

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2012**

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Mental Health Clinical Forum Turns Knowledge into Practice

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services is sponsoring the eighth annual Clinical Forum on Mental Health on May 15-17, 2012, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. The forum is a professional development opportunity for mental health professionals, licensed addiction counselors, social workers, providers, students, and others to learn evidence-based practices that promote the well-being of children, adults, and the elderly.

Presentations from national, regional and local speakers include suicide and addiction in elderly individuals, personality and dealing with difficult people, schizophrenia therapies, Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment, effects of verbal abuse, benefits of peer support in recovery, adults with autism, suicide prevention, food hoarding, and more.

“Putting into practice what works best is what this clinical forum is all about,” said JoAnne Hoesel, director of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division. “Participants will gain valuable insight about various treatment methods that can create a positive environment for people in recovery.”

A pre-conference workshop on May 15 will examine the diagnosis and psychosocial treatment of traumatic brain injuries and evaluating sexually abusive youth who are under 19 years of age.

Continuing education credits are available. Pre-registration is encouraged, but registrations will be accepted each day at the door. People can register online and obtain a schedule of events at www.dce.ndsu.nodak.edu/conferences/clinicalforummh/schedule/.

Featured Speakers

Wednesday, May 16

Dr. Barb Stanton is a therapist at the N.D. Department of Human Services' Southeast Human Service Center in Fargo. Her presentation from 12:30 to 2 p.m. will examine how Lego therapy can aide in building successes in children who struggle with peer interactions, anxiety, social phobias and depression.

Tammy Ness is an advanced clinical therapist at the N.D. Department of Human Services' North Central Human Service Center in Minot. Her workshop from 2:15 to 5 p.m. will explore social media's impact on a child's brain development, as well as social and emotional development.

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Wednesday, May 16 (continued)

Dr. Alan Fehr is a licensed psychologist and the director of psychological health for the North Dakota National Guard. His presentation from 4 to 5 p.m. will highlight the Military Culture Certificate Program, which offers specialized training to civilian professionals like physicians, attorneys, law enforcement, and others in understanding the demands and experiences military service can have on veterans.

Thursday, May 17

Carol Floyd Bailey is an advanced level facilitator for the Wellness Recovery Action Plan. Her keynote presentation from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. will highlight this evidence-based self-help system to overcome struggles with mental illness as well as substance use, smoking cessation, weight loss, healing from trauma and more.

Teage Kinzell is a licensed addiction counselor at the N.D. Department of Human Services' South Central Human Service Center in Jamestown. His presentations from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. will incorporate physical movement using portable ropes that teach trust-building activities, problem-solving initiatives, and cooperative games that can be used in individual, group, and family therapy.

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