

Workshop Descriptions

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Multi-Disciplinary “Team” Child Abuse Investigation Techniques

Robert Farley

This innovative seminar addresses the investigation of child sexual abuser and looks at the “compliant victim”. The seminar also explores the strategic planning that is required in conducting a step-by-step and comprehensive investigation of the circumstances in suspected child sexual abuse cases along with accountability issues pertaining to the caretaker and other family members. The seminar then examines the identification of potential corroborating witnesses, the joint collection of essential facts and the recognition and recovery of different types of specific corroboration evidence all of which often narrow the focus of the investigation to a specific suspect, while at the same time anticipating a possible defense. Lastly, the seminar identifies the roles and responsibilities of all of the members of the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) while stressing the importance of information sharing during an investigation.

Medical Issues for the Non-Medical Team

Richard Kaplan

This workshop will cover the role of the medical provider, recognition of abusive cutaneous injuries and the importance of team work.

Real Treatment for Sexually Abused Kids

Tamara Hillard

You have read the books, but now there is a real child in your office! Now what? Based on the “evidence based practice”, Trauma focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, this presentation provides creative and relationship-based intervention ideas for working with sexually abused children. Tamara offers real ideas for how to engage children and explore the hidden beliefs and misperceptions that can follow a child into adulthood and limit healing. Topics will include how to engage parents and help them to be support agents for their children, while also creating an atmosphere of trust and acceptance in the child-therapist relationship.

Responding to Child Abductions

Deputy Chief William Brooks

Fortunately, abductions of children are relatively rare in Massachusetts. But when they occur, the police response must be rapid, thorough and coordinated. In 2006, the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council, a consortium serving 43 communities in eastern Massachusetts, formed a Child Abduction Response Team (CART). CARTs were first developed in Florida in 2004 and are now in use throughout the United States. The Metro-LEC CART is staffed by 35 police detectives who have all received advanced training in the investigation of abducted children. The team has researched and developed protocols that designed to facilitate rapid and organized investigations into these cases.

Vicarious Traumatization, Transference, Counter Transference Dynamics Characteristic of Psychologically Traumatized Children/Adolescents: Implications in Clinical Practice

Dr. Frank Pescosolido

This workshop is intended to provide a trauma-based theoretical framework that CMHPs are normatively at risk to experience, both as practitioners and as individuals. The psychological life perceptions that traumatized youth endure can begin, paradoxically, to trigger a similar professional parallel response within CMHPs i.e., helplessness, hopelessness, injustice, despair. In conclusion, this workshop will highlight the integration between well established clinical literature and the pragmatics of providing clinical and, milieu services to this most challenging youth population.

Characteristics of Sex Offenders

Stephanie Smith

Investigations and prosecutions of sex offenders can be more effective if we take into consideration the offender's pattern. Not every pedophile is a criminal because not every pedophile actually indulges the paraphilia while all child molesters are criminals though they may not be pedophiles. Confused yet? If so, this workshop is for you. We'll talk about offender types and clarify the differences identified by researchers/therapists between rapists/child molesters/pedophiles as well as reviewing what we know so far about online offenders and how they fit into the category of sex offenders.

Public and Permanent: How to Prevent Digital Problems and Exploitation

Richard Guerry

This award winning and nationally acclaimed Live Event provides digital citizens with a greater awareness of negative irresponsible and malicious digital behaviors and trends and the method to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of a cyber-crime, bullying or digital exploitation.

Identifying Abuse & Neglect in Children Whose Families are Affected by Chemical Dependence

Dr. John Seasock

This presentation is designed to provide interdisciplinary professionals, parents and caregivers working with children on the symptomology of child abuse and neglect that correlates with various illicit and legally abused chemical substances. By understanding how a caregiver's lifestyle, performance and decisions are affected by specific substances, one can become better in the detection of specific form of child maltreatment.

The Role of Playfulness in Healing & Strengthening Children Deeply Impacted by Trauma

Steven Gross

This workshop will explore playfulness as a basic, adaptive human trait and how it can be nurture in practice to foster the healthy social and emotional development of children and families whose lives have been deeply impacted by acute and /or chronic poverty, violence or illness.

Exploring the Relationship between Childhood Sexual Abuse and Suicide

Tim Lineaweaver

This workshop will look closely at the link between childhood sexual abuse and suicide to help attendees recognize that sexual abuse is a significant risk factor. The workshop will also look at the phenomenon of suicide across the lifespan in the region and will highlight current regional awareness and prevention efforts.

