

Reframing Behavior – Spokesperson Bios

Crisis Prevention Institute

Crisis Prevention Institute Inc. (CPI) is the worldwide leader in evidence-based de-escalation and crisis prevention training and dementia care services. Since 1980, we've trained more than 17 million people within service-oriented industries including education, health care, behavioral health, long term care, human services, security, corporate, and retail.

We teach professionals the skills to recognize, prevent, and respond to crises in the workplace. With tiered levels of training, we offer customizable solutions that fit every role and risk level to foster organization-wide safety and well-being.

We are dedicated to changing behaviors and reducing conflict for the Care, Welfare, Safety, and Security of everyone. We believe the power of empathy, meaningful connections, personal safety, and security are the antidotes to fear and anxiety. It's a philosophy that is central to everything we do and traces back to our beginning.

Susan Driscoll

Susan Driscoll is the president of Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) and has been with the company since 2017, focusing on growth initiatives including new product design & development and digital expansion. She has extensive experience in both healthcare and higher education training. CPI has been the leading global provider of de-escalation training for more than 42 years. CPI training programs provide strategies and techniques for all levels of educational professionals. These strategies focus on the care, welfare, safety and security of all students and staff with evidence-based, trauma-informed, crisis prevention approaches.

Guy Stephens

Guy Stephens is the founder and executive director of the Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint (AASR), a nonprofit he started in 2019. AASR is a community of more than 25,000 parents, self-advocates, teachers, school administrators, paraprofessionals, attorneys, related service providers, and others working together to influence change in supporting children whose behaviors are often misunderstood. Guy Stephens is a national expert on the issue of restraint and seclusion. He has presented at conferences and events across North America and guest lectures for undergraduate and graduate courses.

Connie Persike

Connie Persike, M.S., CCC/SLP, is a highly experienced Speech-Language Pathologist and Educational Consultant. She has more than 20 years of experience in educational settings and holds a certificate in instructional coaching, positive education, and applied educational neuroscience. She served as a member of the multi-state work group to help develop the Common Core Essential Elements for English Language Arts. Connie is a published writer for Autism Parenting Magazine and writes for Exceptional Needs Today. She created an innovative process to assess student behavior, which deviates from the traditional behaviorism approach and aligns with current relational and neuroscience while maintaining a trauma-sensitive and neurodiversity approach.