



# Daviess County Public Schools

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## DCPS hosting trauma center expert today

The Daviess County Public Schools district is hosting Miriam Silman, M.S.W., a training and clinical specialist with the University of Kentucky's Center on Trauma and Children, as the DCPS continues its training of counselors, teachers, administrators, Family Resource and Youth Service Center coordinators and other educators in the area of trauma-informed practices. Every DCPS school, including all 12 elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, Owensboro Day Treatment and Valley School, will be represented at this session.

The training is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. TODAY (Wednesday, Oct. 23) in the community room at Owensboro Christian Church (lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.).

Last year, the DCPS team presented Module 1 and Module 2/Part A of this ongoing training; earlier this year, they presented Module 2/Part B. Today's training will provide the final elements of the modules.

Funding for this training, focusing on strategies and resilience, was provided by a grant from Owensboro Health, and is designed to support the DCPS district's ongoing work in the area of trauma-informed practices. Trauma-informed practices involve understanding, recognizing and responding to the effects of all kinds of trauma, with an emphasis on physical, psychological and emotional safety. "Trauma" may include a child's exposure to violence, crime, or psychological or physical abuse, as well as dealing with medical stress or grief. These experiences have both immediate and long-term effects on a child's academic, emotional, social and physical health and well-being, as documented by Adverse Childhood Experiences Study research (<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/acestudy/index.html>).

"The Umbrella Project – Mindful Movement" grant, which was submitted by DCPS district social worker Christina Dalton and DCPS student assistance coordinator Rhonda Welch, includes several layers of response and support, including the implementation of "Mindfulness" rooms – designated areas at pilot schools that serve as safe, quiet spaces where students can retreat when feeling overwhelmed by circumstances or emotions.

**NOTE TO MEDIA** – Our media partners are invited to join us for this event at Owensboro Christian Church, 2818 New Hartford Road. Participants and facilitators will be available for interviews. For more information, contact DCPS assistant superintendent for human services Dr. Amy Shutt at [amy.shutt@daviess.kyschools.us](mailto:amy.shutt@daviess.kyschools.us)

For more information, contact DCPS Public Information Officer Lora Wimsatt  
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