Resource List for Emotional Disturbance/Mental Illness
SSD Family & Community Resource Center
Parent Education & Diversity Awareness
900 Hornet Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63042
314-989-8460

ABCs of Emotional Behavioral Disorder. (DVD) (2004) (35 minutes)
Outlines a best practice approach to successfully integrate elementary and middle school students with Emotional or Behavioral Disorders into the educational mainstream.

Synthesizes research on this topic and offers extensive case histories gathered by the authors to provide readers with an understanding of the multidimensional process of acceptance of mental illness across genders, ethnicities, and sexual orientations.

Helps parents understand that serious depression in adolescents is an illness that can be treated. Describes the many forms of depression and the many ways it can appear in young people.

Teens. Enables teens to assess how they feel and determine what to do to return to enjoying a rich, full life like every young person deserves. (170 pages)

Aims to deliver an appealing, practical and meaningful programme which all children (including those with learning difficulties) will find easy to access and enjoy.

Resource includes how to receive proper diagnosis, treatment, and long-term care.

Guide for parents who think their child may have symptoms of bipolar disorder, or parents whose child has been diagnosed with the illness.

Covers the range of topics parents need to know in order to help their children, such as: diagnosis and common misdiagnoses, family life, support, safety and how to recognize and prevent mood swings, medications, therapeutic interventions, insurance issues, and education, including how to work with school systems.

Consumer text discusses how to distinguish between early warning signs of bipolar mood swings and normal ups and downs of life, what medications are available, what to do when symptoms arise, how to get help and support from family and friends, and how to tell coworkers about the illness without endangering a career

This book helps parents: understand why bipolar disorder is often overlooked or misdiagnosed, distinguish bipolarity from other common childhood disorders like ADHD, explain why their child may be well behaved in school but out of control at home, communicate effectively with their child and learn about the latest treatment options available.
This book is intended to make everyone aware of how Bipolar Disorder, otherwise known as Manic Depressive Illness, especially in its atypical forms, is presently misunderstood and misdiagnosed as ADHD, Conduct Disorder, and other related behavioral disorders.

Written for teachers that will work with or are starting to work with the special education students known as emotionally disturbed.

Ages 4 and up. Story about a young boy with bipolar disorder. Readers learn about his symptoms, fears, and treatment from a child’s viewpoint. (20 pages)

A book for social workers, therapists, and parents who strive to assist children with attachment disorders.

Written to help readers understand what’s going on in a child’s brain, focus on relationship over rules, teach a child how to handle frustrations without outbursts, control how they express their own anger, and establish a standard of respect in the home.

Ages 4-8. Anna stops speaking when she starts kindergarten until her parents and a therapist patiently help her overcome her anxiety (14 pages)

Chasing the High: A Firsthand Account of One Young Person's Experience with Substance Abuse. Kyle Keegan.
Teens. Discusses what is known about the neurobiology of addiction in young people, how to seek treatment, and how to get the most out of professional help.

School aged. Uses short verses to present the various reactions that the bad guy Meltdown can cause, followed by advice for how the Chameleon Kid can adapt his emotions and attitudes to prevent Meltdown from taking over. In the process, readers learn various methods of self-regulating their emotion.

The Childhood Bipolar Disorder Answer Book: Practical Answers to the Top 300 Questions Parents Ask. Tracy Anglada (2008)
Explains confusing medical lingo & provides straightforward answers to questions about treatment, parenting strategies, etc.

Provides insight into why children get depressed, how to identify symptoms, and where to find appropriate treatment.

Guide is a collaboration by a team of medical specialists, therapists, people with TS and parents.

Cry for help: A Critical Look at the Issues Surrounding Teen Depression and Suicide Two Years after the Virginia Tech Shooting. PBS (57 minutes) (DVD)
Features first-person stories from adolescents who are confronting depression, anxiety and mental illness.

Range from a basic discussion of what psychiatry is, to the types of illnesses psychiatrists treat, the training of psychiatrists, the treatment of psychiatric disorders (covering medications, psychotherapy, lifestyle interventions, electroconvulsive therapy, and much more), and how families can help with treatment.
Ages 9-12. Explores the causes and effects of stress and offers practical approaches and techniques for dealing with stress in daily life (41 pages)

Ages 9-12. Explains the causes of anger and offers methods that can help children reduce the amount of anger they feel. He also gives effective techniques to help young people control their behavior, even when they are angry. (61 pages)

Easing School Jitters for the Selectively Mute Child. Dr. Elisa Shipon-Blum (2001)  
Filled with facts, helpful ideas, reasons why anxious children feel the way they do, and an interactive section where parents can work with their child to help them list, draw and write about things that make them feel good about themselves and see the positive aspects of school.

