

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

WORKSHOP - SESSION 1

Workshop #1: WELLNESS WORKSHOP FOR WARRIORS

(Introductory/Adult-Adolescent)

Presenter: Lawrence Ellerby, Ph.D., C.Psych. (ATSA President)

Individuals involved in sexual abuse prevention face working with potentially difficult individuals, being exposed to distressing material, and often work in challenging environments and systems. This workshop will focus on discussing stressors encountered in working with sexual abusers, the impact this work can have professionally and personally and strategies to maintain health and growth while working in this field. This workshop will blend presentation of research, participant discussion, and experiential exercises to help attendees enhance awareness of potential stressors and impact, optimize safe and healthy professional functioning, and discuss practical steps to personal wellness, resilience and self-care.

Workshop #2: SEX OFFENDER ABSCONDER LOCATION & APPREHENSION

(Introductory/Adult)

Presenters: Gary M. Govel, MPA (NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services/Office of Probation & Correctional Alternatives) and Gary Mattison, BS (United States Marshall Service)

This workshop will focus on efforts to locate and apprehend sex offenders who are considered fugitives and/or absconders. The presentation will feature Operation Return, OPCA's initiative to coordinate and support the location, arrest, and return for prosecution of SORA (levels 2 and 3) probation violators; as well as the USMS's sex offender management duties, including the Regional Fugitive Task Forces, Sex Offender Investigation program, Adam Walsh Act prosecutions, and other related functions.

Workshop #3: SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT: WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DO WE TREAT? (PART 1 of the “How to Effectively Treat & Manage Sex Offenders in the Community Series) (*Part 1 of 3)

(Introductory/Adult)

Presenter: Timothy Wisniewski, Ph.D. (Private Treatment Provider, Albany, NY)

**If you select this workshop, it's recommended that you also select Parts 2 (Workshop 7) and 3 (Workshop 12)*

The workshop would be the first in a series of three that focus on community based treatment and management of sexual offenders. The workshop will define sex offender treatment (i.e., address what works, what doesn't work and what programs in the United States, Canada and New York State are currently doing in treatment.). Specifically, it would provide a broad overview of recent developments in the research on the effectiveness of the theories upon which various treatment programs are based (e.g., Relapse Prevention versus Risk-Need-Responsivity). Relevant results from the Safer Society 2009 North American Survey will be highlighted and contrasted to results obtained from a survey of providers involved in New York State's Strict and Intensive Supervision and Treatment (SIST) program. The vital task of understanding the fears, challenges and burdens that sex offenders in the community encounter will be discussed from an experiential and clinical point of view. The workshop will end with a presentation of the client's view of treatment and how community based providers can work interactively to foster collaborative motivation for personal change.

Workshops #4: A COMPARISON OF THE FAMILY SYSTEMS OF ADOLESCENT SEXUAL OFFENDERS & NON-SEXUAL DELINQUENTS

(Research/Adolescent)

Presenters: Gretchen Thomas, Ph.D. Candidate (Columbia University) and David Burton, Ph.D. (Smith College, Northampton, MA)

Authors will present the developmental antecedents (e.g. individual characteristics, family characteristics, family structure, family functioning, trauma) and behavioral differences (e.g. characteristics of offending) of juvenile sex offenders and non-sexual delinquents, providing clarity on whether and in what ways these populations differ. The application of the present study in terms of specialized treatment interventions that target the family system will also be discussed.

WORKSHOP - SESSION 2

Workshop #5: THE ROAD TO REENTRY – OFFENDER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

(Introductory-Intermediate/Adult)

Presenters: Elaine Kost (New York State Department of Labor), Matthew Charton, Albany County Probation Department), and Craig MacNeil (Albany County Probation Department)

This workshop will explore what issues those who have been convicted of Sex Offenses face when preparing for, acquiring, and retaining gainful employment. Albany County Probation Department's Employment Services Unit in collaboration with NYS Department of Labor, NYS Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, CDCSOM, Forensic Mental Health Associates, and other county probation departments have developed some groundbreaking programming in addressing the employment needs of this population. We have developed the PAR model, which stands for preparation, acquisition, and retention, and modified our outstanding Ready, Set, Work, job developing ideas, and Retention Counts! programming to address the special needs of this community. We will also address community and victim safety concerns and good probation supervision practices during the PAR process.

Elaine Kost, from the NYS Department of Labor will discuss NYS felony bars to employment and how it impacts employability and/or licensing. Participants will receive a complete overview of NYS Corrections Law Article 23A, the Employer Education Act, and the Montgomery Law and the impact on employers and occupational licensing agencies in New York. They will also learn about the value of the Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or Good Conduct and the impact on employability and/or licensing in New York; how the Montgomery Law impacts occupational licensing in New York; negligent Hiring protection for employers; the DPN (Disability Program Navigator) initiative and One-Stop linkages; marketing the ex-offender; and incentives for employers who hire ex-offenders including state and federal tax credits, and the appropriate forms.

