

Boys and Girls at Risk
Conference Workshops

1:00-2:30 pm, June 16
Workshops 1-9

1. What Happened to My Son? How to Work With Parents of Troubled Boys (Part I—continued in Workshop 10)

Scott Caldwell, MS, Counselor Psychology, Connections Counseling, Madison WI
Jason Witt, MS, Clinical Psychology, Discovery & Recovery Clinic, Greenfield WI

In part one of this two-part workshop, the presenters will review and update information about young-male development and how boys move through and complete developmental tasks to become healthy adult males.

This will be contrasted with young female development to help clarify why gender-sensitive approaches are so important.

2. Me Tarzan. The Story of the Y Chromosome

Deborah Leigh Blum, MA, Professor of Journalism, UW-Madison, Madison WI (author of *Sex on the Brain*)

The latest research suggests that biochemistry has a strong influence in what scientists call male typical development. But exactly how influential is it? This session will explore some new findings in gender biology and offers some ideas as to what findings to take seriously—and what studies may prove helpful in understanding the developing child.

3. Gangs 101: Who, What, Where and Why (Part I—continued in Workshop 16)

Jose Flores, National Speaker and Gang Expert, Milwaukee Director of the Gang Reduction Project, Milwaukee WI

This workshop will explore gang history, gang structure, gang identifiers and strategies for what can be done, using youth-development models.

4. Working with African-American Parents and Their Sons and Daughters: 10 Things Your Child Should Catch You Doing

Cleon Suggs, BS, CSAC, ICS, Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee WI

This workshop focuses on African-American parents rebuilding the bridges that have been damaged and sometimes torn down between them and their children. You've probably heard the saying, "Character is caught, not taught," or "Children do as we do, not as we say." Children are like having little spies in our home, constantly watching

what we say and do, taking notes in their hearts and minds. As parents, let's take a look at what blueprints we're developing for our children.

5. It Works! Creating Single-Gender Classes in your School

Team of Teachers from Janesville Middle School:
Megan Graffius, Kim Salemi and Mikal Tollefsrud

A team of teachers from Janesville Middle School will share their experiences with starting a single-gender program in their school. Focus and discussion will concentrate on questions from the audience.

6. Closing the Gender Gap: Working with Boys at Boys Town

Alesia Montgomery, Training Coordinator, Father Flanagan's Boys Home/Boys Town, Nebraska

This workshop will give you a brief history of the Boys Town organization. It will also discuss how the Boys Town model is used to address gender-specific behaviors of boys throughout the country. There will be two consecutive presentations to highlight boys' and girls' issues, respectively.

7. Gender-Based Differences in the Use, Abuse and Effects of Information Technology (boys)

Marc K. Wruble, PhD, UW-Platteville, Director, Clinical Psychology, Platteville WI

This multimedia presentation will describe current research on how males/boys use technology and the effects of technology use on the brain, self, and relationships. Symptoms of internet/cell phone addiction will be described and practical solutions for the ethical use of technology will be provided.

8. PACE Center for Girls: A Model Program for At-Risk Adolescent Girls

Debbie Moroney, ACSW, Director of Program Services, PACE Center for Girls, Inc., Jacksonville FL

This workshop will provide an overview of this nationally recognized program designed to keep at-risk girls out of the juvenile justice system. PACE is a not-for-profit 501© 3 corporation that provides non-residential delinquency prevention programs throughout the state of Florida. PACE targets the unique needs of females 12 to 18 years of age who are identified as dependent, truant, runaway, delinquent, or in need of academic skills. PACE programs provide the following services: academic education, individualized attention, a gender-specific life management curriculum (SPIRITED GIRLS®), therapeutic support services, parental involvement, student volunteer service projects and transition follow-up services.

9. The Aaron House: A Recovery Option for College Students to Succeed

Tom Meyer, Aaron's Dad and the inspiration for the creation of The Aaron House, Madison WI

James Sauer, LCSW, LMFT, SAC, ICS, Clinical Director, Aaron J. Meyer Foundation, Inc.

