

## **Marleen Wong, PhD**

Dr. Marleen Wong is the Director of Crisis Counseling and Intervention Services for the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Director of the LAUSD/RAND/UCLA Trauma Services Adaptation Center for Schools, a community-based research partnership and member of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

Identified by the White House as one of the “pre-eminent experts in school crisis and recovery” and the “architect of school safety programs” by the *Wall Street Journal*, she has developed mental health recovery programs, crisis and disaster training for school districts and law enforcement personnel in the United States, Canada, Israel and Asia and is frequently consulted by the US Department of Education to assist with recovery programs for schools impacted by violence, school shootings, terrorism and natural disasters.

Formerly the Director of Mental Health Services and Suicide Prevention for LAUSD, she is one of the original developers of CBITS – the Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools, an evidence-based program that uses skill-based, group intervention to relieve symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and general anxiety among students exposed to community violence, bullying and trauma.

Dr. Wong served on the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Board on Neuroscience and Behavioral Health, which was charged with assessing national priorities and approaches to public health and medical practice, public policy, research, education and training. She also served on the IOM Committee which produced the publication: “Preparing for the Psychological Consequences of Terrorism.” After 9/11, she co-authored and edited three school safety books for Janes Information Group, known for “Janes Book of Ships,” that provides critical information on military weaponry and geopolitical military security and worked with the Educational Directorate of the US Department of Defense/Pentagon to create website materials to support the children of parents deployed to the Iraq and Afghanistan.