**Workshop #6: DEVELOPING & MAINTAINING A THERAPEUTIC ALLIANCE:
FORENSIC SETTINGS & OTHER LEGAL COMPLICATIONS**

(Intermediate/Adult)

Presenters: Terri Maxymillian, Psy.D. (New York State Office of Mental Health, Marcy, NY) and Shannon Forshee, Psy.D. (New York State Office of Mental Health, Camillus, NY)

This workshop will utilize didactic training methods to present the background research on the therapeutic alliance in general treatment and in sex offender specific treatment. The workshop will then move into describing the specific therapist qualities and traits needed to develop a therapeutic alliance. We will discuss how the legal realm complicates this process and how therapists can objectively report on treatment progress to non-clinical providers. Conversation will then shift to how a therapist maintains the alliance in the face of the potential fallout from reporting treatment issues to the legal/supervisory system. And then finally, we will discuss therapist self-care issues.

**Workshop #7: TAKING A SEXUAL HISTORY IN PREPARATION OF A SEXUAL
HISTORY POLYGRAPH_(PART 2 of the “How to Effectively Treat
& Manage Sex Offenders in the Community Series (*Part 2 of 3)**

(Introductory/Adult)

Presenter: William Kelly, LCSW-R (Private Practice, Rochester, NY)

**If you select this workshop, it's recommended that you also select Parts 1 (Workshop 3) and 3 (Workshop 12)*

This is the second workshop in the three part series on sex offender management and treatment in the community. A completed sexual history guides the client and the therapist in understanding the patterns of sexual attitudes, behaviors and fantasies over the lifetime of the client. This history sets the stage for the passing of a sexual history polygraph. The workshop will provide participants with an overview of psycho-sexual development in children and adolescents, sexual issues in adulthood; an experiential sexual history taking; an outline for taking a sexual history, and applying the information to a sexual history polygraph.

Workshop #8: ETHICAL TREATMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS - A HYPOCRITES OATH?

(Intermediate-Advanced/Adult-Adolescent)

Presenters: Renee Sorrentino, MD, and Ashley Gray (Institute for Sexual Wellness, Quincy, MA)

The issue of paraphilias as a psychiatric entity remains controversial. According to the American Psychiatric Association a psychiatrist should not be involved in the treatment of sex offenders. Despite the academic debate concerning the inclusion of paraphilias as a psychiatric entity, there is a strong demand from the public for the treatment of sex offenders. As such clinicians must balance their duties to the patient with their responsibilities to the general welfare of the public. The most effective sex offender treatment consists of attention to both the patient and the public. Ethical dilemmas which commonly arise in the treatment of sex offenders include patient privilege vs. confidentiality, informed consent and the potential to use double blinded, randomized controlled trials. In the first part of the workshop, the panel will discuss the ethical issues that arise in the treatment of sex offenders. In the second part of the workshop the audience will be invited to participate in a discussion of cases which illustrate the challenging issues that arise in the ethical treatment of sex offenders.

Workshop #9: SAFETY PLANNING AS A TREATMENT & SUPERVISION TOOL FOR SEXUAL OFFENDERS

(Intermediate/Adult-Adolescent)

Presenters: Robin M. Colello, MS, CAGS (Insights Forensic Counseling, Inc.), Bud C. Ballinger, III, Ph.D. (Private Practice, Hamilton, NY), and Joseph Wargo, MAPM (Jefferson County Probation Department)

This workshop is appropriate for probation officers, treatment providers, and community service providers who work closely with both adolescents and adults who have committed sexually harmful behaviors and are appropriate for community-based supervision and treatment. The workshop will address the following aspects of general safety planning: the purpose and rationale for creating concrete safety plans for adolescents and adults who have committed sexual offenses; assessing the need for safety plans; enforcing safety plans through supervision, multi-disciplinary team involvement in each case; and family involvement in monitoring the client, technical design of individualized safety plans. This workshop will provide attendants with practical applications for designing and implementing safety plans. Attendants will be provided with digital copies of safety plan templates and a bibliography of related research in the field of sexual offender management. Attendants will be given the opportunity to analyze one hypothetical adolescent case and one adult case, and develop their own safety plans with the assistance of the presenters during the training. The information provided will reflect the views of a multi-disciplinary team who works collaboratively toward the evaluation, treatment, and supervision of these clients, focusing on community safety, victim safety and the success of the client.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011

