



Delta Health Disparities Conference 2014

Department of Social Work



Schedule of Events

Wednesday November 12, 2014

Carl R. Reng Student Union Third Floor

8:30 a.m. Registration Heritage Plaza Lounge

8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Passport to Health Student Union Third Floor

Stop by the registration table for your Health Passport. Each workshop attended and health station visited will earn you a stamp. Completed health passports can be returned to the registration table in exchange for prize tickets.

Earn stamps for our Keynote Address, Morning and Afternoon Workshops!

Conference attendees and community members can also participate in **free health screening** stations, with free health education materials located throughout the conference. This year, courtesy of St. Bernard's Community Wellness Programs, each participant can obtain **individual results** for their height/weight/body mass index and blood pressure/pulse.

A fasting lab work station will be available for testing total cholesterol, anemia and glucose test. ***Participants opting for this station must be fasting for lab results to be accurate. NO FOOD or DRINK for SIX hours prior to lab draw.** Water intake is encouraged.

Other Health Passports stations include:
Stress Screening, Alcohol and Drug Screening, Depression Screening, Diabetes Screening, and free STD/HIV testing. HIV Testing courtesy of the Arkansas Department of Health and the North Arkansas Regional AIDS Network (NARAN). **All-day free HIV testing locations include: Spring River Room (three stations); Pine Tree Room; 1909 Suite**

Your stamped Health Passport can be exchanged
at the registration table at the end of the conference for prize tickets!
Please join us at 3:30 p.m. in the auditorium for our Closing Recognition event with
student poster contest winners and ticket drawings for prizes.

More than \$2,000 of prizes and gift cards will be awarded!

Mockingbird Free Continental Breakfast 8:30 -10:30 a.m.

Conference participants, please join us for morning refreshments, compliments of **Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare and the Dean B. Ellis Library.**

Student Union Third Floor SILENT AUCTION 8:30 a.m. – 3:00

p.m. Conference attendees and community members can place bids during our Silent Auction. Silent auction bids close at 3:00 p.m. Participants with the winning bid may retrieve their auction items at our closing recognition event in the Student Union auditorium at 3:30 p.m. Please make checks payable to “Department of Social Work,” with “HIV/AIDS scholarship” in the memo line. **Proceeds from our Silent Auction will fund a social work HIV/AIDS internship scholarship at Arkansas State University.**

Centennial Hall Right “U” Student Poster Presentation Contest 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Come view our student poster presentations. Hosted by Research and Technology Transfer. \$700 in prizes will be awarded to our student posters winners!

Judging of Student Posters Noon-1:00 p.m. Our esteemed judges:

- Rebekah Craig**, director, Research Development
- Emily Devereux**, associate director, Research Development
- Dr. Cherisse Jones Branch**, associate professor, History
- Dr. Kat Carrick**, assistant professor Department, Social Work

Student Union Auditorium 9:00 a.m.

Opening remarks: Dr. Susan Hanrahan, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and interim dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science at Arkansas State University.

Dr. Hanrahan, is a professor of Physical Therapy. She holds degrees from the University of Kansas (BS in Physical Therapy and Master's in Public Administration) and Temple University (Ph.D. in Health Education). She completed summer work at the University of Michigan in Epidemiology. Her research interests are in adolescent health, women's health and health policy. Dr. Hanrahan is a manuscript reviewer for the Journal of Allied Health. She currently holds national leadership positions with the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions, Washington, D.C., and the Allied Health Research Institute, St. Louis. In Arkansas, she serves as past chair of the

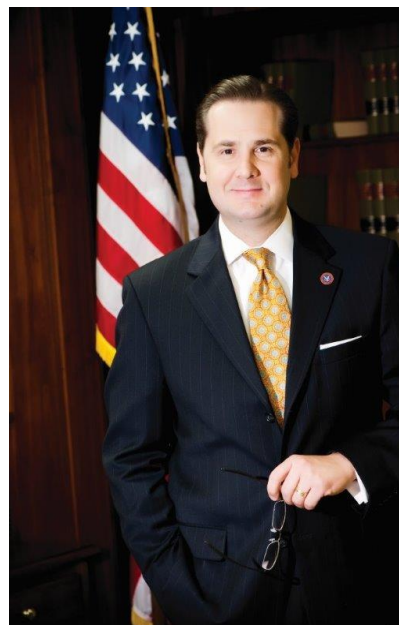
Steering Committee for the Regional Board Area Health Education Centers (AHECs); is a past chair of the Health Policy Board, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement, Little Rock; and serves on the Governor's Roundtable for Health Care. She is Governor Beebe's representative on the Tobacco Settlement Commission and serves as chair. She is also a member of the State Healthcare Workforce Planning Task Force. She was appointed by Jonesboro Mayor Harold Perrin to the Comprehensive Planning Advisory Commission for the City. She also holds or has held positions on various boards in the Jonesboro community, including the Center on Aging NEA, Craighead County Community Foundation, St Bernard's Women's Health, Our Kids Count Coalition, YMCA, American Heart Association, Regional Chamber of Commerce, Delta Symphony Orchestra, Women's Discovery Center, Hispanic Community Services Inc., Residential Housing and Health Care Facilities, Flo and Phil Jones Hospice House Steering Committee and the NEA Clinic Charitable Foundation. Dr. Hanrahan was a founding board member of five of those organizations.

Student Union Auditorium

Keynote Address

9 - 10:20 a.m.

