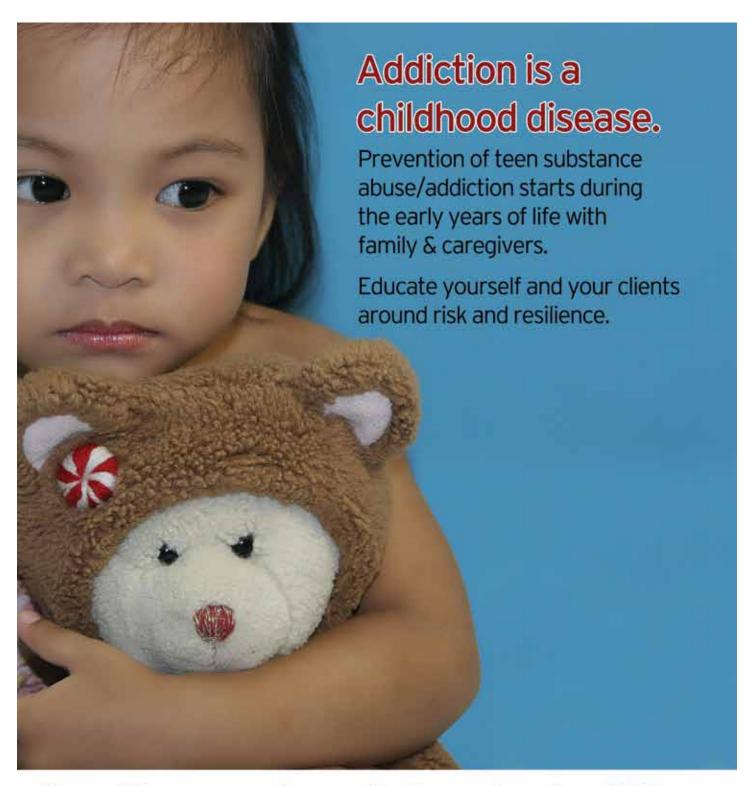
FAMILY RESILIENCE



(AFTA)

American Family Therapy Academy
34th Annual Meeting
Open Conference
May 16-19, 2012
San Francisco, California



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American Family Therapy Academy FAMILY RESILIENCE

2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Dear Delegates,

I was working with a family who, despite the violence they'd experienced at home and in their community, and despite the relocations, the stifling effects of poverty, and the barrage of service providers who had overwhelmed them, still managed to feel like they could rely on each other. There was a remarkable sense of cohesion between the caregivers as well as between the caregivers and the children that I was honored to witness.

What are the processes that make it more likely families overcome adversity? And just as importantly, how do we, as family therapists, help families through difficult times nurture and sustain resilience? This year's Annual Meeting and Open Conference is an opportunity to explore these questions, with a special emphasis on the many different ways families experience resilience across cultures and contexts.

With the help of a great organizing committee, including dozens of volunteers, we've put together a different kind of event. We hope it will both spark innovation and push us to consider new ideas while integrating the experience we bring with us. The first day will be just for AFTA members and our invited guests; the remaining two and a half days will be an open conference that showcases many of the things that make AFTA such a wonderful organization. We are hoping that we have found the right balance between being inclusive and yet also providing everyone enough time and space to sustain old friendships and build new ones. It has been this networking which has always made AFTA events so special.

I look forward to meeting all of you in the coming days. On behalf of the organizing committee, thank you for joining us here in San Francisco.

Michael Ungar 2012 Program Chair

American Family Therapy Academy FAMILY RESILIENCE

2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Dear AFTA Members, WELCOME BACK! Dear Guests, WELCOME to AFTA!

I am honored to welcome all. In my initial president's letter to AFTA membership I proposed "raising the [AFTA] stakes" along two dimensions: (1) within AFTA, for members to have a stake in AFTA to best address our professional interests; and (2) "raising the stakes" for AFTA beyond our boundaries. Can we join together to invite new voices, connect with similar professional associations and, as systemic thinkers, position AFTA in the national discourse about mental health and the well-being of children and families? This meeting advances those objectives.

Hearty congratulations and thanks to Michael Ungar and the Program Committee for creating a veritable moving feast of cutting edge systemic thinking, highlighting resilience in challenging contexts, illustrating an integral relationship between systemic phenomena and social justice. Collaboration with presenters, and with participants in mind, has resulted in a program that is quintessentially AFTA.

The subtext of the program design supports the content and sustains the character of AFTA. Care was given to creating venues for exchange of ideas and networking. The committee's work facilitates connections: Committee Chairs are identified with special badges; committee meetings are at a convenient time providing an opportunity for current and perspective members to become involved in governance. Many committees are open. Please inquire. Additionally, a member-staffed Welcoming Committee, identified by badges, is available throughout the conference and at a table in the registration area. Please don't forget to inquire early if there are available tickets for the Special Event, a beautiful opportunity to socialize with colleagues.

This year, AFTA is hosting a new event: the AFTA CAFÉ (aka, Town Hall Meeting) for all attending the AFTA Annual Meeting. The timing and setting are designed to help us avoid the "lunch crowd" at restaurants, and to provide an opportunity to connect and to have a conversation about an AFTA that can best serve our interests. Here at AFTA, there IS a "free lunch!"

This year's meeting raises AFTA's stake beyond our borders. The Program Committee expanded our invitational mailing list to include more than 2,000 organizations, academic institutions and clinical training centers. We are convening a meeting of presidents and representatives of related organizations to explore how to support commonalities of our missions, and we are addressing policies relevant to systemic thinking and to the health and well-being of children and families. The central innovation, of course, has been the expansion of our meeting to include guests in the first Annual Meeting and Open Conference!

For the truly myriad of invisible operations that make this meeting possible, special thanks to Executive Director, Mark Epstein, and Office Manager, Elishia Webster.

WELCOME ALL! ENJOY! Hinda Winawer, President

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Theme and Objectives of the June 2011 American Family Therapy Academy Annual Meeting

AFTA's 2012 Annual Meeting and Open Conference is an event for leaders in the field of family therapy to explore advances in the field by those on the leading edge of theory, practice, research, and family-oriented policy. The theme will be "Family Resilience," exploring the factors and processes that help families as systems recover from adversity, sustain well-being under stress, and grow in their capacity to cope with future cataclysmic events. This event will bring together AFTA and non-AFTA members who are family therapists, researchers and others interested in families and family policy from around the world. Our goal is to create an intimate space for exploration of the main theme and reflection through small group discussions, with the expectation that presentations offer a critical and sophisticated understanding of the issues, balancing practice-based evidence with evidence-based practice. This is an event for those who are fully engaged in advancing the field of family therapy and an opportunity to explore advances in the field by those on the leading edge of theory, practice, research and family-oriented policy.

As indicated by the theme and session topics, the Annual Meeting reflects AFTA's dedication to advancing systemic thinking and practices for families in their social context and the organization's commitment to social justice. Through its Annual Meeting and other work, AFTA embodies the values of respect for and collaboration with clients, communities and colleagues, commitment to diversity, inclusiveness and multicultural competence, as well as accountability around issues of power, privilege and marginalization. These reflect AFTA's core values and practices. For more information, please refer to AFTA's website, http://www.afta.org.

Objectives:

- 1) To provide attendees an opportunity to network and share innovations in practice and research related to family therapy.
- 2) To examine the processes related to family resilience, and the many different cultural and contextual influences on those processes.
- 3) To provide family therapists, and other professionals, an opportunity to integrate the theory of resilience into clinical practice.
- 4) To understand how couples can become more resilient.
- 5) To practice skills related to working with children, youth, and families where there are challenges to psychological and social functioning.

Target Audience

AFTA's Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for mental health professionals, including marriage and family therapists, psychiatrists, psychologists, professional counselors, and social workers, to share the latest knowledge about relevant research, clinical best practices, and cutting edge information in service of social justice and improving the work of mental health practitioners.

AFTA Board

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Corky Becker Secretary

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Carmen Knudson-Martin	Pilar Hernández-Wolfe	Cultural and Economic Diversity
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	Justine White	Student Membership

Justine White Student Membership

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John Rolland	2007-09	Froma Walsh	1991-93
Paulette Hines	2005-07	Rachel T. Hare-Mustin	1990-91
Lois Braverman	2003-05	Carol M. Anderson	1988-89
Janine Roberts	2001-03	Lyman C. Wynne	1986-87
Celia J. Falicov	1999-01	Kitty La Perriere	1984-85
Donald A. Bloch	1997-99	James L. Framo	1982-83
Evan Imber-Black	1995-97	Murray Bowen	1977-81

AFTA 2012 Program Committee

Michael Ungar (Chair), Deidre Ashton, Gonzalo Bacigalupe, Corky Becker, Katharine Caldwell, Vicki Dickerson, Shawn Giammattei, Jacqueline Hudak, Daniel Kusnir, Roger Lake, David Landsman-Wohlsifer, Arlene Istar Lev, Gloria Lopez, Jean Malpas, Beth Patrick, Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey, Norma Scarborough, Keith Sutton, Amy Tuttle, Justine White, Hinda Winawer

Advisors:

Rachel Dash, Jay Lebow, Marion Solomon

Staff:

Mark Epstein Executive Director Elishia Webster Executive Assistant

A Guide to the Meeting Events

AFTA CAFÉ is a new iteration of the original AFTA Town Hall Meeting that was formerly convened at the end of the Annual Meeting. This year AFTA will host lunch for members and attendees at the Annual Meeting part of the conference. In a relaxed informal setting, we will have the opportunity to connect collegially, hear highlights of the membership survey and the Board Retreat and, most important, exchange ideas about our own questions, interests and how they connect to our vision for AFTA now and going forward.

Brief Presentations (formerly Roundtables) gather several speakers (generally two or three) to give short presentations on their clinical work or research activity. Presentations are broadly grouped by a common theme and are facilitated by a moderator.

Centering Practices are an early morning gathering for meditation, yoga, and/or stretching that will help us to begin the day with energy, equanimity, and connectedness. Come breathe, stretch, and flow with your AFTA colleagues!

ECM/Student Breakfast: The Early Career Member and Student Committees will host the fourth annual ECM/Student Breakfast (formally known as the ECM/Student Luncheon) this year in San Francisco. As in previous years, this will be a great opportunity for ECM and Student Members to meet and get to know AFTA's Senior Members. The opportunity to connect with Senior Members of AFTA has been a highlight of the event, so we hope you will join us!

Forums provide an opportunity to discuss significant issues related to social policy, cultural and economic diversity, social justice, and larger systems. Each forum has a particular topic area on which a presentation is given, followed by ample time devoted to discussion by forum participants.

Institutes were initiated in the early 1990s to provide a setting where men and women meet separately to discuss issues particular to their gender within AFTA and in their profession. Institutes also provide an informal opportunity to get to know each other more fully.

Interest Groups provide an ongoing opportunity for members to discuss new developments in their particular area of focus. In addition, each interest group welcomes new members in order to enrich and enliven the discussion. The chairperson typically decides the format of the interest group.

Keynote & Plenary Sessions consist of invited presentations that feature the themes of the Annual Meeting and Open Conference and discuss current and/or controversial issues in the field.

Meet the Authors is a time to meet AFTA authors. Plan to come to the book signing event on Friday afternoon. It will occur at the same time and place as the Poster Session. Come to peruse the posters and publications and to celebrate the work of members.

Networking Conversations have been developed for mutual support and to assist people who are marginalized to connect with one another and to discuss issues of common interest.

New Member and Student Breakfast is a meeting where New Members are introduced and will have an opportunity to meet Board Members and Committee Chairs. Early Career Members and Students are also encouraged to attend.

A Guide to the Meeting Events

The **Poster Session** features researchers and other individuals using poster illustrations to present their work in an informal setting conducive to in-depth discussion. Types of posters will include research, larger systems and training.

Welcoming Initiative: The goal of the 2012 Welcoming Initiative is to find ways to connect with new and potential AFTA members during the 2012 Annual Meeting and Open Conference. Members of the Welcoming Team will be available at the Welcome Table located next to the registration table. Also, keep an eye out for the "Welcome" ribbon on our name badges! We will have a wealth of information at the Welcome Table, including:

- 2012 Conference activities for YOU (e.g., Fire Pit Meet and Greet)
- Information about Interest Groups and a sign-up sheet for open groups
- Information about the 2013 Conference and sign-up sheet for those interested in helping to plan
 the Conference.

We don't just want to share AFTA, but we want to know about YOU. We will have a sign in sheet where you can list your interests, strengths, and resources, so we can learn more about how you can enhance the Academy.

Also, stop by the Welcome Table to learn more about how you can "win" strawberries and chocolate!

AFTA Social Media Guidelines: Creating Sustainable and Respectful Social Spaces at AFTA Events

To ensure the sustainability of the safe and respectful environment that is a hallmark of AFTA Meetings, we ask participants to preserve the confidentiality of the clinical and personal material that is presented by doing the following:

- Freely tell others about AFTA events and your experience at them, but preserve the confidentiality of any clinical or personal sharing taking place during sessions, whether you are communicating with others electronically or in person.
- Use electronic media (like Twitter, texting, blogs, and other social media) to help AFTA build a socially just community by appropriately sharing with others your impressions of AFTA events.
- Avoid disrupting speakers, or other participants and audience members with any form of electronic communication that is distracting.

AFTA's 34th Annual Meeting FAMILY RESILIENCE

Wednesday, May 16 - Day at a Glance:

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Board Meeting	Marina 1
12:00 PM	Registration Opens	Presidio Foyer
3:30 – 4:45 PM	Committee Meetings	
	AFTA Year-Round	Marina
	Awards	Marina
	2013 Annual Meeting	Presidio
	Early Career Member	Presidio
	Human Rights & Family Policy	Presidio
	Marketing	Marina
	Membership Committee	Marina
	Nominations	Marina
	Research	Presidio
	Student Members	Presidio
5:00 - 7:00 PM	Annual Meeting Welcome and Keynote I	Embarcadero
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Opening Reception	Presidio

"All we are say-ing, Is give EATs a chance."

AFTA CAFÉ

Thursday, 12:15-1:45



VENT 1 **EDNESDAY, MAY 16**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3:30 - 4:45 PM

AFTA Year Round Committee, Corky Becker Marina Awards Committee, Gonzalo Bacigalupe Marina Presidio 2013 Annual Meeting Committee, Jean Malpas Early Career Member Committee, Chris Hoff & Paula Levinrad Presidio Human Rights & Family Policy Committees, Lawrence Levner & Rachel Dash Presidio Marketing Committee, Jacqueline Hudak Marina Membership Committee, Jane Ariel Marina Nominations Committee, Deidre Ashton Marina Research Committee*, Susan McDaniel & Louise Silverstein Presidio Presidio Student Member Committee, Justine White

*Research Committee:

We would like to extend an open invitation to all AFTA Members to come to our committee meeting with suggestions for research questions and/or areas they are interested in learning more about. We are planning to begin an "Ask the Researchers" column in the AFTA Update, and would like to start with some questions from people attending the Annual Meeting.

WELCOME & KEYNOTE I

Embarcadero

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Welcome: Hinda Winawer, President & Michael Ungar, 2012 Program Chair

Keynote I: Family Roots: An Investigation of the Effects of Upheaval on Family Systems

Presenter: Mindy Thompson Fullilove Moderator: David Landsman-Wohlsifer

Families can be uprooted by many processes, from disaster to development. The upheaval process severs ties to one location and launches families on a journey of resettlement. Resettling families pass through a number of phases. This intergenerational process has important consequences for the health and well-being of all members of the family. Settlement houses, such as Hull House, founded by Jane Addams, offer one model of community support for transitioning families. Others will also be discussed.

OPENING RECEPTION

Presidio

7:00 - 9:00 PM

AFTA's 34th Annual Meeting FAMILY RESILIENCE

Thursday, May 17 – Day at a Glance:

7:00 - 7:30 AM	Centering Practice	Lombard
7:30 - 8:30 AM	New Member & Student Breakfast	Marina 1
7:30 - 8:30 AM	Continental Breakfast	Presidio Foyer
8:30 – 10:30 AM	Plenary I	Embarcadero
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Refreshment Break	Presidio Foyer
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	Plenary Debrief	Embarcadero 1
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	Interest Groups	
	1. Research	North Beach
	2. Murray Bowen: The Man & the Theory	The Wharf
	3. Community-Based Family Programs and Consultation	Presidio 3
	4. Couples Therapy	Presidio 1
	5. The Supervisory Relationship: Examining Power Relations	Lombard
	6. The Narrative of the Therapist: Significant Stories	Embarcadero Foyer
	7. Evidence-Based Family/Couple/SystemicTherapy	Presidio 2
	8. Narrative Therapy	Marina 1
	9. Latino Families	Marina 2
12:15 – 1:45 PM	AFTA CAFÉ: Town Hall Luncheon	Embarcadero
1:45 – 3:30 PM	AFTA Joint Forum	Presidio
4:00 PM	AFTA Open Conference Begins	
4:00 – 6:00 PM	Conference Welcome/Keynote II	Embarcadero
6:30 – 11:00 PM	Special Event	Maritime Museum

Plenary II

8:45 - 11:00 AM

EVENTS • THURSDAY, MAY 17

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, THURSDAY, MAY 17

CENTERING PRACTICE

Lombard

 $7:00 - 7:30 \, AM$

Rachel Dash

We will cultivate well-being and compassion through the practice of intentionally paying attention to the present moment without judgment. We will sit together, attending to our breath, thoughts, sensations and emotions as they move through us, gently returning to the present each time we become aware of our naturally wandering thoughts.

