

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

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Upcoming Conference in Fargo Offers Training to Professionals Who Work with Children and Families

Bismarck, N.D. – Professionals who work with children and families are invited to attend the North Dakota Family-Based Services Association's Conference April 6-8, 2016, at Fargo's Holiday Inn. The three-day conference will feature local, regional, and national experts on child and adolescent mental health as well as other issues relating to children and families.

On April 6, there will be three separate presentations on human trafficking by Christina Sambor, coordinator of FUSE, the statewide anti-trafficking coalition based in Bismarck. Her presentations include an overview of human trafficking, safety planning and case management of human trafficked victims, and motivational interviewing techniques and approaches to effectively engage with survivors. Mark Lindquist, a nationally recognized motivational speaker from Fargo, will present a keynote address on seven mindsets involving attitudes and actions that can change a person's life.

Other conference speakers will share their expertise on co-dependent relationships involving couples and families, dealing with change and identifying stress management options, techniques for dealing with highly resistance clients, historical trauma with Native American populations, and intervention for children with trauma. Attendees will also learn about the risks, benefits, and alternatives to psychotropic medications and treatment strategies for narcissism. There will also be training on critical thinking and decision-making for supervisors.

A pre-conference workshop on April 5 focuses on child traumatic stress and its implications on child welfare professionals. The workshop is sponsored by PATH Family Institute.

The conference is open to mental health counselors and clinicians, licensed addiction counselors, social workers, child welfare professionals, providers, juvenile justice personnel, foster parents, school counselors, and other professionals who work with children and families.

Continuing education credits (CEUs) are available for licensed social workers. Conference attendees should check with their licensing boards for approval of CEUs. Educational hours are also available for Wraparound Recertification from the Department of Human Services.

Information on the conference including online registration and a schedule of presentations is at www.ndfbsa.org and at #2016NDFBSAconference. Registration fees are \$85 for single day registration on Wednesday and Thursday, \$65 for single day registration on Friday, and \$170 for the entire conference. The registration fee for a parent or student is \$100. Registration will also be accepted at the door.

The conference is sponsored by the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Children and Family Services Division.

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