Illustrate the key concepts and techniques needed to successfully teach oppositional students.

Moving account of the author’s life experiences with learning disabilities, bipolar disorder, ADHD, dyslexia and sensory integrative disorder.

Provides hands-on tools and resources for addressing common emotional and behavioral problems in preschool and kindergarten-age children.

Empowering Students with Hidden Disabilities: A Path to Pride and Success. Margo Vreeburg Izzo & LeDerick Horne (2016)  
Told with the authentic voices of adults with hidden disabilities, this encouraging, eye-opening book will help you guide students on the Path to Disability Pride and support their success in the classroom and community.

Ages 9-12. Eddie is an angry child who encounters trouble wherever he goes. Helps children develop solutions to their anger issues. (92 pages)

The cognitive behavior therapy program Exploring Feelings was designed by the author to be highly structured, interesting and successful in encouraging the cognitive control of emotions.

Exploring Feelings: Cognitive Behavior Therapy to Manage Anxiety, Sadness, and Anger. Tony Attwood (DVD) (2007) (3 hours)  
In this presentation, Dr Tony Attwood, teaches caregivers how to implement "cognitive behaviour therapy." With a logical understanding of emotional triggers and responses, people can learn to recognize and control their emotions.

Lays out a sensitive, practical approach to helping your child at home and school, including: reducing hostility and antagonism between the child and adults, anticipating situations in which the child is most likely to explode, creating an environment in which explosions are less likely to occur, focusing less on reward and punishment and more on communication and collaborating problem solving, helping your child develop the skills to be more flexible and handle frustration more adaptively.

Grades K-5. Using laughter, great music and hair-raising chills, this episode offers practical advice on overcoming fears.
Ages 11 and up. Discusses the pressures and problems encountered by teenagers and provides information on life skills, stress management and methods of gaining more control over their lives. (144 pages)

Freeing Your Child from Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: A Powerful, Practical Program for Parents of Children and Adolescents. Tamar A Chansky, PhD (2001)
Explains how OCD is diagnosed, how to find the right therapist partner, and how to tailor treatment options to your child's needs.

Parents want to help their anxious children but often do not know how. Here at long last is a book designed just for that. It offers extensive and concrete steps to teach the child to cope with anxiety, using the means of behavior and thought.

Presents a strategy that enables parents to become effective partners in the treatment of their child’s depression.

How to Take the GRRRR Out of Anger. Elizabeth Verdick and Marjorie Lisovskis (2003)
Ages 9-12. Anger is a part of life. We can’t avoid it, we shouldn’t stuff it, and we can’t make it go away. Kids need help learning how to manage their anger. This book speaks directly to kids and offers strategies they can start using immediately. (128 pages)

Ages 4-8. Uses cheerful brightly illustrated stories to help kids understand how their emotions and actions are related—and how they can learn to manage both.

I Have Tourette’s But Tourette’s Doesn’t Have Me. (DVD) (2005)
Children with Tourette's Syndrome, ages 8 to about 14, candidly describe what it's like to have Tourette's, a misunderstood neurological disorder. They show what their tics are like, talk about difficulties with school, social isolation, embarrassment, and feeling misunderstood and even unwanted due to the inherited condition they have no control over.

By bringing together two strands of expertise—that of mental health professionals and of parents who have lived through the experience of their own teenager's mental illness this book provides readers with the clinical information and practical advice they need to understand and help their teen.

If Your Adolescent has Depression or Bipolar Disorder: An Essential Resource for Parents. Dwight L. Evans, PhD & Linda Wasmer Andrews (2005)
Guide to understanding and getting effective help for adolescents with depression or bipolar disorder.

Combines the latest scientific expertise available—including the newest treatments and most up-to-date research findings on eating disorders—with the practical wisdom of parents who have raised teenagers with anorexia or bulimia

Parents will find a clear definition of the disease, including early indicators of the disease as well as information on how to arrange for the proper diagnosis and treatment.

Provide parents with specific information to deal with the everyday but incredibly challenging issues confronting the entire family.
Explains use of 5-point scales to help students understand and control their emotional reactions to everyday events that might otherwise set in emotion escalating reactions.

Includes refinements to the original scales, now considered "classics" in homes and classrooms across the country and abroad, as well as lots of new scales specifically designed for two groups of individuals: young children and those with more classic presentations of autism, including expanded use of the Anxiety Curve.