Child Pornography Collectors ARE Sex Offenders

Stephanie Smith

Too often cases involving “only” the possession of child pornography are viewed as “only” possession of contraband. This presentation will discuss the need for a broader view and additional investigative steps that should be considered. Also included is a literature review of studies addressing the offending patterns of “collectors” and considers why these individuals should be viewed as sex offenders even without credible evidence of their own commission of an offline (contact) offense.

Friday, September 16, 2011

Working with the Non-Offending Caretaker

Maria Gallagher

This workshop will offer participants an opportunity to understand common reactions of non-offending caregivers after the disclosure of child sexual abuse, their role as the abuse was happening and how to effectively engage NOC in the investigation/prosecution phase and as part of the recovery process.

Viewing & Discussion of “Very Young Girls” an Exposé on Human Trafficking

Beth Biro

Very Young Girls is a searing documentary about the commercial sexual exploitation of America’s youth. Media often focuses on the international trafficking of children and sex tourism but few illuminate the devastating and sinister grip that commercial sexual exploitation has on our own communities. Come watch this compelling and raw documentary and see first-hand, the faces, struggles and the tears of actual exploited youth. There will be time for question and answer.

Testifying in Court: Learning to Love Being a Witness

Stephanie Smith

This workshop will cover the upfront preparation necessary to present effective testimony in child maltreatment cases. Discussion will include suggestions for establishing your expertise to the jury and how to handle yourself (and defense counsel) during cross-examination. Primarily intended for those who are new to presenting courtroom testimony or still find themselves stressed out by their time on the stand.

Sexual Behavior Problems in Children

Dr. Patti Van Eys

This workshop will offer developmental information on childhood sexual behaviors concentrating on what is normative versus what is problematic for children ages 2-12. Problematic sexual behaviors will be categorized by presenting dynamics and possible etiologies. Participants will learn how to differentiate more serious, entrenched problems from those considered more “reactive” and typically more transitory if properly treated. Issues of assessment and placement for these children will also be discussed.

Advanced Trauma Intervention for Adolescents with Co-Occurring Mental Health Disorders

John Seasock

This presentation is designed to educate its participants on the provision of integrated Mental Health/Trauma interventions for adolescence who currently are diagnosed with Attention Deficit and Disruptive Behavior Disorders, Mood Disorders, and Anxiety Disorders. The interactive effects and related symptom profile of traumatic reaction and these mental health difficulties will be outlined.

Our Children are NOT for Sale: Specialized Investigation & Collaboration

Sergeant Pi Heseltine & Beth Biro

Attendees will get an overview of what human trafficking is, ways to identify and address the victims and a look at the systemic challenges practitioners face when addressing prostituted child cases.

Core Medical Issues in Child Maltreatment: Miscellaneous Abuse

Richard Kaplan

This workshop will cover abusive fractures and child sexual abuse.

Child Exploitation via Media and Technology

Richard Love

Participants will learn how Offenders use technology to groom and sexually offend child victims. They will also be exposed to the various Social Networking Sites they use and prevention methods. Actual case examples will be used.

The Neurobiology of Child Maltreatment: Developmental Trauma Disorder

Dr. Patti Van Eys

Through the lens of a clinical scenario of a 5 year old girl with a history of profound neglect and abuse, the presenter takes participants through the compelling story of the developing brain in the midst of complex developmental trauma. Current science regarding the impact of maltreatment trauma on the architecture and chemistry of the developing brain reviewed.

Crime Scene Investigations and Criminalistics

Jessica Robidoux

This workshop will provide an overview of the Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory's different units and their functions. Chemist duties at a crime scene including documentation, identification, preservation and collection of evidence will be discussed. The workshop will also go over what types of biological and chemical tests we can perform both on scene and in the Criminalistics lab as well as what types of samples are suitable for DNA analysis.

A Pebble in the Pond: Factors in Multi Generational, Childhood Sexual Abuse Victimization

Tamara Hillard

This presentation addresses the phenomenon of "second generation" child sexual abuse victimization. Psychological factors, incidence rates, and finding a window of therapeutic opportunity amidst the fallout will be discussed.

Project Rebirth

Robin Stern

Participants will view a trailer for the documentary feature film "Rebirth" and have the opportunity to reflect on their own experience of September 11. We will discuss 'old' and 'new' ways of looking at the process of grief, recovery and resilience. Participants will also hear the stories behind both the film and the book "Project Rebirth" and learn about 4 other people, not in the documentary, but also featured in the book. (Books and DVD's will be on sale at the conference.)