Chris Masingill
Federal Co-Chairman,
Delta Regional Authority
Economic Development
and Health Disparities:
Identifying tools to combat
poverty in the Delta



In 2000, Congress established the Delta Regional Authority to enhance economic development and improve the quality of life for the residents of the eight-state, 252-county Delta region. The Delta Regional Authority helps to create jobs, build communities, and improve lives for the 10 million people who reside in the 252 counties and parishes of the eight-state Delta region. Through investments in public infrastructure, workforce development, small business and entrepreneurship, and health access, the Delta Regional Authority promotes regional collaboration and

economic development to address some of the Delta region's most pressing challenges.

Christopher A. Masingill was appointed by President Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2010, and serves as the Federal co-chairman of the Delta Regional Authority. Chairman Masingill has extensive experience in developing strategic connections between the public and private sectors to achieve economic and community development results.

Prior to leading the Delta Regional Authority, Masingill served the state of Arkansas as Governor Mike Beebe's director of intergovernmental affairs, and during that time as the Arkansas Recovery Implementation Director for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which totaled over \$2 billion in Arkansas.

During a time of economic duress in our nation, Chairman Masingill has placed a greater emphasis on supporting small business and entrepreneurship ventures, as well as investing in workforce training efforts and increasing access to quality, affordable health care. In more than four years with the Delta Regional Authority, Masingill has worked with the governors of the eight Delta states to leverage \$34.6 million in DRA investments into nearly \$1 billion in private and other public-sector investment. These investments are helping to create and retain more than 8,500 jobs and train 23,000 workers for 21st-century jobs.

Masingill's focus on addressing health access challenges for rural communities has lead to more than \$3.2 million in DRA investments leveraging another \$24 million for community-based health infrastructure. Additionally under Masingill's leadership, the DRA has strengthened its partnership with the U.S Department of Defense to expand the Innovative Readiness Training program that has provided medical care to 30 communities. This year the program reached 50,000 patients seen in the Delta region.

Chris and his wife, Melissa, have two daughters, Mia and Ava, and reside in Little Rock.

Contact information: Mr. Chris Masingill

Clarksdale, MS
236 Sharkey Avenue,
Suite 400
Clarksdale, MS 38614
Phone: (662) 624-8600
Fax: (662) 624-8537

Washington, D.C.
444 North Capitol Street NW,
Suite 365
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 434-4870

Break

10:20- 10:30 a.m.

Morning Workshop Sessions

Student Union Auditorium

10:30 a.m. - noon

Lessons Learned and Innovative Approaches to Reaching MSM: The Health Department's Response to Combating HIV/AIDS in MSM in Arkansas

By: Courtney A. Hampton, MHSA, and Willie Rhodes Jr., BBA, M.Div.

This presentation on the Community Outreach Mobilizers Project is an initiative developed by the Arkansas Department of Health's HIV Prevention Program. It addresses gaps in preventive HIV services and outreach for Men who have sex with Men (MSM) in Arkansas. The overarching goal of this project is to provide support services that would advance HIV testing, while identifying linkage-to-care gaps and resources. This innovative approach allows individual contractors the ability to access approximately \$90,000 of federal HIV prevention funding. Applicants can apply in the following categories: HIV Testing, Linkage-to-Care, Prevention with Positives, HIV Prevention Education and Awareness, and Community Mobilization Projects (i.e. House Communities, Faith-Based, MSM-related Social Fraternities/Sororities, Gay/Straight Alliances [GSA]). The priority populations are: MSM (men who have sex with men) – Priority Highest Ranking, Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender (LGBT), and other terms that may be inclusive of the above-mentioned populations will be considered. Diverse populations require innovative approaches to meet their needs. Traditional programming alone will not effectively reach these populations. Organizations that work with MSM populations and other populations must be culturally competent and have the resources to sustain funding. MSM populations from every region of the state will have equal access to HIV prevention services and outreach. The Arkansas Department of Health is able to provide funding outside of the Central region to provide prevention services for MSM.

Courtney is a native of McGehee, AR; now residing in Conway, AR. She has been employed with the Arkansas Department of Health since April 2006. She has been a Public Health Educator Supervisor and HIV Trainer with more than eight years of experience in HIV testing and counseling, program planning and community mobilization. She earned Bachelor's of Science degree in Health Sciences from the University of Central Arkansas in 2004; she also earned a Master's degree in Health Services Administration in 2006 from Webster University. Courtney's accomplishments include being a fellow of the Edward Coleman Leadership Institute and the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors Minority Leadership Institute. Courtney is a recent graduate of the Black AIDS Institute in Los Angeles, California. Contact information: Courtney A. Hampton, MHSA, HIV Prevention and Viral Hepatitis C Program Manager, Arkansas Department of

Health, 4815 West Markham Street Slot-33, Little Rock, AR 72205. Office (501) 661-2749; Cell (501) 944-2969 or Courtney.Hampton@arkansas.gov

Willie Rhodes, Jr. is a native of North Little Rock, AR. He earned his BBA from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Master of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology (SMU) in Dallas, Texas. He is employed with the Arkansas Department of Health, as the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender HIV Prevention outreach coordinator. He has served as a community advocate for HIV/AIDS for nearly three decades. His early introduction into the field of HIV/AIDS began as a volunteer faith-based organizer with the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN). RAIN was established in the early 90's to assist AIDS patients and their families when treatment options and care facilities were limited. Contact information: Willie Rhodes Jr., BBA, M.Div., CVM, LGBT Outreach Coordinator. Arkansas Department of Health, 4815 West Markham Street Slot-33, Little Rock, AR 72015 Email: Willie.Rhodes@arkansas.gov or at 501-661-2749. Work Cell (501) 766-1393.

