

Texas Association for  
Marriage and Family Therapy  
2019 Annual Conference



February 28-March 2, 2019  
Austin, TX

CONFERENCE PROGRAM



# DO YOU BACK FAMILY PAC?

## Why Support Family PAC?

Family PAC is the political action committee for the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. It is the political muscle for MFT professionals in Texas state government. The money you invest in Family PAC helps fund the campaigns of candidates for the Texas Legislature and statewide offices who are supportive of marriage and family therapy. The PAC can also support those who hold key positions on committees that influence legislation in these areas. Family PAC is your tool to help shape and protect your practice and the welfare of your clients.

## How does the drawing work?

For every \$25 investment, you will earn one ticket for entry into the raffle; limit of 8 tickets per person.

# VISIT THE FAMILY PAC TABLE AND DONATE TO WIN!

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membership now open!

# TAMFT

Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

**FOUNDING MEMBERS**

**\$200**

**(AVAILABLE UNTIL DEC. 31, 2019)**

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS (CLINICAL FELLOWS, LMFTS)**

**\$150/YEAR**

**NEW PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS (LMFTAS, PRE-CLINICAL)**

**\$100/YEAR**

**SUPPORTER MEMBERS**

**\$75/YEAR**

**STUDENT MEMBERS**

**\$50/YEAR**

stop by the registration table to update  
or purchase your new membership!

# WELCOME

Dear TAMFT Members,

Welcome to the 2019 TAMFT annual conference. I am excited to welcome you in what has shaped up to be a groundbreaking year for our organization. Last year, we were excited to host Esther Perel and Dr. Doug Braun-Harvey as our keynote speakers on topics related to sexuality and relationships. This year, we are just as thrilled to bring you Dr. Donald Meichenbaum and Dr. Jeffrey Yarvis to discuss the impact of complex trauma.

Trauma is a wide-ranging topic that affects many of the populations we serve. Every mental health discipline in the past 20 years has emerged with a better understanding of the role that trauma recovery plays in the lives of people across the world. Marriage and family therapists serve individuals, couples, and families who struggle to navigate the scope of trauma as it organizes relationship dynamics. This year, we aim to increase our collective conscience regarding trauma and its influence.

Your board has been working diligently over the past several years to appropriately adjust to significant changes happening in our organization. Two years ago, we made the decision to move forward with AAMFT as an independent affiliate. We made this decision to stay in solidarity with our parent organization, capitalizing on the strengths of our affiliation with AAMFT while retaining our independence. Over the past year, this new relationship allowed us to project the financial implications of this change. It became clear that our financial future as an independent affiliate was unsustainable. The board had a new decision: Enter into an uncertain future as a truly independent organization, or head toward a certain future of financial unsustainability. Early this month, the membership voted to create a new independent TAMFT. Over the course of several months, we developed a business plan and operating model to determine whether independence from AAMFT was possible. We discovered it was more than possible with new recruitment and marketing strategies, which we are excited to share this week.

We take this change very seriously and welcome concerns, questions, celebrations, and input. Now more than ever, we need TAMFT members to engage in leadership. Consider volunteering for a committee or running for a board position in upcoming elections. We need everyone to participate so that we can continue to provide the same great benefits we've always provided while growing into many more. We are humbled and grateful by your trust, and we're excited to lead you into a bright future ahead.

Enjoy this year's conference!

Sincerely,



Mathis V. Kennington, Ph.D., LMFT-S, CST  
President  
Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy



# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## *Thursday, February 28, 2019*

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.: Registration Open  
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Day at the Dome, Texas State Capitol  
12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.: Registration Open  
2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.: Exhibits Open  
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.: Workshops  
3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.: Conference Opening Keynote  
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.: LMFTA and TSAMFT Meetings  
5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.: Welcome Reception  
(See p. 11 for details and workshop listings)

## *Friday, March 1, 2019*

7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: Registration & Exhibit Space Open  
7:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.: Coffee & Connecting With Exhibitors  
8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Keynote  
(Break from 10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.)  
12:00 p.m.-12:15 p.m.: Break/Exhibits  
12:15 p.m.-2:00 p.m.: TAMFT Luncheon & Business Meeting  
2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.: Break/Exhibits  
2:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.: Workshops  
3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.: Break/Exhibits  
4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.: Workshops  
5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.: Poster Presentations and Reception  
(See p. 14 for details and workshop listings)

## *Saturday, March 2, 2019*

7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Registration Open

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.: Coffee & Connecting With Exhibitors

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Exhibits Open

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.: Workshops

11:00 a.m.-11:15 p.m.: Break/Exhibits

11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Boxed Lunch Provided

1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.: Workshops

2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.: Break/Exhibits

3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.: Workshops

(See p. 21 for details and workshop listings)

### **QUESTIONS?**

Check out the conference app at

**<https://tamft2019.sched.com/>**

or see the registration desk in the  
Skylight Foyer for assistance.