WORKSHOP - SESSION 3

Workshop #10: NYS PROBATION JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONER GUIDANCE

(Intermediate/Adolescent)

Presenters: Laura Zeliger, BA and Gary M. Govel, MPA (NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services - Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives)

New York State Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives is pleased to present its recently released Probation Juvenile Sex Offender Management Practitioner Guidance. The session offers an overview of the document; presentation of findings and recommendations; a forum for questions/answers and discussion related to the community management of juveniles and young adults who sexually offend. This interactive session is designed to reinforce the collaborative relationship between probation and treatment providers

Workshop #11: USE OF THE ABEL FOR ADOLESCENT & ADULT OFFENDERS: EVALUATION, TREATMENT & MANAGEMENT

(Intermediate/Adult-Adolescent)

Presenter: Gavriel Fagin, MA, LMSW (Tikunim Counseling Services, Woodmere, NY)

The use of the Abel Assessment of Sexual Interest for the purposes of evaluation, management, and clinical intervention, for both adolescent and adult populations, will be explored in this workshop. As deviant sexual interest consistently emerges as the fundamental area that relates to level of risk, treatment providers must develop methods aside from self-report to evaluate and manage deviant sexual interest. As such, the workshop will focus on applying the result of the Abel into an overall risk assessment, and will utilize case examples of treatment planning that incorporated the Abel. This workshop assumes a general knowledge of the Abel. It will be suitable for treatment providers and parole/probation officers alike. The utility of the Abel as compared to the Penile Plethysmograph will be touched on as well. The presenter is not affiliated in any business manner with either instrument.

**Workshop #12: _PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER: HOW TO DEVELOP & MANAGE
A COLLABORATIVE SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM**
(PART 3 of the “How to Effectively Treat & Manage Sex Offenders
in the Community Series) (*Part 2 of 3)

(Introductory/Adult)

Presenter: Candice Cleveland, LCSW-R (Family Service Society, Inc., Corning, NY)

**If you select this workshop, it's recommended that you also select Parts 1 (Workshop 3) and 2 (Workshop 7)*

Much training and research has been done to teach providers effective treatment models designed to reduce sexual recidivism. But putting the treatment models in practice and managing clients in a program can be confusing, difficult, and over whelming. How do you track dozens of clients in a program when individuals are at various stages of treatment and/or have different treatment goals even though in the same group? How do you maintain client accountability for contract violations? How do you ensure consistent and effective communication with referring supervising officers? How do you ensure that the client is well informed about the treatment requirements and also knows how he is progressing at any given time?

Participants will learn how to develop a program that provides the structure needed by the therapist to be able to manage the clients, the treatment progress and ongoing collaboration with referring agencies. Creating a treatment structure not only helps the treatment provider provide effective and focused treatment, the clients' motivation for treatment is enhanced as they are able to monitor their own progress in the treatment phases. Examples of various forms used to provide treatment structure will be provided. Participants will also learn about the various “grooming” behaviors that clients use with therapists during treatment sessions in order to avoid responsibility for their inappropriate treatment behaviors and learn how recognize and intervene in these behaviors.

**Workshop #13: MACHIAVELLIAN PERSONALITY TRAITS AND SEX
OFFENDING BEHAVIOR**

(Intermediate/Advanced-Adult)

Presenter: Mark Nowak, MS.Ed. (Mid-Erie Counseling & Treatment Services, Depew, NY)

Based on contemporary research and a sex offender treatment program research study conducted by the presenter, we will facilitate an exploration of Machiavellian Personality Traits (as identified on the MACH IV Scale), Empathy Deficits and Fantasy (as defined by and the Perspective-Taking and Fantasy scales on the Interpersonal Reactivity Index), Moral Development and the Theory of the Mind while including references to the Dark Triad, Social Perceptions, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, Emotional Intelligence and their influence on sex offending behavior.

Workshop #14: “I’VE GOT A GUY WHO...” PANEL DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO CLINICAL SUPERVISION ISSUES

(Intermediate/Adult-Adolescent)

Presenters: Marilyn Smith (New York State Department of Corrections), Richard Hamill, Ph.D. (NYSASOSP President and Forensic Mental Health Associates, Albany, NY), and other panel members

(Attendees are encouraged to send questions in ahead of time to conferenceplanner@nysatsa.com)

The idea for this workshop evolved from the questions and conversations that always occur at the end of a presentation. People will wait, a line will form, people who attended the workshop want to ask questions to the presenter that is relevant to their own work. The question always starts, “I’ve got a guy who...”

