



APRIL 24

1-3:00 PM

CAS
30 REALTY DRIVE
CHESHIRE CT 06410

SCHOOL AVOIDANCE:

Re-engaging Students and
Empowering Parents and School
Personnel

School avoidance and attendance problems present school systems and families with particularly difficult challenges. The reasons why students are unable, or unwilling, to attend school routinely are varied, often requiring an array of intervention approaches. Although the goal is usually the same - to help students reintegrate back into their public school communities and progress academically, socially, and emotionally - the roads which lead to that goal may be quite different. Presenters Joe Pedemonti and Dr. Scott Hannan from the Institute of Living in Hartford will focus on attendance obstacles and solutions to support school avoidant students. Attendees will leave with practical tips to help school personnel handle attendance issues.

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Presenters:

JOE PEDEMONTI, MS, is an Educational Coordinator for the Webb School's Attendance and Credit Recovery Program, a part of the Institute of Living's Center for School Engagement. In addition to coordinating these services, he organizes and directs their extended school year services for students. As a result of his extensive experience working with school-avoidant adolescents, Mr. Pedemonti was invited to present at the School Mental Health Conference in Boston offered by Harvard Medical School and Cambridge Health Alliance, was the keynote speaker at the 5th Annual Juvenile Review Board / LIST Conference, and speaks to school districts across the state of Connecticut on the topic of school avoidance and attendance and credit recovery.

SCOTT HANNAN, PH.D. is a clinical psychologist in private practice and at the Institute of Living's Anxiety Disorders Center. He specializes in cognitive behavioral therapy with children, adolescents, and adults. His clinical interests include obsessive-compulsive disorder, phobias, panic disorder, and school refusal. Due to his expertise in the treatment of hoarding disorder, he has been a featured expert on A&E's Hoarders. Dr. Hannan is also involved in research; currently developing a parent-focused treatment for school refusal and developing a measure to assess school avoidance and distress.