# In Fort Worth This Fall!

## NCFR Annual Conference

Nov. 20–23, 2019 | Omni Fort Worth Hotel

*The premier conference on **family** research, teaching, and practice*

**Sessions for Family Therapists + NBCC Credit**

FORT WORTH STOCK YARDS

**Proposals Due  
March 4**

**Learn More:  
[ncfr.org/conference](http://ncfr.org/conference)**

## Family Therapists at NCFR 2019

NCFR's **Family Therapy Section** is focusing on presentations that:

- develop and test clinical theories;
- create and evaluate therapeutic interventions; and
- improve the training and supervision of couple and family therapists.

*NCFR has been approved by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP #5984.*

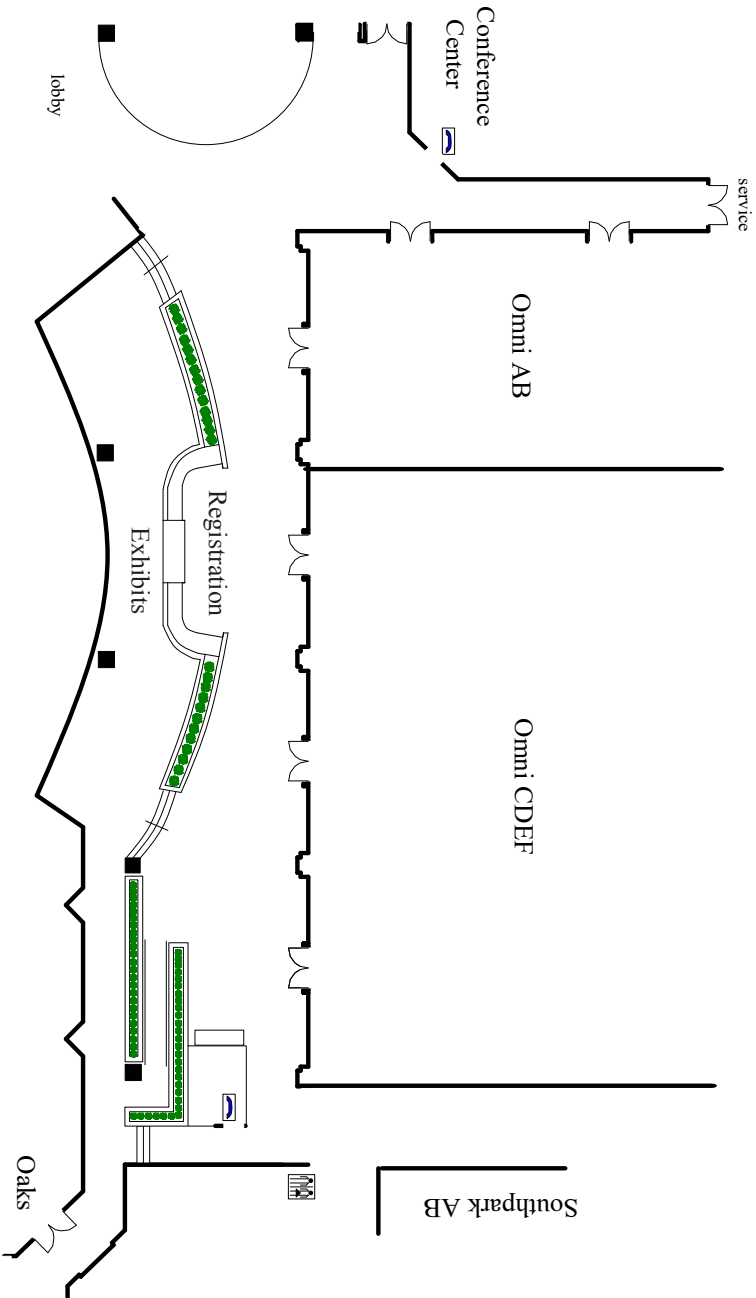
## Join Your Colleagues!

- **Learn the latest and best** in family-related research, theory, teaching, and practice
- **Exchange ideas and resources** with others who share your interests
- **Hear interdisciplinary perspectives**
- **Make lasting connections**, professional and personal

**Sign up at [ncfr.org/TAMFT](http://ncfr.org/TAMFT)  
to receive more conference information!**



# MAP OF HOTEL



# INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW

## *Registration and Information*

Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

## *Where to Park*

Free self-parking is available at the Omni Hotel.

## *Where to Eat*

Coffee and light breakfast will be available Friday (7:30 a.m.) and Saturday (8:00 a.m.) mornings. Full breakfast is available for purchase at the Omni restaurant. Lunch is provided both Friday and Saturday to attendees, with a boxed lunch option on Saturday.

## *Conference Handouts*

When provided, digital handouts are available on the conference app, with each session's information. See p. 9 for app details.

## *How to Get Credit*

Up to 15 CEUs may be gained by conference attendance. Attendees must check in to sessions with the volunteers at the doors to each room. Information on downloading CEU certificates/records will be sent to attendees approximately 4-6 weeks post-conference.

