



# Focus on NDCA

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*Jason Marotzke, NDCA President*

Energy.... Excitement... These are the words that I am bringing back from this year's ACA Leadership Institute. There is something about coming together and learning from others what they find to have great impacts in their states. There are so many opportunities out there that one just has to tap into the excitement that others are giving off... sometimes it is a little stream and other times it is a raging river.

Think back to a time where you had an infectious excitement about something, maybe it was a trip, a movie, a celebration, or an accomplishment. Were you able to use this energy to push through the challenges of travel, the wait in the movie line, the preparation and clean up from the celebration or the challenges of reaching and restating the accomplishment? I am guessing that answer is yes because you feel rewarded by it or it is worth those challenges. Coming from the ACA Leadership this same energy and excitement from others and their accomplishments feeds the drive to do better for those around us. We want to take what is good and make it great, what is lacking we want to create, and what we haven't thought of we want to plan it out when we get home.

Dr. Thelma Duffey is into her presidency and has 2 major initiatives for the year that we are called upon to work on. The first is the initiative of advocacy for counselors. This is an issue that I have heard so much about over the past couple of years and usually that is where it ends, with the statement "we need to advocate for our profession." That is great but where is the

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energy, excitement, or plan? Well guess what, it's here! With the creation of the task force chaired by Heather Trepal. They are putting together the toolkits for us to have the plan, which, let's face it is where most of us stop with this action. We only need to take it and add our own level of energy and excitement to it.

The second initiative that we are working toward this year is on Bullying/Relationship Aggression. This task force is being chaired by Jen Curry. Just like the Advocacy task force, we will be receiving toolkits to help our work in this area, which is a large one. No matter what setting you are in, we work with clients at every age on these issues. It may be that elementary student that is not transitioning well, or high school or college student coming to terms with who they are that brings the harassment their way, an employee being harassed in the workplace or even a grandparent reentering the workforce later in life experiencing generational bullying. It can be found in so many settings and have such a devastating impact on those individuals experiencing it. When we look at ourselves, at some point in our lives we have experienced in at some level as well and now we are charged with helping others through it. A very large task that takes lots of energy and excitement to bring more to this calling.

Locally, the NDCA board this summer approved sending 2 individuals to the 2016 ACA National Conference in Montreal Canada. This will take place at the end of March. What we ask to those looking to apply for this opportunity: you will be expected to help on committee work this year for NDCA and present at our Midwinter Conference. If you have more questions about this great opportunity, please feel free to contact me at Jason.Marotzke@gmail.com and I will be more than happy to give you additional information as well as the link for the application. I would like to thank the entire board for their support with this initiative.

## Calling All Nominators!

Is there someone you admire for their techniques, ideas, or actions? Please nominate them for a NDCA award! We love to present awards to those who excel in their field.

The criteria and guidelines for each award and the submission forms listed below are located on our webpage: [www.ndcounseling.org](http://www.ndcounseling.org) under Awards.

**Glenn Dolan Award** – An individual who has demonstrated able leadership, excellent rapport and service to the community, outstanding contributions to their organization

**Innovations Award** – An individual who has made innovative contributions in research or published articles in the field of counseling

**Friend of Counseling Award** – An individual who has demonstrated support for counseling in the state of North Dakota through his/her profession

**Outstanding New Professional Award** – An individual who has developed an outstanding program and demonstrates exceptional interpersonal skills

**Member Emeritus Award** – for NDCA members who have retired

Please submit award nominations by December 30, 2015 to: Rebecca Porter, Minot State University, Registrar's Office, 500 University Ave W, Minot, ND 58707 or Fax: 701-858-3386 or Email: [rebecca.porter@minotstateu.edu](mailto:rebecca.porter@minotstateu.edu)