NEW MEMBER & STUDENT BREAKFAST

Marina 1

7:30 - 8:30 AM

Chris Hoff & Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey

New Member and Student Breakfast is a meeting where new members are introduced and have an opportunity to meet Board Members and Committee Chairs. Early Career Members and Students are also encouraged to attend.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (Open to all attendees)

Presidio Foyer

7:30 - 8:30 AM

PLENARY I

 $\begin{aligned} &Embarcadero \\ &8:30-10:30\,AM \end{aligned}$

Resilience in Couples Up Against Personal and Political Stressors

Presenters: Thandiwe Dee Watts-Jones, Carmen Knudson-Martin & Robert-Jay Green

Moderator: Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey

This plenary will examine from various perspectives how couples use existing resources to develop new strategies when up against personal dilemmas and constraining political narratives. Resilience in this discussion will include responses within individuals and between couples that help them withstand wider social and cultural pressures. Presenters will connect their ideas to existing research and to particular social contexts. They will also give clinical examples that reveal their assumptions and approaches to strengthening resilience when working with couples.

Back to Back: Keep on Pushing Treading, and Loving

Thandiwe Dee Watts-Jones

Resilience wears many faces and is always in the context of compared to what. In some contexts, resilience is simply being alive or getting out of bed every day to go to a job of monotonous drudgery. The resilience of couples (families and individuals) who occupy multiple identities of subjugation draws on many sources—familial, cultural, spiritual, communal, personal, and ancestral among them. Couples and families that occupy multiple subjugated identities face additional challenges to their well-being, and helping them to recognize, resist, and separate from messages of inferiority and their influence in their interpersonal/intrapersonal difficulties can also support resilience. But witnessing and validation from others may not be sufficient, in the absence of self-compassion.

Creating a Foundation of Mutual Support: Challenging Power Inequities in Couple Relationships Carmen Knudson-Martin

Research shows that equal power and gender flexibility help couples respond to crisis and transition. However, though couples increasingly desire equal relationships, cultural models of mutual support are not well developed. Clinicians often approach heterosexual couple therapy as though partners are inherently equal, thus reinforcing unacknowledged gender inequities. This presentation focuses on four gender-related aspects of mutual support: (a) mutual vulnerability; (b) mutual attunement; (c) shared influence; and (d) shared relational responsibility. Video examples illustrate how to identify and address gendered disparities in these important relational processes.

Gay and Lesbian Couples: Resilience in the Face of Personal and Political Discrimination Robert-Jay Green

This presentation will help attendees identify the unique minority stresses that gay and lesbian couples face and the specific coping mechanisms they can use to transcend those stresses, protect their relationships, and preserve their emotional well-being. Minority stressors for same-sex couples include: (a) anti-gay prejudice and its manifestation as discrimination, exclusion, interpersonal micro-aggressions, and public micro-aggressions; (b) relational ambiguity (lack of social templates and legal definitions for same-sex couple relationships and for couples with children); and (c) lack of social supports for same-sex couples (rejection or marginalization by families of origin, workplaces, schools and other community institutions; fragmentation in couple's social networks). Specific methods will be described to help couples in therapy cope effectively with each of these three sources of minority couple stress.

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Presidio Foyer

10:30 - 10:45 AM

PLENARY DEBRIEF

Embarcadero 1

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

During this plenary debrief there will be an opportunity to discuss the plenary presentations with the presenters at greater length. The moderator will help guide the conversation.

INTEREST GROUPS

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Coordinators: David Landsman-Wohlsifer & Corky Becker

1. Research North Beach

Chair: Louise Silverstein

Title: Same-Sex Couples in Legalized Relationships: I Do, Or Do I?

Presenter: Esther Rothblum

Vermont was the first U.S. state to legalize same-sex relationships in the form of civil unions. This presentation will present data from a longitudinal study that has surveyed same-sex couples who had civil unions during the first year, their friends in same-sex couples who chose not to have civil unions, and their heterosexual married siblings.

2. Murray Bowen: The Man & the Theory

The Wharf

Chairs: Sally Eisen Miller & Carolyn Moynihan-Bradt

Presenter: Laura Havstad

Dr. Laura Havstad, psychologist from Sebastopol, California, and Dr. Bowen (on DVD) will provoke our thinking and discussion this year as we think of resilience in families and couples. A brief tape will be shown of Dr. Bowen doing therapy with a couple over a one-year period where the wife was diagnosed with the label of "schizophrenia." Research has shown that children in moderately adverse family environments develop less stress reactivity and fewer symptoms than children from highly protected environments. In Bowen theory, emotional fusion, or undifferentiation, is the emotional stuck togetherness between people in family systems. Generally unrecognized in psychological science, and currently in the background of prevailing ideas about attachment, fusion is an important variable to account for the development of stress reactivity with its attendant physical, emotional, and relationship problems.

3. Community-Based Family Programs and Consultation

Presidio 3

Chairs: Peter Fraenkel & Paulette Hines

Presenters: John Rolland, Froma Walsh, Bill Madsen, Harry Aponte, Evan Imber-Black, Lascelles Black, Celia Falicov & The City of Los Angeles Program for Gang Reduction and Youth Development

This year we are fortunate to lead off our discussion about community-based family programs with a team of AFTA members, led by the Chicago Center for Family Health, working with the City of Los Angeles Program for Gang Reduction and Youth Development. The LA Mayor's Office contracted with CCFH to provide an innovative 10-month collaborative, resilience-oriented family training program for 150 community-based agency staff as part of a prevention program for youth, ages 10-15, at high risk for gang involvement in 12 neighborhood zones. Training team members will describe the overall gang prevention initiative, the family-based training component, and challenges and progress to date.

4. Couples Therapy

Presidio 1

Chairs: Mona Fishbane, Corky Becker & Martha Edwards

This year we will focus on how we interface with clients around values and beliefs—theirs and ours. What are the therapist's assumptions about what makes for a strong couple relationship? What do we see as the individual characteristics that promote healthy intimacy? How do we invite a dialogue with clients around their beliefs about love and relationship? What do we do when our values or assumptions clash with those of the couple, or when the couple acts in ways that violate the values we hold dear? Issues such as equality, gender roles, respect, self-regulation, and empathy will be explored. We will consider how to deal with a clash of values between therapist and clients, and how to explore issues of power, gender, and culture in a respectful and generative manner.

5. The Supervisory Relationship: Examining Power Relations Lombard Chairs: Laurie Markham, Jane Chiu, Duncan Wigg & Vicki Dickerson

The supervisor-supervisee relationship implies that knowledge resides with the supervisor, who is in the position of knowing, while the supervisee is in the position of receiving knowledge. Many supervisory practices inadvertently support this division with the effect often being that supervisees share an experience of doubt and uncertainty. This interest group will demonstrate practices that address this power differential to assist supervisors in helping their supervisees more readily access their own knowledge and skills. Jane Chiu and Laurie Markham have written an article that demonstrates these ideas.

6. The Narrative of the Therapist: Significant Stories Chair: Robert Carroll

Embarcadero Foyer

We will share our significant stories, the ones in which our clinical work has changed us. One of the privileges of working in the healing arts is that we become privy to situations and life circumstances which we have yet to face, and indeed may never face, except in realities presented to us in our clinical lives. What do our patients teach us by their courage, ingenuity, resilience, and perseverance as they go through the challenges posed them by lived circumstances? Who have we admired and who has made us reach to be better than ourselves in the course of our work with them? Who has tested our beliefs, our commitments to our own families, and our place in the larger community? Clinical cases, vignettes, and poems will be presented to illustrate how our involvement and our clinical work exposes us to existential and developmental change in which participation requires our own personal growth and transformation. Participants will be asked for their own transformational clinical experiences coupled with the discussions that they generate.

7. Evidence-Based Family/Couple/SystemicTherapy

Presidio 2

Chair: W. Keith Sutton

This group is for family, couple, and systemic therapists interested in discussing the development of and dissemination of evidence-based treatments. Evidence-based family and couples therapy treatments have begun to be widely adopted throughout the country and world. They are bringing family therapy back into the forefront as many agencies are adopting these approaches and public funding is requiring training and practice in evidence based approaches. The group will discuss how to continue the development of effective approaches, documenting effectiveness through research, and influencing public policy around adopting effective approaches.

8. Narrative Therapy

Chairs: Anne Arnold & Chris Hoff

There exists some critique of Narrative Therapy that in its emphasis on larger societal discourses it has missed out on considering the more immediate family or the human networks that people live within. This Interest Group will respond to this critique and show how narrative practice in family therapy does attend to both the larger societal discourses, as well as family intricacies at the most local level. Rather than blame families for the problems of family members, the narrative family therapy approach brings the family or networks together to counter the problem as they see it. Through collaborative dialogue the participants will be invited to develop lines of inquiry that draw on families' collective wisdom. A co-research video demonstration will show, from the families' point of view, what works best in family therapy.

9. Latino Families Marina 2

Chair: Gloria Lopez-Henriquez

After holding a formal meeting during the 2010 Annual Meeting in Boulder, the Latina AFTA members and guests agreed to create a Latino Family Interest Group. As therapists, supervisors, teachers and researchers, we have gained access to navigate the bilingual bicultural waters personally and professionally. In that process, we have been the witnesses of incredible and unique stories of survival that are silenced and invisible to most. It is clear that we are the carriers of those stories, and that it is our responsibility to give voice to those stories and to create a place within the AFTA community where those stories become real.

AFTA CAFÉ: TOWN HALL LUNCHEON

Embarcadero

Marina 1

12:15 - 1:45 PM

Facilitators: Hinda Winawer, Martha Edwards & Jay Lappin

A tasty, on-the-house lunch for the "Committee of the Whole," of AFTA awaits you! Everyone is invited. Lunch will be provided for all attendees. We will highlight the results of the membership survey and of the Board Retreat. Most importantly, we will hear from each other about our own burning questions, interests, and what AFTA members want to focus on/know more about. We will also connect these to our vision for AFTA now and going forward and set forth concrete steps toward turning those visions into action. We also will invite ideas on welcoming our guest attendees at the Open Conference.

AFTA JOINT FORUM

Presidio

The Human Rights, Family Policy, and Cultural & Economic Diversity Committees $1:45-3:30\ PM$

Committee Chairs: Larry Levner, Rachel Dash & Pilar Hernández-Wolfe

Panelists: Ritu Goswany, Erika Rivera, Renee Saucedo, Ariana Gil, Liliana (last name omitted)

Facilitator: Gloria Lopez

The Effects of Immigration Policy and Practice: The Pervasiveness of Experienced Violence

This year's forum will examine the impact of structural violence as it relates to the policies and practices of the U.S. and Mexico on undocumented families migrating from Central America and Mexico. Specifically, it will address the following questions: What is the structural context of violence framing the experiences of undocumented families crossing the Mexico-US border? How does the lack of adequate economic opportunity in Mexico and on-going demand for low-wage migrant labor in the United States frame the pervasiveness of violence experienced by these families across both borders? How are race and nationality related to this violence?

OPEN CONFERENCE BEGINS

CONFERENCE WELCOME & KEYNOTE II

Embarcadero

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Welcome: Hinda Winawer, President & Michael Ungar, 2012 Program Chair

Keynote II: In The Realm of Hungry Ghosts: A Biopsychosocial View of Addictions, from Heroin to Workaholism

Presenter: Gabor Maté Moderator: Roger Lake

Contrary to the mainstream medical perspective, addiction is neither a genetic problem nor simply a manifestation of individual dysfunction. Its psychological and neurobiological roots lie in the multigenerational family history and, in many cases, also in cultural dislocation and marginalization. The healing of addiction, therefore, requires an ecological approach, that is, an understanding of what familial-social-environmental supports will facilitate and promote the recovery process in the affected person.

SPECIAL EVENT Maritime Museum

6:30 - 11:00 PM

This year's Special Event will feature the beauty of the San Francisco Bay. We'll gather atop the Maritime Museum, a stunning venue overlooking Aquatic Park, the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz, yet only a short walk from the conference hotel. At the event, food from the San Francisco Bay area's bounty of sustainable foods will be provided, paired with wines from Sonoma and Napa Vineyards. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to mingle in small groups to network and reflect on the day's events.

AFTA's 34th Annual Meeting FAMILY RESILIENCE

Friday, May 18 – Day at a Glance:

7:00 - 7:30AM	Centering Practice	Lombard
$7:30 - 8:30 \mathrm{AM}$	Early Career Member & Student Breakfast	Marina 1
$7:30 - 8:30 \mathrm{AM}$	Continental Breakfast	Presidio Foyer
$8:30-10:30\mathrm{AM}$	Plenary II	Embarcadero
10:30 - 11:00 AM	Refreshment Break	Presidio Foyer
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Plenary Debrief	Embarcadero 2
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Brief Presentations	
	1. Gender in Couples Therapy	Embarcadero 1
	2. Resilience in Families Experiencing	The Wharf
	Serious Physical Illness	
	3. Healing Resources	Lombard
	4. Locating Resilience in Communities	Marina 2
	5. Conflict in Families	Presidio 1
	6. Applications of Family Therapy	North Beach
	7. Eliciting Resilience in Family Therapy	Presidio 3
	8. Use of Self in Family Therapy Training and Practice	Marina 1
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Family Process Board Meeting	Presidio 2
12:30 – 2:00 PM	Networking Conversations	
	1. People of Color	Marina 1
	2. White Privilege and Accountability	Marina 2
2:00-4:00 PM	Plenary III	Embarcadero
4:00 – 4:30 PM	Refreshment Break	Marina Foyer
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Presidents' Meeting	The Wharf
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Poster Presentations & Meet the Authors	The Deck
4:30-5:30 PM	Plenary Debrief	Presidio 1
4:30-5:30 PM	Getting Published Discussion	Presidio 2
4:30-5:30 PM	Brief Presentations	
	9. Family Therapy Training & Research	Marina 2
	10. Time and Technology in Family Life	Embarcadero 1
	11. A Comprehensive Parenting Program	Presidio 3
	12. Healing Conversations	Marina 1
	13. Intersecting Resiliency: A Cross-Cultural	Embarcadero 2
	Dialogue in a Post Conflict Context	
	14. Researching Family Therapy	Lombard
	15. Families in Recovery	North Beach
5:30-6:00 PM	Break	Marina Foyer
6:00 - 7:00 PM	Spiritual Reflections	·
	Shabbat Service	North Beach
	TBD	Lombard
6:00 - 7:00 PM	New Member Meet Up	Sol
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Women's Institute	Marina 1
7:00 - 10:00 PM	Men's Institute	Marina 2

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, FRIDAY, MAY 18

CENTERING PRACTICE

Lombard

 $7:00-7:30\,AM$

Jerry Gale

We will do centering practices to start the day, including meditation, breathing practices and perhaps gentle yoga depending on what participants prefer.

EARLY CAREER MEMBER & STUDENT BREAKFAST

Marina 1

7:30 - 8:30 AM

Norma Scarborough, Paula Levinrad, Chris Hoff & Justine White

The Early Career Member and Student Committees will host the annual ECM/Student Breakfast (previously the ECM/Student Luncheon). As in previous years, this will be a great opportunity for ECM and Student Members to meet and get to know AFTA's Senior Members. The opportunity to connect with Senior Members of AFTA has been a highlight of the event, so we hope you will join us!

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (Open to all attendees)

Presidio Foyer

7:30 - 8:30 AM

PLENARY II Embarcadero

 $8:30 - 10:30 \,\text{AM}$

The Crocodile Lives in Water Yet Breathes the Air: Adaptations of Families Across Cultures and Contexts

Presenters: Andrae Brown, Michal Shamai & Michelle Contreras

Moderator: Deidre Ashton

Denkyem is the West African Adinkra symbol for the crocodile. It symbolizes adaptability because the crocodile is a prehistoric creature that survives through its ability to live in the water AND breathe the air. This plenary will focus on the ways in which individuals and families of varying cultural contexts evolve and shift to survive and overcome challenging,

life-threatening circumstances such as war, terror, poverty, and historical and contemporary oppression. The plenary will also illuminate the ways in which clinicians, advocates, and other service providers need to acculturate to the survival adaptations of families to expand and augment the families' capacity to heal and thrive, while also countering unjust circumstances.

Surviving Centuries of Oppression: Adaptations of Street-Life Oriented Black American Men, Their Families, and Communities

Andrae Brown

Despite some political, economic and social gains, an overwhelming number of Black men in the United States face daily threats to their physical and psychological well-being. Although there have been calls for increased training in cultural competence in the fields of mental health, education, policing, and medicine, the steadily increasing rates of racial disparities in these fields indicate that there remains a need to develop effective strategies to engage, treat and foster resilience in marginalized communities. We will explore the Sites of Resilience (SOR) as the theoretical lens for better understanding resilience and the Cultural Context Model (CCM) as a clinical model for engaging and treating street-life-oriented Black men and their families in need of mental health services. We will utilize clinical cases to illustrate how the SOR theory and the CCM can be applied to create a therapeutic milieu promoting critical consciousness, empowerment, accountability, healing, and liberation on an individual, family and community level. These approaches may increase client engagement and retention, while bolsterting street-life-oriented Black men's ability to better negotiate their environments.

"We Survived Pharaoh, We'll Survive this, too:"Resiliency Embedded in the Narrative of Israeli Society Michal Shamai

The purpose of this presentation is to describe how resilience has become part of the narrative of Israeli society. In this presentation, I will focus on the influence of systems' narratives on the development of resiliency. It will start by analyzing specific variables within narratives that increase the resilience, based on several qualitative studies performed in Israeli society. This will be followed by some empirical findings regarding resilience of populations living under the ongoing threat of war and terror. Finally, I will focus on cultural aspects that encourage the creation of a resilience narrative.

Survival Lessons Learned from Unaccompanied Refugee Minors and Former Victims of Human Trafficking Michelle Contreras

Individuals forced to move under duress overcome significant challenges. The presenter will describe the plight of two such U.S. immigrant groups: unaccompanied refugee minors and international survivors of human trafficking. She will discuss cases highlighting the internal and external resources these individuals draw on to survive and recover from the abuses they have suffered. This presentation will focus on the strengths that both of these groups find in maintaining significant family ties. The experience of refugee minors, who embody caretaking roles with younger siblings, will be of central attention and explored as a strength and potential source of coping. Relevant research, U.S. policies affecting these immigrant groups, and clinical considerations will be presented as these relate to the case studies.

REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:30 - 11:00 AM

Presidio Foyer

PLENARY DEBREIF

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Embarcadero 2

During this plenary debrief there will be an opportunity to discuss the plenary presentations with the presenters at greater length. The moderator will help guide the conversation.

BRIEF PRESENTATIONS

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Coordinators: Deidre Ashton & Gloria Lopez

1. Gender in Couples Therapy

Embarcadero 1

Moderator: Glenda Mendelsohn

How Gender Discourses Are Reinforced in Couples Therapy

Presenters: Aimee Galick & Jessica Chen

Gender discourses inform women and men of acceptable ways of thinking, feeling, and acting in intimate relationships. When couples operate from traditional gender discourses, power differentials between partners can result. Power differentials between partners can impede the ability to have a mutually supportive relationship and can result in one partner being less satisfied with the relationship. Just as our clients are influenced by gender discourses so are we as therapists. Both clients and therapists bring their constricting ideas about gender into therapy. Gender discourses profoundly affect what clinicians hear in therapy and how they make clinical judgments. It is important for clinicians to know how these issues can be effectively addressed in their work with couples. The limited time afforded to videotape observation and supervision does not always allow for examination of contextual issues such as gender. In this study we sought to understand how gender discourses influence the therapeutic process. Using a grounded theory analysis of couples' therapy sessions, we found that a few dominant gender discourses emerged in the majority of the sessions. They were brought into the therapy room by both therapists and clients in various ways. The presence of these discourses affected the progression of therapy and contributed to power inequalities between partners. Implications for couples therapy and how to work with dominant gender discourses are discussed.

Relational Attunement and Gender Equality in Heterosexual Couple Relationships Presenters: Naveen Jonathan & Carmen Knudson-Martin

Recent studies suggest that the effect of gender on relational attunement may help explain why gender equality contributes to relationship success. This brief presentation focuses on the grounded theory analysis of interviews with 35 heterosexual couples and identifies the relational processes by which three levels of attunement (mutual, thwarted, unattuned) are linked with gender equality. Implications highlight a need to address the gendered nature of attunement when helping couples build emotional connection.

Pulling Together: African-American Couples and Gender Equality Presenters: Randi Cowdery & Norma Scarborough

The construction of gendered power is shaped by a variety of historical, cultural, and structural forces. How do couples deal with gender equality when they experience other kinds of social injustice? When race and gender interact, understanding gendered power may be more complicated. This qualitative grounded theory study considers these complexities. We explore how 15 African-American heterosexual couples define and express gender equality in their relationships and consider how these processes intersect with societal power processes. We describe the historical context and show how family solidarity in face of social injustices overrides gender equality as a goal for couples.

2. Resilience in Families Experiencing Serious Physical Illness

The Wharf

Moderator: Rodney Shapiro

The Dreaded Clinic Visit: Exploring Family-Provider Relationship When Diabetes Isn't Going Well

Presenter: Gloria Lopez

The relationship between diabetes care providers, patients and their families is a key factor for successful management of diabetes. This collaboration is necessary for effective communication of treatment goals, as well as for identification and resolution of barriers to optimal diabetes management. Adolescents with poorly controlled diabetes, and their parents, often become estranged from their health care providers. A history of chronically elevated blood sugars can generate a pattern of mutually frustrating visits and poor medical follow up. Over the longer term, adolescents with poorly controlled diabetes have a significantly increased risk for acute and chronic diabetes complications and shortened lifespan. We elected to utilize a systems approach to explore the relational dynamics of disease management in adolescents with poorly controlled diabetes, looking through the different perspectives of patients, their families and the care team.

Promoting Resilience Among African American Families Coping with Parental Cancer: Lessons Learned

Presenters: Maureen Davey, Karni Kissel & Laura Lynch

In this brief presentation, we describe the development of a racially sensitive family-based support group for African-American families who are coping with parental cancer. We compared a newly developed racially sensitive family-focused support group to a conventional psycho-educational approach with African-American parents recently diagnosed with cancer and their school-age children. During this two-year pilot study we encountered unexpected challenges partnering with oncology providers regarding the recruitment and engagement of African-American families. We will describe lessons learned in overcoming these barriers and also strategies for building trust with African-American families and promoting family resilience. A comparison between the two approaches will be described regarding key family and individual outcomes: parent-child communication, parent-child relationship quality, family routines, child depressive and anxiety symptoms, and parents' depressive symptoms.

The Illness Beliefs Model: Addressing Illness Suffering in Clinical Work with Families Presenters: Janice M. Bell & Lorraine M. Wright

This presentation will provide a brief overview of a practice model, the Illness Beliefs Model, that uniquely focuses on illness beliefs and offers interventions to address the connection between illness beliefs, illness suffering, and family healing. Of central concern is the intersection of illness beliefs held by family members, healthcare professionals, and larger systems, including cultural and societal beliefs. It is here where the healing power of the therapeutic relationship is directed, where therapeutic conversations are co-evolved, where compassion and intense curiosity are shown by the clinician, and where invitations to reflection (interventions) are offered. Described in the presenters' book, "Beliefs and Illness: A Model for Healing" (2009), the model uses a systemic orientation. For more information, the web site is: http://www.illnessbeliefsmodel.com.

3. Healing Resources

Lombard

Moderator: Daniel Kusnir

Accessing Extra-Familial Supports for Families who have Members with Developmental Disabilities

Presenters: James P. Coyle & Matthew Sherman

Families of individuals with developmental disabilities have a dual challenge: to help their family member effectively cope with disability, while simultaneously coping themselves. Engaging supportive resources from outside of the family is an important component of this coping. This presentation will suggest a holistic treatment approach that includes assessing and accessing formal and informal supportive resources for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. It will also discuss how family needs may change as members with developmental disabilities grow from children to adults.

Family Interventions that Promote Resilience in Children with Autism and their Families Presenters: Matthew Sherman & James P. Coyle

Research has indicated the importance of family in interventions for autistic children. Autism does not solely affect the diagnosed, but also impacts parents and siblings. Each family member has a specific and important role, and as a result, it is important to look at families' inner dynamics in order to achieve successful intervention/treatment outcomes. This presentation will (a) review parents' and siblings' experiences in families with an autistic child; (b) discuss how family members support the development and needs of members with autism; and (c) suggest family interventions that promote resilience in children with autism and their families.

Poetry and Personal Voice: Healing Self, Family and Community Presenter: Robert Carroll

Healing can take place at the level of the individual, the family, and the community. In this brief presentation examples of various uses of voice through the writing and reading of poetry will be shown to facilitate healing, growth and transformation at all of these levels. Vignettes and poems will be shared across a number of contexts including: (1) writing as a personal healing practice; (2) poetry as a dialogue between husband and wife; (3) facilitating a dialogue on illness, death and dying using poetry with a church congregation mourning the death of its minister and some congregants; (4) the Poetry and Brain

Cancer Project at UCLA in which poets were paired with brain cancer patients to have the poets help the patients find the words to express their experience; (5) using linked poetry at the AFTA Meeting in New York in 2002 in which those present created a set of braided poems in the wake of 9/11, with a reading of the poetry we created together; and (6) using expressive writing as a way of facilitating systemic change in the Dept. of Child Psychiatry at Tufts University.

4. Locating Resilience in Communities

Marina 2

Moderator: W. Keith Sutton

African-American Inner-City Girls, Young, Gifted, and Trapped: Restoring Community as a Resilience Factor

Presenters: Ken Hardy & Renata Carneiro

Black inner-city girls often find their psyches and souls murdered at the intersection of racism, classism, and sexism. Regardless of the sense of optimism and hope that accompany them as children when they are ushered into the world, it quickly dissipates at the hands of powerful, pervasive, and debilitating messages that often define them as "less than." Most of black girls' souls are contaminated by a society that devalues them on a daily basis. They are bombarded with images of the much-desired white females, with thin bodies and blue eyes. The message that black girls receive is "the whiter you are, the more desirable and worth you are." Often associated with promiscuity, warped morals, and a propensity toward illegal and acting out behaviors, black girls suffer from an erosion of cultural community, a necessary precursor to developing a healthy cultural identity. The erosion of the community leads many girls to the development of internalized hate and their participation in a wide range of self-destructive behavior. This presentation will provide four case studies of black high school inner-city girls, whose sense of community was ravaged by histories of physical, sexual abuse, bullying, coming out struggles with family and peers, as well as covert and overt racism. One common story line they all share is the disruption of cultural community.

Family Therapists & Community Connections: Enhancing Resilience through Communities in Therapy

Presenters: Deepu George & Morgan Stinson

Placing a premium on the idea that families are embedded in communities, we delineate various pathways therapists can access community as a resource in therapy. Despite the influence of systems thinking in family therapy, our most popularized models of therapeutic work remains silent about assuming a broader perspective or incorporating contextual aspects of community into the treatment modality. Inspired by Doherty & Beaton's (2000) call for the role of family therapists in civic renewal, we describe the 'how-to' process of engaging communities. We combine the Social Organizational Model (SOM) of action and change which predicates resilience as its ultimate goal with a typology of community to help clinicians better visualize communities as places, targets, and forces for intervention. We assume such a broad perspective better accounts for the diverse experiences of the client and family in terms of race, gender, social context and group identity, helping therapists connect individual stories with collective wisdom of the larger community to which the client belongs.

5. Conflict in Families

Moderator: Lois Braverman

Presidio 1

Helping Parents Expand their Beliefs about their Children's Problematic Behaviors Presenters: Catherine Lewis & Andrea Blumenthal

Overwhelmed, depleted, and frustrated parents often bring their children to family therapy, hoping the family therapist will work his/her magic, "fix" the child and make everything better. The parents may have intense feelings of anger toward their children for causing them to feel like failures, hiding the deep sadness and loss they feel about their strained relationship. In this brief presentation, clinical material will be shown to demonstrate how core family therapy techniques such as joining, reframing and collaborating can be integrated with information sharing and activities pulling from attachment theory and interpersonal neurobiology. The presenters will show their struggles and successes in attempting to expand the parents' constraining beliefs about their children's behavior, while remaining respectful about differences in parenting styles and beliefs about children.

Romantic Relationships in Adolescence: Impact and Outcomes for Families Presenters: Christine Helfrich & Armeda J. Wojciak

In the last decade, there has been an increased interest in romantic relationships during adolescence. Therapists, researchers, and policy makers have all turned their attention to the salient role romantic relationships play during this developmental stage. Adolescents experience significant changes in family structure and dynamics, namely a decrease in support and interaction with parental figures. Romantic relationships can be positive influences in areas such as academic achievement, interpersonal skills, future expectations, and resiliency in youth. Conversely, these romantic relationships have also been connected with negative outcomes such as dating violence, risk for unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and depression. Given the importance of relationships, it is important for us to direct our attention to this topic in order to gain a systemic perspective of the nature, impact, and outcomes of these relationships. In this brief presentation, adolescent relationships will be discussed in relation to theory, resilience, family and individual outcomes, and intervention.

Looking Through the Mirror: The Use of Reflecting Teams in Providing Collaborative Care to High-Conflict Families

Presenters: Justine Underhill & Ken Epstein

Reflecting Teams (RTs) are an internationally recognized consultation methodology. RTs are designed to collaborate with families to bridge difficult issues, overcome therapeutic impasses and develop new pathways for therapeutic conversations. RTs have been accepted among family therapists, and are believed to have profoundly influenced family therapy. However, there exist roughly half a dozen empirical studies of its efficacy, based largely on qualitative data; results have been mixed. This study, an evaluation of the efficacy of RTs, is the first to collect and report on quantitative data from 18 families and over 57 participants. We utilize RTs to create a "reflective space" for families and therapists to consider what contributes to their conflict, to understand each other better, and to feel more hopeful that things will change. By empowering families to participate in their own therapy, and by equalizing the relationship between the therapist and the family, we hope to strengthen the family resilience. We will present preliminary data from the study, as well as discuss the way in which we use reflecting teams.

6. Applications of Family Therapy

Moderator: John Frykman

Where the Action is: Couples and Family Therapy in the VA Health Care System Presenters: Douglas Rait & Keith Armstrong

Couples and family therapy has a rich, longstanding relationship with the VA Health Care System. The spotlight is on the VA Health Care System once again as young men and women return home from Afghanistan and Iraq facing new medical and psychosocial challenges. More than half of U.S. troops are married, and the impact of their military experiences extends to their partners, children, and extended families. At the same time, the VA Health Care System—the largest healthcare system in the country—is more receptive than ever to cutting-edge couples and family treatments for relationship distress, PTSD, physical health problems, serious mental illness, and substance abuse. The history, current state of couples and family therapy in the VA healthcare system, and opportunities for engagement by AFTA members will be discussed.

Core-Focused Family Therapy Presenter: Judye Hess

Core-Focused Family Therapy is a unique approach to family therapy that is particularly appropriate for graduate students and practitioners who favor a humanistic-experiential approach to working with families. This method, which is both conceptually grounded and practically focused, bridges theoretical orientations and is an immediately useful guide for both novice and experienced family therapists in clinical and training sessions. This approach is best described in the book the presenter co-authored with Ross Cohen, "Core-Focused Family Therapy: Moving From Chaos to Clarity" (2008).

The Paradox Between Community and Family Resilience and Use of Community Services Presenter: Brian Distelberg

This pilot study of 200 families living in one southern Californian public housing community explores the relationship between family resilience and community resilience in service access and utilization. Innovative social network analysis measures for community interaction and exploratory PLS-SEM reveals a potential paradox for families living in low-income public housing. In this pilot study, it was found that increases in community interaction and involvement increased family resilience, yet reduced service utilization within the community parameters. The paradox for government-supported housing communities is rethinking the way services are accessed, marketed and measured as a priori outcomes. While community resilience is important and a worthy goal, the side effect results in families accessing community-based services less. This pilot study forms the foundation of a five-year longitudinal study evaluating community resilience and family resilience in relationship to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development outcomes for social mobility.

7. Eliciting Resilience in Family Therapy

Moderator: Robert-Jay Green

An Integrative Approach to Assessing and Enhancing Family Strengths

Presenters: Debra Manchester & Don MacMannis

Although we know more than ever before about topics such as resiliency, healthy families and emotional intelligence, how should the average therapist integrate these findings into different models of psychotherapy with diverse client populations? How can mental health practitioners get this information out to the many young people and future parents who will never seek therapy? This presentation will offer an approach to this challenge, one that evolved from decades of collaboration with fellow clinicians at a free-standing family therapy institute. First, we will explain how we synthesized ideas from family systems, EQ, resiliency, neuroscience and positive psychology into ten key principles and skill sets. We will share the assessment tools we developed, used both as diagnostic maps for therapists and as checklists for families wanting to uncover their strengths and areas for growth. We will outline the ways we've successfully implemented this approach and dialogue about how new formats such as blogs, podcasts and social media platforms might be used for primary prevention, bringing newly evolving research findings to a bigger audience.

Presidio 3

An Interactive Family Resiliency Self-Report Survey

Presenters: Dawne Clark & Kristen Duke

The Start Smart Stay Safe Project is a three-year strengths-based initiative funded by the Safe Communities Innovation Fund of Alberta to enhance child and family resiliency through school-based activities and to engage parents to support healthy choices. We are developing an interactive family resiliency self-report tool that will help families identify their strengths and actively seek ways to continue to build their families' resiliency through accessing additional resources or activities within their various communities. Informed by FrameWorks Institute research on public understandings of resiliency, Phase I has been gathering information from parents active in their children's schools about how they see resiliency in their own families and what characteristics they see in other families that might not be resilient. Phase II will engage parents who find accessing their children's schools more difficult because of diversity or vulnerability issues. This presentation will focus on the process of developing the family resiliency tool integrating scientific and parent understandings.

Psychosocial Challenges of Same-Sex Divorce Presenters: Stacey Shuster, Daniel Yu & Deborah Wald

The constantly changing landscape of same-sex marriage laws is confusing enough; dissolving some of these relationships presents legal and emotional challenges as well. This brief presentation will be led by two therapist-mediators and a family attorney working at the forefront of the legal issues regarding same-sex partnerships and parentage. We will summarize some of the gray areas that can lead to conflict and confusion, adding to the complicated psychosocial scenario of LGBT couples. There will be an opportunity for Q&A, as well as presentation of case material.

8. Use of Self in Family Therapy Training & Practice

Moderator: Norbert Wetzel

Training Undergraduate Interns: Power, Privilege and Vulnerability

Presenter: Marsha Mirkin

Generally, undergraduate students enter their internship sites with excitement and trepidation, but rarely with a recognition of power or privilege. A yearlong internship with an attached college seminar offers an opportunity to examine issues of power in a more multi-layered manner. Interns often can identify their lack of power and the feeling of vulnerability within the internship. For multiply oppressed students, the experience of oppression and marginalization is gleaned by experiences far beyond the internship itself. However, it is challenging for students to develop an awareness and sensitivity to how they are perceived by and perceive clients, especially clients receiving services in hospitals, probation, residential programs or agencies mandated to evaluate removal of the child from the home. This presentation will look at the intersectionality of privilege and oppression in various internship related relationships. Presenters will discuss how we can journey with our students in a more power-with and power-to process and the roadblocks encountered as we move toward greater awareness and sensitivity to both the student's self-perception and the client's view of the student intern.

Marina 1

Student Experiences with Fat Studies Classes: Narratives of Resilience and Resistance Presenter: Sheila Addison

The emerging discipline of Fat Studies, a field that explores the social and political impacts of body size, has been largely taught within the humanities. Unlike other dimensions of diversity, information about body diversity and the impacts of fat-phobia and size discrimination are not yet integrated into most mental health training programs. Most clinicians-in-training are not exposed to principles such as Size Acceptance and Health at Every Size for use in their own self-of-therapist work or work with clients, and therefore lack the tools to challenge cultural mandates about slimness and weight loss efforts. This presentation presents qualitative research done with students in a doctoral psychology program who took a Fat Studies course, exploring the impact the course had on their personal and professional lives. Ideas for integrating Fat Studies principles into training programs alongside other social justice narratives will be presented.