The greatest challenge to building on an early sobriety foundation for college students is living at home with parents or in an apartment setting with peers who are not living free of alcohol or other drugs. A family environment of peer support, wise mentorship, with doors open to healthy opportunities, could be defined as a safe place for early sobriety. James Sauer, LCSW, LMFT, SAC, ICS, Clinical Director, will present the key components of The Aaron House: what we do; why we do it; how it works; what we've learned; who we serve; and, how to direct potential student residents to The Aaron House. We built The Aaron House program and house to be a model to duplicate anywhere. Tom Meyer will explain how you can bring the Aaron House to your community.

2:45-4:15 pm, June 16

Workshops 10-18

10. What Happened to My Son? How to Work With Parents of Troubled Boys (Part II—continued in Workshop 1)

Scott Caldwell, MS, Counselor Psychology, Connections Counseling, Madison WI
Jason Witt, MS, Clinical Psychology, Discovery & Recovery Clinic, Greenfield WI

In part two of this two-part workshop, the presenters will focus on the challenges of teaching parents or caregivers how to successfully parent their adolescent male with special emphasis on single-mother parenting.

11. Changing the Path: Horses Teaching Life Skills (boys and girls)

Sandy Hardie, CSAC, ICS, Eden, WI

This workshop will present an overview of how partnering with horses can be an effective alternative/adjunct to more traditional treatment settings. Equine-facilitated learning focuses on teaching life skills which can include self-regulation of emotions, communications skills, social skills and boundaries. Working with horses provides immediate feedback to the participant that s/he can apply to their daily life activities. This provides them the opportunity to see how their actions impact others and make changes accordingly.

12. You Jane. A Story of Nature, Nature and Female Development

Deborah Leigh Blum, MA, Professor of Journalism, UW-Madison (author of *Sex on the Brain*)

Biologists working in gender studies have long debated the ways that male and female brains might develop differently. This session will explore some of the new ideas that are engaging gender-biology researchers at the moment and attempt to separate the objective findings from the political perspectives that often become mixed into this area of study.

13. The Greatest Risk: The Adolescent Brain in Criminal Court

Robin Dorman, Public Defender, Milwaukee Criminal Trial Office, Milwaukee WI
Debra Flynn-Parrino, Public Defender, Milwaukee Juvenile Office, Milwaukee WI

Adolescents do not belong in the Criminal Justice System. This workshop focuses on Reverse Waiver in homicide cases. What expert witnesses do you need to win your case? What lay witnesses can help? What state witnesses may actually be defense witnesses? What is the situation in the adult prisons? What programming is available in the juvenile system? What is general and specific deterrence? Can constitutional arguments be persuasive? What story can you tell about your client and your case? Can you win and still lose? Can you negotiate to victory? Participants will share their strategies and theories.

14. Closing the Gender Gap: Working with Girls at Girls Town

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Nebraska

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15. Gender-Based Differences in the Use, Abuse and Effects of Information Technology (girls)

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This multimedia presentation will describe current research on how females/girls use technology and the effects of technology use on the brain, self, and relationships. Symptoms of internet/cell phone addiction will be described and practical solutions for the ethical use of technology will be provided.

16. Gangs 101: Who, What, Where and Why (Part II—continued in Workshop 3)

Jose Flores, National Speaker and Gang Expert, Milwaukee Director of the Gang
Reduction Project, Milwaukee WI

This workshop will explore gang history, gang structure, gang identifiers and strategies for what can be done in helping gang members to change paradigms using youth development models.

17. Getting to the Heart of the Matter: A Holistic Approach Working with At-Risk Adolescent Girls in Juvenile Justice

Debbie Moroney, ACSW, Director of Program Services, PACE Center for Girls, Inc.,
Jacksonville FL

This workshop will cover the fundamental concepts that are essential to gender-responsive programs and intervention. The six major life domains that are unique to girls and young women will be outlined including some practical ideas for implementation.

18. Working with Native-American Parents and Their Sons and Daughters

Rebecca Wigg-Ninham, MSW, Brown County Human Services Dept, Juvenile Court Unit, Green Bay WI

Jeff Jentz, Native American who provides foster care for the Oneida Tribe, Green Bay WI

Today there are unprecedented opportunities in Indian country. Education, jobs, and per capita payments are by-products of Indian gaming. In contrast, the effects of generational trauma continue to plague Native families. How to successfully work in the midst of today's opportunities and continued challenges will be addressed in this workshop. Come hear about the Oneida Tribe's Nurturing Fathers Group.

