Offering Affordable Quality Services—No Waiting List

Located at 1919 North University Drive in Fargo.

The NDSU Family Therapy Center (FTC) continues to offer quality, responsive therapy services to individuals, couples, and families in the F-M area on an affordable sliding fee scale. Fees for the services offered at the FTC are contingent upon the clients’ income and their ability to pay. Clients are not turned down for their inability to pay.

To further accommodate the needs of current and prospective clients, the FTC is open extended hours, offering both day and evening appointments.

At this time, the FTC does not have a waiting list for services. New clients can typically schedule an appointment within a week of their initial contact with the Family Therapy Center.

Referrals are always welcome. If you would like to make a referral, or would like more information about the Family Therapy Center, please call the clinic coordinator at (701) 231-8534. You can also visit our website at www.ndsu.edu/edfs/family_therapy_center

Wyum Receives ‘Outstanding’ Award

Dena Marie Wyum, a recent graduate of the Couple & Family Therapy program, received the Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award from the department of Human Development & Family Science at North Dakota State University. Wyum was presented with this award for her research on the memorable moments of North Dakota women who attended the National Women’s Conference in 1977.

Lemer Honored for Her Work

Jessica Lemer, a second year student in the Couple and Family Therapy program, received the Outstanding Assistance to Faculty award from the department of Human Development & Family Science at North Dakota State University. Lemer won this award for her work with Dr. Beth Blodgett Salafia which includes research on eating attitudes, body image and sexual activity.

Women’s Network Recognizes Coler Hanson

Emily Coler Hanson, a third year student in the Couple & Family Therapy program, was honored by the Women’s Network of the Red River Valley. The Women’s Network recognizes 12 women and/or organizations each year for their feminist work in the community and creates a calendar to honor them. “It was a huge honor to be among the other women and organizations who were nominated,” stated Coler Hanson. Her picture will appear in the calendar for the month of July.
CFT Program Welcomes 8 New Students

Eight new students have joined the Couple & Family Therapy program this fall. Each student brings her own unique background, perspective, and interests that we know will be a great addition to our community of therapists.

**Jami Bobby**

Jami is from Casselton, ND. She received her BS in History and Women’s Studies at NDSU, with a minor in Anthropology. Jami’s interests include reading and playing with her kids. When asked why she chose the couple and family therapy program, Jami stated, “I have always wanted to be able to work with families and understand family dynamics and because there is an emphasis on social justice.”

**Molly Farrell**

Molly is from Rochester, NY. She received her BS in Social Work at SUNY Fredonia, with a minor in Psychology. Molly has a strong interest in the Labor Movement and union organizing. She also enjoys reading, music and outdoor activities, such as biking, Frisbee, soccer, and hiking. Molly’s interest in Human Development and Family Dynamics began while she was working toward her undergraduate degree. The reason she chose the Couple and Family Therapy program was because she “was drawn to the program at NDSU… [I]t’s emphasis on working toward social justice and the idea of being part of a smaller graduate program were most appealing to me.”

**Liz Johanson**

Liz is from Fridley, MN. She got her BA in Sociology at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. Some of Liz’s interests include reading, knitting, Nintendo, and going out. When asked why she chose the Couple and Family Therapy program, Liz stated, “I came to NDSU for the awesome feminist-centered social justice program. I want to be a couple and family therapist because I believe that ‘peace on Earth begins at home’.”

**Andrea Freitag**

Andrea is from Fargo, ND. She received her BS in Child Development and Family Science at NDSU, with a minor in Psychology. Andrea enjoys playing cards and board games, being outdoors, spending time with her family and friends, and laughing with them. She chose the Couple and Family Therapy program because “during my time as an undergraduate at NDSU, I discovered I had a real desire to work with and help families. I was lucky enough to spend a semester doing field experience hours at the Family Therapy Center during my last semester as an undergrad. During that time, I became enthusiastic about the social justice element of the CFT program.”