Self-Care and Boundaries: Conversations among Therapists of Color Presenters: Narumi Taniguchi, Blanca Lugo & Phuong Tu Quach

In the mental health field, therapists often promote self-care and boundary setting in order to help clients alleviate stress and increase resilience. Therapists are also expected to apply these concepts for themselves in order to prevent burnout. They are core professional beliefs and values reflective of Western individualism. Substantial literature exists validating the importance of these Western concepts. However, literature discussing these concepts from a non-Western perspective is limited. Therefore, in order to understand the concepts of self-care and boundaries, a group of therapists from diverse backgrounds engaged in a series of conversations. The emergent themes include: lack of a word equating to 'self-care' or 'boundaries' in the non-US born therapists' native languages, thoughts of selfishness, feelings of inadequacy, working longer hours than White coworkers, and conflict between cultural and professional expectations. These themes indicate mental health professionals may be contributing to perpetuating oppression by blindly accepting concepts of self-care and boundary-setting, rather than relying on resilience.

EVENTS • FRIDAY, MAY 18

FAMILY PROCESS BOARD MEETING

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Presidio 2

NETWORK CONVERSATIONS

12:30 - 2:00 PM

(Lunch available for pre-purchase: \$15)

People of Color Marina 1

Facilitators: Deidre Ashton & Gloria Lopez

The People of Color Network is a place for inspiration, connection, support and dialogue for people of color, as well as a sounding board and catalyst moving forward issues of societal justice and change in the field of family therapy. Members have rich ideas and talents and can share and receive support for how issues of multiculturalism, race, and inequality are addressed in our various work environments. A primary goal is to facilitate continuity of networking throughout the year.

White Privilege and Accountability Facilitators: Jane Ariel & David Trimble

Marina 2

This ongoing conversation provides a setting for those attending to take responsibility for exploring their White racial privilege, as it operates in the world and in their roles as family therapists. We cooperate to sustain a supportive, nonjudgmental environment for honest exploration of difficult experiences. We invite people with all levels of experience in dealing with race. We are committed to the principle that each of us can learn something new from every other participant.

PLENARY III Embarcadero

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Family Resilience: Advancing Clinical Theory, Research, and Practice

Presenters: Mary Jo Barrett, Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth, Pilar Hernández-Wolfe &

CharlesEtta Sutton Moderator: Froma Walsh

The concept of family resilience brings a systemic lens to our understanding of the human capacity for healing and positive growth out of adversity. This plenary highlights the ways that strong relationships are lifelines for resilience and how resilience can be forged in families and communities by strengthening key interactional processes and relational resources. Presentations will share valuable applications of this approach in: research to foster military family resilience; a clinical model with family relational trauma; the power of indigenous practices; and the benefits of "vicarious resilience" for therapists in resilience-oriented practice.

Resilience and Vulnerability in U.S. Military and Veteran Families

Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth

As military veterans return home, their wartime experiences and wounds impact the course of their lives and their bonds with loved ones. These family experiences offer instructive lessons about both resilience and vulnerability. This presentation will provide an overview of the characteristics of military and veteran families, including key stressors and strengths. Recent research on family functioning and resilience will be presented, along with implications for practitioners. Resources also will be provided to assist clinicians with interests in serving military families.

Healing and Resilience from Relational Trauma

Mary Jo Barrett

Ms. Barrett will present her Collaborative Stage Model with relational trauma, informed by over 20 years of practice, exit interviews, and client follow-up to understand how individuals, couples and families can heal and experience positive growth from the trauma of violence and sexual abuse in their intimate relationships. With complex trauma, she has found that the most successful therapeutic approach to healing is grounded in a contextual, multiple modality, systemic perspective, including work with family of procreation, family of origin, and the perpetrators of violence. She will highlight five essential ingredients for healing and the crucial importance that guidelines for effective trauma therapy incorporate ethical attunement with clients and their needs.

Vicarious Resilience: An Overlooked Gift in Trauma Work

Pilar Hernández-Wolfe

Vicarious resilience is characterized by a unique and positive effect that transforms therapists in response to client trauma survivors' own resiliency. This dimension of trauma work counteracts the fatiguing processes that therapists normally experience, strengthens their motivation, helps them find new meanings and discover ways to take care of themselves. This presentation will address how this concept emerged and how to integrate it in clinical training, supervision and practice.

Transcultural Pathways to Family and Community Resilience

CharlesEtta Sutton

CharlesEtta Sutton will share indigenous and other transcultural practices that incorporate a mind-body-spirit approach to healing and resilience. She will discuss the ways families enhance their ability to recover and adjust easily to misfortune and unanticipated change when they re-experience and reconnect with traditional practices. In creating a space to strengthen listening, spirituality, and approaches to problem-solving, adversities can be transformed into opportunities for practitioners' work with families, couples, children, and the community to bolster their resilience.

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Presidio

Foyer 4:00 – 4:30 PM

EVENTS • FRIDAY, MAY 18

PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The Wharf

4:00 - 5:00 PM

This is a gathering of presidents of AFTA and of other relevant organizations. The agenda will be: A Conversation to Develop Collaboration and Mutual Support Among Family and Systems Oriented Professional Organizations. This event is for presidents, and/or board members of relevant organizations or designated representatives.

MEETTHE AUTHORS

The Deck

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Authors include: Janice Bell, Pauline Boss, Carolyn Pape Cowan, Peter Fraenkel, Mary-Joan Gerson, Irene Goldenberg, Judye Hess, Evan Imber-Black, Carmen Knudson-Martin, Debra Manchester, Carolyn Moynihan-Bradt, Tammy Nelson, Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey, Judith Siegel, Michael Ungar, Froma Walsh

Authors will be present to discuss their books and to sign and sell copies. Come to meet and mingle! Light refreshments provided.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The Deck

4:00 - 5:30 PM

The Residual Effects of Slavery: Implications for African-Americans Presenters: Erica Wilkins, Allena Moncrief & Jody Russon

Resilience in Families of Adolescents with Traumatic Brain Injuries: Development of a Support Intervention

Presenters: Jerome Gauvin-Lepage & Helene Lefebvre

In Defense of Wise Emotions: The Relation Between Emotion and Wisdom in Autobiographical Memories

Presenter: Amy Quinn

Intergenerational Storytelling During Adolescence in Canadian Arabic Immigrant Families

Presenter: Lynda M. Ashbourne

Breaking the Silence: The Impact of Political Violence on the Sikh Diaspora

Presenter: Kiran Arora

Hold Me Tight: The Effects of Emotionally Focused Group for Unmarried Couples and the Follow-Up Research: Preliminary Research and Culture Issues

Presenters: Ting Liu & Sung-Hsien Sun

The Changing Process of Interpersonal Perceptions and Culture Issues in Couple Attachment

Therapy for Pursuer-Withdrawer Couples

Presenters: Sung-Hsien & Ting Liu

Reconnecting Families: Tapping into Resilience in Serious Mental Illness

Presenters: Marissa Miyazaki, Madeleine Abrams & Tanya Azarani

Effectiveness of Mentoring in Reducing the Risk of Substance Abuse Among Juvenile Delinquents

Presenters: Lindsey Weiler, Shelley Haddock & Toni Zimmerman

Crisis, Growth & Resilience: Both by the Therapist and Client

Presenters: Florina Hort & Christopher Brown

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Clients: Understanding Attitudes and Self of the Therapist

Presenters: Jody Russon, Erica Wilkins & Monique Walker

Reconnecting Families: Tapping into Resilience in Serious Mental Illness

Presenters: Marissa Miyazaki, Madeleine Abrams & Tanya Azarani

Mindfulness-Based Resources to Work with Teenage Sexuality

Presenter: Liana Voia

American Jews and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Psychological Understanding

Presenter: Steven Kanofsky

Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy in Theory and Practice

Presenter: Graham Danzer

PLENARY DEBRIEF Presidio 1

4:30 - 5:30 PM

During this plenary debrief there will be an opportunity to discuss the plenary presentations with the presenters at greater length. The moderator will help guide the conversation.

GETTING PUBLISHED DISCUSSION

Presidio 2

4:30 - 5:30 PM

Pauline Boss & Evan Imber-Black

The authors discuss publishing from start to finish, including getting connected with a publisher, the writing and editing process, and other tricks of the trade. During this time, you will learn how to translate your academic ideas to reach a broader audience in a unique and captivating way, and will provide tools to help you in your writing endeavors.

BRIEF PRESENTATIONS

4:30 - 5:30 PM

Coordinators: Deidre Ashton & Gloria Lopez

9. Family Therapy Training & Research

Moderator: Lascelles Black

Marina 2

Transformative Training: The Role of Resiliency in Developing Culturally Competent MFTs

Presenters: Jan Ewing, Brent Taylor & Gerald Monk

We are a multicultural MFT training program at San Diego State University. While resiliency is a focus of our clinical work with clients, we are also invested in transformative resiliency in the lives of the students we are training. This workshop will describe how we have interwoven ideas of resiliency through our pedagogy practices, our clinical work, supervision, community outreach, and research. Our conceptual framework for understanding resiliency in this type of training utilizes social-constructionist and contextual ideas.

Families in which One Parent has a Mental Illness: A Qualitative Study in Hong Kong Presenter: Oi Ling Wong

In this presentation, the author reports the results of a qualitative study on family treatment for families in Hong Kong, in which one parent has a mental illness. Five single mothers and their children participated in the study. The family treatment aims to assist parents in developing the skills they need to increase parental competency, make breakdown less likely, and prevent mental health problems in the children. The present study found that, for women living with mental illness, motherhood creates meaning in their lives, and functioning well in the parental role is vital to one's rehabilitation. The findings also reveal that the resilience of the parents and children and the level of family functioning improve as a result of the intensive community-based treatment of the families. The discussion of the themes will help mental health professionals improve the delivery of service to families experiencing parental mental illness.

10. Time and Technology in Family Life

Moderator: Linda Klann

Embarcadero 1

A New Approach to Work-Family Balance

Presenter: Peter Fraenkel

In much of the popular and professional literature on work and families, it is assumed that the sign of "balance" between work time and couple/family time is a sense of calm and equanimity. The presenter will suggest that work-family balance involves inevitable tensions, and will provide specific practices that help families handle those tensions to obtain a more realistic "balance" between work life and family life.

Transnational Families and Information Communication Technologies: The Case of International Students

Presenter: Gonzalo Bacigalupe

Information communication technologies have become an integral part of families' communication experience in developed countries and gradually in developing countries too. Emerging digital technologies are modifying how families interact and communicate and, at the same time, families are defining how these technologies may be employed. Emerging technologies, such as online social networks, virtual videogames, and mobile phones, are sine qua non dimensions of the adolescent and young adult experience. For clinicians, educators, parents, policy makers, and the media, their adoption raises concerns related to privacy, learning, and health that have been for the most part almost exclusively addressed from an individual and deficit-oriented perspective. We will discuss the findings of a study that evaluated from a relational and resilience framework how the adoption of emerging information communication technologies shape family interaction during the adolescence and young adult stages, particularly during the time in which the emerging adult is completing studies abroad as an international student.

11. A Comprehensive Parenting Program to Promote Family Resilience Presidio 3

Moderator: Celia Falicov

A Comprehensive Parenting Program to Promote Child and Family Resilience Part I Presenter: Judy Grossman

Advances in neuroscience have contributed to our understanding of how toxic and/or cumulative stress affects one's capacity to be a sensitive parent. Early adversity also damages the young child's developing brain with lifelong consequences for physical and mental health and academic achievement, thus attesting to the need for early intervention. Personal Best is a manualized curriculum for parents with young children that is grounded in prevention science and a model of family resilience. The 16-session group intervention promotes parental mental health, social support and self-efficacy in multiple roles. A core feature is the process of building resilience through graded mastery experiences, mutual support and coping strategies to manage personal and family stress. Videotapes will illustrate group discussion and parent reported outcomes. For a comprehensive parenting program, Personal Best should be offered in combination with the Bright Beginnings Program which provides opportunities for parent-child interactive play.

A Comprehensive Parenting Program to Promote Child and Family Resilience Part II Presenter: Martha Edwards

Life abounds with usual and unusual stresses and traumas. One of the tasks of parenthood is to help children develop the resilience to meet these challenges. Bright Beginnings is one of two manualized curricula developed for families at the Ackerman Institute's Center for the Developing Child and Family to help children and families develop the relational and internal building blocks of resilience. It is a group intervention for pregnant and parenting families with infants and toddlers. It supports the parent-child relationship by helping parents to: (1) enhance the emotional bond with their children; (2) promote children's exploration and learning; and (3) guide children to live cooperatively with others.

A rigorous implementation study and pilot outcome data provide evidence for its effectiveness in a variety of settings, including Early Head Start programs, social service agencies, and public schools. The presentation will include videotape examples and description of how it is integrated with Personal Best, which was presented in Part I.

12. Healing Conversations
Moderator: Dee Watts-Jones

Marina 1

Being Seen

Presenter: Corky Becker

The mission of the Public Conversations Project is to create connections across differences that may divide people in relation to identity, values and worldview. We have developed exercises that can be useful as a basis for reflection on differences that may cause distress. These exercises offer an opportunity for examining how differences can cause misunderstanding, pain and disconnection in work groups. The purpose of doing this activity is to provide a vehicle for creating a conversation that can lead to greater connection and understanding between people whose identities and worldviews differ.

Conversations & Demonstrations: Creating Resilience through Stories of Protest Presenters: Muriel Singer & Maria Seddio

As clinicians and academicians practicing in the field for 15-20 years, we have each participated as our field has evolved across a postmodern era marked by not-knowing perspectives, multiple realities, and varied narrative "truths." We have embraced these changes and been informed by them in significant ways as we have continued to develop. We are now facing a revolutionary crossroads. Supported by the dynamic intersection of ideas and technology, change conversations are toppling whole governments, "occupying" wall street, exposing and examining broken systems (e.g. politics, healthcare, education, food production and distribution). Never before has the need and opportunity for therapeutic conversation been written this large. What comes after the revolution? Ideally, the ability to sit down and really talk with one another to think through truly collaborative, sustainable solutions. How can family therapists participate in the development of the overall bandwidth to support these conversations? How can family therapy support individuals, families, communities, organizations and whole governments in this new kind of talk? What is the next stage of evolution for family therapy?

13. Intersecting Resiliency:

Embarcadero 2

A Cross-Cultural Dialogue in a Post Conflict Context

Moderator: Roxana Llerena-Quinn

Family Therapy and Families in Kosova

Presenter: Mimoza Shahini

In the last decade, since the AFTA's Kosovo Family Professional Educational Collaborative (KFPEC) came to Kosovo to train mental health professionals, the Kosovo society has changed in most profound ways. Addressing resiliency from a historical perspective, the presenter will be looking at how present culture and psychosocial context in Kosovo affects positive outcomes to adverse circumstances following years

of war and political unrest. The most challenging problems that family therapists are confronted with is the clash between the traditional culture and the "modernization"—acceptance of new family values. Taking the view that resilience is a communal practice that includes but transcends the individual, the presenter will offer clinical and research guidelines as to how interactions with school, family, community, and culture can provide ingredients for positive development.

Intersecting Resiliency: A Kosova-Serb Story Told Ten Years Later Presenters: Jelisaveta Sanja Rolovic, John Rolland & Mimoza Shahini

As family therapists, we can learn important lessons from how we clarify our multiple relationships to country, community, ethnic/national identity, family and self in postwar societies. This presentation consists of a cross-cultural dialogue about resiliency. It is based on a 10-year follow up of the AFTA's Kosovo Family Professional Educational Collaborative (KFPEC) in the context of historical knowledge. Using personal and clinical examples of therapists in three parts of the world—the United States, Kosovo and Serbia—we will explore, and encourage exploration of, multidimensional aspects of resiliency. Emphasis will be given to the roles we as family therapists can play in the healing processes of individuals and communities exposed to the suffering caused by war trauma, not excepting therapists in such communities. We will discuss such topics as how dominant socio-political contexts can both facilitate and interfere with our positioning around issues of human rights and how the "other" within us affects our clinical work.

14. Researching Family Therapy

Lombard

Moderator: Thorana Nelson

Reexamining How we Measure Outcomes in Couples Therapy: Is Together Always Better? Presenter: Heather MacIntosh

Couples therapy research has a long history of measuring the success of interventions based on improvements on measures of couple satisfaction. This narrow definition of success fails to acknowledge that staying together is not necessarily always the best outcome for a specific couple or partner in a couple relationship. This proposed presentation will review the couples therapy research literature over the past 25 years in major journals publishing in this area. In particular, these publications will be reviewed to identify the definitions provided for evidence of success, means of measurement and acknowledgement of alternative possibilities of success in couples therapy. Specific case examples of these alternative definitions of success in couples therapy, including the termination of relationships, will be presented to illustrate these ideas.

The ABCs and some Qs about the EST/EBP of CFT

Presenter: Robert Allan

There is a growing body of literature exploring the research about, the role of, and the challenges with, validating couple and family therapy (CFT) approaches as empirically supported treatments (EST) or as evidence-based practices (EBP). This presentation will briefly outline what the APA suggested the process is to validate a therapeutic approach as an empirically supported treatment and how therapeutic approaches are recognized as evidence-based practices. It will then explore, from a variety of philosophical and practitioner perspectives, the strengths and limitations of these approaches to validating couples and family therapy practices.

15. Families in Recovery

Moderator: Liz Brenner

North Beach

Working with Families in Group: An Important Tool for the treatment of Alcohol and Substance Use

Presenter: Lia Ganc

Since 2002, the family therapy sector has been offering a safe space for families who deal with alcohol and substance abuse to share their feelings and dilemmas. This program takes place at the Psychiatric Hospital that belongs to the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro where many post graduate courses are held for mental health professionals.

For the first five years, this group came together every other week and attendance was inconsistent. After 2007, a "boom," took place of both individual users searching for help as well as families looking for answers as to how to deal with family member struggling with alcohol/substance use. We opened 2 more groups to respond to this growing demand.

