



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES

For Children's Mental Health

21st Annual Conference

The Diversity and Resilience of Families

November 5 - 7, 2010 • Atlanta, GA

(Policy Day November 4th!)

The National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health announces "The Diversity and Resilience of Families" as the theme for its 21st annual conference. We strongly believe that the strength of the family movement is reflected in the diversity and resilience of children and youth with emotional challenges, and their families; and in their persistent quests toward improving the quality of their lives.

The resilience of children, youth and families has forged the way to more family-driven, youth guided services systems. We know that families raising children with mental health challenges are very diverse. Emotional, behavioral or mental health needs cut across all income, educational, geographical, racial, ethnic, and religious groups. They are found among single parents and two-parent families and in birth, adoptive, and foster families. This conference will address a variety of difficult challenges that families face, including the taboo subjects that families and providers are often uncomfortable talking about.

We want to address discrimination against children and families who are dealing with mental health challenges, and the "isms" that feed into discrimination (such as racism, classism and sexism). We want to address the disproportionate number of youth of color in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, as well as similar disparities in health outcomes. We want to hear from communities that successfully support children and families who become separated because of abuse and/or neglect. Additionally, we want to address the issue of suicide (prevention and post-vention). The National Federation is committed to shining a spotlight on these issues and many more, while lending support, and identifying workable solutions and promising practices.

The conference committee invites the submission of workshop or poster session proposals for the 2010 conference of the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health. Proposals should highlight approaches that increase understanding of how to effectively promote our message, "The Diversity and Resilience of Families," on local, state, tribal, territorial and/or national levels, making children's mental health a high priority everywhere. The conference committee is particularly interested in proposals that demonstrate how communities have started the dialogue about diversity and resilience, have begun to address the issues that may be uncomfortable to speak about (the "elephants in the room"), and have experienced some success in making change.

Proposals of particular interest include:

- Family-driven efforts to increase awareness, promote diversity, cultural inclusion, resilience and wellness. Examples of successful efforts, both traditional and non-traditional, at the local, state, tribal, territorial and national level are strongly encouraged.
- Youth-guided efforts that focus on youth resilience and show positive outcomes from a youth perspective.
- Family organizations at the helm of developing partnerships and strategic alliances with partners to address challenging issues, identify solutions and sustain their presence as viable community organizations.
- Examples of effective and collaborative community partnerships used to address these issues .
- Special Track - Suicide prevention and post-vention

Submissions must be postmarked no later than August 6, 2010

PRESENTATION PROPOSAL

Proposals for workshops or poster sessions are welcome. Please complete the information requested below and submit to:

National Federation Program Committee

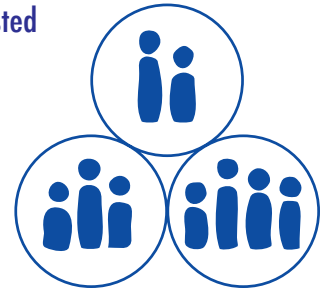
*** Deadline - August 6, 2010 ***

c/o BC Innovations, Inc.

2201 Wilshire Drive

Durham, NC 27707

Phone: 919-219-2342 / Fax: 240-387-6141 / scott@bcinnovations.com



Title of (Workshop) (Poster Session) (circle one): _____

Session Abstract (in 75 words or less): _____

Lead Contact: _____

Organization: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____ e-mail: _____

(Workshops only) Co-Presenters: _____

Youth

Track!! → Is this proposal designed exclusively for the Youth Track? () YES () NO

Have you previously presented this or a similar (workshop) (poster session) for any other conference or seminar? () YES () NO

If YES, when and for whom (please include phone number): _____

Audio-Visual Requests: () LCD Projector *laptops are not provided () Flip Chart

To assist you in your proposal, the following information is required.

(Please note that condition #2 applies to workshop proposals only.)

1. All proposals must be postmarked no later than **August 6, 2010**.
2. In the interest of allowing all team members adequate time, presentation teams shall not exceed four (4) team members.
3. Presentation teams must include at least one family member or youth.
4. Presenters should allow sufficient time for questions from the audience. Workshops shall be 90 minutes in length.
5. Proposals must be signed by all presenters.
6. It is the responsibility of each team of presenters to ensure that there are sufficient quantities of handouts for distribution.

AGREEMENT - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

In submitting this proposal, I/we understand that the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health is not offering to pay for travel, lodging, meals, or registration. If approved, I/we will agree to register for the conference (one day or full conference) at the member registration rate and present on the assigned date(s) and time(s) during the conference, November 5 - 7, 2010. Applicants will receive confirmation by August 20, 2010.

Signature of Lead Contact

Date

Signature of family and/or youth presenter (if different from lead contact)

Date

Signature of Co-Presenter

Date

Signature of Co-Presenter

Date