

Diversity.
The challenges of today.



Diversity in Mental Health Symposium
A Day of Learning for the Community

Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 8:00am – 4:30pm
Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center



Mental Health Association
of Erie County, Inc.

Diversity in Mental Health Symposium
A Day of Learning for the Community

This symposium will provide accurate and meaningful information to mental health providers, practitioners and community. This new knowledge will assist them when working with diverse populations in our community. We will learn how ethnic and cultural barriers can often deter individuals from seeking support and how to best work through these obstacles. Information will also touch on other topics related to the field of social work, like mental health care and treatment, and how to reduce the stigma associated with receiving treatment.

Tuesday, October 25, 2011
8:00am – 4:30pm, Registration 7:00am
\$100 per person

Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center
Two Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14202

Call the Mental Health Association at:
p 716.886.1242 | f 716.881.6428



Keynote Speaker
Nadia Shahram

Matrimonial Attorney, UB Law School Adjunct Professor and author

Educational Credit Offers

NYS OASAS CEUs

NASW NYS CEUs (*pending*)



Mental Health Association
of Erie County, Inc.

999 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209
716.886.1242
eriemha.org

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Register by mail by October 7, 2011 to Diversity Symposium, Mental Health Association, 999 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209. Please include your check for \$100 per person to the Mental Health Association. Visa and MasterCard payments are accepted.

Please circle the workshops you would like to attend for each session (4 total):

NAME	AGENCY
TITLE	
ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE
E-MAIL	PHONE
CARDHOLDER NAME	CC#
	EXP. DATE

8:30AM	A	B	C
10:00AM	D	E	F
1:30PM	A	B	C
3:00PM	D	E	F

Detach Here

BREAKOUT D

10:00AM – 11:30AM or 3:00PM – 4:30PM

“Interpreters: Essential Partners in Multicultural Communication”

Facilitated by: Dr. Felicidad Frenette, Ph.D.; International Institute

This workshop will aim to improve effective clinician-interpreter partnerships for the benefit of limited English proficient consumers. Participants will learn the importance of cross-cultural competence and clinician-interpreter partnership, methods of working effectively with interpreters for immigrants and refugees through legal mandates, the pros and cons of working with interpreters as well as the roles, ethical standards and realities of interpreters’ work and competencies.

BREAKOUT E

10:00AM – 11:30AM or 3:00PM – 4:30PM

“Impacting a Culture: The Military Approach to Sexual Trauma Awareness, Prevention & Response”

Facilitated by: Captain Brande Newsome, LMSW; U.S. Air Force

The workshop will explore the dynamics of trauma as well as provide insight into the military initiatives to embrace and provide support to members who are along their journey to recovery as a result of sexual trauma. Goals include: a review of the dynamics of sexual trauma, a discussion of the psychological effects of sexual assault in the military, pinpointing key areas to focus in on when working with a military survivor, etc.

BREAKOUT F

10:00AM – 11:30AM or 3:00PM – 4:30PM

“Systems Integration Can Start With You: Providing Quality Care to Individuals with Developmental Disabilities & Co-occurring Mental Illness”

Facilitated by: Dr. Lizbeth Booth, Ph.D., LMSW; People, Inc.

Participants in this session will understand the perceived cultural and philosophical differences that maintain system segregation, learn to identify the barriers to accurately diagnose mental illness in individuals with developmental disabilities and recognize the similarities between treatment approaches for individuals with developmental disabilities or mental illness that are demonstrating behavioral health disorders.

Visit community agency tables for free educational information.

BREAKOUT A

8:30AM – 10:00AM or 1:30PM – 3:00PM

“Transformative Experiences: The Redeeming Nature of Brain Disorders”

Facilitated by: Karl Shallowhorn; Horizon Health Services & Rev. Faith McCausland; Kenilworth United Church of Christ

This workshop is presented by two professionals (one clergy and one mental health clinician) living with brain disorders, who will share their experience and stories of overcoming their illness through the power of prayer, ritual practices, and mythic struggle. Participants will develop a better understanding of how prayer and ritual can heal one’s soul and will work together to explore the creation of relevant practices to enhance their mental health as well as that for those they love.

BREAKOUT B

8:30AM – 10:00AM or 1:30PM – 3:00PM

“Impact of Racism, Systemic Disparity & Mental Health Stigma on Delinquency & Gang Involvement Risk Factors”

Facilitated by: Duncan N. Bethel, BSW, MS Ed; Community Connections of NY

This workshop will examine the relationship between systemic disparities, racism, mental health stigma and risk factors related to gang membership or affiliation within segments of the African–American male community. It will also examine the impact that untreated trauma, depression and other mental health challenges may often have upon individuals at high risk for gang affiliation or membership. The facilitator will also employ the use of targeted self disclosure regarding his own challenges with PTSD, depression and gang associations during his youth and early adulthood.

BREAKOUT C

8:30AM – 10:00AM or 1:30PM – 3:00PM

“Wanting to Know You: GLBTQ Youth”

Facilitated by: Marvin L. Henchbarger, MS Ed; Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of WNY (GLYS)

This workshop is for mental health professionals who have never attended a GLBT workshop and want to become more knowledgeable, aware, sensitive about sexual orientation and gender identity. The group will learn to distinguish between sexual orientation and gender identity/expression, identify factors that put GLBTQ youth at risk for mental health concerns, etc.



Nadia N. Shahram

Nadia N. Shahram is a matrimonial attorney and the author of the fact-based novel, *Marriage on the Street Corners of Tehran*. She received her B.S. in 1988 and her J.D. in 1997, both from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

As an independent scholar on Islamic family law as it affects women at times of divorce and child custody, she offers expert testimony in the courts, consulting for attorneys and judges. Ms. Shahram frequently is sought out by the media for commentary regarding Muslim women’s rights.

Following the publication of her book about the disadvantages faced by Muslim women in courtrooms, she has formed a not-for-profit legal entity that focuses on the empowerment of Muslim women when they face the changes that occur when they flee from abusive situations.

Ms. Shahram teaches courses at the University at Buffalo Law School on the effects of religion and culture on the formation of family laws in Muslim countries. A Ph.D. candidate in Conflict Analysis & Resolution, Nadia Shahram offers seminars and workshops at Buffalo area colleges and companies to increase awareness of the benefits that mediation offers over litigation. She is a member of New York State Council on Divorce Mediation and also a member of the Women’s Bar and the Erie County Bar associations.

Nadia Shahram’s private practice is located in Amherst, New York.

Noon Luncheon & Keynote Address

Is Shariah a *‘harsh and brutal’* legal system?