*It is your responsibility to ensure you are checked in to each session to gain credit; if you feel you have missed a check-in, please visit the Registration Desk.*

# Conference App

**MOBILE APP:** DOWNLOAD SCHED FROM APP STORE/GOOGLE PLAY, OPEN APP AND SEARCH FOR TAMFT2019.

**WEB APP:** [HTTPS://TAMFT2019.SCHED.COM](https://tamft2019.sched.com)

# Conference Wi-Fi

**USERNAME:** TAMFT2019  
**PASSWORD:** TAMFT2019

To access, select the OmniMEETING wi-fi option, then open any webpage in your browser. Enter the above (case-sensitive) username and password, agree to the Terms & Conditions, and connect!

**QUESTIONS? SEE THE REGISTRATION DESK FOR HELP!**

## Get Social

Follow TAMFT, interact with us and fellow attendees, post your photos and comments, and don't forget to tag #TAMFT2019 and #TAMFT



@tamft



facebook.com/TxAMFT

PHOTO RELEASE: TAMFT PHOTOGRAPHS EVENTS AND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO USE THE PHOTOS FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES.

# THURSDAY SCHEDULE

*February 28, 2019*

**8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.**

Registration Open

**9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Day at the Dome, Texas State Capitol  
(p. 11)

**12:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.**

Registration Open

**2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

Exhibits Open (p. 26)

**2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.**

Workshops (p. 12)

**3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.**

Conference Opening and Keynote:

*The Intimacy of Trauma:*

*Reintegrating America's Warriors and  
the Subtleties of Traumatic Stress.*

*Lessons for the LMFT on Warriors and  
Their Families*

Jeffrey S. Yarvis, Ph.D. (p. 13)

**5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.**

LMFTA Meeting, Southpark AB  
TSAMFT Meeting, The Oaks

**5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

Welcome Reception (p. 11)

# DAY AT THE DOME

9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

MEET IN OMNI AB AT 9:00 A.M.

BUSES LEAVE 10:00 A.M. SHARP!



## *Conference Kick-Off & Welcome Reception*

**THURSDAY 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.**

**OMNI CDEF**

Join your peers for hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and an opportunity to catch up and network to kick off this year's conference!

# WORKSHOPS

Thursday | 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

## Fostering Family Resiliency After a Failed Suicide Attempt

### Omni AB

This session will explore the dynamics of suicide attempts within the family system including feelings of betrayal, anger, and forgiveness. Attendees will explore their own beliefs and discomfort regarding suicide and walk away with at least three experiential activities to build resiliency within the recovering family.

**Renee Turner** and **Monique Hannon**, *University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*

## Infertility: The Dirty Word in Family Building

### Conference Center

Infertility is a feared word for individuals hoping to build a family. Clinicians working with patients who may be experiencing infertility need a diverse set of skills. This workshop will provide practical tools and leave clinicians feeling empowered to walk alongside their clients during this journey.

**Emily Morehead**, *The Gladney Center for Adoption*

## The #MeToo Movement Analyzed: What Therapists Need to Know

### Southpark AB

There are specific tools to use when your clients come forward with stories of past sexual assault, and there are techniques to use as they are triggered over and over by the news and their social media. We explore these in our presentation on our #MeToo research.

**Lisa Powell**, *Abilene Christian University*, and **Wendy Aporta**, *Bearings Therapy*

## A Miracle Sexual Encounter: Enhancing Marital Relationships of Survivors

### The Oaks

Believe in Sexual Miracles using SFBT's "Miracle Question" with low sexual satisfaction and sexual abuse. The couple engages in dialogue that explores sex in a mutual, hopeful, and helpful way. Outcomes show a re-experiencing of sex absent of the traumatic experience that had before impeded on their sexual relationship.

**Bianca Mickan**, *Texas Wesleyan University*

## Using Contextual Therapy to Treat Intergenerational Trauma

### Omni CDEF

Contextual family therapy (CFT) can guide clinicians working with families affected by intergenerational trauma. In this workshop, we discuss the primary challenges in treating intergenerational trauma; review current research and statistics; provide an overview of CFT; and practice using innovative CFT interventions and tools to treat families affected by intergenerational trauma.

**Douglas McPhee** and **Cameron Brown**, *Texas Tech University*



3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m. | Omni CDEF

*Keynote*

# THE INTIMACY OF TRAUMA: REINTEGRATING AMERICA'S WARRIORS AND THE SUBTLETIES OF TRAUMATIC STRESS



*Col. Jeffrey S. Yarvis, Ph.D.*

Much attention is given to returning veterans and war-induced syndromes such as PTSD. Indeed, an estimated 10%-20% of returning soldiers will have PTSD. However, what about the other 80%-90%? What are their experiences, and are those experiences clinically relevant or indicative of psychosocial problems? Recently a growing literature addressing the issue of subthreshold posttraumatic stress disorder has appeared. However, only a small portion of this growing literature base represents empirical investigations of subthreshold PTSD and its implications. Reliance on diagnostic models of psychiatric disorders has led to a lack of investigation of the posttraumatic sequelae falling short of criteria for PTSD and limited the way clinicians interact with returning veterans. This very intimate presentation will discuss the subtle aspects of coming home and the nature of subclinical presentation and what soldiers and LMFTs and other caregivers should concern themselves with.