Centennial Hall Left "A"
ST. BERNARD's health stations

10:30 a.m. - noon

By: St. Bernard's Community Wellness Programs. Each participant can obtain **individual results** for their height/weight/body mass index and blood pressure/pulse.

A fasting lab work station will be available for testing total cholesterol, anemia, and glucose for participants who have fasted for SIX hours.

Centennial Hall Center "S"
Rural Health Disparities: Implications for Arkansas

10:30 a.m. - noon

By: Dr. Larry Morton and Dr. Rejoice Addae

This workshop will address the health disparities in the Arkansas Delta region. We will also discuss the ethical implications presented by health disparities and social worker's responsibility to clients. Case scenarios and role plays will be incorporated into our discussions

Dr. Rejoice Addae is an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at A-State. She earned her Ph.D. in Social Work from Jackson State University, her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and her Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. She has been a social work practitioner and educator over 20 years. Her practice areas include school social work, children and family services, and child and adult

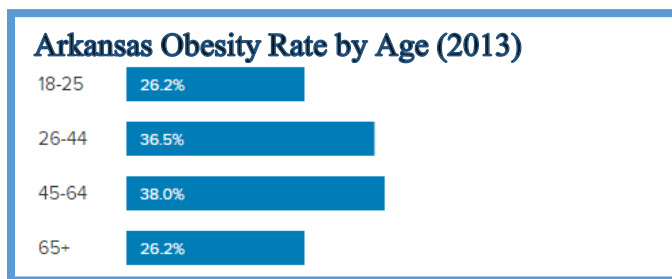
mental health. Contact information: Dr. Rejoice Addae (870) 972-3675
raddae@astate.edu

Dr. Larry Morton is an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at A-State. He earned his Ph.D. in Social Work from the George Warren Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis, a Master of Arts Degree in Political Science and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from University of Missouri—St. Louis, and his Master of Social Work degree from Saint Louis University. He has been a social work practitioner and educator more than 13 years. His practice areas include racial disparities in physical/mental health and health care in hidden populations; developmental disabilities among homeless persons; natural disasters and the effect on hidden populations. Contact information: Dr. Larry Morton at lmorton@astate.edu or (870) 972-3137.

**Centennial Hall Right “U”
Student Poster Presentation Display**

10:30 a.m. - noon

Hosted by Research and Technology Transfer



Arkansas River Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

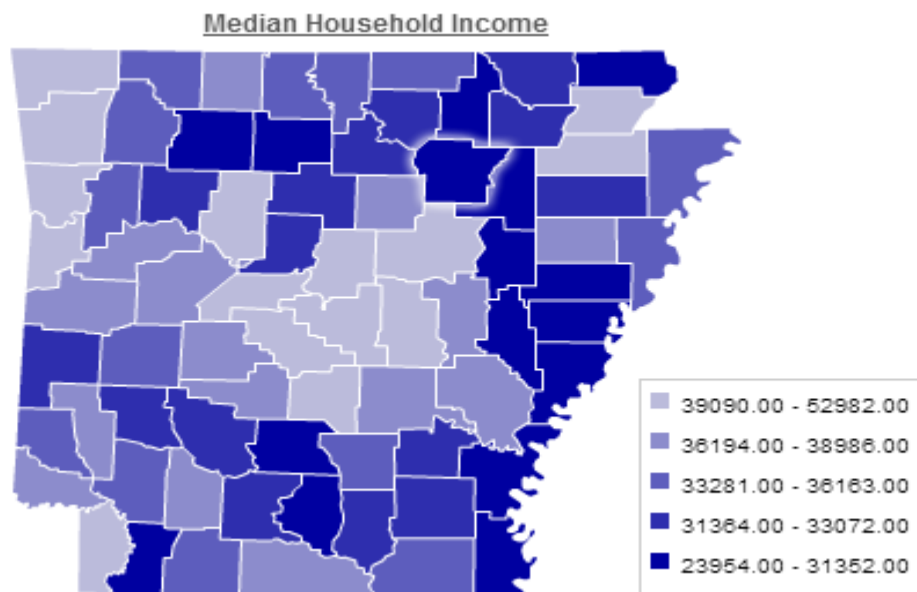
Obesity in the Delta- improving health outcomes and making healthier choices

By: Julie Keefer, RN, ASN, BSN, CFN

This workshop will address the causes and risks of obesity. Topics addressed will be examining the role of calories, food choices and medical cost, as well as a review of current medical treatments for obesity such as bariatric surgeries and weight loss medications.

Julie has more than 15 years of emergency service nursing experience, including pediatric and critical care nursing. Her administrative experience includes acting as manager of clinical services for the Surgical Hospital of Jonesboro, and director of Nursing and Operations for Bright Star of Memphis. She is currently a patient case manager for Dierksen Hospice. Julie holds certifications in CPR, PALS, ACLS, TNCC, ENPC, and Forensics. When not working or spending time with her family she enjoys being a vegan and running marathons. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at Arkansas State University in 2008; Certified Forensic Nurse, Kaplan College online programs in 2004, and registered nurse (ASN) from Arkansas

State University in 1999. Contact information: Julie Keefer by email to j.keefe@suddenlink.net or by phone: 870-275-3755.



Median Household Income 2007 - 2011. Retrieved Sep 30, 2014 from Public Health in Arkansas Community Search database. Available from American Community Survey estimates, United States Census Bureau database.

Black River Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

Breaking the cycle of Poverty: Improving Financial Literacy!

By: Dr. Philip Tew JD, Ph.D.

The Delta Regions of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi have some of the highest levels of poverty in the country. In addition, the residents of this region suffer from the lowest levels of financial literacy in the U.S. Dr. Tew will discuss financial literacy basics to help individuals break the cycle of poverty, and begin to grow toward prosperity for their future and future generations. He will address ways to improve financial health for short-term and long-term life goals while navigating financial pitfalls, like credit card and student loan debt.