*Rebecca Porter*

## Legislative Chair Needed

- Must be ACA member
- Keep up to date on national legislation effecting counselors
- Participate in ACA Legislative Calls
- Email NDCA Board with ACA updates
- In ND Track legislation pertaining to or might affect any NDCA divisions
- Email NDCA Board with state issues
- Provide information on NDCA to legislators
- Chair committee regarding any state legislative issue that NDCA wants to address or testify for/against
- Write Committee report prior to each board meeting
- Attend all NDCA board meetings

If interested, Contact NDCA President Jason Marotzke at [Jason.Marotzke@gmail.com](mailto:Jason.Marotzke@gmail.com)

*Jason Marotzke*

## The Red Carpet Event

Plan ahead to attend the Emerging Leader Mixer at the Mid-Winter Conference in February 2016. If you are a new member, first time attendee, or a current NDCA member looking for a leadership opportunity, this gathering is for you! This is your chance to mingle with the NDCA Board members to get your questions answered and hear more about the advantages of being involved in YOUR organization. For those who are serious about stepping up to leadership roles, there will be special drawings, snacks, and promotional fun as you learn more about how you can contribute to the continuing growth of NDCA.

\* Watch for further details at the Registration table in February! It's the Red Carpet Event where you are the STAR!

*Pam Schorsch*

## Ethics and Professional Standards

Did you know... A benefit of ACA membership is free, confidential, ethical/professional standards consultation five days a week between 8:30am and 4:30pm EST. Erin T. Shifflett, Director of Ethics (NDCA 2015 Mid-winter Conference presenter) or Michelle E. Wade, Ethics Specialist are available to discuss your concerns.

As a NDCA member and/or if you are not an ACA member, you may always contact Erin

Klingenberg, PhD; LPCC; NCC, NDCA Ethics Chair at 701-845-7424 or [erin.klingenberg@vcu.edu](mailto:erin.klingenberg@vcu.edu)

The 2014 ACA Code of Ethics is the first code that speaks to the ethics of using social media with clients. The 2014 Code replaces the 2005 edition. May be reviewed on the ACA website.

*Erin Klingenberg, NDCA Ethics Chair*

## 2016 Midwinter Conference

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The 2016 Midwinter Conference is February 14-16 at the Radisson Hotel in Bismarck. The theme this year is “Make Every Moment an Adventure”. This theme is very personal in nature because this has become my motto in life in work, family, and personal life. I see being President-Elect of the NDCA as yet another adventure in life. I would like to see everyone make this year’s conference an adventure.

I am excited to announce this year’s opening and closing speakers with potentially another speaker to be announced. This year’s opening speaker will be Dr. Jeffrey Kottler. Dr. Kottler is one of the most prolific authors in the field of counseling, psychotherapy, advocacy, and education. We are fortunate to have him present on *The Power of Stories in Counseling*. He will present on how stories are integral part of counseling and therapy and how we as counselors can be more effective, skilled and creative in the ways we approach our efforts to have impact. He will also be presenting a breakout session later that day. I am hopeful to host an informal gathering with Dr. Kottler because of his interest in gathering stories of counselors in the area. Please watch for upcoming information on the conference for information on the gathering.

Our closing speaker will Windie Jo Lazenko, the Executive Director of 4HERND and Member of the National Survivor Network. As the Executive Director of 4HERND she is bringing to light the stories of individuals involved in the human trafficking world in ND. As a survivor herself she can provide a first account story of the horror of human trafficking and the toll it has on the individual. She will be sharing insight into how we as counselors can help recognize and

help those in human trafficking throughout the state.

Our social on Sunday night looks to be a fun a night. Come prepared to have a real “adventure” with our game night. There will be various fun games and activities for the night along with a taco bar. Plan on spending Sunday night with your colleagues having fun. Monday will be an open night for you to enjoy Bismarck and make your own adventure.

The call for presentations has been sent to all members along with the various universities in the area for breakout session presenters. Please make sure to send your submissions by October 1 to be selected to be a part of the Midwinter Conference.