## **About Col. Yarvis**

COL Jeffrey S. Yarvis, Ph.D., LCSW, BCD, ACSW, is a proven senior leader in executive medicine, clinician, educator, and well-published social work and military scholar in the field of psychological trauma for more than 30 years. He has practiced internationally with disaster, domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse, accident, and war-induced trauma across many different cultures and populations. He has received numerous military decorations to include the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Action Badge, and the Order of Military Medical Merit. COL Yarvis is currently adjunct faculty for University of Southern California Doctoral Program in Social Work, along with programs at Texas State University, Texas A&M University-Central Texas and University of Texas Health Sciences Center-San Antonio. He is the first social worker to command an Army hospital and Medical Brigade.

# FRIDAY SCHEDULE

*March 1, 2019*

**7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**Registration & Exhibit Space Open**

**7:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.**

**Coffee & Connecting With Exhibitors  
(Light breakfast provided)**

**8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Keynote: Trauma & Resilience:  
A Lifespan Treatment Perspective  
Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.  
(Break from 10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.;  
p. 15)**

**12:00 p.m.-12:15 p.m.**

**Break/Exhibits**

**12:15 p.m.-2:00 p.m.**

**TAMFT Luncheon &  
Business Meeting (p. 16)**

**2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.**

**Break/Exhibits**

**2:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.**

**Workshops (p. 17)**

**3:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

**Break/Exhibits**

**4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**

**Workshops (p. 18)**

**5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

**Poster Presentations & Reception  
(p. 19)**



8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Omni CDEF

*Keynote*

# TRAUMA & RESILIENCE: A LIFESPAN TREATMENT PERSPECTIVE



*Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D.*

In the aftermath of traumatic and victimizing experiences, most individuals are impacted. But, some 75% go onto evidence resilience, while 25% develop PTSD, co-occurring disorders, and adjustment difficulties. This presentation will discuss what distinguishes these two groups and the implications for psychotherapeutic interventions. Dr. Meichenbaum will take a lifespan perspective and highlight how social supports and strengths-based constructive psychotherapy and spirituality-based approaches can be used to bolster resilience.

**NEW** to this year's conference: Dr. Meichenbaum will do a LIVE session after his keynote to demonstrate his work with families dealing with trauma.

## **About Dr. Meichenbaum**

Donald Meichenbaum, Ph.D., is Distinguished Professor Emeritus from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, from which he took early retirement 20 years ago. He is presently Research Director of the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention in Miami, FL (see [www.melissainstitute.org](http://www.melissainstitute.org)). One of the founders of cognitive behavior therapy, he was voted "one of the ten most influential psychotherapists of the 20th century" by *American Psychologist*. He has received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Clinical Division of the American Psychological Association and he was Honorary President of the Canadian Psychological Association. He has presented in all 50 U.S. states and internationally. He has published extensively and his two latest books are *Roadmap to Resilience* and *The Evolution of Cognitive Behavior Therapy: A Personal and Professional Journey With Don Meichenbaum*. His presentations are noted for the combination of critical-mindedness, practical clinical interventions, and humor.

# TAMFT BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCHEON

**FRIDAY 12:15 P.M.-2:00 P.M.**

**OMNI CDEF**

Hear from the TAMFT board about the future of TAMFT, get information on the Family PAC, and celebrate your peers receiving this year's TAMFT Awards.

*Congratulations to the 2019 Award Winners!*

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Lisa Powell

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Carly Brock

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

Rachel Koppa

**SUSAN SPEIGHT GOVERNMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Mathis Kennington

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Anna Beth Benningfield

**BOARD SERVICE AWARDS**

Rebekah Scott and Jeanene Smith

# WORKSHOPS

**Friday | 2:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.**

## **Boosting Resilience in LGBTQ Clients While Maintaining Ethical Standards**

### **The Oaks**

What steps do we need to follow with the LGBTQ community to boost resilience? We will consider schools, parenting programs, and clinical settings in terms of trauma-focused family therapy interventions. We will facilitate a discussion and engage participants in an activity designed to promote increased understanding of ethical standards.

***Violeta Kadieva, Misti Sparks, and Mike Bishop, Texas Wesleyan University***

## **A Different Picture: Working with Adoptive and Foster Families**

### **Conference Center**

Adoptive and foster families come with a different picture. During this presentation participants will learn how the brain and body respond to toxic stress, abuse and neglect. Participants will learn practical tools and skills to help families engage in attachment based parenting and see the needs behind the behaviors.

***Emily Morehead, The Gladney Center for Adoption***

## **Pathways To Healing Sexual Trauma: Exploring Resiliency, Social Capital and Systemic Therapies**

### **Omni AB**

This workshop helps professionals identify the impact of sexual abuse on relationships, explore systemic therapies that are effective in repairing posttrauma intimate connections, and provide education on social capital network and how resiliency promotes healing.

