tel Aviv University Faculty of Medicine program in Sexual Rehabilitation, the Puah Institute, and the Israeli Institute for Marriage and Family Studies. Talli frequently lectures both in Israel and abroad, to lay as well as professional audiences. She has been invited to present courses on sexual health by several professional organizations. Talli has served on the board of directors and scientific committees of ISSWSH and as AASECT counselor certifications, international outreach chairperson, and International Region Membership Chair.

RABBI LARRY ROTHWACHS



Rabbi Larry Rothwachs has served as rabbi at Beth Aaron in Teaneck since 2002. After attending Yeshiva University, with semicha from RIETS and a Masters Degree in Education from Azrieli, Rabbi Rothwachs served as Assistant Rabbi at Congregation AABJD in West Orange, NJ, before coming to Beth Aaron. He has taught Talmud as a popular rebbe in MTA (Yeshiva University High School for Boys) and as an eighth-grade rebbe at the Rosenbaum Yeshiva of North Jersey. In addition, Rabbi Rothwachs has served in a rotating position as President of the Rabbinical Council of Bergen County, and as a rebbe in the NCSY Kollel for Boys in Israel. He recently joined the RIETS administration as Director of Professional Rabbinics

working with the semicha students.

RABBI DR. JONATHAN SCHWARTZ



Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Schwartz is rabbi at Adath Israel in Elizabeth, NJ. Rabbi Schwartz previously served as the Assistant Rabbi at the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in Manhattan, Rabbinic Intern at the Young Israel of Jamaica Estates, Rosh HaKollel of Great Neck Synagogue's summer Kollel Program, and coordinator of the Moshe Soshtain Beis HaMedrash in Woodmere. Rabbi Schwartz received his B.A., M.A., and Psy.D. degrees from Yeshiva University. In addition, he received his *semicha* from RIETS. Rabbi Schwartz has also served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology. A licensed psychologist, Rabbi Schwartz is the Clinical Director of the Center for Anxiety Relief in Union, NJ (www.njanxietyrelief.com).

He has also served as a staff therapist at various critical community clinics, including the Bronx VA Medical Center, Tikvah at Ohel, and Pesach Tikvah in Williamsburgh. He has written and published psychologically-oriented articles spanning the Jewish lifecycle and focused on anxiety and mood-related issues. A respected authority on Anxiety Disorders and OCD, Rabbi Schwartz has presented lectures and workshops on psychological and Judaic themes around the world.

DR. BINYAMIN TEPFER



Dr. Tepfer received his doctoral degree in Educational Psychology from The Graduate Center, CUNY. He has received advanced training at The Beck Institute (cognitive therapy), the Albert Ellis Institute (rational emotive behavioral therapy), The William Allison White Institute (Interpersonal Psychoanalytic methods), The Ackerman Institute for the Family (family therapy), The Psychodrama Institute of New York (experiential modalities), and The Gottman Institute (marital therapy). He has extensively trained with Dr. Don-David Lusterman PhD, one of the national experts in the field of family therapy and couple infidelity, and Dr. Patrick Carnes, founder and director of the International Institute for Trauma and Addiction

Professionals (IITAP), where he received his certification as a sex addiction and multiple addictions therapist (CSAT, CMAT). He is also a certified sex therapist (AASECT), completing his advanced training at The Council for Relationships, in Philadelphia, where he trained extensively with Dr. Steven Betchen, a pioneer in integrating marital and psychodynamic therapy models. Currently, Dr. Tepfer maintains his full time private practice in Cedarhurst and Brooklyn, NY, where he counsels individuals, couples, and families, and runs weekly recovery groups. He is the founder and clinical director of Tepfer and Associates, and supervises the counseling team at both locations. Dr. Tepfer currently serves as a supervisor for the International Institute for Trauma and Addiction Professionals (IITAP), and is professionally affiliated with The Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health (SASH), and Nefesh International.

RABBI MORDECHAI WILLIG



Rabbi Mordechai Willig is a Rosh Yeshiva and Rosh Kollel at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, where he is the Rabbi Dr. Sol Roth Professor of Talmud and Contemporary Halachah. Rabbi Willig has served as spiritual leader of the Young Israel of Riverdale in the Bronx since 1974. He is the author of *Am Mordechai* (on Brachot, Shabbat and most recently on Yom Tov), and has authored many articles in Torah scholarship journals. Rabbi Willig is also the deputy av beis din of the Beth Din of America. Rabbi Willig received a BA in mathematics from Yeshiva College in 1968, an MS in Jewish history in 1971 from the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies, and was ordained that same year at RIETS.

RABBI ELIEZER ZWICKLER, LCSW, CSAT CANDIDATE (2)



Rabbi Zwickler received Rabbinic ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and earned a Bachelor's Degree in History from Yeshiva College. He also holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from the Yeshiva University Wurzweiler School of Social Work as well as a Master's Degree in Secondary Jewish Education from the Azrielli Graduate School of Yeshiva University. Rabbi Zwickler previously taught special education for 5 years at the PTACH program at Yeshiva University High School while serving as Assistant Rabbi of Congregation AABJ&D. Rabbi Zwickler serves on the Executive Committee of the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy & Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School, in Livingston, NJ, is co-president of the Va'ad Hakashrus of MetroWest and a member of the Board of Trustees of the UJC of Metrowest. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Rabbinic Council of America. Rabbi Zwickler is a licensed Social Worker in the state of New Jersey.