Dr. Philip Tew is an assistant professor of Finance at Arkansas State University. He has an undergraduate degree in Managerial Finance and Banking, a Master's of Business Administration, a Master's of Taxation, a Juris Doctorate, and a Ph.D. in Finance all obtained from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Tew researches small business finance and financial literacy. Since 1998, he has been a member of the Mississippi Bar and employed as Legal Counsel for Enterprise Corporation of the Delta / Hope Community Credit Union, a group of economic development companies that provides commercial, consumer and mortgage loans to

companies and individuals in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. Contact information: Dr. Phillip Tew at ptew@astate.edu or (870)972-3742.

ALCOHOL-RELATED BEHAVIORS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (Grades 9-12), 2011 SA1

Percent of high school students who drank alcohol for the first time before age 13 years (other than a few sips)	Arkansas	United States
Total	24%	20%
Male	27%	23%
Female	20%	17%

White River Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

This is your Brain on Drugs: Drug addictions in the Delta

By: Connie Ryan LCSW, LADAC and Todd Clements, MD, Psychiatrist for Out of the Dark, Inc.

This workshop will provide an overview of the types of drug and alcohol addictions prevalent in the Delta. We examine how drugs of abuse (meth, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hydrocodone, etc...) and alcohol impacts our brain functioning. We see what the most up-to-date findings in nuclear brain imaging studies and research shows, particularly concerning the role substance use plays on the developing brain of a teenager, and how this differs from an adult brain. What areas are affected most by drugs and how much can the brains of recovered addicts heal? We explore the link between drug abuse and specific mental illnesses (e.g. does marijuana smoking cause schizophrenia). We'll also address how ADHD medications, pain medication and alcohol affect brain functioning.

Connie Ryan has served for many years as a field trainer for the Arkansas Academic Partnership for Public Child Welfare for the Title IVE – Child Welfare Program and as adjunct faculty in the Department of Social Work. Currently she serves as a new student adviser and addictions certificate coordinator for A-State's Certificate in Addiction Studies. Contact information: Connie Ryan at cryan@astate.edu or by phone (870) 972-8567.

Dr. Clements is an adolescent and adult psychiatrist, certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) and the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM). Dr. Clements was chosen in both 2007 and 2008 as one of the top adolescent psychiatrists in the country by the "Consumers' Research Council of America." Dr. Clements grew up in Arkansas and graduated medical school in his home state at the University of Arkansas. He then completed his psychiatric residency at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Clements practiced with the Meier Clinics in Richardson, Texas, and then with the Amen Clinics in Newport Beach, CA.

Following this, he founded the Clements Clinic in Plano, Texas where he served as the medical director from 2008-2012.

Dr. Clements has co-authored five books. Contact information: Dr. Todd Clements, MD 311 S. Main Street #C Jonesboro, AR, 72401 or email to Drtoddcllements@gmail.com or phone: 469-400-9169.

Mockingbird Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

Historical Perspectives of Rural Black Women's Health Care Initiatives in the Arkansas Delta

By: Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch

African American home demonstration agents, clubs, Jeanes teachers (educators funded by the Anna T. Jeanes foundation), and rural black women advocated racial advancement through health reform efforts in their communities by supporting the National Negro Health Week. Established in 1915 by Booker T. Washington, National Negro Health Week addressed African American's unequal access to health care, disproportionately high mortality rates, and impoverished and unsanitary living conditions. Although the program ended in 1950, black home demonstration agents, Jeanes teachers and rural black women continued to advocate for health initiatives in black communities well into the 1960s and beyond. Rural black Arkansas women looked to their home demonstration clubs for important information about the most practical ways to care for themselves and their families. Home demonstration agents employed by the Arkansas Agricultural Extension Service helped black women combat the myriad of health issues that plagued rural black communities by discussing child development, mental, dental, and physical health care, and by demonstrating ways to improve healthcare practices. Home demonstration club members were not just mere recipients of healthcare information however. Extension service agents in turn also recognized black women were often the best conduits for disseminating information about local healthcare initiatives. Because of their community contacts and connections, club women then were tasked with the responsibility of sharing what they learned with other rural residents. This presentation will also consider how rural health care almost certainly included discussions about reproductive health, including increased access to birth control information. It further highlights black home demonstration agents, Jeanes teachers' and other black leaders' important roles as disseminators of birth control literature in the rural South in particular, and as advocates for improved rural black health generally.

Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch is associate professor of History at Arkansas State University where she teaches courses in U.S., Women's, Civil Rights, African American History and Heritage Studies. Dr. Jones-Branch is the author of "Crossing the Line: Women and Interracial Activism in South Carolina during and after World

War II", which was published by University Press of Florida in 2014. She is also the co-editor of "Arkansas Women: Their Lives and Times", which is under contract with the University of Georgia Press. Her current research focuses on African-American home demonstration agents and rural black women's activism in Arkansas. Contact Information: Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch at crjones@astate.edu or 870-972-3291.



livingaffected.org

Multicultural Center

10:30 a.m. - noon

Using Social Media for HIV/STD prevention for gay men in the Delta

By: Mr. Cornelius Mabin, Jr.; co-chair, Arkansas HIV Planning Group

Social Media is changing the way people find information, share knowledge and communicate with each other through blogs, Twitter, Wikipedia, Flickr and YouTube. Gay men's social networks, such as Grindr, Black Gay Chat, Connexion, Adam4Adam, Manhunt, and Facebook, offer a means to expand HIV/ STD prevention efforts, allowing for us to re-think our approach and "best practices" reaching gay men to reduce new cases of HIV and STD in the Delta.