***Janeisha Anderson-LaBranch, Discovering Bliss Counseling, and Lila Stephenson, Wholesome Intimacy***

## **Trauma Focused CBT: A Systemic & Integrated Approach**

### **Omni CDEF**

The transition from university clinics to community-based practice can be difficult for emerging professionals. The requirement to incorporate CBT in treatment plans and case notes can be overwhelming. This workshop will provide clinicians with practical tools for incorporating CBT with modern and post modern MFT models when treating trauma.

***Cameron Brown, Natira Mullet, and Lindsey Hawkins, Texas Tech University***

## **Veteran Families in Transition: Fostering Resiliency**

### **Southpark AB**

This workshop will explore the impact of military transitions on post 9/11 combat veterans and their families. Clinicians will learn about family therapy modalities that foster resiliency and explore trauma in military and veteran families. Participants will observe and participate in experiential activities that address military children's responses to transitions.

***Christina Watts-Figueroa and Maria Dudley, Yellow Ribbon Counseling PLLC***

# WORKSHOPS

Friday | 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

## Trauma and Resilience Through the Postmodern Lens

**Omni CDEF**

This presentation explores trauma, resilience, and psychotherapy through the postmodern lens. Beginning with a lecture examining these concepts as social constructions within historical context, attendees will leave with deconstructive skills they can implement into their practice. Presenters will demonstrate the application of these practices, and attendees will have opportunities to reflect in small groups.

**Candace Runaas**, *Interface-Samaritan Counseling Center*, **Skeetz Edinger**, *Skeetz Edinger Family Therapy*, **Stephanie Zepeda**, *Our Lady of the Lake University*, and **Aileen Renteria**, *The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD*

## Reflecting Practices in Critical Incident Debriefing

**Omni AB**

Following our response to the Santa Fe school shooting, we needed to support our team. We had several opportunities for the team to debrief with others. This format offered valuable feedback and validation. After describing this process, we will discuss and demonstrate. Some graphic details may be disclosed.

**Adriana Gil-Wilkerson**, **Susan Levin**, **Joanna Robertson**, and **Jessica Gonzalez**, *Houston Galveston Institute*

## A Relational Perspective of Incest: Explanation & Treatment

**Southpark AB**

This presentation will focus on conceptualizing incest based on a combination of theories (i.e., family systems, attachment, and betrayal trauma). Further, we will describe case examples of treatment for adult female survivors of incest with long-term abuse within their families. Treatment will include consideration of dissociative disorders associated with incest.

**David Lawson** and **Susan Henderson**, *Sam Houston State University*

## Working With Couples to End Violence

**The Oaks**

This session has two parts: The first half explores a model of how couples end violence in their relationship based on interviews with formerly violent couples, and the second half provides examples of how therapists can safely apply this model conjointly, individually, and with groups.

**Lisa Merchant**, *Abilene Christian University*

## Trauma & Transgender: Integrated Collaboration

**Conference Center**

Transgender individuals experience trauma by violence, stigma, and lack of access to healthcare (Richmond et al., 2012). Family therapy offers a place to heal trauma and access the healthcare system (Bernal & Coolhart, 2012). Workshop experiential activities allow the therapist to practice letter writing for transgender health services.

**Michelle Dalton** and **Aaron Norton**, *Texas Woman's University*

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Friday | 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Please join us for a reception featuring this year's  
Poster Presentations.

- ***Access to Resources Across Race: A Longitudinal Study*** by Cydney Schleiden, Abby Rhynehart, Shelby Sewell, Jared Hawkins, and Kristy Soloski
- ***Adolescent Victims in Teen Dating Relationships: A Moderation Analysis of Violence*** by Lindsey Hawkins, Julie Gardenhire, Dane Eggleston, and Cameron Brown
- ***All-Star Couples: Professional Athletes and Successful Marriages*** by Stephen Fife
- ***As the Lights Fade: A Grounded Theory of Athletes*** by Dane Eggleston, Lindsey Hawkins, and Stephen Fife
- ***Assessment and Treatment of Siblings of Special Needs Children*** by John Loh, Renee Raizen, Brittany Lightfoot, and Stefanie Kuhn
- ***Bullying and Health: A Moderation Analysis With Racial-Ethnic Minority Teenagers*** by Chloe Goad, Abby Rhynehart, Taralyn Hemphill, and Hailey Snyder
- ***Co-Therapy: Reducing Therapist Secondary Trauma and Burnout*** by Veronica Kuhn, Mary Hannah Key, Jennifer Kendall, and Heather Koehl
- ***Common Factors in MFT: A Deductive Qualitative Analysis*** by Stephen Fife, Carissa D'Aniello, Dane Eggleston, and Daniel Sanders
- ***Communication Patterns in Couples Experiencing IPV*** by Douglas Smith, Adam Jones, Neli Morris, and Laura Eichenberger
- ***The Effects of Pornography on Christian Ministers' Personal and Professional Lives*** by Charles Nix
- ***The Father's Experience: Raising a Child With Autism Spectrum Disorder*** by Jacob Sandoval and Erika Sabb
- ***Female Perpetration and Adverse Childhood Experiences*** by Maryann Holt, Kristen Blandford, and Ginny Piletere
- ***Hobbies: Protection for Romantic Relationships From Violence Exposure*** by Danielle Lauricella, David Johnson, and Kristy Soloski
- ***The Impact Cochlear Implants Have on Adult-Children of the Deaf and Hearing Community*** by Nicole Harlan, Keegan Alley, and Alex Carrasco

