

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU WORK WITH AN IECA MEMBER CONSULTANT

IECA member educational consultants adhere to a strict code of Principles and Practices and are the most highly trained and experienced consultants in the profession. You can rest assured that you are working with a consultant who will find the best options for your child.

Testing – In addition to collaborating with all the professionals involved in a child's care, a consultant may decide that a comprehensive evaluation is needed to assess a child's cognitive and emotional functioning.

In some cases, testing may be done to determine specific learning and behavioral patterns. Some consultants administer these tests themselves; others make referrals to other professionals for testing. Although teens who are "acting out" can appear very similar, the underlying roots of the behavior may be quite different. An individualized approach is necessary to respond to a child's particular needs.

Research – IECA member consultants research programs to find the best fit for your child. Because they have helped a variety of troubled teens, they are aware of a multitude of options and can expeditiously target the best choices. IECA members spend a significant amount of their time visiting therapeutic programs and other educational institutions across the country. Because they are not compensated by any program or institution, consultants will concentrate on what is best for your child and provide you with objective options.

Follow-Up – After your child is placed in a program, the consultant will follow up with the child to monitor progress. Consultants often work as advisors to a treatment team and in conjunction with therapists, and can also serve as a support for parents. An independent educational consultant will look beyond the current placement and assist in planning for your child's continued progress.

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS ASSOCIATION

IECA was founded in 1976 as a non-profit, professional association of established educational consultants. As the nation's respected voice of the profession, IECA sets the standards, leads the discussion, and serves as the public face of educational consulting to the media, colleges, and other professionals.

IECA helps members update knowledge and maintain skills through meetings, workshops, training programs, and information exchange with colleges, schools, programs, and other consultants.

When a family chooses an independent educational consultant who is a member of IECA, they are assured that the consultant is experienced, highly trained, and committed to honest and ethical practices.



INDEPENDENT
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Excellence in Educational Planning

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ADVISING FAMILIES WITH AT-RISK CHILDREN

AN INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT CAN HELP PARENTS AND ADOLESCENTS OR PRE-TEENS DURING THESE DIFFICULT YEARS



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AN IECA MEMBER EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT CAN HELP PARENTS AND CHILDREN WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD A PROMISING FUTURE

In times of crisis, parents are often overwhelmed by a barrage of emotions. The confusion and desperation associated with having a troubled teenager or child can be extremely trying.

Parents may not be aware of the options available, or may not be able to decide on their own which alternative best meets their situation and the needs of their child.

Among the questions consultants often hear:

How do we know when treatment is necessary?

What would be best for our child? Is an intervention

needed? Should we find

a residential program?

Would a wilderness

therapy program be a good

choice, or would an emotional growth boarding school

be better? An IECA educational consultant can help

families find the answers they need.



IECA MEMBER CONSULTANTS ARE TRAINED EXPERTS

An independent educational consultant possesses comprehensive knowledge of placement options.

Consultants who specialize in helping families with at-risk teens have extensive experience working with crisis intervention, dealing with oppositional behaviors, and other emotional/behavioral difficulties, and finding the most suitable solutions.

IECA educational consultants typically spend 20% of their time on the road visiting and evaluating scores of programs. Only by conducting such visits can a consultant get a good understanding of a facility's strengths, therapy options, and staff expertise.

IECA MEMBER CONSULTANTS WILL EXPLORE EACH CHILD'S OR TEEN'S UNIQUE NEEDS

What works for one adolescent or pre-teen may not be appropriate for another. The consultant generally interviews both the child and the family to determine individual needs and concerns, often examining test results or consulting with a family therapist, pediatrician, or school psychologist. Getting to know the parents and child in a neutral environment is vital to discovering the best treatment plan.

IECA member educational consultants advise you on all facets of your child's care. This professional and confidential assistance can bring long-awaited direction to troubled families.