We have a number of hypotheses to explain this growing demand for services from those struggling with substance use/abuse, their families, the community and the hospital where we are located, while we are struggling to survive financially. We will be discussing these hypotheses in our presentation.

Families in Recovery

Presenter: Thomas Blume

Families with a history of addictions to alcohol, other drugs, and/or destructive behavior often find that ending active addiction does not bring the changes they expected. Interactions are likely to preserve distortions in relationship patterns related to intimacy, judgment, acceptance, and responsibility. The addict is not the only one who is trying to reject a negative identity; loved ones also have become other than who they wanted to be. But change does not come easily. Trust is difficult, and a pervasive anxiety interferes with sexuality and other opportunities for emotional connection. This session will utilize a narrative/behavioral theory of Identity Renegotiation to define some frequently encountered family recovery issues and explore strategies for leaving behind negative identities and strengthening alternative identities.

BREAK Presidio Foyer

5:30 - 6:00 PM

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

6:00 - 7:00 PM

We invite those attending the conference to take time and join with others for spiritual reflection. One of the activities planned is a Shabbat Service, which has over the years included people from many different faiths joining together in fellowship during the AFTA Meeting. Other groups that would like to hold their own period of reflection should approach the organizers so that a space can be provided.

EVENTS • FRIDAY, MAY 18

Shabbat Service North Beach

Convener: David Landsman-Wohlsifer

TBD Lombard

NEW MEMBER MEET UP

Sol

6:00 - 7:00 PM

Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey & Chris Hoff

Join us for an informal meet up for New Members and everyone wishing to welcome them to AFTA. Come share a beverage and good conversation.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Marina 1

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Corky Becker & Laura Roberto-Forman

The Women's Institute has a long tradition at AFTA as a place where women come together to talk about themselves personally. This year we will connect across generations and cultures; we will share insights from our personal experiences of family life, and how they impact our work as family therapists. We welcome all newcomers, old friends and colleagues to join us for dinner (\$30 registration fee).

MEN'S INSTITUE Marina 2

7:00 - 10:00 PM

Roger Lake & Robert Garfield

Men of AFTA explore with each other issues of personal and professional development through the lens of responsible reflection on gender. We will meet as a whole group to address a discussion question, then take the conversation to dinner tables for deeper connections with each other, assembling again before we close to reflect on what we have learned from each other. We welcome all newcomers, old friends and colleagues to join us for dinner (\$30 registration fee).

AFTA's 34th Annual Meeting

FAMILY RESILIENCE

Saturday, May 19—Day at a Glance:

7:00 – 7:30 AM	Centering Practice	Lombard	
7:30 - 8:30AM	Continental Breakfast	Presidio Foyer	
8:00 - 8:30AM	Linked Poetry Project	Marina Foyer	
8:30 - 10:00 AM	Keynote III	Embarcadero	
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Refreshment Break	Presidio Foyer	
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Gender Dialogue	North Beach	
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Teachers of Family Therapy	Marina 2	
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Interest Groups		
	10. Ambiguous Loss	Presidio 1	
	11. Evaluating Postmodern/Narrative/	Marina 1	
	Constructionist Therapies		
	12. Film, Families, and Family Therapy:	Embarcadero 2	
	Resilience in Context		
	13. Masculinities Interest Group:		
	Revisiting Men's Issues in the 21st Century	Presidio 3	
	14. Mindfulness & Family Therapy	Presidio 2	
	15. Racial Domination and Privilege	Embarcadero 1	
	16. Relationship-Centered Family Therapy	Empareacero 1	
	and Bio-Psychiatry	Lombard	
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Networking Conversations	Lomburd	
12,00 2,00111	1. LGBTQI Networking Conversation	Marina 2	
	2. Latina Women's Luncheon	Marina 1	
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Forging Resilience from Adversity: Sharing	Embarcadero 2	
2.00 2.13 I W	Our Own Stories	Linbar cader o 2	
2:45 – 3:30 PM	A Brief Trauma Focused Intervention for Parents in Conflict		
2,13 3,301111	after Separation: Presentation and Open Discussion Embarcadero 2		
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Brief Presentations	Linbar cadero 2	
2.00 3.30 I W	16. Resilient Couples	Presidio 1	
	17. Addressing Violence in Families	North Beach	
	18. Families Living with Mental Illness	Lombard	
	19. Building Collaborative Teams and Programs	Embarcadero 1	
	20. Resilience in Families Across Contexts I	The Wharf	
	21. Expanding Knowledge	Presidio 3	
	22. Resilience in Families Across Contexts II	Marina 1	
	23. Resilience in the Context of Power	Presidio 2	
	24. Couples Therapy	Marina 2	
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Refreshment Break	Presidio Foyer	
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Pearls of Wisdom	Marina	
5:30 – 6:30 PM		Lombard	
6:30 – 6:30 PM	Facilitated Listening Circle	Presidio	
0.30 - 11.30 FM	Awards Banquet & Dancing	1 1 CSIGIO	

VENTS • SATURDAY, MAY 19

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, SATURDAY, MAY 19

CENTERING PRACTICE

Lombard

7:00 – 7:30 AM **Jerry Gale**

We will do centering practices to start the day, including meditation, breathing practices and perhaps gentle yoga depending on what participants prefer.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (Open to all attendees)

Presidio Foyer

7:30 - 8:30 AM

LINKED POETRY PROJECT

Marina Foyer

 $8:00 - 8:30 \, \text{AM}$

In 2001, following the World Trade Center disaster, poetry sprang up everywhere—on street corners, makeshift altars and telephone poles as the New York City community attempted to deal with the catastrophe. They were finding the words to say it, and joining their voices in poetry. In June, 2002, AFTA convened in New York to show our solidarity with the people and the city. At that Annual Meeting the AFTA membership created a linked poem entitled "In the Wake." Linked poems are poems written by more than one person. Almost 70 of us contributed several lines, each one using the several previous lines as a prompt. This linked poem became part of a larger Linked Poetry Project undertaken by the National Association for Poetry Therapy. This project culminated in a 10,000-line linked poem in the aftermath of the September 11th tragedy. This year we convene in San Francisco, 10 years after the New York meeting, and again we are joining our voices in community by creating linked poetry. This time we will reflect back over the 10 years and offer our hopes and prayers for our future. Creating community through the joining of our voices enhances our resilience.

KEYNOTE III Embarcadero

8:30 - 10:00 AM

Positive Deviance, Social Complexity, and Generative Relationships

Presenter: **Arvind Singhal**Discussant: **Evan Imber-Black**Moderator: **Hinda Winawer**

What enables some families, groups, and institutions to grow and thrive in a respectful manner while it is common for others to be mired in distrust and disagreement? What enables some teachers, healthcare workers, parents, and change agents to achieve demonstrably better functional and quality outcomes without additional resources, material or human? In this keynote, Singhal discusses the practice of the positive deviance within the framework of complexity science, and the implications it holds for creating the conditions for more authentic, robust, and resilient families and communities. Through a narrative approach, he highlights the role of distributed and diverse connections, information-flows and feedback, and authenticity and immediacy in fostering healthy and generative relationships.

REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Marina Foyer

GENDER DIALOGUE

North Beach

10:30 AM — 12:00 PM Chair: **Jean Malpas**

Presenter: Diane Ehrensaft

From Gender Identity Disorder to Gender Identity Creativity: The Gender Creative Family

Using the constructs of the true gender self, false gender self, and gender creativity, along with clinical examples from Dr. Ehrensaft's work, this session explores the role of the family in calling upon their collective gender creativity to facilitate the authentic gender identity and expressions of a gender-nonconforming child in the family. Predicated on the work of Caitlin Ryan stressing the critical role played by families in supporting the sexual and gender health of their LGBT children and the toll taken if those supports are not in place, we will outline the steps parents and family members take to facilitate children's gender health: (1) mourning the loss of the child they thought they would or did have and celebrating the one who comes to them; (2) exploring their own "gender ghosts" and "gender angels"; and (3) learning to listen to rather than dictate their child's expressed gender. A clinical model for this family work will be presented based on the developmental paradigm of the "gender web," in which, over time, each individual weaves together a unique gender identity and expression based on nature, nurture, and culture.

TEACHERS OF FAMILY THERAPY

Marina 2

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Keith Sutton

One of the biggest influences on the field of therapy is through the teaching of our next generation of therapists. In this collaborative discussion, we will discuss how to inspire students to pursue family therapy, help students to manage their anxieties around working with families, and share our resources. This discussion is intended for graduate school professors, clinical supervisors, researchers interested in getting their information to therapists in training, training program directors, post graduate training programs teachers, students and early career professionals interested in teaching in the future, and workshop presenters. This event is also being cosponsored by the Association of Family Therapists of Northern California (www.aftnc.com), which has an annual meeting to discuss the teaching of family therapy. Local teachers will be joining us. Please bring a copy of your syllabus if you are teaching classes in family therapy or your training schedule if you have a training program. Also, a list of your favorite articles or videos or techniques would be great to be shared. Please bring one copy and we will scan and make these resources available to the participants. If you don't have any resources, syllabi, or video recommendations to share, no problem, please come in join in on the discussion.

INTEREST GROUPS

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Coordinators: David Landsman-Wohlsifer & Corky Becker

10. Ambiguous Loss Presidio 1

Chairs: **Pauline Boss**

This ongoing discussion group addresses different topics of ambiguous loss each year. This year, the focus is on the relational challenge of loving someone who has dementia. Conversation will include ideas about the myth of closure, the psychological family, the upside of ambiguity and uncertainty—and the "good enough relationship." There will be research updates about the influence of culture, gender, age and ethnicity on family care giving. Participants will discuss professional as well as persons-of-the-therapist issues as we prepare ourselves for what is being called an epidemic of dementia.

11. Evaluating Postmodern/Narrative/Constructionist Therapies Marina 1

Chairs: Vicki Dickerson & Michael Ungar

Presenter: John Stillman

Constructing evidence-based research (a structural approach) for poststructuralist therapies presents a daunting dilemma. This is the fourth year for this interest group. In the first meeting the group looked at traditional research vs. out-of-the-box approaches. In the second meeting the group explored the statement: "If you know it when you see it, you can code it." In the third we explored how a team of researchers were actually conducting research into a best practice using an innovative collaborative approach to research. This year, we have invited John Stillman to present his work evaluating an approach to Narrative therapy. Discussion following a summary of John's work will focus on challenges using a principle-based approach to skill development and evaluating fidelity to a model of Narrative therapy in ways that can demonstrate the model's effectiveness in real-world contexts.

12. Film, Families, and Family Therapy: Resilience in ContextChair: **Gonzalo Bacigalupe**Embarcadero 2

We will watch and discuss scene selections from the films "Contagion" (Soderbergh, 2011), "Resilience" (Chi, 2009), and "This is a Movement" (Put this on the Map, 2011) plus several recently released independent short films. Using film, we will address the core theme of the conference: resilience. The film segments and the short film selections will provide the starting point for thinking of resilience in contextual and relational terms. Pushing the boundary of what it means to face difficult circumstances will inform the discussion. Email Gonzalo if you have a suggestion of a recent film that addresses the question of resilience and families.

13. Masculinities Interest Group: Revisiting Men's Issues in the 21st Century Presidio 3 Chairs: Robert Garfield & David Landsman-Wohlsifer

This interest group, open to both men and women, will focus on ideas, clinical work and research related to men's issues and their applicability to family therapy and theory in contemporary society. Last year's robust attendance at this interest group indicated AFTA members' keen interest in this topic. This year we will tackle an intense and complicated issue, homophobia. A small diversely representative group of

AFTA members (e.g. straight, non-straight, male, female, gender variant) will discuss their ideas about, as well as their personal experiences of homophobia—in private life as well as in the consulting room. The goal is to create a unique experiential opportunity to share and learn from each other. We will extend the discussion, including attendees' reflections, to address: (1) how homophobia arises in different forms, with different clients and families, in our consulting rooms (particularly with our male patients); (2) how we can constructively (or not) respond to these situations; and (3) we will discuss how people of all sexual identities have been resilient in the face of homophobia and heteronormativity.

14. Mindfulness & Family Therapy Chairs: Rachel Dash & Elizabeth Brenner

Presidio 2

Mindfulness practices are increasingly being integrated into healthcare services, couples and family therapy, therapy training programs, as well as services for stressed and traumatized communities. This year **Kaethe Weingarten** will introduce us to the relational and systemic aspects of "Insight Dialogue," an interpersonal meditation practice developed by Gregory Kramer. We will also continue our dialogue about the ways we are integrating these practices into our work and personal lives and engage together in mindfulness practice.

15. Racial Domination and Privilege Chairs: Jodie Kliman & Glenda Mendelsohn

Embarcadero 1

Authentic conversation across difference poses a paradox within humanistic communities such as AFTA. We welcome guests, and all "generations" of AFTA members to join us to explore collaborative examination of our collective and individual accountability for unintended expressions of racism, in teaching, treatment, and with regard to the AFTA community. While acknowledging multiple forms of oppression, the mandate of this group is racism within dominant discourse. Discussion informed by videotape excerpts will be the format of the meeting. A brief history of the group developed by the Interest Group's founders will be provided.

16. Relationship-Centered Family Therapy and Bio-Psychiatry

Lombard

Chair: Norbert Wetzel

Presenters: Pat Dowds & John Sargent

A conversation of the underlying epistemologies, including: the construction and political context of the scientific claims; the DSM-V, the use of psychoactive drugs in therapy; the continuing inequalities in (mental) healthcare; and, especially, the collaboration between family therapists and psychiatrists. Each segment will start with a brief introduction: Norbert Wetzel will outline the different epistemological paradigms underlying relationship-centered family therapy and psychiatry. Pat Dowds will bring us upto-date regarding the development of a new DSM-V and AFTA's statement about it. Finally, John Sargent will talk about the use of psychopharmacology in the context of family therapy and about the relationship between family therapists and psychiatrists. We are resuming this year a conversation that AFTA held some years ago and that is in some ways now even more vital for the future of family therapy.

NETWORKING CONVERSATIONS

12:00 - 2:00 PM

EVENTS • SATURDAY, MAY 19

(Lunch available for pre-purchase: \$15)

LGBTQI Networking Conversation

Marina 2

David Landsman-Wohlsifer & Colleen Maguire

Please join the networking meeting for LGBTQ clinicians. The meeting provides an opportunity for members to meet, learn about each other's work, and share goals for future AFTA initiatives. This meeting sets the stage for valuable social and professional collaborations throughout the conference and beyond.

Latina Women's Luncheon

Marina 1

Gloria Lopez

This is an invitation to all Latinas attending the Meeting & Open Conference to come together to begin a conversation about the specific concerns of Latinas' professional development as well as issues of gender and equity for Latinas in AFTA and the family therapy field. It is our belief that together, we can strengthen our voices and promote our participation and leadership. Come join us for lunch.

FORGING RESILIENCE FROM ADVERSITY: SHARING OUR OWN LIFE STORIES

Embarcadero 2

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Presenters: Froma Walsh & Michael Ungar

Froma and Michael, both at the forefront of resilience theory, research, and practice, will share personal reflections on how their own life experiences of adversity—and what they made of them—contributing to the development of their perspectives on the family and social ecology of resilience. They will highlight critical events, life challenges, relational resources, broader social influences, and meaning-making processes in their personal and professional pathways from childhood family trauma, stigma, and hardship. Discussion will also consider recursive influences: how a systemic resilience approach in our professional work can nourish our own lives and relationships.

Deactivating the Buttons:

Embarcadero 2

A Brief Trauma-Focused Intervention for Parents in Conflict after Separation: Presentation and Open Discussion

2:45 - 3:30 PM

Presenter: Laurie MacKinnon

Separation and divorce often involve a number of events parents experience as traumatic—affairs, betrayals, loss of contact with children, and sometimes violence. Long after the separation, parents may remain affectively charged and unable to regulate the intense emotions and intrusive memories that are triggered when negotiating with their ex-partner or during mediation or court appearances. This presentation describes a trauma-focused technique employed to actively target this emotional reactivity and demonstrates the actual therapy sessions via video excerpts.

BRIEF PRESENTATIONS

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Deidre Ashton & Gloria Lopez

16. Resilient Couples

Moderator: Jay Lappin

Presidio 1

The New Monogamy: Redefining Relationship Commitment as a New Social Paradigm?

Presenter: Tammy Nelson

New Monogamy is a reflection of the new social paradigm of sexual and emotional fidelity in couples today who are finding unique ways to make their relationships work. It makes sense that marriages still suffer from high divorce and infidelity rates when our society teaches couples how to cheat and not how to stay monogamous for the long term. As a result, the desire to pair bond does not change; but monogamy does. Couples today are challenged to create new more fluid monogamy agreements, and are adapting socially in surprising ways. Our work as therapists must change as well.

Narratives of Infidelity

Presenter: Carmen Elvira Navia

This presentation will discuss preliminary results of an exploratory and qualitative study examining infidelity narratives in adults who experienced it. The purpose was to understand how these participants defined, experienced and processed the experience of having been unfaithful and of having a partner who was unfaithful to them. Infidelity experiences that were kept in secret as well as those that became known to partners were explored. Fourteen heterosexual participants were interviewed, four of them were still partnered. A content analysis of the data revealed the following themes: ways of understanding and defining infidelity, stages in the process of this experience, impact of infidelity, and resolution approaches.

Couple Resilience Across the Lifespan: Not your Ordinary Magic

Presenter: Karen Skerrett

This presentation will highlight key processes of relational resilience believed to contribute to positive coping and development across the lifespan. Hypothesized as a unique dynamic of committed partnerships, "we-ness" represents the ongoing interplay between self, other and relationship awareness. Identified in a series of studies with heterosexual couples at varying stages of marriage, "we-ness" was linked to positive coping with illness and loss and to the development of generative perspectives. Dialogue will be encouraged around the viability of the hypothesized dynamic and its application for relationship enhancement and therapeutic work with couples.