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- ***Marital Satisfaction in Remarried Couples and The Link to Warmer Parental Relationship and Parental Alliance*** by Shaye Hicks, Tiari Contreras, Sarah Rathbun, and Matthew Brown
- ***Mental Illness, Ambiguous Loss, and Communicative Resilience in Families*** by Jessica Moore
- ***MFTs and Spinal Cord Injuries: Helping Families Through Physical Trauma*** by Andrea Barger and Stephanie Gabel-Zepeda
- ***Post-Separation Co-Parenting Among Couples With History of Intimate Partner Violence*** by Pisinee Dangwung, Carolyn Tubbs, and Cristian Avila
- ***Religion and Spirituality as Factors in Intimate Relationships—A Texas Study*** by Sara Walker and Wen-Mei Chou
- ***Self-Esteem Predicting Help-Seeking Behavior*** by Derek Holyoak
- ***Teens, Trauma, and Resilience*** by Peter Beckman, Katharyn Lunos Ply, Sarah Behrens, and Natira Mullet
- ***Therapeutic Interventions for Caribbean Families Who Have Experienced Trauma*** by Karina Donald and Linda Brock
- ***Treatment Seeking Behaviors Across Race*** by Natira Mullet, Katrina Flores, Michael Daniels, and Kaily Moore
- ***Understanding the Risk Factors of Familicide in Male Perpetrators: Implications for Assessment and Prevention*** by Brittany Kingston, Cindy Rios, Christine Nguyen, and Matthew Brown
- ***Using Collaborative Practices With Trauma*** by Lindsay McCarthy and Catherine King
- ***A Way of Being: Incorporating Use of Self Into Training Programs*** by Corin Mines and Tara Signs

*Thank you to our  
poster presentation sponsors!*



DRIFTWOOD  
courageous recovery



Texas  
Wesleyan  
UNIVERSITY

*March 2, 2019*

**7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Registration Open

**8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.**

Coffee & Connecting With Exhibitors  
(Light breakfast provided)

**8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Exhibits Open

**9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

Workshops (p. 22)

**11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.**

Break/Exhibits

**11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Boxed Lunch Provided

**11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Learn@Lunch: Sticky Wickets  
in Supervision (p. 23)

**1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.**

Workshops (p. 24)

**2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.**

Break/Exhibits

**3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

Workshops (p. 25)

# SATURDAY SCHEDULE

# WORKSHOPS

**Saturday | 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

## **Hurricane Harvey to Santa Fe School Shooting: Communities Attempting Resilience**

### **The Oaks**

Thirteen million people were affected by Hurricane Harvey. Shocked and displaced, students in Santa Fe returned to school after the May 18, 2018, tragedy. This presentation will present ideas for turning tragedy into prevention: from federal, to state, to community, to school, to family levels.

**Deborah Higgs**, *Private Practice*

## **Mastering Technology-Assisted Therapy: How to Do It Ethically and Do It Well**

### **Omni CDEF**

This workshop aims to give more in-depth information on how to do technology assisted therapy ethically and well, including more advanced topics such as lighting, sound confidentiality, technology requirements, ethical situations, and other issues. Also, a model for technology-assisted therapy will be introduced.

**Rhiannon Beauregard**, *SexTherapy-Online, PLLC*

## **Single Sessions for Trauma Survivors**

### **Southpark AB**

Often clients walk in with post-trauma concerns. Because many only come for one session, knowledge of posttraumatic growth enhances these single sessions so clients can get back on track to living meaningful lives. This workshop provides an orientation, supported by research, designed to capitalize on posttraumatic growth in a single session.

**Monte Bobele** and **Arnold Slive**, *Our Lady of the Lake University*

## **Solid Ground: Helping Supervisees Develop a Theoretical Orientation**

### **Conference Center**

Supervising new clinicians involves advising about clients and ethical considerations, but supervisees are typically still in the midst of developing a theoretical orientation throughout supervision. This workshop will help supervisors learn how to support supervisee theoretical development, even if the chosen theory is different from that of the supervisor.

**Jason Martin**, *University of Mary Hardin-Baylor*

## **Your Resilient MFT Licensing Board (Update)**

### **Omni AB**

Current and former Board members will review new changes in the rules! Additional focus will be on record keeping and confidentiality, technology-assisted service (TAS), and supervision. Presenters will describe TSBEMFT progress toward the Sunset Review Commission's management actions and the 2018 Sunset Commission recommendations for the 2019 legislative session.