REMINDER to please bring your silent auction item. The silent auction will start on Sunday at noon and will go until the Awards Luncheon on Monday. We are hoping to make the silent auction a big event. The silent auction benefits our graduate student scholarship. Any item you would like to donate for the auction, please bring to the registration table at the start of the conference on Sunday.

*Stacey Meehl, President-Elect NDCA*

# AMHCA Leadership Conference

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Despite the 6 hour flight delay and the life threatening cab ride at 1 am, I enjoyed myself immensely at the Leadership Conference in Philly, PA. It was truly a gift to have been able to attend this and I thank the state of ND for sending me.

Becoming involved with AMHCA at the state level, National level as well as opening my own private practice this year, has gotten my mind whirling about all the wonderful obstacles I can try to overcome while I am at the helm of the ship next year.

I began the Conference feeling overwhelmed, scared and new to the process, however there are some wonderful states such as Iowa (Thanks Iowa) that took me under their wing and taught me the ropes. I was able to see what and how the other organizations in our Region were functioning. I was able to learn how they increased membership, organized fundraisers

and trainings and lobby for change in their state. I learned that no matter how much we want to be the same, we all operate very differently. It saddens me that even at the national level, we as counselors are not able to get on the same page. This disconnect comes in the form of standards for schooling, supervision hours and licensure requirements. It appears each state clutches to what they know and for fear of change, nothing changes.

I was able to learn from some of the fabulous counselors before me how to identify change, spur ideas and motivation in others as well as find and raise my own voice of belief, just loud enough to be a successful leader. I was honored to have been able to attend this conference, gain knowledge and to make some wonderful friends. Now the real work begins, right?

Once again, thank you for this opportunity.

*Jada Hofland, MS-LPC*

*President Elect for NDMHCA*

## Legislative News

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As chair of the Legislative/Education Task Force Committee I would like to take the time to update you on the progress the committee is making in addressing the strategic plan goals. Advocacy is a key issue for counselors in all realms. The goals focus on addressing issues regarding counselors being able to access Medicaid, Medicare, and the VA; while also monitoring educational issues.

The American Counseling Association has been busy advocating on Capitol Hill the importance of counselors being able to access Medicare and the VA, along with education funding. During my time in Washington, DC in July for the Leadership Institute we advocated for three different legislative bills to our state representative and Senators. I would like to highly recommend all counselors contact our state Representative and Senators on supporting

these following bills. Talk to our senators about “Seniors Mental Health Access Improvement Act” regarding Medicare reimbursement, the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program, along with opening the doors of the VA to counselors. For your state representatives address the VA, the school counseling program, and HR 2759 for Medicare reimbursements. I have posted on the NDCA website fact sheets about the various programs. The best way to contact your state Representatives and Senators is to email them. All of their emails can be located on the national websites for each individual. It is important for all of us counselors to advocate for the profession. Feel free to contact me for any information on these subjects and how to best advocate on any legislative issues.

*Stacey Meehl, President-Elect NDCA*

# National Institute On Leadership Training Washington, DC

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I was fortunate to attend the National Institute on Leadership Training sponsored by the American Counseling Association in Washington, DC July 23-26. The training provided vast information on advocating on legislative issues on a local, state and national level. We utilized all of the skills taught to meet with the various staff members of Senator Heitkamp, Senator Hoven, and Representative Cramer's offices on legislation regarding Medicare, the VA, and funding for school counseling. I encourage all individuals to go to our website to read further information on the legislation and ask for support from our state Senators and Representatives on these issues.

In addition to advocacy, we learned on how to grow our state organization stronger. I was able

to present to the group on Friday on how our state continues to grow and does well in representing our counseling profession. My presentation was one of four on state innovations in growing your state association. Please look at the state website for the Powerpoint. I heard from many state counseling officers at how they were amazed at how NDCA has such large membership and continues to grow to meet the needs of the counselors in the state. They liked our ideas for continued growth and success. Many states in the nation look to NDCA as a successfully run organization and we need to be proud of how well the state looks compared too many states in the nation.

*Stacey Meehl, President-Elect NDCA*