**Susan Johnson**

Susan is from Fergus Falls, MN. She got her BA in Psychology at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. Susan enjoys boating, riding bike, reading, and playing with her black lab. Susan chose the Couple and Family Therapy program for the fulfillment she believes it will provide. Her interest in family dynamics and the emphasis on feminism
8 New Students...continued

and social justice also drew her to the program.

Nicole Roberts

Nicole is from Douglas, ND. She received her BS in Child Development and Family Science at North Dakota State University, with a minor in Women’s Studies. Nicole’s favorite activities include painting, drawing, meeting new people, traveling, hiking, spiritual studies, holistic health, and laughing. She chose this program because of the social justice focus, small class sizes and the program’s COAMFTE accreditation. “I also had a great undergraduate experience at NDSU, I liked the teaching styles of the faculty and the availability of assistantships.”

Mallary Schaefer

Mallary is from Bottineau, ND. She received her BS in Psychology at North Dakota State University. Mallary enjoys scrapbooking, spending time with friends and family and watching football every Sunday afternoon. She chose the Couple and Family Therapy program because she really liked the issues the program focused on.

Kelly Wysong

Kelly, a Minneapolis, MN native, received her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Minnesota. In her free time, Kelly enjoys going for walks, being outdoors, rollerblading, shopping, and watching movies. She chose the Couple and Family Therapy program because of the social justice emphasis. “I really enjoyed learning about issues pertaining to social justice, ...and wanted to continue this in my graduate studies. I also really liked that the CFT program offers the opportunity to begin to work in the clinic during the first year.”

CFT Faculty Members Presenting at Two National Conferences

This fall, CFT faculty and students will be attending two national conferences: the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) conference in Sacramento, California, and the National Conference on Family Relations (NCFR) conference in San Francisco, California.

Between these two conferences, the Couple and Family Therapy faculty will be delivering presentations and displaying posters on various topics of research.

Dr. Kristen Benson presented a poster with Dr. Fred Piercy at the AAMFT conference. The poster is titled “A Qualitative Study of Transgender Relationships and Therapy.” At the NCFR conference, Dr. Benson will be presenting her paper, “Transgender people’s experiences with Mental Health Services”, at the “Perspectives on Therapy Use Within Sexual Minority Populations” roundtable. CFT faculty Dr. Christi McGeorge and Dr. Tom Carlson will also be presenting at this roundtable: “Becoming an LGB Affirmative Heterosexual Therapist: A Three Step Model.

Carlson and McGeorge also delivered a presentation with CFT alum Monica Rock. The title of their presentation is, “CFT Students’ Beliefs about Sexual Orientation and Therapy.” They presented this research at the AAMFT and NCFR conference. McGeorge and Carlson will also be presenting a poster with colleague Heather Guttormson at both conferences. The poster will outline their research on “Promoting Equality in Couples: Measuring MFT’s Competence.” McGeorge will have another poster at the AAMFT conference with CFT alum Sarah DeJean titled, “Does Gender Matter? Societal Perceptions of Single Parents.”
The CFT program has recently been reaccredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). The accreditation period lasts through 2015. Students who graduate from a COAMFTE accredited program meet the educational requirements for licensure in all 50 states.

CFT Faculty members Dr. Christi McGeorge and Dr. Tom Carlson, along with colleague Heather Guttormson, published their research on “The Feminist Couple Therapy Scale: A measure of therapists’ ability to promote equality in couple relationships”. This article was accepted for publication in the Journal of Feminist Family Therapy.

The Couple & Family Therapy Master’s program prepares students to work with individuals, children, couples, and families in clinical settings. Faculty in the program are committed to preparing students to work with diverse and underserved populations. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage & Family Therapy Education and prepares students to become licensed marriage and family therapists. Graduate assistantships are available which provide a tuition waiver and a monthly stipend. Applications are due February 1st. For more information, please visit www.ndsu.edu/cdfs/cft or email Dr. Tom Stone Carlson at tom.carlson@ndsu.edu

The Family Therapy Center and the Couple and Family Therapy Program are LGBT affirmative organizations.