

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Agency to Host Clinical Forum on Mental Health May 18-19 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services is sponsoring the seventh annual **Clinical Forum on Mental Health: Turning Knowledge into Practice** conference on May 18-19 at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck with pre-conference clinical workshops on May 17. The forum features national, regional, and local speakers on mental health topics that promote the well-being of children, adults, and the elderly.

“This conference brings together professionals from a variety of areas to talk about ways to support recovery for people with serious mental health issues,” said JoAnne Hoesel, director of the department’s Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division.

Presentations include behavior and emotional changes of aging, dementia care services, family caregivers support, behavior management strategies, treatment interventions, behavioral health services in rural and tribal communities, traumatic brain injuries, compulsive hoarding, play therapies in treatment of Schizophrenia and Bipolar I Disorders, and more.

The forum is intended for psychiatrists, psychologists, mental health counselors, licensed addiction counselors, social workers, nurses, healthcare providers, therapists, students, and other interested individuals. Continuing education credits are available.

Pre-registration is encouraged, but registrations will be accepted at the door for both the pre-conference workshops and the forum. Nearly 280 professionals have already registered for the event.

People can register online or obtain a conference schedule and other details at www.dce.ndsu.nodak.edu/conferences/clinicalforummh/.

Featured Speakers

Tuesday, May 17, 2011 (Pre-Conference)

Steven Wonderlich, from the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, will give a presentation from 12:45 to 5 p.m. on the psychobiological link between trauma and eating disorders.

Wednesday, May 18, 2011

Derrick Dufresne is the president of Community Resource Associates, a training and management firm dedicated to promoting full community inclusion for people with disabilities. His keynote presentation from 9 to 10 a.m. will touch on feeling welcome and the importance of belonging in today’s society.

Sarah How is a school psychologist in the West Fargo School District. Her presentation from 10:15 to 2 p.m. will focus on the *Nurtured Heart Approach*™, which teaches parenting strategies for challenging children and adolescents.

Thursday, May 19, 2011

Rena Reinardy is the founder and president of the Lakeside Center for Behavioral Change in Fargo. Her workshop from 10 to 11:30 a.m. will focus on the symptoms and treatment of compulsive hoarding.

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