This workshop is based upon this informal but informative conversation, question and answer session that takes place at the end of a presentation. This workshop will allow treatment providers to submit questions relative to their own treatment issues or concerns to the panel. There will be opportunity to submit the questions online (conferenceplanner@nysatsa.com) and we will set up a submission box at the conference. The panel staff will review the questions, and divide them up according to area of expertise. At the workshop and the questions will be read aloud and the panel member will discuss the issue and provide an answer or solution during the workshop.

WORKSHOP - SESSION 4

Workshop #15: TRENDS IN TEENS' ONLINE ACTIVITIES

(Introductory-Intermediate/Adolescent)

Presenter: Nancy Gifford, JD

This session will examine the recent research and studies that have been conducted documenting teen behaviors online, both positive and negative. Among the topics will be social networking sites, blogs, sexting, cyberbullying, digital citizenship, privacy and reputation management.

Workshop #16: A HOLISTIC & INTEGRATED MULTI-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH TO RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FOR YOUTH WHO HAVE CAUSED SEXUAL HARM

(Intermediate/Adolescent)

Presenters: Howard Adler, MSW, LCSW (Snell Farms Children's Center) & Harmony Ayers-Friedlander, MA, LMHC (Hillside Children's Center, Varick Campus, Romulus, NY)

Historically programs and interventions for youth who cause sexual harm have been informed by, and made use of, research and techniques utilized with adult sexual offenders. This resulted in a retributive and deficits-based approach of interventions that closely resembled the underlying philosophy and practices of adult treatment. Within this context of practice and understanding, there was limited consideration and attention paid to the role of precipitating factors, such as mental illness, adverse life experiences, family dysfunction and academic disabilities on the development of the sexually harmful behaviors in youth. This presentation highlights a paradigm shift that takes an ecological perspective in its focus on the strengths, resiliency, history, and needs of youth in their family systems. From this perspective, a holistic treatment approach to residentially treated youth who cause sexual harm is developed that honors the multiple facets of each youth and utilizes the power of learning through experiential opportunities and relationship experiences. This workshop will present an integrated and multi-dimensional model developed and continually refined at Hillside Family of Agencies for youth in residential care who have caused sexual harm. The model is based on evidence based practices and draws from resiliency, violence prevention, social learning, system theory, and narrative theory. This presentation will address the theoretical framework of our model including the trauma informed approach, the process of how the model was developed, the comprehensive assessment, and the components of the clinical interventions including individual, family, and group modalities. Specific evidenced based interventions and innovations such as Parent & Child Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy and Family Finding will be highlighted. Family Finding is an exciting and innovative approach to develop and foster life long connections and permanency for youth. Lastly, the presentation will also include the use of multi-sensory techniques in all aspects of the program, the programmatic changes made and the challenges of a paradigm shift. Lastly, implementation including fidelity measures & youth & family outcomes to will be presented.

Workshop #17: GETTING OFF: ARE SEX OFFENDERS CRIMINALLY RESPONSIBLE?

(Intermediate-Advanced/Adult)

Presenter: Renee Sorrentino, MD (Institute for Sexual Wellness, Quincy, MA)

Although scientific evidence does not clearly indicate whether deviant sexual interest is a mental disease or defect, evidence supports the notion that sexual urges, fantasies, and behaviors affect the capacity to conform one's own conduct to the requirements of the law (1). Lawyers and policymakers have brought these academic explanations for deviant sexual behavior into the legal arena. As a result, the courts have been confronted with the question of criminal responsibility in sex offenders. This workshop will introduce the legal concept of criminal responsibility and review the legal, ethical, and scientific challenges in the determination of criminal responsibility in sex offenders. A review of the legal findings in criminality responsibility in sex offenses will be presented. A model for performing a criminal responsibility evaluation in this population will be presented. In conclusion, the audience will be accepted to participate in case vignettes, which examine the issue of criminal responsibility.

Workshop #18: TREATING DYNAMIC NEEDS: PRACTICE WITH OFFENDERS WHO HAVE COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS AND SERIOUS AND PERSISTENT MENTAL ILLNESS (SPMI)

(Intermediate/Adult)

Presenters: Mary E. Owen, LCSW-R and Jayme Smith, Psy.D. (St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, Ogdensburg, NY)

Clinicians have always struggled with treating those who have co-occurring disorders. Historically, effort was placed on identifying the primary disorder to assure that agency resources were spent most effectively. Research, however, has proven that treatment needs to be targeted to the whole person to maximize effectiveness. Treating portions of the person is simply not effective. Successful treatment interventions with Sexual Abusers target factors correlated with: dangerous or criminal behavior **and** successful management of psychiatric symptoms. This is accomplished through identifying the unique learning styles of these individuals and modifying the intensity of treatment. During this workshop, consideration of the dynamic factors specific to this population will be infused with a review of best practices in treatment.