Kids in the Syndrome Mix of ADHD, LD, Asperger's, Tourette's, Bipolar, And More!: The One Stop Guide for Parents, Teachers, and Other Professionals. Martin Kutscher, M.D. (2005)
Guide to the whole range of often co-existing neuro-behavioral disorders in children—from attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), obsessive-compulsive disorder, and bipolar disorder, to autistic spectrum disorders, nonverbal learning disabilities, sensory integration problems, and executive dysfunction.

This beautifully illustrated guide helps young people with Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) to understand their diagnosis, develop self-awareness and implement their own personalised problem-solving strategies.

Teens. Explains how to recognize warning signs, where to find help, and what treatments have proved effective.

Mental Health: An Animated Series (DVD) (30 minutes)
Grades 3 and up. Collection of short and fun animated videos directed towards helping youth understand mental illness and mental disorders.

Mental Health & Growing Up: Factsheets for Parents, Teachers and Young People. Dr. Vasu Balaguru (2013)
Contains easy-to-read factsheets on over 40 different mental health issues. Each factsheet explains the problem, causes and effects, practical tips to deal with it, the treatments available, available evidence and sources of further help.

A Mental Health Survival Guide: How to Manage the Severities of Multi-Mental Health Diagnosis. Brian D Stubbs.
Memoir and survival guide that offers tips on how to manage and find relief from mental illness.

Step-by-step worksheets teach specific skills that have help conquer depression, panic attacks, anxiety, anger, guilt, shame, low self-esteem, eating disorders, substance abuse and relationship problems.

Teens. First-person account, aimed at teens who have recently been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, informative in a compassionate, good-humored, yet authoritative manner.

This book will show you how to get your child on the road to a healthier mind and a better life!

Elementary. Workbook that helps kids explore their feelings and combat their negative self-talk that depletes their motivation and self-esteem. (122 pages)

My Kid is Driving Me Crazy: A Mom's Survival Guide for Living with a Child with Mental Illness. Tamara Arnold.
Helps other who are living with people with mental illness learn to separate themselves from the chaos, redefine who they are, and figure out what they want for their future.
Provides compassionate and informative methods to help manage the diagnosis and develop the strengths, gifts and skills that every child has to offer.

This book dispels the myths and fears surrounding bipolar disorder.

No Kidding, Me 2! Joe Pantoliano (DVD) (76 minutes)
Candid, often humorous discussions with Pantoliano and his family on their struggle with his own clinical depression, as well as the compelling stories of five other people from all walks of life, all affected differently by mental illness.

Guide on this complex neurological illness, with attention to every subtopic imaginable: causes; consequences; diagnosis (including rare conditions and related disorders); therapeutic, medical, and alternative intervention; insurance issues; schooling; and transitions.

Offers a creative and motivating Journey theme to introduce tools that help parents and children plan and conquer some of the most common challenges associated with selective mutism.

Guide for parents of children with compulsive hair pulling, or trichotillomania, that explains the nature and causes of the problem and methods for treatment and obtaining help.

Overview from a psychiatrist and a psychologist of the available treatment options and most effective parenting strategies you can use to deal with a Child with Bipolar Disorder.

Captures the essence of caring for these youngsters, providing resources and understanding for parents and an instructive lesson for society.

Children who have encountered trauma early in life can experience real differences in their social and cognitive development. This comprehensive guide introduces what such developmental difference means, how it affects a child, and offers strategies to help support or alleviate problems that commonly arise.

Gain a complete understanding of the referral process, assessments, diagnosis and treatment of the most common childhood mental health disorders.

Covering topics including PTSD, bipolar disorder, autism spectrum disorder, and many others, this accessible, ready-to-use reference explains how each disorder or difficulty might be exhibited in the classroom and offers straightforward suggestions for what to do (and what not to do).

Offers practical guidance to help parents and professionals recognise and handle co-morbid conditions, and dispels the myth that they are just a part of autism.
In this compassionate guide, you’ll find skills based in cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), and acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT) to help you tackle anxiety and harmful avoidance behaviors; manage negative emotions; cope with flashbacks and nightmares; and develop trusting, healthy relationships—even if your trust in others has been shaken to the core.

Explains the impact of early trauma on the neuro-biological development of children, and provides clear guidance for foster and adoptive parents.

Gives parents and teachers of students with conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, mood disorders, or other emotional and behavioral disorders the strategies they need to help these kids overcome their struggles and find success in school.