Cornelius Mabin, Jr., executive producer of "CorneliusOnPoint" has blazed a new media trail in Arkansas with his long-running blog and informational web portal. Since 2004, Mabin has been utilizing the internet as both an informational tool, as well as advocacy platform to engage the state's LGBTQ community and beyond. The site was among the first to offer original podcasting content, which covered both local and statewide events, eventually connecting the site to an array of social media sites like Facebook and MySpace. Known as COP 24/7, the site was nominated for a Black Weblog Award for "best LGBT blog" in both 2007 and 2008. Mabin has also been featured in numerous regional publications in Oklahoma and Tennessee; his articles have been included in the Center for Artistic Revolution's "Velocity" and HIV Arkansas' newsletter. He developed the media strategy for the National Association of Black and White Men Together, which culminated in a re-launch of an e-zine entitled, "Q-Visions" with more than 5,000 members. NABMWT recognized Mabin's organizational work in producing the

group's media pieces and upgrading its online presences. He currently produces online media for The Living Affected Corporation, Arkansas HIV Planning Group. He speaks to community-based groups on harnessing the power of new media. Contact Information: Mr. Cornelius Mabin, Jr., co-chair, Arkansas HIV Planning Group, P.O. Box 166061, Little Rock, AR 72216. Office: 501-349-7777 Cell: 501.517.4978 or Email: nealix101@comcast.net Web: www.corneliusonpoint.blogspot.com

Executive Dining Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

Becoming a Mom: improving pregnancy outcomes in the Delta



By: Barbara Bruden, MSW, and Janice Hill, LMSW

This workshop curriculum is designed for pregnant women to learn about having a healthy pregnancy and healthy baby in a supportive group setting. The curriculum includes, you and your pregnancy, prenatal care, eating healthy during pregnancy, stress during pregnancy, things to avoid during pregnancy, the big day: labor and birth, caring for your baby, and postpartum care.

Barbara Bruden is a graduate of the Master of Social Work program at Arkansas State University. Originally from Kennett MO, she is a new mom of daughter Emmalee, and has three older children, Bradley, Tegan and Landen. Working with babies, new moms and families has always been Barbara's passion. In 2006, she started her path in social work and never looked back. Spending the past few months with her new baby, she is looking forward to getting back into helping to provide support and education to new moms and their families. Contact information: Barbara Bruden by phone (870) 351-6742 or email to Barbara.bruden@gmail.com.

Janice Hill is a native of Lake Village, Arkansas and has lived in Jonesboro since 2007. Her interest in community service and internships at Harmony House Rehab, Brookland Middle School, Infectious Disease Control Center, and A-State Care has led her to a number of occasions for service to the community. She has volunteered as a leader for teens in a program that promoted personal growth and self-discovery. Janice received both her Bachelor of Social Work degree in 2012 and Master of Social Work degree in 2014 from Arkansas State University. Contact information: JaniceDeniseHill2014@gmail.com or by phone: (870) 253-7798.

Cache River

10:30 a.m. - noon

The Many Faces of Cultural Competence

By: Dr. Charlotte F. Young; professor of Nursing

This presentation identifies issues related to cultural competence and its importance in healthcare. Differences in gender, ethnic origin or religious/cultural beliefs, which have an important impact on healthcare, will be examined and discussed. Actual differences in symptomatology and differences in viewing disease and treatment will be highlighted. Tips on what the healthcare professional can do to enable good communication despite these differences will be suggested.

Dr. Young specializes in psychiatric nursing and research. She has taught at A-State for many years in undergraduate, Master of Nursing (MSN) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs in the School of Nursing. She has recently published numerous evidence transfer summaries of Cochrane Systematic Reviews, which identify key aspects of cultural and ethnic origin in healthcare. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing for the University of South Carolina, her Master degree in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., and her Ph.D. in Education Administration and Adult Higher Education, from Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY. Dr. Young is also certified in meta-analysis and in smoking cessation counseling. Contact information: email to cyoung@astate.edu or by phone (870)972-3074.

St. Francis River Room

10:30 a.m. - noon

Eliminating Child Abuse and Reducing Trauma: What role do you play?

By: Kristy Nichols, executive director and education coordinator
Patty Cornwell, senior child and family advocate

How are we better serving children affected by child sexual and physical abuse now than in the past? Find out how the Northeast Arkansas Children's Advocacy Center (NEACAC), along with agencies such as the Crimes Against Children's Division of the Arkansas State Police, the Department of Child and Family Services, Law Enforcement, and local/area mental health agencies are collaboratively working together to reduce trauma to victims of child abuse through the use of multidisciplinary teams and utilizing the "child appropriate" services of the NEACAC to enable the alleged victim to receive investigative services, all in one safe and comfortable setting (one single visit whenever possible). Learn when, how and

what to report when you have a suspicion a child may have been or is being abused. When you hear child abuse statistics “one in four girls, one in seven boys or even one in ten children” (depending on the source) do you really consider how these stats as actual children in your state, local community, neighborhood, or your family?