**Rick Bruhn**, *Sam Houston State University*, and **Lisa Merchant**, *Abilene Christian University*



**Saturday | 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Learn@Lunch**

**Sticky Wickets in Supervision**

**Omni AB**

It is not uncommon that in the supervisory relationship things arise that are not "normal" or "common." This workshop will discuss some topics that supervisors face with their trainees, whether those trainees are part of an academic practicum or LMFT Associates. How would you work with your trainee who has a suicidal client? How would you help navigate the details if your trainee receives a subpoena for either records or to provide court testimony? How would you manage a situation if you and your trainee have personal conflicts, such as personality differences, theory or model differences, communication differences, etc.? How would you communicate with your trainee if there is an ethical or legal violation that needs to be reported to the State Board or other authorities?

*Grab your boxed lunch and join this session for supervisory credit!*

**Russ Barte**, Texas Wesleyan University



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# WORKSHOPS

**Saturday | 1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.**

## **An Attachment-Informed Approach to Adolescent Trauma Therapy**

### **Omni CDEF**

Trauma experiences during adolescence often have a profound dysregulating and destabilizing effect, which may impact the important tasks of adolescence such as identity formation, which could already be unstable depending on an adolescent's existing attachment style. Effective attachment-informed approaches may aid in mitigating the long-term effects of adolescent trauma experiences.

**Pamela Malone**, *University of Texas, Arlington*

## **EMDR: Healing Attachment Ruptures Within the Family**

### **Southpark AB**

Participants will learn about the integration of EMDR therapy using a family systems perspective. Case examples will demonstrate the application of EMDR and Attachment Theory to address attachment ruptures and build resiliency within the family system. Presenters will facilitate discussion around future implications of EMDR with children, couples, and families.

**Rhonda Galloway**, *Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Endeavors*, and **Christina Watts-Figueroa**, *Yellow-Ribbon Counseling PLLC*

## **MFT Practice Research Network: Intro and Invitation**

### **Omni AB**

The MFT-Practice Research Network is a no-cost program that helps therapists assess client progress across time. Monitoring client progress improves outcomes, facilitates better supervision, and will be necessary as insurance moves to value-based payments. Using an Internet-based system, assessments are automated, making it user-friendly for clients, therapists, and supervisors.

**Roy Bean**, **Lee Johnson**, and **Jason Whiting**, *Brigham Young University*

## **Narrative Practices With Survivors of Sexual Trauma**

### **Conference Center**

The #MeToo movement has called attention to the widespread prevalence of sexual assault. Societal discourses remain dichotomous, particularly in the realm of the sex industry, where prostitution is often viewed as a "victimless crime." Examine how narrative practices in group modality help survivors of street-based prostitution to reauthor identity.

**Layla Z. Scott**, *Private Practice*

## **Parental Alienation: Child Emotional Trauma**

### **The Oaks**

Chronic parent conflict is emotionally traumatic for children and is associated with poor psychological and developmental outcomes for children. Research on negative effects on children in situations of parental alienation and poor co-parenting will be reviewed. A comprehensive educational approach designed to increase parent knowledge and skills, as well as to increase a child's resiliency to parent conflict, will be presented.

**Mary Alvarez** and **Christine Turner**, *Resetting the Family*

**Saturday | 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

### **Evaluating a Principle-Based Sexual Health Educational Intervention**

#### **Omni AB**

Current literature indicates that MFTs are not comfortable discussing sexual topics with clients, despite their purported expertise in interpersonal and intimate relationships. Can a principle-based model of education provide a ground rules framework for MFTs to gain both knowledge and increased comfort to address sexual health issues with clients?

**Kathleen Sweeney**, *Another Solution*

### **Family and Social Support and Its Impact on Successful Reintegration and Transition: A Look at Gaps and Barriers to Utilizing Treatment Offered to Female Veterans**

#### **Southpark AB**

Attendees will learn the barriers and gaps of mental health treatment for female veterans in a recent research study. Attendees will identify patterns and acquire new ways to work with military families. The presenter will discuss findings and propose techniques to utilize with military members and their families.

**Robyn Bone**, *BUMED-Psychological Health Outreach Program*

### **Privacy Laws and Rules for Practice: Be Resilient!**

#### **Omni CDEF**

Privacy laws affecting MFT practice will be the focus of this ethics workshop, including rules for professional representation, relationships with clients, sexual misconduct, record keeping and confidentiality (including HIPAA and TX HB 300), technology-assisted services, and new procedures for processing complaints against licensees. Participants will sing-a-long to learn ethics!

**Rick Bruhn**, *Sam Houston State University*, and **Mike Miller**, *Attorney-at-Law*

### **A Space to Heal: A Curriculum-Based Approach to Birth Trauma**

#### **Southpark AB**

Providing a safe and supportive space for processing traumatic childbirth postpartum experiences presents unique challenges for therapists. This workshop will cover a basic overview of perinatal mood disorders related to birth trauma and a curriculum-based systems approach to treatment for individuals and partners.