Comprehensive and practical manual that is grounded in behavioural psychology and anxiety management and draws on relevant research findings as well as the authors' extensive clinical experience.

Self- Injury: Simple Answers to Complex Questions. Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital (2014)
This book is designed to be accessible to a wide audience, including the general public, healthcare providers, teachers and school administrators, people who suffer from self-injury, and family members of people who suffer from self-injury.

Shows parents, carers and professionals how they can support young people through these difficult times, as well as how to find specialist professional help.

Show Me Your Mad Face: Teaching Children to Feel Angry without Losing Control. Connie J Schnoes, PhD. (2012)
Discover ways to teach children to stop using angry and aggressive behaviors and learn new, positive ways of behaving and expressing anger or frustration.

Offers help to understand more about a child's emotional and behavioural responses following trauma and provides welcome strategies to aid recovery.

Uses scales as a way of explaining social and emotional concepts to individuals who have difficulty understanding such information but have a relative strength in understanding systems.

Teens. This illustrated teen’s guide to surviving social media will offer handy tips on what platforms are out there, outline how and why social media can affect your mental health, and give you tips on how to keep yourself safe online.

Straight Talk About Anger. (DVD) (15 minutes)
Grades 6-8. Young teens find ideas that resonate with their own lives and learn techniques to developing a healthy approach to controlling anger.

Advice on recognizing the symptoms, understanding medication and accessing the necessary support at school as well as the managing the day-to-day challenges of parenting a child with Bipolar Disorder.
Elementary. Emily lives with childhood depression. With therapy and medication, she learns how to manage her sometimes overwhelming feelings. (22 pages)

Taking Tourette Syndrome to School. Tia Krueger (2001)
Elementary. Megan has Tourette syndrome. Her story will help other children understand that her tics are not something she can control, but rather, a part of her life (22 pages)

Text explores the effects of temperament on the educational experience from preschool to middle school.

Teens. Explains how to recognize warning signs, where to find help, and what treatments have proved effective.

Train Your Dragon to Accept NO. Steve Herman. (2018)
Elementary. Fun, cute and entertaining with beautiful illustrations, this playful book will teach kids how to handle Disagreement, Emotions and Anger Management.

24: A Day in the Life of Bipolar Children and Their Families. (DVD) (2007) (100 minutes)
P Paints a revealing picture of a day in the life of the children with bipolar disorder and those who love them.

Ages 9 and up. Uses cool psychology and info on emotions, real-life stories from kids, interesting facts, and feelings quizzes to help you notice what your emotions and feelings are telling you about yourself, your friends, and your family. (112 pages)

This straightforward guide is written collaboratively by professionals and parents to give a complete overview of PDA.

Covers an overview of selective mutism: what selective mutism is and is not, the diagnostic criteria, what causes selective mutism, how to interact with a child with selective mutism and an overview of the treatment methods.

Understanding Sensory Dysfunction is a clear and comprehensive resource to identifying and addressing sensory dysfunction in children, using a range of practical strategies to help them reach their full potential at home, at school and in the community.

School Age. Written by a teenager who suffered from Selective Mutism. This unique book is directed to children with Selective Mutism as well as for parents, professionals and teachers to help them understand a child's unspoken words when unable to speak and express themselves. (71 pages)

What to Do When Good Enough Isn’t Good Enough: The Real Deal on Perfectionism. Thomas S. Greenspon, PhD
Ages 9 and up. A Guide for Kids to learn how to overcome Perfectionism by using ideas in the book. (144 pages)

What to Do When Kids Are Mean to Your Child. Elin McCoy (1997)
Answers all the basic questions parents have about the painful topics of teasing, bullying, and rejection and offers aged-based, what-to-do tactics for teaching kids to counter such behaviors.

Ages 9 and up. A Kid’s Guide to Overcoming Anxiety. Uses cognitive-behavioral techniques to treat anxiety. (80 pages)
Ages 8 and up. Guides children and their parents through the cognitive-behavioral techniques used to treat problems with anger. (96 pages)

Ages 8 and up. Guides children and parents through the cognitive behavioral techniques used to treat OCD. (95 pages)

Illustrates various facial expressions and the feelings they represent.

Teenagers. Describes the causes and types of depression and the connections between depression, suicide, and drug and alcohol abuse. (176 pages)

Who Cares About Kelsey? (DVD) (2012) (76 minutes)
Documentary about empowering, not overpowering, youth with emotional and behavioral disabillities.

Guide for identifying and utilizing children’s cognitive and emotional strengths.