17. Addressing Violence in Families

Moderator: John Lawless

Double Jeopardy—Increased Incidence of Domestic Violence During and Post-Disasters: Intervening to Enhance Protection

Presenter: Kerrie James

The incidence of domestic violence is known to increase after a major disaster. Evidence from disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, the South-East Asian tsunami and floods in New Zealand confirm what service providers report, that both during and after disasters men's violence increases and women are more vulnerable compared to other times. Family therapists involved in disaster-planning and post-disaster recovery can take steps to facilitate women's safety both during and in the aftermath of disasters. This paper identifies different trajectories through which disasters doubly jeopardize women's safety. Firstly, it examines how stress related to the disaster may exacerbate what is termed 'situational couple violence' where men use violence within relationships in the context of arguments. Secondly, it examines how men whose violence would be classified as 'intimate terrorism' might take advantage of partners' vulnerability during a disaster by escalating their violence. Women experience compound trauma arising from both the disaster and from men's violence. This paper explores the situation of socially disadvantaged women who are most at risk, namely women from cultural minorities, non-English speaking backgrounds, refugees, impoverished women and women with disabilities.

Systemic Treatment of Intimate Partner Violence: Resiliency in the Family Presenters: Charles Nichols & Alexandria Boyer

The purpose of this study is to review intimate partner violence and its current treatment by therapists. Previous treatment has consisted of treating the aggressor and their victim individually or treating them conjointly in couple's therapy. Children's involvement in the system further complicates treatment. The impact of witnessing intimate partner violence has long-term negative implications for children. Treatment of these effects on children has typically been done without family involvement. The authors suggest that future treatment of intimate partner violence be done systemically, including all members of the family in order to promote resiliency throughout the family system.

18. Families Living with Mental Illness

Lombard

North Beach

Moderator: David Trimble

Cultural Adaptation of Family-Based Treatment for Latinas with Anorexia Nervosa Presenters: Kristina Schwerin, Anna Ordonez & Ken Epstein

Eating disorders are rising more rapidly in prevalence amongst cultural minority groups in the U.S. than amongst other populations. Given this trend, culturally informed treatment for eating disorders, particularly family therapy, is critical. Family-Based Treatment (FBT) for adolescent Anorexia Nervosa (AN) is now considered a first-line treatment for adolescents with AN (Lock et al. 2010), but studies about challenges to dissemination, including those involving cultural and ethnic differences, are needed. We will be presenting two cases outlining the successful treatment of Latina adolescent girls with AN. By applying a modified FBT, both practitioners achieved successful outcomes. They will discuss the cases within the context of implementing an evidence-based practice while adapting the interventions to the culture of the families. Common themes emerged on the level of family process that may help lead to

a formal cultural modification of FBT for Latinas. These cases may help us understand how to integrate evidence-based practices with theoretical underpinnings of family systems, and translate these practices into community-based settings.

Advancing Current Treatments: Women, Poverty, and Co-Occurring Disorders Presenters: Shannon Cooper Sadlo & Agnes Jos

This presentation aims to conceptually advance current treatments for women living in poverty and experiencing the co-occurring effects of trauma and substance abuse by utilizing both systemic and feminist perspectives. Treatment of individuals dealing with substance abuse and trauma has discovered reciprocity between the two experiences. Since the majority of people seeking treatment for one have a co-morbidity with the other, it is crucial that therapists and service providers take this relationship into account. By delving into the case study of Jenny, an impoverished single mother trying to cope with her co-morbidity, this presentation will seek to analyze what treatments are currently available to her, and what needs are still unmet. Jenny is an actual person and her struggle with traditional treatment is comparable to many disadvantaged women struggling with trauma, poverty, and substance abuse. Since oppression is a reality for many women, understanding the context and power inequities of the hierarchical society they live within is essential in meeting their aftercare needs.

Family Therapy Training in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Presenters: Douglas Rait & John Sargent

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry requires that child and adolescent psychiatric fellows acquire "beginning clinical skills" in specific treatments, including family therapy. This presentation will describe the current state of family therapy training in a sample of child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship programs and explore how family therapists affiliated with academic medical centers may find rich, possibly untapped opportunities for teaching, clinical training, and professional collaboration. Issues related to program development and implementation will be discussed.

19. Building Collaborative Teams and Programs

Embarcadero 1

Moderator: Peter Fraenkel

Creating a Multidisciplinary Clinic

Presenters: Jerry Gale, Lee Johnson & Joe Goetz

At our university clinic (Aspire Clinic), we have combined services to include couple and family therapy, financial counseling, nutritional counseling, home design and free legal services. These are wrap-around services in that clients can access one or multiple service providers, who may work conjointly or in parallel. The presenters will talk briefly about how our clinic and approach were developed and how we work together and learn from one another.

Implementation of Family-Centered Programs: Fostering Organizational Readiness for Change

Presenter: William Madsen

Public sector mental health and child welfare services often occur against a backdrop of urgency, blame and defensive practice. In this context, the roll-out of any new practice model can be experienced by frontline workers as "corrective instruction" and be met with suspicion, reactivity, and defensiveness. This presentation examines some of the challenges and dilemmas presented by the receiving context in implementation of new programs, shares initial efforts to develop a post-structuralist approach to large scale implementation efforts that is designed to minimize organizational resistance, and engages the group in reflection on how we might bring the values and principles of family-centered practice into organizational change efforts.

20. Resilience in Families Across Contexts I

The Wharf

Moderator: Marcie Rubel

Multiracial Families: Discourses of Resilience

Presenter: Kyle Kilian

Qualitative interviews with interracial couples reveal their strategic responses to racism in the public context and to racial and ethnic differences in the relationship context. This presenter will discuss how interracial couples both resist and comply with the prevailing ideology and racial logic of homogamy through their use of dominant and subordinate discourses around: (1) hypersensitivity of the partner of color; and (2) history's insignificance. An analysis of couples' narratives highlights marginalized "truths" crucial to effective clinical work with interracial couples. Implications for best practices with interracial and intercultural couples will be discussed.

Children Adopted from China: Understanding Their Social and Ethnic Needs in the Context of Family Resilience

Presenter: Marlene Pomrenke

This presentation is based on a recent research qualitative study in which information was gained about the experiences, challenges and needs of families who have adopted from China. Data was collected through individual interviews, a focus group and web surveys. The study focused on how identity, ethnicity and the social needs of the child are met through these families. The strengths of these families include strong supportive extended family and communities, resilience of family members and a willingness of the children to find ways to integrate their Chinese heritage with the North American culture.

Fostering Family Resilience Through Rituals

Presenter: Chitra Subrahmanian

Helping families to strengthen their ritual lives is a simple and direct way to promote family resilience. Rituals contribute to family resilience by providing stability and cohesion to family life. They strengthen bonds between participants, and help maintain links with members of extended families and the community; they provide links that are invaluable in times of crisis. In this presentation, a simple model for assessing family rituals and designing new ones will be outlined. Using this model, families can be helped to modify existing rituals to better reflect the changing needs of their members, as well as to design new rituals for new circumstances. Examining the Meaning, Affect and Power dimensions of rituals currently practiced, as well as families' typical use of Space, Energy and Time during these events, suggests ways to modify and strengthen existing rituals. Assessing families' Meaning, Affect and Power goals and how they would prefer to use Space, Energy and Time to achieve them is an efficient way to help create new rituals.

21. Expanding Knowledge

Presidio 3

Moderator: Andrea Blumenthal

Beyond Attachment: The Neurobiology of Emotional Memories

Presenter: Judith Siegel

Although neuroscience research has informed clinical practice in terms of the consequences of attachment disruptions and the healing power of attachment reparation, there are other facets of neurobiology that are relevant to couples, parenting and multigenerational abuse. Research on adults with PTSD has confirmed the power of emotional memory revival and the neural circuitry involved. The links between emotional memories, cognitive splitting, flooding and emotional regulation have important treatment implications in areas such as partner violence, family emotional upheavals and trauma. Techniques and interventions that go beyond soothing and attunement may be helpful as individuals and couples learn to work with emotional memories that can easily be triggered. This presentation will present relevant neuroscience research, and the potential for applying treatment interventions on splitting, flooding and other cognitive-emotional responses.

The Benefits of Learning to Live with Peers as well as Experts

Presenter: Eileen Bobrow

We all develop expertise in an area by doing. Therapy is not an exception to this rule. The traditional model of book and classroom learning, followed by supervision by one or two supervisor(s), with delayed feedback, doesn't capitalize on the strengths of human learning. It leaves many holes for new practitioners that only start to get filled after years in the field. Using a three-pronged approach of: (1) doing; (2) observing and interacting with peers who are also learning; and (3) receiving immediate feedback and guidance from experts, we can turn out practitioners who are far more qualified to provide excellent service and more confidence when they start their practices. The presenter will share the benefits of training clinicians in the mental health field in a live setting with their peers, as well as experts. We will discuss the differences between being directive and being manipulative, and that the three-pronged approach is best suited to teaching this important distinction. We will examine how this approach contributed to the success of Gestalt Therapy, Strategic Family Therapy and Hypnosis. We will also explore the benefits of focusing on the here and now in the mental health field.

Marina 1

22. Resilience in Families Across Contexts II

Moderator: Norma Scarborough

Resilient or Distressed? Ethical Dilemmas in Interpreting Women's Stories in Community Needs Assessments

Presenters: Carizma Chapman & Carmen Knudson-Martin

We describe our ethical dilemmas conducting a needs assessment for a women's initiative in two coastal villages in Honduras. These communities face health, relational, economic, and gender disparities that intersect with over-consumption of natural resources, environmental degradation, and poverty. The nature of our contact with the women influenced the type and depth of information disclosed. Asking formal interview questions did not appear culturally sensitive because women expected the researcher to innately understand the consequences of poverty, limited education access, and traditional gender roles, and they saw us in leadership roles with the power and resources to enact change. On the other hand, in informal discussion the women's narratives naturally provided intimate accounts of community, gender, and family power structures that perpetuate the women's current relational, socio-economic, and status concerns in the community. The women did not actively describe themselves as "distressed," and we were left with an unclear sense of appropriate use of our power to facilitate actions that build on their resilience yet challenge injustices.

A Dynamic Understanding of Adolescent Violence Resilience: A Dichotomous Approach for Working with the Social and Personal Characteristics of Youth who are Exposed to Family Violence

Presenters: Wassillis Kassis & Sibylle Artz

In this cross-sectional study on family violence and resilience in a sample of 5.149 middle-school students with a mean age of 14.5 years from four EU-countries (Austria, Germany, Slovenia, and Spain), we worked from the premise that resilience should not be conceptualized as a dichotomous variable. We therefore examined the personal and social characteristics of resilience at three levels: "resilient," "near-resilient" and "non-resilient." We also expanded our definition of resilience to include the absence of both externalized and internalized problem behaviors in adolescents who have exposed to violence in their families. We found reliable differences in the protective and risk factors between the three resilience levels and significant sex differences. Our findings suggest that adolescents' positive adjustment despite family violence is affected only in small part by personal characteristics. The co-morbidity of social risks in the family, the school and peer context predicts a much larger part of the variance in the analysis. From a content perspective this means that an individual's "resilience status" can be influenced in a focused way by moderating the living environment. These results are especially discussed in terms of their practical implications.

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23. Resilience in the Context of Power

Moderator: Mabel Quinones

Parallel Displacements: Working with Latino Youth in Foster Care who are Impacted by Parental Deportation

Presenters: Justine White & Brent Taylor

Many Latino youth in foster care in California are impacted by issues of parental deportation. Family therapists working with these youth encounter unique clinical issues and are challenged to integrate larger social contexts into their clinical work. This interactive workshop addresses the intersections of social justice, advocacy, and clinical practice, and attends to the sociopolitical conditions that shape the experiences of these youth in the child welfare system. Sibling resilience, as a response to parental deportation, will be examined and considerations for social advocacy will be presented.

Presidio 2

Decolonizing Practices Globally: South Asia as an Illustrative Case

Presenters: Rhea Almeida

White hegemony and its western constructs of therapeutic practices are deeply entrenched in global spaces. This workshop will examine decolonizing practices globally through the South Asian Diaspora: (1) situating the positionality of South Asian indigenous/women along the diaspora; and (2) illustrating through case material alternate sources of knowledge. Within an urban South Asian context, we discuss the interruption of traditional family life cycle patterns as a powerful tool of empowerment for women. From the urban to the rural context, subjugating the limited view of rural women as those to be rescued, taught and empowered is a decolonizing practice. Hierarchy, patriarchy, gender, caste, poverty and religious practice have complex embedded colonizing influences on this training context at the grass roots level. Through filmed interactions with village women we will show the intersectionality of identities as women, skilled workers, naïve trainees, and knowledgeable mental health interventionists who are simultaneously oppressed by cultural practices that they are subject to and participants of in their everyday life.

Vicarious Resilience: An Exploration in Work with Colombian Educators Presenters: Victoria Acevedo & Pilar Hernández-Wolfe

This presentation discusses preliminary results of an ongoing qualitative study addressing how elementary school teachers working with underserved children in Cali, Colombia, were impacted by their students' resilience. It focuses on the teachers' interpretations of their students' experiences and behavior at school, and how they make sense of the impact that the students' changes have had in their lives. Twenty elementary school teachers working with students exposed to various forms of violence were interviewed about their perceptions on the impact of their students' overcoming of adversity. Structured interviews were used to explore the impact of recovery and resilience on teachers and their knowledge of resilience. A content analysis of the transcripts was used to describe the themes that speak about the impact of witnessing how students cope with adversity. These themes are discussed to develop an understanding of how vicarious learning processes can be applied to the field of resilience in educational contexts, underlying the role of teachers.

24. Couples Therapy

Moderator: Laurie Kaplan

Opening the Circle of Pursuit and Distance

Presenter: Daniel Wile

Pursuit and distance is actually a circle of stages with the behavior of each partner triggering that of the other. The pursuing partner, frustrated by the withdrawn partner's lack of responsiveness, shifts from pursuing to attacking. Feeling attacked, the withdrawn partner defends him/herself and in some cases attacks back, producing a third stage—attack-defend—followed by the fourth stage in which the partners go off to nurse their wounds. Eventually, and often soon, the pursuing partner again becomes distressed by the lack of emotional connection and again pursues, which triggers a repeat of the whole sequence. Couples can go on for years repeating the sequence of pursue-withdraw, attack-withdraw, attack-defend, and withdraw-withdraw. As time goes on, the "pursue" may drop out as may also the "attack" and "defend" leaving just the "withdraw."The therapeutic task is to: (1) to show the partners what they might be saying if they were in an intimate conversation rather than the alienated exchange they are in; and (2) construct a perspective above the fray from which they can talk collaboratively about the alienated states they are in or circling through.

Marina 2

Couple Therapy for Childhood Trauma Survivors: Working from the Bottom Up Presenter: Heather MacIntosh

The resiliency of the human longing for attachment is no better exemplified than in the striving for intimacy and relationships in those who have been wounded in childhood by the very people who should have protected them. Only recently have researchers begun to examine the process of couple therapy with survivors of childhood abuse and trauma who can evidence significant challenges with self capacities such as affect regulation, mentalizing (including perspective taking), self-reflection and empathy, and the ravages of insecure attachment orientations on relationship security and stability. Initial results of studies assessing the use of Emotionally Focused Therapy for Couples (EFT) for childhood trauma survivors (Dalton, Classen & Johnson, submitted; MacIntosh & Johnson, 2008) suggest that significant adaptations are required to the EFT model to allow for the full engagement and tolerance of childhood trauma survivors. It is the goal of this proposed brief presentation to discuss the development of a new model of couples therapy designed from the "bottom up" without these assumptions of existing self capacities to allow for the full engagement and tolerance of childhood trauma survivors.

REFRESHMENT BREAK

K Presidio Foyer

3:30 - 4:00 PM

PEARLS OF WISDOM

Marina

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Convenor: Norma Scarborough

Featured Speakers: Evan Imber-Black, Robert-Jay Green & Elaine Pinderhughes

The panelists will share about the personal and professional influences that have led them to think, write, and work with couples and families, and they will share "pearls," "nuggets," and "tid-bits" of their experiences and knowledge. The annual Pearls event provides an opportunity for Early Career and Student members to hear from pioneers in the field, and: (a) promotes cross-generational transmission of ideas and discoveries in the field of family therapy; (b) increases knowledge of critical moments of the history of the field of family therapy; and (c) connects the history of family therapy with the history of the pioneers who have shaped the field.

FACILITATED LISTENING CIRCLE

Lombard

5:30 - 6:30 PM

David Trimble

The Facilitated Listening Circle is a witnessing circle. It provides an opportunity for people who wish to share an experience during the Meeting for which they would like support, recognition, understanding or empathy. At AFTA we are committed to respectful and inclusive participation with one another. We hold ourselves to a high standard. Sometimes someone feels hurt or excluded by the actions or attitudes of others. We wish to be accountable for any ways we hurt or exclude others and to be open to experiences that may be invisible to us. In the Circle, these difficult moments can be rendered visible, and we can increase our awareness and learn more about relating in respectful and inclusive ways.

AWARDS BANQUET AND DANCING

Presidio

6:30 - 11:30 PM

From 6:30 until 7:00 join us for cocktails on The Deck. Doors will open at 7:00 for our awards banquet and dancing.

The Awardees

2011 AFTA Innovative Contribution to Family Therapy Award: Lorraine M. Wright, RN, Ph.D., Janice M. Bell, RN, Ph.D., Wendy Watson Nelson, RN, Ph.D. Written by Susan H. McDaniel

Award presented by Susan H. McDaniel

For the past 30 years, Drs. Wright, Bell, and Watson Nelson have applied and adapted systemic concepts from family therapy to increase the capacity of nurses and other healthcare professionals to address illness suffering and family healing. Based on a belief that "illness is a family affair", their pioneering work has focused on including families and larger systems in healthcare assessment and intervention.