Kristy Nichols: As both an A-State alumni and the executive director of the Northeast Arkansas Children's Advocacy Center (Center for Child Abuse Response and Prevention), Kristy Nichols has a strong commitment to the children and youth of Northeast Arkansas and the ever-present mission to eliminate, appropriately respond to and prevent child abuse. Kristy trains teachers, parents, therapists and youth serving community leaders/groups to better understand child abuse, recognize signs, prevention techniques, required mandated reporter trainings, child-safe policy implementation and topic-specific continuing education, as well as remediation for child care centers. Through recent grant funding classes she has also introduced the evidenced-based “Speak Up! Be Safe!” student-based prevention program to area schools to help schools meet the requirements of the newly passed “Erin’s Law.” Contact information: Kristy Nichols, executive director Northeast Arkansas Children's Advocacy Center, Phone (870) 275-7902 Cell: (870)284-4602

Patty Cornwell has honed a valuable skillset for children affected by child abuse. Entering our center on a daily basis through years of home visiting and working one-on-one with parents and children. She's worked to increase positive outcomes for at-risk families and connect service providers, community organizations and continually search for resources. As the senior child and family advocate and a member of the response team, Patty assesses the individual needs of each child and family while putting the child and family at ease and providing resources, referrals and developing an ongoing advocacy relationship. She coordinates follow-ups and communication to reduce trauma to the child and family while working hand-in-hand with CACD, DCFS, Mental Health, FIs, law enforcement, and prosecution while promoting the best outcome for the child.

Break for Lunch

noon-1:00 p.m.

Lunch for conference participants on your own. We recommend the variety and convenience of the **Food Court located on the first floor of the Carl R. Reng Student Union.**

for lots of group interaction as we'll answer the question, "How do our diverse characteristics and values affect our ethical behavior?" This workshop will help you better accept (and maybe celebrate) our differences and support harmony in the ethical decision-making process.

For the last 13 years, Matthew Knight has worked in education, public relations and marketing for Mid-South Health Systems, an Arkansas Community Mental Health corporation. He develops and provides a variety of training programs for business, industry and educational groups, as well as Mid-South staff. In addition, Matthew handles much of the public relations and marketing in Mid-South's 13 county area. Prior to his current position, Matthew was director and therapist at Mid-South's Paragould Outpatient Clinic for three years. As a licensed professional counselor, he has 30 years' experience in mental health services, education and consulting for individuals and business in Arkansas, Texas, Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri. He has been a junior and senior high public school teacher, the administrator of a private school, started two businesses, written music in Nashville and traveled extensively. Matthew completed his bachelor's degree in education at Arkansas State University, a master's degree in counseling psychology and family studies at the University of Tennessee and pursued post-graduate studies in psychology at Arkansas State University. Contact information: Matthew Knight, director of Education/Marketing Mid-South Health Systems 2707 Browns Lane, Jonesboro AR, 72401. Email to mknight@mshs.org or by phone (870)972-4912.

Centennial Hall Right "U"

1-3:15 p.m.

Student Poster Presentation Display

Hosted by Research and Technology Transfer

Arkansas River Room

1-3:15 p.m.

Health disparities among homeless youth in the Delta

By: Michael W. Branscum, BSW student
Dr. Rejoice A. Addae, assistant professor
Zankiyyah Hubbard, MSW graduate student

Description: This session will focus on homeless youth in the Delta region and the difficulties in maintaining health when homeless. Case examples will be incorporated in our discussions. Participants will develop an understanding of the increase risk for homeless teens engaging in high risk behaviors, and ethical interventions; recommendations for linking teens to supportive services; and the need for increased advocacy and funding for services designed to meet the needs of homeless youth in the Delta.

Dr. Rejoice Addae is an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at A-State. She earned her Ph.D. in Social Work from Jackson State University, her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and her Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. She has been a social work practitioner and educator over 20 years. Her practice areas include school social work, children and family services, and child and adult mental health. Contact information: Dr. Rejoice Addae (870) 972-3675
raddae@astate.edu

Michael Branscum is a senior in the Bachelor of Social Work program at Arkansas State University. Mr. Branscum is member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Gamma Beta Phi Society, and is the president of the Phi Alpha National Honor Society of Social Workers. Mr. Branscum is an active member of the A-State Social Work Organization and the A-State Gay-Straight Alliance student organization and has been on the Chancellor's List for the past three years. Mr. Branscum is currently doing his field placement with ARcare Special Services, where he helps provide for the housing needs of individuals living with HIV or AIDS. Contact by email to michael.branscum1@smail.astate.edu.

Zankiyyah Hubbard is a graduate student working on her master's in Social Work. Originally from Memphis, TN, she has two loving parents and two sisters. In May 2013, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Clinical Lab Science, Chemistry and Health Professions from Arkansas State University. In her spare time, she dedicates her time by volunteering in the community with various organizations, and is a member of the Master of Social Work Student Organization. Being active with these organizations is what helped lead her to a profession that not only helps people but is an advocate for the community as a whole. Contact Information: zankiyyah.hubbard@smail.astate.edu.

Black River Room

1-3:15 p.m.

Parents' Workshop: Life along the autism spectrum

By: Bianca Jordan, MSW graduate student

Shani Barnhill, board member of the Autism Association of NE Arkansas

Shelby Knight, director, Center for Exceptional Families

Description: This session provides community support for parents who are raising children diagnosed with neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism, Asperger's syndrome, and attention-deficit disorder. Parents can share their stories about challenging times with their children, intervention strategizes that may help and learn about how to advocate for their children's rights within the public school system. Parents will learn ways to reinforce appropriate behavior, gain support

from each in networking and advocacy efforts and increase confidence in working with school officials in determining their child's educational needs are met.

