

## **DOMONIQUE F. MCCORD**

Chief Program Officer

For the last fifteen years Domonique F. McCord has created space for mental health and healing through her continued work in therapy and wellness. Driven by her passion to help others realize their own potential, Domonique believes that partnerships can build bridges and offer healing for mind, body, and spirit. And as a licensed clinical social worker, she understands the interconnectedness of individuals communities and society at large.

Currently, Domonique Services as the Chief Program Officer for the Metropolitan Peace Initiatives (MPI), a division of Metropolitan Family Services. The mission of MPI is coordinate, support and sustain a crossagency infrastructure made up of local community-based and citywide organizations that deliver a comprehensive set of services to heal communities at the highest risk for violence. She enacts programing that promotes healing and capacity building. She has adopted a lifelong commitment to engage in practices that improve her ability to be a responsive leader: (which involves) active listening, showing empathy, and displaying creativity. From a trauma informed lens, she approaches CVI (Community Violence Intervention) program development with an understanding of the impact that adverse experiences have on individuals and communities. As Licensed Clinical Social Worker, she works with the most vulnerable populations, and understands that a safe and trauma-informed environment is critical to promoting healing.

Thirteen years ago, Domonique utilized her experiences in providing clinical services for nonprofit settings to found DFM Wellness Alliance, an organization dedicated to holistically building individual and community capacity. The DFM Wellness Alliance mission involves using therapy to help clients find balance within stressful, ever-changing lives and develop skills for professional and personal growth. Through the DFM Wellness Alliance Domonique offers an array of mental health services to individuals, couples, families, and people all ages.

Along with three other clinicians, Domonique cultivates multidisciplinary practices and creates treatment for issues such as: marital conflicts, parent-child conflicts, mood, and behavioral disorders, ADD, autism and PTSD. Furthermore, Domonique counsels clients using individually tailored, and solution-focused techniques to identify their own strengths and offer more personal therapeutic services. With each of her clients Domonique commits herself to developing holistic, practical skills and solving life's problems through a systemic perspective. This approach involves partnering with each client and understanding the role reactions and interactions may play in their lives.

Before founding DFM Wellness Alliance, Domonique held a number of leadership positions in education at the high school and collegiate levels. She worked as a Coordinated School Health Specialist for Chicago Public Schools and served as both Director of Community Programs and as an Affiliate Therapist for the Family Institute at Northwestern University. In the past she was a Master Practitioner for the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration and an adjunct instructor for Dominican, Loyola, and Northeastern Illinois Universities.

Currently Domonique is pursuing a Doctorate of Social Work at The University of Southern California. Domonique has a Bachelor of Science from Northwestern University and a Master's of Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago. She is also a certified Trauma Professional specializing in EMDR.