From 1982-2007, they operated The Family Nursing Unit at the University of Calgary in Canada, a unique outpatient clinic and faculty practice unit that became internationally known as the home of "Family Systems Nursing" and "The Calgary Models" for generalist and advanced nursing practice with families. Through clinical scholarship and a program of research, they developed practice models that have been implemented nationally and internationally: the Illness Beliefs Model (Wright & Bell, 2009; Wright, Watson, & Bell, 1996), the Trinity Model (Wright, 2005), and the Calgary Family Assessment and Calgary Family Intervention Models (Wright & Leahey, 1984, 1994, 2000, 2005, 2009).

They have also produced several educational videos and DVDs to demonstrate the clinical skills necessary to soften illness suffering and invite family healing. Dr. Watson Nelson produced five videos and Dr. Wright has co-produced eight DVDs in the "How to" Family Nursing Series. Dr. Wright also produced the DVD, "Spirituality, Suffering, and Illness: Conversations for Healing."

In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate students, they have offered lectures, workshops, and externships about their practice models to practicing professionals, academics, and students in more than 22 countries.

These three innovative, brilliant, and beautiful nursing colleagues hold emeritus positions at the University of Calgary and Brigham Young University, continue to write and lecture internationally, and offer family externships about their practice models.

2012 Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy Theory and Practice: Laurie MacKinnon, Ph.D.

Written by Gonzalo Bacigalupe Award presented by Gonzalo Bacigalupe

Dr. Laurie MacKinnon is a practicing clinical social worker and family therapist in Sidney, Australia. Originally from Canada, Dr. MacKinnon trained as a family therapist at the University of Calgary, work that is reflected in her early Milan therapies writing. She has written two books and more than a dozen articles in major family therapy journals—including *Family Process*, the *Journal of Marital and Family*

Therapy, and the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy. Her commitment towards vulnerable populations is evident, beginning with her first clinical work in psychiatric emergency services and as community worker with the First Nations Cree reservation and today with Aboriginal Australians. This clinical commitment is also reflected in her scholarly work. She wrote one of the first critical assessments of the 1980's systemic therapies as well as articulated a model to comprehend the complexities of abuse and violence in families. Trust and Betrayal in the Treatment of Child Abuse (1998), her single author book, is a groundbreaking contribution to the integration of a strength-oriented, postmodern, feminist, and systemic paradigms, in family trauma work. Her approach, Radical Exposure, is the subject of an upcoming article in ANZJFT in a special issue dedicated to trauma that she and her partner and colleague, Kerrie James, are co-editing. As a clinician, consultant, supervisor, and trainer, Dr. MacKinnon has not only trained a generation of clinicians in Australia but continues to exemplify the qualities of a learner, always integrating the best that our field has to offer and in turn developing original and empowering ideas that clinicians can utilize in aiding families where abuse and violence has occurred. According to one of her colleagues, Laurie has "single-handedly had the greatest impact on therapists' abilities than anyone else in Australia."

2012 Distinguished Contribution to Social Justice: Jorge Colapinto, LMFT

Written by Hinda Winawer Award presented by Hinda Winawer

Long before social justice emerged within family therapy discourse, systems of injustice masquerading as benevolent social forces had been familiar terrain for Jorge Colapinto. In mental health, foster care, drug addiction, clinical training programs, and through his writing and teaching, he has challenged institutional practices that disempower families. A central figure of Structural Family Therapy (and a close associate of its founder, Salvador Minuchin)—the one major U.S. family therapy approach conceived in contexts of poverty—he has identified the veneer of "welfare" services to reveal classist, racist policies and their impact on families and children. Currently Coordinator of Training and Consultation at the Minuchin Center for the Family (NY), and Faculty at the Center for Family-Based Training (PA), at the Ackerman Institute for the Family (NY) he was Externship Faculty, Family Preservation Project member, and Director, Foster Care Project. Colapinto brings principles and practices of Structural Family Therapy to the public sector, infrequently served by senior family therapists—exemplified by his long-term consultation to the Administration for Children's Services, NYC, where he provided training, curriculum development, and revolutionary family-oriented practices and policies. He has created manuals and training programs for agencies to develop just practices and has authored various publications including, Working with Families of the Poor (Minuchin, P., Colapinto, J., and Minuchin, S., 2007, 2nd. Ed.), translated into seven languages.

Jorge Colapinto underscores the essential necessity of change, not only as a clinical goal, but as an ethical principle that is a fundamental component of Structural Family Therapy. He actively engages families in processes that foster relatedness and interdependency. Examination of his thinking and work reveals a conviction that families have a capacity for resilience that is often untested and unsupported, and indeed thwarted by social agencies that purport to help them. For Colapinto, work as a Structural Family Therapist constitutes Social Justice.

2012 Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy Research: Marion Forgatch, Ph.D.

Written by Patricia Chamerlain Award presented by Melanie Domenech Rodriquez

Marion Forgatch is a pioneer in intervention research, in treatment development, in basic science, and in implementation of evidence-based practice. She has used revolutionary concepts to study and implement innovations in family therapy on a massive scale, taking on underrepresented subgroups, including single mothers, stepfamilies and child welfare families within cities, states and even whole countries. Dr. Forgatch has made major contributions in several key areas of family systems research. Beginning with her seminal work in the assessment and evaluation of family problem-solving, she was among the first to study and validate the role of well-specified observation-based family interaction patterns as explanatory factors that mediate long-term child and adult outcomes. Results from her PMTO randomized trials show nine-year reductions in youth and parent arrest rates, depression, substance use, and increased standard of living. More recently, as a leading innovator in implementation science, Dr. Forgatch has had a major and sustained impact on scaling up Parent Management Training – Oregon Model (PMTO), particularly in Michigan, Kansas, Norway, Iceland, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Mexico City. She developed a sophisticated method for rating treatment fidelity where sessions are coded and data are used to coach and certify therapists. This rating system is now being used by approximately 1,600 practitioners in six countries to monitor and improve practice. Marion is famous for her skill and generosity as a mentor. She deeply enjoys mentoring as evidenced by the publication record that she and her mentees share. In recognition of this, she received a Society for Prevention Research Award for mentoring in 2003 and another for international collaboration in 2008. She was appointed as Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science in 2009. Creativity and dedication have characterized Dr. Forgatch's career. She continues to give and thrive as a scientist, a clinician, and a teacher.

2012 Innovative Contribution to Family Therapy: Peter Fraenkel, Ph.D.

Written by Froma Walsh Award presented by Froma Walsh

Peter Fraenkel, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, The City College of The City University of New York, and Director, Ackerman Institute's Center for Work and Family. Over the past two decades, Peter has been astonishingly creative and productive, with numerous projects and publications on community-based family programs, integrative couple therapy (The Therapeutic Palette), time, technology, work/family balance, and (with Marcia Sheinberg and Fiona True), a relational family approach to treatment of child sexual abuse.

First and foremost, this award recognizes Peter's collaborative, community-based family program development. In particular, Fresh Start for Families, launched in 1997, was designed to strengthen resilience in families who are homeless and seeking employment, and extended to those who have survived domestic violence and struggling immigrant families (Spanish version, Fortalecerse). These programs serve families in shelters in the New York metropolitan area and provide student training in

co-leading groups and in project research. In contrast to traditional top-down services, this collaborative, narrative approach is based on families' expertise and perspectives of their experiences and needs. Engaging 80% of families invited to participate, the multi-family group format also counters their isolation and stigma.

Peter has also advanced clinical theory and practice on the dimension of time, beyond metaphors of its importance, illuminating the powerful relational dynamics involving time and rhythm. From his groundbreaking articles to his recent book, *SyncYour Relationship, SaveYour Marriage* (2011), he has developed an innovative, research-based approach to assess and change specific ways that "couple arrythmias"—being out of sync—contribute to relational distress: e.g. differences in pace, punctuality, time perspective, schedules, and preferences for allocating time. He addresses the ways time patterns—influenced by personal temperament, family, culture, and circumstances—are often a hidden source of conflicts about money, sex, and balancing work/personal/and relationship time.

Peter is also a phenomenal jazz musician—and brings his attunement to relational rhythms and his joy in improvisation and collaboration to all his innovative projects and to his inspiring clinical training and practice.

2012 Early Career Award: Amy Tuttle, Ph.D.

Written by Carmen Knudson-Martin Amy is unable to attend and will receive her award in 2013.

Amy Tuttle exemplifies the future of AFTA. Amy graduated from the Loma Linda University Ph.D. program in marital and family therapy in 2005 and is currently Associate Professor of psychology at Pepperdine University where she teaches clinical practica and doctoral and masters courses in family therapy. She joined AFTA as an Early Career Member in 2008 and quickly became active in the ECM, student, and membership committees and helped develop a number of new activities to support and encourage new members, such as the Pearls of Wisdom panel and the ECM/Student luncheon. She is currently chair of the ECM and serves on the Membership Taskforce, the 2012 Program Committee, and the Nominating Committee. Dr. Tuttle's teaching, supervision, research, and clinical practice focus on application of systemic and postmodern family theories to trauma and collaborative practice, particularly with marginalized children and families. She is the founder of the Social Justice Collaborative at Pepperdine and PI of the Family Legacy project which began with qualitative study of family stories of Japanese-American internment and focuses on how cultural and contextual factors influence family communication and healing around trauma. Amy's publications also address children and families in child protective services, recovery from sexual violence, the larger social context and relational orientations, and parenting as relationship. Amy's contributions to family therapy began when she co-authored *Theory*-Based Treatment Planning: Integrating Theory and Practice, and was student representative on the AAMFT-CA Board while still in her master's program at Fresno State University. Since then, in addition to her leadership in AFTA, she has served on the AAMFT Elections Council and as secretary of AAMFT-CA. She is an AAMFT-approved supervisor. Amy has introduced many students and colleagues to AFTA. Her second baby is due in May, so she will miss the AFTA conference for the first time.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Victoria Dickerson, Ph.D.

Written by Evan Imber-Black Award presented by Evan Imber-Black

The words "Lifetime Achievement" and Vicki Dickerson belong together. In a career spanning nearly four decades, Dr. Victoria Dickerson has made major contributions in every aspect of Family Therapy—teaching and developing curriculum in major graduate programs and institutes; training in the Narrative Approach around the world; publishing scores of articles and book chapters; authoring two books; serving as an advisory editor for leading journals; and contributing to the field's ongoing development both in AFTA as the Chair for Family Policy, Program, Nominations and By-Laws; editing the AFTA Update; serving as Vice President; and for Family Process, as advisory editor, member of the Family Process Institute Board, and currently as the new Associate Editor for Technology and New Media.

I first met Vicki in 1985, when she and her Golden Retriever, Tyson, attended the externship at the Family Therapy Program in Calgary, Alberta. Shortly thereafter, Vicki initiated a new institute, the Bay Area Family Therapy Training Associates, one of the earliest training programs for Narrative Therapy in North America. Over the next decade, Vicki co-authored *If Problems Talked: Narrative Therapy in Action*, developed the Narrative Therapy Externship at M.R.I., and created one of our most innovative Annual Meetings in 1996, one with a deep focus on community and social justice.

Foreshadowing her current Associate Editor role bringing the newest uses of technology to the authors and readers of *Family Process*, in 1999 Vicki co-designed one of the first mental health internet sites, planet-therapy.com.

Vicki is both a leader and a valued collaborator in the international Narrative community. In 2004, she gracefully translated narrative ideas for young women in her popular book, *Who CaresWhatYou're Supposed to Do? Breaking the Rules to getWhatYouWant in Love, Life andWork.* Following the death of Michael White, I turned immediately to Vicki to edit a special section inspired by his legacy for *Family Process*. In 2010 she published the groundbreaking, "Positioning oneself within an epistemology: Refining our thinking about integrative approaches."

As befits a Lifetime Achievement awardee, Vicki Dickerson stretches boundaries, watches keenly for moments to connect, makes ample room for those who think and practice differently and reaches for the next generation.

General & Continuing Education Credit Information

HOTEL:

The meeting and conference hotel is the Sheraton Fisherman's Wharf Hotel. Address: 2500 Mason Street, San Francisco, CA 94133. Phone: 415-362-5500.

LETTERS OF ATTENDANCE:

Letters of attendance are available to meeting participants upon request (cost \$10.00, U.S. funds). Please contact the AFTA office if you would like to purchase one (afta@afta.org).

CANCELLATION POLICY:

After April 16, 2012 there is a 50% cancellation fee on all registrations.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT:

Satisfactory completion: Participants must have paid tuition fee, attended their chosen sessions in their entirety and completed an online attendance/evaluation form in order to receive a certificate. Certificates are available immediately after completing the online evaluation form.

Psychologists

This course is co-sponsored by Amedco and American Family Therapy Academy. Amedco is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Amedco maintains responsibility for this program and its content. 21.5 hours.

Professional and National Certified Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists (NBCC)

AMEDCO is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEPTM) and a co-sponsor of this event/program. American Family Therapy Academy may award NBCC-approved clock hours for events or programs that meet NBCC requirements. The ACEP maintains responsibility for the content of this event.

21.5 hours. NBCC-ACEP Provider #5633.

California Board of Behavioral Sciences (CABBS)

Course meets the qualifications for up to 21.5 hours of continuing education credit for MFTs and/or LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, Provider #PCE5009.

National Association of Social Workers

This program is approved by the National Association of Social Workers (approval # 886566367-8438) for up to 21.5 Social Work continuing education hours.

Keynote & Plenary Bios



Deidre Ashton, MSSW, LCSW, is a couple and family therapist at the Princeton Family Institute, faculty of the Multicultural Family Institute, and faculty/supervisor at the Center for Family, Community & Social Justice, where she provides clinical supervision and training to family counselors serving elementary, middle, and high school youth and their families in marginalized communities. Currently, Ms. Ashton's work focuses on the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and their families as they seek to integrate multiple aspects of identity including race, class, and culture; to negotiate life cycle tasks in a heteronormative, binary gender world; and to survive the effects of intersecting forms of oppression. In her work, she

seeks to attend to the ways in which power, privilege and issues of social justice influence relationships. She is especially drawn to the construction of narratives that empower individuals, families, and communities to heal through storytelling and witnessing.



Mary Jo Barrett, MSW, is Executive Director and Co-founder, Center for Contextual Change, and on adjunct faculty of University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, Chicago Center For Family Health, and the Family Institute of Northwestern University. Ms. Barrett has been working in the field of family violence since 1974 and has co-authored two books: *Incest: A Multiple Systems Perspective* and *The Systemic Treatment of Incest: A Therapeutic Handbook*. She developed the Collaborative Stage Model (CSM), a highly successful resilience-

oriented contextual model of therapy used to transform the lives of those impacted by abuse and/or traumatic events. She also founded the Family Dialogue Project, which strives to redefine relationships within families impacted by allegations of abuse and trauma. Ms. Barrett provides consultation and training nationally and internationally to parents, mental health, human service, and legal professionals.



Andraé Brown, Ph.D., is an assistant professor at Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Education and Counseling, co-director of Affinity Counseling Group, and research fellow for the Council on Contemporary Families. Dr. Brown earned his B.S. in psychology at Elizabeth City State University (NC), his M.Ed. in school counseling at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, and his Ph.D. in marriage and family therapy at Seton Hall University (NJ).

Dr. Brown's research agenda focuses on the development of treatment modals that use the supportive structures of families, schools and communities to address trauma, violence and substance abuse. Research and clinical interests also include resilience in street-life-oriented Black men, the psychosocial development of adolescents living in the urban context, liberation psychology and cultural equity in service provision. Dr. Brown holds several grants to develop and implement re-entry and restorative justice services for youth and families involved in the justice system.

Additionally, he co-founded with colleagues Rhea Almeida, Lisa Dressner and Pilar Hernández-Wolfe the Liberation Based Healing Conference—an annual conference that brings together community and professional stakeholders to engage in dialogue and inquiry focused on a system of relational healing that embraces critical consciousness, empowerment, and accountability.



Michelle Contreras, MA, has a Clinical Psychology degree from Universidad Rafael Landívar in Guatemala. She is a fifth-year doctoral student at MSPP and an intern at the Cambridge Health Alliance. She is a member of the APA's Task Force on Trafficking. She has provided clinical services to several U.S. immigrant groups, including unaccompanied refugee minors and former victims of trafficking.



Mindy Thompson Fullilove, M.D., is a research psychiatrist at New York State Psychiatric Institute and a professor of clinical psychiatry and public health at Columbia University. She was educated at Bryn Mawr College (AB, 1971) and Columbia University (MS, 1971; MD 1978). She is a Board-certified psychiatrist, having received her training at New York Hospital-Westchester Division (1978-1981) and Montefiore Hospital (1981-1982). She has conducted research on AIDS and other epidemics of poor communities, with a special interest in the relationship

between the collapse of communities and decline in health. From her research, she has published *Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America and What We Can Do About It*, and *The House of Joshua: Meditations on Family and Place*. She has also published numerous articles, book chapters, and monographs. She has received many awards, including inclusion on "Best Doctors" lists and two honorary doctorates (Chatham College, 1999, and Bank Street College of Education, 2002). Her work in AIDS in featured in Jacob Levenson's *The Secret Epidemic: The Story of AIDS in Black America*. Her current work focuses on the connection between urban function and mental health.



Robert-Jay Green, Ph.D., is Executive Director of the Rockway Institute for LGBT Psychology and Public Policy and Distinguished Professor in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at the California School of Professional Psychology, Alliant International University, San Francisco campus. In AFTA, he is a Charter Member, served 12 years on AFTA's Board, and received AFTA's Award for Family Systems Research in 2001. He also has received two national awards from the American Psychological Association's Division of Family Psychology and Division

of LGBT Psychology. Among his over 80 publications are the co-edited books, Family Therapy: Major Contributions, and Lesbians and Gays in Couples and Families: A Handbook for Therapists. Currently, he is conducting research on three topics: a national study of 150 children conceived via surrogacy and raised by gay fathers; a study of the effectiveness of an LGBT-affirmative health education curriculum in reducing bullying among high school students in Los Angeles; and a longitudinal study of over 1,600 same-sex couples in registered domestic partnerships in California.