Bianca Jordan is a graduate student in the master's in Social Work program at Arkansas State University. Bianca is also the parent of a 6-year-old child diagnosed with autism, and a community advocate for increased awareness about autism. She helps to organize and support Jonesboro's annual Walk for Autism. Contact information: Bianca Jordan at (870)476-2958 or bianca.jordan@smail.astate.edu

Shani Barnhill is a speech language pathologist with Greene County Tech Schools. She holds a Certificate of Clinical Competence with the American Speech and Hearing Association and a state license. She also holds National Board Certification in exceptional needs. She has 24 years' experience in the public schools. Shani has a 13-year-old niece who is on the autism spectrum disorder. She is also on the board of the Autism Association of Northeast Arkansas, and promotes autism awareness in the school as well as the community. Contact information: Shani can be reached by phone at (870)335-5019

Shelby Knight is director of the Center for Exceptional Families and has been advocating for families living with disabilities for more than 20 years. Her only son was diagnosed with autism in 1992, when autism occurrences were 1 in 10,000 nationally. She has worked as an advocate for families through a federal grant program called "Parent Training Centers". Contact Information: shelbyknightlucky7@gmail.com

White River Room

1-3:15 p.m.

Increasing awareness of Breast Cancer Risk in the Delta

By: Cathy Hall, MSN, RN, OCN; Judy Pfriemer, MSN, RN; and John D. Hall, Ph.D.

This workshop features co-authors of two peer-reviewed articles in the international journal "Oncology Nursing Forum" specific to breast cancer prevention in African-American and Hispanic women in the Delta. We will discuss why it is important to reach African-American and Hispanic women about breast cancer risk; challenges in reaching these populations; educational materials available from Susan G. Komen Foundation; and effective teaching and evaluation strategies.

Cathy P. Hall is an associate professor at A-State. She earned her bachelor's in nursing from Arkansas State University and master's in medical surgical nursing from the University of Cincinnati. A member of A-State's nursing faculty since 1991, she has more than 30 years of nursing experience. She is nationally certified oncology nurse (OCN) and her course load includes teaching medical-surgical nursing and

chronic illness. Contact information: Cathy P. Hall at chall@astate.edu or office (870) 972-3074.

Judith Pfriemer is an assistant professor of Nursing at Arkansas State University. She earned her BS in nursing from Alfred University in Alfred, NY and masters in nursing from Arkansas State University. Mrs. Pfriemer has been a registered nurse for more than 35 years, a member of A-State's faculty since 1992, she has taught medical surgical nursing, women's health, disaster preparation and emergency management, as well as capstone courses and mental health. Contact information: Judith Pfriemer jpfriem@astate.edu or office (870)972-3074.

John D. Hall, Ph.D. is a professor of psychology and counseling at Arkansas State University. He earned his doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Cincinnati in School Psychology. Dr. Hall coordinates the nationally approved school psychology track of the Educational Specialist (Ed.S) Degree program in Psychology and Counseling at A-State. He joined the A-State faculty in 1991, and currently teaches graduate courses in: psychological testing; behavioral assessment and intervention, research design and program evaluation, professional consultation, child and adolescent psychopathology, crisis intervention, and prevention, and supervised internship. He is the co-author of two peer-reviewed articles specific to breast cancer prevention in the Mississippi River Delta that are published in the international journal entitled "Oncology Nursing Forum". Contact information: John D. Hall jhall@astate.edu or office (870)972-3074.

Mockingbird Room

1-3:15 p.m.

Aging in the Delta: Support for Caregivers of Individuals with Alzheimer's

By: Tina Long, associate director of programs and services at the Alzheimer's Association, Arkansas Chapter

Alzheimer's is a disease that attacks the brain and mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life. Alzheimer's disease is a growing crisis that is taking a devastating toll on families and the healthcare system. As the baby boomer generation ages, in America someone is developing the disease every 67 seconds. In the U.S., that figure is projected to increase to a new diagnosis every 33 seconds in the year 2050. The Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. The Alzheimer's association works on a global, national and local level to enhance care and support for all those affected by Alzheimer's and other dementias. Participants will learn about resources designed to support caregivers of people with dementia.

Tina Long is the associate director of programs and services at the Alzheimer's Association, Arkansas Chapter. Long has been in community and public health

and public policy for the past 17 years. Her work has focused on health disparities, behavioral health and social ecological community change. She earned a master's degree in health education and health promotion from the University of Tennessee, and a bachelor's degree in health education and community health problems from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR.

Contact information: Tina Long at tlong@alz.org Alzheimer's Association, Arkansas Chapter, Little Rock, AR or office (501) 350-1833.



Multicultural Center

1-3:15 p.m.

Peer-to-peer workshop: "No Strings Attached"

How to develop healthy relationships and practice safe sex

By: Zankiyyah Hubbard and Garry Butler

Participants will discuss different types of relationships, clarify what they are looking for in a relationship, communication styles in relationships, and the importance of trust and respect within the relationship. We will also discuss warning signs of unhealthy or abusive relationships. The presentation will be concluded with a game called "One Night Only," focusing on sex education and condom use to protect against STDs, STIs, and HIV/AIDS.

Zankiyyah Hubbard is a graduate student working on her master's in Social Work. Originally from Memphis, TN, she has two loving parents and two sisters. In May 2013, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Clinical Lab Science, Chemistry and Health Professions from Arkansas State University. In her spare time, she dedicates her time by volunteering in the community with various organizations, and is a member of the Master of Social Work Student Organization. Being active with these organizations is what helped lead her to a profession that not only helps people but is an advocate for the community as a whole. Contact Information: zankiyyah.hubbard@smail.astate.edu.

Garry Butler is from North Little Rock, AR. A May 2009 graduate of Arkansas State University, he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. Currently he is pursuing his master's program in College Student Personnel Services at Arkansas State University. He is also working for the department of residence life, where he is a graduate hall director. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Helping people has always been his passion. Contact Information: gbutler@astate.edu.

Executive Dining Room

1–3:15 p.m.