9:15-10:45 am, June 17

Workshops 19-26

19. The Chris Farley Foundation: The Power of Prevention-Based Improv

Tom Farley, The Chris Farley Foundation

Tom Farley will describe and demonstrate how teaching teens (and parents) better communication skills can empower youth to respond positively when faced with decisions regarding drugs and alcohol. The Chris Farley Foundation effectively reaches their audiences just as Chris did – by using humor!

20. From Vision to Reality: Project Fresh Light's Accomplishments and Future

Susan Endres, Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Madison WI

Susan Endres will present the infrastructure growth achieved through Project Fresh Light. Future directions in Wisconsin's adolescent substance abuse treatment will be presented with attention paid to gender-specific treatment.

21. La Vida Loca. How to work more effectively with at-risk Latino youth and their families

Fred Garcia, BSW, Waukesha County, Waukesha Department of Health & Human Services, Waukesha WI

Jan M. Sanchez, MS, CSW, CSAC, Waukesha Department of Health & Human Services, Waukesha WI

The goal of this workshop is to gain a better understanding of cultural competency as it relates to working with at-risk Latino youth and their families. Participants will gain a better understanding of challenges facing today's Latino youth and their families and will leave this workshop with tools, information and resources to better meet the needs of this

growing population. Topics will include immigration status, acculturation, assimilation, gang violence, family systems, gender, and cultural differences.

22. Using the Self-in-Relation Model with Adolescent Girls

Flo Hilliard, MSH, Director, The Gender Studies Project, UW-Madison, Madison WI
Yvette Hittle, CSW, CSAC, Ministry Health Care, Rhinelander WI

Using the adult women's Self-in-Relation Treatment Model, this workshop will demonstrate how to adapt elements of working with adolescent girls and their enmeshed relationships to find and maintain successful recovery. Case studies and concrete examples will be used to illustrate this innovative approach.

23. The Risk Outside of Pink and Blue: Working with Transgender

Rachel Coles, BSW, Program Coordinator II/ATODA Specialist, The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, Milwaukee WI

This workshop will provide a safe space for participants to gain a better understanding of transgender youth. The presenter will cover the best practices for and unique risk factors of working with youth who identify outside the binary of male and female. Participants will engage in experiential learning activities to gain knowledge about youth who identify as transgender and the risks they face, as well as be provided with terms and definitions and a question-answer section.

24. Girls and Relational Aggression: Practical Strategies for “Mean Girl” Behavior

Judith Utevsky, MSW, LCSW, Affinity in Action, Madison WI
Betsy Hambrick, CAPSW, CT, DPI-SSW, Affinity in Action, Madison WI

This workshop will provide participants with a broad understanding of current research regarding Relational Aggression (RA)--often called female bullying--its etiology, and effects. It offers practical lessons and creative interventions ready to be implemented to address RA. Discussion of the link between RA and the bio-psychosocial health of girls and women will be included, as well as the interplay of race, culture, gender and sexual identity in RA. While grounded in practical understanding and research-based solutions, the workshop also promises to be lively and fun.

25. Effects of Trauma on Brain, Behavior and Emotional Development of Children

Michele Norris, LCSW, Fort Health Care Behavioral Health Clinic, Fort Atkinson WI

This workshop looks at the developing brain in children and the impact of trauma. Whether witnessing a traumatic event or being a victim of trauma, participants will learn how the brain is affected. Although boys and girls may have similar neurobiological responses, symptoms can be manifested differently. A discussion of these differences, as well as treatment options, will be explored.

26. Promoting Behavior Change with Boys and Girls: An Introduction to Motivational Interviewing

Scott Caldwell, MS, Counseling Psychology, Connections Counseling, Madison WI

This workshop provides an overview of the evidence-and-practice basis for using Motivational Interviewing (MI) with boys and girls. We will examine how MI has developmental and gender relevance to promote change for a range of target behaviors across several "opportunistic" settings such as schools, primary care, mental health, and juvenile justice. Ways to learn MI will be discussed.