Pilar Hernández-Wolfe, Ph.D., is Associate Professor and Director of the Marriage, Couple, and Family Therapy Program, Lewis and Clark College, and a consultant and trainer, Institute for Family Services in New Jersey. She is a licensed family therapist, an AAMFT-Approved Supervisor, and a current AFTA Board Member. Dr. Hernández-Wolfe pioneered the concept of vicarious resilience in the context of work in the U.S. and Colombia, with refugees and survivors of torture in politically-based violence. Her research on resilience focused on integrating Latin

America's psychology of liberation contributions to larger systems-based approaches. As a consultant, trainer, and presenter, she has collaborated with organizations in the U.S., Colombia and México in the areas of clinical supervision, traumatic stress, historical trauma, and resilience; organizational diversity and equity; and contextually responsive family therapy.



Evan Imber-Black, Ph.D., is full Professor and Program Director of the Marriage and Family Therapy Masters Program at Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry, NY. She is the Director of the Center for Families and Health and a Senior Faculty Member at the Ackerman Institute for the Family in New York City. Evan maintains a private practice in Couple and Family Therapy in New York City and Westchester County. She was the editor of *Family Process*, the major scholarly journal in family systems research and family therapy, from 2004 to 2011. She is a past president of the American Family

Therapy Academy; recipient of the 1990 American Family Therapy Academy Award for Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy Theory and Practice; and the 1999 recipient of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Cumulative Contribution to Marriage and Family Therapy.

Throughout her internationally recognized career, Evan has made major contributions in thematic areas that cut across different models of practice, including Families and Larger Systems, Family Rituals and Family Secrets. She is the author of over 75 original scholarly papers, articles in the popular press, and several books, including: *The Secret Life of Families* (1998); *Secrets in Families and Family Therapy* (1993); *Rituals for Our Times* (1998, co-authored with Janine Roberts); *Rituals in Families and Family Therapy* (1988, 2003, co-edited with Janine Roberts and Richard Whiting); *Families and Larger Systems* (1988).

Married to Lascelles Black, MSW, LMFT, Evan is most proud to be the grandmother of Josie, 15; Lois, 12; and Zane, 10, who have helped her to know that generativity is the core value she wishes to bring forth in her work and in her relationships.



Carmen Knudson-Martin, Ph.D., directs the Ph.D. program in Marital and Family Therapy at Loma Linda University in Southern California. She is internationally recognized for her work regarding gender, marital equality, and relational health. Her research team has conducted over 25 qualitative studies examining the processes through which diverse couples across the globe and in varying life circumstances respond to a changing social environment. Her book, *Couples, Gender, and Power: Creating Change in Intimate Relationships*, weaves a

link between research and practice as she makes the influence of the larger social context in couple relationships come alive and offers a template to guide clinical work. Carmen's work emphasizes the political and ethical implications of therapist actions. Together with a group of doctoral students and fellow faculty member Douglas Huenergardt, she is developing Socio-Emotional Relationship Therapy, an approach that attends to the micro-processes through which couple interaction, emotion, and socio-cultural context come together in the moment by moment of clinical process. Her work is widely published in major family therapy journals. She is on the Board of directors of the Family Process Institute and AFTA.

Gabor Maté, M.D., is a physician and author. As a public speaker, he addresses professional and lay audiences all over North America. His four books are all Canadian bestsellers, published internationally in nearly 20 languages. The most recent, *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction* has been awarded the Hubert Evans prize for literary non-fiction.

Gabor was for 20 years a family practitioner and for seven years served as Medical Coordinator of the Palliative Care Unit at Vancouver Hospital, caring for the terminally ill. For 12 years he worked in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside with patients challenged by hard-core drug addiction,

mental illness and HIV. His other interests encompass childhood developmental issues, childhood and adolescent mental health, and parenting issues, as articulated in his books: *Scattered*, on attention deficit disorder on which he has a unique perspective, and *Hold On To Your Kids:Why Parents Need to Matter More Than Peers*. He also has a unique view of stress and the mind/body unity in health and illness, the subject of his most-translated work, *When The Body Says No: Exploring The Stress/Disease Connection*.

In 2009 Gabor was honored with an Outstanding Alumnus Award from Simon Fraser University. In 2011 he will be granted an honorary doctorate from the University of Northern British Columbia. He has recently been invited to accept a position as Adjunct Professor in the School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University.



Ellen Pulleyblank Coffey, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist, teacher and writer specializing in family and community practice in Berkeley, California. She trains therapists in family therapy and reflecting practices, consults for community agencies and works with refugee families. She was part of a mental health team who worked on a five-year project in Kosovo developing mental health services there following the war. In her private practice, combining her personal and clinical experience, she specializes in the effects of major upheavals

on family life. She recently published a book, *Blowing on Embers: Stories for Hard Times*. In the book, Ellen combines the stories of women she interviewed with her personal story of adversity. These stories are for those who are going through current crises and for those who will face hardships in the future.



Michal Shamai, Ph.D., is associate professor at the School of Social Work, Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences, University of Haifa, Israel. She was the founder and director of the Department of Social Work at Tel-Hai Academic College and the director of the Regional Center for Family Therapy Training and Intervention in Haifa. Her research over the last 18 years has focused on the impact of ongoing threat of war and terror on individuals, families, communities and social workers. She has also explored the impact of therapy on families living under stress as a result of poverty or intimate violence. In addition, she is an experienced couple and family therapist, and has extensive experience in psychosocial therapies with direct

and indirect victims of war and terror. Dr. Shamai is the author of many articles in which her research and practice are described. She is co-author of the book, *Therapeutic Interventions with Poor, Unorganized Families: From Distress to Hope*, and is currently authoring a book entitled, *Systemic Intervention in Situations of Collective and National Trauma*, which will be published by Columbia University Press in 2012.



Arvind Singhal, Ph.D., is the Samuel Shirley and Edna Holt Marston Endowed Professor of Communication and Director of the Social Justice Initiative in UTEP's Department of Communication. He is also appointed as the William J. Clinton Distinguished Fellow at the Clinton School of Public Service, Little Rock, Arkansas. Singhal teaches and conducts research in the diffusion of innovations, the positive deviance approach, organizing for social change, and the entertainment-education strategy. His research and outreach spans sectors such as health, education, peace,

human rights, poverty alleviation, sustainable development, civic participation, democracy and governance, and corporate citizenship.

Dr, Singhal is co-author or editor of 11 books and authored 150 peer-reviewed essays. He has won Top Paper Awards from the International Communication Association and National Communication Association a dozen times, and Ohio University's Baker Research Award twice. Dr. Singhal's research has been supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, The National Science Foundation, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, UNAIDS, UNICEF, and others. He has served as an advisor to the World Bank, the United Nation's Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, UNFPA, U.S. Department of State; U.S. A.I.D., Family Health International, PATH, Save the Children, the BBC World Service Trust, International Rice Research Institute, Voice for Humanity, and private corporations such as Procter & Gamble (U.S. and Thailand), Telenor AS (Norway), SpareBank (Norway), and others.



CharlesEtta (Charlee) Sutton, MSW, LCSW, directs CTS Group Sutton and Associates, and is on the faculty of the MultiCultural Family Institute, the Center for Family Community and Social Justice in NJ, and Turtle Island Project in AZ. She is an accomplished facilitator, design, development and implementation expert in the areas of healing, loss, trauma, effective life skill development and crisis management. Her expertise in training-the-trainer is demonstrated in work she co-authored: "Take Hart (Healing and Recovery after Trauma): An Emergency Response to Terrorist Attacks in

the United States", "SANKOFA: A Life Skills Curriculum" and "Bridges: Building Skills to Reach Suicidal Adolescents", articles and book chapters.



Shelley M. MacDermid Wadsworth, Ph.D., is a professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Purdue University, where she also directs the Military Family Research Institute and the Center for Families. Her research focuses on relationships between job conditions and family life, with special focus on military families and organizational policies, programs and practices. Dr. MacDermid Wadsworth is a fellow of the National Council on Family Relations, and a recipient of the Work Life Legacy Award from the Families and Work Institute. Dr. MacDermid

Wadsworth served as the civilian co-chair of the Department of Defense Task Force on Mental Health, and currently serves on the Returning Veterans Committee of the Institute of Medicine.



Michael Ungar, Ph.D., is a Professor of Social Work at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, and Scientific Director of the Resilience Research Centre. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and chapters and 11 books on the topic of resilience and its application to clinical and community work with children and families with complex needs (the Social Ecological Approach to counseling). His latest work includes a clinical textbook, *Counseling in Challenging Contexts*, an edited volume of international papers, *The Social Ecology of Resilience: A Handbook of Theory and Practice*, and a novel *The Social Worker*.



Froma Walsh, Ph.D., is Co-Director and Co-Founder, Chicago Center for Family Health, and Firestone Professor Emerita at the University of Chicago. Dr. Walsh is a leading pioneer and international authority on family resilience. Her research-informed Family Resilience Framework is widely applied in training and research. She has developed a resilience-oriented, collaborative, community-based practice approach to strengthen families facing crisis and prolonged adversity. Her approach addresses developmental, systemic, cultural, and spiritual influences in suffering,

healing, and resilience. Recent books: *Strengthening Family Resilience* (2nd ed.); *Spiritual Resources in Family Therapy* (2nd ed.); *Normal Family Processes: Growing Diversity & Complexity* (4th ed).



Thandiwe Dee Watts-Jones, Ph.D., LMFT, is a Psychologist II at Bronx Family Court Mental Health Services, a faculty member of the Ackerman Institute for the Family, and in private practice. At the heart of her work and writings is the search to understand and contribute to transforming the intricate legacies of oppression as they breathe through the lives of us all. Her efforts are especially informed by her experience as an African-American woman and a deep conviction in a Wisdom inside and aside us.



Hinda Winawer, MSW, LCSW, Executive Director of the Center for Family, Community, & Social Justice, Inc., which employs, clinically supervises and trains counselors to provide free, culturally humble collaborative family systems therapy through its Context-Centered Family Systems Counseling (CFSC) approach. The Center serves approximately 1,200 economically disadvantaged children and families who are unlikely to be able to access quality care. Trained by the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, the Center is a countering-racism organization, culturally

diverse at every level. The Center's Family Empowerment Program Model has been developed for the state of New Jersey since 1994. A member of an Agency for Healthcare and Research Quality (AHRQ) Action Network, the Center brings a family perspective to major healthcare centers. Hinda Winawer is long-term faculty of the Ackerman Institute for the Family, and was a founding member of the Ackerman Institute Alcohol, Drugs and the Family Project. She is also on the Family Process Editorial Advisory Board, former Adjunct Faculty, Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work, member of the National Association of Social Workers, Association for Women in Psychology, Collaborative Family Healthcare Association and Fellow in the American Orthopsychiatric Association and faculty, Multicultural Family Institute Culture Conference. She has taught and presented in academic and clinical settings in the U.S., Europe, China and Latin America and has authored chapters and articles addressing family therapy training and social justice. Within AFTA: Charter Member, Policy Committee member and Chair, Program Chair, Racial Domination and Privilege Interest Group Chair, Publications Committee, *Monograph* contributor, Plenary Presenter, and Regional Meetings and Fundraiser host. Hinda Winawer was honored to be the 2012 co-recipient, with Norbert Wetzel, of AFTA's Distinguished Contribution to Social Justice Award.



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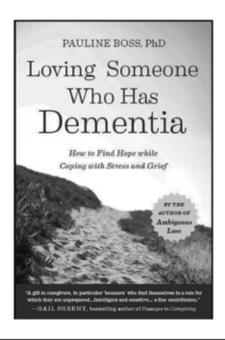
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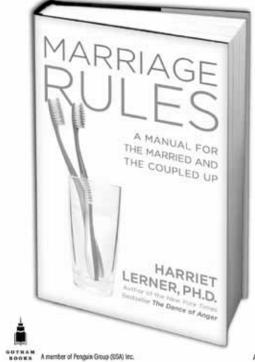
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Judye Hess, PhD, has been a core faculty of the Integral Counseling Psychology program at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco since 1984 where she teaches Family Dynamics and Therapy, Group Dynamics and has taught Marriage and Couple Counseling for many years.

Ross Cohen, MA, received his Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies in 2004. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Portland, OR.

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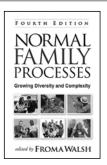


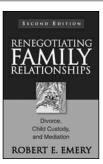
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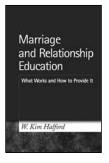
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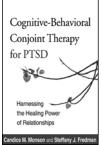
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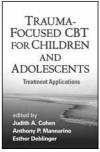












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CAFTA AMERICAN FAMILY THERAPY ACADEMY

Program at a Glance 2012 Schedule

MORNING				
Wednesday, May 16	Thursday, May 17	Friday, May 18	Saturday, May 19	
9:00 am 2:00 pm Board Meeting	7:00 am 7:30 am	7:00 am 7:30 am Centering Practice	7:00 am 7:30 am	
	7:30 am New Member Breakfast/ 8:30 am Continental Breakfast	7:30 am 8:30 am Breakfast / Continental Breakfast	7:30 am 8:30 am Breakfast	
	8:30 am 10:30 am Plenary I ^{CE}	8:30 am 10:30 am Plenary II ^{CE}	8:00 am 8:30 am Linked Poetry Project	
	10:30 am 10:45 am Refreshment Break	10:30 am 11:00 am	8:30 am 10:00 am Keynote III CE	
	10:45 am Interest Groups ^{ce} 12:15 pm Plenary Debrief		10:00 am 10:30 am Refreshment Break	
		Plenary Debrief 11:00 am 12:30 pm Brief Presentations ^{CE} Family Process Meeting	Interest Groups ^{ce} 10:30 am Gender Dialogue ^{ce} 12:00 pm Teachers of Family Therapy	
AFTERNOON				
Wednesday, May 16	Thursday, May 17	Friday, May 18	Saturday, May 19	
12:00 Registration Opens	12:15 pm 1:45 pm AFTA Town Hall Luncheon	Network Conversations: 12:30 pm White Privilege and 2:00 pm Accountability / People of Color	12:00 pm Network Conversations: 2:00 pm LGBTQI / Latina Women	
			2:00 pm 3:30 pm Brief Presentations CE	
	1:45 pm 3:30 pm AFTA Joint Forum ^{ce}	2:00 pm 4:00 pm Plenary III ^{cc}	2:00 pm Forging Resilience from Adversity CE	
			Deactivating the 2:45 pm Buttons: A Brief Trauma- 3:30 pm Focused Invervention for Parents in Conflict	
		4:00 pm 4:30 pm Refreshment Break	3:30 pm 4:00 pm Refreshment Break	
	AFTA Open Conference Begins	Book Signing, Posters, 4:30 pm Publication Discussion /	4:00 pm 5:30 pm Pearls of Wisdom ^{cε}	
3:30 pm 4:45 pm AFTA Committee Meetings		5:30 pm Plenary Debrief / Brief Presentations ^{CE}	5:30 pm Facilitating Listening 6:30 pm Circle	
EVENING				
Wednesday, May 16	Thursday, May 17	Friday, May 18	Saturday, May 19	
5:00 pm Annual Meeting Opening 7:00 pm and Keynote I ^{cc}	4:00 pm Conference Welcome/ 6:00 pm Keynote II CE	5:30 pm 6:00 pm Break		
	6:30 pm Special Event 11:00 pm	6:00 pm Spiritual Reflections 7:00 pm New Member Meet Up		
7:00 pm 9:00 pm Opening Reception		7:00 pm 9:00 pm Women's Institute	6:30 pm Awards Banquet & 11:30 pm Dancing	
		7:00 pm 10:00 pm Men's Institute		



COUPLING TODAY:
LOVE, PARENTING, COMMUNITY
Systemic Practices with Couples and Families in their Social Contexts

SAVE THE DATE / CHICAGO / JUNE 5-8 2013

Keynote Speakers will include: Stephanie Coontz



Stephanie Coontz is an acclaimed scholar, international presenter and social commentator on American couples and family relationships. She teaches history and family studies at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, and is the Director of Research and Public Education for the Council on Contemporary Families. She is the author of 5 books translated into 12 languages, including the award-winning "Marriage, A History: How Love Conquered Marriage" (2005) and "A Strange Stirring: The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s" (2011). Coontz contributed chapters to more than 25

academic books and has published in the New York Times, The Observer/Guardian, The Times of London, Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, Vogue, and many professional journals. Coontz has addressed audiences across America, Japan, and Europe. She has been a featured speaker at the Renaissance Weekend, and PopTech, and has appeared on The Colbert Report, The Today Show, Oprah Winfrey, Crossfire, and 20/20, among others. She is the 2004 recipient of the Council on Contemporary Families' first-ever "Visionary Leadership" Award.

- → An open invitation to all senior couples and family therapists, researchers, students and early career professionals interested in <u>couples and family therapy practice</u>, theory and research.
- → AFTA will convene a one-day (1) Annual Meeting for its members and their invited guests, followed by a two and one-half (2.5) day Open Conference which will bring together presenters and attendees from around the world.
- → Together we will explore the theme of <u>contemporary couples relationships</u> in their complex biopsychosocial contexts. <u>Family-focused sessions</u> will also highlight systemic advances with families and larger communities.

Palmer House Hilton Hotel



The Annual Meeting/Open Conference will take place at the Palmer House Hotel, a newly renovated Hilton flagship hotel located across the street from the Millennium Park, Chicago Art Institute and minutes away from Lake Michigan and the Magnificent Mile. We look forward to learning, connecting and celebrating with you soon!

the world!

NOTE: Call for Submissions of Abstracts for Posters, Brief Presentations, and Interest Groups will be available at afta.org in September 2012. Closing date for submission will be October 31, 2012.



Theory • Research • Practice www.afta.org



AFTA President (2011-2013) Hinda Winawer, MSW, LCSW



Program Chair Jean Malpas, LMFT, LMHC