**Lorissa Eichenberger**, *The Center for Postpartum Family Health*

### **Trauma and Sexuality: Common Issues and Treatments for Trauma-Related Sexual Concern**

#### **Conference Center**

This workshop will dive deeper into how trauma affects a person's sexual identity and sexual sense of self and how marriage and family therapists are essential treatment team members in trauma treatment. Effective treatment modalities and interventions that help to reduce the impact that trauma has on sexuality will be presented.

**Rhiannon Beauregard**, *SexTherapy-Online, PLLC*

# EXHIBITORS

## AUSTIN RECOVERY

<https://austinrecovery.org>

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*Austin Recovery is a nonprofit addiction treatment center.*

## BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MFT-PRN

<http://www.mft-prn.net>

Lee Johnson

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*The Marriage and Family Therapy Practice Research Network (MFT-PRN) is a collaborative network of clinicians, clinic administrators, and clinical researchers who are all interested in improving client outcomes. At the heart of MFT-PRN is the portal, an online tool used to facilitate ongoing assessment of clients at participating clinics.*



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## DRIFTWOOD RECOVERY

<http://www.driftwoodrecovery.com>

Jessica Tyler

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(214) 562-9317

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## INSTITUTE FOR CONNECTION AND RECOVERY

<http://www.connectionandrecovery.com>

Mark Bird

[markbird.lmft@gmail.com](mailto:markbird.lmft@gmail.com)

(214) 562-9317

*ICR provides the Certified Connection and Recovery Training with a specialization in sex/love addiction. We believe connection is at the heart of long-term recovery.*

## LA HACIENDA TREATMENT CENTER

<https://www.lahacienda.com>

David Hutts

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(830) 238-4222

*For more than 40 years, La Hacienda Treatment Center has set the standard in professional residential care facilities for alcohol and drug rehabilitation.*

## THE LAST RESORT RECOVERY CENTER

<http://lastresortrecovery.com>

Austin Berry

[austinb@lastresortrecovery.com](mailto:austinb@lastresortrecovery.com)

(713) 303-5724

*The Last Resort is an all men's detox and residential addiction treatment center. Our 51-acre ranch in Smithville is a family-owned recovery center with an emphasis on trauma.*



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## THE MENNINGER CLINIC

<https://www.menningerclinic.com>

Tyler Burnett

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(210) 289-3020

*One of the nation's top five psychiatric hospitals (U.S. News & World Report), we've been treating individuals with complex mental illness since 1925.*

## ORIGINS BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

<http://www.originsrecovery.com>

Rick Hubbard

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(214) 694-5709

*Origins Behavioral HealthCare provides comprehensive and individualized substance use disorder treatment programs and recovery support services for adults, including those with co-occurring disorders.*

## PIECES OF BALI JEWELRY

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Andi Thierry

[piecesofbali@yahoo.com](mailto:piecesofbali@yahoo.com)

(512) 940-5297

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## SAN ANTONIO ASSOCIATION OF RELATIONSHIP THERAPISTS

<http://saart-TX.org>

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*SAART is a diverse group of relational and systemic mental health professionals seeking to advance clinical practice and improve relational health in our area.*

## SIMPLEPRACTICE LEARNING

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master-arts-counseling

David Carrington

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## TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/mft/>

Sarah Faszholz

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(512) 834-6657

*Texas law charges the board with public protection. The board determines the license qualifications and enforces a code of professional ethics for license holders.*



## TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY PHD IN MFT

<http://txwes.edu/PhdMFT>

Amy Orcutt

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(817) 531-4930

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# EXHIBITORS

## TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

<https://www.twu.edu/family-sciences>

Aaron Norton

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(940) 898-2677

*Texas Woman's University offers two COAMFTE-accredited programs at its Denton campus: Master of Science in Family Therapy and Ph.D. in Family Therapy. The M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in family therapy contain the courses required by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage & Family Therapists to take the national licensing examination after completion of the degree.*

## TEXPROTECTS |

### PREVENT CHILD ABUSE TEXAS

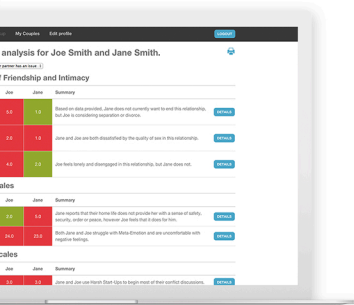
<http://texprotects.org>

Beth Cortez-Neavel

[beth@texprotects.org](mailto:beth@texprotects.org)

(512) 924-8721

*TexProtects' mission is to reduce and prevent child abuse and neglect through research, advocacy and education. We affect change by organizing and educating our members to advocate for increased investments in evidence-based child abuse prevention programs, CPS reforms, and treatment programs to heal abuse victims.*



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# NOTES



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