Prematurity: improving health outcomes in the Delta for babies born too soon



By: Barbara Bruden, MSW, and Janice Hill, LMSW

Every year, about 15 million babies are born prematurely — more than one in 10 of all babies born around the world. All newborns are vulnerable, but preterm babies are acutely so. Many require special care simply to remain alive. Newborn deaths — those in the first month of life — account for 40 percent of all deaths among children under five years of age. Prematurity is the world's single-biggest cause of newborn death, and the second leading cause of all child deaths, after pneumonia. Many of the preterm babies who survive face a lifetime of disability. This workshop will review the March of Dimes efforts to reduce the nation's preterm birth rate to 9.6 percent or less by 2020, and the recommendations from the annual Premature Birth Report Card.

This workshop curriculum is designed for pregnant women to learn about having a healthy pregnancy and healthy baby in a supportive group setting. The curriculum includes, you and your pregnancy, prenatal care, eating healthy during pregnancy, stress during pregnancy, things to avoid during pregnancy, the big day: labor and birth, caring for your baby, and postpartum care.

Barbara Bruden is a graduate of the Master of Social Work program at Arkansas State University. Originally from Kennett MO, she is a new mom of daughter Emmalee, and has three older children, Bradley, Tegan and Landen. Working with babies, new moms and families has always been Barbara's passion. In 2006, she started her path in social work and never looked back. Spending the past few months with her new baby, she is looking forward to getting back into helping to provide support and education to new moms and their families.

Contact information: Barbara Bruden by phone (870) 351-6742 or email to Barbara.bruden@gmail.com.

Janice Hill is a native of Lake Village, Arkansas and has lived in Jonesboro since 2007. Her interest in community service and internships at Harmony House Rehab, Brookland Middle School, Infectious Disease Control Center, and A-State Care has led her to a number of occasions for service to the community. She has volunteered as a leader for teens in a program that promoted personal growth and self-discovery. Janice received both her Bachelor of Social Work degree in 2012 and Master of Social Work degree in 2014 from Arkansas State University. Contact information: JaniceDeniseHill2014@gmail.com or by phone: (870) 253-7798.

Child Welfare in the Delta: Transitional Youth at Risk

By: Karen Fullen, MSW, MA, LCSW

Very young children are traditionally the focus of services for children/youth in high risk situations. A group of youth in foster care who demand attention along with a needed array of services, is the transitional youth of Arkansas. These youth include young people who are “graduating” from the state foster care system with little connection to support systems, preparation for independence and safety. This presentation will explore the scope of the problem in Arkansas with comparison to national data. Also included will be a conversation about the challenges for the system, the youth and communities to provide these young persons with adequate health care, vocational planning and training, life time relationships, independence and security.

Karen Fullen has worked 35 years in various aspects of child protection and child welfare in Arkansas. Her experience includes 15 years with SCAN Volunteer Services Inc., serving at all levels, from front-line case worker to executive staff and five years with the UALR Social Work Department, Mid-South Training Academy; serving as a classroom instructor for the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) staff as site manager and program manager. Ms. Fullen has eight years' of direct clinical practice in mental health with children, adolescents, families and seniors. She has been at A-State in the Social Work Department since 1999, working on the Title IV-E Academic Partnership in Public Child Welfare Grant. She has served as field trainer, program coordinator, program director and consultant to DCFS at the state level of policy and practice issues. She earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock as well as a Master of Science degree in Sociology, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Arkansas State University. Contact information: Karen Fullen email to kfullen@astate.edu or phone (870)972-2199.

Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-482-5964
Child Abuse Hotline TDD	1-800-843-6349
Child Care Assistance	1-800-322-8176
Child Care Resource and Referral	1-800-445-3316
Child Support Information	1-877-731-3071

St. Francis River Room
The lifelong effects of Childhood Trauma

1-3:15 p.m.

By: Kimberly C. Whitman, LCSW, AR-ECMHC

In this workshop, participants will begin to recognize childhood trauma and identify typical children's reactions to trauma. From there, participants will understand how trauma can impact children and participants, and will be able to describe what it means to be 'trauma-informed' in their interactions with children. Finally, participants will become familiar with a being a "Trauma Trigger Detective," and will identify classroom strategies that can support children who have experienced trauma.

Kimberly C. Whitman, LCSW, AR-ECMHC is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, and is one of the few Certified Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants in the State of Arkansas. Ms. Whitman current serves in a variety of positions, including working for both Project PLAY, a grant-funded Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program, and Project REACH, a grant-funded social emotional training and coaching program for early childhood programs in Northeast Arkansas.

Ms. Whitman has been employed as a therapist, working with children and families since 2002. Her focus of practice is working with preschool-aged children with behavioral issues and improving family interactions. Her primary treatment modality is Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). Ms. Whitman is one of only two therapists certified in this geographic area to provide this evidence-based treatment for young children with behavioral and/or emotional disturbances. Contact information: Kimberly C. Whitman, Project PLAY, UAMS and Mid-South Health Systems 2707 Browns Lane Jonesboro, AR 72401 phone 870-972-4984; email to kwhitman@mshs.org.

“You're a survivor because every day you make a choice not to be governed by their harsh words or actions. No one has the right to take away your happiness.” Assunta Harris

Student Union auditorium Closing recognition event

3:30 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate our Student Poster Awardees, Health Passport ticket winners and silent auction winning bids! Conference participants must be present to win! More than \$2,000 of prizes and gift cards will be awarded

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Adam Watkins*

Make plans to join us next year! Save the Date: Nov 11, 2015

Conference locations

Arkansas State University: Carl R. Reng Student Union Third Floor

