

The Partnership Team

The consultation team consists of doctoral and master's level professionals. Each Melmark consultant has extensive clinical experience working with children with developmental disabilities, as well as a variety of school personnel. Professional summaries are available for each assigned consultant.

"Change is not an easy task and educators often have a more difficult time than others. Recent mandates requiring districts to serve students with disabilities in the LRE have necessitated tremendous change. Since working with Melmark, our district has seen major growth not only in the students, but also in teachers and parents."

Dr. George Shellem, Director of Special Services, Penns Grove-Carneys Point, NJ

"Understanding the needs of a student who has challenging behaviors requires patience, experience, and a range of educational and clinical resources. Melmark's clinical team is great - they have contributed to a better education for my students in class, and a better life for their families at home."

Mary DiDomenico - Teacher, Evesham Township School District Marlton, NJ

Requests for Services

All requests for consultation services should be made to Stephen Luce, Ph.D., at Melmark. Please contact Dr. Luce to discuss your specific needs. Fee schedules vary depending on the nature of the consulting assignment and required staffing levels.



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Educational Behavioral Consultation Services



**partnerships that
maximize growth
and independence
for children with
special needs**

Who We Are

Located in Berwyn, PA (just outside Philadelphia), The Melmark School is an approved private school that offers both residential and day programming for children five to 21 years of age. These children have a wide range of developmental disabilities including:

- ◆ Autism spectrum disorders
- ◆ Acquired brain injury
- ◆ Other neurological and genetic impairments
- ◆ Related challenging behavioral issues

Using a multidisciplinary team approach and validated best practices, our staff strives to maximize every child's potential by implementing *applied behavior analysis, functional curriculums, vocational training, and collaborative services.*



Home and In-district Consultation Services

In addition to our on-campus educational programs, Melmark's nationally recognized clinical staff offers both home-based and in-district consultation services to schools, human service agencies, and families who are addressing the needs of children with challenging behaviors.

Consulting capabilities cover a full range of programs and support services including:

- ◆ Individualized training for staff and family members
- ◆ Behavioral intervention strategies
- ◆ Classroom assistance including mentoring and curriculum assessment and development

Our staff gathers baseline information by observing a child in a home or classroom setting; reviewing available clinical and educational records; and meeting with family, in-home staff, and relevant school personnel. Melmark's professional staff will then work with the support and teaching team to:

- ◆ Identify and prioritize challenging behaviors
- ◆ Develop an effective intervention
- ◆ Model the intervention
- ◆ Provide feedback to staff and supervisors who implement the intervention
- ◆ Monitor the intervention's effectiveness
- ◆ Make modifications until a successful behavior plan is realized

Transitional Support

Melmark's consultants work in partnership with school district representatives and families/caregivers to assist in a student's initial enrollment into an in-district classroom setting. Our staff will design an effective transition plan that addresses appropriate behavioral and classroom integration issues.

Working with school district staff, Melmark's consultants will regularly review and modify an educational plan to ensure a child's progress and success.

Other Services

As requested, our consultants are available to present a range of topics focusing on behavioral principles. Targeted audiences include Parent Workshops, Professional Training Seminars, Continuing Education Programs, and Professional Conferences.

Suggested topics may include (but are not limited to):

- ◆ Introduction to principles of learning and behavior
- ◆ Everyday applications of behavioral principles
- ◆ Strategies that will help to increase appropriate behaviors
- ◆ Strategies that will help to decrease challenging, disruptive behaviors
- ◆ Sensitivity training for peers

Melmark's consulting team will work closely with a sponsoring organization in the selection and presentation of an appropriate topic.