

# In Touch Parenting: Helping Children Who Use Behavior as Language



Dr. Richard Delaney

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Duluth, MN

Creating Permanency,  
Empowering Families

The social brain is the part of the nervous system which allows children (and parents) to get along with others. The social brain allows children to understand their own mind and heart as well as what other people are thinking or feeling. The ability to empathize, to understand and feel for others is a big part of the social brain. Unfortunately, some foster or adopted children suffer from a shortage of feelings for others and an inability to understand others' points of view. With empathy in short supply these youngsters may behave in ways that are less sensitive and more aggressive to others. In addition, without an ability to understand and communicate their own thoughts, feelings and intentions they often misbehave. In these instances, behavior (or problem behavior) is language, a form of language that foster and adoptive parents must decode. This workshop will focus on:

1. Signs that your child has empathy issues
2. An exploration of the causes of empathy deficits
3. Ways to decode problem behavior
4. Emotional coaching by parents to promote empathy in children
5. Other interventions that bolster the development of empathy

**Dr. Rick Delaney** is an internationally known clinical psychologist, speaker and consultant to foster, kinship, and adoptive parents and programs. Dr. Delaney has given several hundred presentations in the throughout the United States, Canada, and the Bermuda Islands. *Dr. Delaney* is currently the principal investigator of Foster Parent College ([www.fosterparentcollege.com](http://www.fosterparentcollege.com)), an on-line resource for foster, kinship and adoptive parents. This site is endorsed by many child welfare agencies in the U.S. and Canada, and it is rated at the California Evidence Based Clearinghouse in Child Welfare. He is the author (or co-author) of: *Fostering Changes: Myth, Meaning, and Magic Bullets in Attachment Theory* and *A 3-D View of Foster, Kinship, and Adopted Children* (with James M. Kagan, M.D.)

## Presentation

Thursday, May 11, 2017

6:30 pm—8:30 pm

## Location

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota  
424 West Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802

## Fee

\$15/person; \$25 per parenting couple. Space is limited, so register now!

**CEUs** are available for an additional \$30 per person  
*Certificates of Attendance* (free) will be distributed

**Register** online at [www.mnadopt.org/post-adopt-training/](http://www.mnadopt.org/post-adopt-training/)

**Questions?** Contact Janet Hammer at 612-746-5125 or [jhammer@mnadopt.org](mailto:jhammer@mnadopt.org)